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University of Texas at Tyler

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Ten Years Ago (April 2009)

**Talon Staffers Win 20 TIPA Awards**

Members of the *Patriot Talon* earned 20 awards from the Texas intercollegiate Press Association during the organization’s award ceremony on April 11, 2009 in Dallas. The *Talon* earned a second place in overall points against 14 other division 2 schools including the winner, Tarrant County College. This was the first year for the *Talon* to compete as a weekly newspaper. The *Talon* also won two awards for its online news coverage, including first place for the best breaking news story.

*The Patriot Talon, April 20, 2009.*

Twenty Years Ago (April 1999)

**J. W. Finn’s Campus Café opened on April 7th**

The UT Tyler Campus café, operated by JW Finns Café, hosted an open house on April 6 in the Campus Café located in the University Center, and opened officially on April 7th. The café served breakfast and lunch, and included such dishes as chicken fingers, pizza, hamburgers, and hot dogs.

*The Patriot, April 1st, 2019.*
Thirty Years Ago (April 1989)

Art Professor Takes First Place Awards From Field of ‘Three to Four Thousand’

UT Tyler assistant art professor, James Pace, earned first place in two national art shows. Pace received “Best in Show Purchase Award” at the Cimarron Nation show held at Oklahoma State University. He also brought home the “Juror’s First Award” in the Florida National Show at Florida State University in Tallahassee. Pace participated in national art shows across the country, as well as at the international level. The works, which Pace won the awards with, were both large, mixed media drawings.

*The UT Tyler Patriots, April 6, 1989.*

Forty Years Ago (April 1979)

TEU Regents Slow in Favoring UT Merger

Although bills to merge Texas Eastern University with the UT System had already been introduced into both houses of the Texas legislature, the TEU Board of Regents voted 5-3 to support the action in an open session on March 28, 1979. Regent H. J. McKenzie argued in favor of the merger because it would “offer more prestige from a degree standpoint, increase enrollment to fill surplus space, get funds from the UT System we cannot get from general tax funds, and build a better university instead of letting our ultimately shut down for lack of students.” Regent Jeff Austin Jr. argued against the merger saying “the change in name won’t help enrollment. I think the decision should be delayed. Why should we have a shotgun wedding when we can have a long courtship with the University of Texas.”

*Texas Eastern Patriot, April 12, 1979.*

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