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the Patriot

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Mabry talks about changes at UT Tyler

Becky Roseborough
Managing Editor/News

Most people's image of university presidents is a stuffy, sit-across-the-desk type who rarely sees or speaks to students while drawing a big salary and attending exclusive dinner parties.

Yet, Dr. Rodney Mabry, president of UT Tyler, does not fit that description.

Mabry came here from the University of Tulsa in July 1998 to take the job as president of UTT.

During his first year as president, UTT went through many changes; however, Mabry does not take full credit for these significant changes.

"Dr. George Hamm worked through a lot of major changes for this university from the expansion to a four-year university to the Longview facility. All of that was on the drawing board before I came here," Mabry said.

"But I've been in the business of building programs ever since I came here, and I think we're off to a good start," he said.

Mabry described some differences in student participation between the University of Tulsa, which is a private school, and a public commuter university such as UTT.

"Tulsa recently celebrated its 100th anniversary, so it's not quite a fair comparison because we are a younger university. But student participation in the things we have available is high. We have a very active student body—in some ways more active than Tulsa. In Tulsa, there was so much to do in the city that university activities weren't that important to students," he explained.

Mabry also described what he learned about students while he was at the University of Tulsa.

"I spent most of my days in public universities. So, Tulsa was new for me, but boy, did I learn how to treat students," he emphatically said.

Mabry explained that there are two extremes in how to view students—the law model, which says look to your left and

UTT hires new dean of enrollment

By Becky Roseborough
Managing Editor/News

Jim Hutto, dean of enrollment management at Troy State University in Troy, Ala., has accepted the dean of enrollment management position at UT Tyler. He will assume his responsibilities here on Aug. 1, according to Dr. Rodney Mabry, president of UTT.

"He has led a successful team at TSU that has a great track record," Mabry wrote in an e-mail. "Not only has TSU's enrollment increased substantially, but the academic quality of the student body has increased dramatically as well."

Mabry said Hutto will work with our

current enrollment staff for a few days each month as an unpaid consultant until he comes here full time in August.

"He was a hit with everyone when he came on campus. To have someone who has worked in this area throughout his career and has dealt with the media in all aspects, we're excited about what he will do here," Mabry said.

Hutto's acceptance of this position allows several changes to be made. Martha Wheat, who currently supervises the enrollment office, will become the interim dean of student services. Dr. Sandra Sayles, special assistant to the president, who has been

overseeing student services, will remain special assistant to the president for another year and will teach nursing half of the time.

Hutto will also be responsible for the financial aid office. Candace Garner, director of Financial Aid will become associate dean of enrollment management. Mabry said that after taking this title, she will have "significantly expanded duties and responsibilities."

"I am truly excited about these changes. We are expanding our emphasis on enrollment and student services. These administrative changes will help UT Tyler grow and will help all of us be better recruiters—all the time, every day," Mabry wrote.

Debate team wins national championship

Nancy J. Garcia
Editorial Assistant

The UT Tyler Debate Team defeated Central Mississippi State University by one point in the 1999 International Public Debate Association's U.S. National Tournament Convention at Louisiana State University in Shreveport on April 8-10.

Last February the team was just as successful bringing home 37 trophies from the Red River Rampage Tournament. The Winston Churchill Cup Award was won with the help of three key individuals.

Keith Peterson, a graduating senior this year, is the individual National Champion.

He won the Tournament in the final round against an Arkansas student.

"He made top overall speaker in the U.S.; it's like winning the Heisman award," said Dr. Jack Rogers, debate team coach. Peterson is majoring in speech communications and a history minor.

Amanda Chesshir, junior, was the state runner up in the National Championship as the Top Novice speaker. "The Novice Division is for beginners, who do not have much experience," Rogers said. She lost by a split decision to a student from Central Mississippi.

"We had a large contingent of freshman

who did very well," Rogers said. Among them was Michael Reed, who got all the way to the Quarter Finals. "That's pretty amazing for a freshman," Rogers said.

This is the second year the Debate Team became National Champions. But Rogers doesn't know if the team will be able to place in the Nationals next year.

"We're losing heavy hitters this year because they're graduating and next year most of the team will be freshmen," Rogers said.

"We do have some sharp freshman next year. It's going to be interesting to see how we do."

Students miss teacher who really cared

Courtney Owen
Staff Writer

Universities are accustomed to change--students graduate, administrators change jobs, new buildings are built--but sometimes an unexpected event sends even the most stable institution into shock.

This was the case with the recent death of UT Tyler's Dr. Wallin McCardell.

McCardell was a rare kind of teacher--the type who saw his

students as people and not just faces in a classroom.

Maybe his desk wasn't the most organized place in the world, but if students had a problem--they could count on McCardell to fix it.

When advising, he asked about more than just credit hours and graduation dates. McCardell took the time to find out his students' dreams, and what they wanted to do with the degree he was helping them obtain.

He truly enjoyed his job, and his resume shows that he was

incredibly good at it. McCardell was a widely published writer, and a respected educator on both the secondary and university level.

McCardell was loved by more than just his students. He was a beloved husband, father, and member of his church.

Everyone who encountered Dr. McCardell was touched by him in some way. It might have been getting a kick out of one of his silly jokes, or just the comfort of knowing that at least one person really cared.

Letter to the editor

Students urge administration to grant Dr. Rogers tenure

It has come to our attention that the administration of UT Tyler intends to refuse to grant Dr. Jack Rogers tenure and promotion. To us, his students, this is a travesty of justice and we are baffled by this decision.

Dr. Rogers has been an extraordinary member of the speech faculty for several years and has performed his teaching duties with the highest level of professionalism. He is one of the best teachers we have experienced.

His use of humor and his sensitivity in the sharing of personal examples make his classes fun to attend. His style is relevant to us and we learn better because of it.

He is one of the most knowledgeable professors we know. More than just teaching, Dr. Rogers always has the time to meet with us. He is more than just a teacher. He is a mentor and friend. He is very vocal in his support of the students and of our concerns. He has coached our

debate team to numerous titles, including two national championships and been an inspirational and motivational instructor to literally hundreds of students, both in and out of our department.

We are led to believe that the administration respects and encourages the opinions of the student body.

Every semester we fill out teacher evaluations which are supposed to be a major part of this process of deciding who stays. We, his students, want Dr. Rogers to stay an active part of our educational experience. How would the administration know about Dr. Rogers' teaching since they have never attended a single class? We have attended hundreds of hours of his lectures.

Who is in a better position to judge how effective he is in reaching and teaching us?

Now, before you say that we are just students and don't know what's best for

us, remember that we are your ultimate customers and consumers. We are the justification for every single job at UT Tyler.

Without us, you cease to exist. Our satisfaction with the process puts food on your table and a roof over your heads.

After we graduate, you want us to be active alumni and support you in the community. Why are you not reading our evaluations and respecting our opinions?

After all, we are stuck with the teachers you decide to tenure. If you continue to run off the younger faculty that aren't afraid to stand up for the students and teach us in a way we can relate to, then you will run off your students as well.

The results of your campus politics impact most heavily on us. Our education should be the number one goal of the administration, not satisfying some witch hunt because a teacher isn't afraid to speak out when he thinks something

isn't as it should be.

Sure, Dr. Rogers is different—that's why we like him. But this goes way beyond just liking him. He is an excellent teacher, one of the best here at UT Tyler, and he really cares about teaching and mentoring beyond the classroom, unlike so many of the faculty who come in, teach their classes and leave.

He cares about our futures, so we have to care about his.

The powers that be at this university claim to respect the opinions of the students. Here is your chance to prove it.

We feel that Dr. Rogers should receive his tenure and promotion. Failure to consider this request earnestly will be yet another demonstration of this university's total lack of consideration for the students it claims to serve.

Beverly McCorkle and others*

*Fifty-six students signed the letter received by *The Patriot*

Tragedy in Colorado stirs questions across nation

By Jennifer Hernandez

Copy Editor

On April 20, Littleton, Colo., joined the growing number of towns that have been devastated by senseless murdering rampages in the schools.

Two kids walked into a suburban high school with shot guns and bombs hidden in their black trenchcoats.

And as simple as that, 15 kids were slaughtered. Twenty more continue to fight for their lives in area hospitals.

And hundreds will relive the horror over and over again for as long as they live.

Total shock and disbelief reverberates in the voices of victims and eyewitnesses as they paint a scene heard too often—that of kids killing kids.

One girl relives the press of the gun against her head before it was pulled abruptly away and used to shoot the girl and boy next to her in the head.

Another remembers the cold, hard look in a gunman's eyes as his shotgun kept shooting and shooting.

Thoughts of finals and finding a date for the prom were replaced with those of the blood and carnage in watching friends, classmates and teachers being shot down in cold blood.

"You should be safe in school," one stunned girl said in a newscast that was repeated across the country.

When did sending a child off to school for a better future entail the possibility of that bright future being cut short by a classmate's whim?

The senseless savagry in Colorado

highlights an infestation that has spread across the nation.

Six separate schools in six separate states have become the targets of violent crime, leaving the nation floundering in disbelief and asking itself, *How can the children be protected?*

President Clinton, in response to the massacre in Colorado, held a press conference expressing the need to educate kids on how to be aware of these potential situations.

Yet how can kids be taught to be aware of such brutality that we ourselves, as humans, do not want to admit can exist, especially in other kids.

Just by living in this time, kids are exposed to elements of violence and terrorism. Images of death and destruction flood televisions and news-

papers daily.

Whether fascinating or repelling, these images profoundly affect how kids view the world in which they live.

Yet it is different when the violence leaves the television and enters real life.

So the question remains, how can the nation protect its children? A lot of people subscribe to the theory of making schools like prisons, implementing more security, using metal detectors and surveillance cameras in their schools. Yet all the security in the world will not cover every threat.

As more and more violence invades a once-protected school environment, the nation is left to wonder if there is anything that can be done to protect kids—from themselves.

The Patriot

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All contributions in good taste will be edited for grammar, spelling, length (200 word maximum), libel, profanity, and personal attacks.

All letters should contain the author's name, address, day phone, academic classification and home town.

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Letters can be brought by HPR 261 or to the Theatre and Communication Office, HPR 272.

General Information

The Patriot provides information, commentary and entertainment for the UT Tyler community. It serves as a laboratory experience for reporting, editing, advertising and photography students in the journalism program. Comments about advertising should be directed to the advertising manager, and questions about news or commentary should be directed to the editor at the phone numbers listed below.

Phones

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Guest Column: UTT student experiences Japanese culture.

RochelleSmith is a UT Tyler student residing in Japan as part of the Language Assistance Program. She is teaching at Japanese schools.

Let me mention the cleaning time that all the students and faculty participate in during each school day.

It truly instills (from MY perspective) a sense of responsibility in the students, and a sense of humility in the staff, especially when you see the assistant principal down on his hands and knees scrubbing up scuff marks with a sponge and Comet or the principal pulling weeds from the flower beds!

I have had the experience of having quite a few citizens step up to help me when I was having trouble grocery shopping, looking for a train schedule, asking a question of a clerk, etc., so the notion that people are unfriendly or

afraid to speak to us is not true at all.

A lot of stuff is written in English or romaji (roman letters) so it's fairly easy getting around and buying stuff. I am working on memorizing the "Katakana" character (alphabet) which is used to make foreign words, sound words (onomatopoeia) and anything not strictly Japanese.

This is what is mostly used on menus and the like and will make my life a lot more carefree once I master this character group. I've already memorized the "Hiragana" character (alphabet), which I thought was a smart move, but I've since realized that just because I can read the Japanese words that are written, it doesn't mean I know what the heck it's describing!

So, katakana it is.... and it would also help if I could bite the bullet and start working on memorizing at least some of the

important, common "Kanji" (Chinese characters) that are used in combination with Hiragana for almost everything!

Most people do NOT have things that Americans take for granted such as laundry dryers (they are VERY expensive to buy, and most just hang everything), and garbage disposals are pretty new additions to the new apartment buildings and houses.

Most school kids get around by bike or bus, but there are also quite a few who make very long train rides into schools here.

Most parents do not drive their children to school. All students wear school uniforms, which means skirts for the girls, even in the dead of winter!

And there is also no central heat in the school buildings unless they are very new. The rooms all have indi-

vidual heaters, but they don't use them that often.

It is understatement to say that the Japanese are a hearty people!

The elementary school uniform is even less material.... mid-thigh length shorts for boys and little jumpers for girls. We feel so sorry for the little kids and big kids alike when we see their legs exposed and reddened by the wind, but we guess that they are used to it.

But there are also many cool things here that we don't have in the states, such as NO TIPPING in restaurants!

Yes, the price on the menu is what you pay in your bill, sometimes even including tax! It is very nice, but you wonder if they would appreciate a tip.

Let's see, they also wrap everything at retail stores very soundly; it's almost like your purchase of a tissue box and sink cleaner were a gift to someone!

Student has witnessed many recent changes in UTT

By Becky Roseborough

Managing Editor/News

When I reflect on the two years I've spent at UT Tyler, I recall a lot of changing times. Some changes have been improvements and some have not.

But now, another change must take place. It's time to graduate and move on.

The most drastic change I've witnessed was in our president's office. Dr. Rodney Mabry becoming the new UTT president stands out as the most positive change since I've been here.

I have been impressed to see him at many school functions, including my induction into Alpha Chi, where afterwards, he spoke to me and my parents for at least 20 minutes.

Also, he has always made time for me

to interview him for various stories. His open-door policy with students and his can-do attitude has made this university a better place for everyone.

Other history-making changes have also occurred since I've been a student here. For example, I can tell my grandchildren that I was a student at UTT when the first class of freshman came in.

Although I did not initially view this as a positive change, I have discovered that the freshman are a blessing to the university.

They make it diverse, and they add a freshness to the campus that we "older" people don't offer. They don't resent us, so why should we resent them? In fact, some have said they have learned a lot from the older students.

However one change I could still do without is the change from Monday through Thursday classes to Monday through Friday classes because I didn't have to commute as much. Now commuters bear the burden of driving to Tyler more often.

The saddest change, however, has been the death of Dr. Wallin McCardell, my favorite teacher--ever. During my first semester, I wasn't sure what to think of the scatterbrained, corny joke-telling professor.

But I soon understood that he had a special way of making his students feel like equals, rather than under-grad nothings. He was not just a teacher. He was a friend. There will never be another professor as vibrant, friendly and understanding as Dr. McCardell.

I want to thank all the faculty who have put up with my argumentative tendencies in their classes—especially in the political science department. I also want to thank Dr. Gary Clendenen and Dr. Kenneth Muckleroy for allowing me to interview them many times on short notice.

Taking a trip down UTT memory lane has been fun. However, realizing that another change, graduation, is upon me is a scary yet exciting thing. My head is filled with questions such as "Will I be able to get a good job?" and "Will I ever go back to college for a graduate degree?"

I hope the answer to these questions is yes. But, without a doubt, I know that I will miss everyone at UT, and my experiences will never be forgotten.

Atlanta's subculture provides an interesting alternative

By Courtney Owen

Entertainment Writer

Between the cars, bicycles and wandering people, it was nearly impossible to drive. The traffic in Atlanta was backed up for miles—everyone in the world seemed to be headed for the same place.

Little Five Points, the area of Atlanta known for its trendy clothing stores, hip restaurants, concert venues and legendary record shops, was bustling that Saturday afternoon.

Every kind of social deviant imaginable was out in Little Five Points that day.

What at first appeared to be a scary, burly man—but was actually a scary, burly girl—brushed past, glaring angrily at everyone simply for existing.

A group of boys dressed like Hallow-

een goblins, with white painted faces, black lips, dark velvet clothes and spike metal jewelry walked by.

They tried to pretend that the heat from the Georgia sun didn't bother them, when all the while that carefully applied makeup was rolling down their faces in a stream.

After a short walk past a few more groups of bums, street musicians, and other bizarre people, I stepped into the music collectors' Mecca of the southeast United States—Criminal Records.

Bills advertising tiny clubs and no-talent bands plastered the windows, counters, and walls of the entire shop. A bright, fluorescent orange paper screamed the name of a really great band, but, alas, the concert was four months ago.

Seems they don't clear the posters out very often at Criminal.

Along the back wall of the store stood what is possibly the largest magazine rack in America, its shelves stocked with only the best art, music, and film periodicals.

The rest of the store was filled with literally thousands of records, CDs, comic books, films, and anything else a hip young music fan might need.

The application at Criminal—and probably every other shop in Little Five Points—must include a section that says, "Are you a freak? Check yes or no."

Only those who checked "yes" were hired.

From the record clothing stores to the cafes and coffee shops, the establishments in Little Five Points employ some of the strangest people around.

In a restaurant called The Vortex, which has an entry way in the shape of the face in Munch's 'The Scream,' the waitresses all have bolts through their noses, eyebrow rings, and at least two hair colors.

The most interesting people in Little Five Points, though, were the sales clerks at Moda, a massive, two-story fashion and music store.

Six-inch platform shoes, face piercing, whole-body tattoos and fishnet clothing were common on Moda's staff.

Even with the multitude of unique shops and restaurants, and the abundance of bars and clubs, it's the people, both employees and visitors, that make Little Five Points the fascinating place that it is.

Without them, Little Five would be just another strip mall.

Faculty member retires after 26 years with UT Tyler

By Kelli Vance
Systems Manager

One day, 26 years ago, Robert Marsh received a telephone call one day asking if he would be interested in moving to Tyler, Texas, to work at a new school, known as Tyler State College.

As a native of Illinois, Marsh had heard of the Dallas Cowboys and even the Kilgore College Rangerettes, but he never heard of Tyler.

He left Illinois to visit one cold day in October. Immediately after he stepped off the jet, he was greeted by a man who said, "Why, you're Dr. Marsh."

Taken aback, Marsh asked, "Why, yes, how'd you know?"

The man replied, "You were the only one who came off wearing an overcoat."

They drove by John Tyler High School. Thinking the school had been named after some prominent person in Tyler, Marsh asked who John Tyler was. The man who was going to be his boss said Tyler was a president of the United States.

That was Robert Marsh's introduction to Tyler.

He soon filled the Dean of Admissions and Records position, making him the

fourth professional staff member at the college. He came when the staff consisted of the president and two vice-presidents.

Marsh came to work on Dec. 1, 1972. The school was due to open the following January. The school hired a total of 12 staff and faculty members within the month.

The first catalog was a pamphlet.

Marsh registered all 176 of the first students. Nine students made up the first graduating class. "We were small," he said.

When Marsh came for his interview, the college had just opened in the old Roberts Junior High campus a day or two before he arrived. "It was musty and stunk. I thought, 'What have I gotten myself into?'" Roberts now houses the Juvenile Detention Center in north Tyler.

After a few years, he decided he wanted to teach again.

He taught some classes and maintained his position as registrar. He was in the unique position of being administrator and faculty. When faculty took vacations, he worked to get grades out. When the full-time administrators vacationed, he had to teach. He eventually became full-time faculty.

Marsh originally taught an audio-visual course. He now teaches School in the So-

cial Setting.

He likes the course because it is the first course education students take. It offers a variety of topics. He also gets to "shape" students fresh from the junior college level.

Texas State College became Texas Eastern University three years later. The university officially became a part of the University of Texas system in 1979.

Marsh earned his doctorate from Illinois State University in Educational Administration. He became interested in higher education while vying for a principal or superintendent position.

He taught at public school level for four years. "Then Uncle Sam wanted me," he said. He served in the U.S. Air Force.

"It's been a great 26 years. When I first came, I thought I'd be here four or five years before moving on. But we kind of stayed."

Dr. Robert Marsh will retire Aug. 31 after 27 years at UTT. He and his wife plan to stay in the Tyler area when they are not traveling rather than return to Illinois. "It's too cold up there. This is home."

Summer I is Marsh's last teaching semester.

Heart attacks have symptoms that can be recognized

Cherilyn Raines

Contributing Writer

Knowing and recognizing the warning symptoms of a heart attack could save your life. According to the American Heart Association, 1.5 million Americans suffer from a heart attack each year, and 500,000 of them die.

During a heart attack, the heart muscle begins to die. The sooner medical attention is sought, the less damage is done to the heart.

One warning sign that may begin awhile before an actual heart attack is called angina.

Angina can be identified by "crushing discomfort, heavy pressure, or just tightness in your chest," according to *Postgraduate Medicine*. Angina is a way your body tells you that blood supply to the heart is seriously reduced.

The AHA's 1998 Cardiovascular Statistics estimates that 7,200,000 people in the United States have angina.

Many people do not recognize angina because it is not always a significant amount of pain. Simply slowing down for a few minutes, in some instances, will make it go away. Angina does not usually last for more than three to five minutes, but do not ignore it. If it is ignored it can

become more severe and can lead to a heart attack.

The AHA warns other symptoms may precede a heart attack, such as:

- Uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the center of the chest lasting more than a few minutes.

- Pain may spread to the shoulders, neck or arms.

- Chest discomfort with lightheadedness, fainting, sweating, nausea, shortness of breath may also occur.

"Sharp, stabbing twinges usually are not signs of a heart attack," according to AHA. It is not guaranteed that all or any of these symptoms will occur in every heart attack. But if you experience any of them, get medical attention quickly.

Denial is one of the hardest things to overcome during a heart attack. The AHA states that some of the most common mistakes made by heart attack victims are that they will often dismiss the pain and blame it on "indigestion," or ignore the pain and delay medical care.

There are medications and surgeries available to improve blood flow to the heart and decrease the chances of a heart attack. When it comes to heart attacks there are some things a person cannot control, but recognizing the symptoms is not one of them.

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Changes for computer science summer I schedule:

6629 COSC 3308-01 Personal Computing Kulkarni SCI 247
9:00-10:35 M-F

Correction Class Meets May 31 - July 2

6630 COSC 3309-01 Information System Software King SCI 247
12:30-2:05 M-F

Correction Class Meets May 31 - July 2

4283 COSC 3335-01 Digital Systems Kulkarni SCI 204
12:40-2:20 MWF

1:00-4:00 T Systems Lab Kulkarni SCI 248

Correction Class Meets May 31 - Aug. 6

Employees get Star Award

Renee Conditt

Production Manager/Reporter

Van Howard, Maintenance Worker II/ Carpenter and Lynn Bandy, Benefits Specialist received the Star Award for April.

The Staff Advisory Council Awards committee at the UT Tyler is responsible for giving a Star Award to staff members who are not part of the faculty.

These non-faculty staff members have been nominated by students, administrators, faculty and other staff members.

Comments are made on the nomination ballots stating why that person should receive the award.

Howard's ballots generally stated, "Has good knowledge of entire physical layout of the campus. He has sev-

eral times averted problems by seeing potential trouble and fixing it. Always happy to stop and explain why he has to do certain things that are part of his job. Friendly while doing a great job."

Bandy's ballots also stated general reasons why she received the award. "Always willing to help and with a smile. Always very informed about all aspects of employee benefits such as insurance and retirement issues. Very loyal to the University and helpful to all employees. Very professional. Asset to the university. Works diligently and works out details regarding benefits."

In addition to receiving the award, Howard and Bandy will get their own parking space for April.

UTT hosts high school programming contest

Renee Conditt

Production Manager/Reporter

The Student Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery held its Sixth Annual High School Programming Contest at the UT Tyler April 9 with John Tyler High School finishing first.

Twelve teams participated in the contest from seven different high schools in the region. Each team had three members and one alternate. A set of 12 programming problems was given to each team.

John Tyler High School solved all 12 problems in four hours to take first place. Lufkin High School solved nine problems and won second place and Robert E. Lee Team Two solved 8 problems and finished in third place.

Dr. Arun Kulkarni, sponsor for the ACM students' chapter, directed the contest. The judges for the contest were Dr. Ron King and Dr. Pam Taylor. While the contest was in progress, Dr. George Whitson presented a talk to sponsors.

Trophies were awarded for first, second and third place, and all sponsors, participants and volunteers received T-shirts and certificates.

UTT students inducted into education honor society

Renee Conditt

Production Manager/Reporter

Ninety-three University of Texas at Tyler students were accepted into Kappa Delta Pi during their annual initiation ceremony April 8.

During the ceremony four students were awarded scholarships for \$1,000 each. The students were Nancy Elise Blakey, Canton; Tina Cheriee Duplissey Lee, Longview; Karen H. Skinner, Gilmer; and Jeanne Thomas, Corsicana.

April Thomas, president of the Rho Rho Chapter of KDP for 1998-99, presented the scholarships.

The 1998-99 officers are April Thomas of Carthage, President; Cindy Strawn of Tyler, Vice President; Earnestine Berryman of Longview, Secretary; Sandra Weaver of Tyler, Treasurer; Debora McDonald of Longview, Historian; Debbie Dugger of Tyler

and Dr. Robert Marsh, Counselor.

Kappa Delta Pi is an international honor society in education. Students must have achieved a B-plus average or higher at UT Tyler, been admitted to the Teacher Education Program and indicate a commitment to education as a career to be considered for eligibility.

Intramural co-ed softball results

The math club "clubbers" won the season opener against UT Tyler's "independents" for intramural co-ed softball. The score was 10-7.

Congratulations to Dr. Mitchell and his team.

The remaining games are scheduled for April 27 and 28. All games are at 5:15 p.m. at UT Tyler's field unless otherwise noted.

Play opens this Friday

"Mr. A's Amazing Maze Play" is a children's play that opens at *The Theatre* on Friday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m. It is about Suzy, who lives in a cottage with her mother and her dog Neville. Mr. Accousticus moves into the house across the street and Neville suddenly loses his bark. Suzy thinks the new neighbor is responsible so she and Neville search his house. What happens next is up to the audience. The performance schedule is as follows: Friday, April 23 and Saturday April 24 at 7:30 p.m. and a Sunday, April 25, Matinee at 2:30 p.m. Also, Friday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 1 and Sunday, May 2, a matinee at 2:30 p.m. For more information or reservations call 566-7254.

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Young leukemia patient lives life to the fullest

Kelli Vance

Systems Manager

At 10 years old, Angela* possesses a keen wisdom and a sharp intelligence. The outgoing youngster has a large circle of friends, meets celebrities and travels extensively.

Two years ago this month, her chest started hurting badly. She was diagnosed with leukemia.

Suzann, Angela's mother, is a student at UTT. She is a single parent and "Angel" is her only child. They are residing with Suzann's parents until Angela recovers from her illness.

She remembers standing outside the door listening to her daughter's agony as she received her first bone marrow test.

"They couldn't get the bone marrow out the first time because the leukemia cells were so tightly packed in the marrow. That was the hardest thing I've ever had to do," Suzann said.

To ease her anxiety before she receives treatments, Angela does three things: she prays, takes three deep breaths and then counts to three.

Her small body has been whittled down to 54 lbs. after two years of chemotherapy treatments. Though in remission, Angela still receives chemo treatments to keep the leukemia at bay. She hopes to have her last treatment this November.

For Angela, the bone marrow tests and nearly 20 spinal taps pale in comparison to the loss of friends.

She has lost three close friends in less than a year to cancer, two from leukemia and one from bone cancer.

Like most children, Angela is scared of many things. Her biggest fear is death. She cannot even say the word because she has lost so many friends and fears more are going to die.

"Angela is so protective of other people, she will touch their hands and say, 'Don't worry, I'll be okay,'" Suzann said.

Two organizations are bringing sunshine into her life, the Make-a-Wish Foundation and the Houston-based Sunshine Kids.

Dr. Thomas Fernandez, Suzann's speech communication professor, organized a fund-raiser for Angela. The class showered her with toys, Easter rabbits and money.

"I think it is evident of the kind of student body we have. They didn't

need any prodding. It was very inspiring and refreshing," Fernandez said.

The gifts from Suzann's class helped Angela out of a recent depression over the loss in March of her close friend, Evan.

Recently, Angela registered a wish with the Make-a-Wish Foundation. They hope to grant her wish for a speaking role on the television series "Touched by an Angel."

Together, these two organizations helped Angela meet many celebrities, including Garth Brooks, the Houston Astros, the Houston Rockets, the Harlem Globetrotters and most recently, George Strait.

"George Strait was really cute! And I do mean *really*! He said he wanted to meet me again," Angela said.

The Sunshine Kids go on trips to meet famous people among other activities. Any child with cancer is eligible to be a Sunshine Kid. "Once you become a Sunshine Kid, you're one for life, even when you're off chemo," Angela said.

Always thinking of others, Angela tries to discourage smoking. She tells smokers she doesn't have a choice in having cancer, but people who smoke are choosing cancer.

Angela advises other children with life-threatening diseases not to be afraid and that God and the angels are with them.

"One time when I was getting a spinal tap, it was hurting so bad that I started praying to God and Jesus to take away the pain. All of a sudden, I felt someone massaging my back and it wasn't a nurse or the doctor. I think it was my angel," Angela said.

She wants to be a doctor and a veterinarian at the same time someday. She wants to specialize in cancer so she can help kids like herself.

Her busy lifestyle includes school as well. She is unable to attend public school and is currently a homebound student. Suzann hopes she will be able to return to a regular school soon.

Suzann learned early that children with cancer do not like to be talked down to. Cancer makes children grow up fast.

"We all have a lot to learn from these wonderful kids. It is important to raise the awareness of people to all that these special children have to go through to survive."

People can help through volunteer work at local hospitals, donate

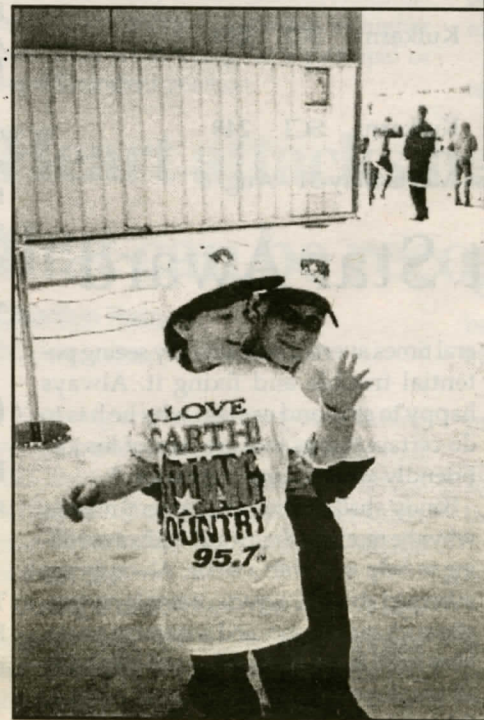
money to the American Cancer Society, the Leukemia Society, hospitals with pediatric oncology units, the Make-a-Wish Foundation or the Sunshine Kids. They may also donate blood or be a bone marrow donor.

*Only first names used at request of the Make-a-Wish Foundation



Courtesy Photos

▲ Angela with George Strait and Lisa Dent, Young Country 95.7 Houston morning DJ



◀ Angela (back) and friend Trae at the Garth Brooks press conference last year in Houston

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Mabry

from page 1

right, one of these students won't be here next semester.

Then, there is the medical model, which says we admitted you because we knew you had the tools to be successful. We are responsible for admitting you, so if you do not do well, we need to help you.

"Tulsa used the medical model. Most of the students who failed did so because of external reasons. They were not dumb. Therefore, I want to cultivate the medical model at UT Tyler. We also want to encourage the faculty to fit into this model," he said.

Mabry said he would also like to focus on having a good placement service at UTT.

"We want to enroll capable students and help keep them here. Having a good placement service increases the enrollment of good students," he said.

Mabry said he is also pleased with the freshman program and he believes it will continue to grow in the future.

"It's exciting to have the younger

group on campus. They add energy. This set of freshmen have expressed how nice it was to have the older students on campus. They said it was a more serious environment for studying and the older students showed them that they needed to work. One freshman said he specifically came here for that reason," he said.

Mabry said he would like to see more emphasis on graduate studies, and he believes that expanding the graduate program "should be an important part of our mission."

Mabry also predicted enrollment trends for the future of UTT.

"In all categories we will be growing. Our primary category is transfer students. We always encourage them to get their two-year degree, but we want to make it easy for them to know what they need here so we can make their transition easier. We will also be focusing on eighth and ninth grade students for the fall of 2002. We also will certainly work on getting graduate students, but I would like to see 15 percent of our student body be international stu-

dents," he said.

Mabry discussed his philosophy for a successful UTT.

"I believe in quality. Quality sells. I'd rather every institution try to be among the best, but you can't do 100 things well. You have to focus on what needs to be done. And I like to have fun. If it's not fun to go to work, I need to do something else. When you mix these two [quality and fun] and add a willingness to think of decision-making as a team effort, this will work," Mabry said.

After contemplating his first year as president of UTT, Mabry said that oth-

ers will have to decide whether he has done a good job or not.

"I've certainly enjoyed it. I'm pleased with the atmosphere on campus from the students to administrators. And, you know, faculty members are very creative. And we haven't let them loose yet," Mabry said.

"I've never ceased to be amazed at what faculty can do. Faculty supported with a great staff can reach great heights. If there's any message I can give people on campus, it is to believe that we can be one of the best in the nation, and this is where we need to turn the faculty loose," he said.

SpringFling

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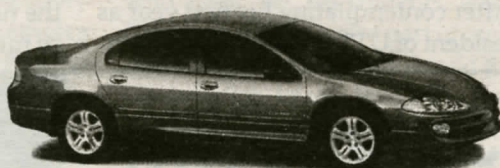
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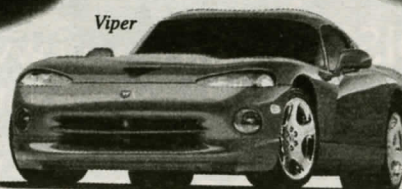


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