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VOLUME 35 • ISSUE 7

Educational need clear

By Emily Stevens
Editor in Chief

University and college officials say they are familiar with the Texas Public Information Act, but could not explain or defend their actions when confronted about violations discovered during a fall compliance audit.

Violations included not posting a required open records notice in a prominent location and questioning the requester — which violates the intent, and in some cases, the letter of the law.

When questioned about the violations, some representatives denied their actions were violations, others said they did not know they violated the law.

Out of 12 entities tested, only one complied 100 percent — a

rate come experts say shows the need for more education.

“Ignorance is not a defense. We certainly need to give them the education they need so they won’t be in violation,” said Katherine Garner, executive director of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott said he’s willing to take the initiative and is asking legislators to mandate open records and open meetings training.

“That way we can all speak with one voice in Texas that open government is necessary and vital in a democracy,” he said.

Representatives from each school say they favor mandatory training.

“All of us get kinda rusty on that; we don’t get that many

Freedom Of Information

A three part series

Part 1: compliance within administrations

Part 2: compliance within security departments

Part 3: Education on the Texas Public Information Act

requests,” Brian Spurling, public information and publications officer for Trinity Valley Community College said.

Students visited administrations and law enforcement agencies at Kilgore College, Panola College, Stephen F. Austin State University, TVCC, Tyler Junior College, and the University of Texas at Tyler to test for compli-

ance. The students learned the open records law and basic research methods before conducting their field research. They tested for compliance in the posting of an open records notice, providing requested documents with no questions asked, and compliance in the documents provided.

FOIFT is a non-profit organi-

Freedom of Information Materials

For free open records and open meetings handbooks or open records rulings visit
www.oag.state.tx.us

or
www.foift.org

For questions concerning the Texas Public Information and Open Meetings Acts call
1-800-580-6651
or e-mail at
foift@foift.org

Graphic By Joshua Davis

zation in Dallas dedicated to educating the public about open meetings and open records, and offers free legal advice.

Garner was asked to comment on the study’s results after being provided copies for her review.

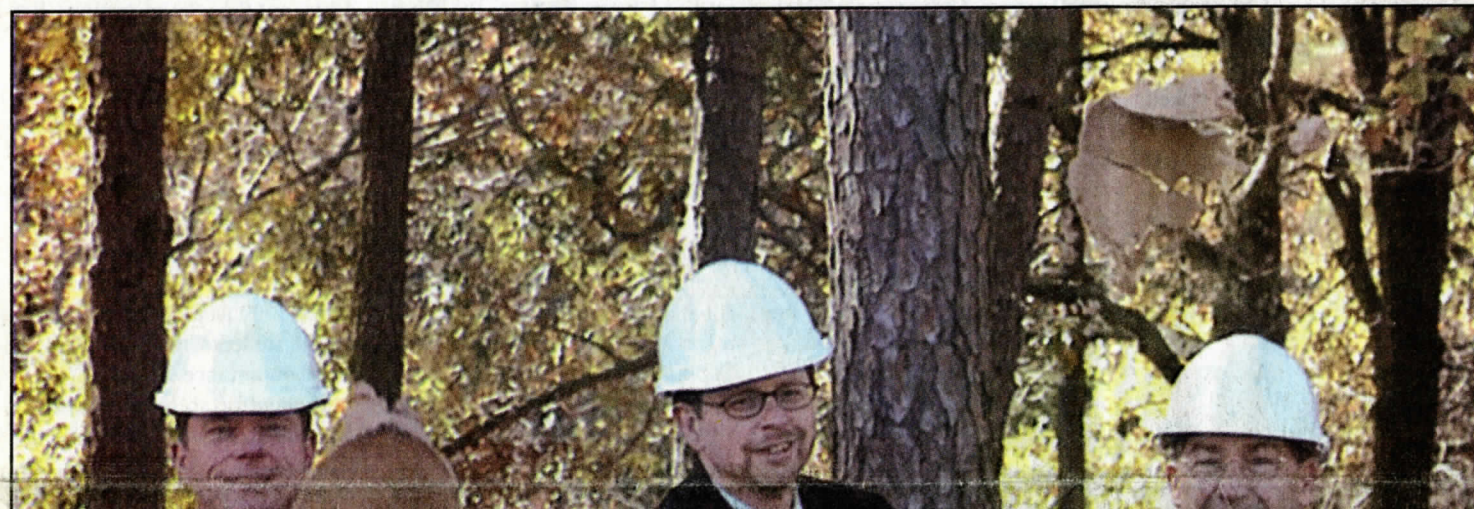
“It goes to show how much more education is needed,” she said.

If police chiefs or administrative staff members had any training with the Act, most cited “in-house training.”

Only Lynda Langham, legal assistant to the general council at SFA, and Mary Barr, director of compliance at the University, said they had trained through the attorney.

See **EDUCATION**, Page 4

SLINGING MUD



Student costs to rise in fall

By Emily Stevens
Editor in Chief

University officials propose increasing designated tuition to a possible 5 to 9 percent to offset a loss of state funds and to maintain services for a growing student body.

The University held two town-

pus to become informed on the issue and to ask questions.

“No one wants a tuition fee increase, but because of certain things we’re facing...it may be necessary,” he said.

In an example of how the increases would affect students, Ferguson said an undergraduate taking 15 hours would notice a



Photo By Brad Smith

A ceremonial groundbreaking for the University's new residence hall was held Dec. 1 at the building's construction site behind the University Center. Pictured from left to right are Dr. Howard Patterson, dean of student affairs, Dr. Dale Lunsford, vice president for student affairs and external relations, and University president Dr. Rodney H. Mabry. The student residence hall is scheduled to open in the fall of 2006. The 79,968 square foot building will hold 268 students, and will include 62 double occupancy rooms, 48 three-bedroom suites, 24-hour front desk assistance, card access locks to suites, a theater, a study, full-time residence life staff on site, and a staff of resident assistants. Beverly Golden, director of news and information, said the total project cost of the residence hall is \$16.8 million.

Signage debate continues with investigation planned

Matthew Smith
Staff writer

Students may soon receive answers to recent questions surrounding the posting of "no parking" signs on Old Omen Road.

Chairman of the Tyler Citizens' Traffic Safety Committee Clyde Sanders agreed to investigate allegations of inadequate signage near the University's main entrance.

Sanders said he would "have a sit-down" with the Tyler city traffic engineer Kirk Houser and try to resolve the situation, although he didn't provide a spe-

cific date.

Questions about the signs arose in reaction to tickets given to students parked on Old Omen Road near the University's main entrance Oct. 14.

Students attending class that day found parking Lot 6 closed due to Rose Festival activities.

Students who parked before the "no parking" sign to the north of the main entrance received tickets even though the sign has no arrows or descriptions of boundaries.

Tyler police chief Gary Swindell defended the officers giving the tickets saying the no

parking zone begins where Old Omen begins to widen, although there are no signs indicating that.

Houser provided a document showing "no parking" signs in places clearly defining the boundaries of the zone.

However, a *Patriot Talon* investigation shows these signs are not posted.

Deputy city manager Mark McDaniel said Houser sent a technician to the area who reported that all the signs were there.

Sanders said the safety committee wants signage "to be clear...and fair."

The University held two town-hall style meetings on the Tyler campus, as well as one each on the Longview and Palestine campuses last week to inform students on why the increases are needed and how the money would be spent.

Dr. Jim Ferguson, vice president for business affairs, spoke at the meetings, where about 50 students gathered at the Tyler cam-

taking 15 hours would notice a \$75 increase in their tuition for one semester.

Aside from increased enrollment, Ferguson cited the University's possible loss of the small institution supplement and statewide budget cuts as reasons for the increase.

At the meeting held Tuesday

See TUITION, Page 4

Debaters compete at LSU with small team

By Karla Clark
Staff writer

The week of Nov. 19-21, three debate team members, Sean Dodd, Darci Meadville, and Gifford Dixon, attended the Louisiana State University forensics tournament in Shreveport.

Thirty other schools were present, making this the largest tournament the team has seen in a while.

"This was one of the most challenging tournaments I've been to because of the sheer number of entries," Dodd said when asked about the tournament's difficulty.

Among the notable accom-

plishments made during this debate is Dodd's first place finish in the open division public debate, which had more than 130 competitors.

Meadville reached the double octa final round of the novice public debate, and Dixon won two and lost four rounds.

"It was Giff's first tournament ever. He did really well," Meadville said.

Only three members represented the University, which competed against 30 other schools.

"We really missed the rest of the guys, but we still did a good job. We still had a lot of fun," Meadville said.

CANNED FOOD



Photo By Jeff Mills

The University's canned food drive ended Dec. 10. The University raised more than 6,000 cans to donate to the East Texas food Bank, who presented the University with a "golden can" for their efforts.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In the last few days the Theatre Department has received news that our Fall Production of Vincent in Brixton has been selected to compete at the Regional Festival of KCACTF in February.

After having such a great run at the competition in October, we won not only the Director's Choice Award but also the Critic's Choice Award for best play overall, award winning costumes, lighting, props management, director and numerous acting nominations.

Now, with our nomination to continue on to Regionals in Fayetteville, Arkansas, we are one step away from competing in Washington, D.C. at the National Level.

We have high hopes for our production and were dismayed that the Talon produced no news whatsoever of our awards or even of our competition in October.

In fact the only recognition that the Theatre Department has received was a picture in an issue this fall with an article about TJC's theatre production right beside it.

I hope that in supporting the university that the Talon will make better placement decisions and will continue to do what is so vital to our program: support the arts.

Or more simply put, why did an article on the production of another campus supercede an article about a UT Tyler production?

Isn't this the UT Tyler campus, newspaper, and Theatre Department? Shouldn't the UT Tyler newspaper support its own programs first before going to the community for additional stories?

I hope that this will shed some light on your lax in support of our small program and will interest you, professionally speaking, in passing on useful information to the students and faculty of UT Tyler.

Thank you for your time.

Kristi Taylor

In response to Mr. Taylor's letter, I would like to respond that as a member of the "right," the student body, human race, and as an American, I am offended by his remarks.

He calls the opposing opinion (opposing in his case) biased and bigoted. I became confused when he mentioned bias because I couldn't figure out if he was referring to his letter or the editorial that he disagreed with.

How does something being poorly supported make it offensive, biased, and bigoted? And mind you, it was poorly supported in his opinion.

The second topic he brings up is about a "conservative religious institution." So how is this institution conservative and religious? Did he just assume?

From using his same form of categorizing, one could place fascists, communists, and anarchists all under "liberal secular institution."

If one would look at a conservative religious institution, such as a church or most charities, you wouldn't see stuff like this printed.

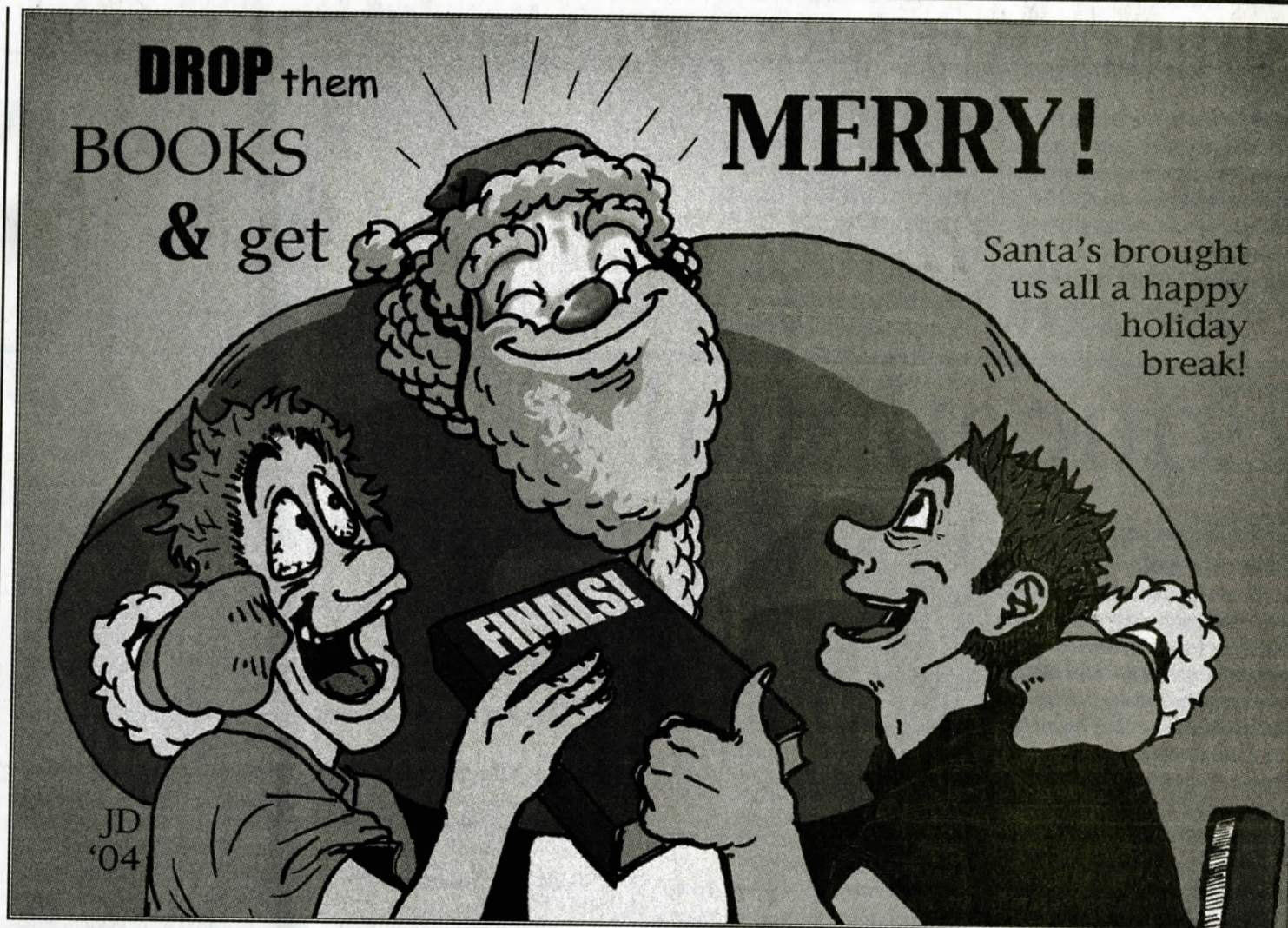
In a free country he next says, one group cannot force upon another its own set of moral viewpoints.

But also in a free country another group cannot force upon another group something that goes against their own religious and moral principles.

You cannot tell people that their religion is wrong, and that they have to accept something that a majority of Americans find morally conflicting. The same could be said for abortion.

Next Mr. Taylor attacks the supporting resources. Now the Bill of Rights, the Constitution, and the Declaration of Independence are all very good resources, but they can be interpreted in several different ways. But he ignores this point.

But I'm sure if Ms. Clark has referred to the Bible, which some say can be interpreted in many different ways, he would have discounted that



SGA neglects students' concerns

Editorial

The Student Government Association appears to want to help its constituents, but its efforts were just a flicker of hope, as a semester has passed with no action taken.

Following the October ticket-writing incident, the SGA posted fliers, giving the impression they would help cited individuals.

The fliers read, "These happenings were a violation of your rights as students and as citizens, [and] allowed the City of Tyler to tax students...for parking the city had taken, which the students already paid for."

The SGA's fliers, which implied sympathy for those 24 cited individuals, also read, "the

However, in an interview with the *Patriot Talon*, SGA vice president Dustin Tallent would not specify how University officials are working with the SGA or what they plan to do to rectify the situation.

These facts lead to the impression that little will be done by the people we elect and pay to represent us.

Two months passed since the posting of the fliers, and still yield no result from the SGA or the administration, which created the problem in the first place.

University officials opted to close the parking lot closest to the College of Nursing during peak class hours, which left students

concern for student convenience, as well as the \$15 students pay for parking, the University also received payment from the Rose Festival for use of the same parking lot.

The students' decisions to not miss part of class and to park in the most convenient place--the street--forced the Tyler Police Department to issue citations.

As Tyler Police Chief Gary Swindell said, parking "is an issue for the University, [and can't] affect the safety of the motoring public."

Even though the "no parking" signs' boundaries and locations are still unclear, and even though students used bad judgment in

It seems obvious the SGA's primary focus should be on serving their constituents (the students, not the administration), but their constant lack of action regarding student concerns is appalling.

The SGA did "sponsor" the medical fee open forums this semester, but that "service" required little more effort than introducing an administrator.

Aside from this event, which served only as a façade of service for the students, the SGA does little of importance.

In an effort to resolve the ticket issue, have the SGA pay the citations to wisely use the students' fees, or have the University

Thank you for your time.
Kristi Taylor
Junior, English/Theater major.

Dear Editor,
After picking up and reading some of the letters to the editor in the previous issue, I felt that there was something that needed to be cleared up.

different ways, he would have discounted that.
In trying to discount Ms. Clark's article, an article which she had every right to write and he had every right to respond to, his argument is very weak.

Jarrett Hill
Freshman, political
science major

CAMPUS Voice

What is your opinion about the proposed 5% increase in tuition to begin in the fall of 2005?



HARRIS

Josh Harris

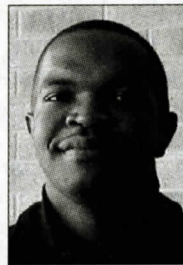
Senior, industrial tech major

"I guess it depends what they are using it for. Maybe if they are going to build more parking lots, I could be for it."

Richard Crosby

Senior, industrial tech major

"As long as it reflects the increase in enrollment."



CROSBY



CARTER

Joshua Carter

Sophomore, nursing major

"I am already broke, and working nights to pay for school. To an extent I understand, but I'm not in favor of it."

Sara Jones

Junior, communications major

"I don't like it, because I can already barely pay what it is now, but I guess they have their reasons."



JONES



BOWLES

Dallas Bowles

Freshman, nursing major

"I disagree, I think it's a bad idea, because we already have to pay a lot, even with scholarships."

cited individuals, also read, "the University has apologized for the inconvenience and has vowed to work with the Student government in your behalf."

class hours, which left students with the option of parking in the street or parking near the tennis courts.

Aside from the obvious lack of

students used bad judgment in choosing to park illegally, the 24 citations issued may have been avoided if the students' parking lot was available for their use.

students' fees, or have the University pay them with all the extra money they earned by double-booking a student parking lot.

Euthanasia leads to moral decline



FINE PRINT

JEREMY LIGHT

During a discussion in one of my literature courses, the professor asked us what the world would be like without love and what kind of practices would come about as a result.

Since then, I've given the question some serious thought. Without love for humanity, a nation assures its own destruction.

How far is humanity willing to go in order to ensure its own moral decline? I got a fairly clear picture when I read about the Groningen Protocol.

The Groningen Protocol, initiated by a hospital in the Netherlands, is a recently released set of guidelines which would allow physicians to kill newborn babies deemed to be suffering from incurable pain or terminal illnesses.

These guidelines follow a legal precedent from the Dutch Parliament allowing doctors to administer sedatives and muscle relaxants to adult patients who request relief from great pain.

The Groningen Protocol would be exercised when a medical team, independent physicians, and the child's parents agree a child suffers from incurable pain or extreme deformity.

Now the Groningen Protocol is no longer theory. The Groningen Academic Hospital recently announced it's already performed four of these "mercy killings" in 2003. As of yet, no legal action has been taken against the hospital.

A Dutch doctors' group has urged the Health Ministry to review the possibility for euthanasia for terminally ill patients, the mentally retarded, and those in a permanent irreversible coma. This also included children. In response, the Health Ministry officials have said nothing.

Groningen Protocol opponents, including the Roman Catholic Church, say the new guidelines

reveal a loss of morality for the Dutch people.

Defenders say the guidelines are only implemented in extreme cases, which should number about 10 per year.

Euthanasia defenders even have historical perspective on their side. A famous man once believed in making it "possible for physicians to end the tortures of incurable patients, upon requests, in the interests of true humanity."

And that man was Adolf Hitler.

But all this is happening in the Netherlands. What does America have to do with it? Try this. Oregon is allowing physician-assisted suicide. However, it is challenged regularly.

It will not be long before such practices are accepted in our own country. We've already conceded the right of women to abort children. As euthanasia defenders will readily state, the Groningen Protocol is just a "natural evolution."

I'm reminded of the Egyptian conjoined twins who were recently separated. What chance would these now happy children have

had in a country that allows such a barbaric practice? None.

Actions like the Groningen Protocol threaten to erase all love for humanity from our lives. It creates a world devoid of human emotion and where the value of life runs a distant second to the interests of statecraft. It is another curve in the downward spiral of virtue.

The only way we can stem the tide of guidelines like this is to start protesting now, before it has a chance to gain a foothold in our culture.

If America takes the same step as the Netherlands and allows its citizens to be systematically slaughtered, we will become a shadowy reflection of the groups like the Nazis, a nefarious footnote in history.

Without holding the life of the individual as sacred, we are lost. If we follow this path, there will be no turning back, no limit to the evil we can perpetrate on one another.

So what is a world without love? Hopefully we'll never have to find out.

Patriot Talon

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

General Statement: This is a student publication and the opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the administration, faculty, staff, alumni or student body of the University.

Letter Policy: All contributions in good taste will be edited for grammar, spelling, length (300 words maximum), libel, profanity and personal attacks. All letters must contain the author's name, address, telephone number, academic classification and home town.

Mission Statement: *Patriot Talon* is designed to inform, entertain, educate and heighten awareness of students, faculty and administrators at the University of Texas at Tyler. Staff members will be responsible journalists by maintaining high ethical standards with fairness, accuracy and balance.

Patriot Talon encourages and provides an avenue for free flow of student expressions and opinions. The newspaper will serve as a learning tool to help students gain experience in all aspects of the print media.

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Campus CALENDAR

Dec. 14

•Tyler Community Band
Vaughn Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 14-18

•Final Exams for classes
that meets Tuesday through
Saturday

Dec. 15

•3rd Wednesday Film Series
Cowan Center Lecture Hall
1009
3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 16

•Cornerstone Free Lunch
UC221, 11:30 a.m.

Dec. 16 - 17

•Evening of Acting Scenes
The Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 18

Fall Commencement
R. Don Cowan Fine and
Performing
Arts Center, Vaughn Auditorium
10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Dec. 24 - Jan. 1

•Holidays for staff, all
offices closed

Jan. 3

•University re-opens

Jan. 6

•UT Tyler Basketball
Patriot Center
Patriots v Howard Payne
Women's 5:30 p.m.
Men's 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 7

•Registration and schedule
changes, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Jan. 8

•UT Tyler Basketball
Patriot Center
Patriots v Sul Ross State

Martinez releases first solo album

By Maggie Griffin
Staff Writer

There's a bit of acoustic folk rock in there. It's a little jazzy and a bit bluesy. But Shaune Martinez doesn't label the type of music he plays, and he hopes nobody else will, either. Martinez' first solo CD, "Further," explores emotions, experiences, and life in general.

Martinez is no stranger to the music business. He started out playing for religious audiences, as part of a Christian band. Now he's moving in a different direction—the same influences are there, but his music expands beyond a spiritual message.

Around the year 2001, Martinez said several personal events triggered a burst of creativity in his song writing. When he visited a small club in Baltimore, he was invited to perform on stage, and people asked him if he'd considered putting these songs down on a disc. That got him thinking. The rest, so they say, is history.

During the daytime, Martinez works at the University in the student services office. He has no plans to give up his career in education and become a full-time musician. He says he likes the bal-

ance of work and creativity.

"I help with new student orientation, with student government, and assorted student programs," he said. "My job is to facilitate student involvement in leadership. I'm the instigator. I like working here, and have no intention of leaving to pursue music."

The University is a gold mine of material for songs, he admits.

"You may hear one of my songs and recognize the characters," he said, "though I always change the names to protect the innocent. It's really all about the common human experience we go through...Some people write books about it; I sing. That's what I have, and I'm figuring out how to use it."

Secular as well as spiritual audiences can find something in Martinez' music; since his appeal isn't limited to one genre of music, some might call him a crossover artist.

"My music isn't aimed towards anyone in particular," Martinez said. "This CD is a departure for me, though. It fits what I'm feeling at any given time. Some songs are clearly Christian, yet others have a harder edge, and are more dark and obscure. It's the type of music

you hear in coffeehouses, I guess."

Martinez has played acoustic guitar for about 12 years, and has sung for others for at least 15 years. He's performed at churches, camps, college campuses and other small venues with specific audiences.

Because he's a solo artist, Martinez networked with friends and found musicians to complete the tracks of his release. Acoustic guitar is the main instrument featured, but there are also percussion, strings and winds. Only now is he ready to make that plunge into the coffeehouse scene—and it's been well received.

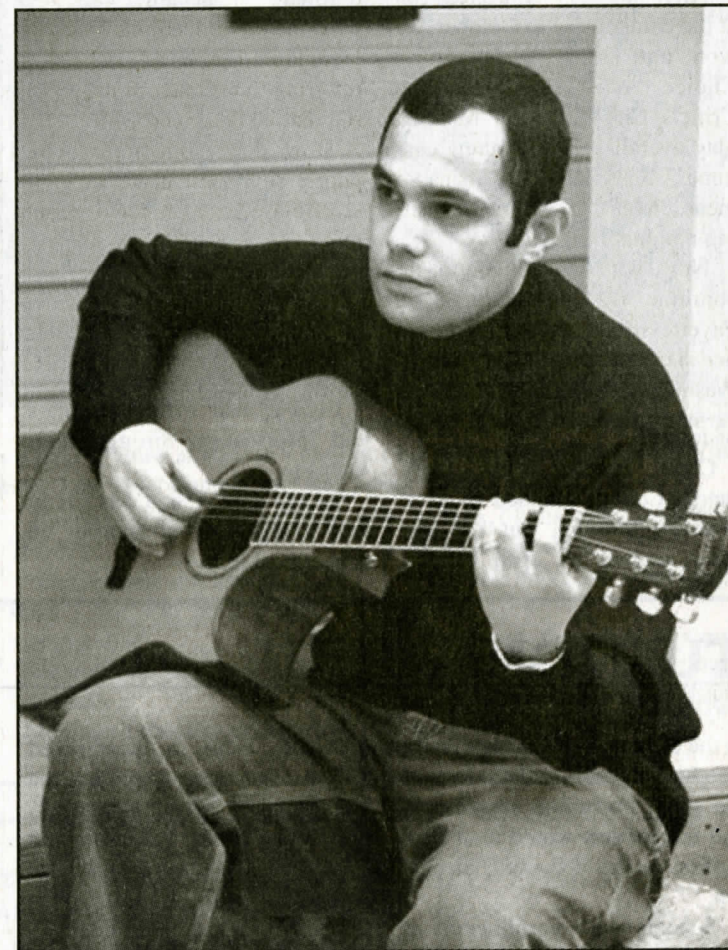
Music puts up a free association framework, Martinez said, and everyone hears the music based on where their experiences have taken them.

"That's why some songs resonate so deeply with people, while others aren't touched," he said.

Martinez is also working on a masters of science and technology degree in Human Resources and Development.

"It's the perfect way to really interact with people," he says, "And that's what I'm all about."

"Further" was released in May, and is available online at www.cdbaby.com/shaune or www.shaunemartinez.com.



Contributed photo

Student development specialist Shaune Martinez released his first solo album in May called 'Further'. Martinez said he has no plans to leave the University to pursue a music career.

MAKING A JOYFUL NOISE



Frank Lee has fall's best POS

□ Lee won the Patriot Talon's POS contest and a \$100 gift certificate.

By Stacie Drinning
Pulse Editor

tral safety
switch in



Patriots v Sul Ross State

Women's 1 p.m.

Men's 3 p.m.

Jan. 10

•Classes Begin

•Last day for late registration and schedule changes, 9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

•BSM Free Lunch

UC221, Noon

•UT Tyler Basketball

Patriot Center

Patriots v Texas-Dallas

Women's 5:30 p.m.

Men's 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 13

•Cornerstone Free Lunch

UC221, 11:30 a.m.

Jan. 17

•School closed for Martin

Luther King Jr. Day Holiday

Jan. 20

•UT Tyler Basketball

Patriot Center

Patriots v Louisiana College

Women's 5:30 p.m.

Men's 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 22

•UT Tyler Basketball

Patriot Center

Patriots v Mississippi College

Women's 1 p.m.

Men's 3 p.m.

Photo By Jeff Mills
Psalms of David Gospel Choir, seen here from left to right, music director Leroy Jones, April Harris, Rachel Dubois, Antoine Johnson, Carlos Flores and Courtney Sadler, is in the process of releasing a DVD consisting of five or six songs from a live performance. "It's purpose is to promote love and unity," Jones said.

Winter season is for giving



BECAUSE I SAY
STACIE DRINNING

Happy holidays, merry Christmas, happy Hanukkah, Feliz Navidad, and good Kwanzaa!

Whatever your personal traditions, this time of year is intended to be a joyous one.

With the increasing emphasis on material objects it is sometimes difficult for the average person to remember what this time of year is really about, giving.

Winter festivities, in virtually every religion, center around giving to the ones you love. All too often people go about their holiday shopping with the intent of buying one item for themselves for every item they buy for someone else.

This totally defeats the purpose of the season. I'm not saying not to get something you need when it's

on sale during the holidays. All I'm saying is don't set out with "merry Christmas to me" attitude.

Having family and friends that you love is a gift, and the holidays are meant to celebrate that gift.

In Christian religions, we are remembering the birth of Christ and the miracles his bestowed on the world.

As an African American and Pan-African holiday celebrated by millions throughout the world African community, Kwanzaa is "a time for celebration of the Good, the good of life and of existence itself, the good of family, community and culture, the good of the awesome and the ordinary, in a word the good of the divine." according to www.officialkwanzaa-website.org

For Jewish people, Hanukkah celebrates the miracle occurring when the "Greeks entered the Sanctuary, they defiled all the oils, and when the Hasmoneans (the Maccabees) defeated them, they searched and found only one remaining jar of oil with the seal of the Kohen Gadol (the High Priest).

Although it contained only enough oil to burn for one day, a miracle occurred, and the oil burned eight days," according to www.chanuka.com/history.shtml.

Religion doesn't need to factor into the spirit of giving.

As a child I remember Santa Clause and the presents he would bring. At the time that was the meaning of Christmas for me.

Now, as an adult, I realize that Santa Clause is not parents lying to their children or even just a fun made up character. He was a way to teach children to love their fellow man and to be generally good people. Because every child knows that if they're bad, Santa Clause won't visit them.

So remember during this holiday that the season isn't about you. It's about giving and loving and being kind to one another.

So next time you're at the mall and someone cuts you off or steals your parking spot, it doesn't matter because you know the true meaning of giving and charity and those values should follow us year around. Happy holidays!

By Stacie Drinning

Pulse Editor

Junior psychology major, Frank Lee, won a \$100 gift certificate to Performance Audio after an editor's decision named his entry the best POS.

This semester the *Patriot Talon* sponsored a contest to find crappy cars on campus.

Participants had to explain why their vehicle was a POS and be willing to have an article written about them and their vehicle for the *Patriot Talon*.

Lee, with his 1990 Mazda pickup, and senior speech communications major Steven Palmer, with his 1991 Dodge van, were the only participants

Lee provided the *Patriot Talon* with a page long list of reasons why his pickup was a POS.

The outward appearance of the vehicle would never give away the many problems lurking under the hood.

"It doesn't look bad at a glance, but it really is," he said.

A few of the problems listed include a broken speedometer, dashboard lights that only work on one side (the side with the speedometer), a light switch that operates random lights depending on the weather.

The driver's side window is off it's track and usually falls in the door, it takes one foot on the clutch and one foot of the neu-

switch in order to crank the truck, and it idles 'funny', Lee said.

The truck has about 350,000 miles on it. But Lee says, "it's still going strong."

Lee relies on the truck for transportation to and from Kilgore everyday.

Palmer's van definitely qualifies as a POS but it doesn't exhibit the major mechanical problems associated with Lee's truck, and Palmer also has a late model Ford Excursion.

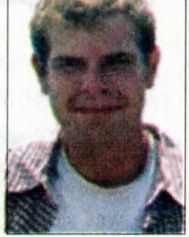
The van was endearingly nicknamed 'the junker' by Palmer's children.

Mechanical problems with the van include engine and transmission leaks and a temperamental speedometer and overdrive.

Cosmetic problems with the van are numerous. Dents and dings, a less than pristine interior and a distinct smell after it rains top the list of problems with Palmer's POS.

Editors decided on Lee as the winner because of the numerous mechanical problems and because his truck is his only mode of transportation.

The \$100 gift certificate was donated by Performance Audio for the POS contest.



LEE

Las Vegas, great for honeymoon not traditional wedding



HOOPLA
SARA DAVIS

When you hear the phrase "married in Vegas" you probably think of Elvis-turned-preacher, red thunderbirds, and drive-through chapels against a backdrop of sin, huge hotels and hot desert nights. Well, not all Vegas weddings are like that, but

let me tell you-they should be!

The wildness and consequent swiftness of my Vegas wedding would have been enhanced if only a collar wearing Elvis had asked me "Do you take this hunka hunka burnin' love to be your husband?"

When I moved, newly engaged, to Tyler, we thought that the cheapest and fairest way to do a wedding was for the whole family — those in Texas and those still in my native California — to meet in some fairly "in the middle" place. Since New Mexico didn't appeal to anyone, we decided to pull off a "normal wed-

ding" in Las Vegas, City of Sin.

It can't be done folks. There is no such thing as normal in Las Vegas. The night before the wedding, we trekked down the strip in search of the elusive Marriage License Bureau. When every other City Hall in the U.S.A. would have been deserted, we stood in a line full of dirty old high rollers and their silicon brides. Alright. Fair enough. At least we weren't some of the unlucky ones who had to line up outside the building. It was harder getting through airport security than it was to get our marriage

license, so at least we didn't have to worry about that.

When the big morning came, we rushed around our hotel rooms, brushing out the travel wrinkled bridal clothing and realizing with dismay that we had forgotten most of the appropriate hair-doing implements. Oh well. At least it was time to ride to the chapel in a limo.

After the invigorating block-long limo ride, we found ourselves outside the famous Little Church of the West (Elvis and Ann Margaret were "married" there in some movie). The heart-felt and touching

seven-minute long service left us feeling slightly bewildered, and some of the magic was taken away from our glorious matrimony when the minister approached us politely demanding his fee (I mean donation).

Despite the brevity of the ceremony, we were well and truly married, which was of course the point of the expedition.

Our delicious and spicy reception took place in the warm and cozy atmosphere of a modern, brightly painted Mexican restaurant called the Border Grill, which I highly recommend eating at, if

you're ever in Vegas.

Don't get me wrong, it was a fun wedding and I'm glad to be married. But I think it would have been just as fun, and with a whole lot less hassle, if Joshua and I had just run through the drive through in jeans and met up with the family for dinner afterward. Vegas is a fast-paced and a fun place to honeymoon, but don't try to hold a conventional wedding there, because the excitement and humor of an overweight, sweat-stained Elvis impersonator can't be beat when you're in Vegas for a wedding.

EDUCATION

Continued from Page 1

ney general's office.

Langham said she found the attorney generals seminar helpful.

"I know a lot of others didn't have the opportunity to get the training I have, and I think it impairs their understanding (of the law under the Act)," she said.

Barr did not handle the student researcher's request, and cited this as the reason for the University's non-compliance, which included asking the requester a question.

The Act is intended to give all citizens access to public records with no questions asked.

It is expressly against the law for a government employee to ask why the requester wants the information.

Although some employees have training, in some cases the survey showed their training was inadequate.

Chief Sheila Ritter from Panola College claimed to have in-house training, but did not know posting an open records

notice was required by law.

In another instance, SFA police Chief Mark Cossich claimed to know the law, but denied one of his officers violated the law by asking the requester why she wanted the information.

"We can ask anything we want to ask," he said.

Abbott's proposal mandating training would eliminate these types of violations.

Tom Kelley, press secretary for the Attorney General, said the open government seminars are intended to give employees who handle public records a complete understanding of the Act.

The Attorney General's office already offers annual open government training, and just completed a session last week in Austin.

FIOFT also offers seminars and information through their Web site.

Kelley said Abbott has yet to find a legislator to sponsor an educational bill.

"Mr. Abbott has been very open regarding mandatory training. Open government is a top priority for (him), as well as making it known that complying with the law is mandatory," Kelley said.

Aside from educational and government officials, students who participated in the research also agreed mandatory open records training would benefit the public.

"It would make it easier for citizens without having a media sticker on them (to obtain public documents)," Clayton Loftin, junior sports marketing major said.

This research followed a similar study conducted by professional and student journalists two years ago, which yielded similar results.

Garner said the lack of overall improvement is "disappointing."

"It shows the AG's proposal mandating education is vital," she said.

TUITION

Continued from Page 1

in the open area of the University Center, Ferguson said the loss of the small institution supplement and budget cuts would total \$5.1 million in the upcoming biennium.

Schools with enrollments of less than 5,000 students qualify for the small institution supplement. The University previously received \$1.5 million per biennium with this supplement, but as of this semester passed the enrollment limit with 5,303 students.

Ferguson said the University is "only in danger of losing the small institution supplement" as the legislature is not in session right now.

He said when the legislature reconvenes in January, they will consider the issue.

Aside from a designated tuition increase, which the University of Texas System has the ability to set, Ferguson said statutory tuition, set by the state legislature, will increase from \$48 to \$50 per semester hour.

He also said the University is looking to increase the current \$25 information technology fee, which allows students to access campus computers.

He said additional fees may increase, but the information technology fee is the only one specifically mentioned.

Ferguson said the revenue generated from the increases would be used "in the most strategic way," and cited hiring additional faculty members, creating more courses, and improving student affairs.

He also said 20 cents of every dollar would go to financial aid, as required by law.

Following the Wednesday meeting on the Tyler campus, Ferguson said he recommended to University president Rodney Mabry that the increases be "on the lower end" of the 5 to 9 percent range.

Ferguson said Mabry would review his recommendations as well as those of the Tuition Fee Committee and forward final recommendations to the executive vice chancellor today.

He said ultimately the University of Texas System Board of Regents would have to approve the increases, and that they will consider the recommendations when they meet in February.

STUDENTS SHOW ART



Photo By Brad Smith

The Senior Exhibition began in the Meadows Gallery on Dec. 3, and will continue until Jan. 5. The exhibition is part of the requirement for the Bachelor of Fine Art degree.

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Dallas-based band rocks Longview

By Brittani Mathis
Entertainment Editor

Flickerstick, the Dallas-based band who first introduced themselves on VH-1's popular reality program, proves to no longer be 'a band on the run.'

The band is currently on tour promoting their newest release 'Tarantula', and plans to headline a Dec. 17 show at Canton's Hawaii Club in Longview.

"Touring is my favorite part of the business. I love playing and always seeing new cities, although sometimes it gets a little tiring to be on the road for so long," Brandin Lea, front man for Flickerstick said.

Their current tour included stops in Houston, Tyler, Ft. Worth, and San Marcos.

Flickerstick recently served as one of the headlining bands for the KDGE. 102.1, the Edge's birthday bash in Dallas.

Teenage Dope Fiend, the band's newest single to hit the airwaves, began receiving ample airtime two weeks ago on DFW's 102.1 KDGE, the Edge.

The tune has also been spotlight-

ed as the iTunes website's download of the week.

"We are really happy with Tarantula. It has a slightly different style that works well for us. It is definitely not a mainstream CD; we never intentionally create albums like that. People who do that end up sounding stale," Lea said.

Flickerstick first caught the eye of the public in 2000 with their debut on VH-1's 'Bands on the Run'.

"I remember exactly what first turned me onto the band. I watching the show and all of the sudden Flickerstick blew me away with their performance of 'Direct Line to the Telepathic.' It rocked, and I have been hooked ever since," east Texas fan, Crystal Ray said.

More than 200 tickets are available for the Dec. 17 Longview performance.

"Tickets sales are already taking off. There is a chance we may sell out prior to the show. We have a great line up scheduled, so come early to make sure you get a good seat," David Choy, owner of the Hawaii Club said.

Doors open at 6 p.m., and Roy Cox, the promoter for the show recommends fans get there no later than 8:30 p.m. to avoid parking and seating difficulties.

Two prior sold out shows at Clicks in Tyler prove this band knows how to draw a crowd.

The opening band, Public Display, is scheduled to take the stage at 10 p.m., and Dallas-based Supercell will follow.

Local rockers The Jonathan Terrell Organization will perform a 45-minute set prior to Flickerstick's performance.

"I look forward to playing the Flickerstick show. It's great to see a signed band come through this area," Jonathan Terrell, lead singer for JTO said.

Flickerstick formed in 1997 at the University of North Texas, and has been making waves ever since.

Unique song titles combined with serious lyrics make this band stand out.

"It seems like a contradiction, but actually that is what makes them so cool. They are unpredictable with the will and ability



Photo courtesy of Blue Artist Management

Dallas-based Flickerstick to perform a Dec. 17 show at Canton's Hawaii Club in Longview. Pictured left to right: Cory Kreig, Fletcher Lea, Brandin Lea, Todd Harwell, and Rex James Ewing.

to go down any number of musical avenues," Ray said.

Tickets are \$12.50 in advance and \$15.00 the night of the show, and are on sale now at the Hawaii Club on Highway 80 in Longview. Fan must be 18 or older to enter the show.

For more information call 903-758-0791.

"Please come out and enjoy the show. We will have plenty of merchandise including 'Tarantula' for sale. Buy a copy," Lea said.

Although I consider ticket prices

to be high, I believe this promises to be a rocking show.

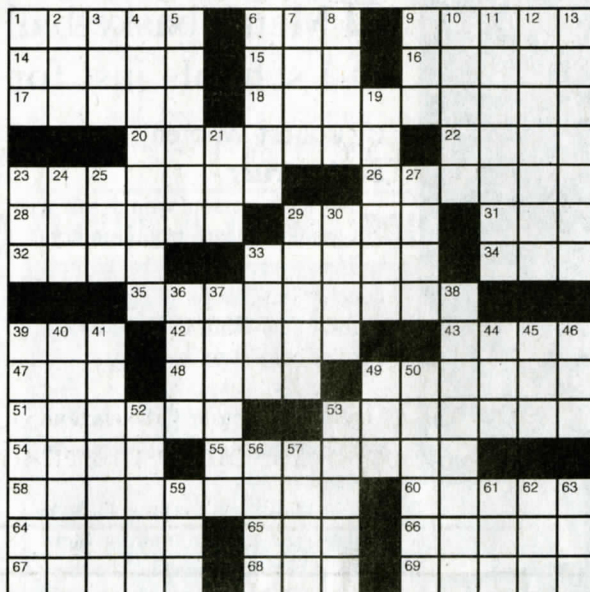
Come and check out something different.

The more fans that support shows like this, the more big-name bands promoters are willing to book.

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Trunk tire
- 6 Pique
- 9 Informal vocabulary
- 14 Resides
- 15 ___ for profit
- 16 Less common
- 17 Leavening agent
- 18 Joint ventures
- 20 Of a certain speech sound
- 22 Performer's engagements
- 23 Elfin beings
- 26 Long periods
- 28 Spoke pompously
- 29 Mystery pointer
- 31 Trevino of golf
- 32 Marrow container
- 33 Smoky deposits
- 34 Meese and McBain
- 35 Get a business going
- 39 Naval noncom
- 42 Small roads
- 43 ___ mater
- 47 Crescent



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12/13/04

"I'D LIKE A DECAFFACINNO
FRAPPA CHAPPA DAPPA DINGO
ICE BLENDED LAST OF THE MOCCA-
HICANS VANILLA ICE ICE BETTER
LATTE' THAN NEVER SMOOTHIE
WITH A SHOT OF SELF-EXPRESSO."



The tolerance of a Starbucks barista is severely tested.

Francis Goes to College

by Joshua Davis

Happy holidays to

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- 47 Crescent
- 48 Mr. Bunny
- 49 Consented
- 51 Seesaw
- 53 Water passage
- 54 Cicatrix
- 55 Large indefinite number
- 58 Iberia or Florida, e.g.
- 60 Pentateuch
- 64 So long, Solange
- 65 Segment of a journey
- 66 MacDonald's refrain
- 67 Has on
- 68 The in Spanish
- 69 Soup scooper

- 9 B'way theater sign
- 10 "Key _"
- 11 News story
- 12 Whinnied
- 13 Sorghum and millet
- 19 Hercule Poirot, e.g.
- 21 Was in front
- 23 Weep audibly
- 24 PGA member
- 25 Dashed
- 27 Cozumel cash
- 29 Contents successfully
- 30 Profit's antonym

Solutions

E	L	D	V	L	S	V	L	S	R	S	V	E	M
O	I	E	I	E	G	L	U	N	I	E	V	A	D
H	V	H	O	L	V	T	U	S	N	I	N	E	P
N	E	E	N	T	P	U	M	R	A	V	A	S	C
S	L	I	V	H	L	S	H	E	L	E	E	T	E
D	E	E	R	E	A	V	S	G	B	U	C	A	R
A	W	L	V	A	L	S	E	N	V	L	A	O	C
S	E	D	S	L	T	S	O	O	S	E	N	O	B
E	E	L	E	U	L	C	L	E	D	E	L	H	O
S	H	C	O	P	E	S	S	E	R	I	T	E	S
S	G	I	G	L	T	A	L	A	T	P	A	L	A
V	I	L	I	R	O	N	O	C	L	S	V	E	L
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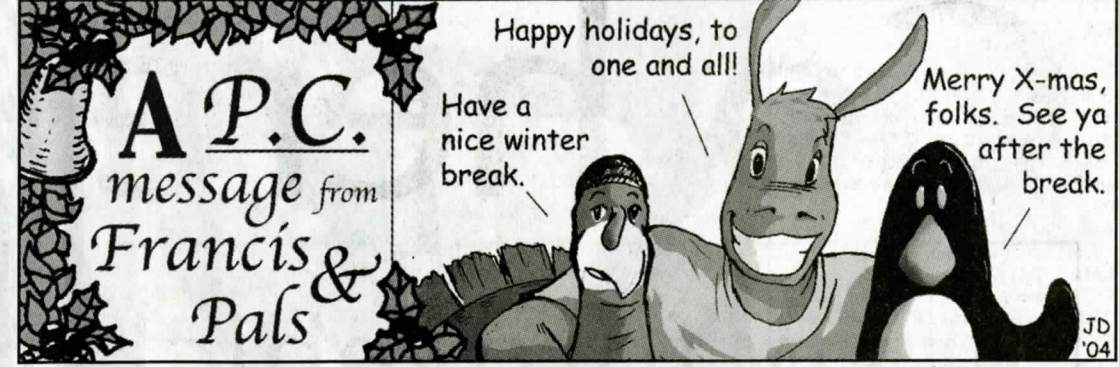
DOWN

- 1 Slightly shift
- 2 Chart shape
- 3 Ms. Gardner
- 4 Breathers
- 5 Heir's inheritance
- 6 Andes people
- 7 Cheer
- 8 Volcano near Messina

- 33 Warbled
- 36 Hamburg's river
- 37 Zodiac sign
- 38 Persecution delusion
- 39 Dupe
- 40 Happen earlier than
- 41 South Pacific area

- 44 Ring of flowers
- 45 Encountered
- 46 Want
- 49 Wolfed down
- 50 Fairy-tale girl
- 52 Attempter

- 53 Doe woovers
- 56 Comic Martin
- 57 Appeal
- 59 Greek letters
- 61 Primary color
- 62 Be ill
- 63 Soil turner



CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Jerky Crisps by Sprengelmeyer & Davis

ARIES

(March 21-April 20)

Personal reflection will captivate your attention over the next 4 days. Unproductive patterns between loved ones can now be easily identified and dispelled. Use this time to accept yesterday's disappointments and acknowledge today's positive influences. After Thursday a new era of emotional growth arrives: stay open and watch for meaningful change. Friday through Sunday financial restrictions may be bothersome. Remain patient: options will soon expand.

TAURUS

(April 21-May 20)

Before mid-week close friends and relatives may be unexpectedly moody. Long-term relationships will now begin a brief but intense phase of lost ambition or indecision. Don't be unnerved: loved ones may now need to evaluate their own attitudes, habits or behaviors. Encourage privacy and deep thought: your empathy will be appreciated. After Thursday group social invitations increase: expect colleagues or new friends to openly seek your attention.

GEMINI

(May 21-June 21)



Workplace discussions this week provide a glimpse into the private agendas of officials. Office policy, long-term funding and team planning are all accentuated. Remain silent and gather important facts: revised duties and fresh assignments will soon arrive. Wednesday through Saturday accent romance, sensuality and sultry displays of affection. Many Geminis may soon choose between long-term security and exotic attraction. Stay balanced: there's much to consider.

CANCER

(June 22-July 22)

Over the next few days, a close friend or relative may outline an elaborate plan for increased education, revised workplace skills or a fast career change. Much of this is positive but will also be delayed: expect meaningful action to begin after mid-January. Thursday through Saturday new social invitations may quickly lead to lasting romance: pay special attention to returning friends, visiting relatives and unique group events. Avoid controversy:

passions will be high.

LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22)

Financial planning will require special attention over the next 4 days. Long-term goals, although positive, may be temporarily unreachable. Don't be dismayed: at present, added home and family expenses are both necessary and productive. Flexibility and creative thinking will bring meaningful results. Later this week, younger friends or relatives may request family advice. Remain diplomatic: traditional roles in the home and private jealousies may be on the agenda.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

This week, lovers and marital partners ask for emotional clarity, long-term commitments or renewed promises. Listen closely to the needs of others: proposed lifestyle changes, social expansion and family acceptance may now be more important than anticipated. After Friday, work officials may announce improved schedules, shared duties or revised payment plans. Minor details and legal requirements prove misleading: thoroughly study all facts and numbers.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Co-workers and business partners are unusually cheerful over the next few days. Close colleagues, however, may be masking insecurity with optimism, zany antics or humor. Offer genuine but subtle signals of acceptance: before next week your empathy and social awareness will be greatly appreciated. After Thursday, friends and lovers may press for renewed public commitments in long-term relationships. Don't hesitate: your reaction will be carefully scrutinized.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Nostalgic reflection will now captivate the thoughts of loved ones. Before mid-week, yesterday's romantic ideals and postponed home plans demand discussion. Join in and explore positive memories: your participation will not be forgotten. Thursday through Saturday also highlight renewed employment contracts and rare business opportunities. Over the next 18 weeks, career luck is extremely high: pay special attention to the financial or communications industries.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Older friends or relatives may this week propose unexpected

family gatherings, improved home plans or creative social activities. Restlessness and low self-esteem are now a strong influence. Shared goals or revised lifestyles will soon be a priority: encourage fresh ideas, no matter how small or unrealistic. After Thursday, new business ventures work to your advantage. Respond quickly to all proposals: in the coming weeks potential work partners will bring powerful rewards.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Renovations, home planning and costly repairs may cause minor family tensions over the next 4 days. Refuse to be derailed by criticism or small delays: before next week loved ones may be more doubtful than is necessary. After Wednesday, powerful dreams and vivid impressions are highlighted. Quick, personal revelations may soon lead to important improvements: expect friends or lovers to push for renewed commitments, bold public statements or lasting decisions.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

Social discussions may be misleading this week. After Tuesday, someone close may

present surprising information concerning the past behavior and habits of a mutual friend or relative. Remain cautious and avoid impulse reactions: patience, added insights and accurate details will soon provide clarity. Thursday through Saturday a new friend or colleague may announce unexpected feelings of attraction. Remain cautious: a diplomatic or sensitive approach is best.

PISCES

(Feb. 20-March 20)

Several weeks of minor disagreements between friends or lovers will now fade. Pay special attention to a renewed sense of group acceptance. Loved ones will no longer question the sincerity of new acquaintances. After mid-week plan new financial strategies. Long-term business changes may soon demand attention: before mid-January complex decisions from key officials will require serious discussion. Trust your instincts: unproductive contracts need to end.

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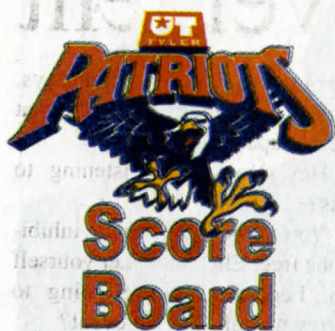
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Sports

Patriot Talon

Monday December 13, 2004

Page 6



Basketball

Men's

Southern Methodist def. UTT 76-61
Nov. 19 in Dallas

	1st half	2nd half	Total
UTT	34	27	61
SMU	40	36	76

UTT (0-1)
FG: B. Roberts 6-13 (15); M.Galloway 4-13 (12); C. Clark 3-4 (8); P. Branche 4-11 (8); C. Floyd 3-4 (6); J.Henderson 2-8 (5); E. Simmions 1-2 (3); R. Slaters 1-4 (2); B. Weasby 1-6 (2); Totals 25-71 (61)
Rebounds: Total 36 ; (P. Branche 8)
Assists: Total 11; (R. Slaters 5)

SMU (1-0)
FG: B. Hopkins 7-16 (21); D.Pearson 7-11 (17); P. Simpson 5-8 (11); J. Isham 4-8 (10); E. Castro 4-5 (9); C. Reay 2-3 (4); Totals 29-54 (76)
Rebounds: Total 40 (E. Castro 9)
Assist: Total 19 (B. Hopkins 7)

UT-San Antonio def. UTT 84-56
Nov. 24 at San Antonio

	1st half	2nd half	Total
UTT	22	34	56
UTSA	43	41	84

UTT (0-2)
FG: J. Henderson 3-8 (12); P. Branche 3-8 (8); B. Weasby 3-10 (8); B.Roberts 2-4 (6); M. Galloway 1-8 (6); J.Vanderbilt 2-4 (5); R.Slaters 2-4 (4); G. Gordon 1-3 (4); C. Clark 1-2 (2); Totals 18-55 (56)
Rebounds: Total 24 (J.Henderson 5)
Assists: Total 8 (R. Slaters 2; M. Galloway 2)

UTSA (1-0)
FG: D. President 4-5 (13); R. Selvage 5-10 (13); R. Posey 4-10 (12); A. Owens 4-14 (11); A. Donlon 3-5 (9); J. Millsap 3-5 (8); D. Hall 2-3 (7); R. Rodgers 3-3 (6); A. McCoy 1-3 (4); Total 29-59 (84)
Rebounds: Total 50 (R. Selvage 12)
Assists: Total 20 (A. Owens 4)

McMurry def. UTT 99-90
Nov. 27 in Abilene

	1st half	2nd half	Total
UTT	33	57	90
McM	50	49	99

UTT (0-3, 0-1)
FG: B. Weasby 6-9 (18); M. Galloway 5-14

Athletes honored at fall banquet

By Robert Wooten
Staff writer

The soccer, cross country, and volleyball coaches all handed out awards to their most thought of players Dec. 5 in the Robert R. Muntz Library during the University's fall sports banquet.

Athletic Director Howard Patterson opened the ceremony by announcing that all athletes would receive a letter for participating in their sport. Freshman received certificates, sophomores received a blanket, juniors got jackets, and seniors received watches.

After Patterson opened the banquet, each coach took the stage and recapped their team's season and handed out awards.

Head volleyball coach Rachel Short began the award presentation by announcing senior Tami



ALBEE

COWAN

SLATE

TRAIL

TURNBOW

Trail as most valuable player. Defensive MVP went to Morgan Murphy, while setter of the year went to Kelly Roberts of Quitman.

Short also handed out second team all-conference honors to Trial and Jessica Lightfoot. Roberts, Jerushah DuToit, Jessica Laningham, and Amanda Gadison were all honorable mentions in the conference.

Trail and Laningham also were named to the all-academic

honor roll.

The ceremony continued with women's soccer head coach Jodi Lovell handing out offensive MVP honors to Tricia Slate. Lindsey Henrie from McKinney received the defensive MVP award and freshman Nicolette Weil received the Patriot Award.

All-conference honors went to ASC second team members Slate and Liz McDonald. Tiffany Cooksey from Palestine was named to third team honors.

Honorable mentions went to McKinney natives Jenna Lyle and Lindsey Henrie. Academic honors went to Slate and sophomore Jana Cruce.

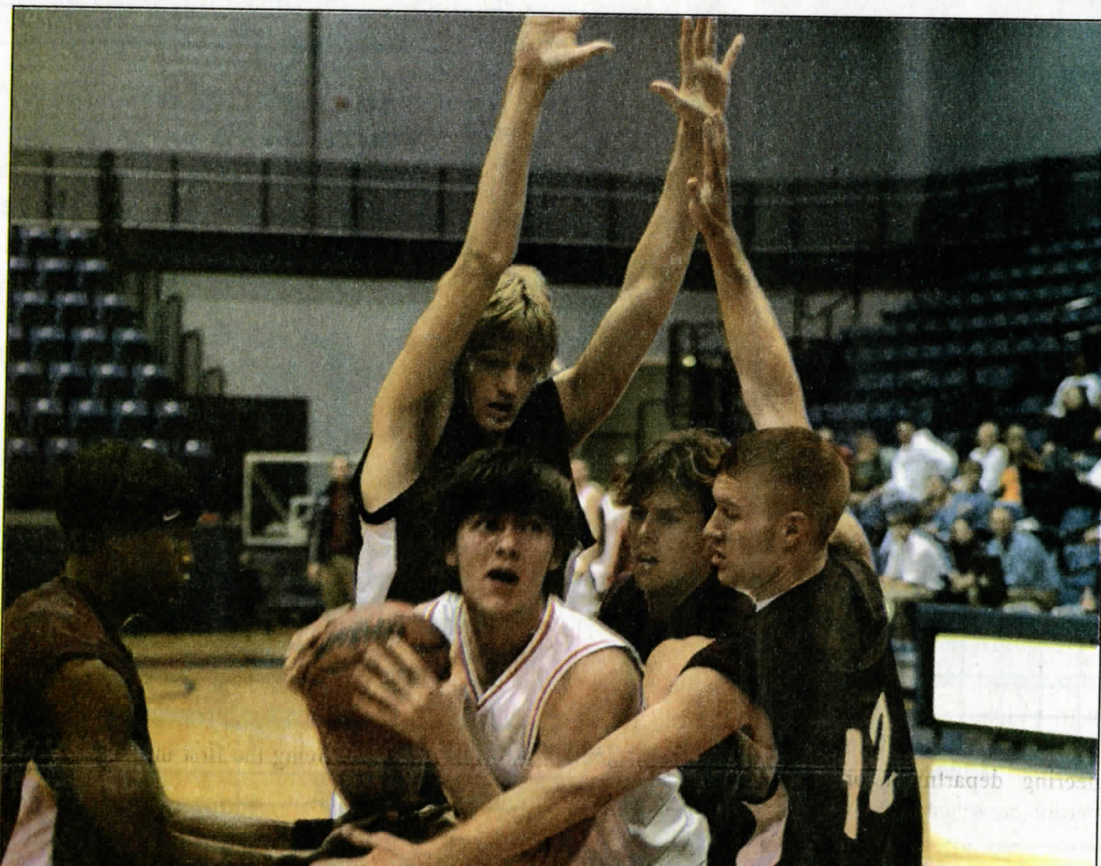
The men's soccer team followed with Coach Kenny Jones. Josh Wilson, Geoff Sherman, and Andy Rogers were all named to the all-academic honor roll. Rogers also received the Patriot award from his coaches and Sherman was named ASC second team goalie.

Sophomore Alan Hardin received ASC third team honors and Malek Becca from Tulsa Okla. was an all-american honorable mention by the USCAA.

The highlight of the night for men's soccer was team MVP Apollo Turnbow. The junior from Wichita Falls also was named to the ASC first team, named conference Co-defensive Player of the Year, and All-American honorable mention.

Head cross country Bob Hepler finished out the afternoon ceremony by honoring R.J. Cowan from Whitehouse with team MVP honors and all-conference first team honors. The coaches' award went to Stephan Taylor and the team award belonged to John Simmons. David Bremmer and Kyle Halberstadt received all-aca-

See BANQUET, Page 7



Daunting task

□ Men's basketball team challenges D-I schools just for the experience.

By Robert Wooten
Staff writer

No sane person would ask a 7th grader to learn trigonometry.

However, head basketball coach Matt Wallis expected his second-year team to undertake a similar challenge this season.

Proudly displayed on this year's men's basketball schedule are three games against Division I opponents.

No, Wallis isn't trying to punish his players by making them play superior teams; he'd rather just make them run extra in practice to accomplish that.

Instead, Wallis says he sees it as an "investment in the team's

SMU and thumped UT Tyler 84-56.

While Wallis would love to win every game possible he said he's realistic and recognizes the purpose for playing tougher competition is for him and his team to learn.

"They exposed our weaknesses. Now we can make the necessary adjustments," he said.

Statistics show the men made those adjustments. Their free throw percentage and rebound averages are noticeably better.

Most importantly, the win column shows a crooked number.

The men put together a three game winning streak even upset-

UTT (0-3, 0-1)

FG: B. Weasby 6-9 (18); M. Galloway 5-14 (16); P. Branche 7-10 (16); J. Henderson 4-9 (13); B. Roberts 5-10 (10); C. Clark 1-3 (8); R. Slaters 2-3 (5); Totals 30-69 (90)

Rebounds: Total 28 (C. Clark 6; P. Branche 6)

Assists: Total 16 (J. Henderson 4)

McMurry (2-1, 1-0)

FG: T. Mirabel 6-9 (26); T. Tennison 7-11 (17); K. Lewis 6-7 (16); J.R. Williams 3-6 (12); M. Qualls 3-4 (11); E. Bryant 0-1 (8); C. Dickerson 1-5 (4); M. Aury 1-4 (3); D. Fought

1-1 (2); Totals 28-48 (99)

Rebounds: Total 44 (T. Tennison 9)

Assists: 18 (E. Bryant 9)

UTT def. Hardin Simmons 80-77
Nov. 29 at Abilene

	1st half	2nd half	Total
UTT	39	41	80
HSU	41	36	77

UTT (1-3, 1-1)

FG: P. Branche 7-14 (18); B. Weasby 4-13 (16); M. Galloway 5-13 (12); J. Vanderbilt 4-6 (9); J. Henderson 2-6 (8); B. Roberts 2-5 (5); G. Gordon 0-2 (5); C. Clark 1-1 (4); R. Salters 1-2 (2); B. Hobbs 0-1 (1) Total 26-63 (80)

Rebounds: Total 44 (P. Branche 13)

Assists: Total 12 (R. Salters 5)

HSU (3-2, 1-1)

FG: C. Nite 7-10 (22); J. Peters 6-12 (15); M. Jean 6-8 (15); Z. Pickelman 1-5 (7); D. Rohde 2-8 (7); G. Pool 1-3 (3); Totals 24-53 (77)

Rebounds: Total 33 (M. Jean 12)

Assists: Total 13 (T. Kudrna 3; J. Peters 3)

UTT def. Texas Lutheran 74-70
Dec. 2 at Tyler

	1st half	2nd half	Total
TLU	33	37	70
UTT	38	36	74

TLU (3-3, 2-1)

FG: T. Stolhandske 8-11 (25); M. Ekanem 6-8 (18); M. Nelson 2-8 (6); J. Morales 2-4 (6); N. Summers 1-4 (6); J. Carpenter 2-2 (5); W. Hudson 2-5 (4); Total 23-43 (70)

Rebounds: Total 23 (T. Stolhandske 7)

Assists: Total 9 (M. Nelson 4)

UTT (2-3, 2-1)

FG: M. Galloway 8-16 (21); B. Weasby 7-14 (19); P. Branche 8-11 (16); J. Henderson 4-5 (8); C. Clark

1-2 (6); J. Vanderbilt 1-1 (2); R. Salters 0-0 (2); Totals 29-53 (74)

Rebounds: Total 27 (P. Branche 8)

Assists: Total 6 (M. Galloway 2; B. Weasby 2)

UTT def. Schreiner 84-58
Dec. 4 at Tyler

	1st half	2nd half	Total
Schreiner	25	33	58
UTT	41	43	84

Schreiner (0-4, 0-3)

FG: J. Evans 6-10 (14); J. Hall 4-8 (11); J. Young 3-9 (7); J. Williams 1-3 (6); J. Davis 3-4 (6); K. Deans 2-2 (4); C. Adkins 1-2 (3); A. Hamilton 1-6 (2); R. Barney 1-3 (2); B. Burke 1-3 (2); M. Raitz

0-3 (1); Totals 23-65 (58)

See SCOREBOARD, Page 7



Photo By Brad Smith

Curtis Clark, a member of the Patriots mens basketball squad, finds himself surrounded by Schreiner defenders during a Dec. 4 match at the Herrington Patriot Center. The Patriots won 84-58.

College football champions should be fight to the finish

Chase Colston



SPORTS CORNER

In life we have choices. We can choose what car we want to buy, what apartment complex we want to live in or what classes we want to take (most of the time anyway).

The same goes in the sports world. People are given the choice to like one sport more than another.

One person might choose to be a major soccer fan and not like to watch baseball, while others may be an avid football spectator and would rather watch 80-year-olds play bridge than have to sit through a soccer game.

Given choices, millions of sports fans across the country have chosen to take more of a lik-

ing to college football than professional football, with their main reason being that college athletes don't get paid (most of the time).

Egos are less apparent in college football. Most of the time you won't witness an opposing player talk on a cell phone after a touchdown or see a player run to the center of the field and mock 60,000 fans.

In all essence, college football is more pure than professional football. Personally, I can sit and watch both. It would be just as exciting to me to see Texas play in the Rose Bowl (which is happening this year) as it would to see Dallas or Indianapolis play in the Super Bowl, with the former definitely not occurring any time soon.

College football does, however, have its flaws just like any other sport. While baseball is in the process of dealing with steroids, football with drugs and

Instead, Wallis says he sees it as an "investment in the team's future" — an investment that will pay dividends in terms of experience.

Wallis didn't hesitate to accept the invitation the D-I schools offered his team.

"There's no big story behind scheduling these games. The schools had a vacancy and were interested in playing us. It's an invaluable experience" Wallis said.

That experience began Nov. 19 in Dallas when the men started their season against Southern Methodist University.

Surprisingly, the Patriots stood their ground and with pride and hustle held SMU to a 76-61 win.

Two day later the men battled defending Southland Conference champ University of Texas at San Antonio.

UTSA was not as friendly as

game winning streak even upsetting ASC West pre-season favorites Texas Lutheran.

The Patriots now are 3-1 in conference play.

Aside from the experience stiff competition brings, the Patriots can be thankful for returning players.

Last year's ASC Freshman of the Year Brandon Weasby, and Joe Henderson who Wallis deems a consistent player, returned.

Patrick Branche and Michael Galloway also are back. Both played key parts in the upset win of Texas Lutheran, scoring 16 and 21 points respectively.

Team morale also is high this year as the men return to friendships they started last season.

"It definitely helps that some of our players have been through the system for a year. The friendships and bonds that were made are now stronger," Wallis said

OUT OF MY WAY



Photo By Brad Smith

Patriots player Kasey Buggs (33) looks for an opening near the basket during a Dec. 4 match against Schreiner. UT Tyler won 78-56.

See CORNER, Page 7

SCOREBOARD

Continued from Page 6

Rebounds: Total 33 (J. Hall 7)
Assists: Total 11 (J. Evans 3)

UTT (3-3,3-1)
FG: B. Weasy 9-15 (22); D. Johnson 4-7 (10); P. Branshe 4-8 (9); C. Floyd 3-3 (9); R. Salters 3-5 (8); J. Henderson 4-7 (8); C. Clark 3-4 (6); G. Gordon 2-9 (6); B. Hobbs 3-7 (6); Totals 35-77 (84)
Rebounds: Total 48 (P. Branche 12)
Assists: Total 6 (D. Blair 2)

Women's

Texas Wesleyan def UTT 68-67
Nov. 2011 at Tyler

	1st half	2nd half	Total
Wesleyan	39	29	68
UTT	32	35	67

Wesleyan (1-2)
FG: B. Helton 7-13 (17); J. Flemmons 4-9 (13); K. Townsend 2-10 (10); T. Hill 4-6 (9); S. Coleman 3-6 (8); S. Courtney 1-4 (6); S. Swell 1-2 (3); S. Reder 1-3 (2); Total 23-55 (68)
Rebounds: Total 35 (J. Flemmons 9)
Assists: Total 5 (B. Helton 2)

UTT (0-1)
FG: K. Denny 8-12 (18); S. Stanly 6-8 (17); L. Patton 4-8 (10); S. Shead 3-9 (6); R. Hunter 2-7 (5); C. Tettey 2-8 (5); K. Buggs 1-4 (5); Totals 26-57 (67)
Rebounds: Total 24 (K. Denny 6)
Assists: Total 14 (S. Stanley 6)

McMurry def. UTT 70-68
Nov. 27 in Abilene

	1st half	2nd half	Total
UTT	37	31	68
McM	40	30	70

UTT (0-2, 0-1)
FG: R. Hunter 7-14 (19); K. Denney 7-12 (16); S. Stanley 6-11 (15); S. Shead 3-11 (8); C. Tettey 0-6 (6); K. Buggs 0-0 (4); Totals 23-64 (68)
Rebounds: Total 38 (K. Denney 11)
Assist: Total 13 (R. Hunter 6)

McMurry (2-1, 1-0)
FG: T. Richardson 5-10 (13); T. Robbins 3-3 (12); K. Venekamp 5-11 (12); C. Engelke 2-9 (11); S. Tuttle 2-2 (6); D. Burton 3-12 (6); J. Finstad 1-5 (6); D. Osioh 1-2 (2); K. Titus 1-4 (2); Total 23-61 (70)
Rebounds: Total 48 (D. Burton 8)
Assists: Total 20 (S. Tuttle 5)

Hardin-Simmons def. UT Tyler 71-62 Nov. 29 at Abilene

	1st half	2nd half	Total
UTT	29	33	62
HSU	39	37	76

UTT (0-3,0-2)
FG: R. Hunter 6-13 (15); K. Buggs 6-9 (14); L. Patton 4-10 (13); S. Shead 4-9 (8); S. Stanley 0-2 (4); K. Denney 1-4 (3); G. Baker 1-2 (2); C. Tettey 1-6 (2); B. Sims 0-1 (1); Totals 23-58 (62)
Rebounds: Total 40 (S. Shead 10; K. Buggs 10)
Assists: Total 11 (R. Hunter 3)

HSU (3-0,2-0)
FG: D. Martinez 6-12 (18); M. Henley 5-7



Police Reports

Assault

• Nov. 30—University Police were dispatched to the Robert R. Muntz Library in reference to an assault. A citation was issued for a misdemeanor, Class C, assault.

Theft

• Nov. 29—Police responded to the Science and Math Building Room 236C regarding a missing video camera valued at \$500.

Miscellaneous

• Nov. 11—Police were dispatched to the Muntz Library regarding a hit and run to a parked vehicle.

• Nov. 30—Police were dispatched to parking Lot 5 regarding a female being harassed by a male. No charges filed. Case closed.

• Dec. 01—Police responded to the University Pines Apartments Building # 5 regarding threatening phone calls. Case is still under investigation.

• Dec. 01—Police were dispatched to the Physical Plant building to meet a student regarding damage to a vehicle. The vehicle received damage while parked at the Muntz Library, parking Lot 10.

• Dec. 03—Police responded to the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center in reference to an individual falling. No injuries were reported.

University radio club to receive recognition

By Emily Stevens
Editor in Chief

Members of the University's amateur radio club will receive charter affiliation with the National Association for Amateur Radio, also known as the American Relay Radio League.

An officer of the field organization is tentatively scheduled to present members of the club with a certificate at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the conference room of the Engineering Building.

President of the Patriot Amateur Radio Club Steve Wilt said "this is a big step."

"Please, come and be a part of this distinguished event," he said in an address to students.

The club's Federal Communication Commission issued radio call sign, which is an issued identification number for each amateur radio group or individual, is W5UTT.

Wilt previously placed eighth in a nationwide contest sponsored by the Council for Advancement of Amateur Radio in the New York City Schools.

Contestants were judged on how many worldwide contacts could be made in a designated time frame. Wilt made 61 contacts.

For further information on the Patriot Amateur Radio Club contact Dr. David Beam in the engineering department or e-mail patriot_arc@stemail.uttyler.edu.

Intelligence can interfere with athletic achievement

By Kevin Sherrington

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS (KRT) — A Rice professor asks, "Is Terrell Owens someone we should copy?" and your hand shoots up instinctively at the question you can finally answer.

And, of course, you're wrong again, which is why you didn't go to Rice.

Not if you want to pass John Eliot's performance psychology class. Not if you believe in humility and introspection and trial by a jury of your peers.

Who cares what anyone else thinks?

Not Terrell Owens. Or John Eliot, either.

His recently released book, "Overachievement," revels in the T.O. model, which, admittedly, is a hard sell in some quarters.

Eliot's argument: "Do you want great performances? Or do you want everyone to like you?"

A little dignity might be nice. But not, Eliot contends, if it keeps you out of the end zone.

The professor's not just some radical egghead with lots of letters behind his name. He's a radical egghead who trained under renowned sports psychologist Bob Rotella.

Eliot's lectured at SMU. Worked with Rolando Blackman on how to coach the Mavericks' young players.

Clients include Emmitt Smith, Lou Holtz, Tommy John, Howie Long, Davis Love III, C. Everett Koop.

C. Everett Koop? Hey, John: Can't you do anything about the Abe Lincoln beard?

"Nah, that's his signature," he says. "That and the bowtie."

Terrell Owens' signature is an acute ego. He's not one of Eliot's clients. But Donovan McNabb is, and the Eagles' quarterback

swears by his target.

"As soon as you play with Terrell," Eliot says, "you realize his goal is to get everyone to believe in themselves."

Even Jeff Garcia?

Pause.

"I don't think Jeff Garcia got it," Eliot says of T.O.'s old quarterback in San Francisco.

"McNabb gets it."

And what about Owens' opponents? Do they get it? What about when T.O. spotted the ball on the star at Texas Stadium?

"Players didn't understand," Eliot says. "Terrell was saying, 'I got you good, and I want you to do the same to me.'"

Guess George Teague got it after all.

Eliot knows how elite athletes think, and not only because he can see inside their brains. He was once an athlete himself. The son of an Olympic ski coach, he won the Nordic combined at the 1980 Junior Olympics.

Played rugby and baseball at Dartmouth, too. Even won the Dick Cody Scholar-Athlete Award.

Don't get him wrong. He's not suggesting that all athletes act out their egos, probably because there aren't enough Sharpies to go around.

End zone celebrations aren't necessarily the answer, anyway. All you really have to do, Eliot says, is stop thinking so much. Quit overanalyzing.

"The best definition," he says, "is action, not thought."

And no false confidence, either.

"If you're constantly having to tell yourself that you're good," Eliot says, "then you're not."

You can't just talk a good game with yourself. You have to work hard and prepare and put yourself in a position to succeed.

But don't overdo it, either. "Being the first in the office and

the last to leave," Eliot says, "that's getting in the way of what we're capable of."

Hey, Boss: You listening to this?

You've got to set your inhibitions free, Eliot says. Let yourself go. Feel like you're going to throw up before a big event?

Grab a bucket!

Among Eliot's lecture topics: "Butterflies are a Good Thing," "Definitely Put All Your Eggs in One Basket" and a personal favorite, "Think Like a Squirrel."

Eliot got the idea about squirrels as he watched them tightrope the telephone lines outside his office.

"Why don't they fall?" he asks. "Because they don't go, 'Whoaaa.' They just run to the other side."

Eliot's technical term for squirrely thinking is "a trusting mindset." Some athletes have it; some don't.

Tennis players are notorious for overthinking between shots, Eliot says, but not hockey players.

Is that because hockey players are dumber?

"That's one way of saying it."

Intelligence, or accumulated knowledge, apparently is not always a good thing.

This is how Eliot explains the concept of the phenom — pronounced FEE-nom — who performs well because he doesn't know any better.

"Take Pudge Rodriguez," Eliot says. "He's been a great player for a long time."

And your point?

"No one's run the tests to see his IQ," he says, "but he's much more like the squirrel model."

Aw, nuts.

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FG: D. Martinez 6-12 (18); M. Henley 5-7 (14); L. Dennard 4-10 (10); S. Hodges 3-4 (8); M. Green 3-5 (8); M. Forth 2-7 (7); K. Strader 1-6 (2); E. Keese 1-1 (2); S. Hawk 1-2 (2); Totals 26-58 (71)
Rebounds: Totals 37 (M. Henley 7)
Assists: 17 (D. Martinez 6)

UT Tyler def. Texas Lutheran 64-60
Dec. 2at Tyler

	1st half	2nd half	Total
TLU	27	33	60
UTT	34	30	64

TLU (2-2,1-2)
FG: K. McGuire 4-12 (11); C. Ard 3-10 (9); T. Mathews 3-7 (7); A. Bone 3-8 (6); D. Martinez 2-4 (6); M. Smith 1-3 (5); A. Miles 1-2 (5); E. Duron 1-5 (4); K. Farringer 1-4 (3); K. Smith 1-5 (2); K. Anderson 1-5 (2); Totals 21-65 (60)
Rebounds: Total 41 (C. Ard 7)
Assist: Total 11 (C. Ard 2; A. Miles 2; A. Bone 2)

UTT (1-3,1-2)
FG: K. Denney 6-15 (17); R. Hunter 1-9 (12); S. Stanley 4-11 (9); S. Shead 3-5 (8); K. Buggs 3-7 (6); C. Stinson 1-1 (4); L. Paton 1-8 (3); C. Tettey 1-2 (3); G. Baker 1-1 (2); Total 21-60 (64)
Rebounds: Total 50 (S. Shead 9; K. Buggs 9)
Assists: Total 7 (S. Stanley)

UTT def. Schreiner 78-56
Dec. 4 at Tyler

	1st half	2nd half	Total
Schreiner	27	29	56
UTT	46	32	78

Schreiner (1-4,1-3)
FG: R. Estrada 4-11 (15); T. Castillo 3-9 (9); L. Stow 3-4 (9); V. Lopez 4-7 (8); V. Williams 2-8 (8); L. Liesmann 2-4 (7); Totals 18-51 (56)
Rebounds: Total 40 (H. Lee 9)
Assists: Total 1 (L. Stow 1)

UTT (2-3,2-2)
FG: S. Shead 7-11 (15); L. Patton 5-9 (13); R. Hunter 5-8 (11); K. Denney 5-10 (11); K. Buggs 5-11 (10); D. Sudderth 4-7 (9); J. Halverson 2-3 (4); K. Richardson 1-2 (2); Totals 35-73 (78)
Rebounds: Total 35 (D. Sudderth 6)
Assists: Total 9 (R. Hunter 3; G. Baker 3)

Honors

Men's Basketball
Brandon Weasby named ASC East player of the week

in an address to students.

patriot_arc@stemail.uttyler.edu.

Corner

Continued from Page 6

BCS's purpose is to try to place the best-of-the-best in the same stadium to play for the national title.

But who determines which team in the best? Computers? Coaches? Yeah right.

Last time I checked, computers don't watch football games. And honestly, head coaches don't keep up with 117 Division I programs.

Now, if these steps are taken, college football might just work out.

- Let the Associated Press poll be the primary poll. As much as fans, coaches and players hate the media, the sports writers are the most knowledgeable and have the best insight on the best teams.

- Propose a playoff system. The top 16 teams ranked by the AP Poll will advance to the playoffs. The first round will be played between the top ranked teams and lower ranked in order, so No. 1 would play No. 16, No. 2 would play No. 15, etc.

With this in place, upsets could happen, which are definitely fun to see. If a system like the BCS was placed in other sports, underdogs would never win. The past three World Series championship teams, all of which won the wild card, wouldn't even have had the chance to play for the title. The Red Sox would still be cursed.

- Now, of course, money is a big factor. And it still could be. The farther the teams advance, the more money is received, and everyone is happy again.

In all reality, the BCS is ruining college football. Teams with a chance are staying at home or are playing in the Holiday Bowl. Changes have to be made.

Banquet

Continued from Page 6

demic honors.

On the women's side, Kristy Albee won team MVP. Svetlana Popova won the team award and Rockwall's Julianne Halverson and Rikki Rucker shared in the coaches award.

Conference honors went to ASC second team members Albee and Charity Boling.

Coach Hepler then recognized six women for their efforts in the classroom as Boiling, Halverson, Popova, Katelynn

Denney, Kayla Hebert, and Farrah Cathey all received all-academic honors.

The fall banquet was the first of three sports banquets the University will have this school year.

To accommodate the 13 sport teams the University has broken up the usual all sports banquet held in late spring, into three banquets for fall, winter, and spring sports.



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OPERA SCENES



Photo By Jeff Mills

Linda Nylund (left) and Courtney Kelley perform "Brother come and dance with me" from "Hansel and Gretel" by Engelbert Humperdinck at the university's Music Department Opera Workshop Thursday.

Cat's degree causes legal trouble

By Silla Brush

The Dallas Morning News

Colby Nolan might well be smart (for a cat), but a 3.5 grade-point average on MBA coursework?

Pennsylvania's attorney general's office thought not.

The state this week sued a Frisco, Texas, man and his brother, accusing them of using spam e-mail to peddle bogus degrees from a Dallas operation called Trinity Southern University.

Colby, a black cat belonging to a state official, got his MBA and a transcript showing he notched a 3.5 grade-point average, for \$398.

value in the job market except to harm genuinely accredited colleges and universities and their online academic programs," said Jerry Pappert, the Pennsylvania attorney general.

Colby had enough work experience to qualify for an 'Executive MBA' from Trinity Southern University.

Officials in Pennsylvania paid \$398 for the animal's academic degree.

Craig Barton Poe, 35, of Frisco is named in the civil complaint, along with brother Alton Scott Poe, 40, of St. Cloud, Fla.

The two are charged with violating Pennsylvania's Unsolicited Telecommunications

Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.

Penalties could range from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per violation.

This is not the first time Trinity Southern has been in the news.

Last year, the head of the Massachusetts' infectious-disease laboratory, Ralph Timperi, acknowledged that he had purchased a doctorate from the operation for \$499.

He said he thought at the time that the school was accredited.

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Florida paper threatened

By Jennifer Peltz

South Florida Sun-Sentinel

BOCA RATON, Fla.(KRT) — Against a backdrop of concerns about censorship, Florida Atlantic University's student government was debating late Friday about fining and suspending the campus newspaper's adviser.

With a firm warning from the university administration and threats of a free-speech lawsuit, the student government's University-Wide Council was considering complaints that newspaper adviser Michael Koretzky had violated some of the student government's detailed rules about choosing an editor-in-chief. The student government is the publisher of the weekly University Press, underwriting its \$120,000-a-year budget out of student fees.

The complaints, filed by two former staff, call for fining Koretzky as much as \$6,000 and suspending him from his \$22,000-a-year job, though Koretzky has a

contract with FAU, and university administrators have indicated that they believe his employment ultimately is up to them. The complaints also sought to postpone the choice of a new editor "until at least one more candidate from outside the University Press runs," but the student government panel unanimously rejected that bid.

"My job's to teach journalism, and while this isn't what I had in mind, I can't think of a better lesson," said Koretzky, a jazz magazine editor and a former South Florida Sun-Sentinel reporter.

The showdown came a day after a subset of the student government, the Boca Raton campus senate, called for pulling the paper's funding next year unless its staff and content were "restructured" to "establish a working relationship with the Student Government Association and to assist them with getting information and news out to FAU students ... rather than write often unin-

formed articles ... skewed by individuals with a history of bias and distaste for our elected officials."

The paper just published an article disclosing that student leaders recently gave themselves a 25 percent pay raise and maintaining that some of them threatened the paper while the article was being prepared.

Those same student leaders at the heart of the pay-raise article — the University-Wide Council — became the court for Friday's hearing on complaints against Koretzky, the editor-selection process and the current editor candidates. Council members initially planned to deliberate in private, until FAU lawyer David Kian told them the meeting had to be open. As a public university, FAU is subject to state open-meetings laws.

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The two are charged with violating Pennsylvania's Unsolicited Telecommunication and Unfair Advertisement Act and Unfair

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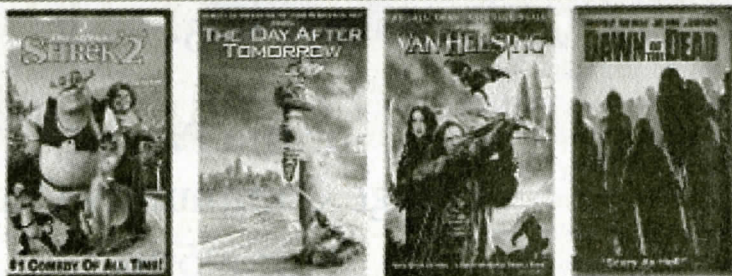


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