

HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

# RangeRIDER

FALL-WINTER 2022



## CREATING MEMORIES

Read the Aleman's  
story on page 1



## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

**T**his *Range Rider* features stories about alumni, employees, and other friends of this school who have been shaped by their association with Hardin-Simmons University. Their stories and even their lives speak to the ongoing diligent investment and passionate caring of HSU faculty, staff, and administration.

Dr. Lanny Hall, HSU President Emeritus, shared a story at the March 2023 memorial for Dr. Rick Styles, retired Vice President for Advancement and holder of an Honorary Doctorate from HSU. Dr. Hall reiterated a Latin epitaph when speaking about Dr. Styles and his life's work here at HSU, "Lector, si monumentum requiris, circumspice" which translates to: "Reader, if you seek his monument, look around." As Dr. Hall stated, "To see Rick's 'monument,' simply look around at the people he touched along with the scholarships and facilities his fund-raising efforts provided for HSU students."

This same epitaph is inscribed above the grave of HSU President J. D. Sandefer in the center of our campus, west of Moody Student Center. HSU's buildings, grounds, and people reflect the immeasurable impact of Prexy Sandefer's 40 years of dedicated leadership.

As you read this *Range Rider*, take time to discover the many "monuments," past and present, which reflect the greatness and grandeur of HSU!



**Eric I. Bruntmyer**  
President





## CONTENTS

20 Cowboy Band 100 Year Timeline

24 A Divine Kerfuffle

32 Meet the Trustees

34 Social Media Snapshot

36 Athletics  
Fall Recap, Football Celebrates 500 Wins,  
Hall of Fame

46 Advancement  
Meet the Team,  
Thank You to Our Donors

50 Alumni  
Awards, Family News, Welcome to the  
Family, and Family We'll Miss

62 Spiritual Formation  
Front Door, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
Prayer Breakfast, Devotional

**SENIOR EDITOR**  
Kacie Eureka '17/'19  
Director of University Marketing

**EDITOR**  
Mary Burke  
Communications and Content  
Strategy Specialist

**CREATIVE EDITOR**  
Todd Clower '99  
Art Director and Senior Graphic  
Designer

**PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR**  
Emily Garner  
Visual Media Coordinator

**ADVANCEMENT EDITOR**  
Dr. Vivian Bland  
Office Manager, Campaign  
Coordinator

**ALUMNI EDITOR**  
Dr. Heather Hadlock '97  
Associate Vice President for Alumni  
Engagement

**ATHLETICS EDITOR**  
Chad Grubbs '02  
Director of Athletic Communication

### ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS

Fernando Hernandez '14  
Graphic Designer

Hollye Jaklewicz  
Editor

Britt Jones '84  
Executive Director of Alumni Special  
Programs and Trustee Relations

Jaidyn Kamplain '24  
Student Writer

Charis Ochu '25  
Student Writer

Erin Weber  
Graphic Designer

# RangeRIDER

FALL - WINTER 2022

## FEATURES

2 speakLIFE

8 Nix is Not Nixed

12 Business is Booming

14 Banking on Alumni!

16 Traveling Range Riders

26 From Student to Career

30 Healing Hounds



## ON THE COVER — THE ALEMAN FAMILY

Sean '15 and Jamie (Higginbotham) '16 Aleman met on the first day of new student orientation, Jamie as a freshman and Sean as the leader of her orientation group. Throughout their time together at HSU, they grew as individuals and as partners. Sean proposed under the clock tower, cementing HSU's connection to their life's journey even more. The relationships Jamie built at HSU encouraged her brother, Trevor Higginbotham '23, to explore HSU and join the football team. Sean and Jamie, along with their sons, Carter and Scottie, can be found cheering at Shelton Stadium rooting for Trevor and the Cowboys.

Jamie shared, "Watching our children grow to love the university that holds such a special place in our hearts has been such a sweet experience."

Read more about Sean in the *Banking on Alumni!* story.



*Range Rider* is the official publication of Hardin-Simmons University for its alumni, staff, and friends, and is published biannually as a joint effort between HSU's Office of University Marketing, Advancement and Engagement, Athletics, and President's Office. Postage paid at Abilene, TX and additional mailing offices. Opinions expressed in *Range Rider* are those of the individual authors and subjects and do not necessarily reflect the views of the university administration, faculty, staff, or students. No portion of this magazine may be reprinted without express written consent from the editor at [rangerider@hsutx.edu](mailto:rangerider@hsutx.edu). If you have any questions or concerns, please call: (325) 670-1317.





# Speak LIFE

**T**he speakLIFE campaign is underway, collecting donations, prayers, and stories. Need a refresher on the process and goals of this capital campaign? Check out the previous *Range Rider* and HSU website for details!

While sharing plans and promoting speakLIFE, HSU has highlighted alumni and student stories that epitomize what it is to speak life. To speak life is to encourage, promote, nurture, support, and bless.

Read about three alumnae who can speak to the impact of HSU's resources on their lives. Newman-Richardson Science Center, Behrens Residence Hall, and the new Equine Therapy Center are components of the speakLIFE campaign, and each of their stories advocates for your involvement.

Your prayers and financial support are key to our success!

---

Learn more and follow  
our progress at:  
[www.hsutx.edu/speaklife](http://www.hsutx.edu/speaklife)

*“I deeply  
appreciate  
the level of  
investment  
the faculty  
made in me”*

—Vishia (Wilson) Coleman '03BSN





## NEWMAN-RICHARDSON SCIENCE CENTER

**A**s a student at Hardin-Simmons, Vishia (Wilson) Coleman '03BSN spent a lot of time in the Newman-Richardson Science Center (formerly the Sid Richardson Science Center). Knowing she planned to be a nurse, her chemistry professor made a point of explaining how chemistry plays an important role in nursing. "He spoke LIFE into me, encouraging me," says Vishia.

Throughout Vishia's journey at HSU, God consistently placed people in her life who would pour into her. "I deeply appreciate the level of investment the faculty made in me," she says. "Dr. Chris McNair '84, who taught my anatomy and physiology lab, is one of those."

When Vishia transitioned to the nursing school for her last two years, faculty continued to speak LIFE into her, preparing her for a demanding career in nursing. Her first job out of nursing school was in the ER. Most nurses have years of experience before moving to the ER, but, she points out, "I was ready because of the excellent professors I had."

When she applied for her current position as director of emergency and critical care services for Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital in Cleburne, Vishia's resume rose to the top. "While I have worked hard to achieve success," she says, "the foundation built in my time at HSU has made a tremendous difference."

Vishia is married to Michael Coleman and lives in White Settlement, Texas. A recipient of HSU's 2019 Outstanding Young Alumni Award, she remains an active member of the university family, serving previously on the Alumni Association Board of Directors and currently on the Board of Trustees. "I am honored and humbled to be able to serve on the HSU Board of Trustees," she says. "I am excited for the continuation of growth for the university."

# WE NEED YOUR HELP!

If HSU can raise \$2.4 million toward Newman-Richardson Science Center by **July 12, 2023**, the Mabee Foundation will contribute an **ADDITIONAL \$600,000!**

**Help us reach  
\$2.4 million TODAY!**

To give toward this campaign,  
go to: [hsutx.edu/speaklife](https://hsutx.edu/speaklife)

### About the Mabee Foundation:

The J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation has a long history with Hardin-Simmons University, dating back to the construction of Mabee Hall, HSU's original ROTC building, now the Physician Assistant building. This building was funded primarily by the Mabee Foundation and opened in 1971. The Mabee Foundation continued to pledge gifts to other projects and campaigns across the years, supporting HSU's mission. Buildings the Mabee Foundation was instrumental in bringing to life include, but are not limited to, the Richardson Library, Mabee Athletic Complex, Frost Center, Johnson Building, and Houston-Lantrip Center.





*“Behrens was the backdrop for a lot of learning. I learned how to study, about myself, and who God made me to be.”*

*—Julie (Joiner)  
Hammer '94BBS*



## **BEHRENS RESIDENCE HALL**

**B**ehrens Residence Hall has provided a home for many HSU students since 1952. During its 70 years, the building has provided a space where formative experiences take place - and where callings are heard. One student with such a story is Julie (Joiner) Hammer '94BBS, who recalls, “When I came to HSU as a freshman, Behrens was the backdrop for a lot of learning. I learned how to study, about myself, and who God made me to be.”

Julie graduated with a Bachelor of Behavioral Science in interdisciplinary studies from Hardin-Simmons University in 1994 and went on to receive her Master of Arts in religious education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Having served previously as minister of childhood education for First Baptist Church in Stephenville and Columbus Avenue Baptist Church in Waco, Julie currently serves as children's and interim preschool minister for First Baptist Church in Lewisville. During her career she has written vacation Bible school and Sunday school curriculum for the Baptist General Convention of Texas' Baptist Way Press and led their annual Childhood Ministry Summit.

Julie is married to Clint Hammer, director of client services for Strom Aviation, and shares with him two sons, Caleb and Micah. A former member of both the Board of Young Associates and the Alumni Association Board of Directors, Julie has been honored with HSU's Distinguished Alumni Award.

For students like Julie, Behrens Hall speaks LIFE, providing a catalyst for lasting memories and an authentic college experience. “While I graduated almost 30 years ago, I know that hundreds of students who have lived in Behrens since have had similar experiences,” says Julie.





*“An education  
enlightened by  
Christian faith  
was exactly  
what HSU was  
for me.”*

*—Kayla (Willis) Dillman  
'14BBS/'16MA*

## **EQUINE THERAPY FACILITY**

**K**ayla (Willis) Dillman '14BBS/'16MA met her husband, Brandon, on their first day at Hardin-Simmons in 2010. Kayla rode for HSU's Six White Horses program, double majored in ministry and psychology, and received a master's degree in clinical counseling. Brandon majored in psychology, double minored in ministry and leadership studies, and is a financial advisor for Edward Jones.

Kayla and Brandon serve on HSU's Board of Young Associates and are supporting HSU's equine therapy project through monthly gifts to help make the facility and program a reality. A licensed professional counselor in private practice, Kayla became involved in equine therapy about a year and a half ago. Not only has she witnessed the powerful, calming presence a horse can have on a person, but the Lord has taught her more about Himself through horses. “As a former White Horse rider,” Kayla says, “I believe Hardin-Simmons is the perfect place for an equine therapy program.”

Debbie Jones, director of the Six White Horses program, spoke LIFE into Kayla, who says, “An education enlightened by Christian faith was exactly what HSU was for me.”

After four years, Brandon and Kayla were engaged on the Legett Unity Bridge and married in Logsdon Chapel.

In their spare time, Kayla and Brandon can be found with their pets, attending rodeos or watching their favorite football team. They love traveling and are actively involved in their church.











Study Abroad is back in full swing! Students enrolled in the London semester are immersed in the sights, sounds, and smells of Britain through lectures and field trips across the country. Based primarily in London with time to travel abroad, students travel on public transit to famous landmarks, museums, and local establishments for an authentic international experience.

Ashleigh Power, Teresa Vazquez, Dr. Bryan Yorton, Brianne Sams, and Cali Cuevas smile while visiting Stonehenge.





# NIX IS NOT NIX

Over the summer months, we bid adieu to Nix Hall. Bulldozers and wrecking balls tore down the building, and even though there were piles of rubble and brick on the ground, the distinct musk and damp smell filled the air with memories that would not leave campus so easily.

Nix Hall joined the campus in 1962 as a “state-of-the-art” male residence hall. It boasted air conditioning in each room and would serve the campus dutifully for 60 years.

When pictures and video of the demolition were shared across social media, comments and stories flooded in of college-aged-shenanigans of rule breaking, pranks, and lifelong friendships forming. Hardin-Simmons alumnus, Greg Jaklewicz ’80, Editor/News Director of Abilene Reporter-News, even shared his memories of his time in Nix Hall in a retrospective that will make any reader laugh (find the June 23, 2022 edition of Abilene Reporter-News online to give it a read).

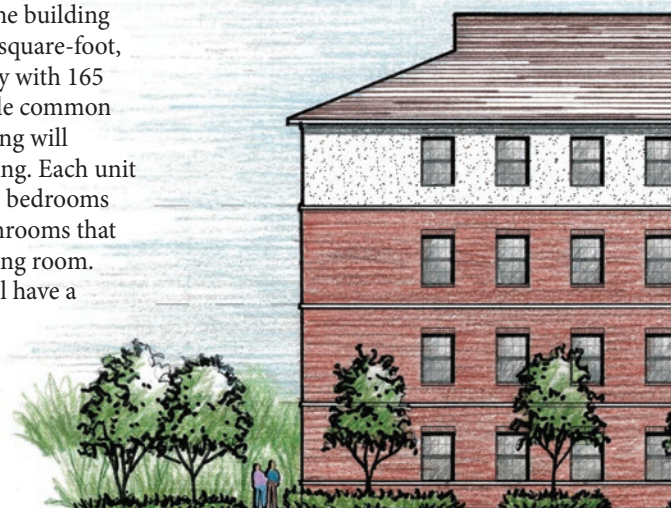
Nix Hall may be physically gone from the campus, but

the name Nix is not going anywhere. Plans for a new residence hall, with ties to the Nix name have already begun, with an estimated opening of fall 2024.

Located on the Northeast corner of Ambler Ave. and Simmons Ave. (where Anderson Hall’s current parking lot is), the building will be a 61,000-square-foot, four-story facility with 165 beds and multiple common areas. The building will provide suite living. Each unit will contain four bedrooms and two full bathrooms that share a small living room. Each student will have a

private bedroom in the unit with a twin bed, study desk, dresser, and walk-in closet.

This new residence hall will pay homage to Dr. Rosa Lee (Hemphill) Prichard ’58 for her generous support of







After a 60-year run, Nix Hall will continue to live on in the memories of the thousands of young men who called it home.

# ED

*Scan this QR code to watch a video of Nix Hall memories.*



Hardin-Simmons over the years. Rosa Lee represents the Nix, Hemphill, and Prichard families, with connections to the Logsdon family. Each of these families has been instrumental in the growth and success of HSU. Multiple

endowments, campus facilities, buildings, scholarships, and more were created by the generosity of these families.

Nix Hall is credited to Rosa Lee's mother, Lunelle (Nix) Hemphill '29, and named

in memory of Lunelle's late father and brother. It is only fitting this newest residence hall shares the Nix family connection, especially when it will be located only a few yards away from the first inception of a Nix-named building.

We can't wait to see what friendships and memories are made in this new building as the Nix legacy continues.







Freshmen and transfer students celebrate the time-honored tradition of beanie capping during STAMPEDE this fall.









**Dr. Robert Tucker '83**  
*Dean of the Kelley College of  
Business and Professional Studies*

# BUSINESS <sup>IS</sup> BOOMING

**B**usiness is booming in the Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies. In 2021, HSU added a wealth management minor to enhance its finance and accounting majors, and various undergraduate and graduate degrees. HSU is currently the only university in the state to offer such a focus.

Hardin-Simmons finance and business administration faculty members are constantly evaluating the job and financial markets to ensure HSU offers current programs and produces graduates that will fill the needs of businesses throughout the state. With their research and connections, faculty can identify which career fields are growing and where there is demand for trained professionals.

## CENTER FOR FINANCIAL STUDIES

The computer lab on the first floor of the Johnson Building will soon be unrecognizable. Plans are underway to convert the space into a professional investment research facility with stock tickers, Bloomberg terminals, and more. The intent is to immerse students in the world of investments, providing opportunities to develop comprehensive analytical and professional presentation skills.





*“This is an opportunity for students to make a significant impact on our institution.”*

—Dr. Robert Tucker '83

The Center for Financial Studies will replicate what is seen on Wall Street, with stock tickers, Bloomberg terminals, and more.

Students will learn how to execute stock trades, analyze organizations' financial performances and economic sector analysis, and make recommendations regarding purchasing divestiture of stocks and bonds. In addition, students will learn to develop and create professional financial and analytical presentations to their peers, faculty, trustees, and other financial experts. Students will have the opportunity to offer recommendations for investments in the Student Managed Investment Fund.

### STUDENT MANAGED INVESTMENT FUND

In the Center for Financial Studies, students will have access to a \$1,000,000 Student Managed Investment Fund account. Using this account, students will apply knowledge gained in the classroom and make purchase and sale recommendations based on their analysis of the performance of organizations, the economy, and future projections of the industry.

Students will analyze stocks, projections, and the economy and then they will make formal presentations regarding where to invest/buy stocks using the

Student Managed Investment Fund. Presentations will be given to the university's financial committee, whose members will have the final say in any proposal.

The rate of return designated by the university is still under discussion, but the first 5% of any monies earned by the students' recommendations will go to the university. Anything more than 5% will fund scholarships for business students studying finance and wealth management.

While the fund received approval in October 2022, the policy and procedures are in development. The start date will be determined based on the training of students and completion of the procedures and policies.

Faculty in the Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies are enthused about these new endeavors. Dr. Robert Tucker '83, Dean of the Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies, says, “We are very excited to offer this hands-on, experiential training to our HSU business students. Not only will this add to their portfolio of financial experiences and make them attractive to employers, but it is also an opportunity for students to make a significant impact on our

institution. They will be researching, analyzing, and presenting, while looking at investment opportunities in meaningful and enjoyable ways.”

The excitement in the wealth management community is palpable. Former banker and current Professor of Business Administration Dr. Doug McIntyre has presented the wealth management program at several conferences, including the Texas Bankers Association Trust and Wealth Management Conference and has participated in the educational programs for the Texas Bankers Associations State Convention and the American Bankers Association National Convention.

Dr. Tucker also shared how appreciative he is towards the whole School of Business faculty. “It really has been a team effort to bring these ideas to reality. A special thank you goes to Dr. Fei Gao, Professor of Finance, who will oversee the implementation of these programs, and Dr. Doug McIntyre, Professor of Business Administration, who was instrumental in the design of these programs.

To learn more and to get involved, please reach out to Dr. Robert Tucker at: [Robert.L.Tucker@hsutx.edu](mailto:Robert.L.Tucker@hsutx.edu).





*“The professors at the business school paved the way to where I am today”*

—Sean Aleman '15

## BANKING on ALUMNI!

Pictured above, from left to right: Grayson Bunnell '14, Sean Aleman '15, Victoria (Waters) Flores '18, Livia (Garcia) Martinez '94, Samantha (Thompson) Baker '10, Daena (Munoz) Lloyd '08, and Taylor Burroughs '11.

The Hardin-Simmons University family prides itself on being “connected for life.” A notable example of continued alumni connection is the Abilene branch of First Financial Bank, located just down the road from campus.

Employing approximately 50 Hardin-Simmons alumni, First Financial Bank is a leading local business that exemplifies the sense of community provided by the university. Within its walls, alumni are connected through their shared HSU experiences and by the school’s continued support of its students.

“One of my favorite things about working with other alumni is reminiscing on our experiences at HSU,” said Vice President and commercial lender Tori Flores '18. “We all may have had different experiences but we talk about the same traditions and reflect on how the university has grown and developed over the years.”

First Financial Bank continues its strong, long-standing relationship with Hardin-Simmons through its partnership funding specific projects, with HSU’s athletic programs, Student Life, and Career Services, and continued relationships with HSU business professors. Additionally, First Financial Bank regularly sponsors athletic events,



provides guest speakers for business courses and other informational events, and hosts booths at career fairs.

With numerous First Financial Bank employees on campus throughout the year, students have several opportunities to network and hear of internship opportunities at the Abilene branches. Many alumni at First Financial Bank share stories of how other alumni paved the way for their careers through intentionality and leadership.

"I actually got started with my career in finance around 2005 because of Hardin-Simmons," stated Senior Vice President, Consumer Lending Regional Manager, Ryan Parrish '05. "When HSU was holding interviews on campus for a large commercial bank, Hardin-Simmons called me to let me know about the opportunity. The rest is history."

In addition to their continued connection with Hardin-Simmons, alumni at First Financial Bank are heavily involved in the Abilene community. "There is a strong HSU alumni group in Abilene. A majority of us are part of the Abilene Young Professionals program through the Chamber of Commerce," shared Assistant Vice President-Community Engagement Officer Samantha Baker '10. "It is exciting to see how HSU alumni have made a presence in the community, support different events throughout the year, and continue to make a difference in Abilene."

"I like the close-knit community that Abilene has," shared Equity Analyst Sean Aleman '15. "When it comes to community events like Winter Lightfest or the Dyess Air Show, the community always shows up. Being able to raise a family in a city like this is what I have always wanted. Homecoming events and the Christmas Party are also great events that I love to bring my family to and show my kids where their mom and dad used to run around campus. I also enjoy coming to the Hardin-Simmons campus for all athletic events. If I could reserve seats for my family of four to watch the Cowboys football team take on UMHB for life, I would."

Aleman additionally shared that HSU alumni at First Financial Bank have developed what they call "The Cowboy Way," which is to ensure that their difficult tasks are accomplished at the highest standard and effort.

"Being able to manage my workload and make trades is sometimes a challenge, but I can use what I learned at HSU to navigate me through those days," he said. "The professors at the business school gave me the tools that I needed to succeed in the financial world, made my learning experience more enjoyable, and paved the way to where I am today."

Hardin-Simmons University is beyond thankful for alumni at First Financial Bank and their commitment to current students and to the university as a whole.

For HSU sponsorship opportunities, contact Kacie Eureka '17/'19, Director for University Marketing, at: [kacie.eureka@hsutx.edu](mailto:kacie.eureka@hsutx.edu).

First Financial Bank is active on campus! From sponsoring countless events to cooking for students, from half-time giveaways to offering career advice, HSU is grateful for FFB's engagement!







*"To share HSU connections while making wonderful memories is something not to be missed."  
-Sherry Barsch '64*

# HSU's Traveling Range Riders

Six Traveling Range Riders, a few sporting HSU gear, were walking down a crowded street in Santorini, Greece, when someone called out: "That's where we went to school!" Turns out, two recent graduates were there celebrating their honeymoon. The impromptu HSU reunion delighted everyone.

From Cuba to Memphis, from Alaska to Turkey, from Italy to New England, HSU's Traveling Range Riders (TRR) have been exploring the globe since 2018.

"The Traveling Range Riders offer a variety of programs," Sharon Pezzarossi '90 says, "but I can find that with any travel agency. With TRR, we have a connection and a bond the minute the trip begins. You can't get that with just any touring group."

Sharon looks forward to her third HSU trip in June. Her traveling buddies will include a couple

of alumni and a friend who loves the HSU experience.

"The 2022 Dutch Waterways cruise exceeded my expectations," recalls one recent HSU traveler. "As someone who has always been responsible for trip planning, it was a relief to have someone else lead the charge."

The TRR host on each trip is Britt Yates Jones '84, HSU's Executive Director of Alumni Special Programs and Trustee Relations.

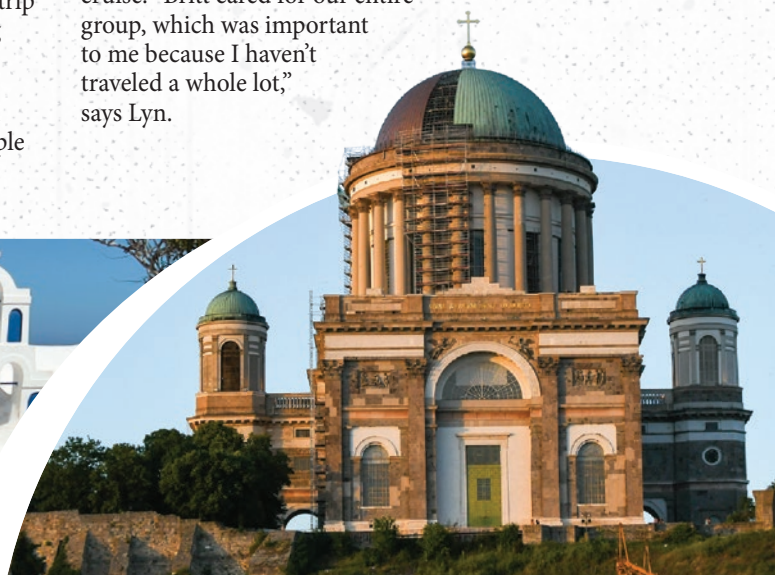
Lyn (Middleton) Phillips '64x and her husband Jerry '67/Trustee made their second trip in June 2022, which combined a visit to the Oberammergau Passion Play with a Danube River cruise. "Britt cared for our entire group, which was important to me because I haven't traveled a whole lot," says Lyn.

(Bottom) HSU Travelers Richard Evans '76, Leigh Evans '76, Britt Jones '84, and a few others ran into Morgan (Hollingsworth) Crow '16 and Nelson Crow '15 while walking the teeming streets of Santorini, Greece, when the honeymooning couple spied Richard's HSU t-shirt.

Esztergom Basilica, the largest church in Hungary, as seen from the Danube River Bend.

In Austria's Melk Abbey, HSU travelers enjoy the ornate spiral stairwell leading from the library to the church.

Gail Carpenter '71 and Mary Batzel '70 prepare to explore the waters of around the Galapagos islands







*"The meticulous pre-planning resulted in an effortless travel experience. I will definitely travel again with this wonderful program!"*  
- Gail Carpenter '71

Many Traveling Range Riders say touring with HSU makes them feel safe, whether traveling as a single or sharing a room, because they have confidence in Britt and her office. Making the journey with like-minded travelers also ranks high.

"When you go on these TRR trips, you immediately connect because you have something in common because most people in our group have a connection, in some way, to HSU or are otherwise compatible," says Sharon. "We get to know each other throughout the trip, and, at the end, we leave with a new group of friends."

President Eric Bruntmyer imagined the unique traveling program in 2017 in response to requests from Hardin-Simmons alumni during his first-year visits. He placed the idea in the hands of former long-time alumni

*(continued on next page)*

(Top) A classic view of Santorini, Greece.

Christina Kavavila '96, now a resident of Budapest, Hungary, met up with long-time HSU friends Lynn Phillips '64x and Jerry Phillips '67 during their Traveling Range Riders trip to see the famous Oberammergau Passion Play and cruise the Danube River.

Traveling Range Riders along the Kinderdijk mill network, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where 19 original windmills from the 1700s still stand: Donna McGraw; Ann Floyd, HSU-PHSSN; Kristina Jones; Ernestine Meyer '64; Bethany LeRoy; and Britt Jones '84.

Enjoying Mount Rushmore are Teresa Garrett '82, Tony Garrett '82, Kim Miers, and Jay Miers. They were among a group Traveling Range Riders visiting national parks, monuments, and historic lodges of the Old West in 2022.

## What's special about traveling with HSU?

In the months leading up to each trip, program director Britt Jones '84 builds community and anticipation within the group. She provides informative updates, arranges a video chat with the tour operator, and mails an exclusive "bon voyage" box of custom travel items, including a booklet with brief traveler bios and photos.

Traveling Range Riders relish spending time together and with guests from other schools as they enjoy outstanding excursions and share top notch meals. Travelers also don't need to feel pressure to document every moment if they don't choose to, as HSU program leaders regularly take photographs to share and also facilitate a group exchange of photos at the end of the tour.

Britt also organizes a brief worship service during each trip centered around devotions from *Dayspring* author Mrs. Rebecca Barlow Jordan '69x.

During the Oberammergau trip, at the request of the tour operator, HSU's service was made available to the entire ship. Many fellow guests attended and even stayed after the final prayer, singing hymns and choruses together.







"I knew the arrangements would be reasonable and, more importantly, that I would be safe and the people I traveled with would be amicable." -Debbie Keith '72

director Britt Jones who quickly turned it into a thriving program. The travel program partners with respected tour providers, calendaring five to six trips per year for HSU alumni, friends, and family members.

Itineraries offer an exciting blend of exotic destinations and traditional locales, led by experienced guides and an HSU host. Time and time again, though, travelers say that their fondest travel memories involve the human element – fellow HSU travelers, lecturers, guides, staff, and the local community members encountered during each program.

Whatever the destination and whatever the highlights, the takeaway is the same: the world is full of so many wonders that one could never see them all. But traveling with HSU is a great place to begin.

(Top to bottom right)  
Traveling Range Rider Janice Allen pauses in the historic Old Town of Como, Italy.

Paul Hardin '84, Kathy Hardin, Jay Miers, Kim Miers, Karen Snapp, John Snapp '70, Teresa Garrett '82, and Tony Garrett '82 in Yellowstone National Park.

Traveling Range Riders pose in the famed Hero's Square, Budapest, Hungary.

Ernestine Meyer '64 enjoys a calm moment in the historic city center of Bruges, Belgium.

## Your Passport to Explore

- Join our Facebook group: "HSU Traveling Range Riders."
- Visit our website: [hsutx.edu/travel](https://hsutx.edu/travel).
- Discover 2023 and 2024 trips.
- Request a printed brochure for a particular trip(s).
- Register for the mailing list. Send your street and email addresses to: [travel@hsutx.edu](mailto:travel@hsutx.edu).
- Cruise through past TRR trip photos at [hsutx.edu/trrgallery](https://hsutx.edu/trrgallery).
- Pack your bags.
- Embark on a TRR Trip!





## LAND OF THE RISING SUN CRUISE

An Epic Journey Through Japan

March 20 - April 1, 2024\*



# Traveling Range Riders



HARDIN-SIMMONS  
UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI & FRIENDS TRAVEL

## On Your Mark, Get Set...TRAVEL!

Visit [hsutx.edu/travel](https://hsutx.edu/travel) to start planning your next adventure with us!



**FALL COLORS ON MARK TWAIN'S MISSISSIPPI**  
American Queen paddle wheel steamboat  
SEPT 24 - OCT 2, 2023 *Unpack Once!*



**EXPERIENCE THE VICTORY**  
The National WWII Museum, New Orleans  
NOV 5 - NOV 8, 2023 *Great for Families!*



**EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS MARKETS**  
Along the Danube River  
DEC 9 - DEC 17, 2023 *Unpack Once!*

\*EXPLORE ALL OUR 2023 & 2024 TRIPS: [HSUTX.EDU/TRAVEL](https://hsutx.edu/travel)





# 1923

## Founded 1923

"Bovolopus" and "Mabel," Cowboy Band's first tour busses allowed for travel.

American Vaudeville performer **Will Rogers** donated \$100 for new tunes and became an honorary CBB member.

**1928** W.T. Johnson's World Championship Rodeo



Dan Moody



Herbert Hoover

## 1923

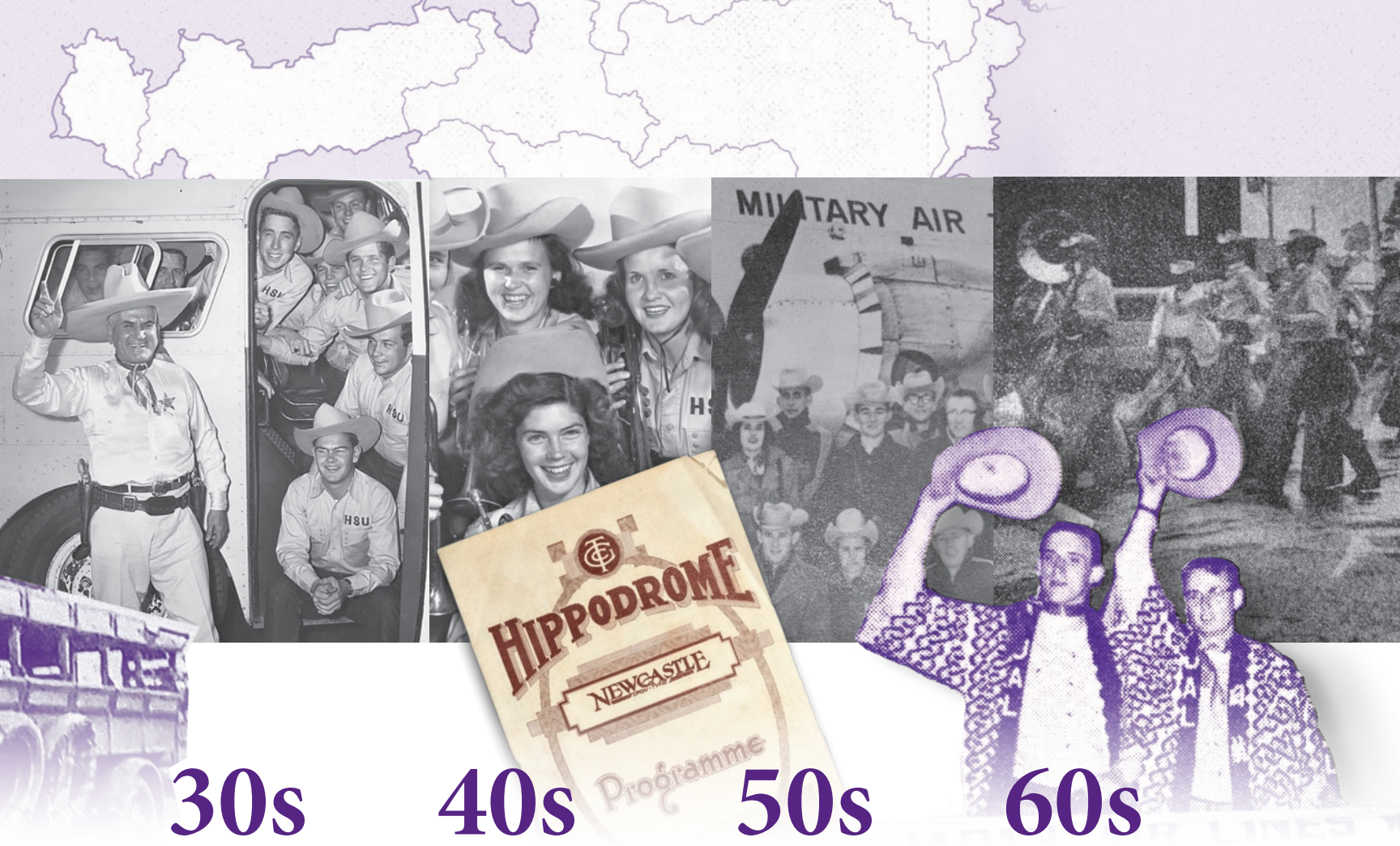
DIRECTORS



D.O. "Prof" Wiley

The Cowboy Band is celebrating 100 years of high stepping performances. Celebrate this milestone with us by remembering some of the band's more extraordinary moments.





30s

40s

50s

60s

## International Travel

**1930** First European Tour: England, France, Belgium, Holland

**1932** Rodeos at Madison Square Garden (New York, NY) and Boston Garden (Boston, MA)

**1935** Founding of the Six White Horses

**1937** NBC Broadcast of Will Rogers' Memorial Shrine Dedication (Colorado Springs, CO)

## World War II

**1940** National Democratic Convention (Chicago, IL)

 Franklin D. Roosevelt

**1943-45** A Cowgirl Band formed to keep spirits up at home while the Cowboy Band members served in WWII.

 Beauford H. Jester

**1949** Parade down Hollywood Boulevard (Hollywood, CA)

## Silver Anniversary

**1950** Silver Anniversary Reunion (Abilene, TX) ; National Veterans of Foreign Wars Convention (Chicago, IL)

**1952** USO European (Christmas) Tour: England, France, Germany, Italy, and Iceland

 Dwight D. Eisenhower

**1957** Military Air Transport Tour: Bermuda, Azores, Scotland, Iceland, and Newfoundland

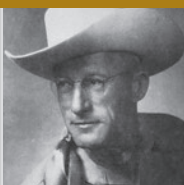
## Foundations

**1963** Baptist New Life Crusade in Japan: grand total of 41 parades and 44 concerts

 Richard M. Nixon

**1969** Cowboy Band Foundation was formed (President - William E. King)

→ 1934



Marion "Little Mac"  
McClure

## LEGEND INAUGURATIONS

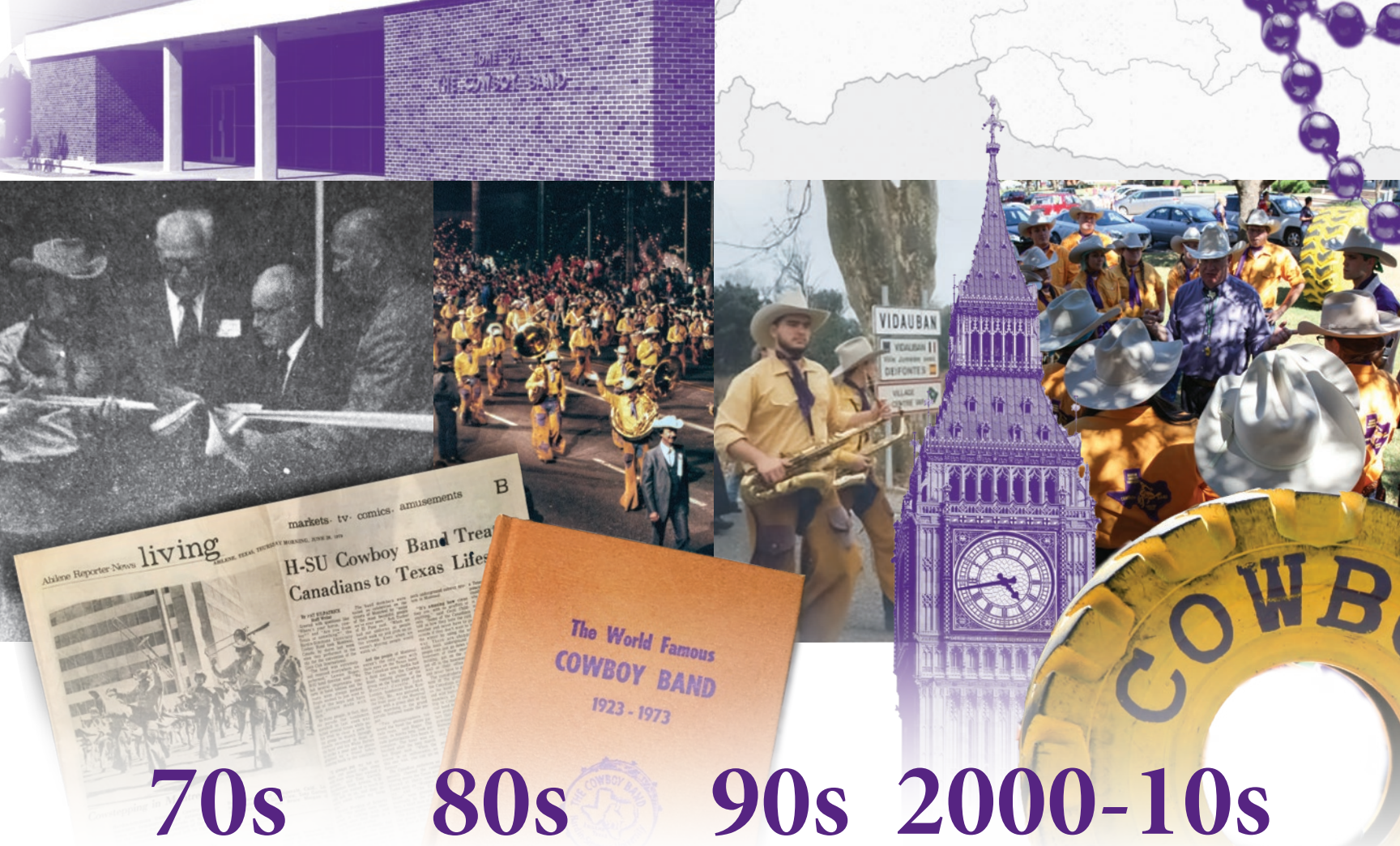


TX Governor  
(Austin, TX)



U.S. President  
(Washington, D.C.)





70s

80s

90s

2000-10s

## Building a Home

1970 Macy's Day Parade  
(New York, NY)

1971-72 Building the "Home  
of the Cowboy Band"

1976-77 First Cotton Bowl  
Parade (Dallas, TX)



Jimmy Carter

Appearance on ABC's "Good  
Morning America"

Lion's Club International  
Convention (Canada)



Bill Clements

## Preserving Legacy

*The World Famous Cowboy  
Band 1923-1973* historical  
book by Dorothy McClure

**\$1M Endowment Fund**



Mark White

Baptist World Alliance  
European World  
Tour: England, France,  
Switzerland, Germany

Coca-Cola Centennial  
Parade (Atlanta, Georgia)

Carnaval Celebration &  
Parades (Nice, France)

## Diamond Anniversary

Adolphus Christmas Parade  
(Dallas, TX)



Ann Richards



George W. Bush

**Women members welcomed**

Carnaval Celebration and  
Parades (Nice and Metz,  
France) & Tour of France

Tour of Great Britain, 1999  
New Year's Day Parade

CBB Diamond Anniversary

## 80th Anniversary



George W. Bush

2003 Lion's International  
Convention (Boston, MA)

Active performers in regional  
stampedes, rodeos, parades,  
and special events

2013 HEB's Feast of Sharing  
(Fort Worth, TX)



Greg Abbott

2018 Branson, MO Tour (Dixie  
Stampede, Silver Dollar City,  
Branson Belle)

1973

1980

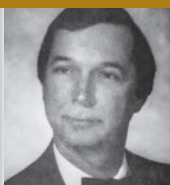
1984

1994

2000



Dr. Lawson  
"Butch" Hager '67



Bill Woods



Scott "Chief"  
Mather



Don "Stacks"  
Hanna '63



Dr. Wayne  
"D-Dawg" Dorothy





# 2023

## Centennial Celebration

2020 Mardi Gras Parades  
(New Orleans, LA)

2020 March - Pandemic

2021 Performance with "Texas  
Country Reporter"

2022 Ireland Tour: St Patty's  
Day Parade in Dublin &  
Kilkenny Castle

2023 Centennial Reunion

2018



Billy "Stanley"  
Harden '86



# \$100K FOR 100 YEARS

To celebrate 100 years of performances and traditions, the Cowboy Band has launched "100K for 100 Years," a campaign to raise funds for band scholarships and travel.

Would you consider making a gift to support the Cowboy Band in honor of their 100th anniversary? Thanks for supporting the HSU Cowboy Band! Here's to the next 100 years!

To donate:

[connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/CB100](https://connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/CB100)











# a Divine Kerfuffle

HSU Theatre opened its 2022-2023 season with *A Divine Kerfuffle*—a smash of a performance and outreach opportunity!

During the production, HSU students had the opportunity to work directly with the playwright on the fight choreography for the show. As a certified Fight Director with the Society of American Fight Directors, playwright H. Russ Brown provided a master class to the theatre students. HSU cast and crew can also boast this as the first officially licensed production of *A Divine Kerfuffle* in the world!

From the playwright, “There are wonderful things happening in the HSU Theatre program, and I could not be more proud to have the first, officially licensed production of *A Divine Kerfuffle* be a part of all the magic and fun.”

To wrap up the excitement, HSU theatre invited local high schools to watch the play and participate in a Q & A. Overall, HSU had close to 230 high school students visit campus for this performance!

HSU Theatre presents *A Divine Kerfuffle*. (Left to right) Kathlyn Messer '23, Danielle Brolyes '24, Brendan Lambert '26, MacKenzie Corum '25, Anthony DeLaGarze '26



# FROM STUDENT to CAREER *speaking life*

**A**t the moment, there are 224 out of 452 employees (including staff, faculty, and adjuncts) who are alumni working at Hardin-Simmons University. What does it say about the love and devotion of HSU's workforce when just shy of 50% graduated from HSU and chose to return?

Anyone who steps foot onto campus, whether as a prospective student or a Golden Reunion participant, describes HSU with the same words: It feels like home; The people genuinely care about me; I knew it was where I was meant to be. These sentiments continue from prospective applicant, to student, to alumnus, and even to employee.

Alumni-employees have a unique influence on campus. As students, they were supported and poured into by faculty and staff, and in turn wish to continue this cycle by investing in the next generation of students. There is a deep love for the campus, and their work is viewed as a calling, rather than a job.

Through their daily interaction with students, peers, donors, and others, these individuals speak life into the HSU community through their commitment to continuing the mission of HSU, preserving traditions, reminiscing with nostalgia, and pushing forward by lifting up the current group of students to ensure their growth and success.

## SHANE WILLIFORD '06MA *Head Tennis Coach*

*Tell me about a time a faculty or staff person influenced you when you were a student at HSU. How has this impact manifested in your life?*

My very first day on campus, Coach Alan Wartes barged into my office and said, "Hey Shane, welcome to HSU!" and gave me a big hug. I had never seen the man before in my life.

Dr. Ron Rainwater was also a tremendous influence. Every time he saw me, he told me I was the best tennis coach in America, and he made me believe I actually was. He taught me to speak life into anyone and everyone.

*How do you continue the trend of speaking life into the next generation of graduates?*

I think fostering expectations and then helping them believe they can achieve their potential. Hope is a powerful tool. Hoping for those things and believing in them keeps us going and not becoming complacent.

*What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?*

Once a Cowboy/Cowgirl always a Cowboy/Cowgirl. That the players stay involved with the program many years after they have graduated. That this program means enough to them to stay vested.

*What advice would you give to your college-aged self?*

Be uncommon amongst the uncommon. You are already uncommon for going to college, participating in a sport or other program. Don't stop there. Be the best at that thing that you do. Help others to be better. Set an example to the world of what togetherness, hard work, and respect for others can do.

*What's taking place on campus that you're most excited about?*

I'm loving the updates to the facilities, the added programs such as engineering, all of which I believe will have tremendous impact on this university. There seems to be an excitement in the air around here.

*Shine the spotlight on your department...what do you want readers to know?*

The HSU tennis programs are once again very competitive this year. We would love to see everyone out at the courts to watch the women defend their ASC west title and the men defend their ASC championship.





## ELIZABETH NORMAN '89/'01MA

University Librarian



*Tell me about a time a faculty or staff person poured into you when you were a student at HSU. How has this impact manifested in your life?*

There are so many individuals at HSU who impacted my life when I was a student. Dr. B.W. Aston and the entire history department, Dr. Zane Mason, Dr. Ken Jacobs, and Dr. Paul Madden, deepened my love for history and my understanding of it.

Dr. Charles Garraway sponsored a transformative trip to attend the Collegiate Model United Nations team in New York City, and Dr. Virginia Armstrong in the political science department helped me understand and think critically about the role of government in society. Dr. Bob Fink, Dr. Robert Hamner, Dr. Larry McGraw, and Dr. Bertie Kingore all impacted me in various ways. The knowledge and care that these great teachers and scholars shared with me built a love for the liberal arts and for the vocation of education that I can only try to repay by also serving in higher education.

Careerwise the most impactful individuals on campus were the staff and faculty in the HSU Libraries. If it were not for the student worker job that I had at the circulation desk in the Richardson Library, I sincerely doubt that I would be where I am now as the University Librarian for HSU. The Associate Director of the library when I was a student was Alice Specht. She would eventually become the Dean of Libraries. When she answered my question about what it took to be a librarian, it set me on the path that I am still on to this day--that of an academic librarian. If I can in anyway help students have a similar experience, I consider myself very fortunate.

*Shine the spotlight on your department...what do you want readers to know?*

The Hardin-Simmons Library is a hub and popular location on campus. During the evening hours it is common for the library to be "hopping." The library is a destination on campus, both physically and online. The available library resources support the curriculum of the courses at HSU, the librarians teach students how to use the authoritative and scholarly resources that are available to them and manage the complex tasks involved in a modern academic library, and the library staff assist in a vast variety of tasks. Library personnel are available to the campus community in-person, by phone, and virtually.

Providing a welcoming space, powerful research tools, an atmosphere that's flexible enough for group work but also allows for quiet concentrated study, and partners with other entities on campus, such as the Academic Center for Excellence and Technology Services, are just another average day in the library.



## Alumni working at HSU

**35**  
faculty

**121**  
staff

**68**  
adjunct  
faculty







## JENNIFER (MARSH) JOYE '87

*Technical Services Cataloging Supervisor*

*Tell me about a time a faculty or staff person poured into you when you were a student at HSU. How has this impact manifested in your life?*

Dr. Lloyd Huff '63 sparked my love of reading.

Dr. Larry McGraw demonstrated what walking by faith really means as he never lost his joy, even when walking some really tough roads.

Dr. Joe Darnall taught me how to think, not just parrot answers.

*What advice would you give to your college-aged self?*

If I could speak with my college-aged self, I would tell her that Christ already has the answers to all of those major questions. And that He will reveal the answers when she is ready. Then again, I often still need that reminder.



## RACHEL (SHAW) GOULET '20MBA

*Clinical Operations Manager*

*Houston-Lantrip Center for Literacy and Learning*

*What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?*

I love being able to have conversations based in faith with my coworkers and the students. So much of my faith growth has happened on this campus, and it is such an honor to be a part of others' faith journeys as well.

*What advice would you give to your college-aged self?*

You don't have to have it all figured out right now. Let God lead your steps and you will end up exactly where you need to be.

*Shine the spotlight on your department...what do you want readers to know?*

The Houston-Lantrip Center is in such a unique place to be able to provide Autism services to children and our community with a faith aspect. At our clinic, we get to pray over these kids and literally be God's hands and feet in their walk through life. It is an amazing blessing to get to pour God's love into so many young people every day.



## JESSE BURLESON '00/'17MA

### Head Football Coach

*Tell me about a time a faculty or staff person influenced you when you were a student at HSU. How has this impact manifested in your life?*

Dr. Chris McNair '84, Dr. Ron Rainwater, Dr. Laura Pogue '87/'91 – just to name a few instilled belief, confidence, and hope into me during my journey at HSU. I have followed their example and do my very best to do the same for our players and students.

*How do you continue the trend of speaking life into the next generation of graduates?*

I do my best to relay the lessons learned through the game of football and how they will impact their daily lives and also how they can use the tools developed through this game to help them live the lives they are designed to live.

*What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?*

Seeing our players come back and be great husbands, fathers, and community members is by far the most rewarding part of this job.

*What advice would you give to your college-aged self?*

It. Is. ALL. Worth. It.

*What's taking place on campus that you're most excited about?*

The opportunity for us ALL to get in alignment with the single vision and goal of making HSU the best place in America to get an education and grow as a person.

*What do you love about HSU?*

The people.

*Shine the spotlight on your department...what do you want readers to know?*

I have the best football coaching staff in America. Obviously, they are very well versed in the game of football but more importantly the WHY and the HOW they do their jobs is extraordinary. JJ Elkins '18, Garrett Martin '17, Roosevelt Williams, Logan Floyd '19, RJ Melton '20, Thomas Niles, Jeff Whitehead '01, and Zach Wilkerson are simply the best.

## SETH TIEMEYER '22

### Coordinator for Intramural and Recreation Sports

*What advice would you give to your college-aged self?*

I would grab hold of my frail, pale body, shake it a couple of times and say - "Don't spend all your time at HSU focusing on your studies. A degree and a well-paying job will never bring you true satisfaction; only Christ can do that. Focus on serving the Lord and other people, not yourself."





# Healing Hounds



The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program at Hardin-Simmons is renowned for its student preparedness and its one-of-a-kind focus on servant leadership. The DPT regularly incorporates service into its curriculum with yearly mission trips, fundraising projects, and volunteering with nonprofits, both domestic and abroad. These opportunities provide curriculum enrichment, creating unique and powerful learning moments for all involved.

Beginning in the fall of 2021, the DPT began a partnership with Canine Companions, a nonprofit organization that provides service dogs to people with disabilities at no cost. Since then, HSU DPT has served in the capacity of a volunteer puppy raiser, where students and faculty provide a Canine Companions puppy with 14 months of basic training, socialization, and care. After 14 months, the puppy is returned to Canine Companions for another six months of professional training to learn detailed skills, like how to assist with tools or open doors, to aid the individual she is assigned to.

Greer, a sweet black lab, joined the DPT in 2021 courtesy of Canine Companions. Over the past 14 months, various DPT students and faculty, called the Puppy Team, shared duties while caring for Greer. Greer spent her days in the PT building, attending classes and clinicals, and going home with a different member of the team at night. Just like any dog, there were designated potty breaks, mealtimes, and play times that the students needed to account for in their busy schedules.

Greer's 14 months at HSU exposed her to assistive devices, therapy machinery, clinical environments, and many different people, preparing her for her future placement. Her positive presence was felt throughout the PT building, brightening the halls with laughter and collaborative learning.

"Our main emphasis with her has been socialization; getting her accustomed to various situations, environments, people, activities, and animals is crucial," shared Dr. Wendy Anemaet, Associate Professor of Physical Therapy. "Additionally, we worked on basic training with her, which includes about 30 commands that she needs to be able to perform immediately, eagerly, and in any situation regardless of distractions."

On December 15, 2022, Greer walked the stage at the PT Ring and Pinning Ceremonies to celebrate graduating from basic training at HSU.

Once leaving HSU, Greer's impact will be vast. She will increase independence and the overall lifestyle of her owner.

"Greer has been one of the greatest gifts. She has been there in times of joy, stress, excitement, frustration, and all the other emotions that are embedded in our daily lives as doctoral graduate





students,” shared second-year PT student Avery Allen. “I am going to be so sad to say goodbye, but if Greer has made this much of an impact on us, I cannot wait to see how she can change the life of someone who will rely on her assistance and support.”

Greer is now in the metroplex for her training. The halls of the PT Building, however, are full again with puppy sounds and laughter. A new puppy, named Dion, joined the ranks at the start of 2023. A dedicated group of students, again called the Puppy Team, will start the work all over again, bringing Dion up to par.

Training for a service dog can cost upward of \$60,000, a financial mark that prevents the service for those who need it the most. Partnering with Canine Companions is one way the DPT continues to give back, reinforcing their focus on servant leadership.





# Meet HSU's TRUSTEES



## MR. RICK STRANGE '82

Mr. Rick Strange, the current Chairman of the HSU Board of Trustees, says he has lived his dreams.

The Hardin-Simmons alumnus earned a BBA degree in 1982 before obtaining his J.D. degree from the University of Texas in 1985. He is also an Army Ranger School graduate.

The Floydada, Texas, native was raised with parents and grandparents who were strong Christians. His favorite Bible verse, Philippians 4:6-7, which tells of God's sovereignty, provides assurance, especially in stressful times. Rick firmly believes no matter how present circumstances appear, God is in control and things will work out for the best.

A practicing attorney in Midland, Texas, Rick joined the firm of Cotton, Bledsoe, Tighe & Dawson, right out of law school. When given the opportunity, he became an oil and gas litigator. He served on the Eastland Court of Appeals 2005-2011. In 2017, he joined Wildcat Oil Tools as General Counsel. When that became a part-time role, he added the position of oil and gas litigator with the Hamm Law Group.

As a Hardin-Simmons student, Rick was mentored by Sergeant Major Landry who ran the ROTC program's orienteering team (a military sport combining cross country running with map reading). "He was a Green Beret and the closest thing to John Wayne I've ever seen," Rick recalls. "He taught me self-discipline and dedication."

Rick somewhat jokingly asserts that, although he earned an accounting degree, he really majored in Cowboy Band. After surviving "Slime" pledging, he realized he now had the closest group of friends imaginable.

On a practical level, higher education allowed Rick to become a lawyer and earn a good living. On a personal level, both Rick and his wife Carole hold graduate degrees. And their daughters really had no choice but to attend college and both selected HSU (Katie S. Jones BBS 2009, Susan S. Green B.A. 2011/DPT 2013).

Rick treasures his HSU service, from his early days as a Young Associate to Development board member to sitting on the Board of Trustees. This journey taught him the value of giving back and exposed him to a wide cross-section of the University's workings.

Reflecting on recent years, Rick points out that, while all colleges and universities regularly face financial trials, private Christian schools must also stay true to their mission in an ever-changing world. He's proud of the way HSU, led by the Trustee Board and strong administrators, has faced and overcome recent challenges. "Without a doubt, HSU remains true to the mission of providing an education enriched by faith," he says.

Whether working with clients, family, or HSU Trustees, Rick counsels controlling one's mind and not letting imagination take over. His motto is, "I've seldom regretted the things I didn't say." He does his best to follow his own advice.

Rick is an avid golfer, playing every chance he gets, and, as a USGA Rules Official, works several tournaments yearly. A member of Midland's First Baptist Church, Rick is a long-time adult Sunday School class teacher.



## MRS. DAISY SANCHEZ '86

Mrs. Daisy Sanchez loves the Lord and is a perpetual student.

Her favorite Bible verse is related always to what is going on in her life at present. She has recently been clinging to 1 Corinthians 2:9: "Neither eye has seen, nor ear has heard, nor mind can conceive what the Lord has planned for those who love Him."

Daisy holds a B.Ed. degree from Hardin-Simmons University (1986), a M.Ed. degree from Abilene Christian, and dual certifications from Angelo State where she is an adjunct instructor. Her primary work role is as PreK-12 counselor for Bronte ISD, and she is currently pursuing LPC licensing through Sul Ross State.

Daisy received the 2022 Texas School Counselor Association Multi-Level Counselor of the Year Award and the 2021 BEST (Baptist Educators Serving Texans) Award.

Some 20 or so years ago, the Sanchez family moved back to the West Texas area. Daisy reconnected with both Hardin-Simmons and many college friends which eventually led to service as President of HSU's Alumni Association and now as a Trustee.

"I loved HSU as a student," Daisy says, "but even more so as an adult when I realized the impact this university had on my life. I want God to use HSU to truly impact the lives of today's students as He did for my life."

Daisy first visited HSU as a high school senior. "Being from El Paso, I seriously thought I had landed in East Texas," she recalls. She sat next to HSU Professor Dr. Lawrence Clayton at a dinner that weekend. He remembered Daisy when she arrived as a student in the fall, stopping to chat every time their paths crossed, making a deep impression that resonates still today.

Daisy, who is in her second three-year term, points out that all Trustees are volunteers and each feels a great weight as they consider matters. "Our decisions are not made without sincere and sometimes tough discussions," she says. "I have lost much sleep pondering challenges and praying for wisdom, and I've spent many hours reading correspondence from alumni and others who care about HSU."

Daisy lives in San Angelo and attends Southmont Baptist Church with husband Javier Sanchez (BBS 1989). She has served on various capacities through the years and is currently teaching a class for young adults called "Almost Adulting," which brings back many memories of her HSU days. She is especially engaged in missions work and looks forward to ministering in Athens, Greece, this summer.

Daisy is mother to Adrienne S. Morgan (B.S. 2015), Alexandria S. Dyer (BBS 2017), and Abigail Sanchez, and is Nini to three grands. She is a member of Bible Study Fellowship and loves to read, knit, smock, sew, bake and cook, exercise, and spend time outdoors.





# SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT

Stay connected!  
Follow HSU on  
social media:

 Hardin-Simmons University

 Hardin-Simmons University

 @hsutx


 @hsutx

 @hsutx

 @choosehsutx



How many schools bring you into the President's Office and let you kick up your feet? @HSUTX. I appreciate the conversation @CoachRoe\_\_ look forward to coming down during the season!

 **Caleb Thomas**  
January 5, 2023




Cowgirls->CO @hsuvb  
#gardenofthegods

 **lauren\_sullivann**  
September 2, 2022



Last big mural of the year! I had so much fun capturing HSU's favorite goose in her natural habitat! Go chat up Rode to see it hung in his office!!!! #LongLiveGilbert

 **karsongopffarth**  
December 5, 2022








I am extremely blessed and excited to say that I am verbally committed to HSU to continue my dance and education! I want to thank my family and friends for supporting me no matter what and my coach for helping me along the way. HSU Spurs Dance Team 23-24!!!!

 **sophiemariecc**  
February 15, 2023




Greeting the kids at Ortiz Elementary on their way to class this morning!

 **Hardin-Simmons Softball**  
January 20, 2023




Best day ever!!! My girl was accepted to Hardin-Simmons PA school! She has worked so hard and I am so proud of her!!! Hardin-Simmons here she comes!

 **Allison Tillery Taylor**  
February 16, 2023



A DIVINE KERFUFFLE is officially on a roll!!! There are several productions happening across the country in the next year, but I'm most excited about THIS ONE. As most of you know, the original production was produced by my program at College of the Mainland to uproarious laughter and rave reviews and was soon published by Next Stage Press. Shortly after that, I had the distinct pleasure of being contacted by Victoria Spangler to teach a swashbuckling stage combat workshop at Hardin-Simmons University. I was immediately taken with the passion, talent, and welcoming spirit of the students and immediately suggested KERFUFFLE - which they've chosen to include in their '22-'23 season!!

 **H. Russ Brown**  
September 26, 2022



Hello, our names are Taylor, Brittney, & Jada & we will be your NURSES today! #bestiegang

 **taylor\_brooke622**  
December 5, 2022



Eurydice was such a great production by HSU Theatre!

 **to\_dd\_cl\_ow\_er**  
November 6, 2022



Doctoral project defense

Proverbs 27:17: "as iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." Thank you Jesus for these people and this place!! On to clinical rotations!

 **Avery Allen**  
March 3, 2023



HSU Homecoming 2022! So much fun! @HSUlife @parentsweekend

 **Beanes**  
October 15, 2022





## **KYLAH HOLLAND COMPETES IN NCAA CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP**

**H**SU's Kylah Holland became the first Cowgirl to compete in the NCAA Cross Country Championship on Nov. 19 at the Forest Akers East Golf Course in Lansing, Michigan.

Through the cold and snowy conditions, Kylah finished the race with a time of 23:07 and placed 69th overall in a field of 294 runners.

She punched her ticket with a fifth-place finish at the NCAA West Regional in Spokane, Washington the week before. She ran a time of 21:58 in the 6K race, a time that broke the school record in the 6K and made her the first individual from HSU to qualify for the NCAA Championship in cross country.

Seventy athletes qualified for the NCAAs as individuals who were not on one of the 32 teams that qualified for the championship.

It has been a banner season for Kylah, as she also claimed the ASC individual title, winning the race by over a minute. The Clyde native transferred from West Texas A&M and competed in track last spring for HSU, making this her first season with the Cowgirl cross country team.

Breaking the records of former HSU cross country standout and current coach Sydney Tencate '19, Kylah continually improves each meet.

Tencate says Kylah's nutrition, training, and competitiveness have put her in this position.

"She does all the things right," says Tencate. "She has great nutrition, she puts in the miles, and she loves working hard and competing. She is just a very coachable athlete, and she takes it all in. She also makes her teammates better and has gotten better each race. She has so much potential as a runner."

Holland puts it all very simply. "I just love to run. I am here now and I'm ready to see what I can do."





Sophomore Kylah Holland leads the pack in cross country.

## FALL RECAP

### CROSS COUNTRY

Individually it was a great year for the HSU cross country program. For the first time in school history, an HSU runner, Kylah Holland, qualified for the NCAAs. She finished fifth in the region, earning her a trip to Michigan. Senior Brittany Acosta also qualified for the regional meet after a first-team all-ASC performance at the conference meet.

The men's team also had a pair of runners qualify for the regional meet with Eric Monroy and Zach Mitchell running.

The Cowboys finished with 115 points and was ranked sixth at the American Southwest Conference meet. Mitchell finished third and earned all-ASC first-team honors. Monroy finished 11th to earn second-team all-ASC honors.

Both teams struggled with injuries at the bottom of the lineup throughout the season and each competed with five runners at the ASC meet.

The Cowgirls finished sixth with 128 points in the conference meet.







## VOLLEYBALL

The Cowgirls continued their climb up the ASC ladder, as they finished the season with a 14-10 overall record and 8-8 in ASC play.

HSU advanced to the semifinals of the ASC tournament before falling to eventual champion UT Dallas. It was the first time the Cowgirls had reached the ASC semifinals since 2013.

Six Cowgirl players earned all-conference awards for the first time since the 2017 season. Freshman Gabby Jones was named first-team all-ASC as a middle blocker. Freshman Aubree McCann and senior Hannah Langerman were named second-team all-conference. Freshman Liz Underwood and sophomores Lauren Sullivan and Ali Meyer earned all-ASC honorable mentions.

The Cowgirls opened the season with three straight wins. They later notched a six-match winning streak, the longest in several years. Included in that winning streak were wins over McMurry and Mary Hardin-Baylor.

With just three senior Cowgirls currently on the team and the underclassmen playing most of the court time, the future looks bright for the team.



## WOMEN'S SOCCER

All good things must come to an end and the Cowgirls' 19-year run as the American Southwest Conference champions came to an end with a 1-0 loss to Mary Hardin-Baylor in the ASC Championship.

It was a new era for the Cowgirls as coach Lance Key was in his first season on the HSU bench and the Cowgirls had several new faces. HSU went 12-3-2 on the year and finished 7-1-1 in conference play.

The Cowgirls had four players named to the all-region team. Senior Randie Dennison was a first-team all-region selection, leading the Cowgirls with seven goals on the season. Senior midfielder Jenna Kirk, junior midfielder Kaylee Maddox, and freshman defender Kalea Willis all earned second-team all-region honors.

Kirk was named the midfielder of the year in the ASC and defensive freshman of the year. Kirk, Willis, Dennison, and Maddox were joined by junior defender Mercy Mummert and senior goal keeper Haley Foley on the all-conference first team. Aurora Arevalo and Kaylen McNutt were named to the All-ASC second team.



Sophomore Abbi Allen spikes the ball in volleyball.





## MEN'S SOCCER

The Cowboys started the season slowly, going 1-4-3 in a very challenging non-conference season. The tough scheduling was beneficial, though, in that it prepared the team for conference play.

HSU won four of its first five games in league play and finished the year 5-4 in conference play. That put the Cowboys in the tournament for the 20th straight year. HSU hosted LeTourneau in the ASC quarterfinal and fell in penalty kicks.

Based on their performance this season, three players were named to an all-ASC team. Jakob Fiol was named first-team all-ASC, Osi Gutierrez was named second-team all-ASC, and Austin Wills earned all-ASC honors for the fifth time in his career as a second-team selection.

After the season, longtime Hardin-Simmons men's soccer head coach Dan Heger '88 announced his retirement after 20 seasons on the Cowboy bench.

Heger retired as the school's all-time leader in wins and finished with a record of 198-115-48. He led the Cowboys to the American Southwest Conference tournament all 20 seasons and won titles in 2005, 2006, 2009, 2013, and 2014.

Heger played and graduated from Hardin-Simmons in the Division I days and spent some time playing professionally. After his playing days, he was an assistant coach at HSU, and then he spent one season as the Mary Hardin-Baylor coach, while also coaching at Temple.

Heger coached two All-Americans, 10 all-region players (16 total selections), and 75 all-ASC players.

Maxwell Winneker jumps to head the ball in soccer.



Hoss leads the Cowboys out onto the field during the HSU Homecoming 2022 Football Game.

## FOOTBALL

The Cowboys had another strong season that ended with a trip to the NCAA playoffs for the first time since 2018.

HSU finished the year with a record of 9-2 and finished ranked No. 11 in the D3football.com final poll and No. 12 in the American Football Coaches Association poll. The Cowboys have been ranked in the last 80-straight national polls and have been inside the top 10 for 52 of those.

During the season, the Cowboys amassed the 500th win in school history with a win at Texas Lutheran in the regular-season finale.

HSU football made its first trip out of state for a non-conference game since 2013 and won 41-0 at highly regarded Wisconsin-Platteville. In addition, they reclaimed the Wilford Moore Trophy with a 45-13 win over crosstown foe McMurry.

To cap off the season, the Cowboys racked up a collection of postseason awards. Boomer Warren, senior offensive lineman from Haslet, was named All-American by D3football.com and the Associated Press. It was the third time he was named a first-team All-American in his career. He is just the third Cowboy in school history to be named a first-team All-American three times.

Senior Matt Mitchell was also named a first-team All-American by the Associated Press and second-team All-American by the American Football Coaches Association.

Both Mitchell and Warren were named second-team Academic All-Americans. They were joined on that team by senior punter Cody Harral, who was named a first-team academic All-American with a 4.0 GPA as a biology/pre-med major.

The Cowboys had 22 players honored as all-conference by the American Southwest Conference.







## **COWBOY FOOTBALL CELEBRATES 500 WINS**

**D**ating as far back as an 1897 12-0 win against the Abilene Town Kids, Hardin-Simmons has mostly known success in its football program. With a win over Texas Lutheran in the 2022 regular season finale, HSU hit a significant milestone with win No. 500.

In the 85 seasons of Cowboy football, HSU has recorded 500 wins, 276 losses and 35 ties, has appeared in eight bowl games, played in 25 postseason playoff games and produced 80 different All-Americans, for a total of 108 nods.

Three people with ties to the Cowboys are now in the pro football Hall of Fame – Clyde “Bulldog” Turner ’40x, Ed Sprinkle ’43x, and former coach Sammy Baugh. HSU has a total of 25 players who have played in the NFL.

The Golden Era of HSU football came from 1935 to 1951, when the Cowboys went 105-31 and played in eight bowl games. In the calendar year of 1948, HSU set a record by playing in four bowl games. In 1990, Jimmie Keeling ’15HD restarted the Cowboy football program that had been eliminated in 1963.

Bringing excitement back to the Forty Acres, Keeling began a new era of NAIA and later Division III football. He had a record of 172-53 and led the Cowboys to the NAIA or NCAA playoffs in 11 different seasons, taking the team to the National semifinals in 1993 and 2000.

Jesse Burtleson ’00/’17 has continued the run of Cowboy football and has produced five trips to the NCAA playoffs and a record of 88-31.



# HSU ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME



ALEX HANSEN

Football  
2001-2004

One of the top defensive players in Hardin-Simmons history, Hansen is the only defensive player and one of just two Cowboys to be named a first-team all-American three straight seasons. After playing a backup role as a freshman and emerging late in the season, he burst onto the scene as a sophomore and had nine interceptions in 2002. He followed that up with seven more interceptions as a junior and two as a senior. The Cowboys won the ASC title and were ranked as high as No. 2 in the nation during Hansen's senior season. He was also a three-time all-ASC selection and ranks first in interceptions returned for touchdowns, second in interceptions (18), and fourth in passes defended (44) in school history. He had 177 career tackles.



ZACH PICKELMAN

Men's Basketball  
2004-2007

Zach Pickelman helped turn the Hardin-Simmons men's basketball team into one of the top teams in the American Southwest Conference. He was a four-year starter, starting 99 of the 105 games he played in. As a sophomore, he led the team that became the first to make the ASC tournament in school history. As a senior, he helped lead the team to the ASC Championship game. After playing, he served two seasons as a graduate assistant and seven years as the lead assistant. He helped the Cowboys to the ASC tournament eight times in his 13-year involvement with the HSU program. Pickelman ranks third in the school's non-scholarship era in scoring with 1,616 points. He was named the ASC MVP and an all-American as a senior, was a four-time all-ASC West division selection, and a three-time academic all-ASC performer. He shot 45% from 3-point range as a senior, which led the conference. Zach was a 41% 3-point and an 82% free throw shooter for his career.



DIANA MARTINEZ SALINAS

Women's Basketball  
2002-2005

Martinez is the top playmaker in the history of the Cowgirl program. She is the all-time leader in assists (440) which is 93 more than any other player in Cowgirl history. She ranks fifth in 3-pointers made in a career, she scored 1,216 points, and ranks 11th in scoring. Martinez finished second all-time at HSU with 283 steals in her career. She helped the Cowgirls to the NCAA tournament on three occasions and won three American Southwest Conference titles. She was named to the all-South Region Team her junior and senior seasons, was a three-time all-ASC selection, and was named to the CoSIDA Academic all-District Teams as a junior and senior. Diana completed her career with only 10 losses. After graduating, she became an assistant coach with the Cowgirls, taking part in a Final Four appearance and later becoming the Director of Career Services.



AMY KUYKENDALL

Women's Soccer  
2006-2010

A two-time first-team all-American and a three-time academic all-American, Amy Kuykendall led the team to four consecutive ASC Championships and the 2010 NCAA National Championship. In her career, she recorded 76 career goals and 46 assists for 198 career points, graduating as the leader in career points. She holds the school record for game-winning goals with 18 and is the leader in games played with 107. She was a four-time all-ASC selection and the ASC's nominee for NCAA Women of the Year as a senior.



## BASKETBALL LOCKER ROOM

The Hardin-Simmons' men's basketball locker room underwent a major renovation this summer and fall. It was finished in time for the first practice of the season thanks to a major donation by Mr. Anton Kubacak.

The space received new lighting, flooring, and lockers along with technology upgrades.

Cowboy basketball appreciates the new space and also grieves, along with the family and friends of, Mr. Kubacak after his recent passing.



## HSU TENNIS ALUMNI UNITE!

Hardin-Simmons tennis has a long history of success on and off the court. With that, they are expanding their influence on Texas and beyond in the coaching ranks. Several former Cowboys are coaching at both the high school and collegiate level and in tennis clubs across the state.

In the fall, HSU had the opportunity to host Western New Mexico and Dallas Baptist for matches. Both teams were coached by former Cowboys--Wade Morgan '08 for DBU and Alex Hunt '19 for Western New Mexico.

Hunt has recently moved back to his hometown of Odessa and has taken over the program at UT-Permian Basin. He is assisted by another former Cowboy, Josh Lopez '22.

Another tennis alumnus, Cullen Dees '12, is the head coach at UT-San Antonio after spending some time as an assistant at the University of Texas.

The legacy of HSU's tennis program is not only the championships won on the court, but also the champions who have developed off the court to promote the game of tennis.





# *a look back*

No matter the year or generation, cheering for the Cowboys and Cowgirls is always in style. Inside or outside, the noise from the stands bursts eardrums, energizing our teams and drowning out the opponents. Nothing connects alumni with current students more than yelling and clapping from the bleachers, while wearing their purple and gold.











**A**s a third generation Hardin-Simmons alumnus, I'm proud to be working for the university I love. 1 Corinthians 10:31 says, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." HSU's speakLIFE campaign is an example of how our alumni and friends are working together toward a common goal - a testament to HSU's impact in the lives of our community.

If you believe in HSU, whether you give a cash gift, give through a charitable trust, or name HSU in your will, your gift will help prepare the next generation of Christian leaders and impact the greater HSU family.

As we look ahead, our top priority is HSU's speakLIFE Capital Campaign. I invite you to join me in making a gift to the campaign for the project of your choice. Your gift will not only provide much-needed financial support, but will also demonstrate your belief in the value of HSU's mission, "to be a community dedicated to providing excellence in education enlightened by Christian faith and values."

Through our speakLIFE campaign, we will update Newman-Richardson Science Center, Abilene Hall, Behrens Residence Hall and Behrens Chapel Auditorium, build an Equine Therapy Center, support the Annual Scholarship Fund, Christlieb Program and Scholarship, and provide Faculty Enrichment, helping the university better serve students and our community while giving our students the opportunity to learn, grow, and pursue their calling.

To learn more or give, visit [hsutx.edu/speaklife](https://hsutx.edu/speaklife).

Thank you for continuing HSU's tradition of giving! We appreciate your vision for HSU's future.

## Cowboys find a way!

### Ash Wright '05

Vice President for Advancement  
and Engagement

## MEET *the* TEAM!

From left to right, Dr. Bob Brooks, Senior Development Officer; Dr. Vivian Bland, Office Manager/Campaign Coordinator; Dr. Lanny Hall, President Emeritus; Ash Wright '05, Vice President for Advancement and Engagement; Dr. Vicki House '01/'10/'22, Associate Vice President for Advancement; Dr. Heather Hadlock '97, Associate Vice President for Alumni Engagement; Link Harris '01/'03, Development Officer; Jessica Carter, Assistant Director of Alumni Engagement; and Cheryl Purcell '06/'10, Assistant Vice President for Advancement.







## HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY UNVEILS DONOR WALL *of* HONOR

On February 16, 2023, Hardin-Simmons University unveiled the Donor Wall of Honor, established by President Eric Bruntmyer and members of the Board of Trustees and Administrative Council. The Donor Wall of Honor will pay ongoing tribute to individuals and organizations who have made significant lifetime contributions in support of Hardin-Simmons and our students. This permanent campus fixture will recognize those who have supported HSU in the past and who continue to give in the future.

To create a space central to university life and reflective of the history and character

of the school and community, the wall was installed in front of Moody Center and overlooks HSU landmarks, such as the Reflection Pond and Legett Unity Bridge.

“We feel it is important to capture the names of our major donors in a centralized area,” said Ash Wright ’05, Vice President for Advancement and Engagement. Placing the names of these philanthropists along the most journeyed path on campus is a way to illustrate the role philanthropy plays in supporting the university and will enable future generations to see that they, too, can be part of ensuring the future of HSU.

The base of the wall is constructed of “HSU brick,” a reminder of the school’s legacy of providing an education enlightened by Christian faith and values. Lueders limestone was chosen for the donor markers, recognizing those whose gifts represent a willingness and sacrifice to provide a strong foundation for Hardin-Simmons, much like Lueders limestone provides a strong foundation beneath our Big Country soil.

“We are very appreciative of all who have supported and continue to support our beloved university and wanted something special to honor them, because our donors are special to us,” said President Bruntmyer. Thanks to the many individuals and organizations who have donated generously to Hardin-Simmons. It is friends like you that help us fulfill our mission!

The installation of a second donor wall is already in discussion. Watch for stories from our Donor Wall of Honor in the next *Range Rider*.





# HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

# HONORING DONORS

## DONOR WALL of HONOR

The Wall of Honor is a permanent reminder of the generosity of our donors throughout HSU's history.

Abilene Higher Education Foundation	Kelly Cox	Dr. Claude and Jenny Hicks	Gip and Virginia Oldham	Simon Family Trust
Gene Darrell Adams	Dian Graves Owen Foundation	Dr. Scotty and Jacque Holland	Norma Owen	Elwin L. (Win) Skiles, Jr.
Aaron and Vera Bergen	Dodge Jones Foundation	Houston Endowment	Park Cities Baptist Church	Ivan and Gloria Smith
Robert and Elizabeth Bline	Elena Donald	Talma Buster Hupfield	James and Cynthia Ann Parker	Southern Baptist Convention of Virginia
Pansy Bond	Dr. Nelson and Mary Alice Dyess	Dr. Buel and Jimmie Irvin	Donna and Ben M. Patterson, Jr.	Texas Baptists (BGCT) and Texas Baptist Churches
Dr. Charles and Polly Brinkley	J. C. (Bill) Ferguson	J.E. and L.E. Mabree Foundation	Hart and Molly Phillips	A. R. and Doris Tyson
Dick and Martha Brooks	First Baptist Church Abilene	J.S. Bridwell Foundation	Lora Mae Ponder	Weldon E. and Joyce Viertel
Alline Ford Brown	Wendell and Cora Foreman	Dr. Doyle and Inez Tucker Kelley	Dr. Jud and Dr. Linda Powell	Welch Foundation
Kenneth E. and Viola Burg	Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation	Honoring Bonnie and Bill Kiker, Sr.	Milford and Dr. Rosa Lee Hemphill Prichard	Whately Charitable Trust
Dr. Omar Burleson	Furr Foundation, Inc.	Robert and Martha Lacewell	J. Warren Reid	Grace Katherine White
Don Allen Butler	Bill and Susan Griffith	Paul and Mae Houston Lantrip	Charles and Clydene Robinson	Dr. Marijohn Wilkin
Ruth and Lee Caldwell	Vernon and Elizabeth Haggerton	June Frost Leland	J. D. (Jakie) Sandefer III	Howard and Hope Wilkins
Frank and Lorene Chambliss	R. M. Hardwick	Ed and Betty Kueck Mann	Scarborough-Linebery Foundation	Tom and Mary Jane Womble
CIOS Foundation	Hilton and Carolyn Armstrong Hemphill	Judy Jones Matthews	H. W. and Birdie C. Sewell	Dr. Bill and Alice Wright
Frank and Sue Codington	Dr. Lee and Koreen Logsdon Hemphill	Abby and Mike McMaude	Shelton Family Foundation	
W. S. (Skinny) and Hallie (Jane) Cole		Dr. George and Carolyn Newman	Dr. A. B. (Stormy) and Ruby Shelton	
Communities Foundation of Texas				
Dr. Virginia Boyd Connally				

## THANKS TO ALL 2000+ OF YOU WHO GAVE TO HSU IN 2022!

Below is a list of our top supporters from this year.

### SMITH SOCIETY: \$1M+

*The Smith Society is named for the first Board of Trustees president, Rev. George W. Smith, 1892-1899*

Abilene Nursing Education Foundation

Anonymous

### MERCHANT SOCIETY: \$100K to \$999K

*The Merchant Society is named for the second Board of Trustees president, C.W. Merchant, 1900-1902*

AAPG Foundation

Anonymous

Mr. Jerry & Mrs. Carolyn Grant

Mr. Jim & Mrs. Leslie Keffer

Allsup Family Charitable Foundation

Dian Graves Owen Foundation

Mr. Bill Griffith

Mr. Ken Murphy

Dr. Virginia Connally Estate

Mr. Terry & Mrs. Nita Holland

### LEGETT SOCIETY: \$10K to \$99K

*The Legett Society is named for the third Board of Trustees president, Hon. K.K. Legett, 1902-1910*

Anonymous

Lakewood Baptist Church

Wayne and JoAnn Moore Charitable Foundation

Mrs. Jo Ann Engberg

Mr. Anton Kubacak

Dr. Jud Powell

Batjer & Associates, Inc.

Maxine Durrett Earl Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Bob & Mrs. Bessie Gault

Mr. Bob & Mrs. Bessie Gault

Ms. Wanda Lee

Dr. Rosa Lee Prichard

CIOS Foundation

Mr. Bryan & Mrs. Elizabeth Adams

Mr. Jeff Goodin

Mr. Roy & Mrs. Sharon Graham

Mr. Jack & Mrs. Lisa Little

Mrs. Gayle Sanders

Darden Family Charitable Foundation

Dr. Patricia Blanton

Mr. Dick & Mrs. Martha Brooks

Mr. Joe & Dr. Kay Henard

Dr. Bob & Mrs. Louise Lockhart

Dr. Charles & Mrs. Roena Tandy

Directors Foundation

Mr. Brad & Mrs. Audra Butler

Mrs. Sammie Hudnall

Mrs. Frank Johnson

Mr. Chip & Mrs. Courtney Mayfield

Mr. Almon Teel

Furr Foundation, Inc

Texas Baptists (BGCT)

Mrs. Mary Krake Estate

Mrs. Billie Martin Estate

Mr. Randy & Mrs. Roxi Vanstory

Mr. Jon & Mrs. Linda Wheeler

HEB Grocery Company, LP

Trotter Children's Trust

Mr. Randy & Mrs. Annette Patterson

Mr. Randy & Mrs. Annette Patterson

Mr. Randy & Mrs. Annette Patterson

Mrs. Mary Zumwalt

Holland Family Foundation

Tuscola Tractor Sales



# PAXTON SOCIETY: \$1K to \$9K

*The Paxton Society is named for the fourth Board of Trustees president, George L. Paxton, 1910-1913*

Abilene Blinds	Thompson Farms	Dr. John & Mrs. Mary Cox	Mr. Kyle Hanes	Mr. Allan & Mrs. Emily Meador	Mr. John Seymour
Abilene Sports Medicine and Orthopedics	Travis Auto Group	Dr. John Cox	Mr. Bill Harden	Mr. Bennie & Mrs. Ernestine Meyer	Mr. Larry Shaddix
Abilene Teachers Federal Credit Union	Shell Foundation	Mr. Levi Crook	Mr. Link & Mrs. Holly Harris	Mr. Jay & Mrs. Kim Miers	Mrs. Lisa Shaffer
Abilene Wednesday Rotary	VIP Sports Getaway, LLC (Safe Charters)	Mrs. Poppy Crowe	Mr. Matt Hastings	Mr. Jeremy Miles	Mr. Joe & Mrs. Lynn Sharp
Aces High Farms, LLC	Mr. Nathan & Mrs. Beth Abernethy	Mr. Jason & Mrs. Leila Darby	Mrs. Mary Lou Haygood	Dr. David & Mrs. Elaine Miller	Mr. Jack & Mrs. Gwen Shaw
Amble Petroleum Co., Inc.	Ms. Avery Allen	Dr. Richard & Mrs. Evangelina Darden	Mr. Raymond & Mrs. Katherine Haynes	Dr. Jim & Mrs. Patty Moody	Ms. Brenda Shurtleff
Anonymous	Mr. Lem Allen	Mrs. Eleanor Davis	Mr. Brandon Heard	Dr. Jay & Mrs. Laura Moore	Mr. John & Mrs. Liz Sieren
ASB Sports Acquisition, Inc.	Mr. Zac & Mrs. Cathy Allen	Dr. Edmund Deaton	Mr. Ed & Mrs. Renée Heathcott	Dr. Steve Moore	Mr. Jimmie Simpson
Athletic Supply, Inc. (Odessa)	Mr. Woody & Mrs. Susan Anderson	Mr. Seth & Mrs. Misty Denbow	Dr. Maria Hegar	Mr. Matt & Dr. Sarah Morris	Dr. Paul & Mrs. Lynn Skluzacek
BCN Capital, LLC	Dr. Wendy Anemaet	Mr. Don Dennis	Mr. Scott Henry	Mrs. Julia Mummert	Mr. Steven & Mrs. Jessica Smillie
Blake Fulenwider Automotive Group	Ms. Georgiana Arakaki	Dr. Delinda Dent	Ms. Tiana Hergert	Mr. Mark Murdock	Mr. Guinn & Mrs. Janice Smith
BMA Architects	Mr. Phil & Dr. Cathy Ashby	Mr. Brandon & Mrs. Kayla Dillman	Mr. Ron & Mrs. Jean Hinn	Dr. Jim Myers	Mr. Jim & Mrs. Donna Smith
C. Wayne and Patricia J. Miller Foundation	Mr. Ken & Mrs. Brenda Barnes	Mrs. Stephanie Dobner	Mr. Cody Honeycutt	Mr. Billy Bob & Mrs. Pat Neff	Ms. Karrie Smith
ConocoPhillips Company	Dr. Todd Baumann	Ms. Caitlyn Dodson	Mrs. Diana Horton	Dr. George & Mrs. Carolyn Newman	Ms. Sherry Smith
Cornerstone Baptist Church	Mr. John & Mrs. Mindy Bearie	Dr. Norman Dozier	Mr. Gary & Dr. Vicki D. House	Mr. Robert and Rep. Candy Noble	Mr. Ryan Smrkovsky
CyberGrants	Mrs. Ann Becker	Mr. Will Duggan	Mrs. Suzanne Houser	Mr. Ken & Mrs. Rhonda O'Brien	Dr. Dale Spence
Dayton Community Church	Mr. C.T. Beckham	Mr. Brady Dumas	Mr. Chad Howard	Mr. Dennis & Dr. Janelle O'Connell	Mr. Tilden & Mrs. Nancy Spencer
Dean Hagler, LTD	Mr. John & Mrs. Chris Beckham	Mr. Harold & Mrs. Joy Duncan	Mr. Preston Hunt	Mr. Filemon & Mrs. Maria Elena Ortiz	Mr. Austin & Mrs. Rachel Stewart
DoLittle Partners, LP	Mr. Richard & Mrs. Cindy Bergfeld	Mr. Phil & Mrs. Lynelle Eddins	Mr. Paxton Hurst	Mr. Darrin Payne	Mr. Seth Stone
EMA Engineering & Consulting, Inc.	Mr. Stephen Berkel	Mr. Carter & Mrs. Tessa Edmondson	Mr. Dave & Mrs. Judy Jackson	Ms. Cynthia Pearson	Dr. Robert Strader
Ethos Consulting LC	Mr. Gary & Mrs. Kathy Bevers	Mr. Terry & Mrs. Zelda Ellison	Mr. Joe Jackson	Mr. Jonathan & Mrs. Michelle Perkins	Mr. Rick & Mrs. Carole Strange
ExxonMobil Foundation	Mr. Jim & Mrs. Betty Birdwell	Rev. Glen Emert	Mrs. Marilyn Jacobs	Mr. Robert Petty	Chaplain Gil & Mrs. Ann Stricklin
Fidelity Giving Marketplace	Ms. Anne Birkhead	Ms. Karla Espinosa	Mr. Clay Johnston	Ms. Alyssa Pevehouse	Mr. Rollie Tandy
First Baptist Church Abilene	Dr. Joe & Mrs. Susan Black	Mrs. Diana Ezzell	Mr. Jim & Mrs. Louise Jones	Mr. Jerry & Mrs. Lyn Phillips	Mr. Mike & Mrs. Catherine Taylor
First Baptist Church Dallas	Mr. Mark & Dr. Vivian Bland	Mr. Dan & Mrs. Linda Farrell	Dr. Jimmie & Mrs. Susan Keeling	Mr. Dub & Mrs. Betsy Pierce	Dr. Brett & Mrs. Jill Teague
First Financial Trust & Asset Management Company, N.A.	Mr. Olin Blount	Mr. Joshua & Mrs. Beckah Farrow	Mr. Brian & Mrs. Laura Kickhoefer	Mr. Tom Pinkerton	Mr. Donald Thompson
Highway 36 Church of Christ	Dr. Corbett Boone	Mr. Justin Feaster	Mr. James Kimbrell	Mr. Don & Mrs. Wanda Posey	Mr. Darby Thornton
House Family Properties	Mr. Bruce & Mrs. Johnnie Lou Boyd	Mr. Carl & Dr. Stephanie Fitzgerald	Dr. Martin & Mrs. Cathy Koonsman	Mr. Drue & Mrs. Chris Pounds	Dr. Robert & Mrs. Clairissa Tucker
Maryneal Baptist Church	Mr. Tracy & Mrs. Sheryl Bradley	Mr. Scott Fletcher	Mr. David Krake	Mrs. Terri Prestidge	Dr. John Tyan & Dr. Vivian Siao
Methodist Health System	Dr. Julian & Mrs. Charlotte Bridges	Mr. Joe Foster	Ms. Carolyn Kurts	Mr. Matt & Mrs. Shona Preston	Mr. James Tyler Estate
Methodist Health System Foundation	Mr. Duffey & Mrs. Claire Brown	Mr. Weldon & Mrs. Wendy Gage	Dr. Truett & Mrs. Harriet Latimer	Mr. Allen & Mrs. Cheryl Purcell	Dr. Elliot & Mrs. Heather Vann
MN Consulting, LLC	Mr. Eric & Mrs. Elise Bruntmyer	Mrs. Kitty Gallman	Mr. Hank Laywell	Dr. Taylor & Mrs. Libby Rankin	Mr. Roque Vela
Moss Adamson Spalding Charities	Ms. Caryssa Burckart	Dr. Richard & Mrs. Judy Garner	Mr. Jay & Mrs. Lisa Lester	Dr. David Reddell	Mr. Barry Vitato
Neff Construction Company	Ms. Allison Burnett	Mr. Tony & Mrs. Teresa Garrett	Mr. Don Lightfoot	Ms. Frances Renfroe	Mr. Bradley Vitato
Northwest Baptist Foundation	Dr. Virginia Burroughs	Dr. John Gassler	Mr. Duane & Mrs. Ann Lindsey	Col. Jerry & Mrs. Sherry Reynolds	Dr. Brent Wallace
Oakwood Baptist Church	Mr. Jim Tom & Mrs. Margaret Butler	Mr. Bill & Mrs. Gail Gibson	Dr. Nathan Long	Mr. Andrew Rhodes	Mrs. Peggy Ward
PACCAR Foundation	Mr. Steven S. Camp	Mr. Risher Gilbert	Mr. Nathan & Mrs. Misty Lowry	Mr. Carroll Rhodes	Dr. Mike & Mrs. Kathy Waters
Parkway Advisors, LP	Mr. Bo & Mrs. Connie Carrington	Ms. Shaley Goad	Ms. Pat Luttrell Estate	Mr. Jared & Mrs. Laura Reynolds	Mr. James & Mrs. Cammie Welch
Provider Contract Food Service	Mr. Larry & Mrs. Linda Carter	Mrs. Mozelle Green	Ms. Renee Lyles	Col. Jerry & Mrs. Sherry Reynolds	Mr. Lynn Wheatley
Raydon, Inc.	Mrs. Brenda Casselberry	Mr. Chuck Griffin	Mr. Rex Mann	Mr. Andrew Rhodes	Ms. Rachel Whelan
Raytheon Technologies	Mr. Clint Cheek	Mr. Keith & Mrs. Cherry Griffiths	Dr. Stephen & Mrs. Marilyn Mansfield	Mrs. Robin Ribble-Harder	Mr. Jim & Mrs. Jessie Whitlock
RHS Construction Services	Dr. Daniel S. & Mrs. Grace T. Chen	Lt. Col. Norm & Mrs. Shirley Grimmett	Mr. Cody and Mrs. Stacey Martin	Mr. Andy & Mrs. Bunny Riemitis	Dr. Rob & Mrs. Angie Wiley
T and J Berry Farms, Inc.	Dr. Craig Christina	Mr. Gary & Mrs. Janan Grissom	Dr. Rocky & Mrs. Amy McAdams	Mr. Robert & Mrs. J'Lyn Ryan	Mr. Robert Willen
The Crowe Group, Inc.	Ms. Kim Clonts	Guidestone Financial Resources	Mrs. Valerie McClintock	Mr. Chance Sampson	Ms. Vicki Williams
The House Specialist	Dr. Stanton & Mrs. Pam Cobb	Dr. Heather Hadlock	Dr. Jodie & Mrs. Tamara McGaughey	Mr. Jeff & Mrs. Jamie Sanders	Mr. Michael & Mrs. Melissa Wilson
	Mr. Adam Coberly	Mr. Lawson & Mrs. Jane Hager	Mr. Rich & Mrs. Bonnie McGee	Mr. Stanley Schaeffer	Dr. Richard & Mrs. Zazelle Wingo
	Mr. Bob & Mrs. Tiffany Comstock	Mr. Aaron & Mrs. Jamie Hajart	Dr. Chris & Mrs. Sandra McNair	Mr. Paul Seegers	Dr. Larry Wolz
	Mr. Ryan Conner	Dr. Lanny & Dr. Carol Hall	Mr. Lance & Mrs. Christa McWhorter	Mr. Bill and Mrs. Lyla Senter	Mr. Allen Wright
	Dr. Gary & Mrs. Sheila Cook	Mr. Larry & Mrs. Jeannie Hall			Mr. John Wright
					Mr. David & Mrs. Gina Yarbrough



# ALUMNI STORIES

## DR. BRITTNEY DILLMAN '11/'13DPT

**B**rittney Dillman graduated from Hardin-Simmons in 2011 with a BBS in athletic training, then continued at HSU to earn a Doctor of Physical Therapy in 2013. She now lives in her hometown of Elizabeth, Colorado, where she owns and runs her own practice, Hometown Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine.

Before Brittney decided to attend HSU, she had settled on attending a university in her home state of Colorado. She never felt sure of where God intended her to be, though, until April of her senior year, when she received a postcard from HSU. She decided then to pursue what God had for her by attending Hardin-Simmons University. The moment she stepped onto the campus she knew she was where she was meant to be.

While at HSU, Brittney was greatly impacted by Dr. Coleman Patterson, whom she initially met while visiting the campus. Although Dr. Patterson was busy preparing for a class, he took the time to speak with Brittney and her family and made them feel welcome. While she was attending the university, he impacted her by teaching her leadership skills and helping her to think critically. These are lessons she feels prepared her for her future.

Another influential professor was Dr. Chris McNair '84. When Brittney felt far from home, overwhelmed, and did not know many people, Dr. McNair took the time to learn who she was as a student and a person.

Brittney's advice to future and present students is to soak up their time at Hardin-Simmons University. She believes all students should take part in campus activities, whether it is through intramurals or by attending events. This is how Brittney met many of her friends.



## KATIE • • • (STRANGE) JONES '09

**K**atie Jones' love for Hardin-Simmons University was nurtured from a young age as she grew up attending HSU Homecomings with her dad, Rick Strange '82. The school was a part of Katie's life and felt like home. This made the decision to attend HSU easy for Katie.







Katie graduated in 2009 with a BBS in elementary education. While attending HSU, she was greatly impacted by Kimberly (Bryan) McMillon '97, her Spurs dance team coach. McMillon had high standards but always cared for the team, says Katie, and her discipleship and encouragement were life-changing.

Katie also learned the importance of community through her on-campus experience as an HSU student. She loved how professors cared for the students and appreciated the incredible friends she met along the way.

Katie's advice to all current and future students is to enjoy every minute. Plug in and get involved in campus activities and invest in the acquaintances you meet, as they have the potential to become life-long friends.

Katie now lives in Richardson, Texas, with her husband, David, and three sons. She owns and operates Munchkins and Monograms, a small business that creates monogrammed products for adults and children.



## CHANCE • • SAMPSON '98

Chance Sampson graduated from Hardin-Simmons University in 1998 with a B.A. in philosophy, then earned a law degree from the University of Texas. Now President of Sampson Public Affairs, LLC, a lobby firm in Austin, Chance lives with his wife Kathryn and their two sons, Owen, 10 and Gus, 8.

The first time Chance visited HSU, he fell in love with the campus. It was hard to explain the feeling when he arrived, but he knew he liked it. Chance liked how vibrant it was, full of old, well-maintained buildings and students. He also wanted to attend a university where he could play football, an opportunity HSU was able to provide.

During his time on campus, Chance was impacted by Professor Scot Miller '81, who taught PHIL 1301 (Critical Thinking). Chance says Professor Miller and this course "prepared me for life by introducing me to logic, a standard by which I can test the validity of every claim." Chance notes that this is a course he has used every day since taking it.

Chance was also impacted by his football coach, Jimmy Keeling '15HD.

"I learned that relentless effort, combined with a little talent, is generally better than superior talent combined with minimal effort," says Chance. He had heard this saying before he arrived at HSU but got to experience the meaning of it firsthand under the mentoring of Coach Keeling.

Chance believes all students should select a major based on their interests. He feels one should consider how one's studies will help in a future career and learn to think critically, noting "if you think critically and solve problems, you can do just about anything."









# Homecoming '22 SNAPSHOTS

**1** Cowboy football players prayed before kickoff against East Texas Baptist University.

**2** The classes of 1982 and 1987 gathered to celebrate their 35-year and 40-year reunions.

**3** The HSU Cowboy Band played hymns to begin the Family Worship Service.

**4** This year's SING show winners Zeta Omega Phi and Kappa Phi Omega put on their version of "Top Gun."

**5** Families enjoyed lunch in the Don Bridges Courtyard during the Homecoming Tailgate.

**6** Alumni and current students attended Student Organization breakfast events. Pictured here are a few members and alumni of Tri Phi.

**7** During halftime of the HSU football game, Jailyn Woods-McCarthy and Karson Gopffarth were crowned the 2022-2023 University Queen and King.

**8** Playing yard games at the Friday Night Festival was a popular activity for both current students and families.

**9** Hardin-Simmons recognized alumni award recipients for their service to HSU and outstanding work in their career field.

**10** Every year, the Ex-Cowgirls gather for a coffee Saturday morning.

**11** Fireworks after the HSU Pep Rally were a great way to kick off Homecoming 2022 celebrations.

**12** Alumni reconnected over a meal at the HSU Hispanic Alumni Dinner.



# Outstanding YOUNG ALUMNI AWARDS 2023



*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 were honored at the Outstanding Young Alumni Dinner on Friday, March 3, 2023.*

## JENNY (BELL) VAN DORF '07

Jenny Van Dorf studied public relations and advertising at HSU, graduating with a BBS in communications in 2007. She currently is director of marketing and communication for Del Sol Food Company, the manufacturer of BRIANNAS Fine Salad Dressing, the number one premium salad dressing distributed around the world.

Jenny previously served as public relations manager for Blue Bell Creameries, one of North America's largest ice cream companies. She guided Blue Bell's marketing and PR during a period of rapid expansion, as well as a widely reported consumer crisis which was followed by the company's return to success.

## ALLISON (CAUSEY) KENDRICK '14

Allison Kendrick graduated from HSU in 2014 with a B.A. in communications. In the few short years since, she has established a career working with community and state entities to promote tourism and economic growth in Texas.

Allison currently serves as executive director of the Texas Plains Trail Region, an award-winning Texas Historical Commission program. She is responsible for promoting heritage tourism and economic development throughout 52 counties of West Texas.

While still a student, Allison worked for the Abilene-based Texas Forts Trail Region. After graduation, she worked at Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau until 2019.

## JAMES JESSE '04

James Jesse received a B.A. in English and philosophy from HSU in 2004. As a person whose family was challenged by generational poverty, Jesse found freedom and opportunity through education and the support of others, including his HSU professors. Since graduation, James has devoted his life to helping others in the same way.

In 2010, after working for seven years in student support services for Tarrant County College, James cofounded an educational nonprofit organization, Opportunity Resource Services. ORS has flourished, now assisting thousands each year through partnerships with school districts, nonprofits, and businesses. James remained with ORS for almost a decade, building a team of employees, establishing programs, and raising millions in federal grant funds.

**FOR COMPLETE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL HONOREES,  
visit us at [www.hsutx.edu/alumni/alumni-awards](http://www.hsutx.edu/alumni/alumni-awards)**



# Family NEWS

## 1960s

**1 Evelyn (Meadows) McAnelly '67BS** and husband **John McAnelly '69BM/'73MA**, while shopping for a new mattress in San Antonio, met two Sleep Experts from HSU: **Jess Greenway '12BBA** and **Darius Nesby, '11x**. HSU alumni are everywhere!

## 1970s

**2 Keith Clark '75BS** and **John Humphrey '77BS**, Kappa brothers, reconnected on the HSU campus on October 20, 2022. The last time they saw each other was 38 years ago. Keith lives in Clyde, Texas and John in Chadron, Nebraska.

## 1980s

**Joe Flegal '80BBA** is retiring after 38 years of vocational ministry. For the past 14 years he served as the director of evangelism and church health for the Northwest Baptist Convention. Prior to this he served churches in Oregon and Missouri. Joe and his wife, Sueann, live in Oregon and have two adult children. He can be contacted at joeflegal@gmail.com.

**3 Cathy (Fisher) Ashby '82BE** and several Delta alumnae met for dinner in November 2022. Pictured from left to right: **Evelina (Castro) Baker '81BM**, **Cathy (Fisher) Ashby '82BE**, **Robin (McNeil) Youngblood '82BBS**, **Jeannie (Cole) Schulz '82BBA**, **Pam (Painter) Ivey '83BE**, (front) **Teri (McIntosh) Waite '82BBS**.

**Phillip Hamilton '83BBS** is the new communications manager at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview after a 40-year career in journalism, including 15 years as owner of three community newspapers under the Triple S Media name. He continues to serve as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Plainview. He has been married to Ursula for 30 years and they have three grown children, Sterling, Shiloh (wife, Anna) and Savannah.

**Tommy Sewell '86BS** was recently named Curators' Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at the University of Missouri (UM). The Curators' Distinguished Professorship is the highest and most prestigious academic rank awarded by the Board of Curators for the UM System. Tommy was

named a fellow of the American Physical Society in 2017 for his contributions in the fields of materials theory and simulation shock physics, and is founding co-director of the university's Materials Science & Engineering Institute. Tommy Lives in Columbia, MO with his wife **Susie (Campbell) Sewell '88BE**, a dog, and no cats. When Tommy & Susie listen to the Grateful Dead, so do their neighbors.

## 1990s

**Stephany (Conley) Ramos '97BS** earned a Master of Science in microbiology and cell science with a concentration in medical microbiology and biochemistry from the University of Florida in May 2022. She is employed at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene as the lead medical technologist in microbiology and has worked at Hendrick for 20 years.

**Eric Harrelson '98BA** retired after 23 years of active military service to the U.S. Army as a lieutenant colonel and has now joined Crosspoint Church in Spring Hill, FL as the executive pastor.

## 2000s

**Jay Matthew "Matt" Barnes '01BA** and his wife **Alida (Smith) Barnes '02BBS** and their three sons moved to Wilmore, Kentucky in September 2022 where Matt joined the Asbury Theological Seminary family as the Director of Community Formation. Shortly after his arrival, a new position became available and after much prayer, Matt applied. In January 2023 Matt was appointed as the new Vice President of Formation at Asbury Theological Seminary.

Editor's Note: All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Email addresses are included when possible. Information reflects submissions received from May 12, 2022, to January 11, 2023.

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

## 2010s

**Catherine Compton-Custred '12BBS** and her family, along with two other families, followed the Lord's call for Christian education in Santa Fe, New Mexico. On August 16, 2022, Santa Fe Christian (SFC) opened its doors to children in grades K-6th grade. The prayers, along with all the donations of time, talents, and treasures, have truly formed SFC into a storehouse undoubtedly being used by God. "We are completely humbled by the excitement, involvement, and unity from twelve other local Christian churches!" Catherine wants to share the good news of the opening of Santa Fe Christian and thank HSU for continuing to instill the importance of having an education enlightened by Christian faith. The goal of Santa Fe Christian is to serve children from birth through high school. Please keep them in your prayers as they are on the forefront of the battle over the minds of the children in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Catherine says, "So proud to be an HSU graduate and proud to be a Santa Fe Christian Founder, to currently serve on its Board of Directors as sitting secretary, and to pursue the hearts and minds of our children for Christ!"

**Sara Ward '16BBS** married Taryn Thompson in November 2022.





# Welcome to the FAMILY

Levi Tobias Barnes, son of **Alida (Smith) Barnes '02BBS** and **Jay "Matt" Barnes '01BA**, was born on April 30, 2022.

Sierra J. Thompson, daughter of **Sara Ward '16BBS** and **Taryn Thompson**, was born on June 7, 2022.

**1** Collins Drew Cooling, daughter of **Neely (Lott) Cooling '18BBS** and **Taylor Cooling '18BBA**, was born July 25, 2022.

Editor's Note: All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Email addresses are included when possible. Information reflects submissions received from May 12, 2022, to January 11, 2023. 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



## Submit your news!

We want to hear updates from the HSU family.  
You can submit your news by visiting:

**[connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/FamilyNews](https://connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/FamilyNews)**



...or you can scan  
this QR code.

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 and provide 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.

You can also email news to **[RangeRider@hsutx.edu](mailto:RangeRider@hsutx.edu)**



# Family WE'LL MISS



## MRS. HELEN "KAY" (HALLMARK) MCHANNEY '51BA

September 25, 2022

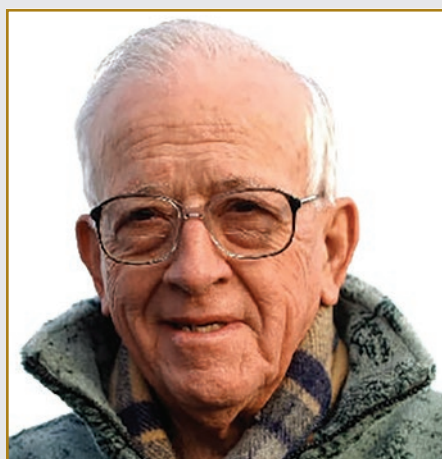
Born during the Great Depression in 1931, Helen Kay Hallmark learned early in life to be resilient and rely on her own gifts for survival. As a young teen she found a faith in Jesus Christ that changed her life and directed her in the years to follow.

Arriving at Hardin-Simmons at age 16, Kay graduated at 19 with a degree in mathematics. She and Sid McHaney '55BA were married in 1951 and dedicated their lives to following Christ and serving others, literally worldwide. During Sid's career with two major oil companies, they lived on five continents.

Upon retiring, Sid and Kay settled in Huntsville, Texas. Kay became involved in prison ministry - though not in a women's prison or a men's minimum-security prison. Instead, she became the first female volunteer in the Estelle Unit, a men's maximum-security prison.

After Sid passed away in 2004, Kay continued to volunteer in the prison. She received the Chaplaincy Department Award during the Governor's Criminal Justice Service Award Program in 2017 in recognition of her 20-plus years as a volunteer chaplain. Kay McHaney taught Bible studies to more than 16,000 prisoners and led many hardened criminals to faith in Jesus.

Kay is survived by her three children: Dana and her husband Jeff Puschell, Toni (McHaney) '79BS and her husband David C. Smith '79BS, Scot and his wife Leslie McHaney; her eight grandchildren: Ann Puschell and her husband, Phillip Reichl; Brian Puschell, and Kris Puschell; Nicki Aniol and her husband, Chris; and Lisa Smith '09BA/'10BFA, Megan McHaney and her husband, Robin Parker; Sarah McHaney, and Iona Marcellino and her husband, Jeremiah; and seven great-grandchildren.



## DR. ELMIN HOWELL JR. '52BS/'97HD

August 29, 2022

Elmin Kimbol Howell Jr., founding director of the Texas Baptists' (Baptist General Convention of Texas) River Ministry along the Texas-Mexico border, died on August 29, 2022, at age 92.

Early in his career, Elmin was a teacher and coach. He later led mission and recreation programs in Baptist organizations. He is best known for dedicating nearly 30 years of his life to the River Ministry. Under his leadership, 670 churches were started along the Rio Grande, six children's homes were formed, and 67 healthcare clinics were established in Mexico. Elmin coordinated the work of more than 10,000 volunteers a year, developed a field staff of 45, and worked with about 900 summer missionaries, many of whom went on to serve as career missionaries or denominational leaders. In his early retirement, Elmin served three years as president of the board of directors for Mission East Dallas Medical Clinic, a ministry of Shiloh

Terrace Baptist Church, where he and Betty were longtime members.

Elmin earned his M.A. from George Peabody College and participated in an additional graduate study at the University of Colorado at Boulder and at Pan American University in Edinburg. He received numerous honors and awards in his lifetime, most notably the Texas Baptists' Legacy Award in 2017 and an Honorary Doctorate from Hardin-Simmons in 1997.

Survivors include his beloved wife Betty (Kelton) Howell '55x; daughter Kimberly Howell Todaro and her husband John Todaro; son Paul S. Howell and his wife Amy C. Head; grandchildren Brannan K. Howell, Zachary O'Dell and Benjamin O'Dell; step-grandson John R. Todaro; seven great-grandchildren, two half-brothers, nieces and a nephew.





## DR. E. "LEWIS" ADKISON '54BS/'88HD

June 23, 2022

E. Lewis "Preach" Adkison died June 23, 2022, at the age of 89. He and Sara (Fleming) '54BS were married in December 1953. After Preach graduated from seminary, the couple moved to Colorado in 1958 and started First Baptist Church of Security, where they remained for 10 years. In 1968, Preach became pastor of Circle Drive Baptist Church, where he served until his retirement in 2000. He started a bus program and a TV program. The church also had summer camps and youth retreats, most notably "Camp Circle D."

Preach mentored many "preacher boys." His greatest joy was seeing one of those boys go on to become a fruitful pastor. He was President of the Colorado Baptist Convention from 1965-1967 and again from 1991-1992. He received an Honorary Doctorate from Hardin-Simmons in 1988.

Lewis Adkison is survived by his wife of 68 years, Sara; son Tony Adkison '77x, daughter Traci (Adkison) Cowger '79x, son-in-law Brad Cowger '82BA, and son Timothy Adkison; eight grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.



## REV. JOSE "JOE" MARTINEZ '57BS

January 4, 2023

Joe Martinez was born in Abilene in 1933. After attending Abilene High School, he joined the U.S. Army. Following discharge, he returned to Abilene and enrolled at HSU. He married his lifelong friend Minnie Ortiz in 1954 and graduated from HSU in 1957.

His first job after graduating was serving as chief inspector for the Texas Highway Department for the I-20 project in and around Abilene. He spent the next 36 years as an engineer, retiring from Jacobs Engineering in Houston after 28 years. He then became an ordained minister, serving as lead pastor at Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel from 1993-2022. Joe also taught at the University of Houston Downtown for many years.

Joe loved Hardin-Simmons and proudly served on the Board of Trustees from 2004-2012. For decades, he tirelessly promoted HSU. He faithfully attended HSU Homecoming and especially enjoyed gathering with fellow Hispanic alumni and supporting the Hispanic Alumni Scholarship.

Survivors include: daughters Sandy Leathers and husband Terry, Donna Bell and husband Steve, and Toni Annette Arnold and husband Wayne; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one sister; three brothers; and many nephews and nieces including Sylvia (Gonzalez) Villareal '74BS.



**1** Mr. Elvin Howell '37BS, 1/3/2023. At the time of his passing, Elvin was HSU's oldest living alumni at age 108.

Mrs. Lorrain (Wallace) Kramp '45BS, 5/23/2022

Mrs. Edith (Esmond) Hedrick '48BS, 7/18/2022.

Survived by great niece Sarah McCraw '00BBS.

Mrs. Mary (Oehlke) Gooding '49x, 5/31/2022

Mr. Robert "Bob" Clements '49BA, 3/29/2022

Mr. M. "Winston" Gann '49BA/'59ME, 5/20/2022

Mrs. Jeannine (Johnston) Moore '49BA, 5/19/2022

Mrs. Monte (Porter) West '49BBA, 7/26/2022

Mr. Foy Wilson '49BBA, 3/31/2022

Ms. Barbara (Brown) Johnston '50BM, 7/12/2022

Mrs. Bernice (Gillis) Landrum '50BA, 10/19/2021

Mrs. Billie (Twyford) Rush '50BS, 7/27/2022. Survived

by son Richard Rush '84BM.

Mr. Jerry Smith '50BBA/'57ME, 6/28/2022

Mrs. Merle (Vaught) Upham '50BA, 5/5/2022

Mrs. Billie (Smith) Cates '51BS, 10/27/2022. Survived by great niece Alida (Smith) Barnes '02BBS.

Mrs. Mary "Mary Nell" (Morrison) Giles '51BA, 11/5/2022. Survived by husband James Giles '51BA.

Mrs. Mary (Post) Morris '51BA, 5/26/2022

Rev. Elmer "Joe" Vernon '51BS, 12/22/2022

Dr. Kerfoot "K.P." Walker '51BA, 8/21/2022

Capt. Burl Troutman

'52BBA, 11/29/2022

Mr. Robert "Bob" Berry '52BS, 6/12/2022

Mrs. Lavonia (Redden) Duck '52BS, 9/17/2022

Mrs. Lucille (Chambers) Bonner '53BA, 6/9/2022

Mrs. Margaret (Bowman) Lambeth '53BS, 8/4/2022

Mrs. Elizabeth "Betty" (Royal) Milam '53BS, 6/27/2022. Survived by brother Eugene Royal '57BS, daughter Jeannie (Milam) Abbott '78BA, son John Milam '82BA, and son-in-law Stephen Abbott '79BA.

Mrs. Shirley (Gooch) Williams '53BE, 11/18/2022

Mrs. Anita (Irwin) Barrett '54BS, 5/5/2022

Mrs. Gladys "Marie" (Inman) Smith '54BBA, 7/20/2022. Survived by son Ron Smith '84BBA.

Mr. Donald "Don" Caudill '55BBA, 11/27/2022. Survived by daughter Pamela (Caudill) Williams '86BBS and granddaughter Haven Williams '22BS.

Editor's Note: All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Email addresses are included when possible. Information reflects submissions received from May 12, 2022, to January 11, 2023.

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





## REV. LOUIS "PALMER" MCCOWN '61BA

December 25, 2022

Palmer was born in Hillsboro in 1939 and graduated from Littlefield High School in 1957. He received his bachelor's degree in Bible and history from HSU in 1961 and married Patsy Jones '62BS just weeks later. Palmer earned his Master's of Divinity in 1967 from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

Palmer worked as a Baptist Student Union (BSU), now Baptist Student Ministry (BSM), minister at three other colleges in Texas before returning to Abilene to serve at HSU, where he was beloved by students, faculty and staff. Retiring in 2001, he served as interim music minister and pastor for various churches in the

Abilene area. He then served as a minister to senior adults at First Baptist Church in Abilene from 2006 until his second retirement in 2016.

Palmer served on HSU's Board of Development, was named a Distinguished Alumnus by Logsdon School of Theology in 2000, and in 2022, he received the Altom Christian Service Award from HSU.

Survivors include his wife Patsy McCown, daughter Stephanie Markgraf and husband Jim, son Michael McCown '97BM and wife Barb, sister Sue (McCown) Thomas '58BM/'60MM, and two grandsons.



## MRS. MICKEY (HOWELL) CASSLE '65BS

December 14, 2022

Born in Cisco in 1926, Mickey Howell graduated from Albany High School in 1943 and spent her entire life in West Texas. She and James Cassle married in 1950. They became charter members of Pioneer Drive Baptist Church in Abilene, where Mickey continued to be active well into her 90s, teaching second grade Sunday School for more than 50 years. She was very active in the community, serving in a variety of leadership roles and as a Trustee at HSU. She never sought recognition or praise but was a true servant leader.

Her children were in school when Mickey enrolled at HSU. After graduating in 1965, she never stopped learning as she had an inquisitive mind and a thirst for knowledge. For more than 30 years, Mickey worked alongside James at Cassle & Cassle.

Survivors include her son, James H. Cassle (Susie) and daughter, Molli Elliston (Gary); four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Mr. Jacob "Jake" Collins '55BS, 9/7/2022. Survived by wife Gwendolyn "Gwen" (Williams) Collins '54BS.

Dr. Bryan Crow '55BA, 7/31/2022

Mrs. Dorris "Dawn" (Patterson, Auffille) Ramcharan '55BM, 10/28/2022. Survived by sister Leighton "Paige" Patterson '65BA.

Dr. Glen Herrington '56BA, 7/31/2022

Mrs. Barbara (Merchant) Rhoads-Kuntz '56BS, 6/16/2022

Mr. Richard Griffin '57x, 5/3/2022

Mrs. Patricia "Pat" (Johnson) Miller '57x, 11/25/2022

Mrs. Shirley (Proffitt-Martin) Brown '57x, 5/16/2022

Mr. Herbert "Herb" Shahan '57BS, 12/20/2022

Mr. Joe Russey '57BA, 12/30/2022

Mrs. Dorothy (Walker) Bowen '58BA, 6/17/2022. Survived by husband Oscar "O.K." Bowen '55BA/'58MA.

Mrs. Bette (Roles) Fancher '58BS, 11/26/2022

Mrs. Martha (Miller) Forrest '58BA, 7/2022. Survived by husband William Forrest '58BA.

Mr. Laverne "Verne" Huser '58ME, 11/18/2021

Mr. Jerry Brown '59BS/'75ME, 8/19/2022

Mr. Roger "Rog" Allen '59BA, 10/30/2022

**2** Mr. Vernon "Max" Arrell '59BA, 8/13/2022. Survived by wife Betty (Baty) Arrell '58BS.

Mrs. Saleta (Duff) Souter '59BBA, 5/11/2022

Brig. Gen. Bobby "Bob" Mitchell '59BA, 10/7/2022. Survived by wife Molly (Jackson) Mitchell '62x.

Mr. Glenn Ramsey '59BBA, 3/10/2022

Ms. Eloma (Greer) Ashwin '60BS, 11/25/2022

Mrs. Lannita "Lannie" (Skaggs) Cook '60x, 4/6/2022

Ms. Patsy (Hardaway) Grant '60BS, 12/28/2022

**3** Mr. Kenneth "Ken" Burnam '61BA, 9/8/2022. Survived by sister-in-law Nan (Futch) Burnam '62BS.

Mrs. Mary (Truly) Ermev '61BM, 7/24/2022

Mr. Damon "Leroy" Hicks '61BBA, 4/28/2022

Mr. Eddie Janes '61BS, 8/21/2022

Dr. John "Marvin" Leech '61BA, 6/17/2022. Survived by niece Debi (Love) Mulkey '77BBA.

Mr. Carl McKeever '61BA, 8/2/2022

Mrs. Maxine "Maxie" (Sheppard) Scifres '61BM, 3/29/2022. Survived by husband Sammy Scifres '61BM.







## DR. LAWSON HAGER '67BM

November 19, 2022

Lawson James Hager Jr., former director of Hardin-Simmons University's Cowboy Band and former dean of the HSU School of Music and Fine Arts, died November 19 at the age of 78. In 1962, Lawson enrolled at Hardin-Simmons to play french horn in the Cowboy Band. At HSU, he met and fell in love with Jane Dennis, whom he married in August 1967, shortly after receiving his Bachelor of Music degree. Lawson served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1969 and was a quartermaster officer in Vietnam.

Lawson received a Master of Music degree in 1971 from North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas). He returned to HSU to be the third director of bands, including the Cowboy Band. In 1982, he became assistant professor of brass and music theory. In 2002, he accepted the position of dean of the School of Music and Fine Arts, from which he retired in 2011. During his four decades as a faculty member, he attended every recital on campus and was always the first one there.

As a student, Lawson was known by fellow band members and other students as "Butch." As director of the Cowboy Band, he was known to his band students as "Boss" and Jane was known as "Mom," titles they both relished because of the love with which they were spoken. As assistant professor, he was known as Mr. Hager. In his final role at HSU, he was known as Dean Hager. No matter the name one called him, Lawson Hager was beloved and respected by people of all ages.

Lawson Hager leaves a lasting legacy on the HSU campus. Survivors include his beloved wife of 55 years, Jane Dennis Hager '67BS; daughter Heather Baker '92BM and husband Cory '05BBS and their children Bailey, Braden and Sydney; daughter Emily Clancy '95BBS and husband Patrick and their children Elizabeth (current HSU student), Meredith, and Jared; daughter Holly Soben '95X and husband Wes and their children Davis, London, and Gibbs. Lawson was welcomed into heaven by the granddaughter he never got to know on earth, Faith Davis Soben.



## SAM PRESTIDGE '94HD

August 11, 2022

Samuel W. Prestidge, Jr., longtime director of the Church Music Department for the Baptist General Convention of Texas (Texas Baptists), died on August 11, 2022, at the age of 93.

Sam became associate director of the church music department in 1961 and director in 1971. He is credited for establishing The Singing Men of Texas in 1975, the Texas Baptist All-State Youth Choir in 1976, the Texas Baptist All-State Youth Band in 1978, and All-State Strings in 1994.

Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Lew and Terri Prestidge (former HSU staff), and their daughters Kelsey (Prestidge) '13BFA/'15ME and her husband Joe C. Davis '13BA, Kristin (Prestidge) and her husband Zach McClary, Kasi (Prestidge) '19BBS and her husband Jared Asbill; and daughter Lisa (Prestidge) '91BE and son-in-law John Phillips '91BE/'19EdD and their son Walter Phillips '21BS.



## BRIAN CARGILE, HSU STAFF

September 14, 2022

Brian Walker Cargile joyfully joined his Savior, with the love of many friends and family, on September 14, 2022. For the last months of his life, Brian fought cancer like he did everything else in his life: quietly and with a deep, abiding faith. A 35-year employee of Hardin-Simmons, Brian was a network and A/V technician. He did a little of everything in Technology Services, though his primary focus was supporting the campus network. Brian was instrumental in the network infrastructure upgrades of 2000 when all buildings were interconnected with conduit and fiber optic cable. Every building constructed or renovated on campus since at least 2000, if not before, has Brian's fingerprints on it. Brian either personally installed or oversaw the installment of every network cable on campus.

In March 2022, Brian was surprised by the naming of the Brian Cargile Data Center, a new server space on campus named in his honor. In May 2022, he was voted staff member of the year by his peers and celebrated during the annual faculty/staff appreciation luncheon.

A selfless servant, Brian worked behind the scenes to support other people, almost always joined by his beloved wife Linda. They enjoyed working with others on service projects in the community, with the JABEZ Sunday school class of Pioneer Drive Baptist Church and Shining Star Fellowship Church, among others. Brian is survived by his wife Linda (Davis) Cargile '82BE; his brother Jim '77BS/'93MA and wife Jerene '82BE; and his sister Elaine and husband Mike; along with numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, and many, many friends.



Mr. Bryant Davis '62BBA,  
8/10/2022

Mr. Paul Hinds '62BS,  
4/15/2022

Mr. Garry Hodgin '62x,  
11/9/2022. Survived  
by wife June (Regeon)  
Hodgin '66BS, daughter  
Alison (Hodgin) Sims  
'96BBS/'99ME, son-in-law  
Jon Michael Sims '96BBS,  
and grandson Jonas Sims  
'22BA.

Mrs. Margaret (Hartsfield)  
Johnson '62BS, 8/30/2022.  
Survived by sister Mary  
(Hartsfield) Hollinger  
'62BS and daughter Leigh  
Ann (Lockett) Sides '87BE.

Mr. Larry Letz '62BBA,  
10/3/2022

Mrs. Mary "Loveta"  
(Bryant) Bales '63BS,  
11/18/2021

Mr. Buddy Carter '63BS,  
8/31/2022. Survived by wife  
Romara (Derusha) Carter  
'90ME.

Mr. Joseph "Joe" Grear  
'63BA, 8/10/2021

Mr. James Thomson '63BA,  
8/1/2022

Anita (Epps) Hairston  
'63BBA, 6/21/2022.  
Survived by husband  
William Hairston '62BBA.

Mr. Richard "Dick"  
Hughett '63BS, 11/7/2022.  
Survived by wife Lawanda  
"Jo" (Stone) Hughett '59BS.

Mrs. Barbara (Ledwell)  
McCollum '63BA,  
9/22/2022

Mr. Terry Robertson  
'64BBA, 1/12/2021

Dr. Thomas "David"  
Yeilding '64BA, 7/9/2022.  
Survived by sister LaNell  
(Yeilding) Spears '60x,  
sister-in-law Patsy (Hicks)  
Yeilding '59BS, brother-in-  
law Norman Spears '60BA,  
and cousins Lana (Yeilding)  
Goodrich '85BE and Philip  
Yeilding '85BS.

Mr. Duey Riddle '65BBA,  
5/27/2022

Mrs. Lelia (Frank) Fisher  
'66BS, 11/21/2022

Mrs. Laura "Jane" (Lollar)  
James '66BS, 1/21/2021

Mrs. Frances (Elam)  
Neidhardt '66MA,  
6/15/2022

Mr. Warren Townley '66BS,  
5/27/2022

Mr. Winston "Louis"  
Barclay '67BBA, 10/4/2022

Rev. Theron "Bruce"  
McNair '67BS, 3/23/2022

Mr. Roney "Mark"  
Permenter '67BA,  
8/29/2022

Dr. Patrick "Pat" Alvarado  
'68BA, 5/12/2022

Mr. Ernest "Allen"  
Clendennen '68BS,  
10/16/2022

Mrs. Maria (Kloss) Griffith  
'68BA, 8/14/2022

Mr. George Partin  
'68BBA/'72MBA, 9/10/2022

Mrs. Susan (Rafferty)  
Richardson '68BA,  
8/24/2022

Rev. Roy Smith '68BS,  
8/2/2022

Mr. Fredrick McDaniel  
'70BA, 10/6/2022

Mrs. Dorothy (Hill) Myers  
'70ME, 9/12/2022

Mr. Frederick "Fred"  
Armbruster '71BA,  
9/1/2022

Ms. Billie (Walton) Evans  
'71BS, 1/6/2022

Mr. Granville Griffith  
'71BS, 9/15/2022

Ms. Victoria "Vickie"  
(Mendoza) Mendez '71BS,  
1/30/2022

Mrs. Carolyn (McHugh)  
Shott '71BA, 12/25/2022

Mr. Leslie "Les" Blackburn  
'72BA, 10/14/2022

Mr. Kelly Autry '73BA,  
12/14/2022

Mrs. Gloria "Jane" (Taylor)  
Allred '74BS, 10/13/2022

Maj. Charles Caldwell  
'74ME, 12/13/2022

Mr. Richard Threat '74BS,  
8/21/2022

Mr. Tryon "Temple" Lewis  
'76x, 11/1/2022

Mr. Michael "Mike"  
Mulkey '76BBA, 10/10/2022

Mr. Ricky Dean '78BS,  
9/20/2022

Mr. John Cummins '82BA,  
12/2/2022

Mr. Jeffrey Gurney '82BBS,  
5/23/2022

**4** Dr. Jack Riddlehoover  
'83HD, 6/19/2022

Mrs. Darla (Patton)  
Swanner '83BA/'98ME,  
9/21/2022

Mr. Marion Dollar  
'85MBA, 7/13/2021

Mrs. Mary Trevino '86BSN,  
9/21/2022

Mr. William "Bill" Dowdy  
'87BA, 6/25/2022. Survived  
by sisters Beth (Dowdy)  
Laurence '82BA and Lisa  
(Dowdy) Brueggeman  
'85BE.

Mr. Gary Poynor '88BBA,  
12/2/2022. Survived by niece  
Carolyn (Poynor) Petrencik  
'02BS and nephew Adam  
Poynor '05BME.

Ms. Linda (Cooley) Boyd  
'89ME, 11/15/2022

**5** Mr. Craig Bird '91MA,  
12/12/2022. Survived by  
wife Melissa (Jackson) Bird  
'79x, sons Coby Bird '97BS,  
Brant Bird '99BS, daughters  
in law Keri (Sivage) Bird  
'00BS, and Mara (Miller)  
Townesley '96BBS.

Mrs. Sharon Daul '95ME,  
7/20/2021

Editor's Note: All cities are in  
Texas unless otherwise noted.  
Email addresses are included  
when possible. Information  
reflects submissions received  
from May 12, 2022, to  
January 11, 2023.

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

Mrs. Karen (Sawyer) Berry  
'96BBS, 10/23/2022

Mrs. Sandra "Sandy"  
(Loftus) Benoit '00BS,  
3/10/2021

Mr. Curtis "Lance" Beard  
'05MDiv, 10/20/2022

Mr. Andrew McNeill  
'07BBA, 8/30/2022

Mr. Tony McCrerry  
'07MDiv, 11/24/2022

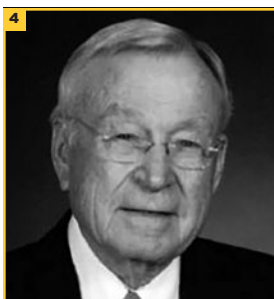
Ms. Jennifer Robason  
'07BSN, 10/24/2022

Mr. Paul Thebeau '09BBS,  
11/18/2022

**6** Dr. Robert "Bob"  
Hamner, Former Faculty,  
8/1/2022. Survived by sons  
Jared Hamner '97BA, and  
Ryan Hamner '97x

**6** Mrs. Carol Hamner,  
Friend. Survived by sons  
Jared Hamner '97BA, and  
Ryan Hamner '97x

**7** Mrs. Joan Knight,  
Friend, 9/14/2022.





*“We want  
to go out  
and make  
disciples while  
also serving  
others.”*

—Manny Silva



# BSM OPENS *the* FRONT

**T**he HSU Baptist Student Ministry (BSM) exists to minister to the spiritual needs of students and to equip those students for ministry in their daily lives. Under the direction of Manny Silva, the BSM is active across the campus and community through various programming and outreach.

A new BSM program, called Front Door, launched this year to build stronger

connections between HSU students and local churches. Manny Silva, BSM Director, shared about this new initiative.

*How did you come up with this program?*

Front Door emerged from a desire to meet the needs of two distinct groups: college students and local churches.

One of the first conversations I had on campus was with a student who expressed her wish for a church

that met on campus for students. Then, during one of our monthly meetings with local college pastors, they expressed a desire to see more Hardin-Simmons students involved in their ministries and churches. There were two groups that couldn't find a way to connect for whatever reason.

As a BSM, we took a step back to assess who we are and how we can best serve those around us.

One, we are not the church; we are a part of it.

Two, we have campus access.





# DOOR



Three, we want to go out and make disciples while also serving others.

What the BSM, the local church, and the college students needed was a front door to each other.

## *How is this program addressing student needs?*

We aim to be a step toward solutions rather than the solution itself. A typical college student's struggles include questions about faith, mental health, loneliness, and discovering one's

identity. We believe that specific elements of what we do can contribute to meeting those needs.

Our gathering services at Front Door include worship and a message. Many of the answers to students' problems, we believe, can be found in scripture. This semester, as we read through the book of Ecclesiastes, our goal is for students to see themselves and the world through God's truth. Our first glimpse of needs being met come after Front Door.

## *What can we expect from future Front Door events?*

The BSM currently plans to host Front Door for students on campus once a month. We hold Front Door with open hands. I tell my students that it is God who makes things happen. He is free to increase or decrease as he sees fit. As the campus's needs grow, we allow God to take our hands and lead us to what we are called to do. Front Door may look different, but its foundation remains the same: to be a place

where people can find God, connect, and be sent out into the world. As a BSM, our desire is to see college students transformed by the gospel, disciples made, and God's kingdom unified on campus. How we go about that can modify or remain the same.

## *As BSM Director, what is something you want readers to know about HSU?*

Front Door is only possible thanks to the partnership of Hardin-Simmons University and Texas Baptists. The

university's desire to see students encounter Jesus allows Texas BSM to come in and serve as a campus missionary. Thank you for your generosity, support, and prayers. I am confident that the gospel will do incredible things on campus through HSU, BSM, and local churches.







# DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING PRAYER BREAKFAST

On January 16, 2023, Hardin-Simmons sponsored the inaugural Dr. Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast. The Big Country began Martin Luther King, Jr. Day gathered in prayer on the HSU campus.

Pastor Demotis Sherman, Jr. of Mount Zion First Baptist Church and Pastor Mike Harkrider of Wylie Baptist Church hosted the

event with Dr. Delvin Atchison of Westside Baptist Church, Lewisville as the guest speaker.

The morning was a tribute to Dr. King by celebrating his impact as a preacher and by beginning the day with prayer. As Dr. King said, “The time is always right to do what is right,” and focusing on the unity of prayer is the right way to start any day.

Photographed from left to Right: Rev. Demotis Sherman, President Eric Bruntmyer, Lady Jennifer Sherman, Dr. Delvin Atchison, Sharmayne Duncan, Mahogany Duncan, Lady Jackie Reed, and Rev. Mike Harkrider







# The Resurrection Power of Relationships



by Steve Beznor '97/'99M  
Senior Pastor at  
Houston Northwest Church

I am, it seems, middle-aged. If I double my current age it results in a number that sounds, well, old. If I look in the mirror, I see gray at my temples and in my beard. I've been married for over half of my life. And, somehow, my kids are in college. All the signs point to my continuing...maturity.

I'm certainly not at the end of my life but growing older makes me think more and more about running and finishing my race of life well. I didn't consider Paul's words in 2 Timothy 4:7 much when I was a Bible student at HSU many years ago, but now they mean a great deal to me: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Now, I understand. There are so many difficulties, ditches, and distractions along the way. I'm 47 years old as I write this and I am thankful the Lord has seen fit to preserve me to this moment. I increasingly recognize how blessed I have been. It seems each day I hear of another friend who has been stricken with tragedy, loss, scandal, or disease. Life is hard, and without the Spirit, I would have been sunk a long time ago.

In the midst of striving to lean into the sustaining winds of the Spirit, I've found that unexpected boosts of breath come from a surprising place—friendships I forged some 25 years ago at HSU. I don't know that I thought much about the people I was meeting in those days, nor did I think about where the Lord would guide us. I didn't know that many of them would go on to do incredibly influential things in leadership, business, politics, arts, or the church, but they did.

I didn't know that I was making friends whom I would love for the rest of my life, but I was.

Thanks to the miracle of cell phones and the Internet, I hear from many of them when I least expect it. And they always blow fresh wind into my sails.

Just like me, they've grown in their faith, in their understanding of the Lord. And the Spirit has sustained them through valleys and struggles, smoothing their hard edges and breaking their hard hearts along the way.

Philippians 3:10 reminds us that we are given both the power of the resurrection AND the joy of suffering with Christ. And while we may not voluntarily or cheerfully choose the sufferings, it is only in those sufferings that we find the power of the resurrection.

And it's that power—resurrection power—that makes those old college friendships forged in faith so renewing today. They've found the power of the resurrection in their sufferings—as have I. And when we reconnect, we find a way to encourage one another to stay on the path.

I wonder if Paul and Peter had a reunion late in life where they thought about all the years that had passed and all the things they saw Jesus do. I wonder if they encouraged one another and I wonder if the winds of the Spirit given by resurrection power gave them the last bit they needed to finish their respective races.

As I continue moving towards my finishing my race well, I know those friendships are a means of grace by which God gives those winds to me.

May it be so with you.







**HARDIN-SIMMONS**  
UNIVERSITY

HSU Box 16100 | Abilene TX 79698-6100

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Burl. VT 05401  
Permit No. 779

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

SAVE THE DATE



**HARDIN-SIMMONS**  
**HOMECOMING**

OCTOBER 12-15 / 2023

*Registration opens in September*  
*Get updates at [www.hsutx.edu/homecoming](http://www.hsutx.edu/homecoming)*