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THE PATRIOT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER



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Hanukkah



Merry
Christmas

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2001

VOLUME 31 • ISSUE 8

Let it snow



Tamayo still jailed

by Aaron Roberts
Staff writer

Judicial member Daniel J. Tamayo, accused of stealing University musical instruments, is on probation for a California burglary and wanted on a fraud charge in Washington D.C. according to police reports.

Tamayo is named in a felony bench warrant for credit card fraud and is serving probation 36 months since April 2000 for a burglary while attending California Lutheran University, according to a criminal history investigation conducted by University of Texas at Tyler Police.

Police contacted Tamayo's probation officer and she said she would begin the process to revoke Tamayo's probation as soon as she received a copy of the theft report from UTT police, according to the report.

Tamayo remains in the Smith County jail on bonds totaling \$20,500. He is charged with state jail felony theft, and filing a false police report.

The theft charges stem from alleged theft of a violin, viola and cello from the University's music department. Officers arrested

Hubbard Middle School.

According to reports Tamayo stated the instruments were given to him by, "Dr. Ronald Raimey" who stated that the instruments were his and that he would give them to Tamayo for services that Tamayo had done."

Upon investigation of the faculty list, police found that there was no Dr. Raimey employed by the University.

Tamayo is a music student and ran for parliamentarian in the Student Government Association's special election.

Tamayo posted bond and was released from jail on Nov. 2.

On Nov. 2 University police uncovered additional evidence that Tamayo had allegedly sold a tuba to Moore Middle School's music department on Oct. 16. During an initial search of Tamayo's apartment at University Pines Apartment Complex, police found an empty tuba case with a UTT marking on the side, according to an arrest warrant affidavit submitted by officer Mark Pierce.

According the affidavit Tamayo told police the tuba was being repaired, however Pierce later

According to the affidavit the tuba was valued at \$2500.

After uncovering this information University police prepared arrest warrant affidavits for theft, filing a false police report and they also filed for a search warrant. The false report was filed because Tamayo told police the tuba was at the repair shop.

A University Police officer also contacted Tamayo's bail bondsman and informed him Tamayo may be a flight risk. Police met the bondsman at Tamayo's apartment where Tamayo was arrested again.

Police searched his apartment again and found a pawn ticket dated Sept. 21 for a Meisel Violin but later discovered it was a viola. Officers questioned the manager of the pawn shop who was working with the police to recover the item.

Tamayo was taken to the police station for booking and while waiting transfer to Smith County Jail Tamayo allegedly told an officer that he had been, "Lying through his teeth," to the police, according to Pierce's report.

In the previous issue of The Patriot, Tamayo was reported to have campaigned in the special



—Conchetta San Filippo/The Patriot

NOVEMBER SNOW: Tina Smith gazes out the second-story window of her History of Mass Media classroom Nov. 29, watching the first few flakes of snow fall.

New center construction underway

by Melissa Tresner
Editor in chief

The University signed contracts with C Construction, Inc., of Tyler, last month and issued a "Notice to Proceed" to begin construction on a physical education and recreation center informally known as the Patriot Center.

The \$19.3 million facility will be centered and in front of the golf practice area near Summers Tennis Center, President Rodney H. Mabry said.

It will include several rooms for recreational sports, fitness equipment, an outdoor swimming pool and classrooms for the health and kinesiology department.

The first step in the construction process will be fencing off the area, including "a significant portion of the parking lot in front of the tennis courts," Mabry said.

The loss of parking spaces will be offset by the new parking lot west of the tennis courts, he said.

Mabry said a temporary entrance will be created on Old Omen Road

CONSTRUCTION, Page 4

Applications pouring in for coaching positions

by Jessica Roper
Contributing writer

Athletics Director Dr. Howard Patterson said he hopes to announce the hiring of new University coaches for men's and women's soccer, cross-country and golf by Feb. 1.

Advertisements for the positions have been placed in the

Tyler Morning Telegraph and on NCAA Online, the National Collegiate Athletics Association's website, he said.

The top priority is hiring soccer coaches since the pre-season begins

in mid-August, Patterson said.

Practice for the cross-country team begins the first day of the fall semester and golf will begin in September, he said.

"I'm very optimistic about the quality of the people we'll be able

to hire," Patterson said. This school is just going to get bigger and better every year."

He said he believes applicants will be attracted to the University's positions because many soccer coaches consider working under an athletic director who has been involved with college soccer a "plus."

As of early November, the University already had received at least 36 applications for the positions.

Soccer coaches will be "responsible for implementing and managing all phases of a new competitive soccer program," according to the advertisements.

Applicants will be required to have a bachelor's degree, although a master's degree and college coaching or playing are preferred.

"I'm very optimistic about the quality of the people we'll be able to hire."

—HOWARD PATTERSON
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Tamayo after witnessing him selling the instruments to a music teacher at

received an invoice that documented the sale of the tuba to the school.

election on a platform of having a "high standard of ethics."

Police accuse newspaper adviser

Report claims Curry endangered officer's life in roof incident

by Melissa Tresner
Editor in chief

A University police officer claims *The Patriot's* adviser, Vanessa Curry, recklessly endangered his life as he escorted her and a professor off the roof of the Hudnall Pirtle Roosth Building on Nov. 7, but officials said no criminal charges will be filed.

Sergeant Troy Smith declined to comment about why the case was being closed, but he said other measures would be taken because he believes Curry and Dr. Kenneth Casstevens, chairman of the communication department, acted in "retaliation" because of prior animosity between *The Patriot* and the police department.

He would not specify what the "other measures" would be, however.

Officer Chris Dickson said in his report filed Nov. 8, Curry "deliberately" turned off the light in the mechanical room where he was descending a ladder.

Curry denied knowing he was on the ladder.

"I would never intentionally turn the light off to hinder someone coming down the ladder," she said.

Casstevens said Curry went down the hatch first, and while beginning to descend the ladder he asked Dickson which hatch he was going to use.

He said Dickson told him he was coming down with them.

Casstevens said he believes Curry did not hear the conversation because she was already on her way down the ladder into the mechanical room below the hatch.

Casstevens said he believes the noise from the machinery in the room prevented her from hearing his conversation with Dickson.

"I don't think she knew he was coming down the ladder," Casstevens said. "I think, basically, it was just a misunderstanding."

Curry said when Casstevens

"I would never intentionally turn the light off to hinder someone coming down the ladder."

—VANESSA CURRY
PATRIOT ADVISER

"I believe she turned out the light in frustration so that I would have to work a little bit harder to find my way down."

—CHRIS DICKSON
UTT POLICE OFFICER

made his way down the ladder, she turned off the light in the mechanical room not knowing the officer was on the ladder. She said Casstevens turned the light back on and told her the officer was coming down.

Dickson, however, said in his report he "distinctly remembers" Curry looking up at him as he descended the ladder.

"I believe she turned out the light in frustration so that I would have to work a little bit harder to find my way down," Dickson told *The Patriot*.

He also said it is "possible" Curry meant to cause him physical harm by turning out the light.

"It seemed that Curry turned off the light because she was upset that she had to exit the roof area," Dickson said in his report.

Curry and Casstevens said they were on the roof taking pictures of

the Riter Millennium Carillon Tower and the attendees of the dedication ceremony, including the University of Texas System Board of Regents.

Curry said she was not upset about leaving the roof because she had taken all the pictures she wanted.

"We were just about ready to leave anyway," she said.

Dr. Dale Lunsford, dean of students, said he asked police to remove the UTT employees to secure the safety of the regents and other dignitaries, including the lieutenant governor and state senators.

"No one was authorized to be up there, so it was prudent to ask them to leave," he said.

Lunsford said he did recognize Curry, but he did not know they were taking pictures.

"They had not requested permission, nor been granted permission," Lunsford said.

Curry said she was taking pictures for use in the newspaper.

Casstevens said he asked her to take a picture he could use in a video documentary of the bell tower construction he planned to give Mrs. A.W. Riter, the donor of the tower.

Both Casstevens and Curry said they did not know they had to request permission before being on the roof.

"At that time and even today, I am unaware of any written or verbal policy forbidding us from being on the roof," Curry said.

"I didn't know it was against the rules," Casstevens said.

According to Dickson's report an officer called to the employees from the ground to leave the roof.

Casstevens and Curry said they immediately started to walk toward the hatch entrance above the HPR Building.

Dickson's report, however, states that the officer on the ground said

ROOF INCIDENT, Page 4

Editorial

Two groups with a common goal must work together to get something accomplished.

It sounds simple, but when there is animosity between the groups, they can't work effectively.

For example, animosity between The Patriot and the University police department has kept us from working together.

The campus newspaper is here to serve students and faculty, and so is the police department.

So we should work through our differences to keep the campus safe and informed.

In the last edition of The Patriot, the editorial and the editorial cartoon reflected some of the frustrations staff members have felt toward the police.

The cartoon was not meant as a personal attack; it was meant to illustrate the difficulties reporters faced in getting public information.

We understand police work is very serious and tedious, and we have no intention of interfering.

All we ask is that we receive the same courtesies that a professional reporter receives when seeking public information.

Last week two Patriot reporters and two officers discussed the situation.

Although no solution was agreed upon, everyone admitted there was a problem that needs to be addressed.

So, in order to continue to make progress, The Patriot staff would like to invite Chief Charles Oliphint and any other interested officers to meet and work out a solution.

Let's stop focusing on the past, and look toward the future.

The University is growing and adapting, and now is the time to build a good working relationship to better serve the campus.



Graduate thanks memorable teachers



Patty's perspective

PATTY BROWN

As my graduation date approaches and my time at UTT draws to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the instructors at this institution.

The majority of the professors I encountered still have a passion for their subject and for teaching and they are exciting to watch.

crosses to bear; not just absentee students and assignments handed in late, but arguments with the administration about policy and salary.

No job is ever easy, but teaching at an institute of higher education must be one of the most difficult. Balancing your personal beliefs of religion and politics with those of the administration and community mores must be a consistent thorn in most teachers' sides.

College should automatically be equated with education. But, during my tenure here, I have discovered that is not always the truth. College can be a study in determination.

No matter what the subject is, the opportunity to contribute and learn from fellow students should always be there. Teachers who know when

able yourself, but you displace that unhappiness directly onto your students. You think we don't know you are ready to leave? Tyler can be a great place to live, but it's definitely not for everybody.

I must admit to my intense unhappiness here this last year.

With the whole athletic fee fiasco, administration decisions I didn't agree with, and with constant roadblocks being thrown in front of newspaper requests for public information, I wanted to leave.

That brings me to how trapped some East Texans feel at this school.

more fees here than at the other school.

Other than Stephen F. Austin, UTT is an East Texan's only opportunity for a four-year-and-beyond university.

The administration, I believe, should put as much concentration into expanding class choices and giving the students more value for our money as they do expanding the new athletic program.

Many thanks go out to the journalism instructors and the staff of The Patriot. We have a tough job to do and it's not always appreciated.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

As sung by Osama bin Laden

On the twelfth day of Christmas,
George Dubya gave to me:

Twelve cans of whoop-a**,
Eleven armed battalions,
Ten stealths a-bombing,
Nine Taliban running,
Eight caves collapsing,

I loved taking classes from teachers who were happy to be there and were not so burned out they made the whole class miserable.

The instructors here have many

to step back and listen are very rare and when I had the opportunity to take their classes, I always did.

To those teachers who hate it here, quit. You are not only miser-

A woman in one of my classes told me she paid just as much to go to school here as she did at Texas A&M.

She got fewer class choices and

I know that we are the sometimes the only voice students have to the administration and I sincerely hope more students get involved and make a difference at this school.

Retrospection leads to dangerous path



Robert Boggs

Truth seeking

Hindsight is, perhaps, mankind's most useless ability.

Granted, retrospection has its value for historical purposes, but on the individual level it can be a dangerous trap.

How often have we agonized over the unchangeable past?

I have often found myself replaying an event in my mind for days or weeks afterward, picturing how I could have better handled the situation.

Or sometimes, wishing the event had never happened at all.

Retrospection leads inevitably to speculation. We ask ourselves "what if?"

We wonder how our lives would be improved by even the smallest difference, how much less we would have lost.

When considering what changes could be made to the past, my thoughts now follow the opposite course.

Had a different road been taken, how much more would I have lost?

Every moment, every decision, every seemingly insignificant step alters our lives.

Indeed, it defines who we truly are.

Could I truly sacrifice who I am now, even if I knew for certain

that I would be better off another way?

I think not.

I look at myself, and my family and friends, and know all of us are the products of all our experi-

ences. We are changed by our experiences, and in turn influence each other. A change made to any one of us would alter every other.

And I know that, as surely as I don not want to be changed, I also do not want to alter those closest to me.

But when we are locked into a mode of retrospection, our eyes turned ever backward, it is impos-

sible not to wonder how life could be better.

And this leads to dissatisfaction with the way life truly is.

So it is, I think, the challenge of humanity to "see past the past."

I have no doubts about the ability of people to envision a brighter past, but I often question our faith in a bright future.

We should look forward to the future, prepare for it, anticipate that each new dawn brings with it the opportunity to create fond memories.

Be ready, so when tomorrow is gone we have nothing to regret on hindsight.

And above all, remember past and future are nothing when compared to the simple joy of existing in today.

Keep your eyes forward to the future, your feet firmly planted in the unchanging past, and your heart always in the present.

"I have no doubts about the ability of people to envision a brighter past, but I often question our faith in a bright future."

THE PATRIOT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

General Information

The Patriot is a student publication that provides information, commentary and entertainment for the University of Texas at Tyler community. Editorial statements and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the UTT administration.

Contributions Policy

All contributions in good taste will be edited for grammar, spelling, length (200 words maximum), libel, profanity and personal attacks. Editorial statements and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the UTT administration. All letters must contain the author's name, address, telephone number, academic classification and home town. Letters may be brought to The Patriot Newsroom (HPR 274), the Communications Office (HPR 272).

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Seven tons of pigs' feet,
Six loads of smallpox,

Five tomahawks!

Four tank divisions,
Three spear nukes,
Two beard pulls,

And a parking lot where my house
used to be!

Campus Voice

"Has the threat of terrorism caused you to change your holiday travel plans?"



PIPKIN

"No. I probably won't go to New Mexico now, but it's not because of the terrorism. I couldn't change my plans because of terrorism."
Tamara Pipkin, senior, general studies



JONES

"No, my plans haven't changed. I still plan on flying out right after the first."
Mike German, senior, political science



KERZEE

"Yes, I will not fly on a plane. If I have to go somewhere, I will drive."
Alvia Jones, junior, technology



GERMAN

"Nope, I stay at home anyway. All my family comes to our house."
Byron Skaggs, grad student, education



SKAGGS

"No, we meet with family Christmas Eve and Christmas day and they all travel into here for the holidays."
Tommy Kerzee, junior, psychology

The Christmas tree tradition

The Gift

"Twas a glorious Christmas,
all would agree,"
Mom thought as she sat ador-
ing the tree.
The dishes done and the
hordes tucked away,
She viewed the gifts she'd
been given that day.
The crystal pitcher was a
sight to behold,
That brand new cologne, a
bracelet of gold,
Her gorgeous clothing she
will love to wear,
A fancy read comb to adorn
her hair.
One object stood out, was her
grandest prize.
She held in her hand, as tears
filled her eyes.
Her favorite gifts, from her
child, age six;
A napkin holder of popsicle
sticks.

-Grandpa Tucker

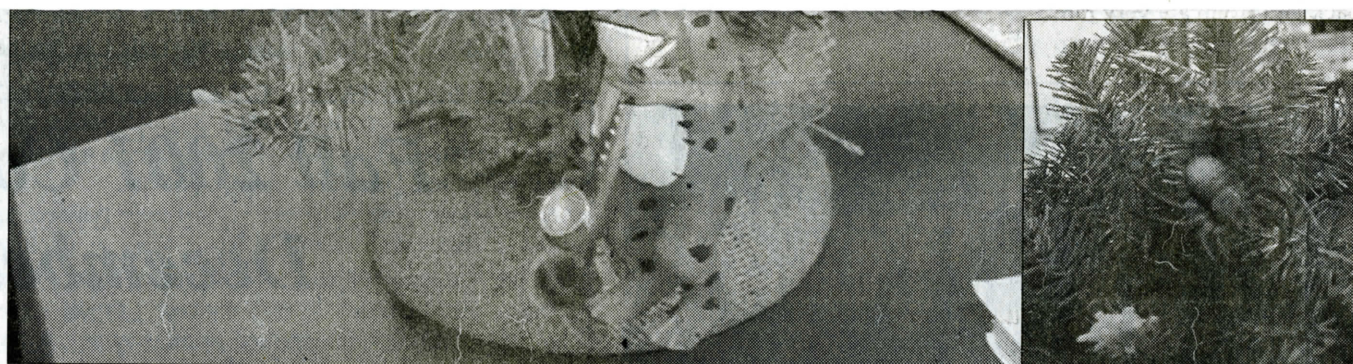


Oh! Christmas Tree

Oh! Christmas tree, all candy
caned,
all green, all glowing bright.
Oh! Christmas tree all tin-
seled, rained,
all dressed in colored light.
Oh! Christmas tree an angel
stands,
she guards above each
bough.
She smiles o'er your rain-
bow dress
and knows that even now,
the gifts, the wrappings about
your feet,
those presents on the floor
are but the simple actions of
our love and nothing more.
Just some sweet, kind,
thoughtfulness
at this time of year.
To show you, our angel and
our God,
His love is living here.

-by Linda A. Copp

Photos and
page design
by Lana Cain



IS THERE SOMETHING BUGGING YOU?: Dr. Don Killebrew, professor of biology, creatively designed his Christmas tree theme to fit his department.

University organizations decorate for the holidays



DIRTY LAUNDRY: The Press Club adorned their tree with dirty socks and other clothing.



APPLES FOR THE TEACHER: The Association of Texas Professional Educators decorated with an old-time favorite.



PUTTING OLD MATERIALS TO GOOD USE: The library staff saved floppy disks, film strips, and tapes for decorations.

ROOF INCIDENT

Continued From Page 1

"Curry just looked down at him, smiled and took his picture."

Curry denied taking a picture of the officer. She said she found the memory card from the digital camera she was using, which shows, in sequential order each photograph she took from the roof.

"I have turned it [the memory card] over to my superiors to protect it and to prove that I did not take a picture of any officer," she said.

According to Dickson's report, Casstevens and Curry did not start to leave until they saw Dickson and Smith on the roof. Smith said neither Casstevens nor Curry replied when he told them they would have to leave.

Based on their facial expressions "they acted like it ticked them off,"

he said.

Curry said Chief Charles Oliphint wrote a letter to President Rodney H. Mabry on Nov. 16 expressing his concern about the incident and also indicating his belief that Curry acted maliciously toward Dickson because of the strained relationship between *The Patriot* and his department.

"It's no secret that *The Patriot* has aggressively pursued police records that they believe the public has a right to see," Curry said.

Last month *The Patriot* filed numerous open records requests to get information from the police department about the arrest of a Student Judicial Board member. The police department initially refused to release details about the incident.

Curry admitted there has been animosity between the two groups, but she denied acting maliciously toward the officer.

"Officer Dickson is mistaken in his perception of what happened, and I hope the record will be corrected," Curry said.

She said she believes the animosity between the two groups caused the misunderstanding.

"It is evident to me that the police department believes I acted disrespectfully toward police officers on Nov. 7 in continuation of this ongoing clash between *The Patriot* and the police department," she said. "But I am adamant I did not say anything nor did I do anything to antagonize those officers, and this has nothing to do with *The Patriot*."

CONSTRUCTION

Continued From Page 1

"to accommodate most of the trucks and equipment in order to minimize their use of our main entrance and regular streets."

The University of Texas System Board of Regents voted last month to revise the source of funds for the

building.

The University will receive \$9.7 million from Permanent University Funds, \$6 million from Revenue Financing System Bond Proceeds and \$3.6 million from gifts and grants.

Students voted last spring to assess themselves a fee of no more than \$40 to pay for half of the operation costs of the new facility. The fee will not go into effect until construction is complete in 2003.

Students inducted into honor society

Ninety students were inducted into Texas Alpha Xi, the University of Texas at Tyler chapter of the Alpha Chi Scholastic Honor Society, during a Nov. 9 ceremony at the University Center.

Texas Alpha Xi Chapter Outstanding Faculty Awards also were presented during the ceremony.

Recipients include: Dr. Catherine E. Ross, College of Arts and Sciences (liberal arts);

Dr. Dick Mitchell, College of Arts and Sciences (science and mathematics); Dr. Tommy Gilbreath, College of Business and Technology; Jean Sanders, College of Education and Psychology; Dr. Steven B. Rainwater, College of Engineering and Computer Science; and Dr. Joyce Ballard, College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Alpha Chi is a coeducational society that promotes academic excellence and exemplary character among college and university students and honors those who achieve such distinction.

To qualify for induction, students must be juniors with at least 24 semester hours at

UT Tyler and a minimum grade point average of 3.5. They must also rank in the top 10 percent of their class.

Inductees for 2001, listed by hometown, are:

ALBA - Roy Mark Osborn, technology; ATHENS - Kevin Lee Hanes, business administration, and Melissa A. Knight, Spanish.; AUSTIN - James Michael Parker and Leah Beth Turner, nursing.

BUFFALO - Jill Oliver Henson, history; BULLARD - Frank H. Sullivan, electrical engineering; Pearl A. Sherman, general studies; and Lana K. Modisett, technology; CENTER - Gary E. Hill, technology.

EDGEWOOD - Sharon Deanne Ousley, business management, EUSTACE - Bowen C. Reed, music education; FLINT - Ami Renee Chaump and Timothy J. Giroux, computer science; JoAnn Dixon, nursing; and Kenneth Charles Jeffcoat, technology; FRANKSTON - Nancy J. Stewart, allied health.

GILMER - Randal Ray Hodges, criminal justice; Sandra K. Johnson, interdisciplinary studies; Starr Pruett Owens, math/secondary education; GLADEWATER - Rachel Leann Kerns, Jennifer Layne Miller and Andrea LeAnn Mills, interdisciplinary studies; GRAND SALINE - Angela Dawn Stanley, mathematics; GUN BARREL CITY - Sarah Elizabeth Shipley, music.

HENDERSON - Dustin James Cummings, electrical engineering; Amy Lynn Bradbery, nursing; and Jeffrey G. Allen, technology; JACKSONVILLE - Brady Brooks, computer science; KILGORE - Jaclyn Ann Hargrove, marketing; Jennifer P. Tidmore, nursing.

LANEVILLE - Glenda Kay Vernor, nursing; LINDALE - Daniel G. Brooks, accounting; Linda F. Drake, applied arts and sciences; Zachary Thoman Santischi, computer science; Micah D. White, finance; Stephanie R. Hughes, health and kinesiology; Cari D. Hale, history and English; LONGVIEW - Eric Edwin Good, English; Stephen G. Long, English; Margarita Chavez-Collins and Jennifer McDowell White, interdisciplinary studies; Dancel Hamrick, Tammi Lynn Latus and LeAnn Sims, nursing; Letitia Murdoch, speech communication.

MABANK - Mary Ann McDowell, interdisciplinary studies; MARSHALL - Brandon H. Byars, computer science; Holli Marguerite Petersen, health and kinesiology; and Lisa J. Shirley, nursing; MEXIA - Don Morton, applied arts and sciences; PITTSBURG - Dr. Terence Aloysius Cook, Spanish; QUITMAN - Donald Hal Edwards, technology.

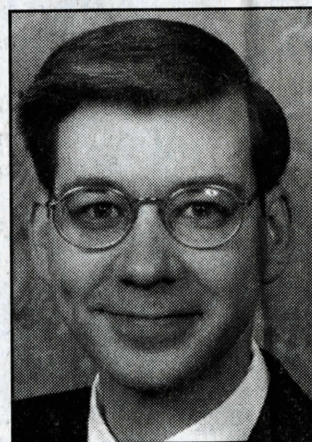
RUSK - Amy Shanks Pascoe, history; SCROGGINS - Joyce Ann Stone, speech communication; TEMPLE - Elizabeth Ann Wilson, political science; TYLER - Yuriko Takamura Gravitt and Deborah S. Raney, accounting; Ruby Carol Whitehead, allied health; Daniel Mark Freed, biology; Angela Denise Miller, business; Kathryn D. Haar, business administration-management; Sean T. Droptini, electrical engineering; Kelly Leah Key and Kimberly Michele Sulser, English; Shaun E. Twomey, finance; Shelly LeeAnn Hamrick and Sami Malae Moses, health and kinesiology; and Tina Tyann Smith, history.

Also, Jonathan D. Arriola, human resource development; Jana Cheney, Jennifer Dianne Gee, Scott E. Graning, April Medina-Munoz and Meredith A. Yates, interdisciplinary studies; Susannah Garrison Cooper, mathematics and computer science; Kimberly Vallia Beisert, Ran Are Bolen, Alan Kennedy Nichols, Maureen Schrecongost and Chad M. Springer, nursing; Brian E. McDonald and Cody Patrick Peterson, political science; Julie Johnston Murphy and Billy A Patterson, technology.

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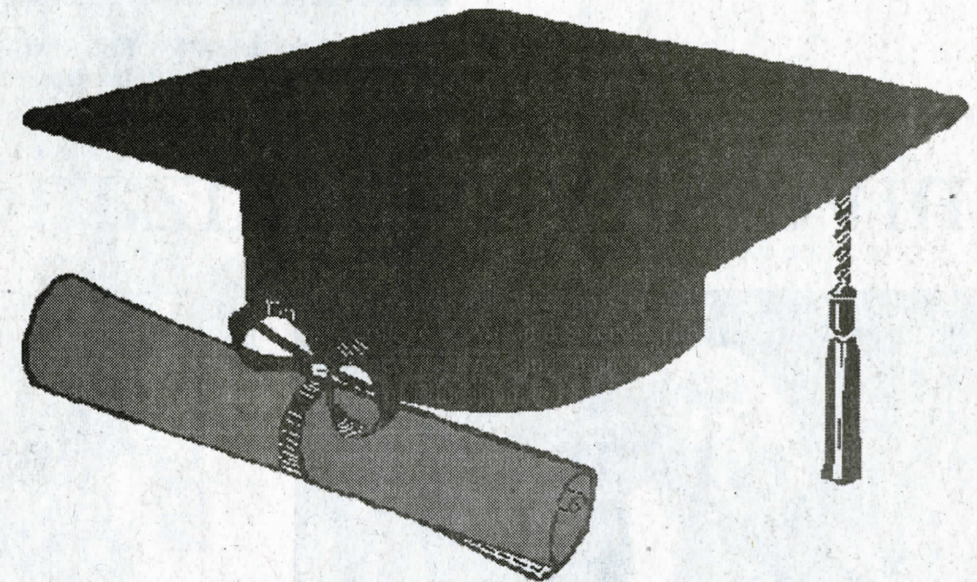


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Fall 2001 Commencement December 15, 2001



5 Days and counting...

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—Chris Rhudy/The Patriot

NEW TEXAS ROADHOUSE FRANCHISE: The new restaurant opened its doors on June 11. Students now have more than one local steakhouse to choose from, and it is a good one.

Roadhouse eatery provides array of steaks, 'killer ribs'

by Chris Rhudy
Staff writer

Texas Roadhouse is known for its reasonable prices, peanut shells on the floor, soft rolls with cinnamon sugar butter, friendly wait staff and crowd at the door.

Tyler's Roadhouse opened its doors almost six months ago, and if the lines are any indication, it is a huge success.

When your pager lights start flashing and it begins to vibrate, your wait is over. Your booth or table is ready.

The restaurant is somewhat crowded; it's noisy and active, but all of these elements add to the vivacious atmosphere.

Drinks and rolls are brought promptly (I strongly recommend the cinnamon sugar butter—it's fantastic) and a tin bucket of peanuts is

the menu because there are lots of options—steaks, award-winning ribs, chicken, pork chops, salads and seafood—at a variety of prices.

There are steaks for \$8 to \$19, ribs for \$11 to \$16 and other plates from \$7 and up.

The prices are reasonable when the size of the portions is considered. For example, that \$19 steak is a 20-ounce T-bone with two sides and fresh baked bread. The chicken is tender and the vegetables fresh and crisp. The steaks are cooked to perfection as ordered and the servings are generous.

There are also burgers and sandwiches for those with smaller appetites and there are kids meals for the pint-sized patrons.

The bar is well stocked; there is a comprehensive beer selection.

The energized atmosphere is

littered with peanut shells, and the décor outstanding.

Large paintings flank the patrons on either side, caricatures of country music stars and NASCAR greats hang around the bar with neon signs among them and there is even an indoor tin roof covering one section of the restaurant.

More than once, the waiters announced a birthday, and the celebration was notable—a saddle is rolled out, the birthday boy or girl saddled up, and the light above the table shone into their eyes as they're applauded and recognized.

And for those birthday boys and girls there is also a wall of retail merchandise including hats, sweat-shirts and jackets.

Roadhouse is a southwest style steakhouse with a casual atmosphere and a friendly environment.

Shortage of proper venues forces local bands to travel

by Mac Carl and Mark Risinger
Contributing writer

University students have hit the local scene with original songs and style, but without a sufficient number of Tyler venues.

With a lack of places to play in town, some students have taken it upon themselves to play where the scene is, even if it means driving as far west as El Paso, or as far east as Shreveport or New Orleans.

Mark Risinger, a junior journalism student, Thom Breedlove, a senior biology student and Mac Carl, a senior journalism student are three local band members.

Carl and Risinger met in advertising class at the beginning of the semester.

While introducing himself to the class, Risinger jokingly told them that he was going to become a rock star.

Immediately, Carl asked him what instrument he played. Before Risinger even answered, Carl saw the callouses on Mark's hands and guessed he was a drummer.

All three students have one thing in common: they love to rock, and they love it Indie style—rock talk for independent music.

While introducing himself to the class, Risinger jokingly told them that he was going to become a rock star.

by Mary Hall
Staff writer

When the Subway sandwich shop opened on campus in mid-August, workers had already decided they needed to play music for their customers.

Shannon Mariani, food service manager, brought a country CD on Subway's first business day. There were a few complaints, so Mariani decided to play a different type of music.

Now Subway plays "oldies"

"Indie bands have no concern with ever being signed to a major label and have total control over their music," Risinger said. "Indie rock is hard to do, and harder to describe. It is anything from hard core punk, to emo, to good old rock and roll."

Indie is, "good bands with no money and no recognition," Carl, drummer for Aruckus, a space rock band, said.

"It's alright," Carl said reluctantly, "because I'm just the drummer, so no one would pay me or recognize me anyway."

Risinger agreed.

Risinger and Carl believe the great thing about independent music is that artists and fans have the opportunity to discover truly different and unique music that most record companies would never take a chance on.

These two bands have been looking for good venues in the surrounding areas because of a lack of club popularity.

One thing all of the musicians agree on is that there should be more local places for younger music lovers to enjoy their shows.

Although playing in bars helps to

pay for their equipment, travel, and recording costs, the alcohol and underage issue keeps a lot of would be attendants away from the rock.

The rock scene is stagnant in Tyler because there is only one place to play: Elmo's.

"Everything else is a blues bar," Risinger said.

Subsequently he adds they have enjoyed playing in Longview much more than Tyler.

Lately, Solid State Driver and Aruckus have been performing at Longview bars.

Risinger teamed up with keyboardist Breedlove after they met outside of a glue factory on the north side of town.

Risinger said their band was formed because of a shared interest in Thin Lizzy and macaroni mobiles.

As the semester progressed, Solid State Driver travelled to Longview on several occasions to play weekend shows with Aruckus. Fans can catch Aruckus at McCann Street Grill in Longview every Wednesday night, and on New Year's Eve.

The three musicians are planning to form a band named the 76ers.

Subway's guests enjoy Mariani's oldies but goodies music rotation

by Mary Hall
Staff writer

When the Subway sandwich shop opened on campus in mid-August, workers had already decided they needed to play music for their customers.

Shannon Mariani, food service manager, brought a country CD on Subway's first business day. There were a few complaints, so Mariani decided to play a different type of music.

Now Subway plays "oldies"

share with his customers.

"There are six CDs—Greatest Hits of the 60s and 70s," Mariani said.

Most of the customers interviewed said they like the music and added that it was upbeat and probably wouldn't offend anyone.

Power plant maintenance man Paul Weil said, "I love it! I'm an oldie."

Mai Michlik, freshman psychology major, said "I like it. I think it's cute."

Mark Walters, power plant main-

Pappas music," he said.

Mariani said that most everyone knows and enjoys the compilation of music played.

Mariani said the only complaints he receives are from the crew members who repeatedly hear the same compilation of songs.

However, Dr. Dennis Robertson, Department of Communications, said, "It's usually too loud. That's the one thing I don't like."

Others said they had not even noticed the music in Subway.



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New sign-ups



STUDENT INTERACTION: Donnie Weaver (left) and his daughter Heather listen to James Hutto, dean of enrollment, (center) as he explains the advantages and procedure of going to the University of Texas at Tyler during the breakfast opener at Preview Day Nov. 17.

—Conchetta San Fillipo/The Patriot

Lightening strikes; bell tower, phones damaged in storm

by Redger Daniels
Contributing writer

It's 12:04 and all is not well with the University's clock tower which still has not recuperated from an apparent lightening strike nearly a month ago.

Officials say lightening overloaded the computer-operated system that runs both the clock and the bells, leaving the clock stuck at 12:04. The tower itself was not damaged, Steve Wilson, director of information resources said.

The University's telephone system went down about the same time, but officials are clear what

caused that system to fail.

Telephone service was unavailable for about 11 hours because a number of circuits were blown, Wilson said.

"It is unclear what cased the telephones to go down," he said.

The telephone service was restored, however, it is unclear how long it will take to restore computer service to the bell tower.

The Verdin Company, designed the tower and equipment, are working to have both the clock and the campanile bells running again, Wilson said.

Calendar of Events

- Dec. 11-** Final exam for classes meeting only on Monday
- Dec. 11-15-** Final exams for all other classes that meet Tuesday-Saturday
- Dec. 13-** Nursing program Holiday Reception from 4 to 6 p.m. in Science Room 232
- Dec. 15-** Fall commencement
- Dec. 10-21-** Telephone registration for Spring 2002
- Jan. 1-** Holidays for staff

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TESTING CENTER

Police Report

The following is a list of incident reports from Oct. 31 to Nov. 28.

- Oct. 31: An ITV technician reported seeing an unknown male in Room 118 of the business building unplug the camera after being seen at a computer station. Upon investigation the officer found a picture of a man and woman about to engage in sexual intercourse on the computer's history.
- Nov. 4: A suspicious person was seen running from a vehicle parked on Varisty Drive. The car's window had been shattered, but nothing was taken from inside.
- Nov. 4: A witness reported seeing a drug transaction between a Junior Symphony League usher and a patron at the ETSO event in the Cowan Center.
- Nov. 14: A Tyler Junior College student was issued a citation for possession of alcohol by a minor at University Pines. The officer found 36 unopened containers of beer and bottle of vodka in the student's car.
- Nov. 21: Officers investigated a possible overdose in a University Pines apartment and then issued a UT Tyler student a citation for the possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Nov. 22: Two males were reported to be smoking in parking Lot 10. One was issued a citation for marijuana possession and the other was cited for possession of cigarettes by a minor.
- Nov. 24: Three non-affiliated students and a University student were issued a citation for consumption of alco-

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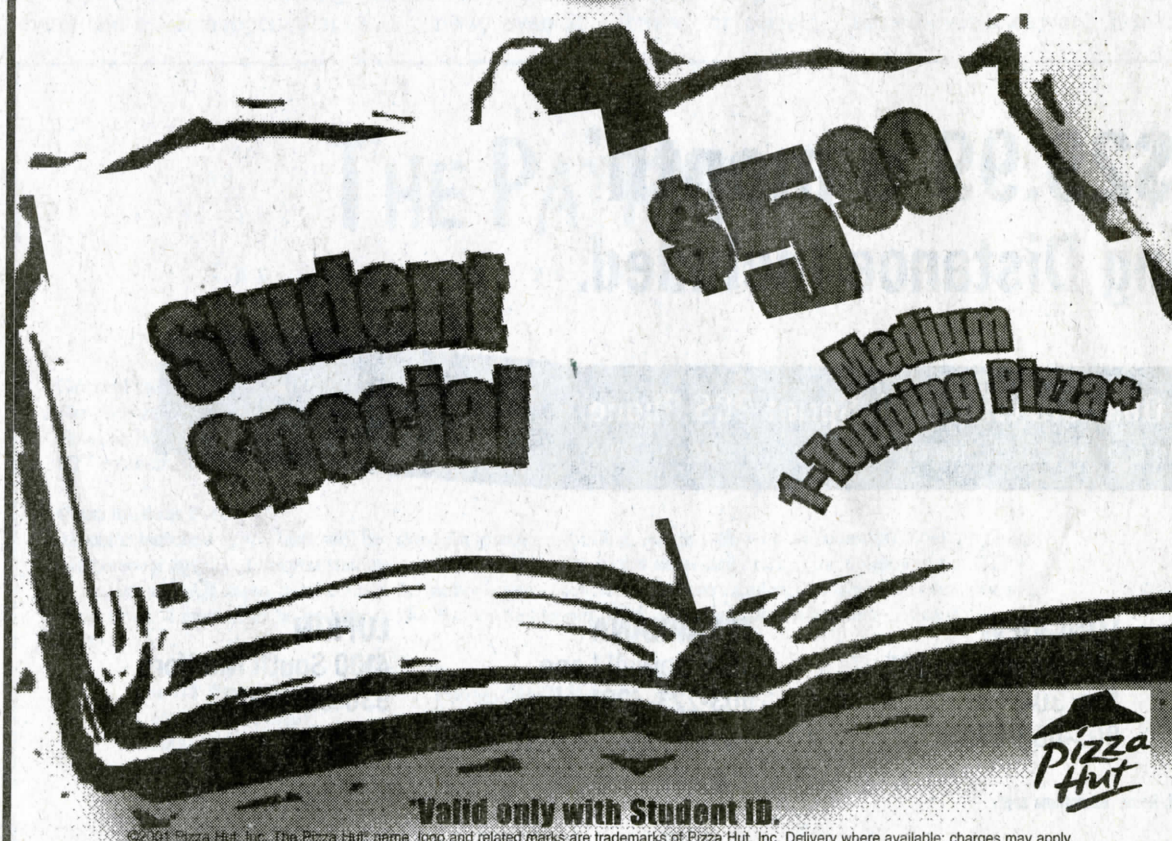
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hol by a minor at University Pines. Another non-affiliated student was issued a criminal trespass warning for evading detention.

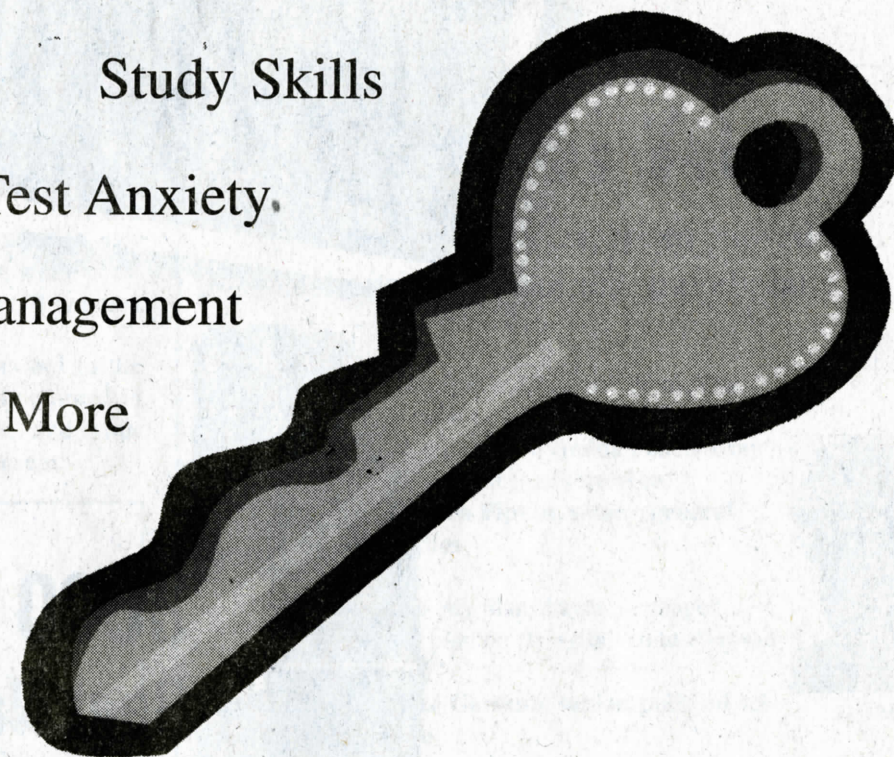
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