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Patriot

Inside: Near perfect: Patriot baseball celebrates a record season

See page 14



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April 30, 2007

Volume 38, Issue 13

Growth prompts new parking rules

By Anthony Croff Associate Editor

University officials intend to institute a new rule next semester prohibiting on-campus residents from parking outside of their designated lots, but construction of the University Center addition may affect implementation.

Students who live on campus but drive their vehicles to class make parking more congested for commuter students, officials said.

Gregg Lassen, vice president of business affairs, said he is "chagrined, disgruntled and appalled" at the whole issue of students driving around campus just to park close to their classes

A parking task force met last fall and issued a report recommending University residents remain parked in their designated lots, Dr. Dale Lunsford, vice president for student affairs and external relations, said.

alon

The University of Texas at Tyler

University Police Chief Mike Medders said, although the parking lots haven't been as crowded overall, he would support a rule requiring residents to remain in their lots.

The rule would most likely prohibit residents from parking in other University lots between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., he said.

In the past, University officials cooperated to strongly advise residents not to park in other lots, but it was not a rule, Medders said.

"I think we've gotten a lot of compliance," he said. "It's my intention in the fall for that to be an enforceable rule."

University officials decided on the policy last year. Lunsford said.

"I think it's a good rule," he said. "I think it's sensitive to commuter students."

However, University officials decided mot to implement the rule between the fall and spring semesters because it might have caused confusion to those affected by the change, Lunsford said.

Both Medders and David Hill, residence life director, said they intend for this rule to not only include residents of Patriot Village and Ornelas Hall, but also residents of University Pines. Despite being managed by a private company, University Pines is officially considered on-campus housing.

However, Lunsford said he recently learned

SEE PARKING PAGE 4



Staff photo by Kyle G. Horst

During the midday rush, parking becomes a valuable commodity in front of the University Center. Many students must resort to circling the lot until a space becomes available.

Tennis clinches conference title

By Jeremy Cotham

Sports Editor

The men's and women's tennis teams dominated in conference play all year long and the reward for that is the ASC East Division championship.

Both the men and women finished 5-0 in conference play. This is the fourth straight American Southwest Conference East Division championship for the men and the second one for the women.

"This year, it was a lot tougher on the men's side," coach Chris Bizot said. "We were injured, and the trainers did a good job of getting our guys healthy when we needed to. That we were able to do this for four years in a row is really a testament to the players and the program and how far we've come in such a short amount of time."

Both teams clinched the division crown when they went to Longview on April 21 and defeated LeTourneau University 5-1 (men) and 9-0 (women).

Officials begin discussing emergency response plans after Virginia Tech shootings.

By Erin Buller *Editor in Chief* and **Anthony Croff** *Associate Editor*

University officials said crisis plans and critical incident teams will begin meeting to discuss the aftermath of the Virginia Tech shootings in the weeks to come.

On April 16 a student at Virginia Tech University shot and killed 32 students, wounding dozens more, before being killed.

This deadliest university campus



This deadnest university campus shooting ever prompted commentary and controversy about campus security nationwide, including among officials at the University.

Police chief Mike Medders said he just returned from an emergency meeting with all University of Texas System police chiefs in San Antonio where they discussed emergency response plans.

"The police department has done a lot of training on how to handle situations similar to what happened at Virginia Tech. Any time something like this happens, we review what we're doing," Medders said.

He said University officials will begin meeting in a few days to discuss action plans and suggestions for getting the word out to students and faculty in the event an emergency occurred on campus.

"We're looking at everything very closely right now, as I'm sure universities and colleges are doing all over the nation," Medders said. "This is something being taken very seriously."



Staff photo by Michelle Morse

Sophomore nursing Major Mallory Cloud, left, and sophomore psychology major Maleta Ridpath, right, pay their respects at the Virginia Tech candlelight vigil on April 8th at the Riter Bell Tower.

The Virginia Tech massacre prompted response in the University counseling center as well.

"We already have a lot of plans in place," said Ida McDonald, director of student services. "We're in ongoing work with anyone who has a concern."

McDonald also leads the University counseling center, where students are welcome to come and talk any time, she said.

"Counseling records are separate from your academic records," McDonald said. "We hold a higher standard than campus police or housing."

McDonald said they have three trained counselors for student use and encourages students to make appointcounselingcenter

UC 274 or call (903) 566-7254

ments either by phone or by dropping by their offices in UC 274.

"I'm very saddened by this whole thing. To think that anyone was harmed by one person. My thoughts and prayers go with anyone involved," McDonald said.

That sentiment is felt among students as well.

Chase Floyd, a junior finance major, said although he did not initially know all the details of what happened, it made him think of safety on our cam-

pus.

"That was probably the first thing that went through my head -was safety here," he said. "Anybody could do that."

Amanda Mahan, 19, an English major, said she didn't find out about the tragedy until she attended class that Monday evening.

"Dr. [Dana] Adams asked the class to write down comments and concerns about security on campus," she said.

Mahan said a fellow classmate claimed to have a friend who attends Virginia Tech.

Teresa Rangel, 19, a biology premed major, shared the sentiment of

SEE **RESPONSE** PAGE 4

9-0 (women). Even though the Patriots dominated the

conference all year long, someone else will win the conference tournament as the Patriots are serving the final year of their provisional status.

On the men's side against LeTourneau, the Patriots swept the three singles matches as Bryan Jolly (6-2, 6-1), Will McDonald (6-2, 6-1) and Tim Pedraza (6-0, 6-1) all recorded wins.

In the doubles competition, Tripp Farmer and David Ashlock brought home one win and Brad Fenter and McDonald recorded the other win. Both of those games were won by a score of 8-5.

The only win all day for LeTourneau came in the men's doubles when Wade Sinard and Randal Namanny defeated Nick Kreines and Ryan May, 8-5.

For the women, it was a whole different story as they recorded their third straight 9-0 sweep over a conference opponent.

Recording wins in the singles competition were Beth Launius (6-0, 6-0), Sophie Weber (6-2, 6-2), Nikki Barrett (6-0, 6-0), Brittany Ude (8-2), Danielle Domingues (8-0) and Kristen Coy (4-6, 7-6, 7-2, 10-7).

SEE **TENNIS** PAGE 4

Advising: Ironing out some old, new wrinkles

Editors note: this is part two of a two-part series about the academic advising system on campus.

By Erin Buller

Editor in chief

As faculty advisers continue to navigate the murky waters of completing degree plans and coordinating class schedules, students continue to have questions needing answers.

President Rodney Mabry said the need and importance of advising should continue to be emphasized to faculty members as the process is re-evaluated and continues to grow.

And while advising is being looked at more closely by administration, students who have complaints should address them to department chairs and other faculty members, Dr. Mabry said.

"We need to teach students to be more business like in asking for substitutions. We need to do a better job at doing substitutions. Students need to



Photo illustration by Erin Buller

talk to department chairs a lot," Mabry said.

Mabry said he was a department chairman for 16 years and a professor for years before that and has seen many models of how to handle academic advising.

Mabry said faculty couldn't be expected to teach four classes, do research and do advising.

"They cannot do everything. Where I was at before each faculty member had 80 advisee's, but they didn't have to teach four courses," Mabry said.

Dr. Donna Dickerson, vice provost and dean of graduate studies said though she doesn't want to put the full blame on students, in most cases, they forget to update degree plans.

"The more often you look at degree plans and update it, the less likely you're to have issues," Dickerson said. "The other part is students get their information about degrees from too many sources. A student is told one thing by an adviser and they didn't like it, so they get another answer from the registrar's office."

She said that unevenness in the qual-

ity and source of information is often where students get caught at graduation

"Students are told to come back and update [their degree plans] and they don't. We try to work with students but at the same time it's the students responsibility to keep up with it," Dickerson said.

Freshmen advising

A way for freshmen to keep up-todate on degree plans is through the freshmen advising center.

After admitting the first freshmen class in 1998, and after starting the freshmen advising center in 2004, advising has gone much more smoothly, Dickerson said, and students tend to agree.

"Overall academic advising has been a good experience for me," LaToyia Bennet, a sophomore criminal justice major said. "I've been advised and that really explained what kind of classes I

could take."

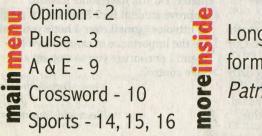
Janna Chancey, one of the people explaining schedules is also the director of the freshman advising center.

She said last year her office started a new program where all new freshmen are contacted in advance to be given the opportunity for advisement.

"Students go through admissions whether they apply online or by mail. Once they're accepted we start getting lists of first-time, full-time students. Usually May '06 graduates. We start putting the list together on March 1, then we send out a letter inviting them to come on campus and meet with an academic adviser one on one," Chancey said.

Starting in April of last year, she said her office advised and registered more than 600 new students before the fall

SEE ADVISING PAGE 4



Longtime professor, former adviser of the Patriot, retires See page 5

New student advocacy group organizes on campus

see page 7

University experience for home school students --- part 2

See page 11

day of silence to fight 'injustice'

Campus GLBT organize

See page 13

opinion

April 30, 2007

Students need 'final' break

Dead week: it's a time for students to relax and prepare for finals. It's a week off before long nights of coffee and cramming. It's a week we at the *Patriot Talon* believe the University should implement.

We can think of several reasons why students should have a week free before finals:

1. There is no new material for students to learn, and teaching any new material would be simply unfair. Students need time to absorb new ideas and facts, and for a professor to give a lecture the Friday before finals is not only cruel, it's not a good way to teach because it makes students commit the lecture to short-term memory instead of long-term memory.

2. School is stressful, that's obvious. But for students to be able to have a stress-free week before finals would give them time to decompress and get ready for the hell known as comprehensive exams. A study done by the American Medical Association said stress is a factor in 75 percent of all illness and disease today. Stress can make people do crazy things, and it most certainly doesn't help when preparing for an exam.

3. Art students can work on projects for a week before they are due. With no classes to attend and no assignments to turn it, art students can turn on their creative muse and get to

Editorial

work before the final projects are due. This gives art majors a stress free atmosphere to create the best work possible.

4. Instructors can catch up on grading. We figure there should be something in it for the professors, too. At the end of the semester, students turn in papers and professors prepare their final tests. A dead week would be a good time for professors to catch up on grading without students knocking on their door. It would also be a good time to answer e-mails from students who are feverishly studying for finals. Which leads us to our last point.

5. Students can have a week to prepare for finals. For those of us who aren't chilling out by the pool, having a week to study for finals, meanwhile not having to attend classes, is a godsend (or an *administrations*end, depending on how you look at it). Most students will procrastinate, but this week gives the hard-working students a reward for, well, all their hard work.

We at the *Patriot Talon* believe the administration owes it to students and professors to give us a week off before finals. Students work hard all semester, and having a short break will do nothing but improve the quality of education for students at the University.

Correction/clarification

• The disc golf course was built in February of 2006, which was misstated in an editorial in the last edition of the *Patriot Talon*.

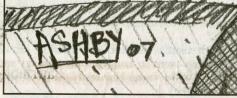
 Although the recent Student Government Association election voter turnout was the second highest in SGA history, it is the opinion of the *Talon* editors that 8 percent of students is low for voter turnout.
 The statement that Facebook played a major role in the election process was misleading in an editorial in the last edition of the *Talon*. Officials said at least one senator elected did not have the most Facebook friends.

• A *Talon* reporter said he was not aware of dates and times of SGA elections even though SGA officials said they made announcements every meeting leading up to the elections.

COLLES A CLEON

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Childhood discipline leads to personal responsibility

When I was young we had a paddle made out of plywood and polished to a high sheen from so much lise

My brothers J.D. and Seth made use of it most often, but at one time or another, Mom or Dad had spanked all of their six children with it.

I remember getting spanked for calling J.D. a "butthead" once and another time for making my little sister Hannah trip down the stairs.

Every time someone was spanked they carved their name in the battered wood of the paddle. A rite of passage.

Now the instrument of so much of my childhood anxiety and stress sits atop our fridge, dusty from lack of use, handed down every once in a while for a grandchild to play with.

Discipline is a funny thing. Too much and it's called

child abuse. Too little should also be termed child abuse, or at the very least, neglect.

My parents seemed to walk the line between too much and too little like trapeze artists. I never felt abused or neglected because I knew every time I got a spanking that I had done something wrong.

How else was I to learn what was wrong and what was right?

It seems these days parents do not spank their chil-

dren enough. Because of panic over child abuse, parents have gone to the other extreme to the ever-present threat of a "time out."

I'm not even sure what a "time out" even is.

Discipline means more than the threat of a spank-

Discipline has become what keeps me going to class even when I'm in the midst of my very last semester in college and senioritis sits heavy on my shoulders.

Discipline got me through college algebra, knowing all the while I will never have to know about x and y and all that crazy stuff.

And discipline kept me going through ups and downs as editor of the Talon when I just wanted to go home and never look at another red mark again.

If not for that scarred and beloved paddle I'm not sure where I would be today.

Dear Editor,

I apologize about the untimely nature of this letter, but feel that an adequate dosage of humility should be served to a certain member of your staff.

As a fellow editor of a college newspaper, I have come to appreciate the static that journalistic perspectives, opinion pieces and reviews can create with their readers.

But while freedom of the press, and their opinion, is a crucial element in the sufficient coverage of any arena, perspective writers have to keep in mind some notion of journalistic integrity.

In the Monday, March 12, edition of the the Patriot Talon. Entertainment Editor Will McDonald crossed the line of

writing a tasteful band review, in his article, "Flux Minor, sucks major.'

I don't claim to be an avid listener of Flux Minor, and for that matter, I'm going to pretend I didn't hear Will's band in union a couple of years ago. What I can offer to you, without a nugget of doubt, is that McDonald clearly singles out a particular member of Flux Minor with his own tactless judgments.

McDonald's persistent heckling of Flux's Priscilla Schulz goes beyond the stage, to create his own personal platform from which he then slings a web of accusations that tangle him in his own hypocrisy.

As if boasting that Schulz suffers from what he calls

Letters to the Editor

"American Idol Syndrome" wasn't enough, he goes on to justify her supposed poor performance on influences of socioeconomic standing.

Mr. McDonald suffers from what I call being a "Hippie-crit."

His use of the word "ostentatious"to characterize the band is far from an accurate portraval of the Schulz family, which I have known for years. He on the other hand, has successfully attracted the notice of others with his spiteful opinion and should remember the nature of karma before roasting people's artistic expressions at the stake.

> Matt Smith Gunnison, CO Junior at Western State College

Dear Editor, I am responding to the arti-

cle written by Jenny Simmons entitled "Global Warming: How mother nature benefits from carbon dioxide emissions, and how we can too." The title itself is a clue to where Ms. Simmons stands on global warming. Has she seen

"An Inconvenient Truth"? She states "We ought to use our resources wisely, but remember nature seems to know how to take care of itself fairly well." Tell that to the hundreds of people who have suffered from polluted water sources. Or try that philosophy on the Exxon Valdez oil spill. Nature can only compensate so much for our carelessness.

What really irks me is this idea fueled by conservatives that believing in global warming is almost a sin akin to being pro-choice or pro-gay rights. What is so sinful about caring for the environment? Nature is God's gift to use and we have been charged with its stewardship. Could it be that acknowledging global warming is a real issue that means these conservatives would actually have to do something about it?

So instead of dreaming up scenarios to discredit it, how about dreaming up scenarios to combat it.

> Kenna Kempton. junior, journalism

Editors note: This letter is in response to an election code dispute brought before the judicial arm of the Student Government Association. The Judicial Board handles official complaints, appeals, and election disputes. In this case, the board mandated that Duy-Anh Doan write and publish in the Patriot Talon an official letter of apology to students for breaking the election code. **Dear UT Tyler Students**,

The SGA election has concluded and I'm excited to announce that I will be your new Vice President of Student Government starting May 1. I thank all the students that voted. Whether it's a

vote to elect a student leader who you believe would best serve the campus, or a vote to turn down the student service fee increase, your vote matters.

I hope that you all enjoy the campaign season, as I did, especially the funny posters that I made. My intent is not only to grab your attention but also to show you that I care about this campus, and I assure you, I have never tasted dog before. Please pardon me if you found any of my campaign annoying or if it offended you in anyway. During the election, one of my supporters displayed my name on a campaign poster outside the UC for about one hour, which violated

the "voting radius" rule, signage is not to be visible from the polling booth. Because of this, I mistakenly committed an infraction against the election code with regard to signage. This has already been addressed and disciplined by the Student Judicial Board. UT Tyler students, please accept my most sincere apology.

I realize that the SGA can be so much more than we have been in the past. Our school is young and our Student Government is learning, improving daily along with the school. As your Vice President, I want your voice to be heard on every decision that is made on this

campus. I want to promote off-campus relations with the UT Tyler community. Serving the community is the best way to get the public's support. I have many. other great ideas to improve campus life but I can not make it happen by myself.

Please help me to make this campus better. Do you have some ideas to improve student life? Send me an email at uttvoice@gmail.com. I hope you realize the importance of campus involvement. I encourage you to step up and take control.

Duy-Anh Doan, Junior. Electrical Engineering





Editor in Chief - Erin Buller

Associate Editors:

Pulse - Travis Webb

Opinion - Allen Arrick

Patriot.

Sports - Jeremy Cotham Entertainment - Will McDonald Wire- Anthony Croff Staff Writers - Karla Clark, India Moss, Robin Baker, Zachary Hubl, Paige Havter **Photographers** - Michelle Morse, Kyle G Horst Cartoonist - Ricky Ashby Ad sales - Julie Franklin, Jenny Simmons Graduate assistant/business manager - Jeanie Carter **Circulation** - Jenny Simmons Adviser - Vanessa Curry

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: The 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. The 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.

Phone: 903-566-7131 Fax: 903-565-5601 **E-mail:** editor@patriottalon.com Ads Only: 903-565-5536

pulse

Pomp and circumstance

Nothing says graduation-time like caps and gowns. Like most collegiate institutions, the University adheres to a formal guidelines for academic dress.

Store de la compañía

Mortarboard:

This style comes from

but has replaced the clerical skull cap.

Tassel:

These come in different colors. Different degrees and majors have their own colors. (See below)

Page 3

Gown:

Almost always black, the gown is modeled after priestly garb. It may be hooded, although this is more common for graduate students.

Staff photo by Michelle Morse Cutline Journalism student and University senior Lauren Fleming, 22, models her commencement apparel. Fleming will be one of 694 students graduating May 12.

All dressed up

Tassel colors by major Business: drab (gray)

Nursing: apricot

All aressea up

The long history of academic dress: the cap and gown

By Travis Webb Associate Editor

Seal:

The official seal of the

University appears on

The Latin phrase, "Disciplina praesidium

tion of the state.'

all degrees issued here.

civitatis," means, "The

instruction and protec-

Although the history of academic dress goes back at least 700 years, the cap and gown has only been used in this country since the 1880s.

The American Council on Education dates the practice of academic dress back to the 12th and 13th centuries.

According to their website, any ordinary scholar of the time dressed much the same as one of the few educated classes of the period - the clergy.

Most medieval scholars had taken at least minor vows and were recognized as part of the Roman Catholic Church.

By the time of Henry VIII, academic dress had become a mandatory tradition for students as nearly every major university in Europe.

In the 19th century various degrees were ascribed certain colors to incorporate in their official dress.

White was adopted for the arts and humanities, green and its cousin olive went to medicine and pharmacy respectively and golden yellow, which the ACE website said symbolized wealth, was given to the various sciences.

Though European universities continue to maintain

Mace:

Carried before the president. A ceremonial mace was seen as an important symbol of authority in medieval Europe.

flexible rules for academic dress, the United States has, according to ACE, historically opted for a stricter system.

Though academic dress was only widely adopted in the latter half of the 1800s. Universities quickly decided to set intercollegiate standards.

In the United States, the code of colors has been formalized and expanded several different times - once in 1895

by intercollegiate commission that also codified the style for various caps and gowns, then again in 1959 and once more in 1995.

The council's current code details everything from the color of the gown and the materials that can be used in its construction to a general briefing on the various types of graduation ceremonies.

The ACE code recommends black for all gowns, except for students earning a pre-baccalaureate degree, such as a high school diploma or associate's degree.

Though the rules might seem stifling, the ACE website clearly states that the council has no problem with local adaptation and does not enforce the code in any way.

Photo illustrations by Travis Webb and Michelle Morse

Education: light blue **Engineering:** orange **Communications:** crimson Arts and Humanities: white Fine Arts: brown Law: purple Philosophy: dark blue

Shoes:

Although not actually an official part of academic dress, shoes should be dark. Historically, somber clothes are worn under the gown as well.

Veteran reporter and author takes time off from research

to speak at commencement

By Travis Webb Associate Editor

Lael Morgan has come a long way since her first newspaper job at a little weekly in Alaska – all the way down to Tyler where she will be the commencement speaker for the Department of Arts and Sciences graduation ceremony on May 12.

She sat down with the Patriot Talon to speak about the field of journalism and changes she's witnessed in her time as a reporter.

The National Geographic veteran and author of 14 books said she can still remember one of her first stories at a small Alaskan weekly, an assignment to cover the Santa at a local mall.

"I was expect a nice human-interest piece," she said. "Instead, I find this guy hung-over, he hated kids and one of them peed in his lap."

Morgan, 70, is professor emeritus of journalism at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and a visiting communications professor at The University of Texas at Arlington.

Morgan started her career working for various small papers in Alaska during the 60s but by the early 70s she'd moved up to the L.A. Times.

She said journalism has gone through some considerable changes over the course of her career but remains just as important.

"It's such a fast moving world and technology has changed so much, especially photography. But the basics are still the same," she said. "The ethics are so much more complicated, that's why we need good journalism more than ever."

Morgan said she was bothered by the development of the "blogosphere" and encourages all students to increase the understanding and awareness of the media.

"I'd have everyone take a journalism course so they'd know what to trust," she said.

T.J. Chambers, manager of The

"From what I've been told, many stu-

Kirk Houser, City of Tyler traffic

Cambridge, said he expects residents to

take advantage of the complex's close

dents plan to walk over or ride a bike,"

engineer, said a crosswalk will be con-

structed near The Cambridge this sum-

mer in an attempt to make crossing Old

He said the crosswalk would consist

Additionally, Lunsford said the

University's growth, along with the

addition of The Cambridge, have

recently spurred discussion about

reconfiguring the University's main

entrance to alleviate left-turning traffic

installing new sidewalks to accommo-

date students who might walk from The

There is also discussion about

But, I guess you never know."

Lee Trammell, 25, a business

finance major, said he is disap-

pointed with the way the media

handled the story, especially criti-

cism of the Virginia Tech police

ty on our campus is concerned,

only so much can be done to pre-

vent tragedies like this.

Trammell said, as far as securi-

"This is a public place," he said.

'There's no perfect world out

there. If you wanna live in a per-

fect world, lock yourself in your

house and don't come out."

from Old Omen Road.

Cambridge, he said.

force.

of lines painted across Old Omen Road

and some caution signs to alert

Omen Road safer for students.

proximity to campus.

he said.

motorists.



PARKING

FROM PAGE 1

Page 4

that the Ornelas Hall parking lot will be used during the fall semester for the staging of construction equipment used for the U.C. addition.

The Ornelas Hall lot will be inaccessible to residents, leaving two options for officials, he said.

One option, Lunsford said, is to institute the rule and give Ornelas residents a reprieve until construction of the U.C. addition is complete.

The only other option is delaying implementation of the rule for a full year, he said.

Lunsford said the reason for waiting a full year is not to cause residents confusion about the policy. Traditionally, rules are established at the beginning of the academic year, he said.

Chief Medders said the decision is ultimately up to University administration, but he would probably make a recommendation to go ahead with the rule, giving Ornelas residents a reprieve.

"I would think the first option would be most prudent," he said.

Other residential lots might be

ADVISING

FROM PAGE 1

closed in the future due to construction, so there is no reason to suspend the rule for a year, he said.

New rule aside, University officials remain largely uncertain about additional policies that might limit parking congestion.

Lunsford said the administration seriously considers suggestions such as the use of shuttle buses from distant lots to classroom buildings.

"If you're going to do this, there better be a demand," he said. "Parking may be inconvenient, but it's available."

Right now, the demand for buses is not enough to be cost effective, he said. However, Lunsford said the

University might have a parking garage

in the future if growth continues. "Eventually, that is what we'll have to do," he said.

Lunsford said University enrollment grew 12 percent last fall, and officials are projecting 4 percent growth this fall.

University officials interviewed for this story agreed that building a parking garage or more lots would be extremely costly both monetarily and to the natural beauty of the campus.

However, with continued growth, the University might need to consider options for accommodating more commuters, Dr. Howard Patterson, assistant vice president for student affairs, said.

"People think we have tons of land and we don't," he said. "We have to take a practical approach."

Patterson said the concept of regulating parking rules based on residence, among other factors, is not new. The Student Government Association should research what other colleges do, he said.

Officials said the new rule will not apply to any off-campus residents, including residents of Stone Ridge Apartments and The Cambridge at Tyler.

Lassen said the idea of extending the proposed rules to encompass off-campus housing in the immediate area is logical, but he is hesitant about proposing formal rules on the issue. "I'd rather use powers of persuasion than regulations," he said.

Both Stone Ridge and The Cambridge, a new apartment complex directly across from the University's main entrance, are owned by Asset Campus Housing. Asset Campus Housing owns properties throughout the United States that cater to the student-specific housing market.

Stone Ridge has 657 bedrooms, and about 90 percent of the residents are students of the University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler Junior College, or Texas College, manager Amber Warren said.

The other property, The Cambridge, will be able to house 588 residents, Jenny Deason, assistant manager, said.

Deason said 98 percent of residents will probably be students, and The Cambridge is expecting to be 100 percent leased before move-in day on Aug. 18.

Lunsford said it will be interesting to see if a large percentage of Cambridge residents will walk to campus instead of driving.

Center.

pened.

estly," he said.

mize what happened.

Response

FROM PAGE 1

other University students when she first learned about the incident.

"I pulled up MSN and read largest massacre in U.S. history," and I was just shocked," she said.

Like others, Rangel thought about safety on campus, but she said those thoughts quickly went away.

"I feel safe," she said.

Bunmi Odewole, 22, a health studies major, said he found out about the tragedy at 2 p.m. on Monday while watching the news coverage on TV in the University

TENNIS

FROM PAGE 1

In the doubles contest, Launius and Barrett won 8-1, Weber and Ude won 8-3 and Domingues and Coy recorded the final win at 8-0.

During conference play, the women dominated the ASC East

Division when they played 45 matches and won 44 of them. "We pretty much started from

"I felt for those students, hon-

Odewole said he still believes

Kristen Swanner, a 20-year-old

senior interdisciplinary studies

major, said she also saw the TVs

in the UC, and decided to log on to

the Internet to find out what hap-

"I couldn't believe that some-

thing like that had happened," she

said. "I feel pretty safe, I guess.

Virginia Tech police could have

done something more to mini-

scratch two years ago, and now we're at a point where we're winning 44 out of 45 points in the East Division, and that's a great thing," Bizot said. "We're right where we want to be, and we're excited about dropping the provisional tag. It's a good stepping stone for next year."

orientation. "We set it up where they can come in with their

parents. Usually we have first generation college students so the parents don't know what's going on either. We go over the THEA test, and it gives them a chance to ask questions and they can early register which gives them first priority for classes," she said.

Chancey said it is mandatory for all freshmen to meet with an adviser before they can register for classes. And they can't register via campus connect or on their own.

"The first semester they have to manually register. And they'll have a retention hold on their account because those new students don't need to be adding or dropping classes unless they meet with an adviser first," Chancey said.

She said when the students come back to register for the spring semester the retention hold is taken off and they can register on their own.

"By then they know what a full-time load is," Chancey said. "After that they'll receive a letter encouraging them to meet with their department adviser and get a degree plan made."

Chancey said she advises new students to check class requirements with a faculty adviser before registering with classes.

"Most students check requirements or generally

advising hours."

Now, he said that faculty member has been paired with a part-time adjunct faculty member to handle all the psychology advising that comes in.

"So they are both half time advising now. That system seems to be working very well," Geiger said.

Geiger said they shifted and rearranged due to complaints about the old systems and the limited number of hours faculty had to devote to advising.

"Complaints that I hear have to do with sufficient personnel to keep up with a growing number of students. What we've done is move advising away from faculty and to a staff member. That way students get more accurate advising with hours clearly posted," he said.

Complicated systems

Dr. Alisa White, interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences said the advising in her college is more complicated because it is the largest college with 19 departments and most of the core curriculum classes.

"Generally each department has its own advising system. The chairman assigns incoming students to an adviser. They have to meet at least once to have a degree plan made, which is made by the student and the adviser," White said.

She said several people then see the degree plan

"Most students check requirements or generally listen to other students and take some classes that are not necessarily a part of their degree plan. Make sure you have a degree plan, otherwise your wasting time and money," she said.

The freshmen advising center has three fulltime advisers divided by majors and degrees and have been in existence for two years, Chancey said.

She said they deal mostly with freshmen.

"Unless its returning students who have less than 30 hours and are still working on their core curriculum," she said.

After freshmen year, academic advising branches off into the five colleges with each college having its own system for advising, Chancey said.

Restructuring old systems

Dr. William Geiger, dean of the College of Education and Psychology said they recently restructured their advising system to be more organized and efficient.

"All advising up to admission is done by the undergraduate advising center, and then they're given a faculty adviser," Geiger said.

Geiger said Dr. Reg Killingly is the director of their undergraduate advising center, in charge of pre-admitted students, making sure they meet the standards for admission into the two programs.

Geiger said the advising center maintains responsibility for advising until students are admitted into the education preparation program after receiving 48 hours toward a degree plan.

"In the past as soon as a student made application to the program, they were transferred to a faculty member," Geiger said. "Before they'd even been admitted, they had a faculty adviser, but now they all go through the advising center and that takes the load off the faculty."

Geiger said they have two departments for education – early childhood and special education and curriculum and instruction.

"The concept is that people who are thinking along the lines of being a teacher are then linked to an adviser," he said. "The ratio of advisers to students is uneven given the system because there are many more students interested in early childhood education than anything else."

Geiger said there are nine faculty members in the department of curriculum and instruction and eight in early childhood education. He said each faculty member has at least 40 advisee's they have to handle on top of classes.

Geiger said in the past the process was to draw from a pool of faculty and appoint students to advisers.

"We just changed the structure for advising. What had been done was that you could be assigned an adviser in a different department," Geiger said. "People were being assigned to faculty who didn't understand the program they were interested in."

Geiger said psychology is set up as a separate system.

"A few years ago, we were dissatisfied with the way advising was being done in the department of psychology," Geiger said. "Students were having problems getting advising from faculty because they only had to have three office hours a week. So we identified a faculty member who was very good at advising and reassigned that person to more auviser, while said.

She said several people then see the degree plan up through the line until it is finally approved and mailed to the student.

"The degree plan receives several signatures and then goes into a data base and mailed to the student," White said. "The idea is that you would have multiple levels of approval."

White said she believes students should see an adviser as soon as they declare a major that is within the college.

"The earlier they get in the better. Get your degree plan made as soon as possible. The process is changing. Now they can't enroll without a degree plan to make sure they can graduate," White said.

She said she has heard stories of people being unable to graduate, but said ultimately it's the student's responsibility to follow up with degree plan.

"There are always horror stories," she said. "There are nine departments in arts and sciences and all the majors, the advisers are half time and they have only so much support."

Dickerson said when she was dean of the college she advised students to decide on a major early in their college years and then to contact an adviser.

"It's important that students go back at least once a year and have it updated," she said. "A lot of things can happen to alter that plan, such as community college not counting, department changes, we may not have a course any more."

She said difficulty arises when students do not declare a major, but now a new rule has been adopted that makes it mandatory to declare a major after reaching 60 hours.

She said the registrar would now place a hold on registration if no major were declared after 60 hours.

"It's really the undeclared that end up with the difficulties," Dickerson said. "Always remember the consequences coming to last semester and finding out you need two or three more courses. No one wants a surprise.'

Dickerson said if students are having a hard time getting time with an adviser, keep pounding.

"Camp out at the door," she said.

The College of Arts and Sciences, like all the other colleges, has a full-time adviser who took over from Dr. Olga Supek when she went back to full-time teaching last year.

Dr. Alecia Wolf, coordinator of the advising center, said she handles advising for undecided majors and approves degree plans before graduation.

"I make sure you're meeting University requirements," she said. "I'm the one who approves the graduation application."

She said the problems she sees are related to incomplete core curriculum or undecided majors.

"I obviously impress upon students the importance of choosing a major," she said. "Get with an adviser soon. Sometimes people don't have advisers and they wait until the very end and find problems.'

And students agree that it's important to know about your own classes and degree plan.

"Freshmen year you always get really good advise," Jennifer Chapman, a sophomore history major said. "Once you know your major it gets more complicated. I print out what classes I have to take and that works out relatively well."

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Former Patriot adviser retires

By Erin Buller Editor in chief

The former adviser to the Patriot Talon said he looks forward to retirement after this semester ends.

Dr. Joe Loftin, associate professor of journalism will retire this year after 17 years at the University and 32 years as a college professor.

Loftin, 65, said he was adviser to what was known as the Patriot for nine years from 1990-1999.

Before that he said he was a student newspaper adviser in Oklahoma and Shreveport, La.

"When I came here we had about 2,700 students. It's more than doubled that now. It was a different environment, less crowded and students were older," Loftin said. "It was not the kind of campus you think about now."

He said the school then was "non-traditional" because it was upper division, only accepting transfer students who were juniors or seniors.

"The paper had two Mac computers that were old, old. The fastest computer we had had one megabyte of memory on it," he said. "We used it to type stories on and then pasted up strips of copy to layout the paper."

He said the staff was very small, less than the more than 15 students who make up the Patriot Talon staff today.

He said staff members were older and had jobs and children, so some "absurd" and amusing things

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happened while on deadline.

"We had a member of the editorial staff who caused us some problems," Loftin said.

Loftin said without spellcheck, the staff would proofread the newspaper the night before it went to the presses in Gladewater.

"This one staff member would always stay behind. He was a terrible speller. The paper would come out the next day and I didn't read it too closely, because I had read it the night before," Loftin said.

He said this went on all semester until someone started pointing out all the misspelled words in the newspaper.

"A lot of things we had corrected he would change back to the wrong thing," he said. "Those sort of things happened."

Loftin said he's retiring because "it's time" and will take things as they come.

"I think I'll be in Tyler for the next four years because my daughter is in high school," he said. "My ideal retirement location is Fort Walton Beach, Fla. I'm looking forward to a great reduction in stress levels."

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'NEVERMORE'



Staff photo by Michelle Morse

Library supervisor Jane Harp reads Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven" on April 8 for National Poetry Month on the Patio Deck.

Debate team finishes third for season

By Lauren Hufham Staff writer

The University debate team wrapped up the year on April 1 in Shreveport, Louisiana finishing third in the Varsity Division Team Season Sweepstakes.

news

While at the tournament, Darci Meadville received a ninth place speaker award and reached the octafinal round of competition.

Sean Dodd received the seventh place

award for Varsity Division Individual Season Sweepstakes.

"I thought we did well this year. It was the same place as last year," Dr. Jeffrey Hobbs, debate team adviser, said.

The final standings are calculated by the accumulated points earned from each school's top four debater's at each tournament.

The team's third place finish is because the University sent only three debater's to most tournaments.

"Sometimes it's not a function of doing better, but having more people participating. I enjoy working with students who enjoy debating," Hobbs said. "I would like to work with more students".

The team does not plan on changing anything for the next year to remain competitive.

"You just keep doing well," Hobbs



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news

April 30, 2007



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news

Thirty participate in Day of Silence

By Travis Webb

Associate Editor

University faculty members may have had a hard time getting answers from some of their students on April 18.

The campus Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Organization sponsored a Day of Silence on April 18 as part of a nation wide campaign.

"The silence symbolizes a silencing that some GLBT people experience in schools," GLBT president Samantha Dwight said. "It's may not be as bad on a college campus as it is in some high schools but it doesn't have to be a direct silence their experience isn't talked about."

According to www.dayofsilence.com the National Day of Silence started 11 years ago at the University of Virginia and has grown to

Professor studying energy, Snake Development

Dr. Alisa White, interim dean of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, announced that Dr. Neil Ford, professor of biology at, and Iowa State University have come together on a collaborative research project involving snake development.

Ford's study will shape the essential part of ISU's known research as, "Collaborative Research: Evolution and Ecology of Aging in Natural Populations of Long-Lived Vertebrates."

ISU's contract provides Ford \$21,914 in funding from the Natural Science Foundation. His study will entail the raising of young African house snakes on different diets until they reach reproductive age.

Ford holds a doctorate from Miami University in Ohio and he has been a University faculty member since 1979.

He is also a member of the Texas Academy of Science and has published 50 scientific papers over his research.

The silence symbolizes a silencing that some GLBT people experience in schools.

Samantha Dwight **GLBT** president

include thousands of schools across the country. This year students from more than 5,000 schools participated - the most ever in the history of the event.

OOOMPA, OOOMPA

Dwight said about 30 students on campus participated in the event and GLBT members staffed a booth in the University Center with information explaining the history and nature of its organization.

Dwight said students participating in the event were given "speaking cards" that explained their silence as part of their participation in furthering dialogue.

"We're not pushing an agenda," Dwight said. "We just want to gain some acceptance for the fact that there are different ways of loving and

Dwight also said she hoped the event would help promote awareness of the campus GLBT and their concerns.

"I still meet people who don't know we exist.

interacting with each other."

We need to get some visibility," she said.





By Karla Clark Staff Writer

Next fall, students may have a forum to affect change in University policy decisions through the newly developed Student Advocacy Group, President Aaron Smith said.

"Essentially, we want to form a more representative front to the student body. We're not going to push policies, but if a student has an idea for the campus, we'll research it, and present the pros and cons to the Student Government Association and administration," Smith said.

The group originated with junior political science major, Smith. He discussed his idea for a student advocacy group with Adam Smith, George Lake and Eric Davis, who agreed to form the executive counsel, Smith said.

"This group isn't for our benefit. This isn't something to put on our resumes. This is seriously for the students' benefit," Smith said.

Although the University has not granted the SAG official headquarters on campus or power to make decisions, students can contact the group by electronic mail, or set up a one-on-one meeting with the executive counsel to discuss ideas or grievances, Smith said.

SGA president Austin O'Kelly said he hopes the group is successful, and he plans to work with the group to meet students' needs.

"I think we've done a much better job of representing the student body than in previous years, but we've still got a long way to go," O'Kelly said.

The group will not receive any Student Service Fee money next semester, but Smith may request funding for research purposes next year, Smith said.

The group does plan to propose the construction of a "town hall," or amphitheater-style forum to the administration, which would be funded by donations from University alumni, Smith said.

The "town hall," would serve as a site for professors to lecture outside on sunny days, and as a location for students to address the SAG two times a month.

Currently, the group consists of four members, but other students may join with recommendations from student organizations if above sophomore level, and need to be in acceptable academic standing.

"I don't think any of us feel the University isn't doing a good job - it's just that retention is a problem, and we want to find out why that is. We all love our school, and we can always do better by making communications between the students and the administration better," Lake said.

Patriot Wind Ensemble member Clayton Garrett plays his tuba during Nelson's "Homage to Perotin" performance on April 26th. Garrett also preformed a solo for the piece "Fantasia for Tuba and Band" by James Curnow.

Staff photo by Kyle G. Horst

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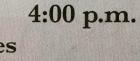
New Commencement Schedule Spring 2007 UT Tyler Cowan Center

Friday, May 11 3:00 p.m. College of Nursing & Health Sciences

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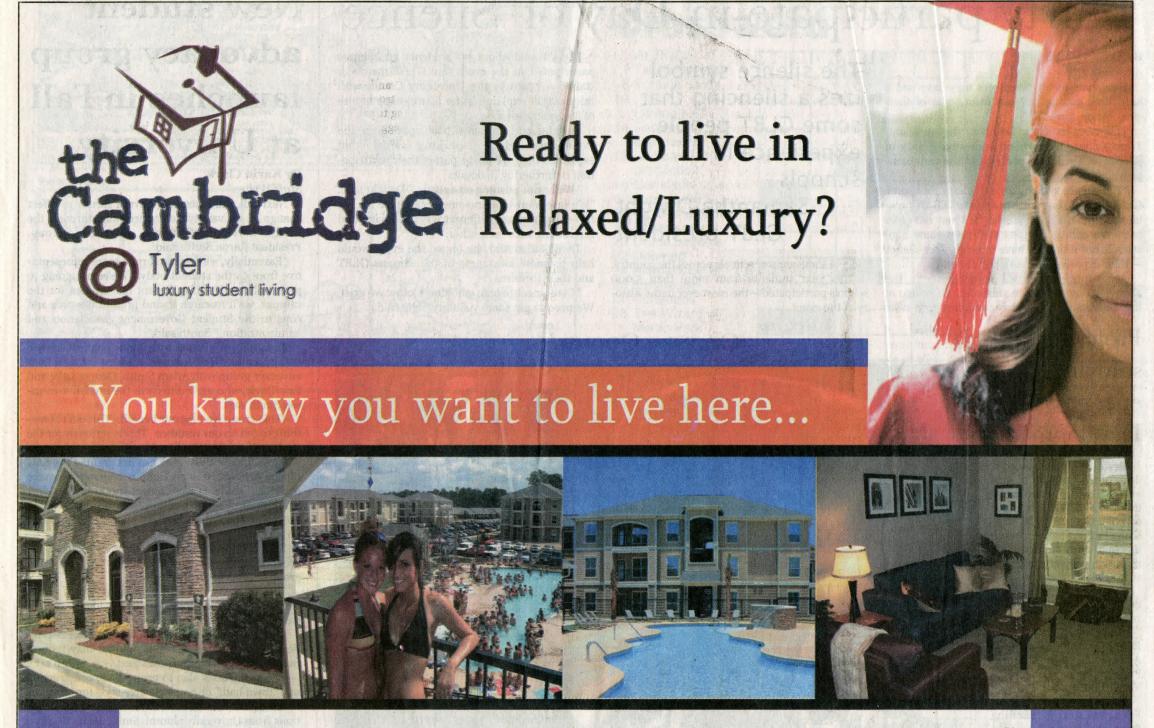
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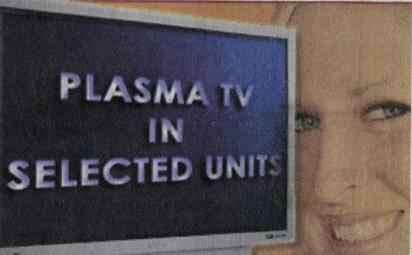
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End of the school year music review:

A little bit of ranting and raving and a slew of perfect summer road trip

Will McDonald

Entertainment editor

Well it's time for the final Talon of the glorious 2006-2007 year. Before we get down to business I'd like to thank all our editors for supporting all my ramblings and not "putting the entertainment editor on a leash."

They rock.

And for all the folks out there who missed "Grey's Anatomy" due to their displeasure of a college music review, which, yes, is an opinion, I really hope everything is going great for you and you're lives have been put back together.

I'm just an art major trying to share good music with good folks.

As for my "journalist integrity," please see the late great Hunter S. Thompson.

Enough of that mess, lets get to the good stuff.

For all the people out there heading home over the break, I've thrown together a mix of Texas road tip record guaranteed to make time and your tires fly by a bit faster to wherever the black top of dusty back road takes you.



"Snake Farm"-**Ray Wylie** Hubbard (2006)

If you haven't heard of Ray Wylie Hubbard by now, you've ever been living under a rock or training rebels on the Afghani border.

> Perhaps best

known of his underground anthem, " Screw You, We're From Texas," Hubbard's most recent album, "Snake Farm," find Hubbard in classic form: funky blues filled with witty lyrics delivered in a dirty Texas accent.

As if the title track about a literal Snake Farm located off of south I-35 between Austin and San Antonio isn't enough to purchase this album, fans of fried food and long legged women can rejoice in "Heartaches and Grease.'

Lyrics like "young pups ask me why I do what I do, knowing trouble wears high heel shoes. I'm tempted and tried by a fine pair of legs. I'm likewise tempted over over-easy eggs.'

"Snake farm isn't just humorous songs, but also a mix of grooves confronting death, morality, and the blatant political distortion of the far right wingers who've somehow combined the two to fool a God-fearing country,

All delivered with a keen sense of wit over many of the afore-mention heads, Hubbard combines then two elements: humor and truth, to create a cohesive album.

> "Son Volt: A **Retrospective:** 1995-2000" Son Volt (2205)

Jay Farrar's split with Jeff Tweedy produced two beautiful bands of drastic aesthetic, 'Son Volt' and 'Wilco.'

'Wilco' While opted for experimentation and vagueness, "Son Volt" is more like an honest conversation with an old friend.

Reflections of the past, revelations of the future and a brutal honesty make up this well-chosen compilation.

Farrar sings of " Real life never quit adds up. The road goes on and the faces don't, word of mouth never tells the truth."

A blatant reference to his former band "Uncle Tupelo," solemn reflections point the way toward whatever it is everyone seeks to find, contemplation leading to hope, a perfect fit for a long solo drive,

The inclusion of the cover "Looking at the World Through a Window," furthers the fitting of this album and it's traveling nature.

'Son Volt" and "Wilco' fans can also look forward to new releases by both bands by the time this semester winds on down.

"Countryman"- Willie Nelson (2005)

Perfect for a bring sunny day, "Country Man" will take your mind off slow drivers in the passing



2005 due to label issues, the record is backed by some of the finest reggae players in the

business, even including some of the former "Wailers."

"Sitting Here in Limbo" a great cover, fits Willie like Texas-perfectly.

I could rant and rave about how much I like this for days about how much I like this record, but as, Forrest Gump once said," That's all I've got to say about that."



tures virtuoso fiddling, ridiculous

mandolins and comforting to exciting lyrics. From songs about local Elysian Fields, to road appropriate verses like "I'm back out on the road, my time it spends so fast. I never know where I'm at, or where I was last."

Good for not only its picking and precision vocals, but also a prime example of variety offered.

Many bluegrass albums stick to a repetitive, one dimension rhythm and subject matter. Not to detract from traditionalist, as it's proven itself over the years and remains a constant favorite of many others, and myself but S.A.J.B. allows their many different influences to show through their music, which, in our day of age, is inevitable.

lane and all those state troops out there trying to snag you.

Reggae music and Willie is a near match made in heaven, or Los Angeles and Jamaican studios in the 1980s. Not released until

"Dark and Weary

World" - South

Austin Jug Band

(2006)

What would a road

The second album

game of horseshoes.

"A Bigger Piece of Sky"- Robert Earl Keen (1993)



Page 9

An oldie-goldie, Robert Earl Keen's "Big Open Sky" feels as natural on a Texas road trip as passing signs proclaiming sales of beef jerky, firework stands, and the occasional porno

store.

Beginning with "Amarillo Highway," a Terry Allen cover, the album blatantly screams "road trip!" even if that may just be an afternoon country drive through the pines.

A ton of music has happened since Flatt and

Scruggs, and it's encouraging to see a traditional-

ist-embracing bluegrass band explore elements

from old classic country, jazz, and even a funk

fueled banjo groove-minus the cheesiness of many

highway, the household, or the summer evening

"Dark and Weary World" is a comfort to the

"jam" bands who fail at what S.A.J.B. delivers.

Known for his original style of story-tellingsong-writing, Keen can be brash and soft spoken, matched with equal integrity.

"Still I get restless, and drive into town, my radio blastin,' my windows rolled down. I'm crazy and God knows I don't act my age, like an old desperado paintin' the town beige.'

Basically the album feels like a Hill Country conversation over Coronas, limes, an old friend, and all those stories we've heard before but still chuckle on the fourth or fifteenth time we've heard them.

And we all know that's good for the soul.

Reviewing these albums on a shirtless spring sunny day with a warm bottle of 100 proof whiskey on my back porch was a pleasure.

Whether staying put or fleeing good ol' T-Town, you can't go wrong with these records.

As the immortal Hank Williams once said, "The good lord willin' and if the creeks don't rise, we'll see you on down the road."

"Are We Done Yet?" valid title

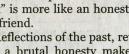
Robin Baker

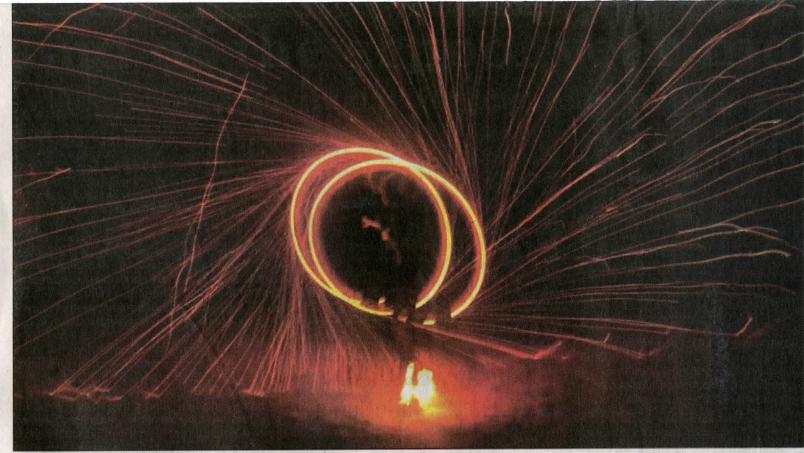
Staff Writer

Are We Done Yet - PG, 92 minutes Are we done yet?

Ninety-two minutes is too long to find the answer to







Staff photo by Paige Hayter

Sarah Golman, junior, sends out a shower of sparks as she performs with sparkly fire poi as a part of CrossFire Fire Performances Troupe. Other members include Paige Hayter, freshman, Michael Eaton, Logan Hayter and Seleste Holloway. (www.myspace.com/crossfire_fireperformance)

Poi: Students use ancient combat technique to relieve stress of school, entertainment

By Paige Hayter

staff writer

The main point of college life is to get out in the world and try something new.

For most, "getting out" might be going to an exciting concert or local pool hall, but for my friends and I "getting out" means lighting a fabric ball on the end of a two foot chain on fire and spinning it, otherwise known as fire poi.

Poi, not to be confused with the Hawaiian fruit, is an ancient native combat training technique used by the Maori tribes in New Zealand and it has become a popular form of entertainment here in America.

Our fire troupe, CrossFire Fire Performances, learned about the art form through the Society of Creative Anachronisms where, at events, there are nightly fire shows.

One member dragged in another and then that member captured the attention of others until we merged into one dislodged group of University students, high school students and college graduates.

Our members have very diverse personalities, which means that our talents as a troupe are numerous. Sarah Golman, junior, performs with fire fans and sparkly poi as well as fire poi, Michael Eaton, 20, does fire breathing, sparkly poi and fire poi, Seleste Holloway, 18, also performs with fire fans and Logan Hayter, 16, is our only fire staff spinner.

Most people are oblivious to the fact that an ancient entertainment is being performed right under there noises, others are aware, but are ignorant to the fact that our art is not "raving" though it looks similar in fashion.

I was quite pleased one day when I was on campus practicing with a set of unlit poi and a woman claimed to also be apart of a fire spinning group here in the very same city.

Fire is our passion though and we are usually found practicing at least a couple of times a week in a secluded Lake Tyler location. The adrenaline the fire produces is overwhelming. Even during the coldest nights of winter the spinning poi keeps your muscles pumping and sends a warming calm all over.

When we spin fire it is more than thrill seeking. We take out our stereo, bathing suits, maybe some snacks and anyone willing to join us and we have a good time.

Sometimes we make multiple sets of poi and

spin well into the early morning hours.

It really is a blissful place out on the lake at night with music ranging from Corvus Corax to the American Tragedy blaring in your ear.

Of course there is always going to be something to dampen the mood, and even though we are as safe as possible with our equipment, what we have to deal with are burns.

Most burns are only first degree and equate to something close to a centralized sunburn and so far only members of the group have been burned.

We take great caution as not to burn the audience. I believe the worst one experienced by a troupe member was when we were performing at an 18-year-old's birthday party and Hayter, tried to change the direction of his spinning staff with his arm and the hot steel stuck to his flesh.

He's a trooper though and didn't even stop his performance. No one had even realized he had burned himself until he finished.

The burns are a small price to pay for doing something we love to do. Though each of us have phenomenally different interests, entertaining seems to be in our blood and we are always willing to display our talents to the public. that question. Tim Allen couldn't even make home improvement as difficult as this film did.

Ice Cube is again Nick Persons in a sequel to 2005's *Are We There Yet?* Again he is an unlucky, distressed man who tries very hard to make ends meet for his newly formed family.



In the first movie, Nick was headover- heels in love with Suzanne (Nia

Long from *Big Momma's House*) but was constantly terrorized by her two horrible children. Trapped in his Escalade with the pair of kids, he had to survive the trip from Portland to Vancouver.

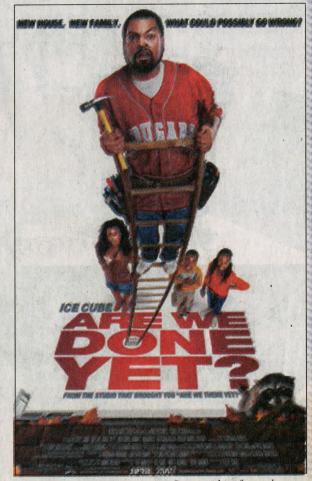
In Are We Done Yet? we find out that Nick never really learned his lesson, because he and Suzanne are married and her scary kids are now his too. Not to mention he's got twins on the way.

This film is billed as a family movie, but it's the kind of family movie the kids have to drag their parents too. There was nothing on screen for adults to enjoy.

"Are We Done Yet?" piles one unfunny situation onto another. Nick keeps insisting he can do things himself, but they never work out. He becomes the butt of all the jokes.

Director Steve Carr (*Rebound*) adds ridiculous touches like Nick's discomfort with nature and his stressed-out parenting skills.

This movie might provide a few laughs here and there, but otherwise all *Are We Done Yet?* does is provides the audience with a dark, comfy place for a nap.



Courtesy photo from yahoo.com Ice Cube, Nia Long, and a cast of other "star" in the vastly unneeded sequel, "Are We Done Yet?"



Crossword

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news

Not at home anymore Home-schooled students don't always fit stereotype

By Christina Campbell *Contributing writer*

Self motivation is a common thread between home-schooled students at the University, a trait Evan Strube and Amanda Kelley say helped their academic transition into college.

However, this is not necessarily the stereotype associated with them.

A common stereotype associated with home-schooled students is not of self motivating learners, more often students are considered quiet, shy and unsocial.

"College is very self driven, if you're going to learn you have to do it yourself," Kelley, an undeclared freshman said.

University Admissions does not track the academic progress of home-schooled students However, home-schooled students do tend to score higher on standardized tests than traditional students, Sarah Bowdin, director of admissions said.

Strube, a home-schooled nursing major, said he is used to motivating himself.

Zachary Hubl, a junior journalism major, said he learned his first semester how to study at college.

"I had to learn to sit in class and take notes, then go home and read the book and study my notes," Hubl said.

Test taking can present a problem for some students, according to the National Home Education Research Institute, stating that students may be slow testers.

There are two branches of home schools, the home school students and the school at home students, Strube said.

He said school at home students have tests and grades and home school students don't.

When Strube came to the



Staff photo by Christina Campbell University student Zach Hubl was home schooled before attending the University.

University, "Tests were a new thing, we were unconventional home-schoolers," he said.

At Strube's home there was more of a focus on teaching kids how to learn and love learning, he said.

"I was well prepared for the classroom experience because I already knew how to learn," Strube said.

"I am not a fast test taker, but I am not the last to leave," Kelley said.

Strube said he changed his study habits for tests since coming to the University.

"My study habits have become more test oriented than they were before," he said, "in studying for an exam you have to skip some material instead of studying in depth because of life and time," Strube said.

Knowing how to learn is what Strube believes is important for students, but he does not believe these skills are unique to home-schooled students.

Home-schooled — part 2

Page 11

"College lectures are a bonus, I was used to studying really hard to learn stuff," Strube said, "I am less dependent on the book now."

Kelley said she believes the ratio of traditional students who do well is proportional to the ratio of home-schooled students doing well academically.

However, a common stereotype associated with homeschooled students is not of self motivating learners.

Hubl said he believed other students perceive homeschoolers as introverted, naïve, and as people who do not get out much.

A stereotype not expressed is that home-schoolers have a love of learning, which both Strube and Hubl expressed.

"There are certain things about home-schoolers that other home-schoolers can recognize, not that we are different from other people, I just can't put my finger on it," Strube said.

Strube said he believes, home-schooled students often are less afraid to speak up in class, "maybe because they haven't been jaded by the system."

Home school students blend into the background of the diverse group of students at the University and often professors do not even know they are there, Bowdin said.

However, Strube said he doesn't often tell other students he was home-schooled, "I want to be known as a student, not a home school student or a nursing student."

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Congratulations Seniors!

Page 12

news

April 30, 2007

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police reports

Police officials said they responded to an attempted suicide on April 13 at University Pines apartments.

"We got a crisis call from U-Pines that was not a suicide, but was reported as one," Police Chief Mike Medders said.

Medders said any time a suicide is attempted on campus, the police contact the counseling center.

"This is not something we take lightly, especially with student health and mental issues," Medders said.

Traffic

April 12 – Police officials responded to a minor car accident in a University parking lot. A student and United States Army recruiters vehicles collided in Parking Lot 3.

Theft

April 11 — Officials responded to a complaint that money was missing from an HPC office. This case is still open.

April 16 - Motorcycle was reported missing from University Pines parking lot. The girlfriend of the theft victim reported the missing vehicle.

April 20 – Officials reported the theft of several items from the construction site for the new University Center. Tools such as shovels, hoes, rakes, and mops, was reported missing from the site wile others where moved from their original position.

Criminal Activity

April 16 - Police reported criminal activity that involved the damage of a red motorcycle in the University Pines parking lot. The vehicle belongs to a University Pines resident, and case remains open.

Fight

April 21 - Officials responded to reports of a fight in the Patriot Center. The suspects disbanded after police officials arrived on the scene. This case is still open.

Provost: On family, job, being color blind

Contributing writer Robyn Hundley conducted the following interview. The Patriot Talon will be featuring profiles of campus staff members in the last two issues of the spring semester.

Provost Dr. Richard Osburn, vice president of academic affairs **O: What is a provost?**

A: A provost is something like a gatekeeper for the University. I am the chief academic officer of the University and I am also in charge of faculty as far as hires are concerned.

O: How long have you been in this position?

A: I've held the position of provost for two and a half years here at UT Tyler and nine years in Florida.

Q: What is a typical day at work for you?

A: There's actually no such thing as a typical day at work. There's something different every day. I meet with faculty, students, politicians, board members and committees as well as solve problems.

Q: Where is your hometown? A: I was born in Pensacola,

Florida, lived in Jackson, Florida for 10 years, but I grew up and went to school in Atlanta, Georgia.



Osburn

Q: How did you end up in

background?

University of Georgia-Athens.

A: When I'm not at work, I'm usually playing tennis, doing yard work or playing with my granddaughter. I used to rollerblade when I lived in Florida, but the surface was a lot flatter there than it is here.

Q: Tell me about your family. A: Well my wife and I have been trouble seeing red and green.

married for 42 years now. She has a master's in education and is now a retired homemaker. We have one daughter whose named Cathy, who is married to a great guy named Lloyd, and they have a daughter, who is my pride and joy, named Samantha. Samantha was born two and a half months early and her doctor said that she would develop a little slower than full term babies, but she has developed just fine. She's a little firecracker.

Q: What is your greatest accomplishment at work and in life?

A: I would have to say that my greatest accomplishment at work would have to be developing and strengthening our academic programs, the hires that have been made in faculty and adding programs that meet the demands of the students. My greatest accomplishment in life would have to be trying to be a good father and grandfather. Also being blessed wit the best family and friends and trying to be a decent person.

Q: What is one thing about you that no one would guess? A: One that people probably would not guess about me is that I am red-green colorblind. I have

Students reject service fee increase by 207-172 vote

By Allen Arrick Associate Editor

The proposed student services fee increase failed to pass by a vote of 207-172 in the Student Government Association election on April 11, SGA officials said.

The increase would have raised the fee from \$11 per semester credit hour to \$14, and then 10 percent each year until the fee amounts to \$16 per semester credit hour.

However, the motion passed by the SGA states that if the fee fails to pass, it will still be raised10 percent by the SGA, which has legal right to do so, SGA president Austin O'Kelly said.

The fee pays for services like student publications, campus activities, Patriot Center salaries and the debate team.

"I think it's unfortunate that the fee did not pass, but the SGA will continue to raise the fee," O'Kelly said.

O'Kelly said the fee will be in effect in the fall of 2008 and the cap for what each student can pay per semester will be raised to \$250, up from \$150.

"It's something that the students need," O'Kelly said.

"By default, a lot has changed in 10 years at this university," Dr. Howard Patterson, dean of student affairs said in a previously published story from Feb.

Patterson said the fee has not been raised in 10 years.

"Now that we have a more traditional college age population, more involved in campus activities, the fee needs to be increased," Patterson said, "We aren't the school we were 10 years ago."

Model UN pass all 13 resolutions in New York

By Karla Clark Staff Writer

Thirteen University students prepared for an entire year, and when they finally assembled at the Model UN to represent the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, they passed the 13 resolutions they proposed, graduate student Verica Elliot said.

"This was the first year, and we accomplished a lot more than I expected in this trip," political science professor Dr. Marcus Stadelmann said.

As a result of the students' success at the simulated UN, the University has increased the newly developed model UN program's funding from \$6,500 to \$14,250 from the student service fee, which will allow more people to attend next year, Stadelmann said.

The students stayed in New York March 20-25, simulating the routine functions of the United Nations for the entire week, Elliot said.

The students separated into pairs and entered committees to discuss resolutions, which entailed bargaining, practicing the art of diplomacy, and creating alliances with other students representing the Eastern European block of countries to garner enough force to pass resolutions, Elliot said.

Some of the various proposal topics included rights of migrant workers, eliminating drug supplies, ending human trafficking, combating the spread of the Avian Influenza and water management challenges in the republic.

While in New York, students also met Macedonia's

representative to the United Nations, Elliot said.

"We spent about one-and-a-half hours with him. He was really diplomatic and gave no specific answers to our questions. There was no nailing him down," Stadelmann said.

Next spring, Stadelmann said he plans to take a group of 15 students to the simulated UN, 10 students new to the model UN class, and five who attended this vear.

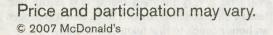
"The experience provided each of us with a wealth of knowledge and understanding that we could not have gotten had UTT not given us the opportunity to attend this conference. I am hoping to be one of the few that went this year that will be able to go again next year, senior William Fletcher said.

Texas? A: My daughter, her husband and my granddaughter moved to Texas, so my wife and I decided to move here to be closer to them. **O:** What is your educational

A: Well, I have a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in biology

from Georgia Southern and a Ph.D. in entomology from the

Q: What do you do when you're not at work?



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Staff photo by Jeremy Cotham

Members of the Patriots baseball team celebrate after defeating LeTourneau University to clinch the American Southwest Conference East Division championship on April 14 at Irwin Field.

Patriots finish best season ever at 37-1

Jeremy Cotham

Eight more runs and they would have had a perfect season.

However, it took 35 games to happen, but the Patriots finally found an opponent they could not beat.

On April 20 in Pineville, La., the Patriots 40game winning streak, which dates to last season, came to an end as the Louisiana College Wildcats defeated the Patriots, 9-2.

"They [Louisiana College] executed some good hits and bunts all night long," said coach James
Vilade. "It was just one of those nights where everything they did was right. We just weren't able
to come up with a win. It's really hard to be beat them at their place."

However, the Patriots did come back on Saturday and take two wins in the doubleheader against the Wildcats as they won the first game 6-3 and won the second game, which was a 1-0 pitching duel.

"I was happy with the way our team responded from the loss and was able to come back the next day and took those two games," Vilade said.

The Patriots finished the season with a 37-1 record, a .973 winning percentage, which is a NCAA record for best winning percentage in a season. The Patriots also tied the NCAA record for longest winning streak, which is 40 games. Both that first record and the tie will not be recognized because of the Patriots' provisional status.

In the Friday night game, it was scoreless through four innings, but the Wildcats took advantage of some Patriots' errors to get ahead 4-0. The errors continued into the fifth for the Patriots as they let the Wildcats add three more to build a 7-0 lead. In the first game of the doubleheader the next day, the game was tied at 3-3 going into the sixth inning before the Patriots finally took the lead and never gave it back.

Brett Holland started the game to get the win, going five innings and only giving up two hits. Nate Jennings pitched two hitless innings to earn the save.

In the second game, Kendall Fox singled in the first at-bat and came around to score what ended up being the only run of the game. Fox set a record with that single as he became the first Patriot to reach base safely at least once in each game of the season.

Blake Booher finished the year off in style as he pitched a complete game nine-inning shutout.

"This was an unbelievable season," Vilade said. "The attention we have been receiving, not only from the people in Tyler, but throughout the nation was something else. This was a real special year and a very talented team. This is the best team I have coached, record wise, and it has been an honor coach to this team this season."

The best team Vilade had ever coached before this season was at The University of Texas at Dallas where he went 33-8.

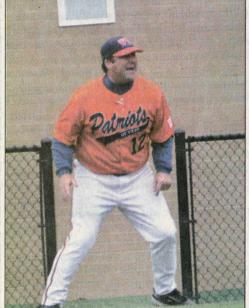
If the Patriots would have been eligible for the playoffs, they would have been a No. 1 seed for the American Southwest Conference Tournament and would have played host to the first round and championship round of the tournament.

"It is heartbreaking that we could not go to the playoffs but those are the rules for being under provision," Vilade said. "We are excited that the provision is being dropped."

The Patriots would have also been ranked No. 1 or No. 2 in the nation in the polls had it not been for their status.



Staff photo's by Michelle Morse



Above: Joey Moore and his adopted father, Larry Moore share a special moment after the Patriots baseball team clinched the ASC East Division championship. Coach James Vilade and his team dedicated the 2007 season to Joey, who suffers from glutaric acidemia, an inherited disorder in which the body is unable to process certain proteins properly and if not treated, can cause excessive brain damage.

"The Moore family and our hearts were touched when they dedicated the season to him," Moore said. "I was speechless and I'm not the one who is usually speechless. It is something we will never forget. We are all family now and I told them that. It doesn't end with this season because they welcomed Joey into their hearts and I think some of the guys played harder because of him."

Left: Coach James Vilade reacts to a play as he coaches third base during a Patriots baseball game. Vilade led the Patriots to a 37-1 record this season, his best season as a head coach.



Patriot all-time hitter Clay Copeland waits for the pitch in the first inning against Southwestern Assemblies of God.

sports



Baseball

April 17 at Home UT-Tyler 18 Southwestern Assemblies o Score by Innings R H E SW Assemblies 0 000 000 0 2 4 Texas-Tyler (12)33 000 0X - 18 14 0 Pitchers: Southwest Assemblies - Stone; Russell(1); Timmes(3); Kolczak(6). Texas-Tyler - Michael Stutts; Nate Jennings(6); Patrick McClure(7); Blake Burnett(8). Win-Michael Stutts Loss-Stone

April 20 at Pineville, La. Louisiana College 9 UT Tyler 2

Score by InningsR H ETexas-Tyler000 000 110 - 2 4 3Louisiana College000 431 01X - 9 8 3Pitchers: Texas-Tyler - Ryan Campbell;Greg Johnson(5); Blake Burnett(7).Louisiana College - Brooks; Burnett(7);Robbins(7); Wilson(8). Win-Brooks(4-4)Loss-Ryan Campbell(8-1)

April 21 at Pineville, La. UT Tyler 6

Louisiana College 3, Game 1Score by InningsR H ETexas-Tyler030 001 2 - 6 12 1Louisiana College20 1000 0 - 3 2 1Pitchers: Texas-Tyler - Brett Holland;Nate Jennings(6). Louisiana College -Naquin. Win-Brett Holland Save-NateJennings Loss-Naquin

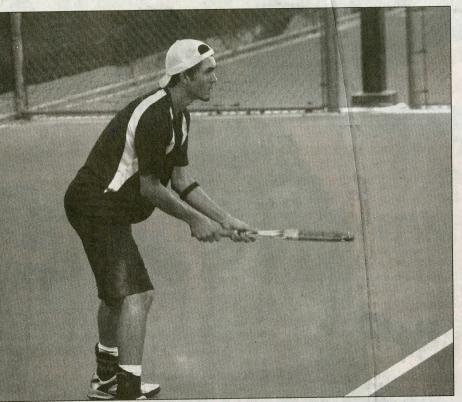
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Softball

Pineville, Lą. Tyler 7 College 2, Game 1
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er - Loren Parks.
Carson; Berry(6).
Loss-Carson

April 17 at Pineville, La. UT-Tyler 7 #2 Louisiana College 5, Game 2 Score by Innings R H E Texas-Tyler 003 013 0 - 7 12 2 Louisiana College 120 002 0 - 5 6 0 Pitchers: Texas-Tyler - Sam Darr; Loren TENNIS CHAMPS



Staff photo's by Michelle Morse Freshman Tripp Farmer awaits the serve against Southwestern University during the doubles round on Saturday, April 21st.

Golf wins LeTourneau Spring Golf Classic

Jeremy Cotham Sports Editor

For the second straight year, the Patriots men's golf team dominated and won the LeTourneau Spring Classic at Pinecrest Country Club in Longview on April 17.

Last year, the Patriots won by 24 strokes and this time around, it was a little closer but the Patriots won by nine strokes, shooting 295-296-306-897.

Senior Dean Rodgers finished the individuals a atop the leader board, shooting a 70-75-73-281, good enough for a three stroke win over Patrick Palmer of LeTourneau. This was Rodgers' second tournament win this season with the other one coming in the fall when he won the Tyler Junior College tournament in October.

Other top finisher's for the men's team were Drew Johnson (74-71-79-224), who finished in a tie for fourth, Coy Beck (74-75-79-228), who finished in 12th, Brandon Ellis (77-77-75-229), who placed in a tie for 13th and John Ross Fowler (77-75-80-232), who ended up in a seven-way tie for 16th place.

The women, however, finished the tournament in seventh place, shooting 388-378-766 to finish in front of conference foes, LeTourneau and UT Dallas.

The top finisher for the women's team was Cynthia Sciba, who shot a 90-86-176, which was good enough for 14th place.

This was the final tournament for both golf teams and it concludes their 2006-2007 season

Provisional period ends after semester

Jeremy Cotham Sports Editor

The playoffs are finally here. That is, the eligibility part of it.

No longer will people ask, "Why can't the Patriots go to the playoffs?"

This past school year was the last year the Patriots had to serve under the NCAA four-year provisional period that all start-up Div.-III programs have to go through before they can become postseason eligible.

During those four years, no matter how great the records were or what place the athletic programs finished in, they could not play in any conference championships or participate in any NCAA championship events or be eligible to be nationally ranked in any polls.

That is all over with now as every sport is playoff eligible and the volleyball, men's and women's soccer and cross country teams are the first programs to get that opportunity, starting in the fall.

"We are very excited," said women's soccer coach Stefani Webb. "I think all of us are looking forward to the possibility of playing in the playoffs. It gives us something to work toward."

For men's soccer coach Kenny Jones, the provision always has been there, but it has not stopped his team from performing at a high level.

"We thought we could always be a successful program, regardless whether we could go to the playoffs or not," Jones said. "It is going to be a big thing for the students because there is something to play for now. We have had a lot of success in the past and now the playoffs will just be an extension of that."

In the four years of provision, the men's team would have gone to the playoffs all four years and the women's soccer team would have

gone to the playoffs both years that Webb has been the coach.

For volleyball, they would have been playoff-bound once, which would have come this past season when they finished third in the American Southwest Conference East division.

Cross country is the one exception to the rule in not being able to advance to conference championships. The cross country teams were able to go the conference championships but they were not allowed to advance any farther than that.

"I don't why we are different, but we were always able to go to the conference championships," said cross country coach Bob Hepler. "We never could go any farther though, but now we can advance to the regional and national tournaments, which will be a first for us."

Hepler said that in all four years, the cross country team would have advanced to the regional tournament, the men that is at least.

"I think we will be very competitive whenever we get to regionals," Hepler said. "The frustration of not being able to go to regionals in the past is making our team work even harder now, knowing they have the chance to go the regional or national tournaments."

For softball coach Mike Reed, knowing they can go to the playoffs starting next year is an exciting thing to know and is something his team is really looking forward to.

"It is good to know that the next time we step out on that field, we will be eligible to go to the postseason," Reed said. "For our players to get to experience the playoffs, it will be great. I just wish out seniors this year would have gotten to experience it but they have help build this team into what it is now."

Coach Reed and his team would have been playoff-bound in two of his three seasons.

Patriots deserve a chance at the postseason

17 17 Pitchers: Texas-Tyler - Sam Darr; Loren Parks(6). La. College - Montagnino. Win-Sam Darr Save-Loren Parks Loss-Montagnino

April 19 at Home **UT-Tyler 6** UT Dallas 5, Game 1

RHE Score by Innings 203 000 0 - 5 8 3 **Texas-Dallas** 000 003 3 - 6 10 2 Texas-Tyler Pitchers: Texas-Dallas - Brown; Cain(6). Texas-Tyler - Loren Parks; Sam Darr(3). Win-Sam Darr Loss-Cain

April 19 at Home UT-Tyler 6 UT Dallas 5, Game 2

Score by Innings RHE 003 000 2 - 5 10 3 Texas-Dallas 031 020 0 - 6 8 1 Texas-Tyler Pitchers: Texas-Dallas - Cain; 25(5); Herrera(5). Texas-Tyler - Sam Darr; Sharon Duncan(4). Win-Sharon Duncan

UT-T	at Home yler 14 u o, Game 1
Score by Innings	RHE
LeTourneau	00000-001
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	at Home

UT-Tyler 8 LeTourneau o, Game 2 RHF Score by Innings 000 00 - 0 1 4 LeTourneau 124 1X - 8 11 0 **Texas-Tyler**

Tennis

MEN April 21 at Home UT Tyler 5 LeTourneau 1

Singles competition

Bryan Jolly (UT Tyler) def. Paul Haney 6-2, 6-1 Will McDonald (UT Tyler) def. Jeremy Martinez 6-2, 6-1 Tim Pedraza (UT Tyler) def. Randal Namanny 6-0, 6-1

Doubles competition

Tripp Farmer/David Ashlock (UT Tyler) def. Justin Llanes/Paul Haney 8-5 Wade Sinard/Randal Namanny def. Nick Kreines/Ryan May (UT Tyler) 8-5 Will McDonald/Brad Fenter (UT Tyler) def. Jeremy Martinez/Mark Taylor 8-5

> WOMEN April 21 at Home UT Tyler 9 LeTourneau 0

Singles competition

Beth Launius (UT Tyler) def. Sarah Ruth Carroll 6-0, 6-0 Sophie Weber (UT Tyler) def. Briana Olivo 6-2,

Nikki Barrett (UT Tyler) def. Jessica Tindall 6-0,6-0

Brittany Ude (UT Tyler) def. Jackie Simmons Danielle Domingues (UT Tyler) def. Kelly

Kristen Coy (UT Tyler) def. Rachael Hastie 4-6, 7-6 (7-2), 10-7 Winslow 8-0

Doubles competition

Beth Launius/Nikki Barrett (UT Tyler) def. Jessica Tindall/Jackie Simmons 8-1 Sophie Weber/Brittany Ude (UT Tyler) def. Briana Olivo/Sarah Ruth Carroll 8-3 Danielle Domingues/Kristen Coy (UT Tyler) def. Kelly Winslow/Rachael Hastie 8-0

Jeremy Cotham

Sports Editor

The NCAA, because of their dumb rule about new athletic programs, is keeping one of the best baseball teams in the nation this year from going to the playoffs.

Not many teams go 37-1 and not make the playoffs. Actually, there probably has not been any until this season.

Now the University baseball team gets to be that team.

First of all, let me say congratulations to James Vilade and the rest of the Patriots baseball squad. They are the best team I have ever seen, not just because of their record, but because of their willingness to fight and play as a team that refuses to lose.

But anyways, back to my rant on the NCAA.

Thanks in part to the dumbest rule the NCAA could ever come up with, the almost "Perfect Patriots" can't even go to the conference tournament, much less a national championship, which they so



Jeremy Cotham

deserve.

The NCAA figured that for every Division III start-up athletic program, they must serve a four-year provisional period in which they pretty much are not eligible for any postseason play.

They are not allowed to be ranked in the polls and they cannot be put in the NCAA records books. If that was not the case, the Patriots would have three records from this seasons' team and would be ranked No. 1 in the nation.

I tried and tried to get an answer from the NCAA about what the purpose was behind this rule. The best answer I got was, "this was made to protect new athletic programs."

Protect them from what?

I never got a reply for that question.

If that is the case, the NCAA should get rid of this rule and just let the new athletic programs go to the playoffs. I mean if a new program is good enough to win games to make the playoffs, then I think they are capable of playing in the postseason.

I'm pretty sure if our baseball team went to the playoffs, they would be just fine. I think they are capable enough to stay with the other teams.

Even the Patriots soccer, cross country, volleyball, basketball, golf, tennis and softball would have probably gone pretty deep in the playoffs if they had the chance in these last few years.

New athletic programs deserve to go to the playoffs if the earn the right to go. Enough said.

The NCAA is run by humans who make mistakes. Whoever came up with this rule, well they made a mistake.

Why in professional sports when an expansion team is created, they are allowed to go to the playoffs in their first season, although is highly unlikely they will advance that far. But the point is, they are allowed to go if they make it.

The new athletic program's are just like an expansion team. They are new to the NCAA and if they don't make the playoffs, then they don't deserve to go.

But for now, the almost "Perfect Patriots" will just have to be known as the best team in collegiate baseball history to not go to the playoffs. That might be something for the players to tell their children.

Thank goodness the provisional is over now. Watch out everyone, the Patriots are playoff eligible now.

If the Patriots perform like they did under the provision, we might be seeing a lot of playoff time.

Bizot excited about coaching the Patriots

Sports Editor Jeremy Cotham conducted the following interview.

> New Men's Basketball Coach **KennyBizot**

How did you get this job?

I saw the job posted on the UT Tyler web page and saw it posted on the NCAA.org site. Having played against UT Tyler in the past when I was at Mississippi College, I saw how nice the facilities were and how everything was ran in a professional manner. I thought it would be a great place to coach and raise a family and build a great basketball program. I am looking forward to starting my job there.

What is your hometown?

I am from Metairie, La., which is only about five minutes to the East of New Orleans.

What is a typical day like for a coach during the offseason and then during the season?

During the offseason, I spend a lot of time on the telephone. I am call-



Kenny Bizot

ing recruits, talking to coaches about those recruits, trying to organize the game schedule for the next season. I also try to organize summer camps, check on current players and making sure everything is going alright with them, especially academically. The main thing thought is recruiting and showing all the recruits the campus. During the season, a typical day would be meeting with the coaches, staff, organizing practices and then studying game films on our next opponents and apply that to our practices.

What community involvement do you have or will you have with your job?

At Mississippi College, I use to help run camps with local churches to try and teach younger children about the sport of basketball. When I get to Tyler, I want to figure out where I can use my talent and the talent of my team to go out in the community and be a part of that. I really also like to get involved with social groups but I really am looking forward to finding somewhere in Tyler to get involved with.

Tell me about your family.

I have a wife, Jeni, and we have been married for 11 years now. We have one son, Kenner, who is five years old and we are expecting another boy in the first week of August. My son Kenner is involved in all kinds of sports and I hope maybe when I get to Tyler I can help coach a team-ball team and help give back there.

What do you do when you aren't at work?

Since I am a coach of basketball, I really love to play the sport outside of my job, but most impor-

tantly, I want to spend as much time as I can with my family. With the schedule being so busy for me at times, getting to spend time with my family is a big thing for me. I also love taking my wife and son out to play golf or tennis.

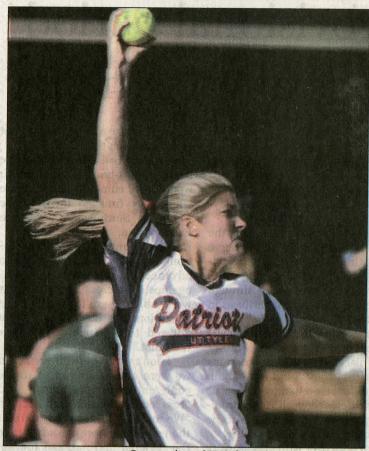
What do you consider your greatest accomplishment in your job or in life?

My relations with coaches, admin-A istration and most of all, my former players. I have won many games and some championships before but I have had guys call me back from some of my first teams and check up on me. They have called to see how I am doing and we have had some great friendships come from that. They sometimes even call me back for advice.

What is the one thing about you that no one else would ever guess about you?

I really do like classical music. That's probably one thing about me that no one would probably know.

sports



Courtesy photo of UT Tyler Sports Information Office Senior Pitcher Sam Darr rears back as she delivers a pitch against The University of Texas at Dallas on April 19. On April 21, in her very last collegiate start, Darr threw a no-hitter against LeTourneau University. She pitched five innings, struck out six and walked two batters. On the season, Darr finished with a 17-4 record with a 2.98 ERA in 129.1 innings of work.



Junior outfielder Sarah Roeten, right, slides into home for the game-winning run in the first game of the double header on April 19 against The University of Texas of Dallas. The Patriots won both games 6-5.

Softball hits 30 wins; Darr throws no-hitter

Jeremy Cotham

Sports Editor

Senior pitcher Sam Darr made one last piece of history in her final collegiate start as she pitched the University's first-ever no-hitter on April 21 during senior day.

Darr, who recorded her 17th win of the year, pitched five innings and struck out six in the first game of the doubleheader, which the Patriots won 14-0 over the LeTourneau Yellowjackets. Darr did walk two batters, which voided the perfect game.

In the second game, the Patriots used four Yellowjackets' errors and allowed only one hit en route to another shutout, this time winning 8-0.

Freshman Loren Parks got the start and pitched three innings before Patsy Toman and Taylor Geddes came on to finish out the game.

In between the two games, the Patriots honored seniors: Ashley McElroy, Sarah Zan, Tracy Loftin and Darr.

McElroy finished the two games on the day hit-

ting a combined 3-for-6 with five runs batted in and four runs total. Zan finished both games hitting 2-for-3 while Loftin recorded her team-record 12th homerun of the year in the second game.

"It was just a blast today," Patriots coach Mike Reed said in a press release. "This may be the most enjoyable day I've had at the ballpark. We were just very relaxed. For Sam Darr to go out and throw a no-hitter in her senior day, Tracy to hit a home run, and Zan and McElroy to have numerous hits, and our team to go out and make their mark and finish strong, I couldn't be prouder of them."

The Patriots finished the year winning eight of their last 10 games on their way to posting 30 wins on the season, which is a team record for wins in a season.

The Patriots finished in fourth place in the ASC East Division with a record of 14-10, which would of not been good enough for a playoff berth, even if they were eligible to go.

"Days like this, it's really nice to be able to take

a second and realize the special young ladies I have the opportunity to coach," Reed said. "These four seniors are a great representation of why you play, and why you coach, and to be a part of their lives and allow me to be a part of theirs, that's something I won't forget."

With the two home runs the Patriots hit in the final two games, it put the Patriots season total at 48, which is not only a team record, but it leads the conference and the whole Div. III.

The old record for home runs in a season by the Patriots was 14, but that record was quickly erased 11 games into the 2007 season.

"We knew we had brought in a little more pop in the lineup than we had last year, but after hitting fourteen last year, I don't know if we expected this much," Reed said.

On April 17, the Patriots also did something they have never done before, sweeping the Louisiana College Wildcats, who were ranked No. 2 in the nation at the time. And they swept them in Pineville, La.

The Patriots won 7-2 in the first game and 7-5 in the second game as it was also a day of firsts for Parks, the true freshman pitcher out of Brownsboro.

In the first game, Parks recorded her first win in her first ever collegiate start as she gave up one earned run on four hits in seven innings.

In the second game, the Patriots fell behind by three after the first two innings but the Patriots tied the game in the third and took the lead in the fifth, which they never gave up again.

Darr started the game and Parks stepped up again and recorded her first-ever collegiate save.".

"We swept UT Dallas last week for the first time, and this is the first time we've ever swept Louisiana College in our program's history, it feels great," Reed said.

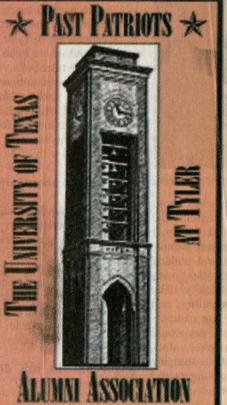
The Patriots will finally be postseason eligible next year as they have now completed the final year of the NCAA four-year provision. **UT Tyler Alumni Association**

Congratulates Spring Graduates 2007

Best Wishes for a Healthy & Happy Future!

Stay connected to your University & Classmates

The UTT Alumni Association will be in the foyer of the Cowan Center at graduation. Drop by for a photo shoot with Dr. Mabry and your graduation present.



www.uttyleralumni.com

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START DATE: July 16th, 2007

Please contact Carol Killingley, UT Tyler Community Relations, at 903-566-7050 or <u>ckilling@uttyler.edu</u> for more information, or visit <u>www.americorps.org</u> Online applications are available at

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