

HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

Race Rider

FALL-WINTER 2020



PRESSING ON

Resilient
LEADERS

For the love of
**BEHRENS
CHAPEL**

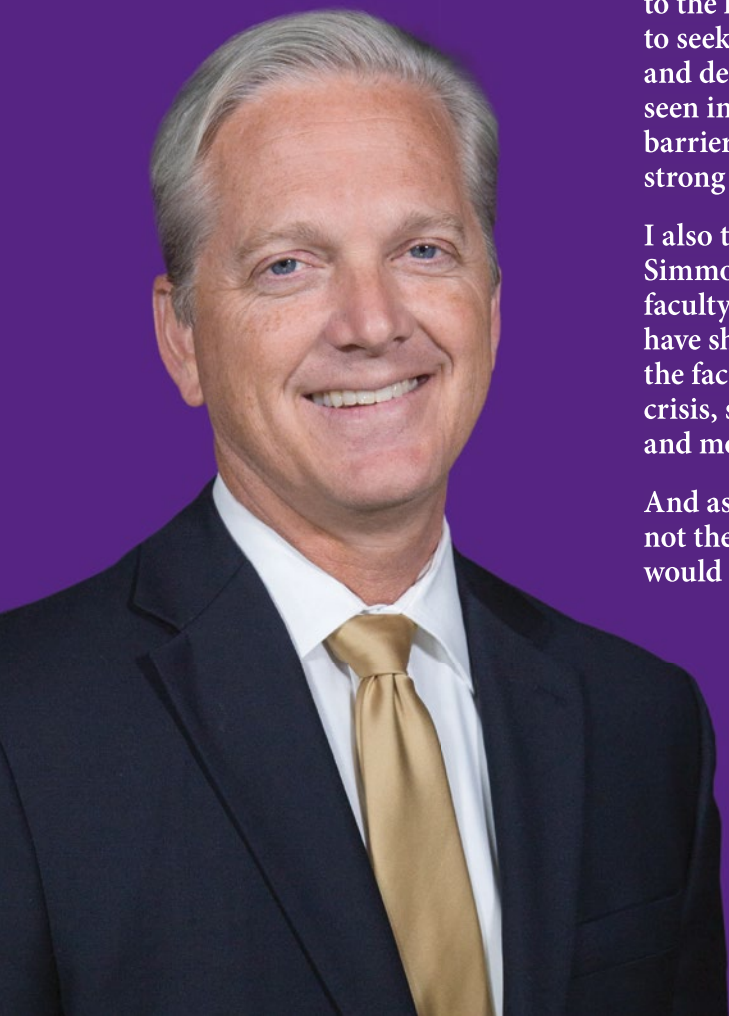
Meet the
TRUSTEES

A word that is often heard in today's headlines is "resilience."

In my profession as both a lawyer and educator, I have often enjoyed digging into words and their origins.

Meriam-Webster defines "resilience" as:

1. The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness
2. The ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape; elasticity



Interestingly enough, in God's Word, Paul admonishes the believers in Philippi to

"...straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" Philippians 3:13b-14

When I think of resiliency I think of several people in my life, but in particular, my brother who joined the Army to become a medic, fought his way through medical school, served in the Air Force all over the globe, and now teaches at the University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine. He and his wife have made it their mission to serve the San Antonio homeless community through "Back Pack Medicine", making house calls to the homeless who can't get out to seek treatment. The sheer grit and determination that I have seen in my brother in overcoming barriers are a testament of his strong faith and love of others.

I also think of my Hardin-Simmons family. The students, faculty, staff, and alumni who have shown this same resilience in the face of a pandemic, economic crisis, shutdown, racial injustice, and more.

And as Scripture tells us, now is not the time to shrink back. It would be easy to take that path

considering all that 2020 has brought with it. But resiliency for us is about developing toughness and tenacity. Pressing on towards all that God has in store for us in the new year ahead.

In this Range Rider, I know you will be encouraged and inspired by the stories of HSU pressing on and thriving in the midst of change. This ability to bounce back after stress; is born out of a close walk with Christ, principles of duty, honor, and country as well as love for each other and this University. We are creating resilient leaders who will become future Christian ambassadors for our community, our country, and among the nations.

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink, reading "EBT".

Eric I. Bruntmyer
President

RangeRIDER

HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

FALL - WINTER 2020

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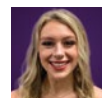
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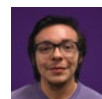
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PURSuing RELENTLESS FAITH DURING UNCERTAIN TIMES

by Nikki Slater

Nothing speaks more of the history of Hardin-Simmons University than a relentless pursuit of faith during uncertain times. In 1950, when money was scarce and the bitter Korean conflict had just begun, another HSU school year was also beginning. The outlook was ominous, both for the war's outcome and its effect on the U.S. economy.

As men and women continued to be dispatched to the battlefield, the U.S. was required to finance an increasingly expensive war effort, thereby reducing the government's ability to help fund higher education. Eventually, the shortage of manpower was felt in academic institutions across the country. In fact, the nation was on the brink of the most significant shortage of productive workers in its history.

The task for the academic realm was daunting: how to continue to provide an education with a severe shortage of instructors and operational staff?

At the time, Colleges were not prepared the needs of such unexpected emergencies, as students, donors, and individuals were stretched to their limits, creating nearly impossible shortfalls in program funding.

Throughout this harsh reality and against impossible odds, Hardin-Simmons endured. What was it that caused HSU to push forward in the middle of such circumstances?

In a 1950 edition of News and Views, then-President Rupert Richardson said, "Twice within this century they (universities) have met the exacting demands of great world crises and they can do it again."

In fact, not only did Hardin-Simmons endure, but it quickly shifted gears to become a research site for industry and the armed forces, and a training ground for men and women to be part of the war effort. And in doing so, HSU became part of the solution.

Hardin-Simmons was built as an institution that weathers adversity—enduring fires, building challenges, financial stress, and several bouts of program restructuring. Undergirding the university's foundation is the very thing needed for resilience—Hope! Hope grounded in the firm foundation of Jesus Christ. Hope that will not give way under pressure or threat of despair. Hope that propels us forward.

This same hope is expressed by HSU alum, Steve Bezner '97/'99M (pictured right), who encountered a shaking of his faith during Hurricane Harvey. As doubt and faith collided, causing him to face a tough choice—the same choice each of us must face during significant adversity or crisis.



HSU Alum Steve Bezner



"[It was] among the most difficult seasons I've ever endured."

by Steve Bezner '97/'99M

My family moved to Houston seven and a half years ago.

Joy and I were both 37 at the time. Our boys were still somewhat young—3rd and 6th grade. We wanted to remember the move and commemorate the moment, so a friend of ours took some family pictures. They were fun and silly. We still have those pictures in frames in our house.

I took one of those pictures and decided to use it as my profile photo for all of my accounts on the Internet: Facebook, Twitter, etc. I also used it as my Zoom profile photo so that if I turned off my camera, people would see that young, hopeful face staring back at them.

A lot has happened in the last seven and a half years. Most notably, Houston was ravaged by the floodwaters of Hurricane Harvey in August 2017. That event—coupled with the two-plus years of recovery that followed—are among the most difficult seasons I've ever endured. I use the word "endured" intentionally. There were stretches of days where the only thing to do was to focus on the next task at hand. I held on for dear life at times, white-knuckling through the curves of life.

As the roller coaster ride continued, my body began to reflect the stress. My hair grayed. My skin leathered. My face aged.

About two years after Harvey, I was on a Zoom call with some of my best friends. They are my brothers in the faith. For some reason, I had to turn my video feed off for a few seconds, and that old profile picture popped

up. My friends immediately howled with laughter. "Who is THAT?" one of them said. They were joking, of course. They knew it was me. But they were right. I didn't look like that picture anymore.

There are things in this life that change us—not necessarily for the better or the worse. They simply change us. Life comes in waves, and if you live long enough, eventually one of those waves will be so large that it will pick you up and carry you to a place you did not expect. It will carry you long enough and far enough that when it finally puts you down you are different. These are the sorts of waves that wash away ideals and sentimentality. These are not the waves you enjoy like a day at the beach. These are tsunamis, bringing crushing weight, moving at breakneck speeds. These are white waters.

The emotions I've experienced in the last three years are unlike any other time period in my life. I've doubted my calling. I've thought about quitting more times than I can remember. I've experienced some of the lowest lows I've ever known.

My faith has changed, too. It's more rooted than ever. As the waves came crashing, many of the platitudes I had long held close couldn't withstand the weight. Several of the simple answers I have often clung to in a storm were nowhere to be found. I had to go deeper, to read the Bible with fresh eyes, to see the God that comes alongside of me—the God who can calm the waves, but the God who also sometimes naps in the front of the boat while the waves are rough. I now see why some walk away in these moments. It's hard enough to hold on, much less press in.

Pressing in, however, is what I did. And pressing in is what saved me. As I write, another hurricane is approaching. Political division is scorching the country. A pandemic continues to create confusion and anger. Election narratives are rampant.

I see these things differently now—more clearly, I think. I see them—mostly—as expressions of a broken world. And I see the Kingdom of Jesus as something far more sustaining, far more glorious than anything this world has to offer. The waves aged me, to be sure, but they helped me see the beauty and glory of Jesus more clearly than ever. Maybe that is the way it has to work. Maybe only when we are being crushed will we look up with true need. Maybe only when we are helpless will we see the true nature of Help.

For the last year or so, each time I was on one of my Internet accounts, I paid attention to my profile picture. I knew it needed to be updated. I looked older and grayer, yes. But I was also different.

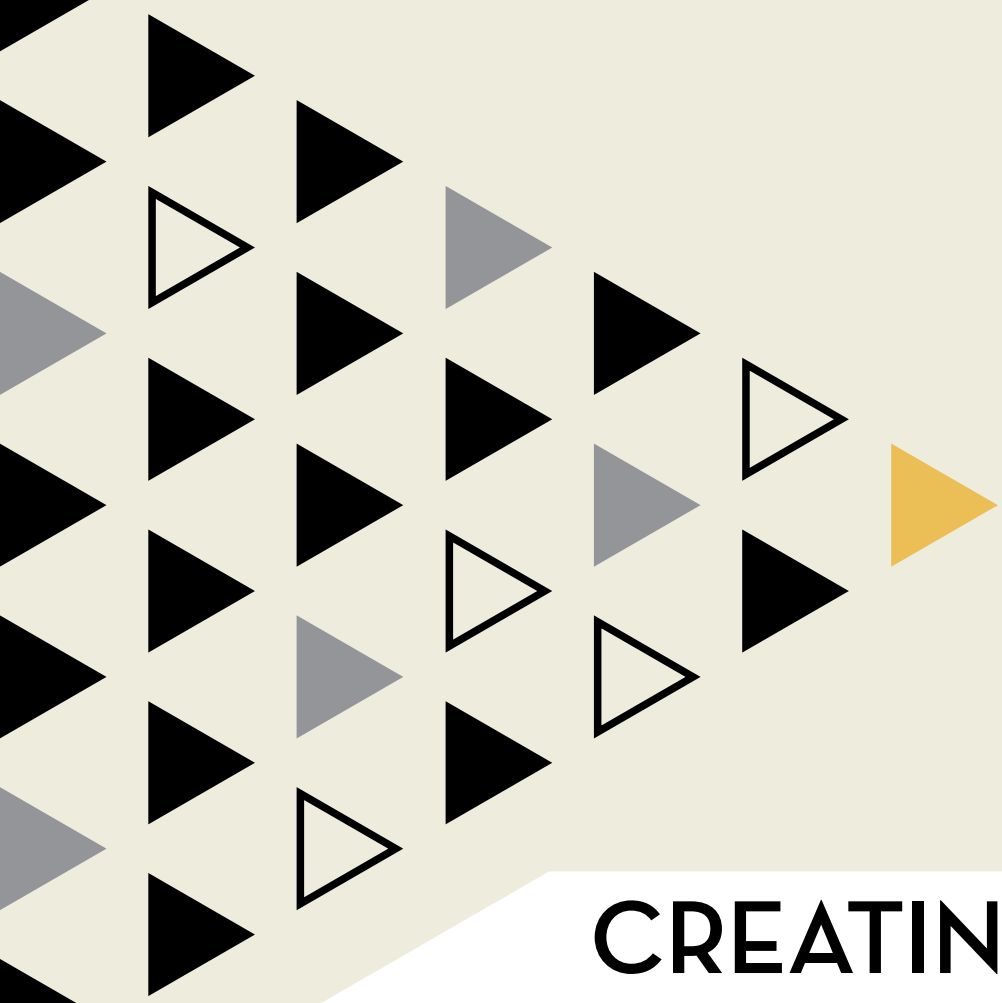
I updated my pictures this week. I would like to tell you that I can hardly wait for another wave like that, to ride again to discover more about who God is. But I can't. I'm not there yet. But I know when the next wave comes, no matter how hard the crushing or how fast the carrying, I'll find even more Glory in the depths.

Steve Bezner is pastor of Houston Northwest Church in Houston, Texas. He holds degrees from Hardin-Simmons University (B.A., M.A.) and Baylor University (Ph.D.). Steve is married to Joy and has two sons, Ben and Andrew.

The orange team celebrates their team's victory at the end of Stampede Week in August, 2020.







“We must see that the individual goes out from this University to live the best and noblest life—mentally, spiritually, and morally.”

—J.D. Sandefer, President

CREATING RESILIENT LEADERS

by Nikki Slater


collaborating guest Cindy Parks

In today’s ever-changing world, it is imperative to equip students with the essential skills, personal development, and spiritual foundation they will need for filling crucial leadership roles.

There is an overwhelming need for strong, effective, and spiritually-minded leaders, regardless of their career path or life journey.

At Hardin-Simmons University, we understand that leadership development involves looking at a student holistically—physically, intellectually, and spiritually. It requires tapping into students’ lives to call out their strengths and empower them for greatness, as well as helping them learn to identify areas of weakness and turn them into opportunities for strength. Developing leaders involves helping individuals hone inner leadership characteristics, such as flexibility, adaptability, and resourcefulness.

At its core, effective leadership development starts with a strong foundation. In the early days of Hardin-Simmons University, President J.D. Sandefer said “We must see that the individual goes out from this University to live the best and noblest life- mentally, spiritually, and morally.”

A photograph of Kevin Tutt, a local guest speaker, standing at a podium and speaking to an audience. He is wearing a light blue polo shirt and gesturing with his hands. The background features a large, colorful stained-glass window with abstract patterns in shades of orange, yellow, and red. A microphone is positioned in front of him.

Kevin Tutt, local guest speaker at the Emerging Leaders Conference in March 2019

SUCCESS STARTS WITH PREPARATION

Preparing students to succeed in the world takes thoughtful planning. The goal at HSU is to ensure our core programs contain classes and instruction to develop students' knowledge both in and out of the classroom.

Preparation also includes innovation, a vital ingredient in relevant and meaningful educational experiences. Innovative learning not only requires excellent instructors, but also incorporates hands-on, practical training and enhanced digital experiences.

For example, Hardin-Simmons has invested in the development of programs related to healthcare, a leading field for job and career opportunities. We have established unique programs in Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Nursing, and Athletic

Training which we believe will enable graduates to stand apart in the employment market and begin their careers job ready.

These marquee programs use the latest technology, training, and equipment. Our Physical Therapy and Physician Assistant programs have one of the area's few private, dedicated physical cadaver labs specifically designed to allow students to conduct full dissection. Most of the programs are limited to prosection, in which an instructor has conducted the dissection and students view afterward. However, at HSU, this hands-on experience will be invaluable as students enter the job market. In addition, our programs benefit from having a general surgeon as the lead faculty for the labs offering relevant clinical expertise.

We understand that leadership development involves looking at a student holistically—physically, intellectually, and spiritually.

LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR A MORE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

All HSU healthcare program classrooms are interactive, allowing students the benefit of practical clinical experiences within the classroom setting. Innovative smart technology screen projectors and applications allow students to use their smartphones to access and view demonstrations up close, from any angle.

Other campus technology is available to assist and support student learning both in the classroom and remote learning.

These, among other tools and resources, allow us to tailor our educational experiences to students' needs and prepare them for a successful career.

Looking to the future, as we identify needs in student education, HSU continues to focus our programs to meet student demand, such as the Masters in Speech-Language Pathology, designed to meet the needs of this specific field in desperate need of clinicians.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT - LEARNING FROM LEADERS AND MENTORS

Another component of HSU's leadership development focus is connecting students to key leaders in their field who can mentor them along the way.

An example is the leadership advisory board created by HSU President Eric Bruntmyer. The board serves as a path to connect undergraduate students to professionals in their related field. Students have regular virtual meetings with panels of experts to gain insights into the latest news and information about their particular discipline.

Peer mentorship is another way that HSU is actively engaging students as leaders on campus. The first-year mentorship program is an opportunity for students in their second year and beyond to work alongside first-year students as they navigate unique expectations and experiences of being a new student. This innovative program is led by P.J. Martinez, Director of Student

EQUIPPING LEADERS FOR

Engagement and First-Year Experience. Martinez has broad leadership training and experience through his current role and as the former Academic Outreach Specialist with the Center for Multicultural and Diversity Education, where he specialized in college outreach and access, and diversity and affinity group programming.

Any HSU sophomore through senior student can apply to be a mentor to first-year students. Applications open in the fall and selections are made in the Spring. Students who love HSU, are enthusiastic, organized, and really understand the first-year experience, are great candidates for these positions.

The overarching goal of the FYM program is for all students to connect with peers who can guide them through experiences they may encounter during their first year. In essence, the program provides a trusted older student who can teach them the ropes of life on the Hardin-Simmons campus.

Martinez describes a great leader-mentor as “someone who can listen well, empathize, communicate effectively, and will advocate for others to be successful.”

Through the program, mentors are assigned a class of first-year students with whom they connect regularly. They also make an investment in these students beyond the classroom through regular one-on-one interaction.

The curriculum for first-year students at HSU is also designed to engage students in the campus experience by offering a unique set of courses to help them with personal development.

The first-year seminar- often referred to as “Gateway” is centered on fundamental questions of life - Who am I? Who are You (God)? What about my neighbor? Other essential components are:

- Clifton Strengths Finder
- Exploring HSU History
- Taking part in campus-wide Community Coffee Hour
- Creating an entire college course plan

Students can also choose courses around special topics to complement their first-year course experience such as:

- Cultivating the Entrepreneurial Spirit
- Creativity and Decision Making
- Creating, Exploring, and Inspiring
- America in Black and White
- Minority Voices - Sharing our Stories
- Professionalism in the Healthcare Field
- Spiritual Formation: Knowing God, Knowing Yourself, and Knowing Others
- Real Estate
- Leadership in Sports

DEVELOPING ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP SKILLS

An important part of developing successful leaders is investing in students and taking time to teach life skills that they might not have yet learned at home or in high school. Time management is one of those essential elements of success. Recognizing this, President Bruntmyer helped arrange small group sessions with incoming freshmen to teach them to navigate schedules, priorities, and activities.

Students also have added valuable ideas for leadership development. In 2019, Tanner Clarke, with HSU Baptist Student Ministries, connected with Erica Young Reitz, a specialist in helping college seniors transition to the next phase of life and author of “After College: Navigating Transitions, Relationships and Faith.” Clark took one of her online live training courses titled “Equipping Students to Thrive After College,” in which he was in a cohort with other United States collegiate ministers to discuss how to best send out students from our ministries. This sparked some great ideas, and in July 2019, BSM and Career Services partnered to work together to help seniors transition from college

by encouraging them to consider areas in which they need to prepare themselves.

The “Adulting 101” webinar series emerged from these efforts. Myles Lofland, Director of Career Services, has helped lead the program, which tackles such subjects as understanding student loans, budgeting a new income, Godly relationships after HSU, mental well-being and self-care, and conducting the best job search.

“One quality I respect in great leaders is identifying areas of weakness and doing something about it. That may mean filling a skills gap,” Myles said. “Many students haven’t been asked to budget, prepare to select a new church home, build a strong career marketing campaign, or discuss hot-button issues like mental health awareness and self-care. Adulting 101 is designed to fill those gaps. It isn’t enough for our students to earn a degree from HSU. We want to see them succeed in their homes, at their workplaces, with their finances, and with their spiritual lives.”



SUCCESS



“The Emerging Leaders Conference highlighted what had already been imparted to me my whole life about realizing my potential and my strengths”

—Leandria Thurman '21

BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

Learning how to navigate personal relationships and handle conflict resolution are other essentials to becoming a healthy leader. The HSU Student Life team plays a crucial role in facilitating connection and community for students as they experience many first-time life experiences.

“We are equipping students to become leaders who are engaged and transformed citizens,” said Stacey Martin, Vice President of Student Life. “This continues to be one of our top strategic goals for Student Life.”

HSU is accomplishing this by increasing experiences and exposure to leadership opportunities throughout students' campus life, including student government, residence

life, and various campus organizations. Student Life provides training for both current and upcoming student leaders through our “Emerging Leaders” conference.

Holly Edwards, who leads the effort, is excited about providing an intensive opportunity for strengthening students' ability to lead now and in the future.

“We are fortunate to be able to provide some nationally recognized experts as keynote speakers at no cost to our students. This is giving them exposure to some of the best of the best, that you would find in larger, more costly forums, right here on our campus,” Holly said. “It also allows for some of our faculty and staff to connect with students outside of the academic environment by leading break-out sessions

for their particular areas of expertise.”

This Student Life program has been effective in helping raise up student leaders, such as Leandria Thurman, who attended the seminar as a first-year freshman and, in her sophomore year, participated in student government by serving as a senator. As Leandria became more confident in her leadership ability, she stepped up in her junior year to serve as a Resident Assistant for Anderson Hall.

“The Emerging Leaders Conference highlighted what had already been imparted to me my whole life about realizing my potential and my strengths,” she said. “It opened more doors for me to use those gifts and exposed me to others that I could connect within leadership.”

LEADERSHIP NETWORK

Hardin-Simmons complements its curriculum and programs with membership in the Christian Association of Student Leaders (CASL), an organization committed to developing and strengthening college students in their campus leadership roles. CASL began in 1998, and was chartered by eight Baptist universities under the Congregational Leadership Team of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

CASL's annual conference provides professional growth opportunities for individuals engaged in student leadership, to offer a forum for sharing ideas, and to encourage individuals in their leadership journey.

School members of the organization take turns hosting the conference and in 2022, Hardin-Simmons will host on our campus.



Developing leaders has long been part of the DNA of Hardin-Simmons University.

In 1964 Dr. Lee Hemphill, faculty member, alumnus, and Hardin-Simmons benefactor, formed a Board of Young Associates as a way of cultivating leadership among young professionals who were graduates of the University. BYA is a very unique organization that very few other universities have. To become a member, you must be under 40, be a graduate of Hardin-Simmons and out of school for over 3 years, and be a contributing member of the University. There are 75 active members on this board annually and it is very active, vibrant, and committed to creating ideas to benefit the University and taking ownership of implementing these ideas. They pay it forward by supporting an endowed scholarship “Tomorrow’s Leaders Today” which awards rising Juniors and Seniors who have a propensity towards leadership.

“I have always felt that the best leaders are servant leaders. The ones who are not afraid of the hard work or hard conversations needed to help grow future leaders. Being involved with BYA has been very rewarding because I have been able to serve the university which has helped me so much personally and professionally. I have also been able to meet some wonderful people who have shaped me into a servant leader. I have also been blessed to interact with current students and help guide them into becoming leaders in their field of study through mentoring and scholarship opportunities.”

—Elizabeth Roberts, President BYA

A SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION FOR LEADERSHIP

Spiritual Development at HSU is the lens through which we see the world around us and develop a sense of purpose and passion. The most essential element to building healthy leaders is developing a moral and ethical framework. This foundation is what we return to when everything else might crumble. It is what helps propel us forward to work for the collective good of those we are leading.

At Hardin-Simmons University, spiritual truth is the cornerstone on which our educational foundations are built. This truth permeates the core content we are passing along to students, no matter what their field of study. By doing this we ensure that we are connecting to our mission and core values of “creating an education enlightened by Christian faith and values.”

Dr. Doug McIntyre, professor of Business Administration at the Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies, incorporates this into his classroom by exposing students to ethical business practices. He uses a biblical integration exercise of having students use real-life business scenarios, challenging them to go to the Bible (as the instruction book for life) to determine how a person should respond in those situations. He considers it a “win” when he can get students to develop a habit of always using scripture to guide them in their business and life practices.

HSU online courses incorporate “Connection of Student to their Creator” as a critical component of class curriculum and through vital spiritual activities such as devotionals, creating prayer lists, journaling, or reflection.

MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Spiritual leadership is also fostered through our chaplaincy program. Dr. Travis Craver, Director of Spiritual Formation, developed this program out of a desire to train other students to step into spiritual mentorship roles for their peers.

The role of the university student chaplain is to design and direct all aspects of Campus Ministries, which has a primary focus on the spiritual life, faith development, and pastoral care of HSU students.

The specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to, strategic planning and assessment; general administration; leadership and coordination of the work of the Campus Ministries teams, collaborating with all campus entities for spiritual life, program development and implementation of Tuesday and Thursday chapels, and other on- and off-campus ministries. Student chaplains also foster growth and offer support for Student Missions and provide personal spiritual care for students.

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

“Our goal is for spiritual truths to transform the hearts and minds of our students as they step out of the classroom environment and into their everyday lives,” Travis said. “To develop ambassadors for Christ, as leaders--world changers, world shakers--who can go out and live for Him whether it’s in their career, their relationships or full-time ministry.”

True leadership is really caught more than taught. Hardin-Simmons believes that we have an opportunity to come alongside at a pivotal point in young adult development and sow the seeds that will grow strong, future leaders of tomorrow.

A portrait of Dr. Richard Darden, an older Black man with glasses, wearing a grey suit, blue shirt, and patterned tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

Profiles of LEADERSHIP

DR. RICHARD DARDEN '15

Pastor and Author
Shining Star Fellowship Church, Abilene

MAJOR
Ministry

LEADERSHIP ROLES

Pastor, Shining Star Fellowship Church
Member, Board of Trustees, HSU
Chair, Board of Directors, Christian Women Job Corp.
Commander, Taylor County Chapter #36 Disabled America Veterans
Member, Board of Trustees, Hendrick Health System

LIFE LESSONS

I credit my development as a leader through various phases of my life. I felt a called to ministry while I was still in high school. I would hang out after church to hear the pastors and leaders in the church have conversations and that's where I first developed my love for God's word. I also gained leadership skills through my time in the Air Force and then various management positions in the business world. Along the way, my education and involvement with the community also played an important role in helping me gain perspective on leadership development.

ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP SKILLS

I feel the following skills are unique and a necessity for a leader: being a person of integrity; choosing good coaches and mentors; exercising selfcare; organizing and prioritizing; analyzing situations by seeking out and understanding the facts; determining when to delegate a task; being wholeheartedly committed to the long-haul, and remaining a life-long learner.

BEST ADVICE

Do not quit! Pray and trust God.

BIO

Richard Darden is Senior Pastor of Shining Star Church in Abilene, TX, a multi-ethnic church started in 2000 and author of "Leadership Shaped By The Potter's Hand," which explores the influences of poverty, particularly how it affects a person's desire and ability to become a leader.

Profiles of LEADERSHIP

RYAN GIBSON '06

Lead Assurance Partner
Condley and Company, LLP

MAJOR

Accounting and Finance

LEADERSHIP ROLES

Treasurer, Theta Alpha Zeta, HSU
Member, Student Congress, HSU
Steering Committee Member, New Student Orientation, HSU
Member, Delta Mu Delta Business Honor Society, HSU
Former Vice-President, Board of Young Associates, HSU
Board Chair, Board of Directors, Day Nursery of Abilene
Treasurer, Friends of Safety City
Treasurer, Abilene Education Foundation
Treasurer, Abilene Philharmonic Association
Deacon, First Baptist Church, Abilene

LIFE LESSONS

I think leadership can develop in many ways over a course of years and various experiences. Since Hardin-Simmons was a smaller university, it provided a wide array of options for students and opened the door to get involved wherever I had interests. Faculty and staff poured so much time and energy into us to get every student involved early on.

ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP SKILLS

I think self-accountability is an essential skill for most leaders. If you can't do what you have said you were going to do, then how can you expect someone else in the group to do their part? A lack of self-accountability means that you cannot effectively hold others accountable. In the same way, I think a good leader should have the ability to admit when they have made an error or have not fulfilled their duties.

BEST ADVICE

I think the old adage that you shouldn't be afraid to get your hands dirty applies in so many instances at work and elsewhere. If something needs to get done, sometimes you just have to jump in and get it done. I always tell myself that there is no work that is beneath me.

BIO

Ryan is the Lead Assurance Partner at Condley and Company, L.L.P., an accounting firm in Abilene. He is responsible for all functions of the Assurance department, including technical and operational aspects. He has been involved with many organizations since graduation, including: Board Chair for Day Nursery of Abilene, Treasurer for Friends of Safety City, Treasurer for Abilene Education Foundation, Treasurer for Abilene Philharmonic Association, member of the HSU Board of Young Associates, Deacon at First Baptist Church, and Board Member of the Baptist Church Loan Corporation. He currently serves on the First Baptist Church capital project team to renovate and repurpose the First Christian Church property. He lives in Abilene with his wife Libby '08, daughter Landry, and son Kade.





ANGIE BOLIVER '96

*Vice President of Strategic Communications,
Public Relations, & Public Affairs
Vizient, Inc.*

MAJOR

English Literature, Double Minor in Business and Communications

LEADERSHIP ROLES

*President, Junior and Senior Class, HSU
President, Sigma Alpha, HSU*

LIFE LESSONS

There are so many life lessons that I learned early on in college and are part of my success today. Most importantly, the spirit of collaboration and working together that I learned while at Hardin-Simmons.

ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP SKILLS

I think one of the most important skills for any leader is Compassion. Thinking of other people and being mission-minded helps leaders to communicate the why behind something and allows people they are leading to be empowered. "Leadership is part of engaging everyone so that they are all going in the same direction."

BEST ADVICE

My father gave me the best advice while I was still in college figuring things out. He said, "Always work in a field that you are passionate about." I think if you get the opportunity to follow your heart and do something you love instead of just thinking about a salary- that is what is going to give you longevity and fulfillment.

BIO

Angie Boliver is Vice-President of Strategic Communications, Public Relations, & Public Affairs for Vizient, Inc, a performance improvement company that helps lower healthcare costs, in part by helping more than half of the hospitals in the country access affordable supplies. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these efforts have been particularly needed in helping coordinate hospitals' ability to access critical supplies, such as personal protective equipment (PPE) and ventilators, where they're needed most. In addition to her HSU degree, she also holds a masters and a law degree from SMU. Angie lives in Dallas, Texas.

Profiles of LEADERSHIP

CHRIS CLAYMAN '01

Associate Director and Co-Founder
Global Gates

MAJOR

Psychology

LEADERSHIP ROLES

Small Group Leader, Baptist Student Ministry, HSU

Chapel Co-Host, HSU

Bible Study Leader, Cambridge University

Former Worship Leader, Calvary Baptist Church, Stamford, TX

Former Student Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Stamford, TX

Missionary Coach, Global Gates

Associate Director, Global Gates

LIFE LESSONS

My time at Hardin-Simmons gave me so many life and leadership opportunities that were foundational for developing character and finding my role in God's story. Hardin-Simmons also provided space to develop friendships and relationships with Christ-followers who strengthened, challenged, and encouraged me.

ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP SKILLS

It's vitally important for leaders to be lifelong learners, prioritize their most important tasks (especially when demands from others increase), and to know their own skill sets and callings. The best leaders I know, even though they may be experts and the most knowledgeable people in the room, are humble and constantly asking excellent questions to learn and grow as leaders and people. As demands increase on leaders' time, it becomes more important to separate from the daily grind to hear from the Lord and prioritize work. It's easy to say "yes" to appealing opportunities or to satisfy appeals from people. Learning to say "no" is more difficult and demands discernment and discipline, especially when these decisions affect others. Always remember that effective leaders will accomplish more through the people they influence than through their direct accomplishments.

BEST ADVICE

This quote appears on my desktop from Ralph Waldo Emerson: "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." In the Bible, Paul described his desire to "preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation" (Romans 15:20). The Lord has primarily gifted and called me to new ventures in expanding His Kingdom. Success is obedience to the Lord. Our identity shouldn't come from what we accomplish or what we do. When we abide in Christ, we find our true identity and bear His long-lasting fruit.

BIO

Chris Clayman is the Co-Founder and an Associate Director of Global Gates (www.globalgates.info), a mission organization focused on reaching the ends of the earth through global gateway cities. He has been involved in pioneer church planting in urban and rural West Africa and New York City among unreached Muslim peoples. Chris is also the author of *Superplan: a journey into God's story* (thesuperplan.com) and *ethNYcity: The Nations, Tongues, and Faiths of Metropolitan New York* (unreachednewyork.com). Chris lives with his wife Nichole and three children in New York City.





TEXAS BAPTISTS

SHARE = CHRIST SHOW LOVE =

In the past 20 years, the churches of the Baptist General Convention of Texas have given Hardin-Simmons University \$24 million. Thank you for your generosity!

txb.org

Under 1 Roof - HSU Cowboys and Cowgirls

Back Row: Braxton Feemster, Grayson Bunnell, John Lovell, Taylor Burroughs, Richard Young, Matt Melbourne, Grant Seabourne, Chance Reneau

Front Row: Nicholas Capangpangan, Tyler Gurley, Julie Finley, Samantha Harrison, Melissa Culpepper, Gary Gragg, Lorri Spalding, Daena Lloyd, Samantha Baker, Joe Davis, Troy Mann, Joshua Farrow

Not Pictured: Sean Aleman, Alejandra Chavarria, Taylor Cooling, Darla Cox, Marilyn Crowe, Robert De La Cruz, Katie Ellison, Sean Fuqua, Davitte Gardner, Benjamin Gutierrez, Jeremy Henschen, Thea Hernandez, Derek Howell, Johnathan Jeter, Brittnei McClure, Ryan Parrish, Issac Patterson, Mark Pierce, Taylor Pittman, Matt Rodriguez, Derrick Saucedo, Ashley Sutton, Seth Varnell

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MEMBER FDIC



Kira Johnson '24, Rachael Muchero '23, Madisyn Arnold '23, and Dr. Jemima Ingle experiment with "elephant's toothpaste" during the Chemistry Magic Show in October, 2020





For the Love of BEHRENS CHAPEL

A scrapbook of memories from HSU's beloved chapel.



Karen (Swartz) Kimball '63

I was serving as president of Sigma Alpha Iota when we decided to sponsor *All School Sing* as a competition for social clubs and dormitory groups. Although the stage was set up with lighting, there were no curtains. For that first Sing there had to be complete blackouts between acts, and the groups had to set up for their performance in complete darkness!

The other memory is more amusing for me personally. After the chapel construction was completed there was a week of dedication with special activities each evening, including

performances of the Lucas Foss opera *The Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*, based on the story by Mark Twain. I was chosen to play Lulu the Dance Hall Girl and had to make my own costume for the performance. It was a red satin gown, off the shoulder and fitted just past the hips, with a ruffle that then went from there to the floor. A week before the production a photographer from the Abilene Reporter-News came to take a publicity shot. My costume was not ready, still lacking the ruffle sewed on and zipper in the back. I pinned the

back together and was assured that although the dress (without the ruffle) stopped just below my hips they would only show us just from the waist up.

It wasn't until later that I found that the entire photo was used for a brochure that was sent to churches throughout West Texas encouraging students to attend HSU. This was in the days before mini-skirts when we still couldn't even wear pants on campus! There were certainly some upset pastors who questioned how HSU could allow such clothing!

Nicole Behrens Farrell '90

The excitement was palpable (and sweaty). My Delta Sisters and I were back-stage doing last minute “checks” on costume, hair and make-up. My hair wasn’t quite right, as usual. I sat down on the floor right in front of Lisa Causey Head '89, who quickly French-braided my hair like the other girls had theirs. I’ll never forget that 1st bonding moment of friendship between us. We then went on stage and “lit it up” with our Delta tribute to Disney and won the Womens’ SING Award!



Recognize a familiar face from Behrens Chapel? Let us know at RangeRiders@hsutx.edu

Jane (Parker) Rose '66X

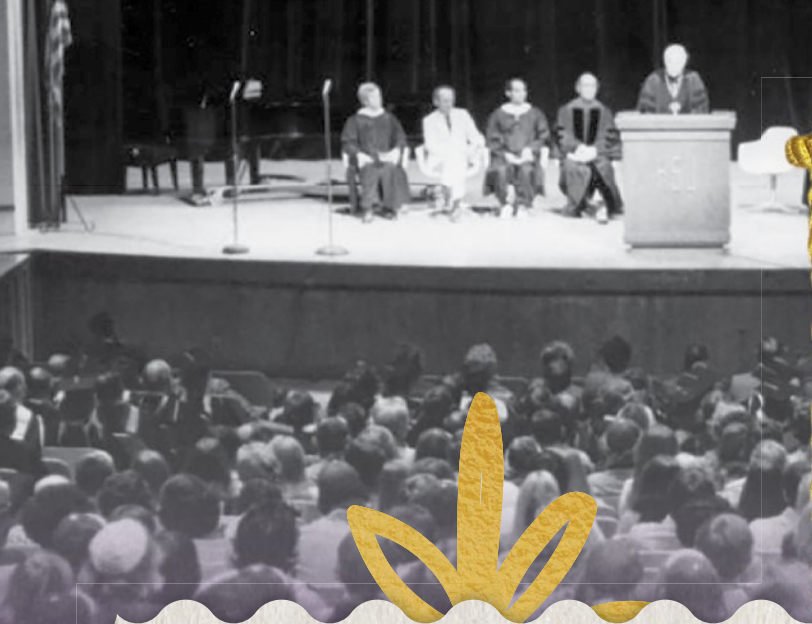
In May of 1964, I graduated from Abilene High School, and I immediately enrolled in summer school at HSU. Fortunately for me, I got a student job working in the Office of Admissions.

At that time, chapel attendance was required for all students, and one of my responsibilities was to hand out and collect attendance slips at Chapel.

In the spring semester of 1966, I began to notice a certain group of “handsome” young men that always sat together on or near the back row.

One of them, Larry McNair, was in a class I was taking. I mentioned to him that the Chapel Choir, of which I was a member, was performing the music from Westside Story during Friday’s chapel and that he needed to sit closer to the stage. To my surprise, when the program began, I looked down to see him sitting on the front row. With the encouragement of a few common friends, we began dating. We were married in February of 1967, with Dr. Zane Mason, one of my favorite professors, performing our ceremony. Our reception was held upstairs in the SUB.

Unfortunately, Larry died from a heart attack in 1988, after a long career as a teacher and coach. I know he would have been so proud that the McNair name still continues to surface around the HSU campus. Many of his family members attended HSU—his dad, his uncles and their spouses, many cousins, nieces, a nephew, and yes, his cousin, Dr. Christopher McNair, currently serving as HSU’s Provost and CAO.



Clyde Berrkley '61

The class of 1961 had a unique experience with both Behrens Chapels. We were the last class to begin our chapel experience in the old Behrens Chapel, the first class to graduate in the new Behrens Chapel, and only class to spend time in both chapels and in Rose Field house.

I remember the day the old Behrens chapel burned down. It was the day Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson spoke in chapel. We were familiar with the reputation of Senator Johnson and joked that the chapel burned down because he was invited to speak. In fact, that is the only memory I have of the old chapel which we attended for only about two months.

Then chapel was moved to Rose Field house, which was a different kind of experience. Each of us was assigned a seat and someone checked on our attendance every chapel session. In fact, Ann Turner, who later became my wife, was falsely accused of cutting chapel and was called into the office of the Dean of Students to explain. After a rather frightening experience for Ann, it was discovered that they had mixed up the seat numbers and it was another student who was skipping chapel.

When it came time for graduation, we were happy to hear that we were going to have the privilege of being the first class to graduate there even though it was barely ready. There were no curtains on the stage, but the art department came to the rescue and painted curtains on cardboard. They looked pretty nice. I don't know if they had the seats in yet, but our class gave our class gift to purchase some of the needed seats.

This was quite an experience for Ann and me. We both graduated on May 29, 1961, and I graduated with a commission in the U. S. Army. We were married a few days later and started our life together. Next year will be the 60th anniversary of Behrens chapel and our marriage. We are thankful to God for both of them.

Amanda (Culwell) Wyatt '05

My Behrens story starts with my dad telling me all about his time at HSU, when he was a student, a Ranger, and a recruiter. He told me HSU could change my life. When I began applying to colleges, I was having a hard time getting accepted. My test scores were low because of my struggle with dyslexia. I cried every time I got a no, until I got a letter from HSU.

I remember the day I got my beanie I started crying I knew how big that was. I was starting my life at a school that wanted me. I was going to work hard and not waste the gift. I did work for four and half years to gain my BBS in education in 2005. When I opened my graduation program I started crying, because not only would I get my degree but my father, Dr. Tommy Culwell, was to give the opening prayer (he kept it a secret from me). As I walked to receive my degree, I got to hug my father and hear him say how proud he was of me. I had been given a gift and Behrens was the beginning and the end of that gift.

Behrens is a place to start a gift, share a gift and give appreciation for a gift.

Charles Mundy '62

I am probably one of the few people whose experience with Behrens Chapel covers the course of eight decades.

I was first in the original Behrens Chapel as an eleven-year-old in 1951, my parents, Ray and Lula Mundy of Merkel, brought me on a rare trip to Abilene to attend a concert by the then famous Rangers Quartet.

My next personal experience was after Behrens Chapel burned and Rose Field House was being used as an interim location for the "required student chapel attendance." This event happened in the 1959 fall semester during "Sadie Hawkins week," a time when girls were encouraged to invited boys to events. My first class of the day was in Mary Francis Hall. While walking across the quadrangle to Rose Fieldhouse, I was approached by a cute girl that I had noticed during the first few days of class. Miss Preston came alongside me on the way to chapel and asked me out on a date. My six-night-a-week job at KRBC Radio/TV, along with an already planned date on my next night off, prevented my acceptance. As soon as possible after that, I arranged to ask Miss Preston out. Within less than a year, we dated, got engaged and were married. That has led to sixty years of marriage as of August 20, 2020.

Construction of the new Behrens Chapel was completed the year before my graduation from HSU in 1962 and Charlene's graduation in 1963.

Jerry W. Spears '61

On the Monday before Thanksgiving, 1957, with serious Freshman homesickness upon me, I had arrangements in place to depart the campus after chapel and to take the noon train toward my East Texas home.

Chapel worship began at 10:00 AM. On that day, before the service started, the student who always sat to my right, Henry (Teer, I think) and I agreed we smelled something burning. During worship, to our knowledge, nothing beyond smell developed. When the service's "Amen" was pronounced, the gathered exited Behrens Chapel without any sense of concern. Nobody wondered out loud if trouble might be ahead.

As planned, I boarded the train for the three hundred- mile trip.

A Sulphur Springs hometown friend met the train in Mineola, Texas. He greeted me by asking, "Have you heard what happened at Hardin-Simmons?" When I answered "No", he said, "The chapel burned down". Shock and grief set in. Immediately, I thought of my conversation with Henry.

In the three and a half years following the fire, chapel worship took place in the school gymnasium on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. During my Junior year, Dr. Stewart Newman, Professor of Philosophy of Religion and of Theology at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina, came to HSU to speak.

During his speech, some pranksters decided to try and get the best of him. Dr. Newman, who grew up on a farm in Jermyn, Texas, and graduated from Hardin-Simmons, did not seem surprised or perturbed by the adlibbed addition to the chapel service. He continued his lecture without any nod to the prank. His composure and focus impressed me; he was someone I wanted to meet and did.

The Behrens Chapel fire and the gymnasium-chapel lectures might seem to be related only circumstantially. For me, they are organically connected spiritual events, used after the fact by our Heavenly Father to exert ongoing providential leadership in my life. The preaching and pastoral guidance of an HSU graduate had led me to Hardin-Simmons. The learning, composure, and

helpfulness of another HSU graduate would lead me beyond college.

Two years after graduating from Hardin-Simmons, I stepped onto the campus of Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, to become a student. The only person I knew there was Dr. Stewart Newman.

For nearly three-quarters of a century, Behrens Chapel has been fulfilling its dedication as the focal point of Hardin-Simmons, for reverent devotion, for holy thought, for joy, for inspiration, for guidance. Foundational moments in our chapel—whether a structure built to bear its own name, or a gymnasium borrowed to carry on its purpose—have brought providential direction for life to thousands of HSU students. Worldwide lines of service to Christ can be traced from the beloved edifices of Behrens Chapel.

In August, 1961, I graduated out of the new Behrens Chapel Auditorium and I expect the ministry of all of HSU's Chapels to carry beyond my final breath.



Bailee Barrett '22 and Jake Hamilton '22 perform *Little Shop of Horrors* in Behrens Chapel in October, 2020.







PRANKS of BEHRENS CHAPEL

CHERRY BOMBS

One time a particular speaker, Dr. Stewart Newman, Professor of Philosophy of Religion and Theology at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina, came to HSU to speak at multiple chapel services. As delivered by Dr. Newman, the talks were appropriately academic and erudite. In the midst of Dr. Newman's final lecture, someone set off a cherry bomb, near the entrance of the gym, a place farthest removed from the pulpit. It missed the attention of no one. Was it an expression of joy? Probably not. Was it a declaration of chagrin, meant to humiliate? Most likely.

ALARM CLOCKS

In 1954, A jokester provided an unscheduled 5 minutes of entertainment during chapel when he set an alarm clock to go off and dislodged a shoe-box of confetti on the speaker, Lt. Col. Howard P. Rice- Professor of Military Science and Tactics of the HSU ROTC unit. The timing was perfect as Col. Rice had just made a comment about some cadet dissatisfaction which preceded the shower of confetti. Ringing alarm clocks were among a common set of pranks that occurred during chapel.

BOYS WHO GRIED WOLF

During Hardin-Simmons early days in the 1900's, when there were few buildings and no designated student center or good snack bars, students would sneak down to the corner drug store for a soda, to meet friends and hide during chapel.

Another favorite corner store joke on chapel dodgers was to have someone yell out right around chapel time, "Come in, President Sandefer!" which would immediately cause the chapel truants to shrink in their spots.

PARACHUTING MICE

Sometime during the 1970's certain members of the Cowboy Band figured out how to have some good, clean fun using the catwalk in Behrens ceiling. The boys purchased 12 small mice from the local pet store. They created large colorful nylon parachutes, which they attached with some twine to dixie cups.

Once up on the catwalk, they made sure and passed the mice carefully between them so the mice didn't get loose too early. The boys leaned over the edge, which was a fairly precarious feat, and launched the parachutes. Initially, several students saw the beautiful display floating down and thought it was delightful until one student jumped up and screamed, "It's a rat!", which startled everyone. This became apparent as several of the mice jumped out of the cups and started running among the audience. Subsequently, the pranksters had to figure out a quick getaway from up above, to avoid getting caught.



PING-PONG BALLS

Not only did good-natured students enjoy a good laugh at guest's expense, but they loved pulling pranks on each other as well. During Cowboy Band concerts, other members of the band would climb up into the ceiling rafters to drop ping pong balls and confetti upon their band mates.



SLIME DROPPING

Another favorite prank with upperclassmen of the 60's, known as "slime dropping," was when an abundance of soap suds was dispensed in the fountain on campus. This prank actually benefited and was well received by the maintenance crew by helping to keep algae from developing which actually saved money in the long run. Some of the fraternities were eventually asked to "stand guard" over the fountain when important events or visitors were coming to prevent any embarrassing nuisances.

CIGARETTES & WHISKEY

At various times students showed their disdain for J.D. Sandefer's strict code of conduct by taping a cigarette and a picture of a whiskey glass on the large portrait of Sandefer which hung in the chapel.

LOSING THEIR MARBLES

Some students would hold marbles between their feet and then release them when they felt compelled. The marbles would then roll all the way down the sloped floor, bouncing off the end of the stage, disrupting the service.

Pranks have always been a way for students to show their fun-loving admiration for their college years and those who played a part say that the pranks in Behrens have grown more ingenious over the years.

Meet HSU's TRUSTEES

A new regular feature
introducing you to the
trustees of Hardin-Simmons
University.



BRAD BUTLER

Dr. Brad Butler was born in Abilene at Hendrick Medical Center and grew up in the Texas Panhandle. He returned to Abilene to pursue his undergraduate degree and was a charter member of the Hardin-Simmons Leadership Program and Student Congress President. After graduating in 1997 with a degree in Biology, he obtained his medical degree from Texas A&M, while also participating in the leadership program there as a visiting scholar at the prestigious James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership.

Brad went on to do a medical internship and residency in Knoxville, TN and San Antonio, and then, desiring to serve his country after 9-11, commissioned in the Air Force Reserve. He began practicing medicine in Longview for 9 years before returning to Abilene with his family in 2015 to serve the community he had grown to care so much about.

While serving as a Trustee of the Texas Medical Association and as a Delegate with the American Medical Association, Brad again became involved in leadership at HSU by accepting a seat on the Board of Young Associates, eventually being selected as an Outstanding Young Alumni.

Then Brad was approached by former HSU president, Dr. Lanny Hall to serve on the Board of Trustees. He did not hesitate to accept the opportunity to “give back to the institution that gave so much to me.” Today he is one of the nearly 50% of board members who are board-elected and one of 82% who hold a degree from HSU.

Brad has continued to develop his leadership skills through service to his community and his country as a Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and a squadron commander. He is a practicing anesthesiologist at Hendrick Medical Center and in January of 2021, he will be inducted as the President of the Big Country County Medical Society. Brad believes in living out the difference between simply transactional and truly transformational leadership in the opportunities he has been given to lead.

Brad expressed his enthusiasm for the future of Hardin-Simmons. Through growing programs such as health and sciences that adapt to the needs of both students and the job market, he believes that HSU is poised to move forward and be successful for years to come. He also expressed his excitement over the growth in the number of international students and graduate students that are prepared to take Christ into all the world.

Brad is actively involved in a Life Group and missions through his church. He also enjoys family time at the lake, flying for the Air Force, staying fit and snow skiing. He lives in Abilene with his wife, Audra and their children Benjamin and Olivia, and their dog, a Bouvier named Gaby Joy.



LAURA MOORE

Laura Moore has over 30 years of experience in leading non-profits and, during that time, has worked on numerous private-public partnerships including, most recently, the revitalization of the original Abilene High School into the new Abilene Heritage Square. In addition to her role chairing the Hardin-Simmons University Board of Trustees, this former 6-year Abilene City Council member now currently serves as Director of the Grace Museum.

Laura has a deep love for Hardin-Simmons stemming from her respect and admiration of the university's rich beginnings in 1891 when the institution was established educate the youth of the area. Laura recounts memories of attending camp at HSU while still in high school and, soon after, having the opportunity to hear then-President Jesse Fletcher speak at a church event which made an impression on her.

Laura knew then she didn't want to miss the opportunity of being part of what was happening at HSU. After enrolling, her time as a student added to her deep appreciation for the people she met and experiences she gained. Laura later returned to work in a number of different roles at Hardin-Simmons for over a decade.

Today, she continues to be part of that rich history as a Trustee, which she considers an honor. Her primary responsibility, she says, is fiduciary in nature which carries tremendous accountability and challenge. But more than that, being a Trustee is about living out her life's mission of bringing people together "to do the next right thing."

Laura is enthusiastic about the future of Hardin-Simmons. The tremendous student body, the work being done regarding diversity awareness, and the ongoing development of leadership are combining to continue serving the legacy and mission of HSU's founders.

A lifelong resident of Abilene, Laura lives with her husband Jay ('82/'96/HD'19) and their two dogs Polo and Max and are active members at Pioneer Baptist Church. The Moores have three grown daughters: Madison, London and Annelise.

Laura considers herself a simple person. She enjoys spending time with family and her dogs, reading English mysteries, delighting in nature, and sharing a love of history with Jay. She strongly appreciates good old-fashioned values and loves investing in helping people unite around a common cause to move progress forward. Her values reflect those learned at an early age from her mother who modelled creativity, kindness and enduring strength.

QA

w/ Holly Edwards
Associate Dean of Students

Q. What motivates you?

A. Developing people. Allowing them to be both challenged and supported along their college journey.

Q. What is your favorite quote or motivational saying?

A. I really enjoy pulling from the words of Henri Nouwen, a leader in spiritual formation. I have been really impacted by his writings.

Q. How do you define student success?

A. It starts with being able to help a student understand what success looks like for them individually. What success looks like for one might look very different for another.

Q. How are we improving diversity on campus?

A. It starts with being able to have a conversation. I think we have lost the art of having a conversation.

We need to teach students how to be confronted with an idea or thought that they might have never had to process and help them understand how to navigate those conversations. We need to realize where we are different from others and celebrate those differences, while also realizing where we have commonality. We all have a unique set of perceptions and experiences that make us who we are. The issue of Diversity points to the grandeur of God and directs us back to the Creator.

We want to open up conversations for people who are willing to have them, to be presented with ideas that may be difficult and for us to be kingdom-minded in it. These ideas point us back to who God is and who He has created us to be—and we can celebrate that.

Q. What is one way you connect with students?

A. By making time to go to a deeper level by asking a lot of questions and be willing to listen in order to find common places to connect.

Q. What is your favorite part about working with students?

A. I have been working with students for about 14 years now. I find that being able to walk alongside them during the pivotal moments in their lives, while also being present in the everyday is the most rewarding part for me.

Q. What is your top advice for students?

A. Be willing to be vulnerable and step outside of your comfort zone. From my own experience at college, I remember thinking I was going to be that girl that was left alone, without any friends. I remember laying in my bed early one Friday evening after orientation and realizing that I was right. I asked myself, "What are you going to do about it?" And I thought, I can reach out. But it took some vulnerability on my part to get out of my comfort zone—to peek my head outside my dorm room and ask the nearest neighbor if I could hang out with her. She actually became one of those people that I am still friends with today.





Q. What are some of the new things happening with campus life?

A. Career Services is doing a lot of new things in light of remote learning, such as project opportunities for larger companies throughout US such as Google, where students can get paid for and promote themselves for broader areas outside of our local area.

Q. What's your favorite campus life event?

A. New Student Orientation, otherwise known as "Stampede." My favorite part is the Beanie Capping ceremony which symbolizes becoming part of the Hsu family and is part of the richness of tradition at the university.

Gilbert's Birthday is a close second because it is super fun and unique to Hardin-Simmons.

Q. What is one piece of advice that you hope students take with them when they graduate?

A. Teachability. It's a recognition of humility, knowing I still have things to work on. It's the same value I look for in employees I want to hire.

Q. What excites you about the future at Hsu?

A. The hunger I see in students, faculty and staff for Kingdom-mindedness is something I treasure.

Faculty NEWS

CELEBRATING ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Commencement Update: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the local ordinances, the Spring 2020 commencement ceremony was held on Saturday, August, 2020 in Shelton Stadium which included May and August 2020 graduates.

A total of **159 graduates** participated in the ceremony that was well attended with mask and social distancing guidelines in place.

Thirteen post-professional students composed the first class of the **Certificate in Anatomy Program**. This 11-month program helps prepare professionals to teach in the anatomy realm of the health professions.

The **Physical Therapy** program is conducting all fall interviews via Zoom. A virtual tour of the building was just completed and is available at: hsutx.edu/dpt

Dr. Tony Richards, a 2010 Graduate of the HSU DPT Program was named the PT of the Year for the U.S. Navy. Dr. Richards was also promoted to Lieutenant Commander. He is currently stationed in California but will be moving to Japan in the next few months.

The **Physician Assistant Studies** program held their 2020 White Coat Ceremony welcoming the new cohort of 30 students to the program. Dr. Jennifer Eames, Dean of the Program and President-Elect for The Texas Academy of Physician Assistants, welcomed the guests and introduced this year's speakers. Matt Boutte, Presiding President of TAPA, attended this year's ceremony in person and gave some opening remarks to recognize the accomplishments of the program and spoke further about the significance of the role of Physician Assistants in the landscape of healthcare across the state.

The program had over 2,130 Applications in progress; 1,312 verified/completed applications; 118 Interviews to-date; and 18 paid deposits from accepted students for Fall 2021. The program created a Virtual Tour youtu.be/b39xob82IDQ for online open houses and student interviews via Zoom. The HSU program was the only

PA school in Texas with no shortened rotations that graduated all students on-time, despite pandemic and clinical site closures.

The **Houston-Lantrip Center** was featured in the latest edition of *Abilene Scene* magazine: "New on The Scene – The Houston-Lantrip Center for Literacy and Learning." To read the article, visit:

dashboard.mazsystems.com/webreader/68794?page=10

The center is now credentialed with all private insurances that families in the Big Country utilize and is credentialed with the three managed Medicaid plans in this area (Superior, Amerigroup, and First Care).

The new major in **Physical Science** graduated the first student in August, 2020. In addition, several of the newest programs in business, science and health saw an increase in enrollment.

Expanded online course offerings including: BIOL 3410 – General Ecology, BIOL 1301- Modern Concepts in Biology, and BIOL 1306/1106-General Biology I



Community Service: Students from the Communications and Sciences Disorders Program, under the leadership of Dr. Dee Ann Shelton, are volunteering their time on Tuesday evenings at King David's Kids, a ministry for children with special needs.

The HSU Physical Therapy Department conducted a week-long local mission trip from June 30 to July 7, 2020 in Abilene with many of the PT students and faculty. Various locations and ministries were served including wheelchair ramp construction with Boots on the Ground, clearing fences lines with Habitat for Humanity, and food bank distribution through Global Samaritan.

Dr. Collins assisted in collecting supplies and money, raising over \$5,000 for the Lake Charles, LA area after Hurricane Laura, supplies were delivered by her husband and son to a church in the region.

Mrs. Laura Wade along with other faculty and students from the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing participated in the Hudson Wade 5K to benefit childhood cancer research and treatment.



Dr. Donalyn Alexander
Dean of the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing

Dr. Alexander received the AACN Membership Innovation Awards 2020: Re-envisioning Traditional Models for Nursing Education.



Dr. Tina Butler
Assistant Professor and Associate Program Director for the Physician Assistant Studies Program

Dr. Butler received the Doctor of Medical Science (DSMc) degree from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions in August, 2020.



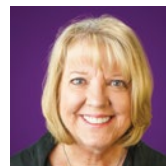
Dr. John Davis
Professor of Management - Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies

Dr. Davis published an article entitled "How'd He Get That Name? A Century of Dam-It at Hardin-Simmons University" in the West Texas Historical Review.



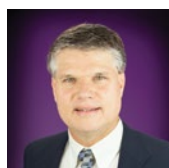
Dr. Patrick Miller
Professor of Mathematics and Founder of the International Astronomical Search Collaboration (IASC)

During the pandemic, IASC remains fully operational with online asteroid searches for citizen scientists. IASC has experienced a surge in interest as a result of COVID-19 with multiple schools shifting to the IASC@Home program. Worldwide, IASC currently reaches 3,000 schools which represents approximately 25,000 students each year. Due to the IASC program, HSU is seen as a worldwide leader in science and science education outreach.



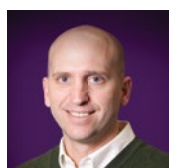
Dr. Joanne Roberts
Professor of Sociology - Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Roberts completed a certificate in Inclusion and Diversity from the Leadership Studies program at Cornell University this summer. This certificate program is designed to train individuals to help organizations become more supportive and engaging places to work by understanding the perceptual, institutional, and psychological processes that impact the ways people interact with each other.



Dr. Chuck Ruot
Professor of Kiniesiology-College of Health Professions

Dr. Ruot completed the Florida Baseball Ranch SAVAGE Pitching Coaches Certification on July 22, 2020.



Dr. Terry Sergeant
Professor of Computer Science - Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies

Dr. Sergeant was named the Delta-Mu-Delta Educator of the Year. Dr. Sergeant has also completed the Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) certification and completed the Mental Health First Aid for Youth certification.



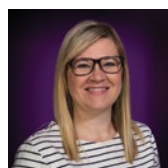
Dr. Ed Sim
Professor of Information Systems - Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies

Dr. Sim and Dr. Nancy Kucinski, Professor of Political Science and Management, will have an article published this month in the Academy of Business Research Journal titled: Application of Learning Science to Improve Deep Learning in Online Classes.



Dr. Dan Stiver
Professor of Theology - Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Stiver recently published a chapter, "The Symbol Gives Rise to Theology: A Poetics of Theology," in A Companion to Ricoeur's Symbolism of Evil (Edited by Scott Davidson & published by Lexington Books). Dr. Stiver also presented a paper, "The Future of Evangelicals: The Scopes Monkey Trial and Trump," at the Southwest Region of the National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion, during the past year.



Mrs. Tiffany Stotts
Instructor of Worship Leadership - Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts

Mrs. Stotts officially launched HSU's Worship Leadership major during the Fall 2020 semester. Mrs. Stotts is also coordinating the 40+ student worship leaders for the twice-weekly HSU chapel services this semester.



Dr. Candace Wicks
Associate Professor of Biology - Holland School of Sciences and Mathematics

Dr. Wicks has been named to the Howard Hughes Medical Institution (HHMI) BioInteractive Ambassador Academy (2020-2023 cohort). Dr. Wicks was also appointed the treasurer for the Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (TAAHP) and named Chair of the Biology department.



Dr. Thomas Wier
Associate Professor of Economics - Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies

Dr. Wier received a Quality Matters Certification for online education this summer:

- Teaching Online – An Introduction to Online Delivery (TOL)
- Designing Your Online Course (DYOC)



WELCOME NEW FACULTY



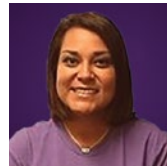
Mrs. Brianna Martinez
*Assistant Professor- Physician Assistant
Studies Program*

Mrs. Martinez earned the Bachelor of Science degree from Abilene Christian University and the Master of Physician Assistant Studies from the University of Texas Medical Branch. She most recently worked as a physician assistant at the Victoria Orthopedic Center in Victoria Texas. Mrs. Martinez is a member of TAPA, AAPA, Physician Assistants Orthopedic Surgery and served as a clinical preceptor for UTMB PA students. She holds certifications in NCCPA, Basic Life Support/CPR for the Medical Professional and previous ACLS certification (renewal pending).



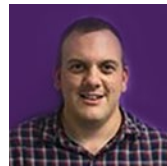
Mrs. Tiffany Stotts
Instructor of Worship Leadership

Mrs. Stotts' degrees include the Bachelor of Science in Music Business and the Master of Arts in Worship Leadership from Dallas Baptist University. In addition to her new faculty role, Mrs. Stotts serves as the Associate Director of Spiritual Formation for Worship for HSU. Her professional experience includes adjunct lecturer at Hardin-Simmons University and Dallas Baptist University. She is a member of the Pioneer Drive Baptist Church, where she has been the worship leader/vocal director since 2017.



Dr. Lisa Washington
*Instructor for Nursing - Patty Hanks Shelton
School of Nursing*

Dr. Washington received the Bachelor of Nursing Degree, Master of Nursing Degree, and Doctor of Nursing Practice from Grand Canyon University. Her clinical experience includes work as a circulating nurse, providing care for patients during surgery, as well as, training in cardiac, neurological, orthopedic, dental, ocular, etc. She also was involved in training future circulating and cardiac nurses. Her teaching experience includes employment as an instructor by the Abilene Independent School District Holland Medical High School and as an adjunct instructor of Cisco College. Dr. Washington is a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas, CPR certification/instructor and holds Teaching Certification in Texas.



Dr. Craig Younce
*Associate Professor of Biology - Holland
School of Sciences and Mathematics*

Dr. Younce attended Palm Beach Atlantic University and received the Bachelor of Science degree, and the University of Central Florida where he received a Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences. He comes to HSU from Howard Payne University, where he served as the Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences. Other academic appointments include Postdoctoral Scholar at Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute and Postdoctoral Scholar at the University of Central Florida.





Loren Moreno '23,
Six White Horses
Team Rider

The Lifelong Dream of a TEXAS COWGIRL



This past year was the culmination of a dream for Loren Moreno, a first-time freshman at Hardin-Simmons University. Her lifelong goal was to become part of the Six White Horses Team, and she couldn't be more excited about the opportunity. Loren was fortunate to make the team again this year, and shared her excitement for another riding season.

"This is what I have wanted to do all my life, and I get to do it here; while getting an education at Hardin-Simmons."

Ever since Loren was a little girl she has been around horses. Growing up on a horse ranch in Hawley, Texas, developing a love for horses was quite natural. Some of her earliest memories are of being hoisted up on the back of a horse by her Dad who also taught her the importance

of hard work and discipline.

Loren recalls how at 6 years old, she was fortunate enough to be selected as one of the "Stick White Horsees" riders, a team of young girls who perform a routine on wooden stick horses each year at Abilene's Western Heritage Classic. Through the years she watched HSU's White Horse Riders in parades and rodeos, deepening her love for Hardin-Simmons and igniting her dream of someday riding one of those Six White Horses herself.

One of Loren's favorite things about being part of the Six White Horses Team is the people. Loren says that Debbie Jones, the program's director, is an amazing teacher and leader. She also points to her teammates who have welcomed her with open arms and teaching her the ropes.

Debbie Jones remarked that the team is about more than the excitement of riding. "It's about learning life skills like responsibility, teamwork, and leadership skills," she said. "These girls learn that they become role models to all the little girls that want to grow up to be like them."

Loren eagerly makes her way to the barn every day and considers it her "safe space." She says being there is also a great stress reliever. These horses "take care of me well," said Loren. "They

are amazing", she continued. "Max, my primary horse, is one of those horses you can put anyone on, and he just knows what to do."

Being an HSU White Horse Rider is all about the heart behind the practice. Strong bonds are created-connecting with your horse and with your teammates-building mutual trust and respect.

When asked what advice she might have for future cowgirls, Loren shared, "Keep the dream. It's hard work, but if you really want something, you can make it happen."

The Six-White Horses Program will host two teams this year, a first in the program's history. The 2020-21 group of 14 riders was recently announced: Victoria Gannon, Junior- Abilene; McKenzie Greenwood, Freshman-Abilene; Loren Moreno, Sophomore-Hawley; Bridget Conlee, Senior-Abilene; Channing Davis, Sophomore-Abilene; Taylor Richman, Freshman-Pleasant Hill, MO; Jessica Moody, Junior-Abilene; Emma Dantzler, Senior-Abilene; Abigail Nemec, Sophomore-Houston; Amanda Schenck, Sophomore-Southlake; Rebecca Desrochers, Junior-Abilene; Grace Harmon, Freshman-Ranger; Hannah Huckabee, Sophomore-Stephenville, and Hannah Sargent, Senior-Oak Point.

This year marks approximately the 90th year of the program which was started in the 1930's by Will "Sheriff" Watson, a loyal supporter of the university, who rode his white horse at the head of the Cowboy band. In 1962, Dr. W.O. "Doc" Beazley began directing the program until his retirement 36 years later when the current Director, Debbie Jones took the helm. The Six White Horses team has performed for millions of rodeo and parade attendees throughout the years. Their western style and slick white horses personify the spirit of the Hardin-Simmons.

Eligibility requirements for the team include enrollment in a minimum of 12 credit hours at Hardin-Simmons and being in good standing with the university. During the tryout process, a panel of judges will rate the horsemanship, attitude, and appearance of each rider. The team consists of the top eight riders for each team. Returning team members also tryout annually to ensure that the team always includes HSU's finest riders.

For more information about the Six White Horses program, reach out to Debbie Jones at djones@hsutx.edu.

SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT



So very proud of our boy! You will be successful and very happy in life! Love you very much! #hardinsimmons #doitbig #baseballstar #isaacjaviermurillo



Christina Alvarez Starr
July 15, 2020



3 years later.... wouldn't be anywhere without these people



adventure_with_abbie
August 8, 2020



Happy 7 months to our @hsutx Cowboy lovin' #triplets



sellari.party.of.7
September 6, 2020



mtv, welcome to our crib



peytonnewmann
August 24, 2020



Less than a month til move in day and my first college cross country season is right around the corner. couldn't be any more excited @HSUTrack @HSUTX



noahhhh_8



so grateful for this sweet discipleship team!



j.l.harwood
August 26, 2020

Stay connected!
Follow HSU on social media:



hardin.simmons.university



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SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT



Representing HSU on
#CollegeColorsDay. @HSUTX
@HSUGolfBoys @HSUAthletics



My guy is graduating tomorrow.
Due to COVID, he already
graduated but he is walking the
stage tomorrow!

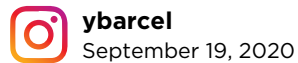
#senior #seniorphotos #abilenetx
#abilene #hillcountry #portraits
#hsu #nikon #fishing #bass
#photography



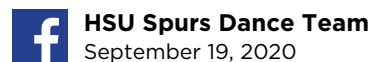
we had to sign up who we wanted
to sit less than 6 feet apart from for
next year... i did chose good.
#gocowboys #yeehaw



A great time watching some
Cowgirl softball



Happy National Dance Day. We
celebrated by having our 1st themed
competition practice! The Spurs are
"Soldiering into competition season!"



Happy 1st day of your senior year!



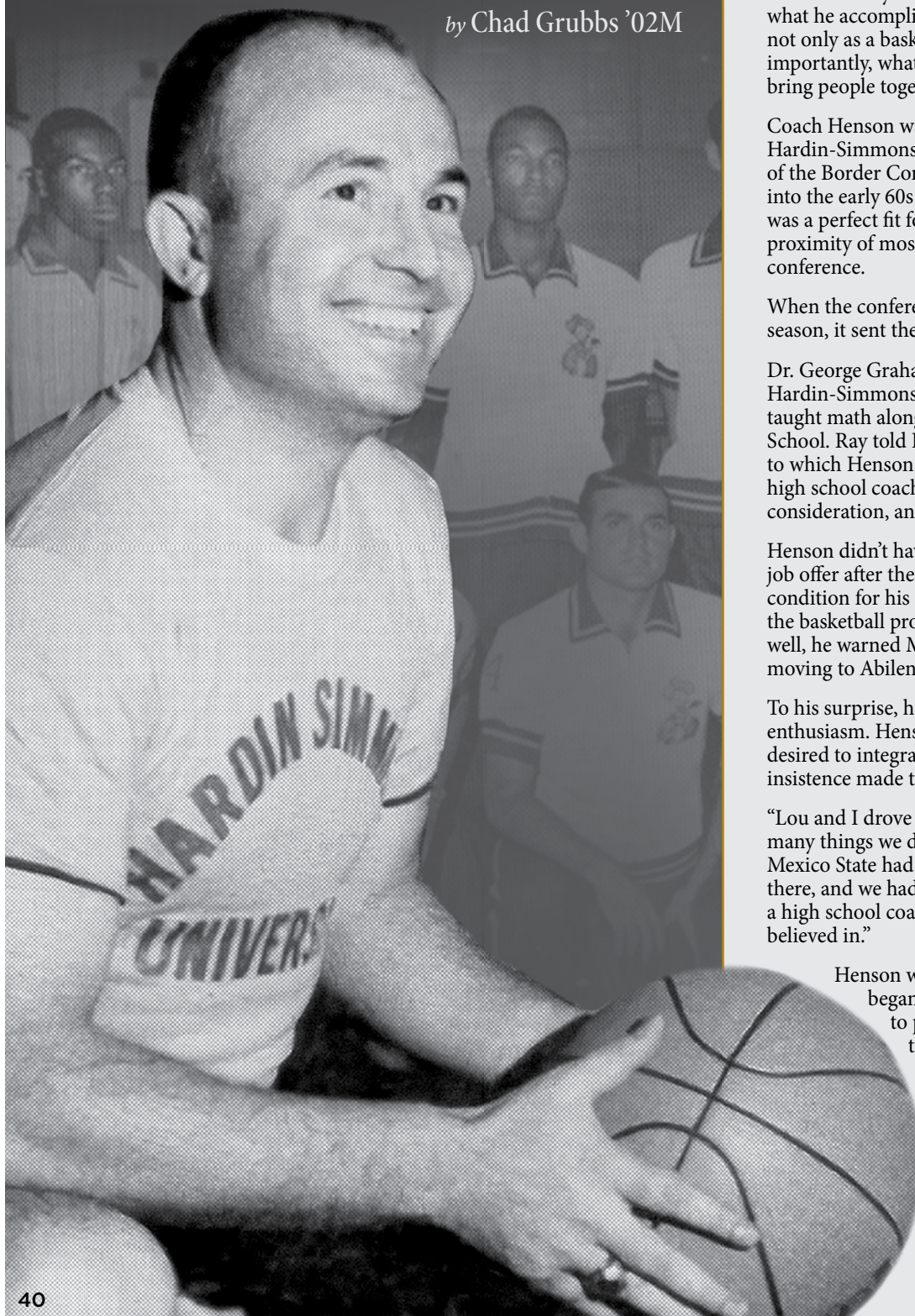
Lil bro done got tall but good to see
the fam



LOU HENSON

LEGACY OF A HALL OF FAME COACH

by Chad Grubbs '02M



The early-to-mid 1960s was a redefining time in the history of Hardin-Simmons athletics, and much of that change was attributed to an up-and-coming basketball coach, Lou Henson.

His time on the Forty Acres was the beginning of a legendary 41-year career of nearly 800 wins, an accomplishment which landed him in the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame.

Henson's story wouldn't have been possible without what he accomplished at Hardin-Simmons University, not only as a basketball coach but perhaps more importantly, what he did to pull down barriers and bring people together.

Coach Henson was hired at a pivotal point in the Hardin-Simmons athletic program. HSU was part of the Border Conference for much of the 1950s and into the early 60s when the conference disbanded. It was a perfect fit for Hardin-Simmons, with the "close" proximity of most of the Division I schools in the conference.

When the conference disbanded after the 1961-62 season, it sent the program into flux.

Dr. George Graham was the interim president at Hardin-Simmons during this time, and his son Ray taught math alongside Henson at Las Cruces High School. Ray told Henson that he needed to apply, to which Henson replied, "They won't consider a high school coach." Ray sent his name to his dad for consideration, and Lou got an interview.

Henson didn't have much optimism about receiving a job offer after the interview because he had one crucial condition for his employment. He wanted to integrate the basketball program. Although the interview went well, he warned Mary that they probably would not be moving to Abilene.

To his surprise, his terms were accepted with great enthusiasm. Henson concluded that Graham had desired to integrate the school himself, and Henson's insistence made the decision even easier.

"Lou and I drove to Abilene, and that is one of the many things we discussed," said Mary Henson. "New Mexico State had been integrated when he was a player there, and we had been in an integrated situation as a high school coach. It was something Lou firmly believed in."

Henson was hired, and his legendary career began. His first move once in Abilene was to put the returning players at HSU through a grueling tryout in the spring. At the end of the tryout, there were only three players remaining: Don Seamster, Barry Oxford, and Mike Meriney.

With only three players on the roster for the next year, Henson hit the recruiting trail hard. With

the state of Mississippi still fully segregated, Henson thought he could have success recruiting in that area.

He found his way to Okolona (Miss.) Junior College, where he knew the coach. He initially planned to recruit Arthur Haynes but was equally impressed by one of his teammates, Nate Madkins. Henson decided to offer both scholarships, which would open the doors for desegregation now at Hardin-Simmons. Henson had the foundation of a winning team.

The Hensons both took on the challenge to safeguard and support Madkins and Haynes. Henson assigned Seamster and Meriney to be dorm suitmates with the pair, and they were charged with handling any problems or negative concerns. Henson was to be notified of any serious issues.

This was the early 1960's, and there were many differing views on issues of social importance – race, religion, government, raising children, etc. There were certainly people that liked to stir the pot in those volatile times. One thing sports has always been able to accomplish is bringing groups of people from different backgrounds together for a specific goal regardless of color, religion, or social status.

"The objective was to strive for excellence as a team, which tended to build a strong relationship of men and break down social issues of racial controversy," said Meriney. "Finding that common denominator of basketball and a shared objective to prevail in sport, assuredly helped achieve overall integration."

Times were not always easy, and there were small but noticeable grumblings from faculty and students alike, as both would occasionally receive anonymous nasty and degrading letters. The messages were always signed "Citizens Committee" or "People's Alliance" to avoid

revealing their individual identities.

"For the most part, I felt gratified and proud, with the overall response of the Hardin-Simmons family," said Meriney. "The small number of people in opposition to integration were handled with skill and a strong determination to succeed by Lou and Mary, Nate, Arthur, and the rest of the team."

While playing at home was a relatively peaceful experience, going on the road in the south was not as peaceful.

Henson counseled his teams on the possible negative reactions to Nate and Arthur as well as the rest of the team. Racial comments and abuse were just a fact of life on the road. Restaurant rejection was commonplace, and hotels had to be booked in advance to avoid any confrontations.

"Nate and Arthur handled the ignorance well with restraint and dignity," said Meriney. "I don't remember any direct physical contact by outsiders or violence, while on the road. I attribute the relative calm to Coach Henson and his thorough preparation."

It was just the start of a short four-year stint at Hardin-Simmons that had a monumental impact on the university. In his first year, Henson led the basketball program to a 10-16 record, but laid a strong foundation.

"We loved our time at Hardin-Simmons," said Mary Henson, Lou's widow. "We lived in the dorms (Ferguson and Nix), and we took care of the dorm. I was also a part-time secretary for Lou, who was taking classes, and we had three small children at the time."

During Coach Henson's second season, the basketball program really turned around under his direction, finishing with a 20-6 record. Nate Madkins was named a third-team All-American and set the school

record at the time with 547 points scored during a season. Madkins was only the first of several All-Americans under Coach Henson.

During this same time, the university was financially struggling, and after the football team's losing record, HSU decided to disband its football program, and Henson took over a dual role as athletic director.

His next major endeavor was the integration of women's sports into the HSU landscape. By adding women's basketball and volleyball programs, it gave women more opportunities to compete at a collegiate level.

Not only had Henson broken through the color barrier with the basketball program, but he also added gender diversity on campus at a time when that was not the norm.

In his third season, the Cowboys had another winning record of 17-8 and by his fourth season with HSU, Coach Henson's basketball team had acquired several players of color on its roster. The team held its season opener against the all-black team at Kentucky and managed to pull out a win! The season ended strong with another 20-6 record, but ironically, they lost the national championship to another all-black team made

up of contingency players from Western Texas.

Henson finished his career at HSU with a record of 67-36, and he resigned after the 1965-66 season and went home to take over at his alma mater, New Mexico State.

He went on to post a record of 779-413 in his career between Hardin-Simmons, New Mexico State, and Illinois. Henson took 19 teams to the NCAA tournament and four other times went to the National Invitation Tournament. He twice took teams to the Final Four – New Mexico State in 1970 and Illinois in 1989.

Henson was obviously a great basketball mind that positively influenced hundreds of young men, teaching them his legendary work ethic, honesty, and commitment to the game. He also taught discipline and mental toughness as foundations for the success of his teams.

However, his lasting legacy at Hardin-Simmons was building inclusion through diversity, first breaking the color barrier, and later by adding women's sports. Nearly 60 years later, these are memorable as any basketball game.





FALL SPORTS RECAP

CROSS COUNTRY

The cross-country teams were only able to participate in one meet this season but were able to take first in the individual category for both the men's and women's division of the Naimadu Classic held at Abilene Christian. Zach Mitchell won the men's 8K race with a time of 27:44 and Brittany Acosta won the women's 6K race with a time of 24:47.

TENNIS

The tennis teams found success this season, winning several tournaments during their limited season.

Landry Laywell won the Big Country Classic by beating teammate Kaitlyn Hathorn in the final and Hathorn and Lauren Schaeffer won the doubles title. Hathorn won the singles title at the HSU Fall Invite with a 6-0, 6-0 win over Vicky Rendon of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

Transfer Alex Pavkovich won the singles and doubles titles in both tournaments He teamed with Nathaniel Schoendorf at No. 1 singles. Both teams played a dual with Dallas Baptist and the men won 6-3 and the women fell 7-2. DBU is coached by former Hardin-Simmons player Wade Morgan.

GOLF

The golf teams played the most complete schedules of any sport at HSU this fall. The men won a match play event against East Texas Baptist, Mary Hardin-Baylor, and The Preview at the Hideout Golf Club in Brownwood. The women placed in the top three at all their competitions this season.







A NEW TRADITION

by Josh Riv  ra '24

The surge of COVID-19 may have caused a delay in fall sports, but it also paved the way for a new Hardin-Simmons tradition—the Cowboy Classic.

This new event gave parents, students, and the community a chance to experience the sports they love and celebrate the accomplishments of student athletes on campus. The two-day event featured many different sports events and provided an additional opportunity for prospective students and recruits to experience the Cowboy difference.

Friday's events kicked off with the start of the tennis tournament featuring schools from around the area. Howard Payne and University of Mary-Hardin Baylor were some of the participants. The HSU Men's team swept both the singles and doubles tournaments.

The HSU Devo Football squad got a chance to hold their first scrimmage of the year complete with pre-game tailgate and lots of food, music and fun. The Women's Softball team was also able to hold their first

scrimmage of the year. Both Soccer teams competed with a fan fest and free popsicles during the match.

The event continued on Saturday as the HSU Purple and Gold Football squad took the field. There was a pre-game tailgate and performances from the Cowboy Band, Spurs, HscrU and Cheer Squad. Men's Baseball and Men's Soccer continued with their scrimmages while free ice cream was served to fans and a special performance of the National Anthem by the HSU Choir.

COVID-19 did not stop HSU from celebrating their athletes as the festivities continued with Fall Mabee Madness where the HSU basketball teams got a chance to compete in their first games of the season at the "Maybe Classic" event.

Fall sports will officially get underway in January, followed by Homecoming, Feb. 11-14, 2021.





MARCUS WOOD'S NEW BOOK

Head coach Marcus Wood and several Cowgirl soccer players have written a book chronicling the amazing last two decades of the Hardin-Simmons women's soccer program.

This book covers some of the best stories from the years, 2000 – 2019, during the Marcus Wood era as head coach at HSU.

Stories include the 2010 NCAA National Championship, the 2017 run to the NCAA Final Four, a 171-game conference unbeaten streak, 17 straight conference tournament championships and some of the philosophies and culture that created the program.

Four times the Cowgirls have upset the undefeated, No. 1 ranked team in the country during the NCAA tournament.

"Any opportunity to play the No. 1 ranked team in the country is a big opportunity," said Wood. "To upset the No. 1 team in the country is an incredible lifetime memory."

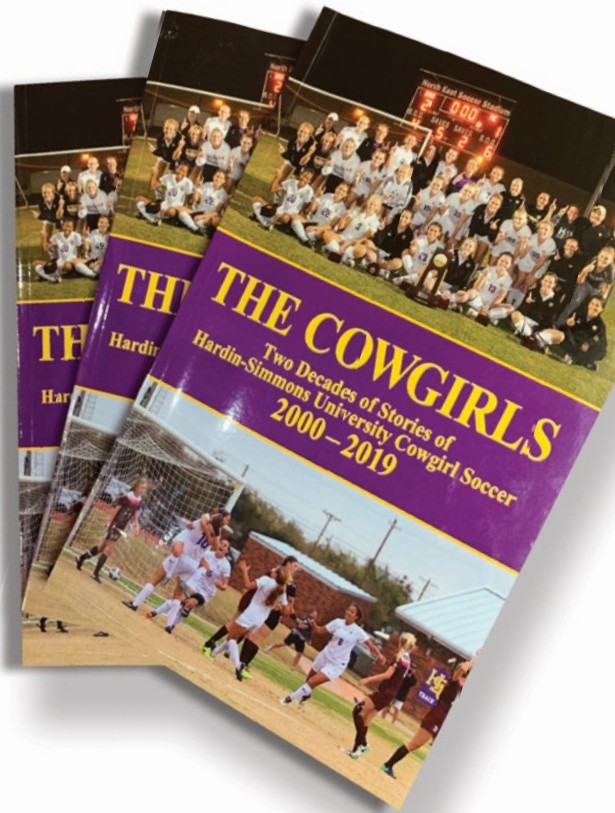
The book also details stories of joy and triumph, pain and struggle both physical and mental, and life lessons learned while playing soccer.

The book chronicles many great team accomplishments and heroic feats, but more importantly it tells the story of the type of people that have made up the Cowgirl program.

Melissa Rosales said it best when she said "HSU Soccer is about a lot more than just soccer".

"We hope the book will be a blessing for everyone who chooses to support the Cowgirls," said Wood. "I am hopeful that the book has something for every reader to enjoy. Especially readers who love Hardin-Simmons University."

The Editor of *The Cowgirls*, Dr. Laura Pogue said, "This book is for anyone who longs to see hard work pay off, who loves unexpected victories, and who needs to be reminded that the quality of our journey is as rich, if not richer, than our destination. Also, any coach, any sport: don't miss this inside look at the building of a powerhouse program. Coach Wood isn't boasting his way through these pages: he's teaching, affirming, and paying tribute."



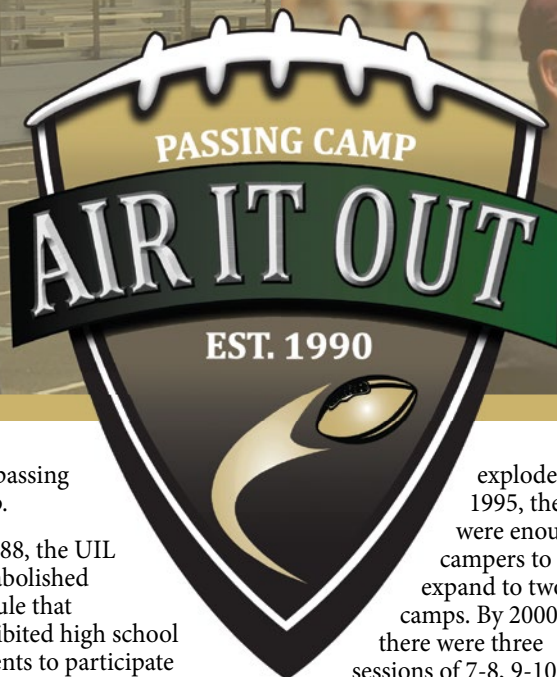
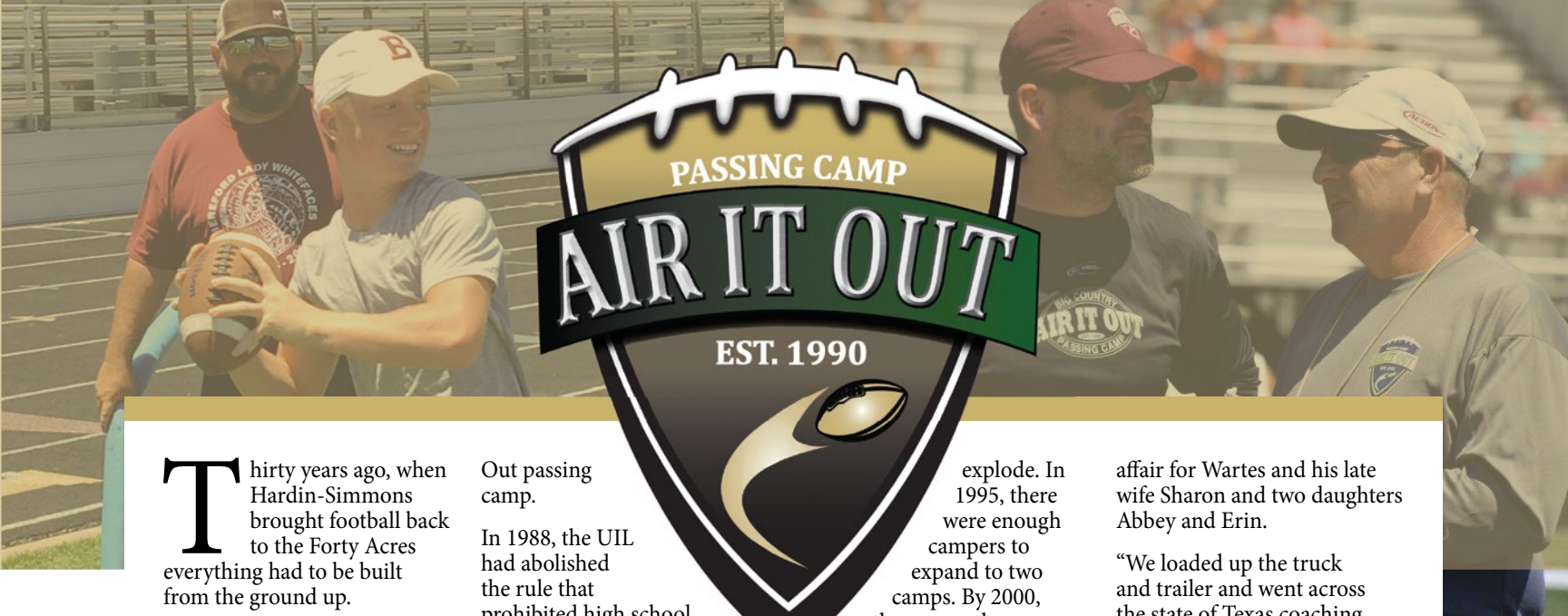
"As I read Coach Wood's well written book, I realized it was more than a historical book with detailed facts, anecdotal stories, winning streaks and championships," said Dr. Ron Rainwater, longtime HSU professor of kinesiology. "It's a book that captures the essence of Coach Wood's soccer program - FAMILY. Each player's personal family, the HSU family and of course, the Cowgirl Soccer Family. Being part of the HSU Cowgirl soccer family in turn brings his teams closer to understanding and appreciating the gift of being part of God's family. Praise the LORD."

The book is also a fundraiser for the program.

This is a great opportunity to support women who represent HSU. For just \$20 you can support The Cowgirl soccer program. Proceeds from this book will help fund our next international tour to Australia in 2023 and assist with travel costs to play at some of the top nationally-ranked opponents.

Order your copy of The Cowgirl for only \$20 (includes shipping):
commerce.cashnet.com/HSUTXWomensSoccer

(Be sure to enter your name, mailing address, and the amount)



Thirty years ago, when Hardin-Simmons brought football back to the Forty Acres everything had to be built from the ground up.

The biggest part of that was getting players to campus to play for a team that didn't offer scholarships, hadn't played football since 1963, and had little name recognition.

In 1990, few teams were passing the ball around like teams do today. Football was a ground-oriented game.

HSU offensive coordinator Alan Wartes had played quarterback at Howard Payne for Bill Anderson who was part of the Lavell Edwards coaching tree from Brigham Young University, one of the few teams using a prominent passing attack at the time. Wartes knew how the system could be fun for players.

Wartes also had worked for Dick Winder at Texas Tech who was also known for his prowess in spread offenses. Winder had started the passing camp that Wartes had worked at Texas Tech and had given him a blueprint for how to set up the camp.

Hardin-Simmons had made the commitment to an aerial passing attack when Jimmie Keeling took over the new program. It had to find players that could come in and help that system. One of the ways to create an interest in the program was through a quarterback and wide receiver camp that eventually became known as the Air It

Out passing camp.

In 1988, the UIL had abolished the rule that prohibited high school students to participate in summer football camps which opened the door for the campers to come to Hardin-Simmons campus. Winder gave Wartes his blessing to create an Abilene version of what they were doing in Lubbock.

Hosting the camp at Hardin-Simmons gave Wartes the freedom to incorporate his faith which was another key element of the camp. The first camp had 64 campers with students primarily from the Big Country in grades 7-12. The camp continued to grow every year.

"I wouldn't have done the camp if it wasn't where I could share my faith which is important, but also the leadership and character development we incorporated," said Wartes. "All were just as important to me as the football was."

By 1994, Winder had left Texas Tech to coach at the University of Oklahoma and the Tech Camp had basically dried up. Hardin-Simmons had been to the NAIA semifinals and their passing attack was starting to gain national acclaim. Players wanted to come to Hardin-Simmons.

It was by no means the only recruiting tool for HSU, but it quickly became a very effective one and the camp started to

explode. In 1995, there were enough campers to expand to two camps. By 2000, there were three sessions of 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12 grades.

"The camp really started to explode, because everyone was starting to throw the ball around" said Wartes. "The word spread of the techniques and repetitions we used for the quarterbacks and receivers, the elements of faith, leadership and personal development people wanted to be part of the camp."

Not only was this a Big Country or West Texas camp anymore. Word had spread across the state and many of the top quarterbacks and wide receivers in the state made their way to Hardin-Simmons each summer.

The list of notable players to come through the camp is numerous and includes several NFL drafts such as: Colt McCoy, Chase Daniel, Greg McElroy, Case Keenum, Jordan Shipley, David Thomas, Ryan Tannehill.

"There are some you knew from an early age had the chance to be really good players," said Wartes. "When I look back now when some of these guys were just little guys, they had competitions of who could throw the most accurate balls in a row. They liked to compete. Those are some of the memories. I have."

The camp became a family

affair for Wartes and his late wife Sharon and two daughters Abbey and Erin.

"We loaded up the truck and trailer and went across the state of Texas coaching football, meeting kids, meeting their families and hopefully spreading the gospel to them while teaching them life skills. It also allowed us to have some great family time when Sharon was battling cancer. Erin met her future husband Taylor (Harris) at camp. There is no doubt it was a family affair."

Wartes retired from Hardin-Simmons in 2010 and then he took Air It Out around the state of Texas for the next 10 years. The COVID-19 pandemic limited him back to a four-session Abilene camp this summer.

"I think it may be time to unload the trailer," said Wartes. "We were in Abilene only this summer and we were able to have a good number of kids still interested. I think that may be what we do from here on out."

The success of the camp that started as a way to get the word out about Hardin-Simmons football, ballooned to a major event each summer for young quarterbacks and receivers.

"I think we have impacted many kids lives through Air It Out," said Wartes. "I'm getting sons of kids that went through the early days in the camp. It's not all about football, it's about having the chance to make a small impact on the life of a lot of young men over the years."

HSU REMEMBERS

JONATHAN PRICE

DURING SPECIAL CHAPEL SERVICE

Jonathan Price was considered a hometown hero in Wolfe City, Texas before his life was tragically cut short when he was killed by a police officer after intervening in a domestic fight at a local convenience store.

Price is fondly remembered at Hardin-Simmons as a student and Cowboy football team member who played under Coach Jimmie Keeling. Following Jonathan's death, Coach Keeling said,

"Jonathan Price was an outstanding, great young man. I remember clearly, while we were recruiting him, that he was Mr. Everything in Wolfe City. Although I was head coach, I also served as position coach for the running backs and worked with Jonathan directly. He was a model young man, a joy to coach, and a strong player. He was well-liked by his teammates and classmates. Jonathan's outlook and attitude were always positive, and he was a natural encourager."

Of course, once a Cowboy, always a Cowboy. HSU's football community is a tight knit group intent on treating one another as "family." One of Price's closest childhood friends and Wolfe City teammates, Case Roundtree, also was his roommate when they both played football at HSU. Of his friend, Case said, "He was always looking out for people and wanting to help anyone he could."

On Tuesday, October 13, a special service was held in Behrens Chapel to remember the life of Jonathan Price and to engage the HSU community of faculty, staff, and students in an open discussion about how to affect change.

The service was live-streamed for those unable to attend in-person.

As attendees entered the chapel, a collection of photos from Price's life played on a large screen at the front of the auditorium. The song playing in the background was "Press Your Way Through," a song which was also played at Jonathan's funeral. This song was very symbolic of Price's ability to persevere

despite adversity and to help others to develop that same resilience.

The service opened with Dr. Travis Craver, HSU Chaplain, reading scripture verses which were also shared during Jonathan's funeral. The words from Psalm 34:18-19 and John 14:1-4 speak of the Lord's nearness to the brokenhearted and the hope of Heaven.

President Eric Bruntmyer recounted the story of Jonathan's heroism by intervening and doing the right thing on that fateful day in early October. He pointed out Jonathan's bond with friends and family and the positive impact he made as speaker, mentor and community servant.

The attendees also had a chance to watch a recorded interview with Allan Malone, a resident of Wolfe City who considered Jonathan as one of his own sons. Mr. Malone, who walked through life with him from an early age, talked about Jonathan's influence on the Malone family and the community. He reiterated that Jonathan will be greatly missed.

President Bruntmyer said, "just as football players take a time-out to come together, talk, and figure things out", the entire HSU Community needed to take this time-out to ask questions and reflect on subjects like justice, life, death, right, and wrong.

The service format then moved to a question and answer time with a panel of experts: Chief Stan Standridge, Abilene's Chief of Police and President of the Texas Police Chiefs Association; Dr. Ryan Bowman, ACU Director of Multicultural Affairs; Dr. Sandy Self, Hardin-Simmons University Professor of Law and former Taylor County Prosecutor; and Dr. Travis Craver, Hardin-Simmons University Chaplain and Director of Spiritual Formation.

The various panel members weighed in with answers to questions such as:

Why did this happen? What does police reform look like? And, how will we get justice in this case?

One notable moment was when Chief Standridge acknowledged and took responsibility for the wrongdoing that has happened within the police profession.

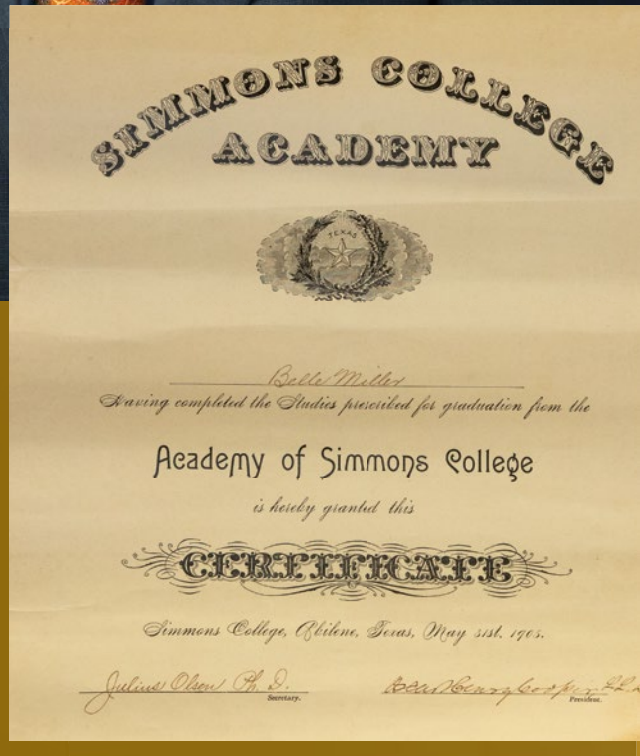
He shared that it isn't enough to just talk about police policy reform, but it takes action. He gave tangible examples about how he believes can happen with the support of communities throughout the State of Texas.

Another impactful moment was when Dr. Ryan Bowman responded to the question of what individuals can do to address these issues from a Christian gospel perspective, saying, "The greatest compliment we could ever give the gospel is change."

As the service drew to a close, President Bruntmyer challenged white students to reach out to minority students and ask permission to attend a church service with them in an effort to listen, understand, and build community. Dr. Bowman, in turn, urged minority students to not stay in a pocket of frustration and hatred, but to take a courageous act of faith in action to become part of a greater change by keeping the dialogue going.

To watch the Oct. 13 chapel service, scan this code or go to youtube.com/hardinsimmons





A Life Shaped by the Simmons Academy

Belle (Miller) Cullum graduated from Simmons College Academy in 1905. Much has changed since then – on campus and throughout the world. The Academy operated in Abilene from the 1890s until around 1930. Belle's life was influenced by her time in the Academy and helped her become a student leader. In 1906, she was described so eloquently in the Corral: "It is a joy to the editorial staff that we can announce to our readers and friends that Miss Belle Miller has become Chief Editress. Her pluck and energy assure us a reliable College paper. Miss Miller is in touch with every interest of the school and her warm appeals will most assuredly bear fruit from your own good vine."

Belle's time in the Academy helped shape her life. Her time at the Academy was precious to her and she held onto her graduation certificate until 1971 when she donated it to the University for historical purposes. I knew nothing of the Simmons College Academy or Belle until we recently received her 1905 certificate in our office.

Belle passed away on May 10, 1979. While she undoubtedly touched the lives of many on the campus in the early 1900's, we have the opportunity to still be inspired by her today.

HSU has shaped our lives. In the midst of change, we can learn from Belle's wisdom and hold on to the good things we received from the university, give back, and use some of her "pluck and energy" to make the world a better place.

Mike Hammack

Mike Hammack '85 BA/'89 MBA
Vice President for Institutional
Advancement

Why We Give: A Professor's Legacy Remembered

Shannan and Kellie Goss first met in Dr. Teresia Taylor's Spanish class and shared a number of Spanish classes after that at HSU. Kellie is quick to joke about how she made better grades than Shannan.

Kellie later worked for Dr. Taylor in the Spanish lab. She recalls being invited over for meals and "hangout" time during the semester. Kellie remembered fondly, a particular time when Dr. Taylor locked herself out of her office, and they had to borrow a screwdriver to remove the vent from her door so Kellie could crawl through and unlock it. "A raise may have been deserved after that encounter," she boasts.

When Shannan proposed to Kellie, it was Dr. Taylor who let Shannan turn in a paper late that night and only docked him five points. Shannan jokes that he doesn't feel he should have been docked at all to which Kellie retorts, "I think it was gracious to only dock him five points."

The Goss' have given to HSU on multiple occasions, but after they learned of Dr. Taylor's cancer

returning a few years ago, they felt compelled to "do something special to honor her contributions to the University," says Kellie. They were able to create a scholarship in her name for students who participate in study abroad programs or who are pursuing the study of foreign languages.

"We've always loved HSU and felt a need to give back," says Shannan. "Having received scholarships that helped make our time at HSU more affordable, we wanted to pay that back as much as we could."

Kellie adds, "It is an honor to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. Our experiences at HSU were built on the sacrificial generosity of so many others. We give not because we have won the lottery and have money floating around. We give because a spirit of generosity should mark the lives of Believers in Jesus."

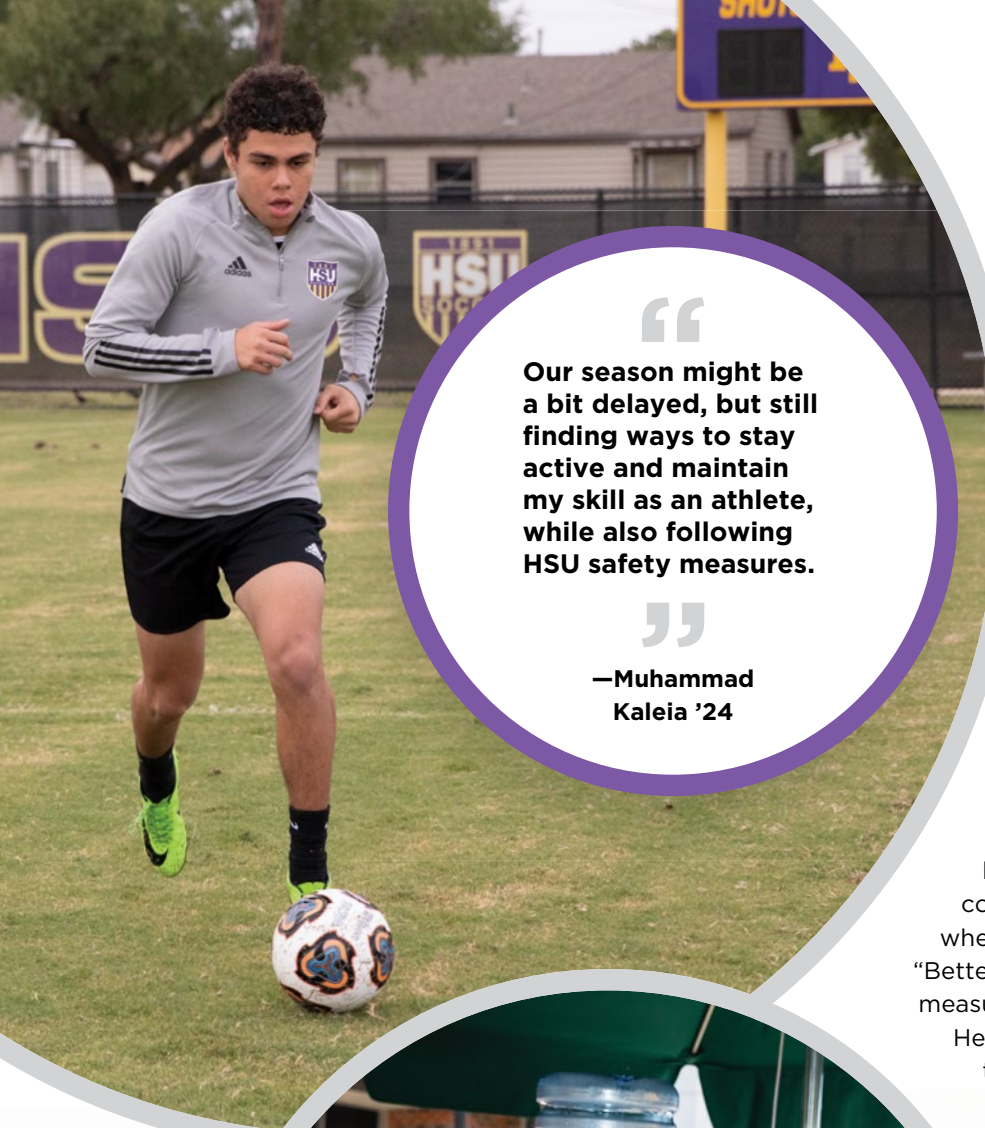


Dr. Teresia Taylor

You can create your own legacy of generosity with a year end gift.

Contact Mike Hammack or one of our development officers at:

**support@hsutx.edu
or (325) 670-1260.**



“
Our season might be a bit delayed, but still finding ways to stay active and maintain my skill as an athlete, while also following HSU safety measures.
”
—Muhammad Kaleia '24

A DAY *in the* LIFE *of a* STUDENT DURING COVID-19

by Caanon Gibbons '22
& Josh Rivéra '24

The pandemic might have changed the way we do campus life here at Hardin-Simmons, but our students are definitely happy to be back on campus and taking part in as many college life experiences as possible. In August, when we returned to campus, we all pledged “Better Together” by agreeing to practice safety measures to help keep our HSU community healthy.

Here is a glimpse into what life looks like now, through the eyes of Muhammad Kaleia '24 (pictured left), a freshman honor student studying finance and member of the Cowboy Soccer team.



“
Wearing a mask doesn't keep me from enjoying my friends. We are careful and cautious, but still find ways to connect.
”

“
I am now an expert in knowing how far 6 feet apart is.
”





“
It's important for us to take mask wearing seriously, even in spaces that feel comfortable.
”

“
While it's not always fun wearing my mask, I am glad to see my professors setting the example to keep themselves and us safe.
”

“
Seeing this sign is a reminder that our campus is taking our safety seriously.
”



“
Social distancing won't stop the activities from happening. It will just make them a little bit safer.
”

Spikeball is a great game that can be played socially distanced.





a look back

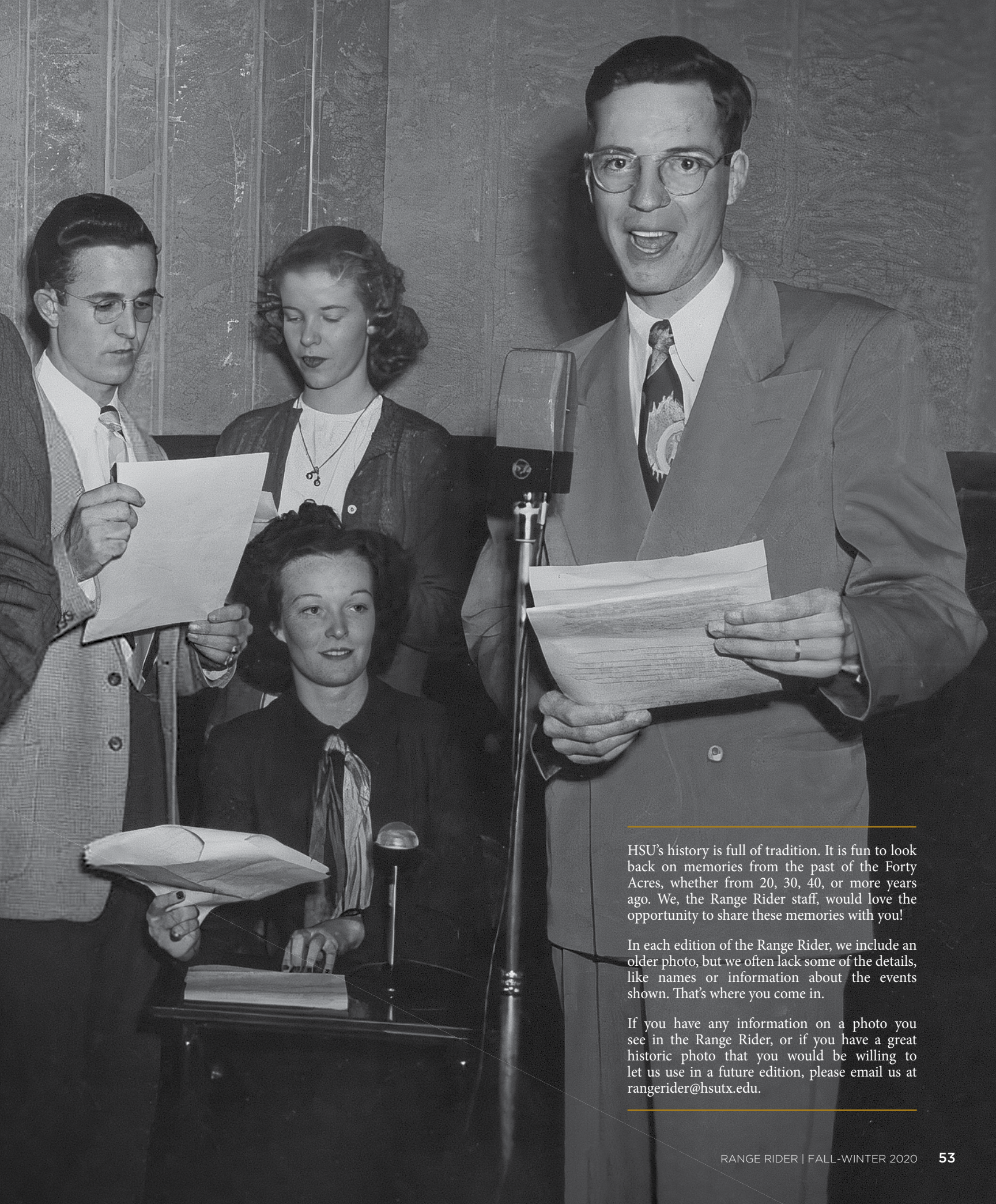
KHSU was a campus radio station formed back in the late 40's. Manned entirely by students, KHSU became a regular part of campus living for over 25 years.

The station provided daily broadcasts about news, music and other activities on campus. The shows were primarily written and produced by the members of classes in radio speech and featured campus talent. Offering a well-rounded program schedule, the station aired educational programing that was more of a "serious" nature as well as a series of "disc jockey" shows and religious programs, including

some of the most popular shows Marine Spotlight, Log Rhythms, and Inside Story.

Such notable broadcast content such as former president Richard Nixon, Senator Tom Connally, cowboy singing star Bob Wills, and one of its own exes "Slim" Willet, writer of many then popular western song hits, were also presented by the station.

The station aired Monday through Friday from 5:00 to 10:00pm, was owned and operated by the Radio Department.



HSU's history is full of tradition. It is fun to look back on memories from the past of the Forty Acres, whether from 20, 30, 40, or more years ago. We, the Range Rider staff, would love the opportunity to share these memories with you!

In each edition of the Range Rider, we include an older photo, but we often lack some of the details, like names or information about the events shown. That's where you come in.

If you have any information on a photo you see in the Range Rider, or if you have a great historic photo that you would be willing to let us use in a future edition, please email us at rangerider@hsutx.edu.

**SAVE
the
DATE**



FEBRUARY 11-14 / 2021

HOMEcoming EVENTS

Alumni Awards Banquet

Thursday

Honoring Keeter Alumni Service Award &
Distinguished Alumni Award Winners

Athletics Hall of Fame Dinner

Friday

Homecoming Festival

Friday Night

Homecoming pep rally and
fireworks for the whole family!

All-School SING!

Friday & Saturday Night

HSU Tailgate

Saturday

Football:

HSU Cowboys vs. Howard Payne

Saturday

HSU Reunions


Saturday

HSU Family Worship Service

Sunday

Get updates at www.hsutx.edu/homecoming





Trey Smith '22 and Bethany Soder '23 performing a re-enactment of James B. and Mary Simmons during the annual Symposium to celebrate and maintain the history of HSU among students.

John J. Keeter Jr. Alumni Service Award 2020

The Alumni Service Award is the highest alumni honor HSU can bestow. Since 1943, this award has been presented to alumni who have contributed the most in their field of endeavor toward the betterment of HSU.

DR. GUY & JO ANNE (YARBROUGH) KEETER '55

With over 20 family members attending HSU over a span of 100+ years, it should be no surprise that Hardin-Simmons is in the Keeters' blood. John Keeter Sr. established this service award honoring his son, John Jr. who died in World War II in 1942. This award has been given since 1943, and while the Keeter family has been proud of HSU, Hardin-Simmons would like to express how proud we are of the Keeter family and how they have served the University.

Guy's roommate, Chick Tiger '54, set him and Jo Anne, a member of the Cowgirls, up on a blind date. They dated their junior and senior years and married three months after graduating. They moved to Dallas

where Jo Anne taught school and Guy attended Baylor College of Dentistry. Guy practiced dentistry for 46 years and truly loved his patients and staff. He was very active in the Dallas County Dental Society, holding many positions and served as president in 1974.

In 1970, the Keeters moved to Rockwall where they were active at First Baptist Church Rockwall and later at Lakepointe Church.

Guy served on the inaugural board of the Young Associates and Board of Development at Hardin-Simmons. They have both been active volunteers and members of the Presidents Club and have also supported the Keeter (John J.) Endowed Memorial Scholarship and Keeter Award Endowment.

Guy passed away in November of 2018, his legacy of instilling a love for HSU and servant leadership to his family, lives on through several who have followed in their footsteps to HSU.



Distinguished Alumni Awards 2020

This award given since 1970, is presented to alumni whose personal and professional accomplishments are exemplary of the ideals and aims of the University and thus bring honor to HSU.



JAY LESTER '94

Jay's campus involvement as a student included the Cowboy Band, Concert Band, Orchestra, and Chorale, among other organizations. He began his teaching career as

a band director in Odessa and later taught band and orchestra at Clack Middle School in Abilene. In Allen, he served as Director of Bands at the Lowery Freshman Center while assisting with the Allen High School bands and orchestras. Jay earned his Master of Education degree in educational administration from the University of North Texas. Jay became Director of Fine Arts for Victoria ISD in 2008 until he returned to his hometown in 2012 as the Executive Director of Fine Arts for Abilene ISD.

He is involved in music at First Baptist Church of Abilene, and various community musical groups. Jay joins the Cowboy Band in playing at the Texas Cowboy Reunion each summer – and any other time he's available.



DR. GEORGE LOUTHARBACK '64

George Loutharback has dedicated his life to collegiate ministry, retiring in 2018 after 52 years of service. He worked for the Baptist

General Convention of Texas (BGCT) for 27 years as Baptist Student Union Director serving the campuses of El Centro Junior College, Southwestern Medical School, TWU School of Nursing, San Jacinto College, Wharton County Junior College, Stephen F. Austin University, and Baylor University. George oversaw campus evangelism efforts with the BGCT for several years and then served for 16 years as the Chaplain for the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. He has also ministered in the local church as Interim College Minister at First Baptist Church of Bryan and Columbus Avenue Baptist Church in Waco. George has great memories from his time in Tau Alpha Phi and continues to meet for lunch in Temple with several HSU friends.



DR. ROBERT WILEY '87

Dr. Rob Wiley has been a practicing pediatrician in Abilene for more than 25 years and was recently named Vice President and Chief

Medical Officer at Hendrick Medical Center. In this role he has been a trusted community health leader through the mitigation of COVID-19 in Abilene. He has been a member of the Hardin-Simmons Board of Trustees and stays connected by partnering with the HSU Physician Assistant program by providing pediatric rotations. He has served as Chairman of the Hendrick Medical Center Foundation Board and has repeatedly been named Pediatrician of the Year in the Abilene Reporter-News Readers Choice Awards. Rob's love and commitment to children's health and the Christ-centered mission of Hendrick Health runs deep, as does his love for Hardin-Simmons and the Abilene community.



OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI AWARDS 2020

Pictured with Hardin-Simmons University President Eric Bruntmyer are the Outstanding Young Alumni Award recipients honored on February 28, 2020: Dr. Eric Black, '97, Executive Director/Publisher and Editor of the Baptist Standard; David Krake, '04, Wealth Management Advisor at Merrill Lynch Wealth Management; and Vishia Wilson '03, Director of ICU at Hendrick Medical Center South, during a banquet hosted by HSU's Board of Young Associates. Recipients of the coveted OYA award have substantially benefitted the world through their chosen fields while reflecting the quality and values of HSU's student body and alumni. Recipients are 45 years old or younger and graduated from HSU no more than 20 years ago.

Outstanding Young Alumni Awards 2021

This award recognizes alumni less than 45 years old who have attained outstanding achievements in their field of endeavor, community, state, or nation. This award was created by the Board of Young Associates and was first presented in 2004.

This year's recipients will be honored at the Outstanding Young Alumni Dinner on Friday, February 26, 2021.

For details go to hsutx.edu/alumni/alumni-events/OYA.



SANDRA (WOOD) PEOPLES '01

Sandra earned her BBS in English and Communication in 2001 and is a disability advocate and encourager to

special-needs families. She is the author of three books, including her most recent release, *Unexpected Blessings: The Joys and Possibilities of Life in a Special-Needs Family*. Her writing has been featured by Christianity Today, The Gospel Coalition, and The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission for the SBC. She's former editor and social media manager for Key Ministry and a former schoolteacher.

Sandra hosts a popular podcast, providing weekly encouragement to special-needs moms and other caregivers. She also speaks at the top special-needs ministry conferences around the country including keynoting at some of them.

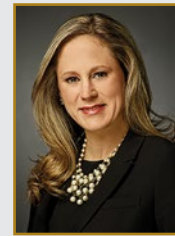
Sandra earned her Master of Divinity degree in 2007. She currently serves as special-needs ministry director, pastor's wife, and Bible teacher at Heights Baptist Church in Alvin. One of her sons has level three autism which is the inspiration for Sandra's advocacy work, as is Sandra's older sister with Down Syndrome.



RAFAEL HERNANDEZ '12

Rafael Hernandez earned his undergraduate degree from Texas A&M in 2005, and then studied sports and recreation

management at HSU, completing his ME in 2007. He then went on to earn two more master's degrees and a doctorate. His career achievements include working for the federal government in commercial real estate and outstanding service for the US Army. He is currently an Account Executive for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. His past military service includes serving as US Army Captain Commanding over 56 troops and completing over 300 convoy and reconnaissance missions in Iraq. He is now a Major with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard. He lives in Ft. Worth where he is active in his church and volunteers with a program called DFW Urban Plan 2020, a program designed to teach high school and college students the fundamentals and principals of real estate development as well as urban planning.



HOLLY (RAMPY) BAIRD '02

Holly studied finance and economics at HSU and then earned her Juris Doctor degree in 2008 from Texas Tech University School of

Law. She is currently a Partner at Orsinger, Nelson, Downing & Anderson, LLP and recently earned the prestigious recognition of one of the "Top 100" Texas Attorneys for the third consecutive year. She previously was an Associate Attorney with Hance & Wickham, PC and also worked as Chief Law Clerk at Smith & Martin. Her professional memberships include the State Bar of Texas, Dallas Bar Association, Dallas Association of Young Lawyers and the Annette Stewart American Inn of Court. She has received numerous honors as a Texas Rising Star, Up-And-Coming 100, and Up-And-Coming 50 Women, among others. Holly was active during her time on campus as a cheerleader and a member of the Sigma Alpha women's social club.

**FOR COMPLETE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL HONOREES,
visit us at www.hsutx.edu/alumni/alumni-awards**

Family NEWS

1970s

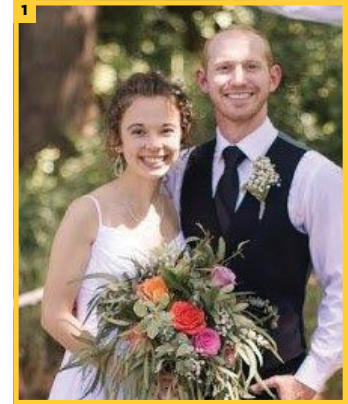
Dr. Kyle Usrey '78BBA, recently retired from Colorado Christian University in Denver. In seven years there, Usrey was Vice President of Academic Affairs, oversaw all the faculty, deans and directors as well as all the academic programs whereby CCU became the 4th fastest growing private university in the USA, ranked in the top 2% of all colleges and universities by ACTA for its Gen Ed program. CCU recently enrolled about 1,800 undergraduates, 7,500 adult and graduate online students, and 5,000 Dual Credit students with high schools all over the nation.

Usrey also taught traditional and online students at CCU in ethics, organizational behavior, law, economics, and international business.

Usrey hired two HSU alumni to help lead CCU. **Dr. Martin Beeson '79BA**, heads CCU's championship Moot Court team, teaches law and economics, and directs a unique hybrid Criminal Justice Program. **Dr. Wayne Smith '83BBA/'86MBA**, taught finance and helped CCU transition its faculty to deliver hybrid online education shortly before his untimely death from complications due to MS halfway through the last year."

2010s

1 Molly (Warren) Gopffarth '18BBS, married Kamron Gopffarth on 5/18/2019 in Buffalo Gap. Kamron will graduate from Hardin-Simmons in May 2021. Kamron is a full-time, pre-med student and works as an RA for HSU and also as an MA for Abilene Diagnostic. Molly works full time as the Kitchen Manager at Front Porch Coffee Co. and Bakery.



Welcome to the FAMILY

Bayne Blair, son of **Courtney (Foster) '13BBS/'17ME** and **Jonathan Blair '13 BBA** 6/8/2020.



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Acronyms: AHOF Athletics Hall of Fame/DAA Distinguished Alumni Award/HOL Hall of Leaders/HD Honorary Doctorate Degree/KASA Keeter Alumni Service Award/LDA Logsdon Distinguished Alumni Award/OYA Outstanding Young Alumni Award

You can also submit your news online at: connect.hsutx.edu/alumniupdate or email RangeRider@hsutx.edu

Please note, HSU administration reserves the right to review and include, or reject, any submission made for publication in the Range Rider. Also, because of printing limitations and deadlines, inclusion of news and use of submitted photos cannot be assured for any date or particular issue.

Future Alumni: Please indicate whether the addition to your family is a boy or girl & the full birthdate.

Marriages: Remember to indicate the date & place of your wedding.

Friends We'll Miss: Memorial announcements must be submitted by a family member or be accompanied by a link to or photocopy of a published obituary. Please include class year for all HSU exes in the family.

Make a Note of your news and accomplishments!

Full Name (include maiden) _____ HSU Class(es) _____

Home Address _____ City State ZIP _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____

Title/Company _____ Spouse name (include maiden) _____

Here's my news (include weddings, births/adoptions, moves, job changes, awards/honors, etc.):

Submitted by _____ Signature _____

Complete and mail this form to Range Rider News, HSU Box 16102, Abilene, TX 79698.

This information is intended for the Alumni section of Range Rider. We reserve the right to edit your news for length and content.

Family WE'LL MISS



KAREN LYNN BERRY BBA '88

July 30, 2020

Karen died on July 30, 1920 in London, UK, and was ushered into the presence of the God she loved. Born in Lubbock on May 8, 1966, Karen spent most of her childhood in a Navy family, moving from coast to coast with stints in Korea, Italy, and Spain. She attended three schools for kindergarten and four schools during her high school years. At age 16, Karen dedicated her life to God and lived for Him all her remaining days.

On campus, Karen was actively involved in EPIA and the Baptist Student Union (now Baptist Student Ministry). She graduated at the top of her class with a BBA in Computer Science. After working two years in Bangkok, Thailand,

Karen moved to Fort Worth where she worked full-time and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary from 1990 until she earned her Master of Divinity in 1996. She was an active member of Hope Church.

Karen worked for 18 years in India, whose land and people she grew to love, with 16 of those years spent in Chandigarh teaching high school computer science. For the past five years, Karen had been a religious worker among South Asians in the greater London metropolitan area. Karen was known for her enthusiastic approach to life, her pursuit of excellence in all she did, and her great love for God and His people and her friends and family.

She delighted in a range of interests including photography, reading, travel, meeting new people and cake and Coke Zero.

Karen will be greatly missed by those she left behind too soon: her parents, Bill '62BBA and Betty Berry of Fort Worth; sister Janet (Jani) '90BA and husband, Jason Barker and nephew Brendan of Durant, Oklahoma; sister Lauri Harris and husband Treg of McCordsville, Indiana; and nieces November Harris and Keely Harris; a multitude of friends, many of whom she loved like family and her beloved feline fur-baby Monkii.



DR. ROBERT "BOB" GILBREATH '64BA

September 12, 2020

Bob Gilbreth was born May 2, 1941 in Frederick, Oklahoma. He attended Frederick schools through high school, graduating in 1959. While in high school, he participated in church music programs and earned state music accomplishments. Music marked his every step and endeavor though life, and his ministry of music was a gift from God, shared with many along the way.

Bob came to Hardin-Simmons on a music scholarship with his eyes focused on a degree in vocal performance. Shortly after setting foot on campus, he became a charter member of Tau Alpha Phi and composed the fraternity's anthem. He helped bring All School Sing to HSU in 1960, which was patterned after Baylor University's Sing. His Tau Alpha Phi brothers remember Bob for his winning smile, engaging personality, brilliance, musical talent, and for directing and

encouraging a "not so gifted band of brothers" to win the first four years of Sing.

Although his passion for music flourished and his talent for piano performance began to shine while at HSU, in 1962 Bob changed his major to pre-dental and graduated from Hardin-Simmons in 1964 with a BA. He enrolled in Baylor College of Dentistry, graduating in 1968 with a DDS.

After a year of dental practice in Ft. Worth, he established a part-time practice in Wills Point in 1969. Enjoying the small town and the people, he decided he wanted to settle down there. He and Elfrieda "Fritz" Godat were married in Dallas in 1970. He practiced dentistry for 43 years, continuing to hum and sing to his patients. While active in his profession, he received his Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry in 2001 and was awarded Mastership in 2015.

Bob was very involved in his community, having served as councilman and mayor from 1975 to 1985, and as a Rotarian from 1970 to 1990. He was one of two individuals who together organized the Wills Point Youth Soccer Program in 1980, serving as president of the association. Most impressionable on those who knew him was his active involvement in the music ministry at Russell Memorial United Methodist Church from 1970 through 2020, and he embraced these roles with joy! His positions included pianist, youth choir director, and minister of music.

Bob is survived by his wife Fritz Gilbreth; daughter, Monica G. McClellan and husband, Tad; son, Chris Gilbreth '97BA/'00 MPT and wife, Melissa; grandsons Alex, Jonathan and Robert McClellan; and granddaughters, Emmalyn and Julianne Gilbreth of Blythewood, SC.

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Family WE'LL MISS



MR. FRED CALVIN KNIFFEN JR. '58BBA

June 24, 2020

Fred Kniffen was born and raised in Clyde, growing up on a farm where he worked hard planting and harvesting crops in the fields, milking cows and picking cotton with the rest of his family. His parents always allowed him time to play sports. He played football, basketball, baseball and tennis. Tennis was his favorite and he became a state champion in high school. He was the first in his family to attend college.

While at HSU, he was an officer in the ROTC and helped bring the HSU tennis program to national prominence, winning championships all along the way. On August 24, 1957, he married his high school sweetheart, Carolyn Johnson. They lived in Abilene for 16 years, then moved to Tyler where they spent the next 45 years. His career included tennis coach at Cooper High School in Abilene

and tennis pro at Rose Park Tennis Center in Abilene.

From 1973 to 1985, he was the head tennis coach for Tyler Junior College, when he accepted the head tennis coach position at the University of Texas at Tyler, where he retired in 1997. For 48 years, he and his brothers Johnny and Novice, along with other coaches, held summer tennis camps for players all across Texas.

One of the most celebrated coaches in Texas tennis history, he earned the Texas Professional Tennis Association (TPTA) Coach of the Year Award; the Wilson National Coach of the Year twice; the National Junior College Men's Coach of the Year twice; the National Women's Coach of the Year twice; the Penn NAIA National Coach of the Year twice; National Championships at TJC

and UT Tyler; and more. He helped 31 players earn All-American honors and was inducted into numerous Halls of Fame including the HSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1990.

He is survived by his children and spouses, Janet (and husband Jeff) Scholl; Judy (and husband Travis) Clardy; J'Lynn (and husband Micky) Navarro; Dale (and wife Wendy) Kniffen; 13 loving grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; his brothers, Johnny, Novice, Paul and Billy Kniffen; and his sister Jean Kniffen Seagroves. He was preceded in death by his wife, Carolyn Janet Kniffen; and his parents, Fred & Iona Kniffen.

Fred is remembered as a wonderful, loving, humble servant of God, a devoted husband and father.

Mrs. Rhoda La Vere (Nash) Black '42x, 6/25/20.

Mrs. Donness (Balch) Shine '42x, 9/9/20.

Mrs. Nancy (Smith) Hatcher '44BA, 7/18/20.

Mrs. Helen (Stewart) Johnson '47BA, 9/24/20.

Mrs. Lucille (Martin) Brown '48BS, 7/19/20.

Mrs. Joy (Freasier) Luthringer '49x, 8/22/20.

Mr. M.E. "Randy" Randolph '49x, 8/28/20.

Dr. L. Joe O'Brien '49BA, 9/1/20.

Rev. George Dodson '50BA, 7/9/20.

Mr. Howard Carroll '50BBA, 7/27/20.

Mr. Donald Wreyford '50BA, 8/2/20.

Mrs. Margaret (Heath) Austin '50x, 9/28/20.

Mrs. Naomi (Rainey) Chandler '51BA, 8/18/20.

Mr. James "Jim" Riddle '53BS, AHOF, 8/16/20.

Mr. Ogden Compton '53BBA, 8/13/20.

Mrs. Carolyn (Pruett) Patterson '53x, 9/2/20.

Mrs. Diema (Lewis) Carpenter '54x, 2/14/20. Survived by sisters Voyce LaDell (Lewis) Lemmons '51x and Mertie (Lewis) Wood '65BA, and brothers John R. Lewis '66x and Tryon Temple Lewis '76x.

Mr. Charles Biddy '54BA, 8/19/20.

Mrs. Peggy (Muston) Sturrock '55x, 7/20/20. Survived by husband Jim Sturrock '60x.

Dr. Jerry Reynolds '55MA/Former Faculty, 9/8/20. Survived by sister Erna (Reynolds) Dunkerley '58BM.

Ms. Janie (Rushing) Cooper '55BS, 8/19/20.

Mr. Charlie "Odell" Littlefield '55BBA, 9/9/20.

Rev. Lemuel "Chief" Lawson '55BS, 9/16/20.

Mr. Melvin Jasek '56BA, 7/5/20. Survived by wife Dianne (Mays) Jasek '53x and daughter Kristy (Jasek) Hayes '79BM/'85MM.

Mrs. Wanda Jenelle (Williamson) Nelson '56x, 7/23/20.

Mrs. Joy (Winton) Bostick '57x, 7/22/20.

Mrs. Eulalia (Bantau) Henderson '57BS, 8/22/20.

Mr. Marshall Gregory '57BA, 9/5/20.

Mrs. Patricia (Howard) Thormahlen '58BS, 6/26/20.

Mrs. Betty (Karnes) Brasell '58BS, 9/13/20.

Ms. Johnnie (Bullock) Dickson '58BBA, 9/19/20.

Mr. Lawrence Hill '58BA, 9/17/20.

Mr. Elvis D. Selman '60BBA, 7/9/19.

Mrs. Royce June (Choate) Cox '60BS, 9/19/20.

Mr. James B. Tyler '61BBA, 9/3/20.

Mr. Charles Dale Jenkins '61x, 9/20/20.

Dr. Trent Butler '63BA, DAA, 7/5/20.

Mrs. Eula (Ham) Ball '63x, 9/8/20.

Mrs. Emily Elizabeth "Beth" (Brasfield) Rankin '63x, 9/14/20.

Mr. Jerry Hennings '64BA, 6/20/20.

Mr. David Boyd '64BBA, 4/12/20.

Mr. Joseph "J.C." Trainer, Jr. '64BA, 7/20/20. Survived by grandson Kyle Timmermann '12BBA.

Ms. Sharon L. Cummings '65BA, 6/2019.

Mrs. Judy (Moss) Baergen '65BS, 10/2/20. Survived by daughter Jennifer (Baergen) Davis '01MA.

Mr. Louis "Lou" Henson '66x, AHOF, 7/25/20.

Mrs. Doris (Davis) Bates '69BBA, 7/1/20.

Mrs. Dorrace (Fritzler) Smith '71BED, 6/25/20.

Dr. Sally (Johnston) Reid '71MM, 12/19/19.

Lt. Col. George "Keith" Garner '74MED, 10/1/20. Survived by wife Barbara (Hines) Garner '75MED.

Mr. David Shearin '75BA, 06/13/20.

Mr. Joseph E. "Joe" Arnette '77BS, 7/16/19.

Mrs. Kathie (Billingsley) Eggleston '88MED, 7/24/20.

Mr. Eddie D. Ailshie '88BBS, 8/31/20.

Mr. John Carroll '93BBS, 6/26/20.

Miss Lori Dockrey '99BBS, 9/10/20.

Mr. Charles Ray Williams '08BBS, 8/7/20.



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(Left) Gilbert enjoys the Christmas lights by strolling around the pond.
(Right) Isaiah Bush '23



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STUDENTS

582

GRADUATE
STUDENTS



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UNDERGRADUATE
MAJORS OFFERED

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EXERCISE SCIENCE
BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION

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PROGRAMS**

HONORS
FAST TRACK THROUGH
GRAD SCHOOL
STUDY ABROAD



**HEALTH
SCIENCES**

NURSING
PHYSICAL THERAPY
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
BEHAVIOR ANALYST

TOP

GRADUATE
PROGRAMS

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL
THERAPY
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION

HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR TIME?

DR. TRAVIS CRAVER
DIRECTOR OF CHAPEL
AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

*"I am the true vine,
and my Father is the
gardener."*

John 15:1

If I asked you a question about your own devotional life, would you be uncomfortable? Some Christians spend little—if any—time with the Lord daily. There are those who think if they read a verse or two out of the Bible and perhaps whisper a short prayer, they are being extremely spiritual. Maybe even many believe that a Sunday sermon is all they need to get through the week without ever communicating to God until the next Sunday when their preacher shares another sermon.

Trust me you are not alone; I have fallen under this fallacy. In their mind, that is enough to help them develop spiritually. Yet, many times that same Christian will spend forty-five minutes to an hour looking at social media sites or perusing news or sports sites. How we spend our time is a challenge. Family, friendships, jobs and life fight for our time every single day.

In John 15, my favorite passage we find some of Jesus' final words before His death on the cross. I think we realize that if a person knows he has a short time to live, he might speak some of his most important thoughts to those he loves. Jesus did that in the Upper Room and on the way to the Garden of Gethsemane. In this great chapter of John, Jesus speaks about the importance of abiding in Him. He likens it to a branch being attached to a vine. If the branch is removed from the vine, it withers and dies. It can only bear fruit as it is attached or abides in the vine.

Jesus is saying that it should be the same way for believers. If we want to be truly spiritual and have fruit in the Christian life, then we must abide in Christ. We must do what Psalms 1:1–3 states—we must "delight in the Law of the Lord and meditate on it day and night!" When we do, we will be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, bringing forth fruit, and we will truly prosper in the Christian life.

Here are a few things every Christian needs to do:

1. Spend some quality time with Christ every day and throughout the day (Matthew 4:4).
2. Memorize Scripture verses and let their truths rest in your heart (Psalm 119:11, Colossians 3:16).
3. Let those truths permeate your mind and think on them throughout the day (Psalm 1:2).

Let us know how we
can pray for you
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