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Monday, Nov. 16, 2009

www.patriottalon.com

Vol. 41, Issue 9

Students quiz administrators over testing, fees

Joseph Elerson
Associate Editor

Cheap dining choices a key issue in Wednesday town hall meeting

University officials promised Wednesday to take action on concerns students addressed during a two-hour town hall meeting including the possibility of letting student organizations use the Ornelas Activity Center for free.

Around 50 students attended the event and questioned a panel of five University officials about the current MAPP test, dining services, space for student activities and student life.

Panelists Ona Tolliver, director of student life and leadership, Dr. Peter Fos, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, Gregg Lassen, executive vice president for business affairs, Shannon Mariani, director of food service and Howard Patterson, vice president for student affairs heard student concerns during the meeting.

Academic Concerns

A new requirement involving seniors deals with the current

Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress test conducted through the office of assessment and institutional effectiveness.

The MAPP test, now called the ETS Proficiency Profile, is designed for colleges and universities to assess their general education outcomes to improve the quality of instruction and learning.

The test focuses on the academic skills developed through core curriculum courses rather than on the knowledge acquired about the subjects taught in these courses.

Dr. Lou Ann Berman, assistant vice president for Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness, said the test is now required of students entering their senior year.

A student registering for their 90th hour or more of classes is required to take the test or they are

not allowed to register for classes beginning in April of 2010

Berman said there is an exemption for certain graduating students.

"If you graduate in May or August of 2010, you are exempt from taking the test but if you are planning to register for the fall of 2010 we are asking that you take the test," Berman said.

Brittany McFadden, a junior marketing major, asked if the MAPP test is a pass or fail test or an evaluation of curriculum standards at the University.

Fos said a student is not required to pass the test to graduate.

"We ask that you please do not blow off the test when you get there," Berman said. "Even though it is not a high stakes test, we are compared nationally with other schools and we are well below those of our peers."

Berman said there are around 1,300 juniors needing to take part in the test and a new testing schedule is set for release in the Spring.

University officials previously tested 200 entering freshmen and 200 exiting seniors in the Collegiate Learning Assessment, which provide a means for measuring critical thinking and mathematical skills.

The web based MAPP test consists of 36 multiple choice questions that measure college-level reading, writing, critical thinking and mathematics skills that students develop through general education courses during their first years of college.

Dining Services

Students' questions focused on the use of the Harvey Lake dining area, which currently serves as a salad bar.

Students said they did not know when the facility served lunch since there are no signs up at the building.

"I had a question about the



TALON >> RYAN PINKHAM

From left, Sara Khalifa, SGA vice president, and SGA president Amy Whitehouse moderate Wednesday's town hall meeting. Dr. Peter Fos, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, Gregg Lassen, executive vice president for business affairs, Shannon Mariani, director of food service, Ona Tolliver, director of student life and leadership, and Howard Patterson, vice president for student affairs, responded to questions.

Harvey Lake dining area since it does not get a lot of business from what I have seen," Andrew Barnson, a psychology major and student government association treasurer, said. "I was wondering if there were any future plans

for that area to really utilize that space there."

Mariani said due to the small size of the facility at around 80 square feet, there is not enough

TOWN HALL >> 4

LANDING THE BIG ONE



Left: Left to right; freshmen Hannah Scirto, a criminal justice major, and freshmen Liz Rutledge, a psychology major fish from the dock on Harvey Lake.

Below: Freshman Hannah Scirto, a criminal justice major, holds the fish that she caught from Harvey lake.

Clear skies and warm temperatures throughout the week



atures throughout the week prompted many students to spend more time outdoors amid a backdrop of rich fall color.

TALON >> RYAN PINKHAM



Professor's music honors ailing wife

Joshua Williams
Contributing Writer

A UT Tyler professor intends to present more than just typical jazz music for the Jazz at the Braithwaite Recital inside the Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center on Monday.

Dr. John Webb's wife, Toni, was struck by a car last November as she attempted to walk across the intersection of Front and Bonner streets.

"The fact that she survived is a miracle," Webb said.

Webb, with his John Webb Trio, is planning to perform a song, "Angel Mist," which he wrote to illustrate his wife's struggles and daily victories.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

"It was clear she had lost almost all her memory," Webb said about his wife's condition at the hospital.

Webb said she was in a coma for about five days and spent a month in intensive care, unable to move or speak without

difficulty. She regained most of her memory, allowing Webb and family to understand about 15 percent of what she said, while being able to walk about 10 steps with a walker and assistance from a nurse.

"In February, she started to come into her personality," Webb said. "You know, for a while there she was quiet and learning how to talk, but in February she started bubbling up and just started being funny and laughing, and singing songs and just being really good-natured and she has been that way ever since."

Toni Webb is expected to attend the recital to hear her husband play the piano alongside friends Alex Blair on the bass and Jeff Shelton on the drums.

The program consists of more than seven songs, leaving "Angel Mist" for the end.

"She's been very courageous through the whole thing. More courageous than anybody, so she's my hero. She's really been something," Webb said.



TALON >> COURTESY PHOTO
Dr. John Webb and wife, Toni, dance at a friend's anniversary party after her accident.

New Catholic ministry could become a reality

Lynsey Woods
Contributing Writer

Members of the Catholic Diocese of Tyler are working to establish a ministry on campus.

Dr. Shawn Black, chemistry lecturer and deacon at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, said he works closely with outside sources to help fill the need for a catholic student ministry.

Black said he is working with the Newman Centers and with the head of the Newman Center at SFA, Jesudoss Thomas.

They are working on getting a center started, but are unsure when it might become a reality. The need for this has been brewing for many years, he said.

"The center is still in its infant stages. We are starting thoughtful and staying long-term. We plan to listen to God and see what he would like us to next," Black said.

The Newman Centers were

"We plan to listen to God,"
Dr. Shawn Black
deacon at the
Cathedral of Immaculate Conception

founded on the campus of Michigan State and Cardinal Newman's writings represent the patron ideas at Michigan State.

Founded in 1893, Newman Centers provide student ministry through satellite campuses all over the country.

Senior Luke Onderko, who works with Black, says he senses the need for the new student ministry.

"It's good because the Baptist Student Ministry is here so the Catholic students need a place where they feel comfortable. I went into the Baptist Center once and did not feel very at home," Kristen Epke, a junior, said.

ACS magic show set for Nov. 21

Hattie Kemp
Staff Writer

The University's chapter of the American Chemical Society is sponsoring a magic show on Nov. 21 for the Azleway Boys' Home Wilderness Camp of Athens.

The event is scheduled to start at noon in Room 2024 of the Ratliff Building South.

"Seven to 10 members will demonstrate science experiments and also explain the science behind them," President Jason Myrick said.

The chapter puts on these shows once or twice each semester depending on the availability of the members and of the children's groups as well, Myrick said.

"We try to coordinate events according to the age of the chil-

ACS >> 4

2 » OPINION

Talking Turkey



**Meals,
Munchies
& More**
by Hattie Kemp

Let's talk turkey.

I can't believe it's almost Thanksgiving, my favorite holiday. It's only a week-and-a-half away and I've already started counting down the days.

Nowadays my family gathers together at my sister Beckie's home in Eustace to partake of a glorious feast that has become an annual ritual.

This year four generations are expected to attend our family get-together and I'm really looking forward to visiting with everyone.

My contributions to this feast include making the turkey, gravy, dressing, and pumpkin pie. I also bake chocolate-chip cookies, my niece Kelsey's favorite, when I'm not too crunched for time.

My daughters, Ashley and Tracie, don't believe it's Thanksgiving without Beckie's corn casserole and green bean casserole.

Beckie completes our menu by surprising us each year with new recipes she's discovered usually off the Internet.

I must admit she has had more hits than misses in her quest for the perfect side dish or dessert.

My Aunt Merle brings a to-die-for tropical-fruit salad when her work schedule permits her to attend.

Oh, my mouth is watering just thinking about it!

Anyway, I thought I would share with you two of our much-loved recipes, Beckie's Green Chili-Corn Casserole and Savory Green Bean Casserole that we can't seem to live without.

She gave them to me recently and I was pleasantly surprised to learn how simple they are to make.

Surprise your family by making one or both to take home for the holidays or for a get-together with your friends.

Hint: Both casseroles can be kept warm for hours by pouring into a slow-cooker set on high temperature. Heat for 30 minutes and then reduce to low, stirring every hour or so.

Green Chili-Corn Casserole

Servings: 16

Supplies:

3-quart-sized non-stick saucepan
Large wooden or plastic spoon
Can opener

Ingredients:

12 oz. cream cheese, cut into ½-inch cubes (Can use Neufchatel cheese, which has 1/3 less fat.)
4 cans (15 oz.) whole kernel corn, drained
1 cup butter or margarine (I use Smart Balance margarine.)
4 can (4 oz.) chopped green chilies

Directions:

Mix all ingredients together in a non-stick saucepan.

Heat on medium-low setting, stirring frequently, until cream cheese has melted and mixture is bubbly.

Savory Green Bean Casserole

Servings: 16

Supplies:

3-quart-sized saucepan
Can opener
Small microwave-safe bowl
1-cup-sized glass measuring cup
Large spoon
Microwave oven

Ingredients:

4 cans (14 ½ oz.) green beans
2 beef bouillon cubes
2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
2 teaspoons soy sauce
2 tablespoons butter or margarine
2 pinches of garlic pepper (Can use a pinch of both black pepper and garlic powder.)

Directions:

Drain the green beans juice into a measuring cup until it reaches 1 cup, discarding remainder of juice.

Pour juice into small microwave-safe bowl and heat on high until it boils.

Drop the bouillon cubes into the hot juice, stirring until dissolved.

Put the green beans into the saucepan along with the other ingredients.

Heat on medium high until mixture boils.

Reduce the heat to low, cover the saucepan with a lid and simmer for 15 minutes.



Life experiences are opportunities for the Thanksgiving holiday

Perspectives
by

JennahRose English-Welch



I have an honest confession to make. I hate Thanksgiving. Sorry. Mea culpa and all. But I really don't like it.

It's not so much that I don't like the holiday itself: I can't stand the food.

I don't like turkey. I loathe stuffing. I tolerate ham (if it's even there, and not honey-glazed or with pineapples).

And no, I don't like pumpkin pie, or sweet potato pie, or any other pie for that matter.

Yes, I confess that I am a Thanksgiving Scrooge. But there's an aspect of Thanksgiving I do like. However, it's very rarely attributed to the holiday festivities and traditions.

I love this concept of setting aside a

"Thanksgiving Day" worth it?

The list is simply outstanding, and I could never begin to touch it all here. But there are a few things that stand out.

1.) I am overwhelmingly thankful for my adopted parents. No words could ever justify the life-changing aspect of taking someone who was virtually an orphan and handing her over to open arms and unconditional love. I have known Joe and Dana for only a year and a half, but in that short time we've vindicated yesterday, redeemed today, and invested hope for tomorrow—and in the process, built a family. Joe and Dana, Mom and Dad, I love you more than you could ever know.

2.) I'm thankful for my Sunday school class, comprised of people right at retirement age and on; a group of hard-core Southern Baptists who accepted into their midst a twenty-something college student with bright pink hair, a do-it-yourself nose ring,

3.) I'm thankful for my (geriatric, columnist, English major) friends—you know who you are.

4.) I'm thankful to finally consider myself a part of UT-Tyler. This first semester has been challenging, but I am still blown away by how accommodating the staff is, and how interested in my education, talents, and future my instructors and advisors are. Not to mention that, when we're not row-boating to class, this campus is spectacular! And I cannot get over how friendly the students are to one-another. I am proud and honored to be a part of such an incredible atmosphere.

5.) Of course, I can't forget the "little" things: black coffee with organic whole milk, the ducks on Harvey Lake, sunrises and sunsets, country music, NCIS, text messages, and of course, British Literature. Sure, it's all simple and rather silly, but what would life be like without all the silly little things that make us smile? So this year on



What would you like to change about UT Tyler?

by Megan Middleton



"Food and prices at the MET. I don't have that much money for food."

*Megan Kelley,
Sophomore, Undecided*



"They need more bike trails. To have a healthy mind, you have to have a healthy body."

*Jordie Harris,
Sophomore, Undecided*



"I'd like POPS to be easier to use. The format makes it hard to see what classes you need to take, and it doesn't have a transcript feature like Campus Connect did."

*Denise Brooks,
Senior, Kinesiology*



"The MET. Regardless of the prices, the food is bad, not enjoyable, and sometimes unsanitary."

*Gabrielle Giancatarino,
Freshman, Vocal Performance*



"I would really like to change the lack of parking. I don't live on campus so when I do come, it's hard to find a spot not on the street. I paid for a parking sticker, so I should get to park in the parking lot."

*Christina Gatierez,
Freshman, Art History*

I love this concept of setting aside a day of the year to "give thanks" for all the good things in our lives.

So I've been looking back over the past year in an effort to change my perspective on this vile, turkey-fueled, football crazed observance. What can I be thankful for? What will make

pink hair, a do-it-yourself nose ring, and tattoos to rival any sailor. In the year and a half since I've known them, we've gone from classmates to extended family. And let's just say that now, with the constant and far-reaching gaze of knowing parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles, it's virtually impossible for me to get into any trouble!

that make us smile? So this year on Thanksgiving—whether you're like me and have a hard time swallowing it, or you absolutely adore it—why not take a few minutes to really do justice to the holiday's name and "give thanks" for all those things—whether big or small or somewhere in between—that make your life worth the living.

We've seen the rednecks and they is us!



The Flip Side by Tina Bausinger

I wouldn't exactly call myself a redneck. I mean, OK, here's the facts. I am from Arkansas, and I'm probably not as cultured as you, but I took care not to marry my cousin and I do, in fact, use indoor plumbing.

That being said, when my family moved to Tyler, we moved up in pay scale and to a better neighborhood. At the time we moved, the family included me, my husband, three kids, two birds, a hamster and some random insects my son collects. I think the neighbors heaved a collective sigh of dismay when we showed up.

We tend to let our grass grow a bit too long, not so high that it covered up rusty cars or anything, but still a bit too long for our neighbor's taste. Also, we tend to leave our trash can out WAY beyond trash pickup day. GASP! I know you can't believe it.

We have four drivers, and four cars, so the street and driveway in front of our house is starting to resemble a used car lot. Also, there was a six month period where a dog toy was stuck on our roof after a particularly energetic

game of fetch with our dog Lucy. It was there so long I think it is included on the picture of our house on Google Earth. Yes, that was a bit embarrassing.

But eventually, we got the toy off the roof, hired a lawn guy, and assigned my son to bring the trash can up each week. Still, we did feel just a tad self-righteous, and a bit relieved, when it appeared that the new neighbors down the street would now take the Trashiest Neighbor Award off our hands.

It started with an old treadmill in the front yard. A few days later, there was an exercise bike and a few lawn chairs. At first, I thought maybe they were planning on inviting Richard Simmons over for a front yard exercise class. Then, a tent was draped across the treadmill.

Next, some random piles of wood and an old ice chest decorated the yard like pepperonis on a Pizza Hut Delivery special. A few days later, they actually erected the tent. I figured the husband was sleeping out there.

It did make me feel good to drive by their house and laugh at the excess of junk. I actually perfected the slow shake of my head and the tongue clucking of disgust as I drove by. I toyed with the idea of calling Code Enforcement. I mean, it was getting bad. I also thought about taking a picture and mocking them on Facebook. That seemed too harsh too.

Then one day, everything cleaned up.

I felt a little disappointed. It was kind of like when your dorky little brother who always acts up gets a Good Citizenship award at school. I felt cheated.

The really bad thing was when my husband cleaned out the garage. I was washing the dishes when I looked out the back window and saw it. Boxes and boxes of crap as far as the eye can see.

"Honey, what's all that stuff?" I asked. He was playing Halo or some other odd video game so intently he barely looked up.

"Huh?" That's about as good as I'm gonna get when he's in the catatonic Halo state.

"I said, what's all that crap out in the back yard?"

"Oh, yeah, I'm gonna clean that up." I breathed a sigh of relief.

"When?"

"Oh, eventually..." he said, put his ear buds in, and went back to slaughtering aliens. I knew what that means. Sometime in 2012, after 40 thunderstorms and a mosquito epidemic, when his boss is coming over for dinner, the stuff might be cleaned up. That's if it hasn't sunk into the ground like some kind of ghetto junkyard. I've toyed with the idea of paying someone to pretend to be a Hollywood producer looking for a set for his disaster movie to come knock on the door. Maybe he'll clean it up then. Maybe not.

We have seen the rednecks...and they is us.

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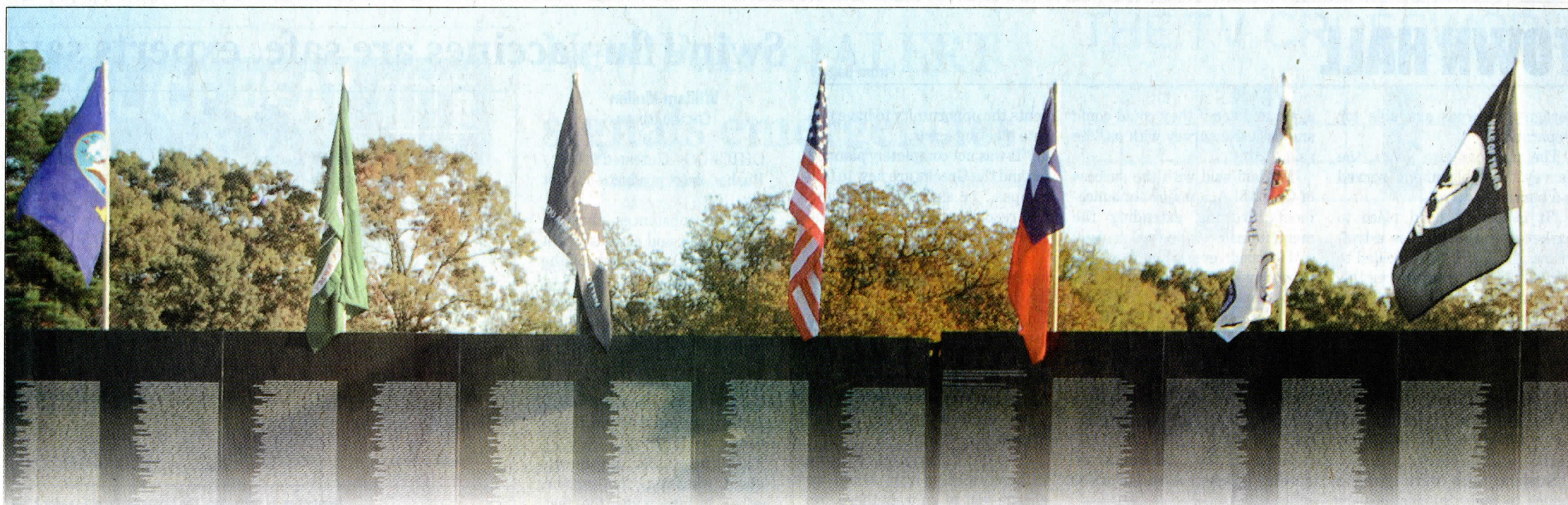
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Mission Statement: The Patriot Talon is designed to inform, entertain, educate and heighten awareness of students, faculty and administrators at the University of Texas at Tyler. Staff members will be responsible journalists by maintaining high ethical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

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Traveling wall pays tribute to American veterans

By Kristen Epke
Contributing writer

MINEOLA — American Veterans Traveling Tribute spread across the lawn outside the city's civic center as visitors quietly paid their respects to the soldiers who served their country.

The Wall — the focus of the display —

stands 8 feet high and more than 370 feet long and is inscribed with the names of thousands of people who died in the Vietnam War.

It's an 80 percent scale model of the original Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall located in Washington D.C.

The exhibit, sponsored by Sands Resorts, stopped in Mineola the week of Nov.

4 — the week before Veterans Day — as part of a 40-city U.S. tour.

"The Wall is a tribute to everyone who has protected and served. The power was in the people not the numbers," Don Allen, the exhibit owner, said. The entire exhibit includes informational display boards about other U.S.-involved wars

In front of the wall, there are nine memorials covered in gold dog tags that honor all who died and served since the Vietnam War.

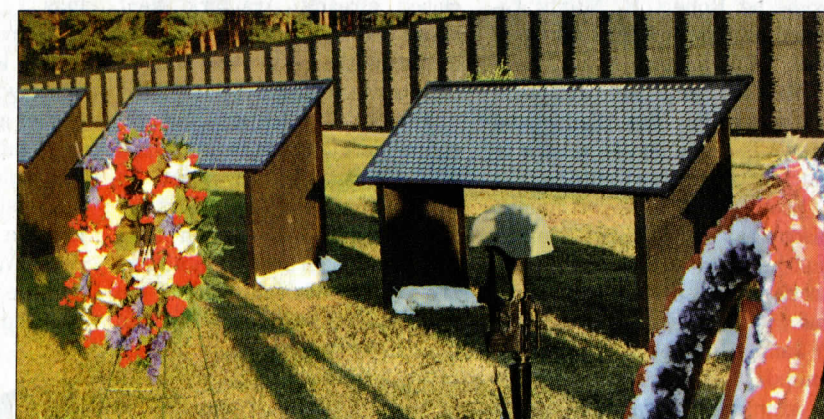
Other exhibits include display cases of information from other wars including a collection of posters from WW II and bulletins listing the number of people served and the number of people who died in every U.S. war.

The Wall came to Mineola from Missouri and moved on to Childress, Allen said.

Visitors honored the fallen by leaving flowers, crosses and rosaries at the base of the wall.

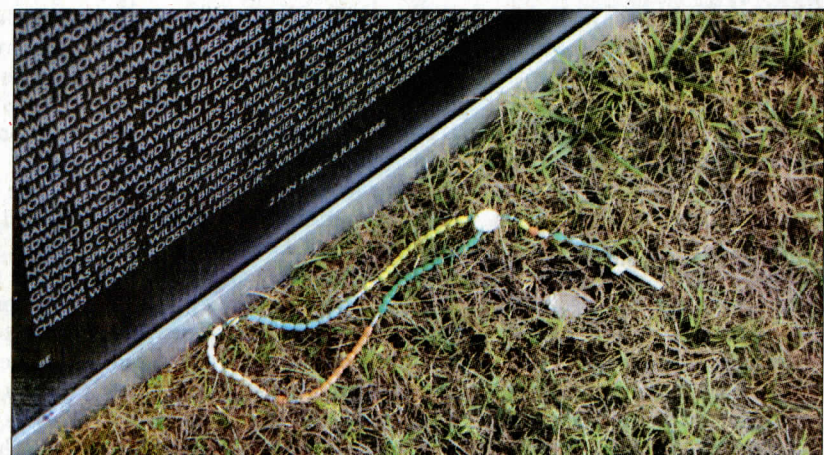
"The Wall is very good for the community. It is a focal point for recognizing aid of a lot of groups, not just military, such as police, firefighters, and everyone who served and volunteered during and after 9/11/2001," Mineola mayor Bo Whitus, a Navy veteran who said he served 26 years.

Photos by Kristen Epke,
Contributing writer.



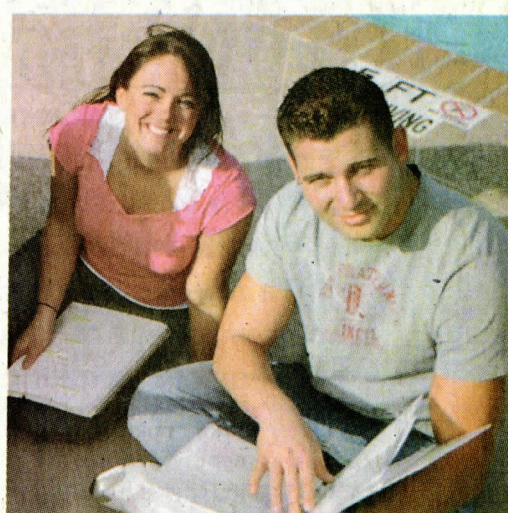
Above: Display boards share information about other U.S.-involved wars, including the number of people who perished.

Below: Visitors left personal tributes at the base of the wall.



Top of page: A traveling Vietnam War memorial made a stop this month in Mineola, giving East Texans an opportunity to honor the fallen. The names of war dead are inscribed on a scale model of the original Vietnam Veterans Memorial, located in Washington D.C.

Above: A flag flies in honor of those who participated in the war.



Now leasing for the 2010-2011 school year!

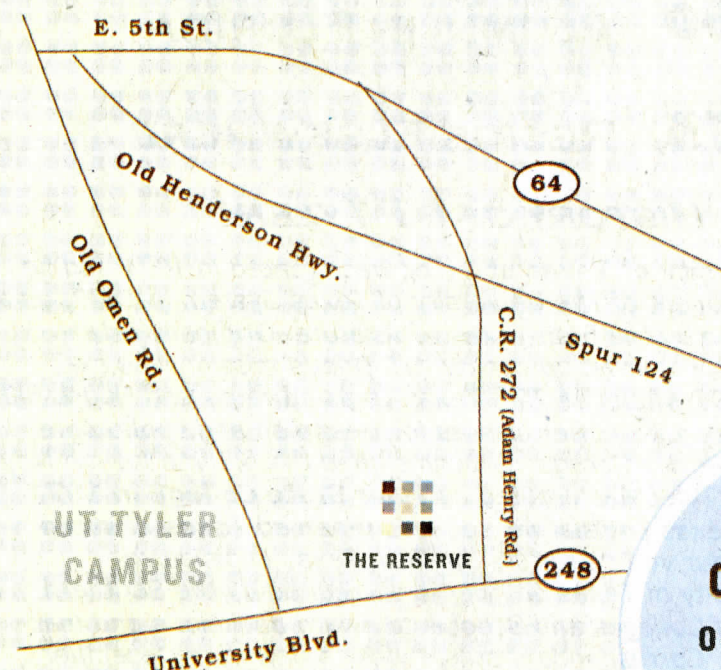
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4 » NEWS

TOWN HALL

from page 1

storage and areas available for preparation.

The previous two years, the Harvey's establishment served as a burrito bar.

"It is a very hard place to market even though it is a traffic area," he said. "We decided to try and make it a salad area this semester and it still is not going over very well. We are going to try and put soups in there when it gets colder."

Lassen said if officials found use for the building would students care about Harvey's and said, "Could you at least buy stuff?"

Students also were given a chance to make suggestions for ways to improve the dining services.

Barnson suggested putting Blends and Brews by Harvey Lake for students who travel from the Robert R. Muntz Library or the Business Administration Building.

Mariani said he welcomed the suggestion, but Blends and Brews is scheduled to return to the new University Center.

Scott Good, a senior human resource development major, said he knew Aramark had connections with certain businesses and wondered if a Smoothie King or Jamba Juice could come to the campus.

Aramark is a leader in professional services, providing award-winning food services, facilities management, and uniform and career apparel to health care institutions, universities and school districts, stadiums and arenas, and businesses around the world, according to its Web site.

Jamba's mission is to be the leading healthy lifestyle brand offering consumers great-tasting and better-for-you products. We believe our commitment to healthy living extends not only to our customers, but also to our franchisees, according to their website.

"We work closely with a company called Freshens and the first time we contacted them they shot

again and see if they could come and do a site survey with us," he said.

Mariani said with the success of Chick-fil-A, a major announcement involving extending the menu items is in the works.

He said everything on the menu is what they allow a restaurant to open with.

"That being said, they think we are doing such a good job that they are hopefully going to give us some of the wraps and the chicken salad sandwiches put on sometime within the next semester."

Support from students regarding Chick-fil-A has surprised officials.

"I just want to thank you, the students, because we heard you last year and we worked on it," he said. "If you were not going there and buying food, it would have closed already. Aramark went above and beyond the call of duty to get us the restaurant and we did not meet their expectations."

David Kelley, senior human resource development major, asked why Chick-fil-A was closed on Tuesday for a couple of hours.

"There was a water main break and it was in an area right next to the fryers," Mariani said. "Chip Clark's staff got the water main fixed in a couple of hours instead of a whole day lost."

Mariani also said a contest is in the works for the signature burger at the newly renovated Grill Works.

"When the Subway comes back and we will still have that Grill Works space, Gregg has asked me to come up with a signature burger for UT-Tyler," he said. "I think we are going to open it up to a contest and have students, faculty and staff submit their UT-Tyler burger and name it and the winner will get a free hamburger once a week for a semester."

Meeting Space

Sara Edwards, president of Delta Gamma sorority, addressed the officials regarding the lack of a room for sororities on campus.

Lassen said space is the main

dents the opportunity to have private meeting areas.

"It was not completely planned for and the Greeks are new to this campus," he said. "We have limited resources and we have to be careful with how we use them."

Lassen said students are allowed to use the Ornelas Activity Center for meeting areas, but Edwards said they have to pay to use it.

"All student organizations have access to that area and I will fix that so you do not have to pay to use Ornelas Activity Center," he said.

"We don't charge you to come in here right so why would we charge you to go over there. We are not going to do that."

Christa Wilke, a junior marketing major, asked about room availability for students and organizations to hold private meetings.

Tolliver said all organizations would love to have a common space where they could meet together and collaborate.

"I think that is something that we could consider and space is obviously going to be a premium and we will look for long term plans. We will add that to the list and see what we can do about it," she said.

ACS

from page 1

dren with experiments ranging from acid-based reactions, volatility, density in relation to temperature, and the affects of freezing," he said.

ACS's goal is to help get children interested in science, he said.

"We show kids that science is fun and that anyone can do it," he said.

The magic show is one of the members' favorite events because of their interactions with kids, he said.

"It's always rewarding to hear kids say they want to be scientists when they grow up," Myrick

Swine flu vaccines are safe, experts say

William Mullen

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO - Untested? No. Rushed into production? Not really.

Full of substances that do harm? Hardly, and especially not compared to the dangers of the H1N1 flu virus.

That is the retort of researchers, scientists, federal health authorities and others familiar with how swine flu vaccine is being made, as they listen—at times with disbelief—to the debate about it unfolding around kitchen tables and over the Internet.

They hear the arguments — about what's in the vaccine, whether it was made too fast, whether there are side effects — all the while frustrated that decades of experience in making effective flu vaccines hasn't resulted in more public confidence that they got this one right, too.

"We've been baking this bread for 60 years, and we're pretty good at it, buddy," said Kenneth Alexander, an infectious disease expert at the University of Chicago.

For all who will listen, Alexander and other experts at research facilities, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and elsewhere explain that the swine flu vaccine isn't a completely new brew cooked up in a panic.

They argue that it's actually the result of a 60-year-old, tried-and-true process of flu vaccine making that was tested on thousands of people before being scheduled for distribution — including on some researchers who volunteered themselves.

"A lot of misinformation is being brought up and spread around," said Jesse Goodman, the FDA's acting deputy commissioner for public health. "We think it is important to have the actual facts laid out and let people make their own decisions."

The vaccine "is the absolute best protection and a perfectly



Illustration by Chris Ware, The Lexington Herald-Leader 2009

safe one," Goodman said, adding that the risks from contracting the flu, which can be deadly, far outweigh any risk of side effects from the vaccine.

Here is how the vaccine is made: When the H1N1 virus first appeared last April in Mexico and California, federal health officials identified it and sent it to pharmaceutical companies it contracts so they each could formulate their vaccine versions for field testing before mass production.

It is a months-long process, but mass production geared up in August and the first 2 million doses were delivered to doctors and clinics two weeks ago. On Friday, CDC officials acknowledged slower production than they'd hoped but predicted "widespread availability" by the beginning of November.

That turnaround from discovery to delivery was fast enough that many Americans who told pollsters they don't plan to vaccinate their children said they worried that the vaccine was rushed into production before being tested adequately for potential side effects.

Nonsense, Alexander said.

"This H1N1 vaccine is made just like all the flu vaccines we have been making for 60 years, which have an extraordinary record for safety," he said. "The only difference between this one

and the seasonal flu shots is the virus it is made from, so we have no reason to believe this one will be any less safe."

Though pharmaceutical researchers around the globe are trying to find newer and speedier ways to make flu vaccines, in the U.S. the only FDA-approved method is the original, 1940s way: injecting the virus into chicken eggs to be grown into larger quantities.

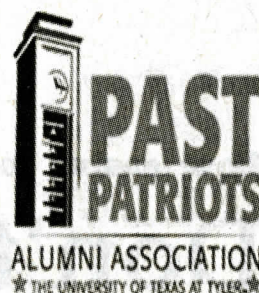
For the arm-shot vaccine, the virus eventually is harvested from the eggs, killed and chopped into segments. When injected into the recipient, it activates the body's immune system to produce antibodies that kill the actual flu virus if the recipient is exposed.

The alternative, nasal-spray vaccine is made using a live virus. It too is grown in eggs, but at lower and lower temperatures, weakening or "attenuating" it so that it can survive only in the nose, not at greater body heats in the lungs.

"The nasal vaccine infects the mucosal cells (in the nose), which are closely monitored by our immune system," said Patrick Wilson, a University of Chicago immunologist. Once that system detects the vaccine, Wilson said, it produces permanent immunity to the targeted flu virus.

(c) 2009, Chicago Tribune.

DID YOU KNOW?



THERE ARE 22,532 ALUMNI
(AS OF AUGUST 2008 SURVEY)

19,987 ALUMNI IN TEXAS

240 ALUMNI IN CALIFORNIA

172 ALUMNI IN LOUISIANA

160 ALUMNI IN FLORIDA

1,973 RESIDE ELSEWHERE

HISTORY OF UT TYLER

*The University of Texas at Tyler was created in 1971 and became a component of The University of Texas System in 1979, as a result of action by the 66th Texas Legislature. Originally established as an upper-level university, UT Tyler's mission was expanded in 1997 when the 75th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 1795 authorizing it to offer classes for freshmen and sophomore students. Governor George W. Bush signed the bill into law on May 26, 1997. UT Tyler was created as **Tyler State College in 1971** by the 61st Texas Legislature and was renamed **Texas Eastern University** four years later by the 76th Texas Legislature.*

The University of Texas at Tyler is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor's and master's degrees. Correspondent status was conferred in December 1972 with membership approved by December 1974. Accreditation was reaffirmed in 2000 for the standard term of ten years. As a component institution of The University of Texas System, UT Tyler is subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System.

www.pastpatriots.com



FALL 2009 COMMENCEMENT

B. DON COWAN FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Friday, December 18, 2009

3 p.m. – College of Nursing and Health Sciences

6 p.m. – College of Arts and Sciences

Saturday, December 19, 2009

10 a.m. – College of Business and Technology

1 p.m. – College of Education and Psychology and
College of Engineering and Computer Science

To better accommodate graduates and their families, we've enhanced our commencement procedures to include ticketed seating, additional viewing locations in the UT Tyler Cowan Center and online streaming of the ceremonies.

- Tickets are required for guest admission.
- Tickets available in the dean's office of each college beginning **Monday, November 30, 2009**. Photo IDs required.
- Number of tickets issued depends upon the number of graduates for each college.
- Deadline for ticket pickup will be Friday, December 11, 2009.
- Remaining tickets available at the dean's office of each college the week of December 14-18 on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Online streaming can be viewed at www.uttyler.edu

Wheelchair spaces are available. Please notify the dean's office at the time of ticket pickup for wheelchair accessibility.

No replacement tickets will be issued for lost, stolen or destroyed tickets.

Additional viewing locations:

Additional seating will be available in the UT Tyler Braithwaite Recital Hall for guests to view the live ceremony via video broadcasting.

If the Braithwaite Recital Hall fills to capacity, room 1009 will be available.

Tickets will not be required for these locations and seating will be first-come, first-served.



OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

CLIPS » 5

New PatriotALERT signals emergencies

Natalie Kushner
Associate Editor

University emergency management officials plan to use a new mass communication system next month to alert students, faculty and staff about emergencies requiring immediate action, such as a shooter on campus.

The PatriotALERT Emergency Notification Service is designed to simultaneously alert students and staff through e-mail, text and voice messages.

PatriotALERT is expected to replace the TextCaster system, initiated to include emergency notifications since the Virginia Tech shootings in 2007, Peyton Low, emergency management coordinator, said.

"After Virginia Tech, emergency management became more of a focus on college campuses across the country, including ours," Low said.

The PatriotALERT service works with the outdoor warning system already in place.

"[Patriot ALERT] is mainly designed to alert students and employees that are inside," Low said. "The other thing we have is our outdoor warning systems; that's designed for outdoor only. That shouldn't be relied on, because [inside a building] you're not going to be able to hear those things go off."

The PatriotALERT notifications would immediately coordinate with University Police if a gunman began shooting on campus.

Heath Cariker, University sergeant of special operations, said prior to the Columbine shootings in 1999, police protocol was to wait for a tactical team to engage a shooter.

"So many kids were being slaughtered while waiting for this team to arrive that they had to rethink how this should be handled," Cariker said. "Now, if that happens the responding of-

ficers immediately go into a scene where the shooter or shooters are carrying out their actions and try to neutralize them as quickly as possible."

Cariker said University Police officers would follow protocol if someone began shooting somewhere on campus.

"If we got that call at the UC [that a shooter was present]," Cariker said, "right now there are three officers on duty, we would all show up over there, we would immediately organize into an entry team, we would go in and neutralize the threat."

Some students state they are skeptical of their protection in light of the recent shootings in the media.

Junior Audrey De Jenga, a psychology major, said she thought about the likelihood of a gunman on campus when hearing about the Virginia Tech massacre and the recent Fort Hood shooting on Nov. 5.

"I don't think that we're very much prepared at all," De Jenga said. "There could be a lot more security if the school wanted to, not just in the parking lot areas, but walking around campus."

Cariker and Low agree the University's open campus makes preventative security methods like metal detectors ineffective. However, Low said he believes PatriotALERT is most likely to be used for severe weather emergencies.

Emergency protocol charts, provided by the Office of Emergency Management, are posted online and in classrooms and offices around the campus. Cariker and Low suggest students study the charts and sign up for PatriotALERT when it becomes available.

Low said PatriotALERT is scheduled to go into effect before the end of the semester. Questions about the systems can be e-mailed to patriotalert@uttyler.edu.

POLICE BEAT

ON CAMPUS

Nov. 5

- Welfare concern, University Pines

Nov. 6

- 4 possession of alcohol citations, University Pines
(1 UT Tyler student, 1 UT Austin student, 2 TJC students)

CAMBRIDGE APARTMENTS

3088 Old Omén Rd.

Nov. 9

- Burglary of a vehicle, Items taken:
-Kenwood screen
-Rearview mirror with light
-Northface Backpack
-Toshiba laptop computer
-Nano iPod

- Burglary of a vehicle
Items taken:
-Fire extinguisher

- Magellan GPS
-iPhone
-cash
-Sony laptop computer

- Burglary of a vehicle
-nothing was reported stolen

Nov. 10

- Theft
Items taken:
-32" television

Nov. 11

- Welfare concern

VARSITY PLACE APARTMENTS

3400 Varsity Dr.

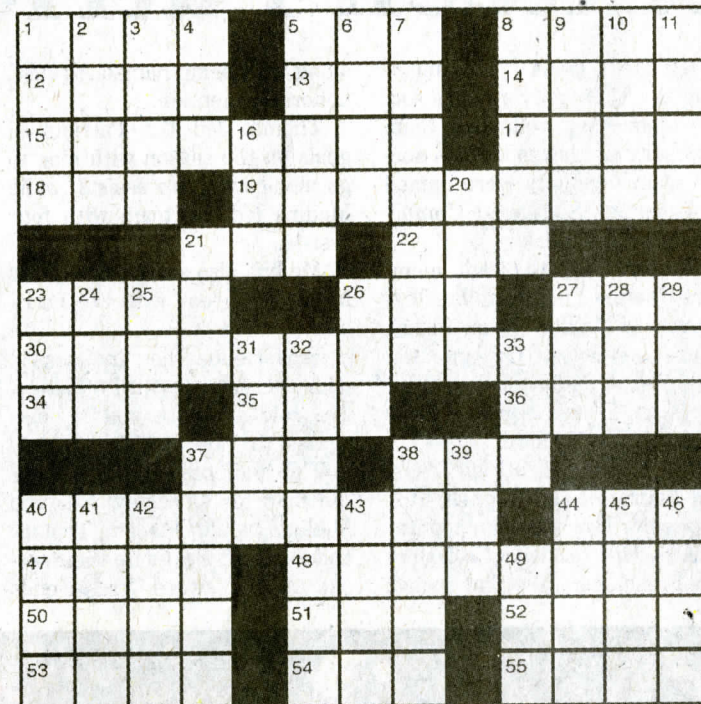
- no incidents reported

THE RESERVE APARTMENTS

2851 Adam Henry Rd.

- No incidents reported

THE TV CROSSWORD

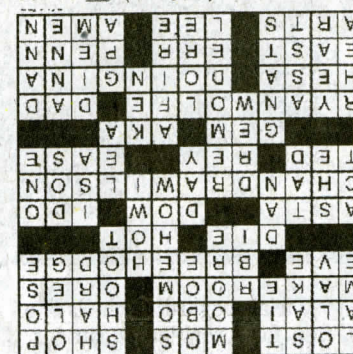


ACROSS

- Supernatural drama series
- Jan. and Jun.
- "The Comedy ____" (1978-83)
- Jai ____
- Letters in a "For Sale" ad
- Circle of light
- "____ For Daddy" (1953-65)
- Uranium and silver
- Actress Plumb
- Role on "Desperate Housewives"
- "____ Hard"; 1988 Bruce Willis film
- "____ Properties"; 2005 sitcom
- Dog on "The Thin Man"
- Actor on "Leave It to Beaver"
- "____ They Don't"; 2005 TV movie
- Actress on "Grey's Anatomy"
- Knight, for one
- Alejandro of "The Flying Nun"
- "At ____"; '83 Jimmie Walker series
- Jewel
- "____ Pablo"; 1984 sitcom
- Role on "CSI: Miami"
- "Major ____" (1989-93)
- "____ Bully, Charlie Brown" (2006)
- "What's a Nice Girl Like You ____ Place Like This?"; 1963 film
- "13 ____" (1989-90)

DOWN

- Miscalculate
- Actor Sean
- Carney and Garfunkel
- Majors, for one
- Series for Sherman Hemsley
- Like a poor excuse
- Patron saint of Norway
- "For Pete's ____"; Streisand movie
- "The ____ That Binds"; 1995 film
- Shermar ____
- Musical instrument
- In one way or another
- "Just ____ Me!" (1997-2003)
- "____ Copy" (1989-99)
- Designer Cassini
- Sit for a picture
- Baseball stat.
- Part of the title of Segel's series
- Role on "Roseanne"
- "____ of Vengeance"; '86 TV movie
- "____ Spies" (2002-04)
- Smidgen
- Doris or Dennis
- "My Life ____ Sitcom"
- Two in Guadalajara
- # of seasons for "Presidio Med"
- Bob Barker's successor
- Alter one's home, big-time
- ____ Thompson
- Pesky insects
- "Hearts ____" (1992-95)
- Berry
- Star of "Pearl" (1996-97)
- "A ____ in the Life" (1987-88)
- Helper: abbr.
- Body of traditional knowledge
- Per ____; payment rate, for many
- Francis or Murray
- Florek of "Law & Order: SVU"
- Transcript abbr.



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Savor the season.

Share the bounty
this Thanksgiving.

Construction Management Fall Fundraiser



Twilight: "New Moon"

Midnight Movie Preview

Nov. 19

Sky Vue Drive In

10713 Hwy. 69, Tyler

\$6 per person

Gate opens at 11 p.m.

Promotional Marketplace

903.593.5342

- One Stop Shop -

Tee Shirts, Caps, Awards, Spirit Items,

Souvenirs, Party Supplies

You name it - we brand it!

Hub Vendor - Licensed UT Vendor

Need a new look? \$5 off with this ad

- Certified Extension Specialist
- Highlights • Color • Eyebrow Waxing
- Cuts and Styles

Call 903.330.1962 for an appointment or consultation.

Jade Panda, Tyler

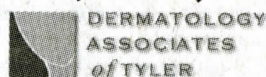
UT TYLER COWAN CENTER *presents*

Sinatra Sings Santa

*Starring Steve Lippia
& his Big Band*

Thursday, December 3
7:30 PM

Sponsored by



of TYLER

Free Tickets for UT Tyler Students!

*Limited number available at Cowan Center Box Office.

First-come, first-served. Student ID required.

Media Sponsors



903-566-7424

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YOUR NEW OR LIKE NEW
BOOKS TO THE CHILDRENS
BOOK DRIVE SPONSORED BY



ALPHA CHI NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Donation Sites: HPR 117 • Library • Student Center Info Desk •
Business Building • Nursing Building Lobby • Patriot Center
Donation sites will be available until December 1st.

6 » SPORTS

Sixteen Patriots named to All-ASC team

RICHARDSON— Five members the University's men's soccer team, four volleyball team members and seven women soccer team members were named an American Southwest Conference team last week.

Women's soccer team members Chelsea Fiscus (Keller, Texas), Analiz Medina (Tyler, Texas), Lauren Thomas (College Station, Texas) and Kristen Chockley (Plano, Texas) received First Team All-ASC honors.

Sam Fraser (Lindale, Texas) and Lauren Daily (Coppell, Texas) received second team honors.

Kelli Hill received Co-Defensive Freshman of the Year award,

along with being named All-ASC honorable mention.

Thomas led the Patriots in goals on the season with nine to go along with two assists, while Medina led the team with four assists.

Medina also scored four goals in her first year with the Patriots.

Fraser ended her final season with the Patriots with 50 saves, five solo shutouts and a goals against average of 0.91.

The conference honors were the first for Chockley, Hill and Medina, while Fiscus, Thomas and Daily all picked up their second All-ASC award. Fraser ends

her career as a Patriot by becoming a three-time honoree.

The Patriots women's soccer team ended its season at 12-4-1 overall and 10-2 in the ASC, and finished the regular season in a program-best second place and advanced to the semi-finals of the ASC Tournament.

Men's soccer team members Tony Guillen (Longview), junior Mark Oliphant (Bedford) and Jake Urbaniak (Ft. Worth, Texas) were named to first team all-conference.

Edward Anaya (Hot Springs, Ark.) and Justin NeSmith (Wylie) received second team and honorable mention honors.

Guillen led the Patriots with six goals and five assists on the year, and ends his career as a Patriot second in all-time points, third in goals and first in assists. It is the fourth All-ASC honor for Guillen, and second consecutive to be named to the first team.

Urbaniak, NeSmith and Oliphant were part of a defensive unit that allowed just one goal and a little over five shots on goal per game for the season.

Oliphant allowed 10 goals in his second season as the primary goalkeeper for UT Tyler goals. Oliphant made 53 saves, recorded four solo shutouts and ended the season with a 0.82 goals against

average. It is Oliphant's second All-ASC honor.

Anaya recorded the second-most goals on the team with five and tying Guillen for most assists in his first season with the Patriots.

It is the first All-ASC award for Anaya, NeSmith and Urbaniak.

The 2009 men's soccer team finished the year at 6-7-4 overall and 6-3-4 in the ASC, missing the ASC Tournament for the first time since becoming eligible in 2007.

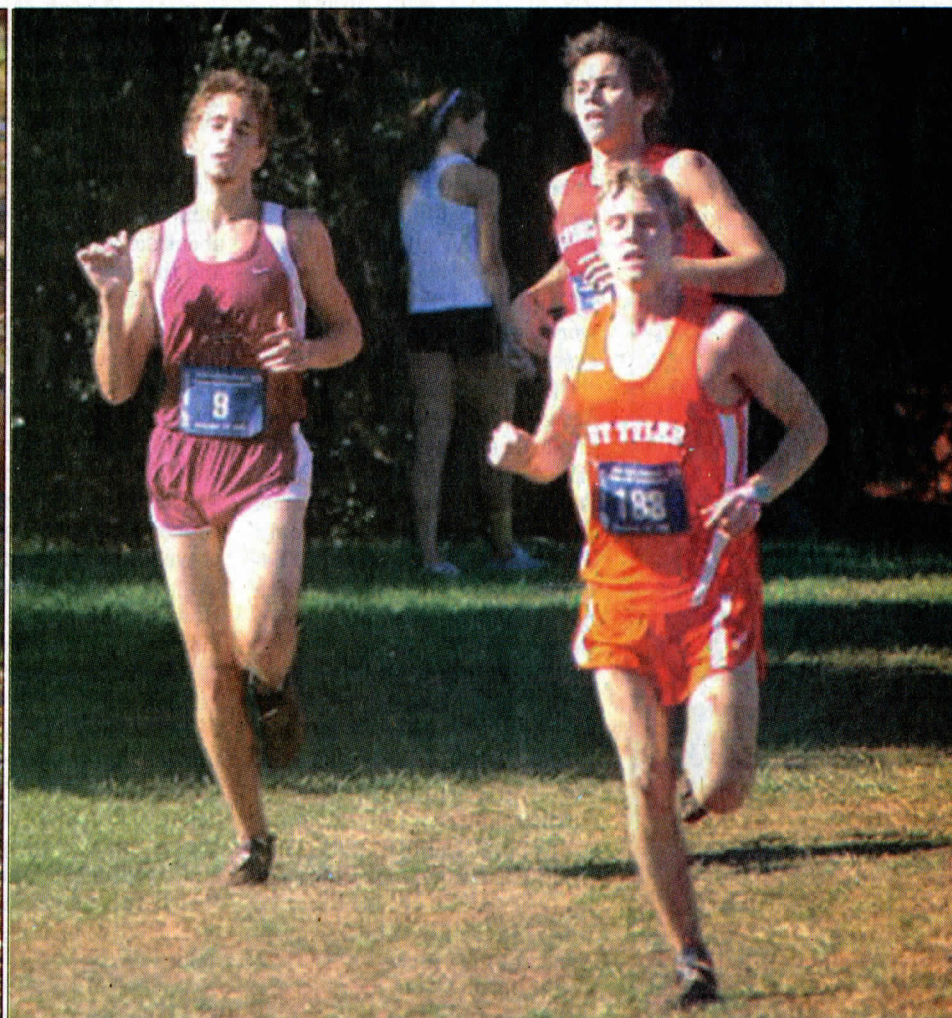
Volleyball members Danika Waldrep (Arlington), Amanda Hanson (Spring) and Kelsey

Winn (Tyler) received All-ASC East second team honors. Hillary Taylor (Lewisville) received an honorable mention.

Waldrep led UT Tyler in service aces on the season with 41 and was second in kills with 245. Hanson led the team in both total blocks and kills with 83 and 247.

Taylor averaged 4.32 digs per set to lead the Patriots. Winn finished in the top four in several statistical categories.

The 2009 UT Tyler volleyball team finished in fifth place in the East Division of the American Southwest Conference with a 10-21 overall record and a record of 4-13 in league play.



Natalie Holcomb (left) and Jeff Chandler (right) were the top Patriot runners at the NCAA Div. III South/Southeast Regional cross country meet in Guilford, N.C. Chandler placed 20th in a field of 178. Holcomb led the women's team for the first time this season placing 44th.

Phelps resigns coaching position

Ashley Cumpston
Contributing Writer

Volleyball coach Kristee Phelps announced her resignation effective Friday, after five years at the helm.

Phelps is joining the staff at the University of Texas San Antonio as the faculty and staff wellness coordinator.

Phelps applied for the position "not really thinking I would get it."

On Oct. 5, UT San Antonio officials called and asked for a phone interview, which led to an in-person interview.

Phelps was offered the position Oct. 30.

"The university is larger, I'll have so many more things available to me and be able to be creative with my duties. It is my dream job," Phelps said.

TALON » JOSEPH ELERSON

Patriots run into stop sign at Regionals

Joseph Elerson
Associate Editor

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Tough, experienced competition beat the Patriots at the NCAA Div. III South/Southeast Regional Cross Country Championship on Saturday, but it didn't squash their optimism for wanting to build on their successes.

The University men finished 9th out of 35 teams in the 8k race, while the women's team finished 17th out of 35 teams.

"They were a mess," coach Bob Hepler said jokingly of his women's team. "They were emotionally spent after conference and we could sense that...all of them as individuals had never run this hard before."

The remnants from Hurricane Ida showed for all of the runners who faced muddy conditions the full length of the Meadows Course on the Guilford College campus.

But that didn't affect the Patriots either way because they have experienced a rainy running season in East Texas.

"We are used to it and I think the big thing is we are a very, very young team," Hepler said.

"We have a lot of freshmen and sophomores that have never been here before."

The University women won the American Southwest Conference championship Oct. 31 at Mississippi College, while the men's team finished second.

Emory University (Georgia) won the men's meet with 33 points, followed by Lynchburg College (Virginia) with 102 points. Rhodes College (Tenn.) won the women's race with 35 points, while Emory joins them at nationals finished second with 100 points.

MEN

Jeff Chandler led the men's team overall with a 20th place finish out of 178 runners with a time of 28:03.

"I got out pretty slow and I knew they were going to go out pretty fast," Chandler said. "I was stuck in like 40th position for the first two miles and I had to work my way up. That kind of plays to my weakness and I am usually a front-runner. If I get out fast, then I can hold on and I am not really a mud runner."

Teammate Ross Renfro, a junior from Tyler, finished in 51st place as the number two runner

for the University with a time of 29:12.

He said the muddy conditions of the course helped the runners plan for the course.

"That has been the story this season," Renfro said. "We have dealt with muddy courses and there were a lot of good runners today."

"Unfortunately, we came up a little short but it was fun and there were a lot of good runners."

Hepler said the men exceeded his expectations during the race.

"They are a young team and compared to how they ran at the conference, they were just great," Hepler said. "It was not Ross' day but he stayed emotionally together and helped the team."

Philbert Mutuyimana finished his collegiate cross country career with a 55th place finish at regional's with a time of 29:24, while senior Kirk Hesse finished 36 seconds back in 70th place overall.

"Philbert had a disastrous meet at conference and he bounced back," Hepler said. "This was also Kirk's last meet and his goal this year was to make the top seven because he wanted to be here. He was our number seven runner

and he finished as our fourth runner. He ran out of his mind and that was a great way for him to go out."

Will Krogman, Mark Saroni and Javi Arista rounded out the men's team finishing in 91st, 102nd and 142nd respectively.

WOMEN

Natalie Holcomb ended a strong season with a 44th place finish out of 189 runners with a time of 25:42. Holcomb finished out the regular season as the American Southwest Conference newcomer of the year.

"I think what helped me was I got a good start," Holcomb said. "There were so many girls that I just got out before most of them and that is what helped because I did not have to pass a lot of girls."

Holcomb said the team knew Saturday's race would be a challenge, but agreed not to be discouraged no matter how it ended.

"We did not have any expectations," Holcomb said. "We went out there and did our best in it and hoped for the best. We have already talked about that we are so ready for next year. We are going to train hard during the off-

season."

Freshmen Jessica Waninger, a freshman from Tyler, rounded out her season with a 61st place finish in a time of 26:08.

Waninger, the ASC Freshmen of the Year, said she is disappointed with her performance.

"I ran a crappy race," she said. "I was terrible and I am not very pleased with myself. I could not move and my legs would not go. I don't know if it was because of my foot or if I was not strong enough."

Hepler said the future of the University's women's cross-country program is headed in the right direction.

"They have the talent to at least get in the top five next semester and they are all back," he said. "We have some great recruits coming in next semester and we are definitely moving in the right direction."

Ginny Murphy finished in 82nd place with a time of 26:49, Angela Martinez finished 114th with a time of 27:41. Sophomore Sarah Hankla finished 126th with a time of 28:21, Jessica Ball finished with a time of 29:02 and Baylee Talaska rounded out the team with a time of 29 minutes, 10 seconds.

dream job," Phelps said. In her five years at UT Tyler, Phelps took the University volleyball team to its first American Southwest Conference Tournament and achieved her 100th career coaching win.

"Kristee did a great job helping shape the lives of many young women during her time as head volleyball coach," athletics director James Vilade said.

She also assisted at the Herrington Patriot Center as the personal training coordinator and as a personal trainer.

Last summer, Phelps led a volleyball camp for children and coordinated "The Weight is Over," which she said she will be implementing at UT San Antonio.

"San Antonio is the second fattest city in the nation and obesity is a huge epidemic. I will be doing the Weight is Over program and teaching classes and seminars on wellness and fitness," Phelps said.

Phelps' husband, Stan, is an assistant baseball coach. He plans to join his wife in San Antonio after next spring, she said.

"Stan is committed to the baseball season and he has a house to sell. I will be coming back on weekends to see him and visit with friends," Phelps said.

"I appreciate all UT Tyler has done for me. I will miss all my co-workers, students and volleyball team. Everything about the UT system is great."

Men's basketball looks to prove critics wrong

Angel Rocha
Contributing Writer

University's men's basketball team has never been one to receive a lot of preseason praise, and going into this season things don't look to change.

With the media expectations set low, the Patriots are now able to fly under the radar and blow up the American Southwest Conference East polls.

The Patriots will begin their 2009-2010 campaign on Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at home against Southwestern Adventist.

Kenny Bizot will be at the helm of the men's basketball team for the third year. The Patriots are

coming off their second consecutive ASC tournament appearance under Bizot and finished the 08-09 season with an overall record of 12-14, and 12-8 in conference play.

"We were picked fourth but I think we can do much better than that and be able to compete for championship," Bizot said. "But we need some work, as well as the progressive development of team chemistry and leadership on the floor."

"We lost some of what we had in large part to the play of Anthony Reese, but I think we also gained some because we are more balance," Bizot added.

"The recruiting has helped a

lot and with this being our third year we should have our best team with a more balanced offense than in years past."

Bizot is also very confident in the personnel who will be taking the floor to represent UT Tyler.

"Hakeem is coming off a real good year, Josh Twine also gave us a lot to look forward to last year," Bizot said. "Dexter McMarion will be a floor leader this year as well as a defensive stand-out."

"This also has to be the deepest team we have ever had. We are deep at both the wing and post and I think it's important to have those guys fresh to get real good productivity," Bizot said.

"Our newcomers Jatarvis Vandyke and Neal Welch will add a lot to this team as well," Bizot added.

Kareem is coming off a breakout season in 08-09. He averaged 14.2 points, 6.9 rebounds, and one steal per game. Kareem also led the team in field goal percentage by shooting over 50 percent, which also helped him earn an ASC postseason award. Kareem looked to be on the same page as Coach Bizot on the outlook on the season.

"I'm really excited about the season this year," Kareem said. "We have a lot of talent and more depth than we have had in past years. We have a good mix of ex-

perience and youth and hopefully we should contend for a conference championship."

The Patriots look to have many of the pieces on the court to make a contention this season, but what Bizot wants more of is the support by his Patriot family in the stands and hopes that their success on the floor shows in the stands.

"I have been pleased with our support, but there is never such a thing as 'too much,'" Bizot said. "But to get more people we have to be more successful on the court. This year we have more home games and I am ready to see what the pep squad, band and the promos do this year. All

in all, we just want the fans to know that we are really excited, and have the players in place to do big things this year."

The Patriots will have their work cut out for them this season to surpass the preseason polls.

UT-Dallas and LeTourneau have a lot of returning starters and look to be the top teams in the division once again.

The Patriots will not get their first look at divisional opponents until Jan. 14 when they face Louisiana College in Pineville, La.

They will face conference opponents Howard Payne, Texas Lutheran, Schreiner, Hardin-Simmons, McMurtry and Mary Hardin-Baylor this semester.

Street beat

Q&A: Cheer Squad

This week the Patriot Talon focused on Squad Director Natalie Spurr

Rachael Hackbarth
Contributing Writer



Spurr

Natalie Spurr is a 2008 UT Tyler graduate who is currently the Patriots dance squad coach. She is in charge of keeping the team organized and choreographing the squad's dance numbers. Natalie and her dance squad are responsible for keeping campus athletic teams energized and motivated.

1. What led you to be the UT Tyler Patriots dance squad coach?

A: The old coach, Suzy, was pregnant and she wanted me to help out, and after she had the baby, I took over.

2. What does your job entail?

A: Leading practices and a lot of paperwork. I make sure that they show up to all of their events and I choreograph all of their dances.

3. How long have you been the Patriots dance squad coach?

A: Since April of this year.

4. What experience do you have with dancing in the past?

A: I was on the high school drill team, and when I went to Tyler Junior College, I was an Apache Belle. I was also on the first dance team at UT Tyler.

5. How has coaching influenced your career?

A: It's part time; I do it for fun. My main career is teaching 7th graders.

6. Were there any other activities you were involved with during college?

A: No, it was pretty much dancing.

7. What would you say is the most difficult part about be-

ing the Patriots dance squad coach?

A: I would say staying organized and making sure they are at all of the places they are sup-

"Good technique. [They should] pick up on choreography easy."

*Natalie Spurr,
On what she looks for
in dancers*

posed to be.

8. What are you looking for when you are trying to find a new dancer?

A: Good technique, pick up on choreography easy, and have a positive attitude.

9. Is there anything else you would like students to know about the Patriots dance squad?

A: Well, a lot of people don't know about the dance squad. We perform at every basketball game, men's and women's, and everyone should come and watch.

Alpha Chi inductees announced, honored

Alpha Chi National Scholarship Society inducted its new members Tuesday in the Robert R. Muntz Library, honoring students who exhibit academic excellence and exemplary character.

Membership is open by invitation to no more than the top 10 percent of junior, senior and graduate students.

New members include Kelsi Nocole Adams, Kelsey Lynn Ainsworth, Tiffany Marie Allison, Dana Michelle Althof, Arielle M. Arrington, Edward Scott Bacak, Annie E. Baker, Timothy Michael Ballard Sr., Brianna Moore, Dana Bell, Christina M. Bennett, Amy Dian Berrier, Jasmine G. Bonner, Adam Lee Booth, Autumn E. Boren, Taryn Lyn Breaux, Chelsea Lea Brown, Morgan

Danielle Bryan, John Charles Burleson, Jenny L. Byboth, Frank Guy Camps, Jr., Daniel Scott Combs, S.L. Daimwood, Jennifer Davis-Foley.

Also, Michael Daniel Foley, Haley Marie Foster, Wesley Wayne Gatlin, Roger Lee Sims Jr., Kevin Patrick Graham, Michelle K. Hagler, Angela Hunt Hardy, Sai Sri Krishna Haridass, Leigh Anne Hickman, Carol S. Johns, David Patrick Kelley, Hannah A. Khan, John C. King, Shannon Kirk, Srividya Koganti, Kendall Kramer and Joe Mark Lewis.

Also, Misty A. Liles, Marissa Brooke Mason, Taylor Dianna McCain, Kimberley McGráw, Anita G. McKenzie, Samantha Renee Mitchell, Katherine M. Moncrief, Rena

J. Baucom, Emily Moore, Pilar Moreno-Recio, Hanh Thi-Khe Nguyen, Susan C. "Aris" Obar, Meagan Ann Pagitt, Rhonda Parrish Parker, Charitie Wright Puckett, Kelsey Allison Pyle, Erin Ragsdell, Jaclyn A. Reader, Lindsey L. Renn, Francis Chaffe Riley and Mathew C. Rivers.

Also, Jocelyn Kay Roush, Kenisha Aleece Schuster, Nicole R. Scott, Jody Marie Seal, Holli Rene Shelton, Natalie Michelle Glover, Desiree Nicole Smith, Robin L. Stevens, Kristina C. Stewart, Nathan Matthew Stiles, Christi L. Taylor, Melissa E. Thomas, Sri Jyothsna Vundavalli, Stephaney Renee Wallace, Janela P. Webster, Brittani L. Wilde, Lauren Nicole Williams and Blair Wilson.

Libraries turning page with cafes, chat rooms

Cyndee Fontana
McClatchy Newspapers

FRESNO, Calif.—At Fresno State's new Henry Madden Library, the whirr of a blender and hum of conversation are the sounds of evolution.

Here, visitors eat, drink and speak above a whisper. Trade ideas. Polish off a sandwich. Sip a latte—heck, they'll make it for you at the in-house Starbucks.

In short, this isn't your parents' library.

More and more, university libraries are ditching their quiet-please personas to embrace the art of noise. It's not a complete transformation—libraries still stake out quiet study areas—but a clear nod to a generation that loves caffeine, cell phones, laptops and Facebook.

Today, libraries have invited in cafes, installed comfy chairs and sofas, relaxed the ban on food and chatter and even hung flatscreen video monitors. Competition from more-casual bookstores has driven some moves.

Experts say physical and atmospheric changes dovetail with social trends and technological advances. For example, some libraries have moved little-used book collections to devote more prime real estate for purposes such as computer work stations

and collaborative study areas.

Fresno State's new library—which underwent a \$105 million, 2-year expansion—opened in February and is an example of the modernization trend.

Peter McDonald, dean of library services, said the library "needs to provide more today than just quiet space."

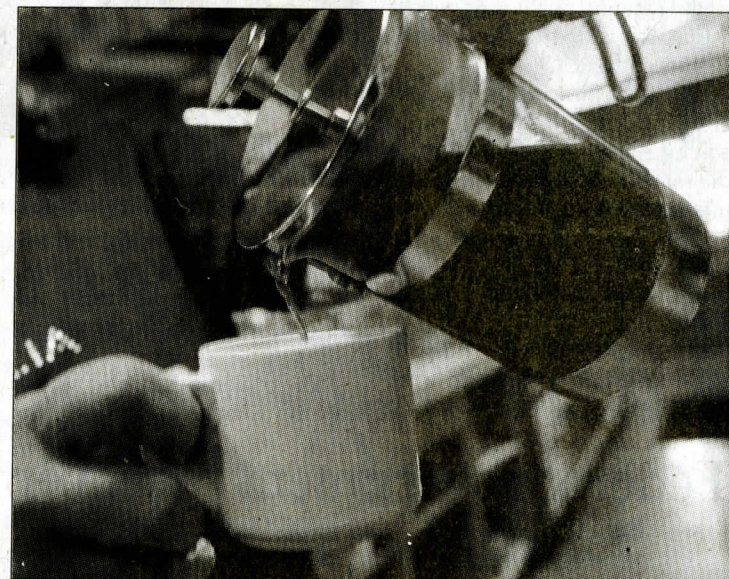
Authorities often use renovation or new construction to reshape a library's space plan and ambience.

Lori Goetsch, president of the Association of College and Research Libraries, said libraries evolve with the times. There are about 1,350 academic libraries around the country on campuses that grant bachelor's or higher-level degrees.

Libraries "aren't always viewed in society as institutions that are quick to change ... but I think more and more, we are becoming the change agents on campus," said Goetsch, dean of libraries at Kansas State University in Manhattan.

Part of that is driven by technology. Laptop computers demand more electrical outlets.

New editions of scientific journals are available electronically. Books are being translated into the digital world. And—thanks to computers and the Internet—students don't have to set foot in the



ERIC PAUL ZAMORA/FRESNO BEE/MCT

Libraries are trying new techniques to lure patrons, among them coffee cafes and computer lounges. Reactions are mixed, but librarians say the increase in the number of visitors is encouraging.

library to use it.

At the 4-year-old University of California at Merced, university librarian R. Bruce Miller considered all of that and more as he planned the library's design.

The UC Merced library runs a booming laptop loaner program, trades books with other UC campuses and stocks most journals electronically.

The space itself is a mix of styles and atmosphere, from an old-school quiet area with high

ceilings to a "Jetsons"-inspired, more relaxed room featuring metal finishes and green carpet.

Students also are free to eat and drink.

Miller said the rule is "tell us if you spill something so we can clean it up, and don't use pizza as a bookmark."

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8 » CAMPUS

University recruits Go Center trailer

Libby Moore
Contributing writer

University recruiters are touting the benefits of higher education by taking their message on the road.

The University, in cooperation with the Texas Pioneer Foundation, is launching a Mobile GO Center, which was unveiled Thursday at the University.

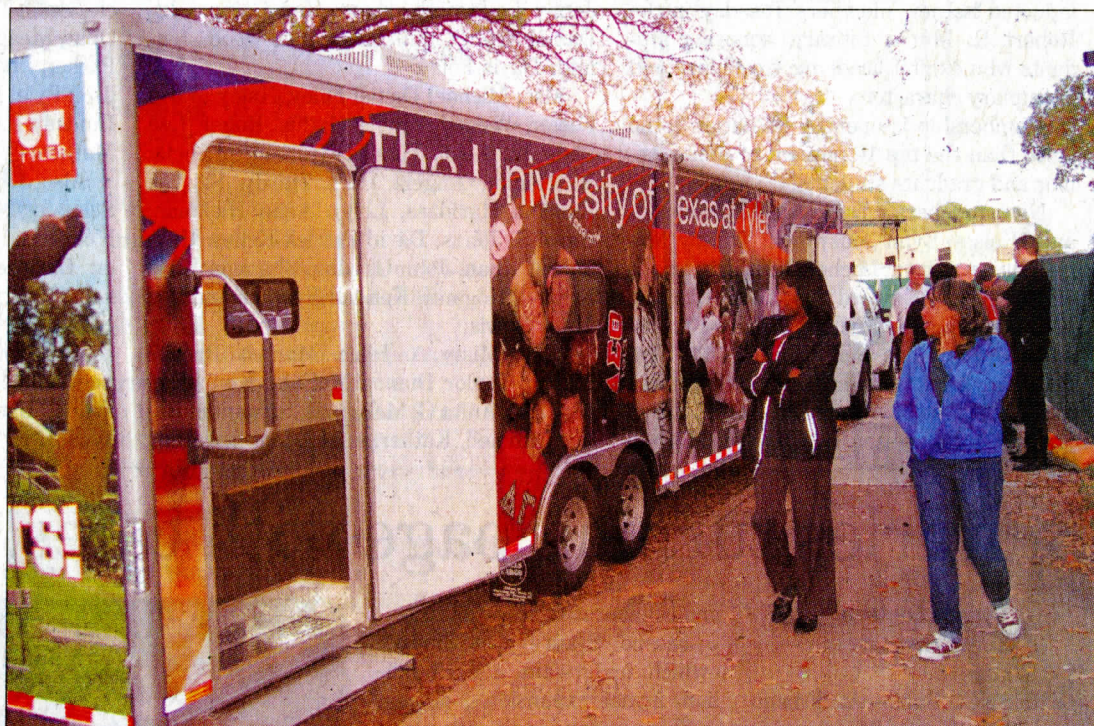
According to Derrith Bondurant, director of corporate and foundation relations for the University, the GO Center is designed to help East Texas students realize what the University has to offer and enroll.

"Every young person deserves an opportunity to advance in education for a better tomorrow," Bondurant said.

The GO Center, a 42-foot trailer wrapped in a colorful billboard, will appear at high schools, middle schools, festivals, and popular off-campus venues across Texas.

The University acquired the trailer with the aid of a \$140,300 grant from the Texas Pioneer Foundation.

The outside of the trailer is decorated with a billboard wrap design, featuring photos of Uni-



TALON » Libby Moore

Pam Suell and Kim Tilley admire the new Mobile GO Center trailer outside the University on Thursday.

versity athletes, scholars, musicians and Swoop the eagle.

The inside of the trailer will serve as an enrollment recruiting office.

The trailer is equipped with 16 lap top computers and Internet

connection, as well as two 42-inch flat screens monitors for power point presentations.

The equipment is designed to streamline the college enrollment process.

Mobile GO Centers are a part

of "Closing the Gap" programs founded by the College for Texans Campaign.

GO Center recruiters plan to appear at high schools and middle schools to promote the benefits of higher education.

Federal government takeover of college loan pool in works

Mara Rose Williams
McClatchy Newspapers
(MCT)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - College students are facing a sea change in borrowing to pay for their degrees - unfortunately, many would still be drowning in debt.

The change, perhaps as soon as July, would end the Federal Family Education Loan program that has dominated the federal student loan pool for more than 40 years.

Banks and other private sources would be cut out of the process by the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act, passed in September by the U.S. House. The measure still must be consid-

ered by the Senate.

Colleges that once kept a long list of lenders are converting to the Direct Loan Program, in which student loans come directly from the government.

The trend was accelerated by many private lenders dropping out of the business when the economy tanked. That led Congress to pass temporary legislation - expiring in June - to assure that students and families still would be able to get loans for school.

In the last two years, students already were relying more on federal loans. The volume of loans from private sources fell by 52 percent in the 2008-2009 school year, according to a recent report by the College Board, a nonprofit

organization that watches trends in higher education.

"Moving to direct lending will ... eliminate the uncertainty families have experienced due to the turmoil of the financial markets," said Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.

That's all well and good, said Tony George, director of financial aid at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, which is preparing to switch to the Direct Loan Program by December. But the cost of borrowing would remain the same as under the old system.

"Will students get any better interest rates with direct lending? No."

The balance of outstanding federal loans assumed by stu-

dents or their parents continues to grow. By 2007-08, two-thirds of four-year undergraduate students had some debt along with their degrees. The average cumulative debt incurred was \$27,803, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

During the same time, 56 percent of graduate education students owed, with the average cumulative debt \$40,297.

The range was \$119,400 for those with medical degrees to \$29,975 for those with a master of arts degree.

(c) 2009, The Kansas City Star.

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College grads must work even harder to find jobs

Gregory Karp
The Morning Call
(Allentown, Pa.)-(MCT)

ALLENTOWN, Pa. - College students graduating in December and May are likely to be the first in a generation to enter a job market featuring double-digit unemployment. That has colleges and universities across America scrambling this fall to revamp their career-placement offerings to help new grads land jobs.

Autumn is one of the crucial recruiting seasons, especially for students who want to find employment at Fortune 500 companies.

But the outlook for coming college graduates is decidedly grim. On top of a 22 percent decline in college-grad hiring last year, employers expect to chop those entry-level hires by an additional 7 percent this year, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

"What we're seeing is they're really being cautious," said NACE spokeswoman Andrea Konecz.

That dismal hiring forecast is even worse than hiring plans following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, when hiring came to a virtual standstill. Average starting salaries for 2009 grads dropped 1.2 percent from the year before, to \$48,633.

Those facts are why career counselors across the Lehigh Valley have worked to shift the mind-set of soon-to-be grads entering the work force. The basic message: You'll have to bust your butt to land a job in this lousy job market.

"What students did years ago isn't enough today," said Amy Saul, director of career development at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa. For example, today's students are encouraged not only to participate in an internship program, but in two or three to boost their chances of being hired.

"Competition is much more fierce than it has been in the past

for entry-level candidates," she said.

And the tough economy has created a distressing paradox. Just as students most need career-placement services, many colleges are cutting budgets in their career centers as part of their own belt-tightening.

About 55 percent of college career centers nationwide are cutting their 2009-10 spending plans, according to preliminary results of a survey being conducted by NACE. Lehigh Valley college career centers haven't made sharp cuts, but some are running leaner.

Worse yet, career-services departments are now catering to more than just current students. Recent grads who haven't found work or were laid off are returning for help. In fact, some alumni are returning decades after graduation to use job-placement services.

For Kate Hunter, director of career services and internships at DeSales University, that meant she had to brush up on techniques to help people land mid-career jobs. "Sometimes, we're combing through 20 years of experience on an old resume to find skills that are transferrable to the current job market," Hunter said.

To cope with the bad job market - unemployment is 9.8 percent nationally - local colleges are launching new programs, revamping old ones and tapping alumni for help.

At Lehigh University in Bethlehem, job postings dropped off a cliff in the spring. The career center started e-mailing alumni who might help - an estimated 10,000, said Donna Goldfeder, director of career services. She contacted every alum who offered a job lead. The result? Some 300 job opportunities for Lehigh grads, she said.

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