12 | Digging Archaeology  SMU’s Archaeology Field School has begun work on the first phase of a research project that has brought together faculty and students with members of the Taos community and government agencies.

28 | Bodies In Motion The facilities at Dedman Center for Lifetime Sports not only help students stay in shape but also serve as a gathering place for many in the campus community.

16 | What Makes SMU Run? More than 1,380 staff members keep SMU running 24/7 for more than 11,000 students and faculty members. From eating establishments to police services to trash collection, the campus runs like a small city.

48 | Our Championship Season  The 1935 Mustangs were among the most talented teams in SMU football history, attaining a No. 1 ranking and earning the right to face Stanford in the Rose Bowl.

On The Cover
SMU is attracting bright and talented students like (from left) Travis Ballenger, Esmeralda Duran (at right), Brett Denham and Pragya Lohani by offering merit scholarships. In turn, they help stimulate an environment of academic excellence. Read their stories on page 18.
30 | Title IX Matures As the landmark legislation marks its 35th anniversary this year, women athletes have come a long way at SMU – 191 compete in 11 sports, from basketball and equestrian to soccer and volleyball.

11 | Lone Star Artist The paintings and prints of the late Jerry Bywaters, including his “Oil Field Girls,” 1940, will be featured in two exhibits celebrating his achievements at the Meadows Museum.

38 | Food, Fun, Fellowship Alumni and their families enjoyed food from local restaurants at the tent sponsored by Alumni Relations on the Boulevard before every home football game this fall.

3 | Compete To Win The largest single gift ever received by the School of Engineering invests in the future of engineering education for students in grades K-12 and beyond.
INVESTING IN THE FAMILY BUSINESS OF EDUCATION

To say that SMU is in the business of education may seem to be stating the obvious. But today we are more deeply invested in education as an interdisciplinary area of study. We are strengthening programs that educate the educators, and bringing more research to bear on effective teaching methods. Our efforts will accelerate with a $20 million gift from Harold and Annette Simmons of Dallas to endow the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development. Education programs have been a part of SMU’s curriculum since its early years, but now we will have resources to magnify our impact. This gift also supports SMU’s goal to increase endowments for academic purposes.

The needs in education are enormous. According to the 2007 National Assessment of Educational Progress, the percentage of eighth-graders rated as proficient or better in reading is 31 percent, an increase of only two percentage points since 1992. The rate for fourth-graders rose to 33 percent, up from 29 percent in 1992. In some states, the rates have remained flat or have fallen.

Recognizing that lack of reading ability equals low performance in schools, SMU is conducting programs and research focusing on literacy. The Institute for Reading Research is an important part of the Simmons School. SMU studies are showing, for instance, that reading can be improved among struggling students through early identification and intensive intervention. The School’s new Ph.D. program will develop researchers in literacy, language and learning; other programs address bilingual education, English as a second language and reading disorders.

Our programs also target the nation’s growing teacher shortage. As schools face a rise in enrollment and in teacher retirements, more than 2 million teachers will be needed in the next decade. At the same time, turnover is a problem, with some 20 percent of new hires leaving the classroom within three years.

Along with preparation for teacher certification, the Simmons School provides specialized training for master teachers in math, science and reading. Through research on how students best learn, we can give teachers the tools not merely to survive, but also to succeed — for their students and for themselves. We must support those who pursue the high calling of education. And through programs in human development — including counseling, wellness and dispute resolution — the Simmons School nurtures the fulfillment of human potential in many ways.

Harold and Annette Simmons are models of support for high achievement. They show us that educational values endure and inspire from generation to generation. Harold Simmons’ father was a school superintendent and his mother was a beloved teacher. Annette Simmons (‘57) recalls with gratitude the impact of caring teachers on her life. It is indeed an honor for SMU to name the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development in honor of an alumna who majored in elementary education and became a teacher. Harold and Annette Simmons are investing their trust and generosity in the family of current and future educators — further evidence that there is a strong multiplier effect when it comes to education.

R. GERALD TURNER
President
For more information, see page 4 or visit www.smu.edu/education.
Engineering education is getting a Texas-sized boost.

A $10.1 million gift to SMU from the W.W. Caruth Jr. Foundation at Communities Foundation of Texas will help the United States compete globally in engineering and technology by preparing students to excel in these fields. It is the single largest gift ever received by the School of Engineering.

The gift provides a national center and enhanced facilities to promote engineering and technology education in grades K-12 and beyond. The gift allocates $5.1 million to establish and endow the Caruth Institute for Engineering Education at SMU and $5 million toward a new building on the site of the original Caruth Hall, the historic home of the School of Engineering since 1948.

“As we approach our centennial celebration, it is fitting that the Caruth name is once again linked with SMU, because the Caruth family made the original gift of land that helped to ensure the University’s location in Dallas,” says President R. Gerald Turner. “Now, nearly a century later, this generous new gift will enhance SMU engineering as a critical educational asset for North Texas and beyond.”

In 2002 Texas Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison helped establish the Institute for Engineering Education at SMU through an initial federal grant. The Institute and School of Engineering have provided leadership in engineering education through national Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiatives.

“The hard reality is that we are falling behind in the pace of discovery and in our ability to compete in a world driven by innovation,” says School of Engineering Dean Geoffrey C. Orsak. “The Caruth Institute for Engineering Education will help overcome this deficit as it becomes a national center of excellence in researching, developing and delivering innovative education programs.”

The Caruth Institute will serve as a key resource to other math and science education programs, such as the Texas High School Project, a public-private collaboration managed and funded by Communities Foundation of Texas and also funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation.

“The Institute staff will conduct primary research on effective techniques for teaching the math and science foundations for engineering and technology,” says SMU Provost Paul Ludden. “As an initial investment of this gift, SMU will recruit an international authority to fill a distinguished endowed faculty chair and serve as executive director of the Caruth Institute.”

The Caruth Institute will consolidate and further develop several national programs already in place in the School of Engineering:

- **The Infinity Project**: The nation’s leading high school and early college math- and science-based engineering education program, which will be extended into middle and elementary schools.
- **The Gender Parity Initiative**: A nationally recognized program to promote interest in engineering and technology among girls and young women, with the goal of achieving 50 percent gender parity among engineering students.
- **Science Readiness Institute**: An innovative summer math and science program for North Texas middle school students to prepare them for rigorous high school advanced placement courses.
- **Visioneering**: National Engineers Week events and curriculum that give middle school students experience in engineering design.
- **College Partnerships**: An initiative linking community college pre-engineering programs with four-year engineering colleges to encourage a seamless transition for students.

“Engineering makes the study of math and science very practical,” says Brent Christopher, president and CEO of Communities Foundation of Texas. “New products, life-saving medicines, energy-efficient buildings and vehicles, the exploration of space – there is almost no aspect of life that is not touched by engineers.”

Read more at smu.edu/caruth.
ADVANCING EDUCATION: SIMMONS GIFT ENDOWS SCHOOL

A drugstore lunch counter across campus on Hillcrest used to be a popular gathering spot for students to enjoy burgers, shakes and camaraderie. In the Sixties, the store’s new owner – Harold Simmons – often flipped burgers himself when short on staff. Then a fledgling businessman in his late twenties, Simmons went on to become one of the most successful entrepreneurs and investors in Texas history.

As an SMU donor through the years, Simmons has given back to the campus community that helped him get started in business. Now, he and his wife, Annette, have provided one of the largest gifts in SMU history – $20 million. The gift will endow the newly named Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development, and provide lead funding for a building to house the School.

When Harold Simmons was growing up in Golden, Texas, education was a common topic of family discussions – his mother was a teacher and his father a school superintendent.

The parents of Annette Caldwell Simons ('57) did not attend college, so they were determined to provide that advantage for their daughter. “I am forever grateful that they sacrificed so that I could come to the best,” she says. She majored in elementary education at SMU and became a teacher.

Both Harold and Annette Caldwell Simmons were mindful of their family backgrounds as they considered making a gift to SMU that would express the educational values they shared. “I’ve been able to use my education to become successful in business and to support important efforts that have an impact on other people’s lives,” Harold Simmons says. “I am pleased to support and name this innovative school in honor of Annette. It will represent our shared commitment to support teachers like the ones who made a difference in our own lives.”

In addition to preparation for teacher certification, the School of Education and Human Development offers graduate-level and specialized programs to develop advanced skills for educators and strong research programs on how students learn. Specialized programs include those in literacy training, bilingual education, English as a second language, gifted student education, and learning therapy, along with those for master educators to enhance teaching skills in science, technology, reading and mathematics. The School offers a new Ph.D. in education focusing on literacy, language and learning; a Master of Education with teacher certification; and a Master of Bilingual Education. Research and service centers include the Institute for Reading Research, the Gifted Students Institute and the Diagnostic Center for Dyslexia and Related Disorders.

In the area of human development, the School offers Master’s degrees in counseling, dispute resolution and liberal studies, along with wellness courses and enrichment classes.

Harold Simmons is founder, chair and CEO of Contran Corporation, a holding company with interests including chemicals, metals, waste management and computer support systems. He earned B.A. and M.S. degrees in economics from the University of Texas at Austin. His University Pharmacy, which he purchased with borrowed money, grew into a chain of 100 drugstores across Texas. In 1973 Simmons sold the stores to Jack Eckerd and launched his career as an investor.
When David J. Chard joined SMU this fall as dean of the School of Education and Human Development, he had no idea that, within weeks, his university world would change. As he settled into his office in a converted apartment building long overdue for updating, he was well aware of the School’s need for resources, including a suitable building and endowment for programs, research and faculty. President R. Gerald Turner was acutely aware of the needs, too, and, in fact, had been talking with prospective donors about a major gift for the school.

So it was that, only two months after joining SMU, Chard was gathering with other members of the University community to celebrate a $20 million endowment for his school from Harold and Annette Simmons. The school now would be named the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development, and he would hold the Leon Simmons Endowed Deanship, with special resources for faculty recruitment.

“When I accepted the position, I knew that we could build on SMU’s rich history of developing programs in disciplines critical to our region,” Chard says. “Now we will have resources to address more fully some of the greatest challenges in education and human services. We can expand our partnerships with area schools and agencies and become increasingly competitive for research funding with national implications.”

Chard came to SMU from the University of Oregon, where he was associate dean for curriculum and academic programs in the College of Education. He holds a Ph.D. in special education from Oregon and a B.S. degree in mathematics and chemistry education from Central Michigan University. He has taught at Boston University, the University of Texas at Austin and in California public schools, and served as a Peace Corps educator in Africa.

A scholar on reading and learning disabilities, Chard is widely published. His research focuses on reading and mathematics instructional strategies for early grades, learning disabilities, special education, and reading instruction for students with disabilities.

For more information: www.smu.edu/education
Dedicated students often honor the mentors who guided their academic development. But a new gift to SMU reverses that pattern—the mentor is honoring his former student through a gift to SMU.

A new research endowment fund honoring SMU Anthropology Professor Robert Van Kemper has been established through a bequest from his late mentor and teacher George M. Foster Jr. at the University of California, Berkeley. The Foster Trust provides $250,000 to establish the Robert Van Kemper Endowment Fund for Research in Social and Cultural Anthropology at SMU, supporting training and field research experience for graduate students in anthropology.

"My summer in Mexico in 1967 set the course for my career. Foster’s endowment will enable future generations of SMU anthropology students to have similar experiences," Kemper says.

Kemper, a cultural anthropologist, joined SMU in 1972 and serves as chair of the Department of Anthropology in Dedman College. In addition to his work in Mexico, he conducts research on Mexican-Americans in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Robert Van Kemper
Friends Of Enchantment

With a little help from its friends, the SMU-in-Taos program is more than getting by – it is going strong.

“The new Friends of SMU-in-Taos program is providing funds for increasing student scholarships, strengthening the curriculum through new course offerings and enhancing our present facilities,” says Michael Adler, associate professor of anthropology and executive director of SMU-in-Taos.

SMU-in-Taos is located on more than 300 acres in Northern New Mexico. It includes Fort Burgwin, a reconstructed pre-Civil War fort, and a 13th-century pueblo dig site.

The Friends also support the SMU-in-Taos Cultural Institute, founded in 2005 to offer adult weekend courses taught by SMU faculty. The 2008 Institute is scheduled for July 17-20. Visit smu.edu/taos for more information or see the card inserted in this magazine.

Benefits for Friends of SMU-in-Taos include preferred seating at summer lectures, concerts and events; invitations to private dinners; early registration for the Cultural Institute; signed copies of books by faculty, local authors and artists; and special trips to area destinations. To become a member or for more information, contact Michael Adler at 214-768-1864 or at madler@smu.edu.

$3.3 Million Gift Extends Professor’s Legacy

The impact of beloved SMU professor Laurence Perrine will continue for generations to come through a bequest from the estate of his wife, Catherine Perrine. The $3.3 million bequest will fund scholarships and an endowed faculty chair in the Department of English, Dedman College.

A total of $1.5 million of the bequest will establish the Laurence and Catherine Perrine Endowed Chair in English, which will support a faculty position specializing in creative writing. An additional $1 million will establish the Laurence and Catherine Perrine Endowed President’s Scholarship Fund to support at least two President’s Scholarships awarded to Dedman College majors. The remainder of the Perrine bequest will establish the Perrine Endowed University Scholarship Fund to provide scholarships for English majors, who will be known as the Perrine Scholars in English.

“Laurence Perrine’s influence continues through this generous bequest, which will enable the Department of English to strengthen its creative writing program with a new endowed faculty position and allow Dedman College to attract some of the nation’s brightest students through additional scholarship opportunities,” says Interim Dedman Dean Caroline Brettell.

Catherine Perrine met her future husband when she was teaching freshman English at SMU from 1948 to 1950. Subsequently, she became active in civic affairs and statewide environmental issues, particularly water planning.

After earning B.A. and M.A. degrees from Oberlin College and a Ph.D. from Yale University, Laurence Perrine began his distinguished career as a member of SMU’s English faculty in 1946 and was named the Daisy Deane Frensley Professor of English Literature in 1968. He gained a national reputation for his classic textbooks, Sound and Sense and Story and Structure, first published in the 1950s. Sound and Sense became one of the most influential works in American education. Updated versions of the textbooks are still in use.

Perrine was one of the founders of SMU’s Phi Beta Kappa chapter in 1949. In his honor, the chapter awards a Perrine Prize each year to a member of SMU’s undergraduate faculty in liberal studies “who embodies the ideals of Phi Beta Kappa and the tradition of excellence fostered by Professor Perrine.” He retired as the Frensley Professor Emeritus in 1980 and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from SMU in 1988. He died in 1995.

SMU added a creative writing specialization to its B.A. degree program in English in 1975. The SMU Department of English also offers an M.A. degree and began offering a Ph.D. this fall.

Laurence Perrine
When junior Abigail Seibel worked last year as a caller for Tele-Pony, SMU’s telemarketing outreach to alumni, she enjoyed making connections with alumni nationwide representing every graduating class.

“When I called to ask for their support, they wanted to know how campus has changed and to hear about Homecoming and the Boulevard,” she says. “They also wanted to tell me what it was like ‘back when.’

One alum from the class of 1936 described how there used to be only one road.”

This year, Seibel is managing 25 Tele-Pony student callers.

SMU’s goal is to encourage all alumni to support the University by making a gift to the area that most interests them.

“Every alum’s decision to show support is what matters most – more than the amount,” says Seibel, who is majoring in international studies and Spanish. Her parents, Mark (’75) and Kelly (’76), also are alumni.

The percentage of alumni who give financially to their alma maters is used as a factor by national publications such as U.S. News & World Report in determining university rankings.

“Alumni giving also plays a significant role in encouraging large donors, corporations and foundations to support SMU,” adds Mark Petersen, associate vice president for development and alumni affairs. “It is a vote of confidence and sign of commitment.”

Although alumni may pledge to programs of their choice, students call on behalf of specific schools and the SMU Fund, which provides unrestricted support to finance SMU’s academic mission and meet its operating budget needs. In spring 2008, students will call parents for gifts to the SMU Parent Fund, which also supports campus operations.

Last year’s gifts helped provide scholarships and financial aid to students; funds for faculty and student research; services at the Hegi Family Career Development Center, including on-campus job interviews and résumé assistance; library materials and subscriptions to journals; and new technology in residence halls, classrooms and labs.

“Every gift makes a difference,” says Seibel, noting that during last year’s phonathon, pledges of $35 and under totaled more than $37,000. “Alumni and parents are helping every student – and the entire University – with their support.”

E-mail telepony@smu.edu for more information.

By The Numbers

- Students made more than 494,000 calls during last year’s phonathon.
- Students call 271 different area codes and all 50 states, plus Guam, Puerto Rico, Quebec and the Virgin Islands.
- Each SMU student calls an average of 12 hours a week Sundays through Thursdays.
EAST SIDE STORY: THERE’S A PLACE FOR US … ACROSS CENTRAL EXPRESSWAY

SMU is rising. Not only in SAT scores and national rankings, but literally moving up, with programs in a high-rise building across Central Expressway. The 15-story building at the corner of Yale Boulevard and Central now houses SMU’s offices for human resources, internal auditing, taxes, accounting, procurement, payroll, asset management and the Department of Psychology’s Family Research Center. Other research offices are moving east as SMU’s campus stretches across Central for the first time in its almost 100-year history.

SMU’s 2006 purchase of Expressway Tower – a Dallas landmark that previously served as headquarters for the Dallas Cowboys – is one of several recent moves to gain additional space for growing University operations. SMU has purchased another building across from Expressway Tower, the former UA-Cine building on Yale, and the former Mrs. Baird’s bakery on Mockingbird. Across from Mrs. Baird’s, SMU now owns Park Cities Plaza, which houses the SMU Bookstore and other businesses.

With its recent building purchases east of Central, SMU has added nearly nine acres and more than 292,000 square feet to its campus, staking a claim on a valuable and strategic area of East Dallas.

“SMU has been landlocked and space-starved,” says President R. Gerald Turner. “The time had come for our main campus to grow beyond its traditional boundaries.”

The move across Central Expressway also coincides with a real estate renaissance sparked by the DART rail station east on Mockingbird, which has created a main street feel to development at this busy crossroads. Now in its third phase of expansion, the Mockingbird Station entertainment district features the Angelika movie theater, restaurants and urban loft apartments. Across the street, the former Hilton Hotel has been transformed into the trendy Palomar Hotel and high-end residences, including the return of Trader Vic’s restaurant.

“This makes sense for SMU, but also for the existing Mockingbird Station community and, for that matter, a significant part of East Dallas,” says Dallas City Manager Mary Suhm. Plans are under way for the Mockingbird Station area to have a university-themed name – creating a clear link between it and SMU.

SMU’s Master Plan for the East Campus envisions a mixed-used environment, eventually featuring housing for sophomores and juniors, academic offices and research facilities.

In recent years, SMU has opened its door to Central by renaming Yale Boulevard as SMU Boulevard and presenting the street as the main entrance to campus, leading into the East Quad with the Blanton Student Services Building and the Junkins and Embrey engineering buildings.

“We’ve created higher visibility for SMU along 75 (Central Expressway),” Turner says of the heavily traveled corridor serving 350,000 vehicles a day. “This is a 50-year opportunity for us,” he adds, referring to the rarity of available property near campus. “We plan to make the most of it.”

The University’s presence extends beyond Dallas as well, with programs at SMU-in-Legacy in Plano and SMU-in-Taos in Northern New Mexico.

Continued on page 10
“Jim Caswell devoted his professional life to the well-being of SMU’s students, providing them with a campus experience that would strengthen their educational and personal development,” says President R. Gerald Turner. In the days following his death, that statement was confirmed repeatedly as alumni wrote remembrances of him in a special blog on SMU’s web site. Writing on the site, Sandra Plowman Kraus (’76, ’80) summed up the feelings expressed by many:

“I first met Jim in 1972 when I was an undergraduate student. He was a kind, gentle and fair-minded guy. When my son became a Mustang in 2004, Jim carved out time from his busy schedule and invited my son to his office for a chat and an informal welcome to the SMU community. I sit in gratitude for his contributions to SMU and for his generosity to my family and me. His life made a difference.”

Although he was honored with numerous awards throughout his career, alumni who shared remembrances affirmed that his greatest reward was, no doubt, his influence on them – as a fellow student, teacher, administrator, alumnus and friend.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Jim Caswell Endowment for Leadership Development and Training at SMU or the American Cancer Society. For more information on the Leadership endowment, contact Bonner Allen at 214-768-2986, bonnera@smu.edu or at SMU Box 750305, Dallas, TX 75275. Visit the blog site www.smu.edu/caswellremembered to contribute comments about Jim Caswell.
For women in developing countries, how can cultural barriers be overcome to ensure they get mammograms, which could save their lives?

This question was asked of 15 corporate communications and public affairs students who participated in a summer workshop at the Ormylia Foundation Panagia Philanthropini in northern Greece, along with radiologists and advocates from six developing countries. They had gathered to learn about breast cancer from some of the world’s top radiologists and about communication issues that need to be addressed in those countries. CCPA senior lecturers Tony Kroll and Kathy LaTour (’74, ’83) also spoke to workshop participants about identifying and overcoming communication barriers.

Students learned that breast cancer remains the leading cause of death for women in developing countries, because even when free screening programs are available, cultural barriers such as religion or spousal influence often prevent women from seeking the services they need.

At the workshop students conducted interviews with participants from Eritrea, Azerbaijan, Bosnia, Egypt, Turkey and Greece to help identify specific communication barriers faced by each country. “They teamed up and conducted interviews with the participants to collect data that helped them offer some preliminary information about cultural barriers by the end of the three-day workshop,” says LaTour, now editor-at-large for CURE and Heal magazines in Dallas. Four students presented their findings and potential applications, including recommending which media might be successful and in which cases media would be ineffective due to issues with literacy.

Senior Candy Crespo interviewed a radiologist from Eritrea who was late to the workshop after being detained by government officials in his country. “He is one of only three radiologists for the population of 4 million, and they didn’t want him to leave the country,” she says. “But he wanted to learn how to help the women of his country, so he made it happen.”

Students attended the workshop through a grant from Susan G. Komen for the CURE, the largest nonprofit funding organization for breast cancer in the United States, and through Meadows Edge for Excellence funds provided for unique student projects by The Meadows Foundation. Kroll says that a number of the relationships have created opportunities that could provide global research for students interested in pursuing health communications.

In developing countries, cultural barriers such as religion or spousal influence often prevent women from seeking the services they need.

The late Jerry Bywaters (’26), a member of the SMU arts faculty for 35 years, transformed Texas art and achieved national recognition for the state’s artists. The former director of the Dallas Museum of Art also led the Dallas Nine, a group of artists who developed the style known as Lone Star Regionalism. The Meadows Museum presents two exhibitions celebrating his achievements: “Jerry Bywaters, Interpreter of the Southwest” and “Lone Star Printmaker” through March 2, 2008. For more information, visit www.meadowsmuseumdallas.org or call 214-768-2516. Accompanying publications (with the same titles as the exhibits) provide a retrospective on Bywaters’ works, and were written by Sam Ratcliffe (’74), director of special collections at SMU’s Hamon Arts Library, which holds the Jerry Bywaters Collection on Art of the Southwest, and Ellen Buie Niewyk (’78), curator of the Bywaters Collection. The books can be obtained online at www.tamu.edu/upress.
Digging Archaeology: Taos Project Requires Hard Work, Soft Skills

For hundreds of years the beauty and mystery of Taos, New Mexico, have lured thousands of settlers and visitors, from the ancestors of the Taos and Picuris Indians and Spanish settlers to skiing enthusiasts and artists.

Now students participating in SMU’s Archaeology Field School have answered the call of Taos in their own way. In summer 2007 they began work on the first phase of a research project that will bring together University faculty and students, Taos community leaders, private landowners, and local, state and federal government agencies. The multifaceted undertaking will involve surveying on foot and through satellite and Google Earth images, as well as archival research and excavation.

The collaboration marks the first time archaeological exploration has been conducted on the Ranchos de Taos Plaza. The project was made possible because the Field School has established trust in this traditional community that in the past has regarded such efforts with suspicion.

“Modern archaeology involves a lot of soft skills, including cultural sensitivity and the ability to interact respectfully with communities,” says Sunday Eiselt, visiting assistant professor of anthropology and acting director of SMU’s Archaeology Field School. “You can’t just go in, put holes in the ground and leave.”

The Field School’s first project in the Plaza began last year as a volunteer effort. Taos native Lupita Tafoya’s adobe house has been in her family for 11 generations, and the original structure dates to about 1800. Field School students offered their labor to lower Tafoya’s packed-earth floor to create a step-down living room area. In the process they found a midden, or kitchen garbage area, dating from the early 1800s.

Their 2007 project focused on investigating the midden, as well as deposits in Tafoya’s dining room and front yard. A total of 14 SMU students – 12 undergraduates and two graduate assistants – joined forces this year with two new high school graduates from Taos Pueblo who participated with the help of scholarships from a fund established by former Texas Governor Bill (’39) and Rita Clements.

“It’s a big house with several later additions, so the students will recreate the construction history of the house as well,” Eiselt says.

At one time, archaeological exploration of historic cities was confined largely to abandoned areas that provided space for open-area excavation. That changed after World War II, when bomb craters left areas of large, old cities such as London and Warsaw open for investigation. Researchers developed new techniques to cope with the logistical difficulties of doing archaeological digs in places where people lived and worked. As historical archaeology evolved, new skills were needed to address the often-divergent needs of individual communities.

Taos is an especially complex challenge, says Eiselt, who received her Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and has been conducting archaeological research in Northern New Mexico since 1998. A remote and historically close-knit community, the area has experienced a rapid influx of outside investment in recent years – from tourists drawn to its natural beauty and culture to investors seeking to capitalize on them. About 180,000 visitors a year converge on the town, which has a permanent population of just over 5,000. Tourism accounts for nearly 85 percent of an economy that also consistently maintains a double-digit unemployment rate and a cost of living nearly 14 percent higher than the U.S. average.
according to the Taos Economic Report and other indicators.

The tension between tradition and modernization, between preservation and gentrification, is palpable, Eiselt says. “Many former households just off the Plaza are in ruins,” she says. “And with Plaza lots going for $400,000 each, the property taxes have created a situation in which residents whose families have lived there for generations cannot afford to do so now.”

The collaboration between the SMU Field School and the Taos community is creating an oasis of cooperation in the midst of this upheaval, Eiselt adds. “It’s also a model of how to accomplish goals that serve the people and their interests, as well as our scientific and educational objectives.”

As part of that model, each Archaeology Field School project begins with a volunteer component and follows the example set at Tafoya’s home. This year, the Field School students also helped with the annual cleaning and re-mudding (enjara) of the much-photographed San Francisco de Asís church, an adobe landmark whose earliest construction dates to 1772.

The Taos Plaza community is setting guidelines and providing context for the archaeologists’ work, Eiselt says. “Many of the people who live here are accomplished scholars of the area’s history in their own right,” she says. “Interacting with them is another great learning opportunity.”

For example, it was Lupita Tafoya who told Eiselt that the social universe of Taos Plaza was too small for the proposed study, Eiselt says. “She let us know that we needed to explore not only the Plaza, but all of San Francisco de Asís parish. So much of the community’s activity centers on that church; if we want to understand what we find, we need to understand that larger context.”

As a result of that conversation, Eiselt has created a multiyear research plan. The plan’s three components – oral history, archival work and general archaeology – will be carried out in consultation with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the University of New Mexico Museum of Anthropology, the Taos Archaeological Society and residents and archaeologists from the area.

One of the study’s major features is its emphasis on mapping rather than digging. “Excavation, which is intrusive and destructive, will be avoided as much as possible, with most activities focusing on non-intrusive pedestrian or surface survey, including remote sensing, aerial photography and historic maps,” Eiselt wrote in her introduction to the research plan.

The study’s other highlight – focus on community interaction – also helps the Archaeology Field School achieve one of its primary educational goals: to teach how to work as partners in places like Taos. “We’re teaching students not to go in with an attitude of ‘Here’s your past. We know because we’re scientists,’” Eiselt says. “This work is about the people, not the objects.”

For more information on Sunday Eiselt’s research: seiselt.googlepages.com

– Kathleen Tibbetts

Opposite page: Sunday Eiselt (right) works on the dig in Lupita Tafoya’s back yard with Mike Adler (left), SMU anthropologist and executive director of SMU-in-Taos, and several members of the research group. Right: Students measure the layers of flooring in Tafoya’s dining room to reconstruct the history of the house.
The Body Project: Learning To Love The Skin They’re In

Popular culture’s image of the 21st-century woman is tall, large-breasted, narrow-hipped and ultra-slender. Like cultural standards of beauty throughout history, today’s “thin ideal” is unattainable for most women; for many, it also can be destructive.

Katherine Presnell, assistant professor of psychology, is helping at-risk teens challenge this ideal with the Body Project, an eating disorder prevention program that she helped develop with psychology professor Eric Stice at the University of Texas at Austin, where she earned her doctorate in 2005. Since Stice conducted the first trial in 1998, more than 1,000 high school and college women, including 62 SMU students, have completed the program, including a research trial led by SMU Ph.D. students.

Independent studies conducted at universities nationwide and a recent analysis have shown that the Body Project significantly outperforms other interventions in promoting body acceptance, discouraging unhealthy dieting, reducing the risk of obesity and preventing eating disorders. And these results have persisted for three years.

Prevention is critical because about 10 percent of late-adolescent and adult female Americans experience eating disorder symptoms. Less than a third seek treatment, and less than half of those experience lasting results, says Presnell, director of SMU’s Weight and Eating Disorders Research Program in the Department of Psychology.

While traditional interventions focus on education about anorexia, bulimia and binge eating, the Body Project is based on cognitive dissonance – the 1957 theory that inconsistent beliefs and behaviors create a psychological discomfort that motivates individuals to change their beliefs or behaviors.

While working with a patient who had anorexia during his postdoctoral studies at Stanford University, UT’s Stice says he asked her “to talk me out of being anorexic, and it was a very powerful exercise. Arguing against her own arguments caused her to rethink her perspective on her illness.”

Body Project participants, recruited through fliers and mailings, argue and act against the thin ideal during four small-group sessions with a trained leader. They write letters to hypothetical girls about its emotional and physical costs, and challenge negative “fat talk” while affirming strong, healthy bodies.

“Many girls don’t question the messages we get from the media, the fashion industry, our peers and parents that it’s important to achieve the thin ideal at any cost,” Presnell says. “We have the girls critically evaluate the ideal, and that creates the dissonance they work to resolve.”

The Body Project includes a four-session weight management intervention that helps participants make small lifestyle changes to gain control over eating – such as scheduling time for daily exercise and a nutritious breakfast, and rewarding themselves with a book or bath rather than food. “These little tweaks help participants maintain a healthy body weight and ward off unhealthy behaviors such as extreme dieting, fasting and self-induced vomiting to lose weight,” Presnell says.

Presnell also has joined with Camille Kraeplin, assistant professor of journalism at SMU, to examine the media’s connection to the thin ideal. They began collecting data this year at Texas middle and high schools on how media images of female bodies influence girls’ beliefs about themselves.

Although the thin ideal has emerged as a larger issue among middle- and upper-class white girls, Kraeplin says, their study is unique because it includes a diverse sample across racial and economic lines. “We have an opportunity to observe whether girls from different groups use the media differently or respond to the dominant images differently,” she says.

Presnell and Stice have published a facilitator guidebook and companion workbook, *The Body Project: Promoting Body Acceptance and Preventing Eating Disorders* (Oxford University Press, 2007). The researchers also are investigating how best to train school counselors, nurses and teachers as group leaders, with a goal of introducing their program to North Texas schools in the next year.

“No that we have established that this intervention works, the next step is to reach as many people as possible,” Presnell says. “The Body Project could have a big impact on reducing the incidence of eating disorders, while empowering girls to develop a healthy body image.”

For more information: faculty.smu.edu/presnell
– Sarah Hanan
Shawna, a pregnant Pima Indian, calls diabetes a scourge. “Diabetes is a sign that this life we’re living isn’t our life,” she says. “The one our ancestors had was way better.”

Before World War II, diabetes was rare among Pima Indians. Today, however, Shawna is among the 12,000 tribal members on the Gila River Reservation in south central Arizona who have the highest recorded rate of diabetes of any population in the world.

Beginning in 1996, Smith-Morris lived and worked part time on the Gila River Reservation, attending health care classes, visiting medical clinics and joining holiday parades, birthday parties and bingo nights. “After two and half years, I was finally invited to my first family memorial, spent my first nights in Pima homes, and began in earnest to study life at Gila River,” she says.

From information gathered through personal interviews, surveys and observation, Smith-Morris’ research suggests that the Pimas’ diabetes epidemic can be curbed through a community-based approach tailored to their culture.

In the past, most health care was delivered at one hospital that serves the 372,000-acre reservation, where most residents live in poverty and many do not own cars. Buses run regularly to transport patients to medical appointments, but the Pima culture does not live by the clock, she says. In fact, while living among the Pima, Smith-Morris deliberately slowed the pace of her big city gait to match their more leisurely pace.

Based in part on her research, the tribe has spent millions of dollars to develop community-based clinics staffed by field nurses and case managers who provide more home-based care.

Smith-Morris’ research also suggests that improving prenatal care for Pima women like Shawna can help curb the epidemic. Nearly 12 percent of pregnant women on the Gila River Reservation are diagnosed with gestational diabetes, compared with the U.S. average of 4 percent. Women with gestational diabetes and their babies are more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes and its complications of kidney failure, blindness and amputations later in life.

“The Pima want to avoid diabetes,” Smith-Morris says. “They want to learn, but not always through the traditional Western methods of written materials and lectures. This epidemic is about a culture defining its path in an industrial world.”

Smith-Morris’ current research focuses on diabetes prevention in the urban setting of South Dallas, where 33 percent of families live in poverty and 61 percent are unemployed. She developed the diabetes prevention component of a proposed $15 million project to create a wellness center in a South Dallas neighborhood.

The Baylor Office of Health Equity and the Foundation for Community Empowerment are developing plans for the community-based program.

“My advocacy in these projects has impressed upon investors and planners that healthier lives need less clinic-based, biomedical intervention and more infrastructure support such as family-friendly neighborhoods and jobs that pay a living wage,” she says.

For more information: smu.edu/smith-morris

– Nancy Lowell George (’79)
University of Virginia founder Thomas Jefferson once referred to a college campus as an “academical village.” He was right in more ways than one—a university is a small city, requiring everything from stores and eating establishments to police services and trash collection. More than 1,380 full-time staff members keep SMU running 24/7 for its 10,829 students and 726 faculty members. That includes staff who raise the annual funds to pay for campus operations.

“It’s easy to take for granted all the work that takes place behind the scenes,” says Bill Dworaczyk, president of SMU’s Staff Association. “But whether it’s providing security for the campus, cooking meals in the cafeteria, counseling a student who’s struggling emotionally or programming a Web site, the work of staff is everywhere.”

Some interesting campus facts and figures help tell the story:

**For the books.** SMU libraries comprise more than 2.9 million books, about 2 million microforms and more than 500,000 photos. The old and the rare find a home here, too—such as a Christopher Columbus letter in Latin, published in Rome in 1493, now housed in DeGolyer Library, and a rare Bible collection in Bridwell Library.

**Feeding the masses.** Umphrey Lee dining hall serves about 3,000 meals daily during the fall and spring semesters. And while you might think that a thick juicy burger is the most requested meal, you would be wrong: Dining Services dishes out about 500 quesadilla orders a day.

**House calls.** Campus Planning and Plant Operations staff make more than 12,000 campus service calls a year, including changing 25,400 light bulbs and 4,000 filters.

**Parking puzzle.** The Hilltop includes approximately 5,700 parking spaces, but almost three times as many tickets were issued for parking violations during the past academic year.

**Cleanliness is next to…** It takes 100 custodians to keep 72 buildings on campus clean. Each custodian
cleans an average of 32,000 square feet a day.

**Showing our colors.** The SMU Bookstore annually sells more than $1.5 million worth of clothing branded with SMU’s mascot, colors and logo. Pony up with pride.

**No place like home.** About 1,765 students are tucked into approximately 825 residence hall rooms, most of them double occupancy. Almost 2,000 students live on their own immediately surrounding the campus in zip code 75205, which includes Highland Park and University Park, and zip code 75206, east of North Central Expressway.

**Red, blue and green.** SMU recycles an average of 350 tons of material each year, part of an ongoing commitment to go green. **One ringy dingy…** It’s not coming from pockets or purses, but from more than 5,000 land-line telephones wired into the main campus, from residence halls to staff and faculty offices.

**Goin’ to the chapel of love.** More than 200 couples marry in Perkins Chapel annually; about a third of those weddings include an SMU student or graduate.

**Show-offs.** Meadows School of the Arts hosts more than 500 events every year, including museum exhibits, art lectures and dance and musical performances ranging from Bach to Basie. Theatrical productions include classical dramas and hip urban comedies.

**Flower power.** The campus groundskeepers plant about 20,000 bulbs after Thanksgiving every year to produce those breathtaking blooms in the spring.

**Snail-mail central.** The U.S. Post Office at Hughes-Trigg Student Center processes about 70,000 outgoing letters and packages a month. The incoming mail is massive – about 300,000 pieces of first-class mail and about 26,000 boxes – thanks to online orders by students and care packages from home.

**Bodies in motion.** The start of each semester at the Dedman Center for Lifetime Sports sees the most activity – the facility logged in 46,684 visits last September and 47,021 visits last February. [For visuals and more statistics, see pages 16-17.]

“What these numbers and more add up to is SMU’s dedication to maintaining a high-quality campus experience for its students and faculty.
By Joy Hart

To attract the best students to SMU, admission officers cite a campus experience that is challenging in and out of the classroom, the opportunity to interact closely with distinguished professors and other bright students, and the benefits of living and learning on a park-like campus in a vibrant city. They get all this – and the incentive of merit scholarships.
As SMU competes nationally for the best students, merit scholarships “help attract young scholars who will benefit from and enrich the SMU experience. They stimulate an environment of academic excellence,” says Ron Moss, dean of undergraduate admission and executive director of enrollment services. And as SMU strives to grow in academic stature, seeking resources for additional merit scholarships is a high priority, championed by SMU’s Board of Trustees and other University leaders.

Two top scholarship packages supported by donors are the President’s Scholars Program, now 25, and the Hunt Leadership Scholars Program, which turns 15 next year. And a new endowment has just been announced for B.B.A. scholars in the Cox School of Business (see story on page 4).

Students who win the highly competitive scholarships say it is more than money that seals the deal – it is the total SMU experience and a package of benefits that often includes study abroad, meeting world leaders on campus, close mentoring by faculty, research opportunities and the possibility of pursuing double or triple majors. The students bring the right combination of attributes, too – brains, broad interests, leadership, civic awareness and other talents. They stand out, yet fit in. The following profiles of seven merit scholar recipients make the point.

Balancing Engineering And Athletics – Swimmingly

Brett Denham was a fraction away from making the Olympic trials in 2008.

At the U.S. National Swimming Championships in July, he completed the 100-yard butterfly in 55.9 seconds – only 3/10th of a second over the qualifying time.

“I have mixed feelings,” Denham says. “My time last year was 56.5 seconds. It was a good drop for me, but it’s a little tough to be so close.”

Denham, now ranked 54th in the country in the 100-yard butterfly, will try again next year to make the Olympic trials.

“Brett is a great swimmer,” says Andy Kershaw, the SMU swim team’s assistant coach. “He has talent, but he also works hard and he’s disciplined.” He’s disciplined enough to compete
athletically while pursuing the academically demanding major of mechanical engineering. Denham, a senior, swims five hours a day. During the school year, he trains two hours in the morning before classes and three hours in the afternoon. During the summer, he continued the same rigorous schedule, fitting in an internship at Stanley Tool Company between practices.

“Swimming alone is a tough thing to do,” Kershaw says. “Swimming and engineering are about as tough as it can get. Brett does both with a smile on his face.”

With a 3.6 G.P.A., Denham is one of the reasons why the SMU swim team has earned the NCAA Academic All-American team award for the past three years. Last season, the Mustang swimming team posted a 3.3 overall team G.P.A., ranking it sixth in the nation.

Even though his parents, older brother and numerous cousins attended Texas A&M, SMU is the right place for him, says Denham, who received an Embrey Engineering Scholarship and is an SMU Scholar, both awarded for academic excellence.

“I visited other schools, but I didn’t receive nearly as warm a welcome as I did when I came here on a swimming recruiting trip,” he says. “SMU has a good swimming program and a solid engineering school. And the scholarships have helped me tremendously.”

Finding The Right Stage For His Talents

When TRAVIS BALLENGER was in the second grade, he played the role of a Native American chief in his school’s Thanksgiving play. It was the start of his passion for theatre. During his last two years of high school, he attended the prestigious South Carolina Governor’s School of the Arts and Humanities.

But as a sophomore theatre major at SMU, he discovered that his true calling was working behind the scenes – as a director.

“From the moment of my first rehearsal as a director, it felt right to me,” he says. “I felt tense in a good way. There is a spark or fire that directing lights in me.”

Ballenger directed seven theatre productions during his first three years at SMU, an impressive number for any student, and in November directed the Meadows School of the Arts production of Lanford Wilson’s “Balm in Gilead.”

The first in his family to attend college, Ballenger chose SMU over other universities that offered him scholarships because he wanted to study with Cecil O’Neal, professor and chair of SMU’s Division of Theatre. O’Neal met Ballenger when he visited his high school to provide monologue coaching and encouraged him to compete in SMU’s national auditions in Chicago. Based on Ballenger’s talent and potential, SMU offered him a Meadows Foundation Scholarship.

“SMU has been a terrific place for me,” Ballenger says. “The professors really care about the students. You can tell that, for them, this is much more than a job.”

To earn extra money and gain even more experience, Ballenger also has worked in the Theatre Division assisting the faculty member who serves as stage manager.

“Basically, I live in the theatre department,” Ballenger says. Last summer Ballenger received a full scholarship to attend a three-week playwriting course taught by playwright Mac Wellman at SMU-in-Taos. He also spent part of the summer teaching acting at his old high school.

“Travis has done everything in his power to take advantage of all the opportunities available to him at SMU,” O’Neal says.

Ballenger, who calls himself “extremely ambitious,” says his goal is “to have my own company. We would write, direct, act and produce our own work.” Based on his studies and experience on and off the stage, Ballenger could probably play any or all of those roles.
Civic-minded, Business-oriented

As a student at a private high school in Salt Lake City, JESSICA NORTH entered the public arena to encourage fairness in the treatment of women. She joined a group of students who successfully lobbied Utah legislators to support a bill on pay equity. The bill required the state to conduct employment surveys to verify 2000 census information showing that women in Utah made 67 cents to every dollar made by men, making it the second worst state in the country for pay equity. "It was a first step in correcting the problem," she says. "I learned that you can talk to your legislators."

At SMU North is among those making policy on campus issues. Last year she represented the Cox School of Business on the SMU Student Senate and served on the SMU Honor Council, helping to decide cases involving students accused of cheating or other violations of the University’s Honor Code. She also served as vice president of finance for Delta Sigma Pi, the business honorary fraternity; as an officer in her sorority, Tri Delta; and as a Week of Welcome leader to incoming first-year students.

Although North applied to colleges all over the country, from Santa Clara in California to Duke in North Carolina, she chose SMU for several reasons. The friendly campus was an attraction, she says, as well as the highly rated Cox School of Business.

The clincher, however, was scholarships. North, a double major in finance and political science, received merit awards as an SMU Scholar and a Cox B.B.A. Scholar, which recognize outstanding academic achievement and strong leadership skills. "When I was weighing the pros and cons, the scholarships had a big impact on my decision," she says.

For North, it has been a wise decision. Last spring she learned the value of networking when she was one of 20 students invited to a dinner with the SMU Board of Trustees. She sat next to Trustee and alumnus John Tolleson (’68), who heads Tolleson Wealth Management. "I hadn’t heard of the company but, after talking to Mr. Tolleson, I thought that it would be a great place to work."

When summer internship opportunities were posted several days later, North found a listing for Tolleson Wealth Management – and applied. She spent her summer at the company helping clients research investment opportunities and file tax returns. She also spent two weeks with the CFO and controller observing their roles in the company. At the end of summer she helped develop a training session that the company now uses to train new hires. "It was a great internship because I was able to put into practice a lot of the things I was learning in classes and see how it actually operates in the real world."

Although she had planned to go to law school after graduation next spring, North has decided to continue her career with Tolleson Wealth Management as an analyst, starting in June. "I want to see where finance will take me first," she says. "Later, I would like to enroll in a J.D./M.B.A. program," combining her interest in lawmaking with her talent for business.
Educating The Youngest Victims Of Civil War

Junior PRAGYA LOHANI returned to her native Nepal last summer to visit her family in the country’s capital, Kathmandu. From there, she traveled even farther in miles and time to the remote village of Rukum, where Nepal’s violent civil war began more than a decade ago.

“We had to fly, and then we had to walk two hours to get to the village,” Lohani says. “There are no roads, no electricity, no telephone connections.”

With a $10,000 grant from the Kathryn Wasserman Davis Fund, Lohani and a former high school classmate went as “peace ambassadors” to Rukum, where they helped restore a school and selected 20 children for scholarships to attend the school.

“Many of the children in Rukum drop out of school,” Lohani says. “Some of the children are so hungry they eat soil. Many of their parents have been killed.”

One student, Bimala Pun, described to Lohani how Maoists pulled her father out of their home, kicked him for three hours, dragged him away and shot him. “Bimala was calm because she is used to the war, but I felt very anxious,” Lohani recalls. “As soon as I got back to the airport in Nepal’s capital, I started crying so hard.”

Lohani says she made “a connection” with the children in Rukum and now has a mission. After she earns degrees in operations research and economics from SMU and then completes graduate school, she hopes to work for the International Monetary Fund.

Eventually, she wants to create a nonprofit nongovernmental organization (NGO) to help the children in Nepal.

To help further her goals, Lohani is spending this year at the London School of Economics studying international trade and developmental economics and modernity in Asia, which covers the history of China, Japan, Vietnam and Korea. Study abroad was made possible because at the end of her sophomore year, SMU awarded Lohani an upper-class President’s Scholarship, the highest academic merit award providing full tuition and fees, study abroad and other benefits.

“I love SMU,” Lohani says. “I don’t think I could find a better university and education.”

But more than anything else, we were really amazed to meet all these children who had lived through a decade of killings, uncertainty and immense pain. For our project, we had to meet all these children who had been awarded the scholarship based on their academic merit and financial needs. Each one of the 20 kids that we met had a story for us.

From Pragya Lohani’s blog on SMU Student Adventures Web site: blog.smu.edu/StudentAdventures/pragya_in_nepal/
Rafael Anchía (’90) calls it serendipity that his father accompanied him to a college fair at the Miami Expo Center in 1985. Dad struck up a conversation with an SMU recruiter who spoke his first language, Spanish, and informed his son, “This is an excellent university.”

And when SMU called their home in Florida several months later to offer Anchía a scholarship, Dad accepted for the son, putting him on a path to graduating cum laude from the Hilltop in 1990 with majors in anthropology, Ibero-American studies and Spanish.

Although all four schools Anchía applied to accepted him, SMU offered the most generous scholarship. “This was a big, big deal,” he recalls. “I didn’t have my sights set on anything more than going to our state university. I thought that was pretty terrific.”

But there would be even more good news for Anchía, who went on to earn a law degree from Tulane University. Now a Dallas lawyer and state representative, he was named one of the 10 best legislators for 2007 by Texas Monthly magazine. “If the Legislature were a stock market, Anchía would be Google,” Texas Monthly concluded.

Anchía represents the future as the son of immigrants who became a lawyer with a blue chip firm, the magazine stated, also noting that he emerged last spring as a top floor debater against a bill that would have required voters to present a government-sponsored form of identification at the polls. Anchía argued that the bill was directed at a voter impersonation problem that does not exist and would have resulted in disenfranchising minority and low-income voters. The bill died after passage in the House but lack of support in the Senate.

At SMU, Anchía remembers putting a lot of pressure on himself. “On many different levels, I wanted to show that a public school kid from a new immigrant community (in Miami) could not only compete but excel,” he says. While an undergraduate he joined Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and says he continues to enjoy an extensive social and business network in Dallas because of that experience.

“I would rank my academic preparation at SMU with any education I could have received anywhere else,” he says. He has strong memories of the classes he took under linguistics and bilingual education expert William Pulte, associate professor of anthropology, and clearly relishes the opportunity to work as a legislator on community projects with Pulte. Anchía continues the relationship with his beloved alma mater in numerous ways. He returns often to campus to speak to student groups and says he is pleased to see the increased diversity of the University. He serves on the advisory panel of SMU’s Clements Center for Southwest Studies in the Clements Department of History, the President’s 21st Century Advisory Board and the Executive Board of Dedman College. Anchía and his wife, Marissa (’07), who earned her Master of Liberal Studies degree from SMU in May, still worship at the 9 a.m. Catholic mass at Perkins Chapel, and they baptized both their daughters at SMU.

“So we feel quite invested in the University,” he says.

Passport To Cultural Understanding

For John Hunninghake (’07), the path to medical school has included stops in Latin America, Australia and Asia.

“In the United States today, there is a huge melting pot of cultures with different values and ideas about health care,” he says. “Being open to appreciating those cultures and understanding the different ideas of people will help me as a doctor to communicate with them.”

Hunninghake earned a B.A. by pursuing individualized study in the liberal arts with a specialty in medical anthropology and a minor in Spanish. After graduation, he joined another Hunt Scholar, senior Stephen Alexander, to travel to Costa Rica and Ecuador under a Richter International Fellowship. SMU is one of only 12 schools offering the highly competitive Richter Fellowship to conduct independent research,
Finding Her Future
By Exploring The Past

KAREN GUTIERREZ spent part of last summer in Portugal carefully extracting pieces of fossilized dinosaur eggs from a big block of dirt. Gutierrez, a senior studying geological sciences, removed the egg fragments from the dirt with an air scribe pen.

“When the pen pulsates, it breaks up the dirt and exposes the layers that contain fossils,” she says. “But, if you touch the pieces of egg with the pen, you can cause damage to the surfaces. I was really nervous at first because I never had done anything like that before.”

After studying in Madrid with SMU-
in Spain last spring semester, Gutierrez went to Lourinhã, Portugal, about an hour north of Lisbon, to explore a dig site with Octávio Mateus, who is working on a project in Angola with SMU paleontologist Louis Jacobs, president of SMU’s Institute for the Study of Earth and Man and professor of geological sciences. It was Gutierrez’s second trip to Portugal. During spring break in 2006, she worked as a research assistant with graduate student Scott Myers while studying with Jacobs.

“I am really happy with the opportunities that SMU has offered me,” says Gutierrez, a President’s Scholar. “Not many undergraduates get to work in the field.”

Gutierrez already has gained an international perspective through working on rock cores from the Congo and dinosaur eggs in Portugal as part of an American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund grant. “Karen is a personable, adept and quick student, and a poised ambassador for SMU, geology and paleontology,” Jacobs says. “Her work – a mixture of fossils, rock and chemistry – is on the cutting edge of understanding ancient climates. She is destined to be an innovative leader in her field.”

Gutierrez says she has wanted to be a paleontologist since watching the movie “Jurassic Park” at age 7. She went to high school in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and chose SMU because of its strong Geological Sciences Department. But a deciding factor, she says, was a four-year President’s Scholarship that pays full tuition and fees, supports a semester of study abroad and provides a retreat at SMU-in-Taos.

After she graduates from SMU with a triple major in geology, math and Spanish, she plans to pursue a Ph.D. in paleontology, to work at a museum or teach and conduct research at a university.

“I have always liked solving mysteries,” Gutierrez says, “and there is so much that we don’t know about the dinosaurs that lived millions of years ago.”

Speaking The Many Languages Of Learning

Senior English major Esmeralda Duran met an Arab family this past summer while studying in SMU’s South of France program. She noticed the family speaking Arabic and French and introduced herself. “One of the languages I want to learn next is Arabic,” says Duran, who is fluent in French and Spanish.

“The family invited me to their house for dinner, and we watched an Arabic TV station and went to an Arabic market. Seeing France through their eyes was one of the most interesting experiences I had last summer.”

As the daughter of immigrants from Mexico who is a first-generation college student, Duran well understands the value of learning from other cultures. She understood only Spanish when she started kindergarten in Fort Worth. “I was only 5, but I still remember my hunger to learn English,” Duran says. “It is a hunger for knowledge that I feel at the beginning of every semester.”

She quickly became fluent in English and advanced in school, while helping take care of her younger brothers when her mother worked cleaning houses. In high school, a teacher encouraged Duran to apply for a scholarship to study in France through Fort Worth Sister Cities International. Duran, who completed all the applications herself, lived as an exchange student with a Franco-Portuguese host family in Nancy, in northeastern France.

After high school, she studied through the honors program at Tarrant County College. “I decided to make really good grades so that I would be offered a scholarship to a four-year college,” she says. Now part of SMU’s Honors Program, she receives support from an SMU scholarship for community college transfer students who have maintained a minimum 3.7 G.P.A., in addition to a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation scholarship, awarded to only 50 transfer students each year.

After SMU Duran plans to attend law school specializing in immigration law. “While I was growing up, I saw things and heard my parents talk about the injustices done to them,” she says. “I want to change the world.”
Benjamin Franklin once advised that a penny saved is a penny earned – but if he were alive today, he may have added that a penny wisely invested is an even better deal.

That sums up the philosophy of those who manage SMU’s $1.363 billion endowment, the foundation of the University’s long-term financial strength and part of its permanent resources. The Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees oversees the SMU endowment and guides the SMU Treasurer’s Office in finding attractive investment opportunities. Last year’s growth of $200 million in endowment assets and return of more than 20 percent resulted from good investment choices, strong markets and more than $22 million in new gifts, says University Treasurer Liz Williams.

Even before SMU opened its doors in 1915, the General Education Board of the Methodist Church established an endowment of $111,540 for the new University. It took 80 years for the SMU Endowment to reach the $500 million mark – in 1995. That growth accelerated dramatically, however, with the last major fund-raising campaign: A Time to Lead. About one-third of the total $542 million given by alumni and friends was designated for the endowment, says Marianne Piepenburg, assistant vice president for planned and endowment giving. “We were able to increase the endowment by nearly $150 million through new gifts during that campaign. Those gifts, together with the wise investment counsel provided by the University’s trustees, have allowed SMU to double the size of its endowment in the past 10 years.”

So what does this growth mean for students and faculty? Endowment funds, supported by gifts of all sizes, enable SMU to develop innovative programs, enhance academic quality by attracting outstanding students and faculty and raise the profile of the University. In the competitive world of higher education, current endowment income and the assurance of its continued support for the future will allow SMU to compare more favorably with some of the best universities in the country such as Notre Dame, Duke, Brown, Emory, Vanderbilt and Northwestern.

The University’s endowment requires not only investment skill and donor support, but also discipline and patience. “Sometimes an observer will hear about a large endowment gift to SMU and think that this amount can go fully and immediately into supporting the scholarship, academic program or faculty position created,” Williams says. “However, it will take awhile for earnings to accumulate and provide a consistent level of support.” That support is ordinarily about 4 to 5 percent of its market value (gift plus capital gains), she adds.

“As the market value grows from reinvested earnings, future support will increase as well. Building endowment is an exercise in patience, but one that pays off in the long term.”

Funds held in endowment cannot be withdrawn at will, like a checking account, to cover the University’s daily operating costs. Donors who make the original gifts restrict them to endowment and designate use of the income from those funds for specific purposes. So an endowment is more like a savings account, earning a return for current financial stability as well as future growth.

An endowment works this way: An individual gives $500,000 to SMU to endow a President’s Scholarship, the University’s most prestigious and competitive award. The University then invests the gift through a number of strategies and markets. A portion of the interest and capital gains earned from the fund is spent annually for the purpose designated, in this case, the scholarship, while the excess remains in the fund’s principal to protect its
value against inflation. So, the original value of the fund, plus any additional gifts, is preserved and invested. As the principal grows, earnings grow.

Williams compares the SMU endowment to a mutual fund pool, with each donor’s fund holding shares in that pool. “Essentially, we pool the endowment gifts and manage them as a single entity,” she says. “In inflation-adjusted dollars we are trying to support the purpose of the funds at the same or greater level each year,” Williams says. “That’s why it is important that we achieve returns that are equal to or greater than the amount we spend on the purpose, plus the amount of inflation.”

She points out that inflation is higher for universities than that reflected by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) because “our costs are related to people and quality improvements such as books and high technology. The price of a computer may go down each year, but the cost of improvements and upgrades in technology, allowing for the newest research capability to keep pace with competing institutions, continues to go up every year.” The impact of increasing costs for the kind of educational experience SMU provides affects the quality of that experience.

In the example of the President’s Scholar award, which provides the student’s full tuition and fees for four years plus study abroad and other benefits, the scholarship must increase each year as tuition rates and other costs rise. “If you give a full tuition scholarship to an incoming first-year student, that student will be much happier as a sophomore if the University continues to support the full cost of tuition with the scholarship,” Williams says.

According to a 2006 study by the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), SMU’s endowment ranks 55th nationally (out of a total of 62 schools with $1 billion in endowment). That’s fourth in Texas behind the University of Texas System with $13.2 billion; Texas A&M University System and Foundations, $5.6 billion; and Rice University, nearly $4 billion. Harvard University, which has had the longest period of time to accumulate endowment, had $29 billion and Yale, $18 billion.

What is the budgeting impact? Last year endowment income provided approximately $45.5 million of SMU’s $320 million operations budget, or 14 percent of the total. That means 86 percent of the University’s budget came from sources such as tuition and non-endowment gifts. As SMU increases the income generated by its endowment, it is less dependent on tuition as a means of support – income that can vary each year with enrollment trends. This allows the University more flexibility in recruiting and retaining the best students in the applicant pool because it is not required to accept students it may not want, just to meet a budgetary number.

Despite the endowment’s strong growth, SMU, as a relatively young institution, remains undercapitalized compared to the majority of its benchmark schools, those that SMU emulates. One way to look at the strength of a university’s endowment is to calculate endowment assets per student. Using this measure, for 2006 SMU held $120,593 in endowment per student, compared to an average $257,455 per student among SMU’s benchmark schools. (For more information: www.nacubo.org/x2376.xml)

“While we are building our endowment, those schools with which we compete are working just as diligently to build theirs,” Williams says.

That is why SMU’s new major gifts campaign will be devoted primarily to raising funds for the SMU endowment in four key areas: student quality, faculty excellence, academic distinction and the campus experience.

“Endowed professorships provide competitive salaries, research funds and other academic resources for the highest quality teaching and learning,” says Brad Cheves, vice president for development and external affairs. “Scholarships provide financial support for those talented and eager students who would thrive at SMU but are courted by other national universities. Gifts for academic programs enable us to strengthen and add to the curriculum, and support for extracurricular opportunities broadens the SMU experience for our students.”

Scheduled to begin its public phase in 2008, the campaign aims to elevate the endowment to a level comparable with competing institutions, which have more resources for growth in quality and impact.

### U S E O F E N D O W M E N T I N C O M E 2 0 0 6 – 0 7

- **Educational Program Support**: 42.10%
- **Chairs and Faculty Support**: 23.84%
- **Scholarships and Other Student Aid**: 23.12%
- **Library and Books**: 7.01%
- **Maintenance**: 2.66%
- **Other**: 1.27%

To Make A Gift

SMU’s Office of Endowment and Scholarship Giving can help donors establish a new endowment fund at the University. For more information, call 1-800-766-4371, ext. 2675; or contact Linda Preece, director, Office of Endowment and Scholarship Giving, P.O. Box 750305, Dallas, TX 75275-0305; 214-768-4863, 1-800-766-4371, ext. 4863, lpreece@smu.edu.
At An Expanded Dedman Center, Getting In Shape

“The center enhances campus life and enables SMU to uphold its commitment to excellence in all aspects of the collegiate experience.”
At 5 p.m. most weekdays, Dedman Center for Lifetime Sports hums at its peak of activity— with hundreds of bodies running, swimming, weightlifting, spinning, playing basketball and racquetball, rock climbing, puffing on treadmills and punching the bags. Students, but also many faculty and staff, begin pouring into the facility the minute it opens at 6 a.m. and keep the place hopping until it closes at midnight. Weekends also see their fair share of users, although fewer. For a typical week in September, the daily number of visitors ranged from 800 to 2,300.

Built in 1976, Dedman Center re-opened in phases in 2005-06 after undergoing a $25 million expansion and renovation. It was funded through a student-led initiative supporting an additional 1-1/2 percent increase in tuition and fees in fall 2003 and 2004. Several donors also provided funding for the construction and renovation. Dedman Center now offers 170,000 square feet of indoor recreational space plus an outdoor area that includes The Falls (zero-entry pool with 7-foot waterfalls), two sand volleyball courts and leisure spaces.

Judith Banes ('69, '78), executive director of recreational sports, says she was forewarned by some of SMU’s peer institutions to expect usage to triple once the center became fully operational in 2006, and it has.

“The expanded Dedman Center serves as a positive meeting place for making new friends, relieving stress and achieving potential mentally and physically,” Banes says. “The center enhances campus life and enables SMU to uphold its commitment to excellence in all aspects of the collegiate experience.”

Increasingly, prospective students assess fitness resources in choosing a college. Nathan Fine, a first-year student from Japan (lower left, lifting weights), was undecided about his major, but “the Dedman Center greatly influenced my decision to come to SMU,” he says. “Its facilities are better than any other university I visited. The center offers me a place to break away from studying.”

SMU alumni also can use the facilities at Dedman Center for an annual membership fee.

For more information: www.smu.edu/recsports/dedman/index.html
TITLE IX AT 35: EQUAL ACCESS MATURERS

Senior women’s basketball player Katy Cobb is unfamiliar with the details of Title IX, but she is a prime example of its results. Growing up in Rio Vista, Texas, she played girls’ soccer, volleyball, softball and basketball, ran cross-country, competed in rodeos and in fourth grade played on a boys’ football team.

“The idea of being denied their sport is absolutely inconceivable to female athletes today,” says Nancy Kruh (’76), who as an SMU senior was instrumental in advancing Title IX at SMU. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law that prohibits sexual discrimination against students and employees of educational institutions. The law requires that males and females receive fair and equal treatment in all arenas – academics, financial aid and extracurricular activities.

In 1972, athletic scholarships were not offered to women at SMU. Women basketball players bought their uniforms and carried their own basketballs to practices led by an Olympic volleyball player. The women’s swim team had to create a practice time by enrolling in a swimming class, and 12 members of the women’s tennis team practiced on three old courts while the six-member men’s team practiced on four new courts. Women athletes at other schools and universities faced similar challenges.

As the landmark legislation marks its 35th anniversary this year, women athletes have come a long way at SMU; 191 women now compete in 11 sports, 114 as scholarship athletes. To commemorate the legislation, the Women’s Sports Foundation issued a report card grading women’s athletics participation in 738 colleges and universities. The report compared the gender composition of an institution’s athletes to the gender composition of its student body. SMU earned a B-, meaning its gap is between 8 and 10 percent.

Five out of nine Division I Texas schools earned B’s, but two universities – Baylor and TCU – earned D’s for their level of participation by women. In Conference USA, five of 12 schools earned A’s or B’s.

“SMU is at 50-50 in terms of number of male and female student participation,” says Koni Dawes, SMU assistant athletics director and senior woman administrator. “But the undergraduate student population is 55 percent women, 45 percent men. That’s where we want to be in athletics, too.”

Few universities would have received passing grades in 1975 when Kruh filed a Title IX complaint with SMU’s Affirmative Action Council on behalf of women athletes. She requested equitable access to existing facilities for the two women’s sports – swimming and tennis – and that the recently disbanded women’s basketball team be reinstated.

Though Kruh herself was not an athlete, her passion for the issue was stoked after she served in summer 1975 as an intern to Kansas Representative Martha Keys in Washington, D.C. Kruh attended congressional hearings on proposed Title IX regulations.

Congress approved the regulations that summer. When Kruh returned to school in the fall, she talked to some SMU women athletes and learned about their problems. Her standing as a student gave her the right to file the complaint.

Six weeks later, Kruh appeared at the SMU Affirmative Action Council hearing. After five hours, the council forwarded its recommendations to SMU President James Zumberge. His decision arrived as a letter in Kruh’s campus mailbox: The women’s basketball team was reinstated and funded with $2,500, swimmers were given better practice times and the tennis team received priority practice time on five new courts originally designated for intramurals.

“What I did wasn’t easy or pleasant, but as I look at today’s college athletes, I can see it was important to do,” says Kruh, now a freelance writer and Dallas Morning News columnist. “I’m really proud to have been part of something bigger.”

By 1979, 32 women attended SMU on athletics scholarships, and SMU women won their first NCAA National Championship in the newly added sport of golf. Kyle O’Brien (’80) was named the nation’s outstanding woman golfer.

Nearly 20 years later, SMU athletics has added a number of other sports for women...
who have competed successfully at the national level and won numerous conference titles (see insert, this page).

“We are committed to gender equity as an athletics department,” says SMU Athletics Director Steve Orsini. “In the past 11 years we have added three women’s sports and increased our funding of women’s athletics in the past two years. We continue to make strides in this area as we fully support all of our student athletes.”

Nationally, women’s participation in college sports has increased dramatically, from 16,000 in 1970 to 260,000 in 2006. But Title IX continues to face challenges. The College Sports Council, a national coalition of coaches, athletes and parents, describes its mission as “working to eliminate Title IX quotas.”

According to the council, 17 percent of men’s collegiate teams have been eliminated since 1981. In a 2007 study, the council found that the average number of men’s teams per school has dropped to 7.8, while the number of women’s teams per school has risen to 8.7. U.S. Census figures, however, state that 58 percent of college students are women, while 42 percent are men.

Women’s athletics administrators also face challenges. “I can analyze the cost and competition of a new women’s sport, but determining how many women are interested in a sport is really difficult,” Daws says.

As SMU’s Title IX coordinator, Daws plans a yearlong analysis of Title IX, including considering a recommendation for a new women’s sport. “To be part of a collegiate sport is the opportunity of a lifetime,” she says. “Women want the opportunity. We know we need to get an A, and we will.”

SMU basketball player Katy Cobb says she was reared to work hard, but playing sports instilled in me that hard work brings results. As an upperclassman and leader of the team, I’m developing skills that will come in handy later when I hope to become a coach.”

In 1995, while working as a feature writer for The Dallas Morning News, Kruh was assigned to profile a high school girls’ basketball team, the Duncanville Pantherettes, which has won six state titles and produced two professional basketball players – Tiffany Jackson with the New York Liberty and Tamika Catchings, an Olympic gold medalist who plays for the Indiana Fever.

“Looking at that team, I could tell how much sports was changing these girls’ lives,” says Kruh, who plans to give her Title IX records to the SMU Archives. “Title IX really is so much more than just gaining equal practice facilities. It’s given girls and young women access to all the leadership experience, team skills and physical fitness that gave men such an advantage in school and at work for so long.”

— Nancy Lowell George (’79)
SMU Golfs ‘Home Course’

SMU and The Dallas Athletic Club in North Dallas have entered into an agreement to establish the DAC as the home of SMU men’s and women’s golf programs. SMU will construct a new $4 million practice facility and clubhouse on the DAC grounds, and donors are being sought.

The complex will comprise a team clubhouse, locker rooms, a Golf Hall of Fame and trophy room, coaches’ offices, study rooms, a conference room, a workout facility and a media room. Two hitting bays will be equipped with state-of-the-art video and swing analysis capabilities. On the five acres surrounding the complex will be two large putting greens – one Bentgrass and one Bermuda grass. Chet Williams of The Nicklaus Design Team will create a four-hole short course with numerous practice stations for every conceivable lie or situation.

Although a lead donor will have naming options, at least a portion of the complex will be named after SMU alumnus and championship golfer Payne Stewart (’79), who died in 1999.

To support the new facility or for more information, contact Craig Shaver, associate athletics director for development, at 214-768-3639 or cshaver@smu.edu, or visit smumustangs.cstv.com.

Sport Shorts

Nothing Amateurish About Him

SMU golfer Colt Knost (’07) wrapped up his amateur career as only the second golfer in history to win both the U.S. Amateur Championship and the U.S. Public Links title in the same year. He was the first amateur since 1993 to qualify for the 2007 Byron Nelson Championship and was unbeaten as a member of the first U.S. Walker Cup team since 1991 to win the match overseas. Knost, the 2007 Conference USA Golfer of the Year and PING Division I All-American, entered the professional circuit in October.

Top Rankings For Golf

Mustang golfers performed well on the links this summer with four golfers qualifying for the 2007 U.S. Women’s Amateur Championship in Indiana. Jennifer Ackerson (’07) qualified for the first round of match play. In addition to Colt Knost, three other SMU men also advanced to the 2007 U.S. Amateur Championship in California.

The 2007-2008 Golf Digest College Guide ranked the Mustang men’s and women’s golf teams among the top 30 in its listing of 800 men’s programs and 500 women’s programs. The women’s team ranked 28 and the men’s team ranked 29 in the guide.

High Jumper Raises The Bar

Senior high jumper Gaelle Niare earned All-American status after a fifth-place finish in the high jump at the 2007 NCAA Indoor Championships. She placed fourth in the heptathlon at the 2007 NCAA Outdoor Championships, only her second time to compete in the event. In addition, she was named Conference USA Indoor Track and Field Female Athlete of the Year and Female High Point Scorer after her performance at the C-USA indoor meet. She won the conference high jump title for the second year and captured the heptathlon title.

New Leadership For Tennis, Equestrian Teams

Lauren Lonbotham, former Mustang assistant women’s tennis coach, has been named head coach of the team. As interim head coach last year, she led the Mustangs to a 19-5 season, their highest winning percentage since 1977. Lonbotham, who joined SMU in 2003, lettered four years with the Louisiana Tech women’s tennis team.

Ashley Schaeffer is new head coach of the SMU equestrian team. She brings 26 years of riding and training experience, including training with the U.S. Olympic team from 1990-93. Most recently she managed upper-level hunter-jumper competitions in Texas and Oklahoma as vice president of Blue Ribbon Shows and president of Fireside Show Management.

Leaders In Graduation Rates

SMU football and men’s basketball teams rank in the top three among Conference USA, Big 12 and Metroplex colleges in Graduation Success Rates (GSR), according to data released by the NCAA. The data is from the four-class aggregate of entering classes from 1997 through 2000. SMU’s football team scored an 84 to rank second among the cohorts, while men’s basketball received an 82 to place third. Overall, eight of SMU’s 15 athletic programs scored a perfect 100 percent in the GSRs: men’s and women’s golf, men’s tennis and swimming, and women’s crew, soccer, cross country and track. All 15 of SMU’s programs rated by the NCAA were equal to or better than the national average.

Victory Laps For Swimmers

Mustang men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams won Conference USA championships for the second year. Sophomore Petra Klosova was named women’s Conference USA Swimmer of the Meet, winning the 100 free, while head women’s coach Steve Collins was named C-USA Coach of the Year. Men’s Conference USA Swimmer of the Meet, Ian Clark (’07), won the 200 back. Men’s coach Eddie Sinnott also was named C-USA Coach of the Year.

See www.smumustangs.com for more information.
FOLLOWING THEIR PASSIONS, THREE NOW SERVE AS INDUSTRY LEADERS

Success stories often include a pivotal moment that leads to a life’s calling. That is certainly true for three women who followed their passions after graduating from SMU to become leaders in retail, broadcast journalism and the health care industry. For Melissa Meyer Reiff (’77), president of The Container Store, the turning point was a business offer that deviated from her plans to attend law school. For Stacia Philips Deshishku (’90), director of coverage for CNN North America, it was an aptitude test at SMU. And for Angela Braly (’85, J.D.), president and CEO of WellPoint Inc., that moment was the first day of Law School orientation, when she learned a surprising statistic that made her determined to challenge the odds. Their stories follow on pages 39, 41 and 43. Young alumni featured in “Ones to Watch” on pages 33 and 34 also achieved success by committing to their passions: opera singer Valerie Vinzant (’06) and tutors Benjamin (’03) and Christopher (’04) Bhatti and Carl Dorvil (’05).

REACHING BEYOND THE HIGH NOTES

Opéra fans know they are in for a treat if a program contains arias from Massenet’s “Manon,” Handel’s “Giulio Cesare” and Donizetti’s “Linda di Chamounix.” And that is what soprano Valerie Vinzant (’06) delivered last spring when she sang these selections before renowned judges and a packed house at the Dallas Opera Guild Competition.

Vinzant, who won first place, also claimed first at the district level and third at the regional level at the 2007 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions earlier this year.

Since earning her Bachelor’s of music in voice at SMU, Vinzant is honing her craft and working toward a Master’s from Indiana University in Bloomington. Studying under noted soprano Carol Vaness, Vinzant takes music lessons, language study, history classes and vocal pedagogy. She is part of a 17th-century music group that rehearses three times a week. And when she is cast in an opera production, add evening rehearsals to the slate.

A native of Spring, Texas, Vinzant describes her high coloratura voice as best suited for younger characters, usually comedic roles. At Indiana last year she played a fairy godmother in the comedy “Too Many Sopranos.”

Originally a musical theater student at New York University, Vinzant returned closer to home to focus on voice study, inspired by meeting celebrated soprano and SMU alumna Laura Claycomb (’90). Vinzant received a scholarship from Meadows School of the Arts, where she found a rich opera program and worked with graduate students and voice coach Hank Hammett.

“Coaching helps refine acting and language and your total performance,” Vinzant says. “Not every school has this, and I feel it set me apart.”

While at SMU, she was cast as a lead soprano in “Three Penny Opera.” Voice professor Virginia Dupuy says that in Vinzant’s junior year, “she began to show a special professionalism, vocal beauty and mastery of vocal technique. She wasn’t distracted by criticism, competition, jealousy or peer pressure. We encouraged her to take auditions.”

Her instructors’ high expectations helped foster discipline for less glamorous but crucial career preparations, Vinzant says. “I picked up from the SMU opera director that I needed to set goals for myself,” such as a solid foundation in at least four languages.

In the realm of opera singers, Vinzant describes herself as a “tiny child” and says her voice will not be ready for more mature, dramatic pieces until she’s at least 30. “I have my eye on the heroine roles in “La Traviata” or “Lucia di Lammermoor,” which I’ll be ready for in about 10 years. Meanwhile, I’m open to whatever is dealt to me.”

Valerie Vinzant in Chabrier’s “L’Etoile”
Fun ded through Texas Instruments Foundation, United Way and Advanced Placement Strategies, Group Excellence has expanded to eight middle and high schools, serving more than 1,500 Dallas-area students. During the 2006-07 school year, nearly 200 SMU students, recruited through the Hegi Family Career Development Center, worked as tutors.

“We’re bridging the gap between worlds with resources and worlds without,” Benjamin says. He first became aware of that gap while serving with Teach for America in urban Atlanta after earning his Bachelor’s in psychology, with minors in philosophy and cultural anthropology.

Group Excellence trains tutors to be mentors, or “life coaches,” teaching its “Smart Sports” math curriculum several hours each week after school. Students being tutored are divided into small teams according to needs and work on individualized “playbooks” to earn points and prizes.

The coaches aim to make learning fun, Benjamin says, but they also enforce rules, such as listening and behaving, cleaning up and helping each other learn. In the process, they have helped students raise their scores on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, not only in math, but also in reading and science. Tutored students at one middle school last year went from a 13 percent to a 65.2 percent pass rate, while passing rates of other students in their area declined by nearly 1 percentage point. “It works because of the mentoring,” Benjamin says. “Kids look up to the college students.”

Continued on page 48
our alumni have received the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest award SMU can bestow upon its alumni. Recipients are Linda Pitts Custard (’60,’99), James B. Gardner (’55), The Honorable Antonio O. “Tony” Garza Jr. (’83) and Rick Herrscher (’58). The Emerging Leader Award, which recognizes outstanding alumni who have graduated within the past 15 years, was presented to Nathan Allen (’00). They were honored at the DAA celebration in November.

Linda Pitts Custard, an active volunteer in Dallas, sustained her demanding civic activities while earning an M.B.A. degree in 1999 from Cox School of Business. She previously attended SMU with the class of 1960 before graduating from Mills College.

Among her activities, Custard chaired the opening events for the Meadows Museum and the Greer Garson Theatre. She is a director of the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts Foundation and chairs its President’s Advisory Board. Her support of SMU includes an endowment for President’s Scholarships.

Custard is a trustee of SMU and the Hoblitzelle Foundation and secretary of Communities Foundation of Texas, among others. Recent honors include the Cox School of Business Distinguished Alumni Award, Maura Award for Women Helping Women and TACA/Neiman Marcus Silver Cup Award.

James B. Gardner, an investment adviser to financial institutions, co-founded and serves as chair of Commerce Street Holdings, LLC. He previously served as senior managing director of Samco Capital Markets Inc., after a 40-year career in banking. He is an organizer and member of the Independent Bankers Capital Fund, LP, investment committee and past president of the Dallas Bankers Association.

Gardner earned his B.B.A. in finance from Cox School of Business in 1955. He has served SMU as a member of the Executive Board of Perkins School of Theology and convener of the Dean’s Roundtable at Perkins.

Gardner’s community service includes chair of the Japan-Texas Conference and the International Committee of the North Texas Commission, board member of the Dallas Opera and director of United Way of Greater Dallas. The Salvation Army awarded him the Order of Distinguished Service.


Garza earned a B.B.A. from UT-Austin in 1980 and a J.D. degree from SMU School of Law in 1983. Elected Cameron County Judge in 1988, he was the first Republican elected to countywide office in traditionally Democratic South Texas. Garza was appointed in 1994 by then-governor-elect George W. Bush as Texas’ secretary of state and a senior adviser. He also was a partner in the law firm of Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P.

Garza, who delivered SMU’s commencement address in 2004, has been honored with the Outstanding Young Texas Exes Award and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Dedman School of Law, which he serves as a member of its Executive Board. Hispanic Business magazine has twice named him one of its Top 100 Influential Hispanics and one of the 25 Most Powerful Hispanics in the United States.

Rick Herrscher, who earned a B.A. degree in 1958 through the pre-medical studies program, was a member of the varsity baseball and basketball teams. He played in the NCAA Final Four basketball tournament in 1956 and was Southwest Conference Player of the Year in 1958. After SMU, he played professional baseball for five years, concluding his career with the New York Mets. He later earned a D.D.S. degree from Baylor College of Dentistry. After two years in the Navy, he returned to Baylor for an advanced degree in orthodontics. He spent 20 years in private practice before serving on UT-Southwestern’s cranial-facial faculty. He returned to private practice in 1994.

Herrscher has served on boards of the Mustang Club, Alumni Association and Lettermen’s Association. He was founder and organizing director of the Hilltop Sports Camp. Other board service includes Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Dental Health Programs and Salesmanship Club of Dallas.

Nathan H. Allen has taken the Chicago theatre scene by storm since receiving his B.F.A. in theatre from Meadows School of the Arts in 2000. Accompanied by other Meadows alumni, Allen moved to Chicago and founded The House Theatre of Chicago, of which he is artistic director.

Allen came to SMU as a Hunt Leadership Scholar. He spent his junior year studying at the British American Drama Academy in London, which inspired him to establish a theatre company combining American pop culture with European spectacle. The result is The House, now in its fifth season. In 2007 the League of Chicago Theatres named The House as the inaugural recipient of the Broadway in Chicago Emerging Theater Award.

Nominations for 2008 DAA and Emerging Leader recipients must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2007. To nominate alumni, call 214-768-2586, e-mail smualum@smu.edu or visit www.smu.edu/alumni/daa.
SMU Magazine is published twice a year—in the fall and spring. Class Notes received after Aug. 31, 2007, will appear in the spring/summer issue of SMU Magazine, which will be published in April 2008. Send information to SMU Magazine, P.O. Box 750174, Dallas, TX 75275-0174 or to smumag@smu.edu. Using the “What’s New with You” card inserted in front of the magazine, please print legibly or type and include your class year, address and phone number. To make an address change or submit a Class Note online, access www.smu.edu/alumni/directory.

47
Sweet Orange
Laguna Beach, CA.

48
and 49 books,
Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

50
Spends summers in the White Mountains.

51
Kenneth R. Steele (M.B.A. ’62) is a Spanish language instructor for police departments in and around Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

52
Francis E. (Frank) Murray has published his 47th and 48th books, Health Benefits Derived from Sweet Orange and Natural Supplements for Diabetes (Revised) (Basic Health Publications, Laguna Beach, CA).

53
Carolyn S. Jones was elected May 15, 2007, to her fourth two-year term as mayor of the city of Winnieboro, TX. John H. LaPrade, professor emeritus of SMU’s Department of Foreign Languages, received the Jorge Luis Borges Award—Sigma Delta Pi’s lifetime achievement honor—Aug. 4, 2007, at the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society’s Triennial Convention in San Diego. He lives in Dallas with his wife, Margaret Ann.

Robert Hyer (Bob) Thomas, partner at Strasburger & Price LLP, is the recipient of the mathematical formula used in shrinking circuits to allow more speed and complexity. As a researcher with IBM, he invented the Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM) chip in 1967, which remains the standard today. He has earned 37 patents and numerous honors for his work.

Nancy Hopkins Reilly has published her fourth book, Georgia O’Keeffe, A Private Friendship, Part I, a biography covering 1887-1945 (Sunstone Press, 2007). Part II will deal with her family’s friendship with O’Keeffe.

Nancy Kenyon Baker was married in August 2006 and is now Nancy Froelich. Floyd E. Bloom, a world renowned neuroscientist and one of the major architects of modern neuroscience, was appointed to the Board of Directors of Elan Corp. July 1, 2007. T.W. Lewis III was honored in March by Millsaps College as the 2007 Alumnus of the Year. He is professor emeritus of religious studies there, teaching from 1964 to 1996.

John Mood is the author of Rilke on Love & Other Difficulties (W.W. Norton, 1975), Rilke on Death & Other Oddities (2007) and Joyce’s “Ulysses” for Everyone, Or How to Skip Reading It the First Time (2004). He lives in San Diego. Warren C. Vivirito is enjoying life in Richardson, TX.

Rev. Robert F. Debusk is still preaching at age 86. A golfer, he recently bought a new condo and celebrated 63 years of marriage to his wife, Elizabeth. Georgie Green (M.L.A. ’73) was

LIVELY 50TH REUNION CONNECTS CLASSMATES

Classmate Leighton Stewart (left) joined reunion co-chairs Nancy Mock Swanson and Paul M. Bass Jr. to help celebrate the class of 1957’s golden reunion May 18-20 during Commencement weekend. President R. Gerald Turner welcomed the class back to SMU at a Friday night reception. After marching in Commencement Saturday morning, the class met for lunch at Maggiano’s and for dinner at Dallas Country Club that evening. The class, which set a 50-year reunion attendance record of 197, raised more than $500,000 for its class gift. “The honor of co-chairing our 50-year class reunion, and then attending the events, made me realize how very important my SMU experience has been to me,” Bass says. “Little did I know 50 years ago what a life-changing event was taking place.”
honored with the National Pedigree Livestock Council's Distinguished Service Award May 9, 2007, at the annual meeting in Fort Worth. She has been on the Board of Directors for the American Morgan Horse Association for 27 years. She and her husband, John, own and run Road Show Morgans, one of the largest Morgan breeding facilities in Texas.

58
Norman D. Case and his wife, Thelma, live in Roseville, CA.

59
Rev. Zan Wesley Holmes Jr. (M.Th. ’68) received the 2007 J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award April 24 from SMU’s Cary M. Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility. He is pastor emeritus of St. Luke “Community” United Methodist Church in Dallas and was an adjunct professor of preaching for 24 years in Perkins School of Theology.

60
Robert M. (Monroe) Jackson was named the distinguished artist for the Midland (TX) 2007 Celebration of the Arts. He has been married for 45 years to Sharon Ross (’64). Eugene C. Steger enjoyed an Alaskan fishing trip in 2005. Since retiring in 1997, he has held seven part-time pastorates.

62
Richard S. (Dick) Geiger is the 2007 recipient of the Raymond Mauk Leadership Award presented by the Insurance Council of Texas July 12 in Austin. In 1972 he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives and in 1975 joined the law firm Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons. Herschel E. Milner and his wife have moved back to Dallas from Jackson, MS. Geri Sue Hudson Morgan has celebrated five years as a kidney transplant recipient.

64
Lucy Ashcroft Carothers was selected for the first Highland Park (TX) Leadership Class in 2006-07. Three years ago she participated in the University Park Leadership Program and is an alumnus of the Leadership Dallas program.

66
Judith Peters York (M.M. ’67) is organist and associate director of music ministries at Marvin United Methodist Church in Tyler, TX.

67
Jane Albritton (M.A. ’71, ’73) is the editor of Peace Corps at 50, a series of nonfiction stories in four volumes that will collect the full range of volunteers’ experiences in the Peace Corps (www.peacecorpsat50.org).

68
First Lady Laura Bush and her daughter, Jenna, are writing a children’s book based loosely on their experiences as teachers. Fay Jean Hooker exhibited her “American Pattern Paintings: Wooden Quilts” for seven weeks beginning April 26, 2007, at The Women’s Museum at Fair Park in Dallas. She lives and works on the eastern shore of Maryland. Stephanie Fujinaka-Crowell Stucky has been teaching music in Maui schools. Currently embroiled in a legal battle with the Hawaii court system and Department of Education, she is fighting for the right to teach band class at a rural Maui school. She married Rodney Dean Stucky in 1968 at Perkins Chapel.

69
Albon O. Head Jr. (J.D. ’71) was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers at its 2007 spring meeting. He is a partner in the litigation section of Jackson Walker and managing partner of the Fort Worth office. Reve French Shapard (M.L.A. ’73, M.A. ’76) and her husband, Robert (B.B.A. ’66, B.A. ’72, M.A. ’74), have moved to Austin after 21 years in Honolulu.

70
Rhett G. Campbell (J.D. ’73) is a Thompson & Knight attorney who is featured in H Texas magazine’s 2007 “Top Lawyers” list. Eleanor Smith (Ellie) Morrison is the 2007 Jefferson Award winner for community service in Waco, TX. She is a volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America. Chaplain (LTC) Granville E. Tyson, USA retired, was inducted into the Military Science Hall of Honor at the University of Texas at Arlington Feb. 24, 2007.

71
Rhys J. Best has been elected to the Board of Directors of Austin Industries. He was named Ernst & Young’s 2006 Entrepreneur of the Year for the southwest region — manufacturing. Terri Johnson Hutton, MFA, CCC/SLP, was named a 2007 fellow of The American Speech and Hearing Association. Wayne Mitchell (M.S.S.E. ’76) is a senior-level executive and recruiting professional for technology companies. He has joined Stanton Chase International as a director in the Dallas office and serves as technology practice leader in North America. He leads the men’s ministry at First Baptist Church in Garland (TX), where he lives with his wife, Cheryl. James A. (Jim) Smith was elected chair of the 27,000-member Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants. He is managing director of Smith, Jackson, Boyer and Bovard PLLC, a Dallas-based CPA firm.

72
Susan Kennon Carruth (M.F.A. ’73) is a professional artist and metalsmith selected to create a pearl and amethyst necklace for Barbara Bush.
The necklace was presented to the former First Lady at a symposium, also attended by Beverly Pool Young and Nancy K. Thompson. Each of the 800 attendees received Spirit of Women necklaces designed by the artist. Ken Dahlberg (M.Div., ’01) received a Doctor of Ministry degree in May 2007 from Chicago’s McCormick Theological Seminary. James W. Faison III retired June 1, 2007, as administrative law judge in the State of New Jersey Office of Administrative Law. Timothy P. Snyder has been named executive vice president and chief operating officer of Voices for America’s Children, a national, nonpartisan, nonprofit child advocacy organization speaking out for the well-being of children at all levels of government. Joe B. Whisler was elected to the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association representing the Missouri Bar, which he led as president in 2004-05.

73  
Jay (Rusty) Crutcher is a Ph.D. candidate in music theory at the University of Kentucky.

74  
Sara McDonald is senior policy adviser for Marion County, OR. Robert Stephen Molina has been named chair of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission International Committee. He is an attorney at Patton Boggs LLP. Joe Pouncy was selected “Administrator of the Year” for 2007 by the Association of Texas Professional Educators. He is principal at Newman Smith High School in Carrollton, TX. Bruce Treut directed the ESPN coverage of SMU’s Labor Day opener against Texas Tech Sept. 3. He has directed live coverage of network TV sports for the past 25 years. He has two sons, Peter and Robbie, and is married to Susan Riber Treut (’84). They live in Wellesley, MA. Patrick Yack, editor of the Florida Times-Union in Jacksonville, has been named to the First Amendment Foundation.

75  
Colleen Townsley Brinkmann went to work for the North Texas Food Bank five years ago and started its communications department. Recently she was promoted from director of communication and marketing to chief marketing officer. Debra Monk won a Drama Desk award for featured musical performance in “Curtains.” Radamee Orlandi, D.D.S., received the Florida Dental Association Leadership Award at the June annual session. He is immediate past president of the Treasure Coast Dental Society.

76  
Katherine E. (Kate) Browne (‘93) has been teaching anthropology at Colorado State University since 1994. Her most recent research resulted in a documentary film, “Still Waiting: Life After Katrina,” which she co-produced with Dallas filmmaker Ginny Martin. It follows an extended African American family of 150 members trying to re-establish their lives temporarily in Dallas. It aired on PBS on Aug. 28, the eve of the second anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

77  
Carolyn McCartney Culbert operates the McCartney’s store across from SMU, continuing the family legacy begun in 1948 when patriarch Bill McCartney began selling SMU class rings. In 2008 the McCartneys will celebrate 60 years of retail service to SMU students and the Park Cities community. Caroline C. Fuller has been named managing director for the Rocky Mountain law firm Fairfield and Woods PC in Denver. She has been with the firm for more than 20 years. Mark S. McQuality has been named a partner in the Dallas law firm Shackelford, Melton & McKinley LLP, concentrating on residential and commercial construction, real estate and insurance law. He is a key advocate for homeowners’ rights in the evolution of the Texas Residential Construction Commission. Lucy Scott researched, wrote and produced a three-part “Vanishing America” series for the NBC-TV Weekend Today Show for May, covered Texas floods in June and July and produced a vacation deprivation piece for NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams in July.

78  
Darrell Beck was presented the 2007 Dean’s Roundtable Outstanding Educator Award from the College of Education and Human Development at Texas A&M at a ceremony in College Station. Braiden Rex-Johnson was the food editor at Seattle Homes & Lifestyles and has been writing about Pacific Northwest food and wine for more than 15 years. Her latest book is Pacific Northwest Winning and Dining. Les Weisbrod was elected president-elect of the American Association for Justice at its annual convention in Chicago in July. The association is dedicated to preserving the civil justice system and ensuring that powerful special interests are held accountable for misconduct or negligence. He is a partner in the Dallas law firm Miller, Curtis & Weisbrod.

80  
Eugene J. Flynn is a Dallas immigration attorney who has been appointed general counsel to the British American Business Council of Dallas-Fort Worth. He has served for 12 years on its Board of Directors.

81  
Deborah Ballard (M.F.A., ’90) is an award-winning artist whose subject is the human form. Her sculpture and wall reliefs were exhibited May 13-June 9, 2007, at Valley House Gallery in Dallas. Ellen Currey-Wilson has written a book, The Big Turnoff: Confessions of a TV-Addicted Mom Trying to Raise a TV-Free Kid (Algonquin Books). She lives in Portland, OR, with her husband, Bob, and son, Casey, 12. Julie Dood has started the executive recruiting company Velocity Talent in Lake Oswego, OR. Don Jackson, a litigation lawyer at Haynes & Boone in Houston, participated in a cookie campaign benefiting U.S. soldiers.
A CEO’s Prescription For Success

On the first day of her orientation at Dedman School of Law, Angela Braly (‘85) recalls being told that although half of her classmates were women, it would be 40 more years before they would achieve equal numbers as practitioners in the legal field.

“That prediction inspired me, and I committed myself to making a difference in the profession,” she says. “Today, about 25 percent of lawyers are women, and I’m glad to see women making substantial progress in law and across all professional fields.”

Braly herself has raised the bar on that progress. Drawing on her legal and business skills, in June she became president and CEO of the nation’s largest health insurer, WellPoint, where she is responsible for setting strategy and managing all aspects of the business. Based in Indianapolis, WellPoint, which serves 35 million customers, operates Blue Cross and Blue Cross Blue Shield plans in 14 states, has 42,000 employees and attained nearly $60 billion in revenue last year. The company is ranked 35th on the Fortune 500 list and, with Braly’s promotion, became the largest in the United States with a woman chief executive – and the only one in the top 50.

“It’s natural that a woman would lead one of the nation’s largest health care companies because most health care decisions in this country are made by women,” says Braly, a 46-year-old mother of three. WellPoint takes diversity seriously, she adds: More than 77 percent of its employees are women, as are nearly 60 percent of managers.

Braly, who grew up in Dallas and earned her undergraduate degree at Texas Tech University, had served as executive vice president at WellPoint since 2005, overseeing the country’s largest Medicare claims processing business, public policy development and legal affairs, among other areas. Previously she was with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Missouri, where she also rose to president and CEO, and with the St. Louis law firm of Lewis, Rice, & Fingersh, where she was named partner.

Her time at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Missouri, in particular, influenced her as a leader, Braly says. A competitive market and significant litigation challenged that company’s structure, and she worked with regulators and the courts to resolve issues regarding a reorganization that had transferred business from not-for-profit Blue Cross to a for-profit subsidiary. “The creation of the Missouri Foundation for Health funded with $1 billion will address the health care needs of uninsured Missourians in perpetuity.”

Braly says she is focusing on her company’s efforts to improve the affordability and quality of health care and on working with government leaders on reforms. Earlier this year, WellPoint proposed covering the 44 million uninsured Americans through a blend of public and private initiatives, such as the states’ expansion of health care programs for children and less costly private options for young workers and small businesses.

“I believe universal access to health care for all Americans is an important national goal,” she says, “and I am a passionate defender of a competitive, private system.”
producing integrated circuits and circuitboards.

The Treuts live in Wellesley, MA. She met her husband, a real estate agent. The Treuts live in Wellesley, MA.

In 1986 he founded Synopsys Inc., for which he serves as chairman and CEO. Richard (Rick) Mase was appointed operations officer with Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas in January 2007. Wade Payne has been named chief operating officer for Allen & Allen Company in San Antonio, where he lives with his wife, Ileana, and two daughters, Elise Ann and Catherine Grace.

Eileen Baland (M.L.A. ’97) was awarded a Ph.D. in literary studies from the University of Texas at Dallas May 24, 2007. Keith Todd is director of undergraduate admission at Rice University after spending five years at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. He recently served on the Advanced Placement Task Force of the College Board and on the national selection committee for the Coca-Cola Scholars Program.

Courtney Lee Corwin is the new director of development for Dedman College at SMU. Previously she was director of development and public relations at both The Winston School and St. John’s Episcopal School in Dallas. She has her own art consulting business, Corwin Fine Arts. Charlotte Donn has been named associate vice president of marketing and communications for the YMCA of Greater Miami. Gina Williams was honored May 12, 2007, with the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching at the 22nd annual ceremony in Chicago.

State Rep. Rafael Anchía has been named by Texas Monthly magazine one of the 10 best legislators in the 80th legislative session. He is an attorney with the law firm Haynes & Boone LLP, specializing in public and corporate finance. He lives in North Oak Cliff (TX) with his wife, Marissa, and daughters, Sofia and Maia. David Dreyer (’92), an art instructor in Meadows School of the Arts, will have an exhibition of new paintings and sculpture Jan. 11 to Feb. 9, 2008, at the Valley House Gallery in Dallas. Lee Mulcahy is an instructor for the Ski School of Aspen. He placed seventh in the U.S. nationals at Snowmass, CO, for bordercross and first in the combined skiing and snowboarding crossover race. Eric B. Suhler, M.D., received his Master’s degree in public health from Oregon Health and Science University in June. He is an assistant professor of ophthalmology at OHSU and directs the Portland Veterans Administration eye clinic. He lives in Lake Oswego, OR, with his wife, Naomi, and children: Kayla, 9, Benjamin, 7, and Sophia, 5.


Paige Davis toured this summer in the musical “Sweet Charity.” She is working on an autobiographical cabaret show that she hopes to take to
An Organized Mind Never Goes To Waste

Politics of the 1970s – Watergate, Richard Nixon’s pardon, Jimmy Carter’s election – fascinated Melissa Meyer Reiff (’77), spurring an interest in law school. After graduating with a B.A. in political science from SMU, however, she took a different career course through a job that eventually led to her position as president of The Container Store.

Reiff spent her first two years after graduation soaking up business advice from some of the biggest names at the time in sales, motivation and positive mental attitude – W. Clement Stone, Norman Vincent Peale, Zig Ziglar – while traveling nationwide to set up seminars sponsored by Stone and his magazine, Success Unlimited.

While in daily contact with these mentors, Reiff says she gleaned valuable lessons about business, accounting, sales and organization, as well as nuggets of wisdom such as “execute with excellence” and “a goal without a plan is a wish.”

She draws on those early lessons in leading The Container Store, managing sales performance and day-to-day operations of the retail chain that produced revenues of $550 million in 2006. The privately held Coppell, Texas, company has created a niche with 40 stores across the nation that sell storage and organizational products. Sales have increased on average 20 percent every year since 1978.

Reiff, who joined The Container Store in 1995, credits the company’s unique culture for its success. “Our style of managing is the opposite of laissez faire – a very hands-on approach. We try every day to practice consistent, reliable, effective, thoughtful, compassionate and courteous communication” to make employees feel valued and part of the team, she says.

At the Container Store, full-time sales staff members make twice as much as other retail workers and spend more than 241 hours in training during their first year, she says. “I’m most proud of our low employee turnover rate – less than 10 percent – compared to the retail industry turnover average of more than 100 percent.” For the past eight years, Fortune magazine has listed The Container Store among its “100 Best Companies to Work For.”

After her years with W. Clement Stone, Reiff joined LaPapillion Inc., a national manufacturer representative firm, eventually becoming principal and national sales manager and helping to achieve $14 million in sales. In 1989 she joined Crabtree & Evelyn, a skin and beauty products retailer, as national sales manager before being named vice president of marketing and sales for The Container Store. She became president in 2006 and continues in that role after the company’s recent sale to Leonard Green Partners.

Reiff relies on her years at SMU when marketing The Container Store products to space-starved college students. “You have to be reasonably well organized in your dorm room. Think of every inch of wasted space – behind doors and under beds,” she says. “College is the best training ground to learn organizational skills.”
parents of son Reyn, 2, announce the birth of a daughter, Leelisa Spencer, July 31, 2006. The Owens live in Atlanta. Robert L. Paddock, an attorney at Thompson & Knight, has been named to H Texas magazine’s “Top Lawyers” list for 2007. Todd Williams and his wife, Tracy, are parents of Tristan Charles, born April 24, 2007.

95

Tiffany Caro Burns completed her family medicine residency at The Methodist Hospital in Houston in June and will open a private practice. She and her husband, Nathan, recently celebrated 12 years of marriage. They are parents of two sons: Zachary Joseph, born Oct. 20, 2006, and Colin, 3. Lana Coggeshall and Alex Barker announce the birth of Elliot Barker Dec. 8, 2006. Rola Saidi Hart moved to The Woodlands, TX, and changed jobs. She has a 16-month-old daughter, Colleen Smith McTaggart and her husband, Lawrence, announce the birth of Lawrence John McTaggart IV May 20, 2007. They live in Chicago.

96

Naima Fulgham Jefferson and David Jefferson (’00) announce the birth of their daughter, Aria Grace, April 7, 2007. Cynthia L. Lee is main anchor for Fox News in San Antonio. Stephanie Walsh published her first children’s book, The Great Princess Adventure (Aardvark Adventure Stories); her second, The Kid Gets the Call! You’re in the Major Leagues, was published last summer. She is working on a Master’s degree in child psychology.

97

Wendy Arthurs has accepted a position with Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich PLLP, Montana’s oldest and largest law firm. Andrew D. Graham was featured in the April 2007 Texas Monthly magazine as a Rising Star for 2006. He is an associate in the litigation section of the Dallas office of law firm Jackson Walker LLP. Elizabeth Tomek Hernandez and her husband, Ruben, announce the birth of Aaron Rafael April 19, 2007. Their home is Austin. Laura P. Sims has joined the real estate development group of the business law firm Winstead as a shareholder in the Dallas office. She has practiced law since 1997. Stacy Stack-Rudolph and Blake Rudolph are the parents of Rachel Noel, born Feb. 15, 2007. Angela Zambrano, a partner in business litigation at the law firm Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, has been named a Texas Rising Star – Super Lawyer by Texas Monthly magazine. She also was a Texas Rising Star in 2006.

98

Daniel Scott (D.S.) Arnauld had a book signing in March to launch his young adult fantasy novel, Zertelo and the Quest for Castledok, the first in a series of seven Zertelo books to be self-published with his father through Heroes & Leaders Publishing. A portion of the sales proceeds will benefit hospitals, children’s homes and educational scholarships as part of his commitment to helping children in his community and promoting reading as the key to achieving dreams. Marie Briner was named to the Board of the Child and Family Guidance Center in Dallas. Emily Muscarella Guthrie and Ben Guthrie (’00, ’01) are the parents of Felix Benjamin, born April 10, 2007, and Joseph. She is the development manager for Kitchen Dog Theater, and Ben is a software consultant for Symon Communications. The Guthries live in Dallas.

99

Catherine Theresa (Katie) Baker married David Neil Jennings May 26, 2007. She received a Master’s degree in social work at The University of Denver and is a social work counselor at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. The newlyweds are at home in Houston with their three dogs. Heather Del Bosco-Centurioni and her husband, Stephen, welcomed their first child, Sophia Rose, March 3, 2007. Elizabeth Rittenburg Filip and her husband, Matthew, announce the birth of David Matthew Dec. 5, 2006. Stacey D. Gutsell has been promoted to IT senior manager in risk advisory services at KBA Group LLP, a certified public accounting firm headquartered in Dallas. A certified internal systems auditor, she analyzes technology and business risks as well as designs and develops applications.

00

Keith Christopher was appointed director of church choral publications for the Hal Leonard Corporation, the world’s largest music publisher. Patricia McGregor was one of 31 graduate students nationwide out of 800 applicants to receive a 2007 Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship. She is pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree in directing at Yale University Drama School. She volunteers with the 52nd Street Project to match kids of Hell’s Kitchen with professional theater artists to create original work. Porter Heath Morgan (B.B.A. ’01) is an attorney and filmmaker whose documentary, “The Trials of Law School,” was released this year. He has worked as a legal and marketing consultant on film productions and teaches film to elementary children. Vanessa Rusk Pierce and her husband, Read (’01), moved to the San Francisco area from Brookline, MA. She is the director of development at Tipping Point.

MANHATTAN CONNECTIONS

Dancer Jamal Story (’99), back row, third from left, ensemble member and assistant dance captain for the Broadway musical “The Color Purple,” met with members of Mustang Consultants in July in New York City. Eleven dance and communications students, along with Assistant Communications Professor Maria Dixon, worked on a consulting project to help revitalize the Dance Theatre of Harlem’s touring company. Pictured in the background is Arthur Mitchell, founder of the Dance Theatre of Harlem, who taught master classes at SMU in the spring. For more information, including a video of the sessions:
Covering North America With CNN

Stacia Philips Deshishku ('90) achieved her high profile career in broadcast journalism thanks to a minor meltdown her first year at SMU. The political science major, at first aiming to become the first female president, called her mother after the first semester and said, “I’m not really meant for college.” With her mother’s encouragement, she signed up at SMU’s Counseling and Testing Center to take a series of aptitude tests, which pointed her toward journalism.

Deshishku, who earned degrees in broadcast journalism and religious studies, credits a writing class with then-senior lecturer Kathy LaTour ('74, '83) for “sparking in me a passion for journalism. She taught us truth and ethics and to be a communications purist, to say what you mean and mean what you say.”

Today her passion continues as director of coverage for CNN North America, headquartered in Atlanta. Deshishku is the hands-on editorial leader for CNN’s domestic network, overseeing the national assignment desk. She works with show producers to help them determine the best direction and content for their programs. In addition, she manages 40 national assignment editors, as well as the relationship between CNN and its 800-plus affiliates.

For Deshishku, her challenge is to create a venue to “tell the stories of those less fortunate, to uncover the wrong and lift up those doing good,” she says.

That dedication won CNN and Deshishku a Peabody Award for their reporting on Hurricane Katrina. She helped direct coverage as the site coordinator, managing all the network’s coverage August to December 2005 from New Orleans.

Deshishku first made contacts for her career by serving an internship with CBS’ “60 Minutes” while participating in SMU’s semester in Washington, D.C., at American University. After graduation she parlayed that into a job as a production secretary for “60 Minutes,” then joined CNN in 1992 as assignment editor and pool coordinator for the Washington Bureau, and later as assignment manager for the Dallas Bureau. She since has produced coverage of numerous major stories – including the 1992 Presidential Inauguration, Million Man March, visit of Pope John Paul II to the United States, the Oklahoma City bombing trials and the 1996 Republican and Democratic Conventions.

During a chance visit to Macedonia in 1999, Deshishku met her future husband, Xeni, a refugee from Kosovo working for CNN as an interpreter. She had moved to Pristina, Kosovo, where the United Nations Mission asked her to join the Office of the Spokesperson as a public information officer. She later became chief of television there, producing local programs as well as documentaries for CNN’s World Report.

When Deshishku returned to the United States, CNN offered her a position in Dallas. “I wouldn’t want to be a television journalist at any other organization because CNN is unparalleled in its international coverage and commitment to telling the stories of those who cannot do it themselves.”
Actress Amy Acker (’99) and Theatre Chair Cecil O’Neal (both at right) greeted theatre students outside the Margo Jones Theatre before Acker’s Q&A session in May. The actress said that her SMU training prepared her for roles in action series such as the WB’s “Angel” and ABC’s “Alias.” “The certification in stage combat has definitely come in handy,” Acker says. “Although I did tell [Meadows professor and fight expert] Bill Lengfelder that I must have been his most unlikely student to have killed all those people on TV!”

Michelle Adkins is an associate IT consultant with the Hewlett-Packard Co. in Dallas. Mary M. Borer married John David Moore. She recently graduated from Medical College of Georgia.

Dodee Crockett was recognized for the second year in a row in Barron’s annual list of “Top 100 Women Financial Advisers,” based in part on revenue produced and customer satisfaction. She serves on the Executive Board of the Perkins School of Theology and the advisory boards of Brownfield, 3/7/07; Victor E. Civillietti, 6/27/07; Harold Gilmore Clark Jr. (’54), 3/19/07; Dr. Porter J. Crow, 5/19/07; Lt. Col. Frederick M. Diener, 10/13/06; Roger David Driskill, 7/14/05; Melvin Colby Flint Sr., 12/28/03; Barbara Heitzman Fullwood, 7/14/07; Judge Fred S. Harless, 3/14/07; Louise Lomax Leclaire, 8/18/07; Stewart F. Mitchell (’59), 5/9/07; Hal Rives, 5/8/07; Henry Gregory Saba, 2/19/07; Edwin Jack Smith Jr. (’52), 6/28/07; Richard Alfred Stout, 1/21/07; Jerome Thornton, 2/13/07; Charles Shannon West Jr., 3/10/07.

Bartholomew A. Ault, 5/20/07; William Berner, 4/23/07; Howard F. Black Jr., 3/17/07; John P. Carter, 8/5/07; Dr. John R. Gibbs, 7/30/07; Dr. Charles L. Giesler, 3/25/07; J. B. Goza, 8/19/07; Dr. Robert Graves McDaniel, 12/22/06; F. Wayne Mowery, 4/2/07; Robert Joseph Prudhomme, 4/30/07; Neal K. Schnatter, 1/22/06; Dr. Otto L. Willbanks, 7/29/07.

Rev. Hugh Baker Jr., 5/26/07; Leroy Hugh Carroll, 4/26/07; Roger C. Carroll, 7/14/07; William Lawrence Guy, 2/19/07; Millard B. Jumper Jr., 7/20/07; Christian F. Lutz Jr., 4/22/07; Andrew W. McBeath, 5/17/07; Roy Edward Packer, 7/18/07; Dr. Jim T. Pickens, 2/18/07.

Walter F. Albritton, 7/31/07; Mary Clayton Horn, 7/6/07; Staley W. Mims Jr., 9/7/03; Paul Reed Welsh, 7/26/07.

John B. Ashby, 3/18/06; Warren X. Boney, 1/28/06; Robert Reid Caldwell (’45), 8/7/07; Edward F. Doran, 7/25/07; Joan Cararas Hogan, 3/5/07; Billy Clyde Hooker (’58), 11/29/07; Dr. Winnie Ruth McEntee, 7/26/03; Rev. John W. McGee, 6/29/07; Frances Fawcett Paret, 7/3/07; Andrew W. Sidaris, 3/7/07.

Bernice E. Akin, 8/3/07; Dale Blair, 2/6/07; Kenneth Carl Dippel, 5/29/07; Peter Montgomery Frost, 2/20/07; Sara Beth Hawkins Helmick-Weaver, 7/10/07; George Leroy Millican, 2/2/07; Rev. Virgil H. Smith, 8/25/07; Pauline Dickson Lyon Titus, 7/28/07.
The Dallas Foundation and the Shared Housing Center. Her firm is Crockett, McBride & Associates. **Rogers Healy** has opened the real estate brokerage firm Rogers Healy and Associates near SMU. Classmate **Paul Bordelon** also works with the firm. **Heidi Louise Kuglin** graduated from the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration June 7, 2007. Staff Sgt. James McClarty joined "The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band in February 2007 playing trumpet and cornet. He will perform with the Marine Band, Marine Chamber Orchestra and Marine Chamber Ensembles at The White House, in the Washington, D.C., area and across the country during the band’s annual concert tour. He lives in Alexandria, VA. **Chiboku Okoro** graduated from The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in May 2007. **Eva Parks** married **David Spero** (’02) May 19, 2007. Attending the ceremony were **Carissa Hughes, Lydia Prodanovic** (’02) and **Michael Harb** (’02). Bill Snyder recently completed a three-year stint as city editor of the Oologah Lake Leader, a community newspaper in his Oklahoma hometown. The paper won the Oklahoma Press Association’s top honor, the Sequoyah Award, during two of those years, and he received first-place finishes for best reporting portfolio and best government reporting in the 2006 Oklahoma Society of Professional Journalists competition. Snyder left the newspaper in June to go on an extended backpacking trip across Europe and Asia with his fiancée, Deni Dickson.

Sue McFarland Barnes, 5/29/07; Duane D. Hutchison, 3/5/07; Ann Vanston Irwin, 2/19/07; Leslie G. Lovell, 9/5/06; Jim Smith Sale, 2/23/07; Forrest E. Smith, 8/8/07; Nancy Matthews Wood, 6/18/07.

Alton W. Ashworth Jr. (’63), 4/17/07; Dr. Charles W. Cook (’82), 7/15/07; Betty Jean Calhoun De Lopez (’62), 7/9/07; Gary Epstein, 1/15/95; Joe K. Huey, 8/17/07; Dolores Holland Swindell, 7/5/07; Jeanne Ballew Williams, 6/1/07; Judd F. Williams, 2/4/06.

John Curtis Binford, 12/6/06; Robert Olin Brooks, 8/31/07; Henry Dewald Jr., 4/16/07; Lowell C. Greene, 10/25/06; W. D. Hollon (’65), 8/1/07; Dr. Melvin Land, 3/22/07; Owen D. Long, 6/5/07; Jack Lee Vandagriff, 7/9/07; Robert O. Webb, 12/5/06; Alvin Williams, 4/24/07.

Rev. William E. Brunson, 8/7/05; Melvin W. Caven, 1/21/02; Rev. E. Hardy Cole, 3/31/07; Walter Henry Cousins III, 2/24/07; Ramon Ford, 8/22/07; Charles Henry Hightower Jr., 5/25/07; Tommy Lowell Kelley, 6/29/07.

R. W. Glenn, 7/19/07; Bruce H. Hanssen, 2/8/07; Robert R. Lamm, 2/16/07; Mary Sue Gibson Morris, 3/17/07; Charles F. Sheppard, 5/31/07; J. Tom Wrenn, 6/1/07.

G. M. Binegar, 12/8/06; Jack D. Cannon (’65), 7/27/07; Rev. Calvin H. Kimbrough, 7/29/07; R. Wilson Everett, 7/21/07; David Condon Mackay, 2/15/07.

Anne Roberts Albrighton (’77), 10/12/06; Laurel Anderson Bates, 8/5/07; Dr. Richard Porter Bywaters (’65, ’69), 3/31/07; Forrest Lee Jones (’65), 2/18/07; James Rives Jones, 6/1/07.

Barbara Shelton Galbreath, 7/17/07.

Bruce Eugene Staffin, 8/30/07.

Glenn H. Antrim, 11/10/99; Howard L. McGowan, 5/18/07; E. Dickinson Ryan, 4/26/07; Williard Storey, 3/4/07; Peter Rule Thompson (’68), 7/18/07; Roger Whitehurst, 2/19/07.

Richard N. Cody, 4/29/07; John D. Colby Jr. (’68), 11/21/06; Donald Timothy Hart, 3/14/05; Vernon B. Hill Jr., 8/2/07; Lynn Thurston Johnson, 4/6/07; Herbert R. Smith, 8/30/07; William T. Sullivan Jr., 5/3/07; Herbert Edwin Wellborn Jr., 7/28/07.

Chandler M. Bush (’72), 6/26/08; William Branson Crockett, 3/21/06; William F. Elwood, 3/24/07; Harry S. Kasbarian, 11/30/07; Eric A. Parsons (’80), 5/4/07; Peter B. Popkin, 8/14/07; Robert Allan Ross (’73), 8/9/07; Carroll H. Sierk, 5/10/07; Janet Chapman Wiegert, 12/25/06.

Lark M. Anderson, 9/20/05; William Henry Simmons, 5/4/07.

Helen Moore Cole, 7/30/07; William Poston Kenworthy, 3/12/07; Florence Godwin Masters (’74), 5/11/07.

Phillip M. Guthrie Jr., 1/12/07; K. Mark Pistorius, 6/28/07; Ronald S. Wehlander, 6/22/07.

Patsy Hill Dickens, 3/30/07; James D. Lambert (’72), 5/31/07; Mary Bolger Spruill, 7/19/07.

Cynda Van Sickle Albaugh, 7/22/07; William Ashton Hilton, 2/21/07; Andrew A. Fredrickson, 5/25/07; Nancy Lewis Hardin, 6/17/07; Emily Bennett Mitchell, 8/1/07; William H. Nuckols, 6/4/07; Vicki Sue Bowles Warden, 8/26/06.

Rollin C. Broughton Jr., 8/20/07; John Albert Dubiski, 8/19/07; Kevin G. Myers, 3/29/07; Brian K. Reed, 4/30/07.

Carolyn Miller Clark, 5/12/07; Joe W. Gwartney, 6/6/07; Carolyn Edna Jordan, 5/14/07; Dr. William L. Lester, 2/7/07; Rev. Paul H. Palsen, 6/14/07.

Catherine Akin Awalt (’77), 3/8/07; Lenore Miller Crenshaw, 8/7/07; Wendy Wendt Dimmette (’80), 5/8/07; Sharon Coleman Flanagan (’77), 1/18/06; Steven K. Hough, 5/21/04; Benjamin F. Wilson, 12/30/05.

Frederick G. Farha, 8/6/07; Randi Sweat Poole, 7/13/07.

Gloria Woodward Green, 2/25/07; Tracey Lynn Lasserter, 1/13/01.

Keery K. Ehlers, 2/15/07; Rev. Martha Niendorff Gilmore, 6/24/07; Nathan Eugene Poston, 5/13/07; Walter H. Root Jr., 4/21/07.

Adah Evans Cunningham, 1/18/07; Dr. Nina Winona Kay (’86), 3/27/07; Ralston Charles Makuta (’82), 8/20/07; Paul Albert Wichmann, 8/13/07.

Lori Sue Berman Scarcella, 1/15/97.

John Dudley West, 6/28/05.

Davis D. Dooley, 3/2/94; Elise Galler Gold, 8/10/07; Lumey David Jump Jr., 2/19/07.

Scott M. Casassa, 8/19/07; Christopher J. Saalfeld, 8/8/07; Clyde Gregory Threet (’86), 12/19/06.

Obie Delano Groom, 8/24/07; Robert Spencer Kingsley, 3/18/07; Timothy Allen Lokey, 5/24/07; Paily V. Thampi, 8/17/07.

Anthony Russell Siebenmorgen, 4/21/07; Robert Ian Walsh, 7/29/06.

David Samuel Rommer, 2/14/07; Chap. Josiah Narrey Opata, 7/2/07.

Dawn Engel, 4/9/07; William Eugene Mallory, 4/14/07; Douglas W. (Tres) Smith, 4/18/07.


Helen Rardin Nastri, 2/16/07.

Jesse Eugene Morris III, 10/14/02.

Jeffrey Carter Albrecht, 9/3/07; Chad Alan Dousharm, 5/24/03.

Amelia E. Navarro, 10/30/02.

Dr. Robert H. Kennedy, 6/23/07; Lori Leigh Leatherman, 12/19/96.

Bryan C. Hogan, 3/31/07.

Robert David Hopkins, 6/13/07.

Jordan Robert Mann, 5/26/07.

Meaghan Boschi, junior, 5/15/07; Jordan Crist, freshman, 5/02/07. The Rev. Claude Evans, University chaplain from 1957-82, 9/07/07.

Correction

Due to an error in SMU’s records, Robert D. Specian (’72, ’74) was erroneously reported as deceased in the fall/winter 2006 SMU Magazine. He is alive and well and a professor of molecular and cellular physiology at the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, LA.
Kimby Caplan received her M.F.A. in cinematography in May 2007 from the American Film Institute in Los Angeles. She served as director of photography on two 35mm shorts that are in postproduction — “Song of David” and “Bula’s Fortune.” Amanda Dunbar, a rising artist, was named “ABC Person of the Week” June 5 by anchor Charlie Gibson. Judah Epstein is competing in the Jungle Marathon, a 200 km foot race through the Amazon. John Robert Jarvis married Erin Elizabeth April 7, 2007, in Santa Fe. They live in Cypress, TX. John R. Losinger is a graduate student at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs in Austin. Markus Pinyero opened the restaurant Urban Taco June 8, 2007, in Mockingbird Station in Dallas.

Janet Calhoun is participating as an assistant language teacher in the 2007 Japan Exchange and Teaching program, living and working in Kurobe City, Toyama Prefecture, Japan, for the next year. Gaines Greer completed an English teaching assistantship in Hungary in 2006. She recorded her experiences in a blog at www.bloggaines.blogspot.com. She is now home in Birmingham. Tiffany Jenson has been accepted to a Ph.D. program in sociology at the University of Oklahoma with the goal of becoming a professor. She most recently was a training specialist in information technology services at SMU. Anthony J. Nigro is a senior technical network consultant for AT&T, performing network design for large global customers.

Molly Rose Schaffer is working on a Master’s degree in the history of decorative arts at Parson’s The New School of Design in New York City. She works part time at Doyle New York, an auction/appraisal firm, and began an internship at the Metropolitan Museum of Art this fall. Russell Wyman Jr. is marketing coordinator with Ultimate Ventures in Dallas.

Myra Arthur is the morning show anchor and afternoon reporter for KZTV-TV CBS in Corpus Christi. Garrett Haake is a broadcast assistant for NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams. Zac Hammer has joined the David Parsons Dance Company in New York City. Ashleigh Hendricks is the media adviser for

PASSPORTS IN HAND? COME ABOARD FOR 2008 ALUMNI TRAVEL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

From the ancient sites of Greece to the rugged highlands of Scotland, SMU’s 2008 Alumni Travel Education Program offers a tour for many tastes and interests. For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 214-768-2586, e-mail smualum@smu.edu or visit www.smu.edu/alumni/events/travel.

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July 1-9
Village Life Along the Dalmatian Coast – Gohagan Travel

September 14-24
Scotland – AHI Travel

October 3-11
Village Life Along the Seine River – Gohagan Travel

October 7-15
Village Life in Ancient Greece – Gohagan Travel

November 6-13
Rome Escapade – AHI Travel

New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, Charlotte Huffman is a general assignment reporter for KFDX-TV in Wichita Falls. Gabe Travers is the morning show producer for WSAV-TV NBC in Savannah, GA.
DeGolyer’s Impact

Thank you for publishing the article “Fabulous at 50” (Spring/Summer 2007) about DeGolyer Library, this astounding treasure on campus. I had the pleasure of studying with Everett L. DeGolyer Jr., who taught a series of undergraduate courses on business history. He was a dedicated scholar of the highest level and a consummate gentleman of the old school. He had a deep and abiding love for SMU. “Ev,” as he was affectionately known, could have chosen to live and teach anywhere, but his love for SMU brought him to us.

Professor DeGolyer brought a dimension to teaching that is often missed: personal knowledge. Due to his background, he had known many of the titans of American business, including Henry Ford, John Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie, and he shared his recollections about them in class. His class was a challenging and fascinating experience.

RAYLAN LOGGINS (’76)
Dallas, TX

Celebrating Peace Corps’ 50th

In summer 1967, I headed for India as a Peace Corps volunteer. Peace Corps was six years old and finding its stride, just as the war in Vietnam was gathering its own momentum. That war ended; the Peace Corps continued. Now it is approaching its 50th anniversary.

To mark the occasion in 2011, three other former volunteers, including SMU Professor of History Dennis Cordell, and I have launched “Peace Corps At 50: An Anniversary Story Project.” The idea is to collect stories — from Peace Corps volunteers, in-country staff, trainers and those in host countries whose lives and world views were shaped by the activities of the Peace Corps — for a four-volume collection. These stories will document that we humans can engage fully with other cultures, have our preconceptions smashed to smithereens and live to tell the tale.

For complete information on the project: www.PeaceCorpsAt50.org.

JANE ALBRITTON (’67)
Fort Collins, CO

A Life Remembered

Ann Vanston Irwin (’56) passed away after a brief illness. Her loss was unexpected and devastating. My mother loved all the traditions of Dallas. Between growing up and passing away in Dallas, she had an adventurous life in Nashville and Los Angeles. She was most proud to help others through her 30-year nursing career — a dream fulfilled since her youth. She awed others with her overwhelming compassion for friends and strangers in need. With a Master’s degree, she led by example, rising to the top. SMU prepared her for a life filled with best friends, mostly from the Pi Phi and Theta houses. She loved being a Pi Phi angel and a Campus Beauty, and her motto was “a friend is a friend for your entire life.” SMU gave her an undergraduate degree and a multitude of friends, and she gave us a personified definition of unconditional love, selflessness and compassion.

MARGARET IRWIN (’84)
Los Angeles, CA

Thanks For The Memories

I received my copy of SMU Magazine yesterday and spent a very relaxing evening reading the entire edition. This has to be the most entertaining and informative issue I have seen in a long time. The use of color and the art and photo layouts are extraordinary for an alumni magazine. I enjoyed the “Growing with the Fifties” feature, too.

My great-grandfather, Ora Miner, was a Methodist minister and professor of theology at SMU in the 1920s. He took many of the photographs for the Rotunda during his tenure on the Hilltop. My dad donated most of the negatives to SMU 20 years ago. I still have one of Dallas Hall with the Model T’s and Model A’s parked across the front and have given the prints for years to SMU friends and family. My great-grandfather received photo credits in the Rotunda, but he is never pictured! His children attended SMU (including my grandmother), as well as my mom and dad.

The 2007 football season was the 60th anniversary of my dad’s 1947 SWC Championship team (he still makes all home games). And 2008 will be another 60th anniversary (1948 team) — because SMU won the conference and went to the Cotton Bowl two years in a row. These were two of the Doak Walker years and there are not many of the teammates still alive ‘n’ kickin’.

STEVE HAMBERGER (’74)
Irving, TX

Pride And Praise

Bravo! Congratulations on the Spring/Summer 2007 SMU Magazine — an issue of particular depth and quality. I confess that I started at the back — true red and blue alumna that I am — but read to the front cover in one sitting, several times exclaiming to my husband about particular items of note and interest. Thank you for spotlighting the history and future of our great University. My Mustang pride runneth over!

ELIZABETH BAIER EMERSON (’86)
Dallas, TX

SMU Illustrated

I just wanted to say what a superb job you are doing with the magazine. I received my M.F.A. from SMU and ran the graphic design department for five years before heading to New York to be the art director of Sports Illustrated.

You have brought a lot of energy to the pages of the book and have juxtaposed them with a lot of interesting material and editorial information. Keep up the good work. It represents the University very well.

RICHARD WARNER (’73)
Guilford, CT
The 1935 Mustangs were among the most talented teams in SMU history. Led by first-year coach Matty Bell, the Mustangs won 12 games, highlighted by a 20-14 win over TCU and Sammy Baugh in the last game of the season.

SMU won the Southwest Conference, held on to its No. 1 ranking and earned the right to face Stanford in the Rose Bowl.

More than 10,000 fans, including Texas Governor James Allred, rode the trains from Texas to California to watch the Tournament of Roses Parade and the football game. The Mustangs and their much-vaunted aerial circus played before 86,000 fans on New Year’s Day. As part of the pre-game festivities, the Mustang Band performed with Ginger Rogers at the Los Angeles train station and gave a concert at the Paramount Theatre in Hollywood.

Because of heavy traffic, it took 45 minutes for the Mustang players to get from their hotel to the Rose Bowl, a trip of less than half a mile. The weather was drab and colorless. The game was defensive – not the passing game that the Ponies preferred. Stanford was the underdog, having lost twice in the regular season, but it prevailed 7-0.

But Dallas gallantly welcomed its team home. Nearly 25,000 fans turned out at Union Station in the middle of the night to cheer for the Mustangs as they got off the train. One of the redeeming features from the Rose Bowl experience was that SMU earned nearly $71,000 from gate receipts and movie rights, a huge windfall in the middle of the Great Depression, enabling the University to pay off the debt on Owenby Stadium.

SMU Archives collects materials that chronicle the University’s past. If you have any Rose Bowl (or other) memorabilia, contact University archivist Joan Gosnell at jgosne@smu.edu or 214-768-2261.

– By DeGolyer Library Director Russell L. Martin III (’78, ’84) and Joan Gosnell

Applying Group Effort — continued from page 34

While Benjamin and Carl focus on expanding Group Excellence, Christopher Bhatti, also a Cox PMBA student and science teacher at The Hockaday School, has been adapting their model for high school students to serve as tutors in lower grades. He helped launch Science in the Community last year, sending 36 Hockaday juniors and seniors to tutor science at a Dallas elementary school.

“The high school girls get the chance to take a leadership role in science, and the middle schoolers are so eager to learn from them,” says Christopher, who earned degrees in psychology and chemistry. This past summer he was awarded a Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility internship to build the program.

The three graduates say they learned the value of education from their parents, who made enormous sacrifices as immigrants – the Bhattis from a small village in India, the Dorvils from war-torn Haiti. And they recognized the influence of mentors while working as tutors at SMU’s Altshuler Learning Enhancement Center and as teacher assistants in the Psychology Department.

“SMU has given us the education and skills to go out in the community,” says Christopher. “Now we’re helping to change kids’ and tutors’ lives – and the culture of the city.”

Learn more at www.groupexcellence.org.
**RA LLYING THE M ASSES**

Some thought it was a parking sign. Or a call for donations. But for SMU Athletics, the arrow pointing up next to the familiar red Peruna has students and fans cheering “Pony Up!”

Developed for football and basketball seasons, the logo has appeared on TV ads, T-shirts, hats, Dallas billboards and light post signs.

“We have to produce results on the field and on the court. But we also wanted to create a fun experience for our fans. That’s what led to Pony Up,” Athletics Director Steve Orsini says. “We wanted a campaign to help rally the students and alumni.”

Pony Up also spawned a YouTube video hit by the Hoboken-based comedian-musician team The Knuckleheads. The song by SMU alumni Michael Hannon (’91) and Spencer White (’90) drew 28,000 hits in only 11 days. “The best advertising is simple, and the Pony Up campaign gets people talking, because they don’t know what it is, and that’s OK,” Spencer says. “I thought it was brilliant from the start.” The duo was writing a song for basketball season when *SMU Magazine* went to press.

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**SONGS WITH STYLE**

When Neiman Marcus wanted original music composed for the 100th anniversary celebration of the flagship store in downtown Dallas, it turned to a local talent source: Meadows School of the Arts. The opportunity was given to junior Timothy Roy, a President’s Scholar majoring in music composition. Roy wrote three pieces – one for the main floor and outside window area, one for the Wish Tree (incorporating nature sounds), and one for the elevators (jazz style, incorporating the sounds of people talking). “I was inspired by the company’s beautiful and futuristic visual concept, which includes sparkling crystal prisms, glass chandeliers, countless mirrors and radiant lighting,” he says. “I wanted to make the music sparkly, reflective, uplifting – no heavy backbeats or the kind of loud, pounding music you hear at designers’ runway shows.” The music was played at the downtown store through November 3. Listen to Timothy Roy’s compositions at smu.edu/ps/Tim_Roy.asp.

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**STATE DINOSAUR DEBUNKED**

A recent discovery by SMU geology graduate Peter Rose (’04) may lead to a new state dinosaur for Texas. The *pleurocoelus* (inset), a 50-foot-long, plant-eating dinosaur unearthed 10 years ago near Glen Rose, was designated the official dinosaur of Texas by the State Legislature. Rose determined that the bones of the state dinosaur were not those of a *pleurocoelus* at all, but of a previously unknown species he named the *paluxysaurus*. Now the *pleurocoelus* may be stripped of its official designation and the honor reassigned to the *paluxysaurus*. Rose, who received his Master’s degree in geological sciences from SMU, is pursuing a Ph.D. in paleontology at the University of Minnesota.

For more information: smu.edu/newsinfo/excerpts/dinosaur-dmn-3oct2007.asp

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**WHAT’S ON THEIR CEO MINDS?**

The Cox School of Business set out to put a finger on the pulse of business leadership in Dallas with its first annual SMU Cox CEO Sentiment Survey. Faculty members Miguel Quinones and Robert Rasberry conducted the survey, which covered topics from the state of the economy to the quality of the DFW labor force, from leadership attributes to the top competitive challenges CEOs face. “This survey is more comprehensive than many smaller studies of its type,” Quinones says. “By asking a wider range of questions, we get a very clear picture of what’s going on. We can see that despite the hype about globalization, small business and the local economy still matter, and that a qualified workforce is one of CEOs’ top concerns.” Survey results are at www.coxceosurvey.org.
Welcome To SMU's Newest Alumni, Class of 2008!

Brian Horan of Lambda Chi Alpha and Laura Camp of Delta Gamma were crowned the 2007 Homecoming king and queen at halftime of the football game between SMU and Rice November 10. For more Homecoming photos, see smu.edu/homecoming.

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