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The Patriot/Texas Eastern Patriot

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# THE PATRIOT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

Men's soccer team  
wins debut game.

Sports, Page 5

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2002

VOLUME 33 • ISSUE 2



—Conchetta San Filippo/The Patriot

**NEW DIRECTION:** Tyler Mayor Joey Seeber, standing, addresses a crowd of more than 100 during an Aug. 29 dedication ceremony for the nursing and health sciences building.

## Ceremonies planned to honor 9-11 victims

by **Shalina Ramirez**  
Associate editor

Families and victims of the 9-11 terrorist attacks will be honored during a memorial ceremony on Sept. 11 at the base of the Riter Millennium Carillon Bell Tower.

The program, scheduled to begin at 7:30 a.m., will commemorate the one-year anniversary of the event in which more than 2800 people were killed and thousands others injured, organizers said.

"I think it is important to remember the events of that day," President Rodney Mabry said. "It was the largest loss of life the U.S. has ever known on its territory."

"We will be remembering all of those who died, of course the injured, and the heroic efforts to save lives," Mabry said.

Rep. Leo Berman, R-Tyler, will serve as the keynote speaker.

Others participating include Student Governor Association

**"We will be remembering all of those who died...and the heroic efforts to save lives."**

— **DR. RODNEY H. MABRY**  
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

## Building nurses college's needs

by **Brandy Burks**  
and **Jourdan Hargrave**  
Contributing writers

Chiming bells replaced construction sounds while dignitaries, faculty, and students gathered Aug. 29 to dedicate the new nursing and health sciences building.

The \$7.3 million facility is named in honor of the late David G. and Jacqueline M. Braithwaite. Mrs. Braithwaite contributed \$2.5 million to a project University President Rodney Mabry said is "sorely needed."

Nursing classes are conducted in the science building that was

renovated in 1982 to incorporate what was then a new program.

The space was supposed to accommodate up to 80 students, but now attempts to satisfy the needs of 368 undergraduates and 100 graduate students, officials said.

Allen Burt, the Braithwaites' friend and financial adviser said Mrs. Braithwaite became of philanthropist late in life, but was "delighted" to help with the nursing building project.

"Mrs. Braithwaite always had great respect for higher education," Burt said.

He said the couple came to realize the importance of quality nursing while both of their parents were in a Chicago hospital and were "touched" by the care their parents received.

An estimated 100 people attended the late morning ceremony held near the construction site and just steps away from the Riter Millennium Carillon Tower.

A.W. "Dub" Riter Jr. and family members donated funds for the bell tower, which was dedicated last fall.

Riter, who also is on the University of Texas System Board

of Regents, spoke during the nursing building dedication, saying Mrs. Braithwaite's donation was "another example of her devotion to UT Tyler."

Past contributions included the Braithwaite Recital Hall, the Braithwaite Performing Arts Series, and the Braithwaite Garden at the Cowan Center.

During the ceremony Dr. Linda K. Klotz, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, emphasized the need for the new nursing building.

"As the East Texas medical

**NURSING, Page 3**

## May I have this dance?





The bell tower will play various melodies at 7:30 a.m. followed by a loud gong and a series of funeral tolls to signify the crash of each of the four U.S. airplanes hijacked on 9-11. The gong will sound at 7:46 a.m. for the first plane crash; 7:48 a.m. for the second plane crash; 7:49 a.m. for the third plane crash and 7:50 a.m. for the fourth plane crash.

The clock on the bell tower will stop during this time and will restart at 7:46 p.m.

president Stephanie Heeren, Rev. Mark Price, Mabry, associate music Professor Thomas Allen, Interim Dean of Students Howard Patterson and the campus police department.

Heeren will welcome attendees and lead the assembled body in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Rev. Price is to lead the invocation and Allen will be in charge of music.

**CEREMONIES, Page 3**

## Tamayo plans guilty plea on charges of fraud, theft

by **Shalina Ramirez**

Associate editor

A former University student judicial wants to enter a plea in Tyler rather than be extradited to Washington D.C. to face a multi-count fraud and theft indictment.

A grand jury indicted Daniel J. Tamayo, a former music major, July 27 on 17 counts of credit card fraud and theft, Duncan Woodford, a public information officer for the Eastern District of Texas, said.

Tamayo is accused of committing fraud on eight different dates from a hotel reservation network.

Prosecutors claim he stole a checkbook and a jar of coins, according to separate court documents.

Court documents indicated Tamayo, who is currently being held in the Smith County jail, attempted to enter an unofficial guilty plea in accordance with the provisions of Rule 20 in the District of Columbia Superior Court Rules of Criminal Procedure, records show.

"I have made it plainly known that I wish to enter a plea of guilty and accept the sentence imposed by the court in my case," Tamayo wrote in an Aug. 3 letter addressed to a Tyler judge.

The Patriot obtained copies of the letters from the court record.

In another court document, Tamayo wrote, "I am 24 years old and it is time for me to accept responsibility for my actions and stop living outside of society's

laws and values."

Woodford said Rule 20 allows Tamayo to enter a plea on charges originating in one district in Tyler.



TAMAYO

He said Tamayo's case would remain with the Tyler Division as long as the defendant decides to enter a plea. If not, the case would be referred back to the Washington D.C. and Tamayo must be returned to that jurisdiction.

Tamayo was arrested on Nov. 1, 2001 and accused of giving a false report to an officer and accused theft of several University musical instruments.

At that time, he also was serving 36 months probation sentence stemming from a burglary, which occurred while he attended California Lutheran University, a past report showed.

While attending the University of Texas at Tyler, Tamayo campaigned for the position of parliamentarian in the Student Government Association's special election in 2001 on a platform of having a "high standard of ethics."

He later was appointed to the Judicial Board.

The board makes decisions on conflicts within the SGA and interprets constitutional discrepancies.

Tamayo has been in jail since his arrest, unable to post bond.



—Conchetta San Filippo/The Patriot

**THE NEW GIRL:** "Dancing Girl" was donated by Mrs. Louise H. Ornelas in celebration of the increased enrollment. The art by Karl Jensen used his daughter as the model. See the story on page 3 for more information.

## UT Tyler ranks number one for tenured faculty ratio

by **Robert Boggs**

Editor in chief

It's no accident University students have the best chance in the state of being taught by tenured or tenure-track professors during their first two years, University President Rodney H. Mabry said.

The University of Texas at Tyler had the highest percentage of tenured professors or those on track for tenure teaching lower-level courses during the 200-01 school year. About 73 percent of the 8,717 total hours taught to freshmen and sophomores were conducted by tenured or tenure-track professors, according to Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board data reviewed by The Associated Press.

Mabry said the percentage was the result of efforts by many people, particularly the deans of each of the University's five colleges.

"It really does reflect our commitment to

quality undergraduate education," Mabry told The Patriot.

The University ranked far higher on the list than the University of Texas at Austin, which placed 25th out of Texas' 35 public universities.

Texas A&M University ranked 32nd.

At many schools, tenured faculty, who generally have higher-level degrees and receive larger salaries, spend much of their time doing research or writing for publication. Graduate students teach many of the lower-level courses.

The average budgeted salary in 2002 at UT Tyler was \$65,869 for professors and \$48,216 for assistant professors. At UT Austin, the salaries run \$98,838 and \$59,919, respectively, according to Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board data.

In the 2000-01 school year, the state reported 8,776 tenured professors and 3,683 tenure-track faculty were employed at public universi-

ties. Another 15,260 were not on track for tenure, according to The Associated Press.

Universities have a financial incentive for using tenured professors to teach lower-level courses. In 1997, Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff introduced a provision in the state budget that gives universities a small funding bonus for credit hours taught by tenured professors to freshmen and sophomores.

UT Tyler received \$471,304 last year, compared to \$6.6 million at UT Austin.

The award is based on the actual number of hours taught, so larger schools receive a greater bonus.

Despite the emphasis on tenured faculty, Mabry said he didn't want to exclude non-tenured teachers.

"We have really good adjunct faculty. I don't want to take anything away from them," he said.

## Inaugural homecoming to feature parties, entertainment

by **Conchetta San Filippo**

Staff writer

The University will have its first homecoming at the soccer fields this Friday.

The Student Government Association is sponsoring the activities before and after the men's 5 p.m. kickoff against McMurry University on Sept. 13.

"We're hoping to start a tradition," Erin Price, the SGA treasurer said.

The Pre-game celebration will commence at 4 p.m. with free hot-dogs and sodas out by the soccer

field next to tennis courts.

Each member of the visiting team, the men's soccer team, and the coaches for the season will be individually introduced at the "Meet the Patriots" at 4:30.

There will be a tail-gate party immediately following the game until midnight in the University Center complete with a dance, disc jockey, catered refreshments, a movie on the big screen, and various games.

The SGA also will be selling custom made t-shirts to commemorate the homecoming for \$10.

**"We're hoping to start a tradition."**

— **ERIN PRICE**

SGA TREASURER

"We're wanting it to be very student-oriented," Price said.

University students will participate in the homecoming celebration.

Brandon Rushing will be singing the Star Spangled Banner to open the competition and Brandon Montgomery will serve

as disc jockey at the post-game celebration.

The evening before the game, University alumni can celebrate the first homecoming with a banquet at 7 p.m. in the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center.

J.B. Smith, former University graduate, will be the guest speaker and the University theatre department will perform scenes from Shakespeare as entertainment.

A video presentation by Clarence Shackelford, audio-visual technician, on the evolution of the University is also scheduled.



## Editorial

If the University of Texas System intends to implement a system-wide background check policy for new employees, they had better get their plans straightened out soon.

The policy issued in a memo from human resource officials in March needs to consider three major issues: which employees will be checked, what action will be taken about offenses discovered and who will have access to background information.

The system originally proposed a blanket policy to run background checks on all finalists for new positions and those promoted to new positions.

Checks would be run at all 15 component institutions, which includes nine universities and six large health centers.

UT System Chancellor Mark Yudof, later said the policy would be made as narrow as possible to avoid having to screen every faculty member.

"I understand why the faculty would wince if they thought every Chaucer scholar was being vetted," Yudof said.

In the past, the system required criminal record checks only for security-sensitive positions.

The system needs to properly define who is subject to background checks under the new policy.

No matter what the system decides, it is going to take heavy flak over this policy.

If not every new faculty member must be screened, the justification

for scrutiny must be clear.

If a chemistry professor is checked because he or she handles dangerous materials, is it fair not to check a professor of education? A charge of child molestation on a future teacher's record would be worth noting during the approval process.

A blanket policy to check every new employee would be the most fair—but that idea has already met with resistance from faculty leaders across the state, Robert Nelsen, chairman of the UT System Faculty Advisory Council said.

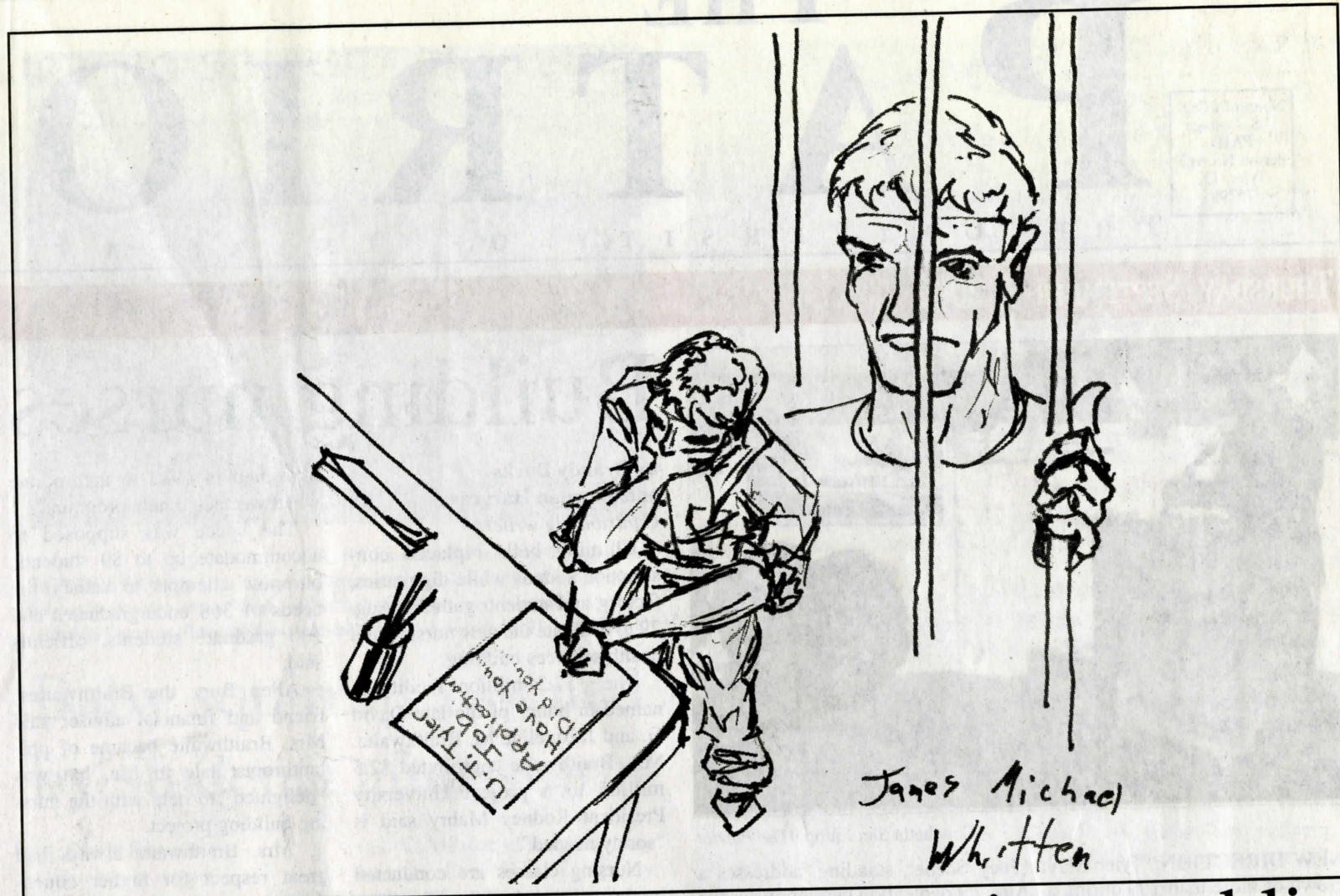
Not only would a blanket policy agitate faculty, it would also be the most costly alternative. Students tired of rising fees could easily imagine a new "student security fee" to cover the costs of background checks.

Will even the least severe criminal offense keep an applicant from being hired?

A person convicted of embezzlement should not be hired as a director of financial aid. But could a secretary be overlooked for speeding tickets or a 1972 shoplifting charge?

Another issue is the number of people with access to background information. If an entire selection committee gets to rifle through applicants' personal histories, some candidates may decide not to apply in the first place.

While students should be happy the UT System is looking out for them, the policy makers need to understand the scope of this potentially costly issue.



## Telephone voting grabs American public



Jeanie Carter

### Reality Bites

Have you voted lately?

Voting grew to 15.5 million telephone calls in the final week on the summer singing Fox hit "American Idol."

Starting with thousands of contestants, the field was narrowed the last few weeks by the American public.

Now there is a single winner in this musical competition.

Everyone should know the win-

ner is Kelly Clarkson.

The winner receives a \$1 million recording contract.

At its peak "American Idol" attracted 18 million viewers on Aug. 28, according to *The Washington Post*.

The final episode on Sept. 4 was expected to have 25 million viewers tune in, Ryan Seacrest, co-host on "American Idol", said on CNN.

What does this say about the voting habits of the American public for something as important as the leaders of our country?

In the 2000 general election there were about 12 million registered voters in the United States, according to the Texas Secretary of State web site.

There are not as many registered voters as people who phone

in to "American Idol" in one week.

Of the registered voters in the United States only about 6 million turned out to vote on the people in charge of making decision for our everyday lives.

That's 51 percent of the registered voters making a choice about their life, whereas 49 percent didn't care to make the effort.

In the Smith County 2000 election there were 101,184 registered voters with 59 percent showing up at the poll to vote.

Every registered voter in Smith County would have to vote 148 times each to reach the 15 million phone-in votes called in on one night on "American Idol."

Would an easier way of voting, say by telephone, increase the public's interest in electing officials.

Yet this system does not seem to

be working on the up-and-up with something as unimportant as a television popularity show.

There were about 100 "power dialers" with access to high-tech equipment that are jamming phone lines to vote for their "American Idol" favorite.

These people can cast as many as 10,000 votes a night from a single phone line, according to the *New York Post*.

So why does the American public not get as involved in issues that affect their everyday lives.

Both "American Idol" and our presidential election is full of the hoopla of advertising, gimmicks and information overload?

Are we as Americans really more interested in who wins a talent contest instead of who runs our country?

CAMPUS  
VOICE



What do you think about the University of Texas System running background checks on all employees?"



"I think it's a good idea. I don't think that a teacher shouldn't be hired if they have a criminal background that has nothing to do with working with their profession."  
Hannah Gross, junior, psychology

"I think it's important. You can see if they have corruption— if they did something bad at another place they could do it here. Some of them carry their habits on."  
Taj McFarland, junior, math



"I don't care! Hakuna Matata! I wouldn't want people finding out about my drug conviction...er, just kidding."  
Charity Potter, senior, English

"The instructor is teaching us educational values that go along with our lives. Then if their background has a default we should know about it, so that way we don't end up with the same default."  
Sam Olivares, junior, communication



"I think that is a good idea. They do them for every other job. Their job is to help people get into the work force, and if they don't have a moral background—how can they pass that on. The employees of the UT system reflect this institution and if there is something in their background that is negative, then we should know it."  
Erica Bobo, junior, nursing

"My gut reaction is I'm all for it. I'm shocked they don't do it right now."  
Matt Cates, senior, public relations



# Take time out for the simpler things in life

**Ross Baker**  
Staff writer

Imagine lying on a soft bed of grass, blanketed by the cool summer night air.

The sounds from nature's symphony, crickets, an occasional bird, or a light rustle of wind in the trees relax your senses.

Overhead a celestial wonder shines, and you again remember how beautiful the Texas night sky is. There you can find an amazing calm and become mesmerized by your surroundings.

Sometimes it is the simple things in life that can take us away from the everyday monotonous lives we now live — work, pay bills, sleep, work, pay bills, sleep.

Take time to visit nature's muse-

ums and admire the works of art God has given us.

You can easily find a location to retreat to there are 125 state parks and historical sites in Texas. In addition, there are a wide variety of lakes, rivers, and beaches.

A few months ago I gave my weary soul a break and rented a cabin on Canyon Lake, in the Texas Hill Country, with a group of friends.

Every night we hiked down to the water's edge and lay on our backs listening to the water gently lapping on the shore and gazing at the stars above.

It was so peaceful and relaxing.

I will remember those nights in the company of my friends and the awe and wonder we felt there

bathing in the celestial beauty. Edwin McCain's song echoed in my head, "These are the moments I thank God I'm alive and these are the moments I'll remember all my life."

We could all use those awe-inspiring moments to rekindle the fire of life.

However, if you can't get away — take some time to sit on your porch and look up at the stars. Your break from our hectic society doesn't have to be farther than your back yard.

As a student this summer I have been inundated with papers, exams and a hectic work schedule.

There is not a lot of time to break away from these responsibilities that drive us towards success

and graduation.

I don't after all, think that my professors would accept my missing school to take a vacation to relax in the wilderness.

Fortunately, I don't have to leave our campus for a break from the ordinary.

I took a walk down the campus's nature trail. The meandering trail is shaded by the branches of tall pine trees and even in the middle of the day it is cool and refreshing.

From the bridge covered stream to the calming silence, the nature trail is a nice place to escape to.

Sometimes it is the simple things in life that can do so much for us.

Visit nature and you will visit how good life can be.

## 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.

### Letter Policy

All contributions in good taste will be edited for grammar, spelling, length (250 words maximum), libel, profanity and personal attacks. All letters must contain the author's name, address, telephone number, academic classification and home town.

### Mission Statement

*The Patriot* 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* 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.

*The Patriot* welcomes comments and suggestions, as well as information about errors that call for correction. Messages may be e-mailed to [patrioteditor@mail.utttyl.edu](mailto:patrioteditor@mail.utttyl.edu)  
For comments call 903-565-5565.

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# NURSING

Continued From Page 1

community grew, flourished, and became a very progressive medical center for all of this region, so did the nursing program," she said.

The new 37,000 square foot nursing and health sciences building will give the nursing department room to grow and provide the newest technology to help produce qualified nurses as well as many other health related occupations, she said.

The facility will include clinical demonstration rooms, research labs, and inter-active classrooms, officials said.

Nursing students told *The Patriot* they also realize the need for the new facility and current technology.

Mary Katherine Hamilton, a second-level nursing student, said she is excited about the new facility.

"The current classrooms are too small. We need more room to practice of clinicals and it seems like we are behind in technology," she said.

Other ceremony speakers noted the facility provides new opportunities for students, as well as providing a positive economic impact for East Texas.

Project construction, which began in July, is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2003.

## Caught in the line of water



**BANG! YOU'RE WET:** Sophomore biology major Olakunle Oguntodu goes berserk with a water gun during the festivities at the welcome back luau sponsored by the Student Government Association and Student Activities Planning Board at University Pines.

—Conchetta San Filippo/*The Patriot*

## Adviser has faith in new debate team

by Kacy Cahill Johnston  
Contributing writer

Although supporting only one returning member, the University's Debate Team adviser said he is expecting another successful year.

This year's nine-member team includes Ryan Palmquist, who was on last year's team, and four student transfers from Tyler Junior College, said Dr. Jeffrey Hobbs.

Among the transfers are Amy Arellano and Daniel Miller, who won the National Junior College Debate Tournament last year, he said.

"Things should go very well. The school has a good reputation," Hobbs said. Things went well last year and I expect the same this year."

The team's tentative fall schedule consists of the following competitions: Ouachita Baptist University, Sept. 27-28; Sam Houston State University, Oct. 11-13; St. Mary's University, Oct. 25-27; and Louisiana State University in Shreveport, Nov. 15-17.

Any student interested in joining the debate team may contact Dr. Hobbs in HPR 264.

## Commercials in the works to promote University

by Mary Hall  
Staff writer

Lights! Camera! Action! Plans for university promotional commercials are under way.

University officials signed a contract with Five Point Six, a San Antonio-based production company, to produce a series of three commercials to promote the image

of the university.

The production company is expected to visit the campus in late September.

Filming, however, will not start so soon. The film dates were not set as of press time.

Officials are uncertain when the commercials will be aired, but Beverley Golden, Director of

News and Information, emphasized that the commercials will feature faculty, students and staff.

The commercials were originally planned for the summer, but university officials delayed the process so more students would be on campus at the time of the filming.

More than 4,100 students are

estimated to be enrolled in classes at the university this semester.

Enrollment, with the help of promotional commercials, is expected to increase by nearly 160 students next fall.

Other than promoting the university, Golden said the television spots are "an image thing" to improve the school's reputation.

## Piles of potatoes contribute to Subway's expanded menu

By Charity Potter  
Contributing writer

Spudway, er, Subway introduced baked potatoes to its menu this semester.

The addition takes its place beside Subway's pizza, soup, salads, breakfast sandwiches and, of course, sub sandwiches.

Store Manager Shannon Mariani said he expects the new menu item to be a real, well, hot

the area to sell pizza and now we're the first to sell baked potatoes," he said.

The Idaho potatoes range in price from \$2.99 for the Spartan spud to \$4.29 for the Patriot, a potato piled with chicken breasts, pepperoni, marinara sauce and cheese.

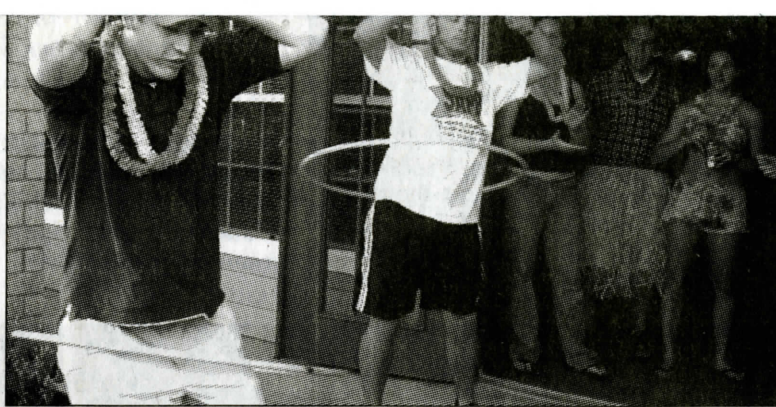
For student craving their favorite sandwich toppings on a tater, any sandwich can be made

### Hoop-la

### Donated statue dances

outside Riter bell tower





—Conchetta San Filippo/The Patriot

**DO THE HULA:** Students Robert Williamson, left, and Steven Brouer battle it out in the hula-hoop contest at University Pines.

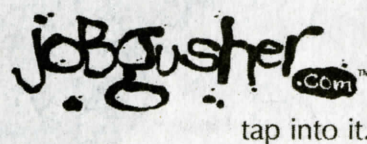
ENTRY LEVEL • FULL-TIME • PART-TIME • SEASONAL

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by Ross Baker

Staff writer

A new face is greeting students, faculty, staff, and visitors to the University campus.

"Dancing Girl," a bronze statue by Karl Jensen, stands on a grassy knoll between the Admissions and Hudnall-Pirtle-Roosth buildings facing the Riter Millennium Carillon Tower.

The statue is a gift from Mrs. Louise H. Ornelas to celebrate the increase in student enrollment for the fall 2002 semester, said Vice President Mary Untersee.

Final enrollment figures will be calculated after the 12th day of class.

Vice President Untersee said Mrs. Ornelas saw the statue and thought the students would appreciate having her.

"Mrs. Ornelas was so excited about the freshmen and increased enrollment of students and wanted to celebrate the enrollment increase that Dr. Mabry had told her about," she said.

Untersee also said Mrs. Ornelas' long history of service to the University is due to her devotion to education, her love for young people and an active interest in what occurs on campus. Because of her interest and devotion to the University, Mrs. Ornelas was named Patriot of the Year for 2002.

Mrs. Ornelas gave the lead gift of one million dollars for the construction of the Patriot Center. In addition to monetary donations, she serves on the University's Development Board, President's Associates and Friends of the Arts and Cowan Center's Advisory Board.

## CEREMONIES

### Continued From Page 1

"It's good for all of us to stick together," Mabry said. "It shows our commitment to each other and that several individuals and organizations are getting together."

Member of the campus police department will raise the nation's flag to the top of the flagpole then lower it to half-staff position.

Patterson will read a poem titled, "If Only I Knew," and invite everyone to stay to light candles and a join a prayer circle in front of the Administration Building.

The ceremony will conclude about 8:30 a.m.

The Academic Enrichment Center, in Room 102 of the University Center, will be open from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. for prayer and meditation.

Guests also are encouraged to attend a presentation by Dr. Davor Jedlicka at noon in Room 118 at the University Center. Jedlicka, a member of the American Red Cross, served as a mental health counselor at Ground Zero and will be recounting his experiences.

"I hope a lot of professors use this opportunity to teach about history or a lesson to be learned," Mabry said. "The attack are milestones in our history that caused a great deal of changes that will be with us for a long time."

potato.

"Our goal is to provide a service to the students here. We wanted to offer something new that we could produce with the equipment we already have and still keep our prices low," Mariani said.

"We were the first Subway in

into a baked potato by adding \$1 to the sandwich's menu price, he said.

Students can keep their eyes out for the baked potato in the University Center, although Mariani said not to expect any other surprise menu additions this semester.

## Filing continues for SGA elections; 16 registered for senator positions

Sixteen students registered to campaign for Student Government Association senator positions in the first week of filing, SGA treasurer Erin Price said.

Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Sept. 11 for those interested in running for vice president or senator in the College of Business and Technology, the College of Education and Psychology, the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, and the University Pines Apartments.

Seven applications were received on Aug. 28, the first day of the filing period, Shaune Martinez, student development

specialist and the sponsor of SGA, said.

As of Sept. 4, no one had applied for the position of vice president, Price said.

Students may pick up an application at University Center Room 112 or from Martinez in UC 101.

Students will vote in the elections on Sept. 17 and 18. Ballots will be available at stations across campus.

Senators receive a \$300 stipend per semester.

SGA meetings will be held the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 5:15 p.m. in room 118 of the UC, Price said.



—File Photo

**TIME OF PRAYER:** Faculty and students gather at the Riter Millennium Carillon Tower in remembrance of the victims of the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon during a prayer service held last year shortly after the attacks.

Blood donations played an important role in saving lives after Sept. 11, 2001. To find out about donating blood in your area, call Stewart Regional Blood Center at 535-5400.



# Take a hike



**CAN YOU DIG IT? :** Students, left, in Neil Ford's ecology class collect soil samples. The class, below, takes their samples back to the classroom.



## A walk on the wild side

by Ross Baker  
Staff writer

If looking for a road less traveled, students and University employees can take a hike on the campus' nature trail that loops through a 10-acre preserve.

The trail can be entered from two locations on Lake Drive across from Harvey Lake.

When entering the nature preserve, hikers will be immersed into a typical east Texas woodland characterized by oak, hickory and pine trees.

The preserve fosters a natural environment for both plant and animal species to live and thrive right here on the University campus.

Dr. Neil Ford, biology professor, said he has seen both foxes and red shoulder hawks on the campus and without the nature preserve, no one would have the advantage to

the campus sense its origin in 1976.

At that time a master plan, developed for the University of Texas at Tyler, set aside 10 acres of land as a permanent nature preserve, according to biology professor Dr. Lynn Sherrod.

The trail was not developed until several years later by a campus nature club.

The trail meanders through the woodland and crosses a small creek, which holds water year round.

Coinciding with the trail's developments, a Boy Scout constructed a bridge to cover the creek for his Eagle Scout project, Ford said.

Sherrod said this area has been highly valued by the science department, students and University employees as a learning environment, an exercise area and

Ford said he has been using the nature preserve for more than twenty years and has found it to be an invaluable tool in his education to students.

While walking through the nature trail, many interesting plants and animals can be seen.

In addition, the area is quiet and seems removed from the modern world.

This seems to be an aspect that attracts many of the nature preserves visitors, students said.

"It's calm and pleasant and provides a rejuvenating break from school," University Student Melissa Wallis said.

The nature preserve is open to the public for both educational and recreational use year round.

Dr. Ford said he encourages everyone to use the area and enjoy the nature preserve, which the University is fortunate to have on campus.

With the continual increase in student enrollment and resulting construction expansions, the preserve may one day become a luxury that could be overlooked in the name of education, some nature lovers fear.

They say the proposed softball complex could endanger the future of the preserve.





one would have the advantage to see some of these varieties of plants and animals.

Many students and employees use the preserve for both educational and recreational purposes.

Jennifer Tidwell is one student who enjoys the presence of the preserve on campus.

"It's a great escape from everyday life and I hope generations to come can enjoy a place like this," Tidwell said. "Plus it is a great place to study."

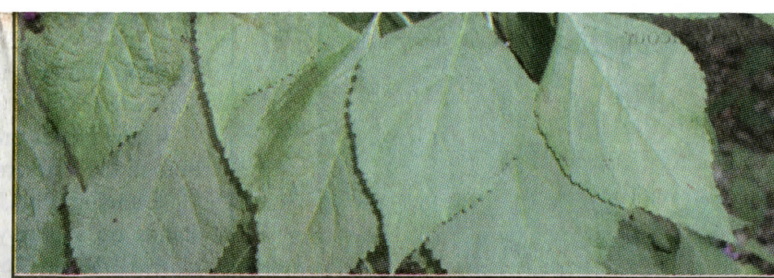
The preserve has been part of

environment, an exercise area and for its natural beauty and serenity.

Sherrod utilizes the area on average two to three times per semester, he said.

The nature preserve is part of his instructional space that is as important as a classroom with projectors is to a history teacher, Sherrod said.

He said there are many animals and plants growing along the creek that can't be found anywhere like ferns, mushrooms, several species of reptiles and invertebrates.



**NATURE'S TREASURES:** Plants, left, are in full bloom along the Nature Trail. April Bancod, below, studies a common insect species.



**CATCHING SOME RAYS:** Monique Overshown, left; Shawn Wilson, center; and Brandi Berryman, right, take scientific measures of sunlight. Dr. Neil Ford and students, above, break apart decaying wood to examine organisms living within it.







—Courtesy Photo

**CHASE ME:** Patriots Derek Hatcher (12) runs past Hendrix College Micah DiPippa during the 4-1 win Monday against the Hendrix College (Ark.) Warriors.

# Patriots win first game 4-1

*Browning scores two goals against Hendrix*

by Joe Elerson  
Sports Editor

Daniel Browning made University history as he scored two goals in the first home game for the Patriots with a 4-1 win over the Hendrix College Warriors (Ark.) on Monday.

"It's always good to win, period. It was good to play against my former mentor and have success against them," Coach Kenny Jones said.

The team is now 1-0 and will play LeTourneau University Thursday following the women Patriots at 7 p.m. in Longview.

Jones said he will look for consistency during the LeTourneau game and for the team to keep learning on the field.

During Monday's game, Browning scored the first goal on a penalty kick past Dean Berner in the first nine minutes of the game for the early 1-0 lead.

"It's pretty exciting, he is a hard working person-period. He is a fine example of our team, there could have been a number of guys who could have done that, and he deserved it," Jones said.

Ryan Johnson blasted a shot past Berner in the

**"It's always good to win, period..."**

**— KENNY JONES  
MEN'S SOCCER COACH**

42nd minute off an assist by Michael Perschke for the 2-0 lead at intermission.

Tyler out shot the Warriors 21-19 in the game, as Colby Peek and Josh Wilson saved 11 shots for the Patriots in the game.

"They played good, considering the amount of pressure that they had with their first ever collegiate game.

They are still getting better and they are already good players and

I think as they get better they will make our team better," Jones said.

In the first half of play, the Patriots Jered Cook was helped off the field after an injury but did return to the game in the second half.

Birc Morledge connected on the only goal of the contest in the 60th minute of play on a shot past Wilson to get the Warriors to 2-1 in the second half.

The Patriots found a way to score the final two goals of the contest as Dustin Williams connected on a diving head shot off a long cross from Tommy Casillas in the 71st minute of the game for the 3-1 lead.

Browning scored his second and final goal of the game in the stoppage portion of the game on an assist from James Ramsey to secure the win for the Patriots at 4-1.

**Men's team dominated by freshmen**

by Joe Elerson  
Sports Editor

With 20 freshmen on the Patriots soccer team this season, Wichita Falls and Longview brought in the most recruits for the University.

Six players from Wichita Falls and five from Longview make their way to the University for the first-ever intercollegiate season.

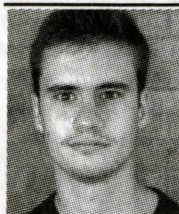
Coach Jones said he recruited players from Dallas, East Texas, and Wichita Falls for the inaugural season.

"It didn't make any difference, I was just trying to bring kids in that fit the University," Jones said.

"I just concentrated on getting guys in," Jones said. "Freshmen are good because they have four more years left when they come in."

**ROSTER, Page 6**

## Holiday sidelines soccer fan support in inaugural season



Joe Elerson

### Joe's Sports Spotlight

world. Just to have all of the fans sitting out in the 100 degree or so weather helped our team out more during the game," Lovell said.

"It was great. To have that many people out to our game made a huge difference for the guys," Jones



## Score Board

UT-Tyler vs. UT-Dallas  
Aug. 30

| Goals by Period | 1 | 2 | Tot |
|-----------------|---|---|-----|
| UT-Tyler        | 0 | 0 | 0   |
| UT-Dallas       | 0 | 0 | 0   |



A return for two soccer coaches and the third game of the 2002 season for another coach gave about 100 soccer fans a treat on Labor Day weekend between the Hendrix College Warriors (Ark.) and the University Patriots.

Fans witnessed a hard fought, but unfortunate loss with the women Patriots under Coach Jodi Lovell and also Coach Kenny Jones' team winning their first game against his former mentor in Glen Tourville on Monday.

But one question needs to be answered. Why do the coaches want to have an inaugural season home opener on Labor Day weekend?

Maybe the coaches couldn't help having the game on Labor Day, but some good signs and some possible disadvantages occurred.

Some sports fans would argue holiday games are a tradition, I agree, but for a first-ever team to begin intercollegiate play on Labor Day seems to be a disadvantage.

One of the major disadvantages to having a home game on a holiday is most University students are just returning from taking their first trip home and arriving back to get ready for classes the next day.

Both of the University coaches enjoyed the fact that there were so many fans that attended the games on Labor Day.

"It was out of this

said. "It was very encouraging."

Also with a program just starting out in intercollegiate competition, fan support can be a major boost for a team if they know the support is there.

But the fans that sat out in the heat on the Patriots soccer field sidelines and witnessed the action should be very impressed with what they saw from all of the teams.

The teams showed the determination to be a team other schools need to recognize, and that they will fight to the end to get the job done.

There seemed to be more fans from Hendrix College then there were for the home team. Those fans had a five-hour drive from Conway, Arkansas.

Maybe the crowds will get bigger with the remaining games on the schedule as there will be a tailgate party and a homecoming celebration Sept. 13 for the men's team.

Once a team can get established in a winning program then a Labor Day weekend game would be the perfect outing to take part in, but until that happens a holiday home game should be put off.

The fans who attended the first soccer home games witnessed an enjoyable event, but in the future lets find a way to get more people in attendance to support the teams at the University-even when it is a holiday.



—Courtesy Photo

**GIVE ME THAT:** Patriots Stephanie Maxwell (8) attempts to cut off opponent as Jessica Miller (20) during the 4-1 loss Monday at the University soccer field.

## Women Patriots fall to Warriors

by Joe Elerson  
Sports Editor

Stephanie Benning and Jessica Miller ignited the net for the Hendrix College Warriors (Ark.) in a 4-1 win over the Patriots Monday at the University.

The loss makes three straight for the Patriots, after playing three games in four days with an 14-man roster this season.

The University lost their first game of the season 9-0 to the University of Texas at Dallas, then lost a game to the Loyola University 3-2 on Sept. 1 in Shreveport.

"I think after playing three games in four days they did as good as they could," Coach Jodi Lovell said.

The team will play LeTourneau University Thursday in Longview with a 5 p.m. start.

In Monday's game, The Warriors out shot the Patriots 29-8 in the game, as the University only had one shot on goal in the first half.

Lovell said her team capitalized on their opponents mistakes in the second half.

"I think after playing three games in four days they did as good as they could."

— JODI LOVELL  
PATRIOTS SOCCER COACH

Goalie Kristal Moncrief faced 29 shots on goal, saving 12 for the game, as Meredith Corrado and Mindy Eggert faced eight shots for the Warriors.

"Their goalkeepers are very talented, and I know that their first keeper (Corrado) is their starting goalkeeper and I think they felt comfortable to keep her on the field," Lovell said.

Benning scored her first goal of the game in the first 10 minutes off an assist from Shelly Peterson, then hit the back

of the net in the 70th minute of the game off an assist from Jennifer Kribs.

Miller found a way to connect in the 40th minute on a pass from Benning to give the Warriors a 2-0 lead in the first half, then scored again in the 46th minute of play for a 3-0 lead.

"We were trying to play safe in the game and pull back whereas we should have been pushed up and pressuring the passes in the first place," Lovell said. "That is how those players took advantage in the game."

Amber Haralson hit a solid shot past Eggert in the 87th minute of the game to end the scoring at 4-1.

"I thought the goal worked out well, the ladies struck some passes together and saw the opportunity for Amber and she was able to put it in the net," Lovell said.

"Our players' health is the first concern for our team, even though sometimes they don't recognize that they are hurt," Lovell said.

Lovell said she believes once the players can get healthy that they will a better chance of getting their first win of the 2002 season.

|                 |    |    |     |
|-----------------|----|----|-----|
| UT-Dallas       | 3  | 0  | 9   |
| Shots by Period | 1  | 2  | Tot |
| UT-Tyler        | 0  | 1  | 1   |
| UT-Dallas       | 17 | 20 | 37  |

| Scoring Summary |      |                    |
|-----------------|------|--------------------|
| Time            | Team | Goal Scorer        |
| 5:00            | UTD  | Kristin Andrews    |
| 10:00           | UTD  | Stephanie Scarfone |
| 25:00           | UTD  | Scarfone           |
| 49:00           | UTD  | Scarfone           |
|                 | UTD  | Andrews            |
| 66:00           | UTD  | Elizabeth Smith    |
| 80:00           | UTD  | Andrews            |
| 84:00           | UTD  | Kristin Demasi     |
| 88:00           | UTD  | Robyn Martin       |

### UT-Tyler vs. Loyola University Sept. 1

|                 |   |   |     |
|-----------------|---|---|-----|
| Goals by Period | 1 | 2 | Tot |
| UT-Tyler        | 0 | 2 | 2   |
| Loyola Univ.    | 1 | 2 | 3   |

| Scoring Summary |        |                   |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------|
| Time            | Team   | Goal Scorer       |
| 35:00           | Loyola | Anna Weldon       |
| 48:00           | Loyola | Anna Weldon       |
| 50:00           | Loyola | Clare Springer    |
| 74:00           | UTT    | Stephanie Maxwell |
| 86:00           | UTT    | Amber Haralson    |

### Hendrix College vs. UT-Tyler-Women Sept. 2

|                 |   |   |     |
|-----------------|---|---|-----|
| Goals by Period | 1 | 2 | Tot |
| UT-Tyler Women  | 0 | 1 | 1   |
| Hendrix College | 2 | 2 | 4   |

| Scoring Summary |         |                   |
|-----------------|---------|-------------------|
| Time            | Team    | Goal Scorer       |
| 10:00           | Hendrix | Stephanie Benning |
| 30:00           | Hendrix | Jesse Miller      |
| 51:00           | Hendrix | Miller            |
| 69:00           | Hendrix | Benning           |
| 88:00           | UTT     | Amber Haralson    |

### UT-Tyler Men vs. Hendrix College Sept. 2

|                 |   |   |       |
|-----------------|---|---|-------|
| Goals by Period | 1 | 2 | Total |
| UT-Tyler Men    | 2 | 2 | 4     |
| Hendrix College | 0 | 1 | 1     |

| Scoring Summary |         |                 |
|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| Time            | Team    | Goal Scorer     |
| 9:00            | UTT     | Daniel Browning |
| 42:00           | UTT     | Ryan Johnson    |
| 60:00           | Hendrix | Birc Morledge   |
| 71:00           | UTT     | Dustin Williams |
| 93:00           | UTT     | Browning        |

Next two opponents:  
Sept. 5-LeTourneau University  
5p.m. and 7 p.m.  
Sept. 7 Mississippi College

### Tailgate Party

Sept. 13-Behind Summers Tennis Center for the game between Tyler and McMurry University. Party at 4 p.m., game at 5 p.m.  
post-game immediately after the game.

### UT Tyler Patriots Women's Roster

|                    |                     |                   |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Kristal Moncrief | 6 Amber Haralson    | 11 Chelsea Healey |
| 2 Alex Rebich      | 7 Lisa Stinson      | 13 Jessica Tramel |
| 3 Rachel Simmons   | 8 Stephanie Maxwell | 16 Ashley Andrews |
| 5 Rebecca Atkinson | 9 Lindsey Lyle      | 23 Jennifer Smith |



## 2002 Tennis Schedule

| Dates       | Team          | Tournaments          | Location    | Time   |
|-------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|--------|
| Sept. 6-7   | Men           | Collin Collegiate    | Dallas      | 9 a.m. |
| Sept. 20-21 | Men/Women     | Trinity Invitational | San Antonio | 8 a.m. |
| Oct. 4-5    | Women         | ITA Omni Regional    | Georgetown  | 9 a.m. |
| Oct. 12-13  | Men and Women | USTA Discovery       | Tyler       | 9 a.m. |
| Oct. 25-26  | Men and Women | Bill Day Collegiate  | Tyler       | 9 a.m. |

## ROSTER

### Continued From Page 5

Team members participated in morning and evening practices during the summer to prepare for their first home game Sept. 2 against the Hendrix College Warriors.

"The two-a-day practices helped big time in getting the team ready because some of the guys had played before on teams and some of us are playing together for the first time," utility player Scott Hinesley said.

One school that the University has sights on is the University of Texas at Dallas on Oct. 6 in Dallas.

"I asked Coach (Jones) who would be a challenge for us and he said University of Texas-Dallas. So I have them marked on my calendar," defender/forward Erasmus Quaye said.

Coach Jones coached four of the players on the Patriots last year as Drew Irwin played on his under-19 boys team in Dallas. Also, Jeff Huhn, Marcus Hebel and Jered Cook played under Jones.

"Cook transferred from Centenary College last season after being red-shirted at the school," Jones said. James Ramsey, Derek Hatcher, Quaye, Lee Abel, and Brett Barr also have collegiate experience.

Abel transferred from Div. III LeTourneau University, Quaye played at Tyler Junior College and Trinity Baptist, Barr played at TJC

goalie Josh Wilson.

LONGVIEW-Goalkeeper Abel, utility player Wayne Harris, forward Ryan Johnson, center midfielder Chris Nicholson, midfielder Dustin Williams

ARLINGTON- Midfielder Cook, defender Huhn, and defender/forward Quaye

MARSHALL-Defender Joseph Fried, midfielder Travis Jordan, defender Ramsey

TYLER-Forward Barr and center/outside midfielder Chase Doyle

ALVARADO-Defender/midfielder Trey Hickman and goalkeeper Clayton Loftin

PLANO-Forward Patrick Eades

FORT WORTH-

Midfielder/defender Hebel

HIGHLAND VILLAGE-Utility player Scott Hinesley

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS-Midfielder/ forward Irwin

BROOKSTON-Goalkeeper Scott Moss

SULPHUR SPRINGS-Goalkeeper Colby Peek

SPRING-Midfielder/ defender Michael Perschke

HUNTINGTON-Utility player Shane Phillips

DESOTO-Defender Ryan Smith

"I am very happy with this group of guys this season," Jones said. We have a very athletic group of players this season. I think what



—Ross Baker/The Patriot

**MEN'S TENNIS TEAM:** Back row from left to right: Greg Jones, Kevin Cook, Andy White, Justin Duke, Coach Ken Olivier, Austin Caudle, and Matt Haugen. Botton row from left to right: Blake Ericsson, Steven Brouer, Dallas Long, Josh Reynolds, and Joseph Pollard (Not Pictured are Mayur Naik and Kiran Iyengar). The men's tennis team will play in the Collin Collegiate Tournament Sept. 6-7 in Dallas.

## Tennis teams sign 19 new freshmen

*This is the second year of tennis since the teams were established*

by Joe Elerson  
Sports Editor

The University of Texas at Tyler tennis program is ready for the 2002-03 regular season.

With 19 new freshman and more depth on the team than the opening season for the Patriots, Coach Ken Olivier said he is very happy with this year's recruiting class.

"We have a strong and very talented group of kids this season, and we also have some highly ranked kids this season," Olivier said.

Last year marked the first year of intercollegiate sports at the University, and the tennis team took a lot of pride in starting intercollegiate sports, Olivier said.

"We were like the guinea pigs, but it had to start somewhere and we were proud to start the tradi-

were the top performers last season with Duke going 7-1 in singles, and 3-5 in doubles action, as Hunek played in the No. 1 spot for the University as a freshman at 6-2 in singles, and 4-3 in doubles competition.

Coach Olivier also added 10 freshmen on the women's team as only Karoline Jacobs, April Bancod, and Lauren McClung return from last year's squad.

Bancod finished last season with a 4-1 singles record, and a 3-0 doubles record in 2001-2002 play. Jacobs had a perfect 5-0 singles and 2-0 doubles record in competition last year.

"The players should get very large relative improvement in performance and mechanics as soon as possible this season for the University squad," Olivier said.

"The students need to be able to

The University tennis team received a waiver from the Small College Operating Committee this season to compete in the Omni Hotels/ ITA Fall Regional Tournament Oct. 4-5 in Georgetown.

"We are eligible to compete in an intercollegiate tennis association regional event at the NCAA Division III level, which can qualify our players to compete at a national tennis tournament," Olivier said.

Coach Olivier's men's and women's team will each compete in four tournaments this fall starting with the men in the Collin Collegiate Tournament Sept. 6-7 in Dallas.

"We will definitely be able to play at a higher level this year, than we did last year," Olivier said.

The tennis team will compete as

"Hardin Simmons won the conference title last year, and I would say they are definitely leaders in the American Southwest Conference," Olivier said.

The tennis teams also will play against Trinity and Southwest University in the West Division of the American Southwest Conference, Olivier said.

With the five tournaments that the team will compete in, they will be able to run the last two tournaments of the season with the USTA Discovery and the Bill Day Collegiate Tennis Tournament at the Summers Tennis Center on the University of Texas at Tyler campus.

"The kids are going to like playing at home. There comfort levels should be higher, and they will be in familiar surroundings," Olivier said.



last year, Cook played at St. Mary's, and Ramsey played at Ouachita Baptist in Arkansas.

The 2002 Patriots soccer team listed by location and position consists:

WICHITA

Forward/Midfielder Daniel Browning, center midfielder Tommy Casillas, defender D. Hatcher, forward Ryan Hatcher, defender Appolo Turnbow, and

FALLS-

the season is going to boil down to is character, strength, and team work."

"The opening day lineup would be a game time decision because I have such a talented group of players this season," Jones said.

Jones is also looking for anyone interested in becoming a work-study manager (s) for the season.

tion," Olivier said.

The men's team added nine freshmen, with six returning players from last season's opening squad of last season.

Justin Duke and Maciek Hunek

adjust to student life at the University, and on the performance side of things they need to be able to not make bad line calls, and I will hold both teams to a high standard this season," Olivier said.

an independent this year just as they did last season, playing such schools as NCAA Division III Eastern opponents Hardin Simmons and Mississippi College.

After having a year of experience in intercollegiate play under their belt, Coach Olivier hopes more fans will attend the tournaments this season than last season.

# Homecoming

Sept. 13

- ◆ 4 p.m.— pre-game celebration at the soccer field. Free hotdogs and sodas.
- ◆ 4:30 p.m. —meet the Patriots soccer team at the soccer field.
- ◆ Post-game celebration until midnight at the University Center. Dance, disc jockey, refreshments, movie, games.
- ◆ 7 p.m. — Alumni banquet at the Cowan Center.



—Ross Baker/The Patriot

**WOMEN'S TENNIS TEAM:** Back row from left to right: Ayiza Rodriguez, Alicia Johnson, Cristal Moore, Karoline Jacobs, Kayla Fedowitz, and April Hibbs. Middle row from left to right: Lauren Collum, Katy Burrow, April Bancod, Giannina Bregon. Front row from left to right: Amy Davis and Jennifer King. The Women's tennis team plays in the Trinity Invitational Sept. 20-21 in San Antonio

## STAR EMPLOYEES

August

Wendy Minix  
Financial Services  
(pictured at left)

July

Sherri Whatley  
Planning and Institutional  
Research



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**REMEMBER**

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**7:30-8:30 a.m**

**Sept. 11**

**at**

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# Practice Makes Perfect



—Robert Boggs/The Patriot

**ROCKING THE HOUSE:** Freshman Dustin Crawford shows his skills playing a bass guitar in the clubhouse at the University Pines Apartments Sept. 3. The jam session group, which included two other UPines residents with their electric guitars, practiced a song they wrote.

# Box office hit asks question: Is there life on other planets?

By Jennifer Murray  
Entertainment editor

## Review

One of the main things people ponder is if we really are alone in this universe.

If we are, like so many say we are, how do we explain lights, stars, weather balloons and airplanes in the sky or crop circles on a farm.

That question is brought up in the summer suspenseful hit *Signs*.

The movie is centered around a farm family.

The thought of any alien life is not heard of until one morning, unexplained circles are found in their cornfield.

The story is played through the lives of Father Graham Hess played by Mel Gibson, who lost his faith after his wife's death in a car accident.

He is left to care for his two children with the help of his younger brother, played by Joaquin Phoenix.

Disturbing things start to happen after the circles appear.

The family dogs become wild,

strange figures lurk on top of their roof, and yet the family breaks down as they try to keep themselves together and alive.

There is a scene shown in the film with the family deciding on whether or not to leave their house.

This shows their human nature, and how they can not take it anymore.

This leads to the confrontation between earthlings and the human harvesting aliens.

The drama pumps your adrenaline and you become tense.

And that is because it is the way to normally feel while watching a M. Night Shyamalan picture, the same person who directed the *Sixth Sense*.

Shyamalan's techniques of using suspense, puzzlement and humor moved the story line along smoothly.

He gave us something to think about by making us laugh, worry and cry.

We laugh when the children put foil hats on their head to keep the aliens away, and we worry when the aliens try to get into the house.

One place that everyone cries is

when we see his wife dying while talking to him.

At the beginning it seemed as if all we were going to do was laugh, because of all the humorous things the characters said.

When the Father and his brother are talking to the sheriff about people on their house, she suggests that it's a female Scandinavian high jumper who has stopped in town.

But laughter soon turned to fear when he introduced the aliens, and made us feel afraid in our seats.

Throughout the movie, you never feel its length, because it enthralls you so much you are unaware of the time span.

You're lost in the atmosphere of the farm setting, with the circles.

In the film the stalks of corn have been neatly bent.

This was a great way to show the audience movie magic, and have someone wonder, "How did they do that?"

*Signs* is definitely worth the money shelled out at the ticket counter.

It makes you wonder if there is other life out there.

The University's Third Wednesday Film series opens with the part mystery - comedy "Gosford Park" on Sept. 18 at the Cowan Center, James Hatfield, theatre director announced.

"Robert Altman Directs..." is this year's theme.

All films will be shown at 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in Braithwaite Recital Hall Room 1009.

Tickets are \$4; season tickets are \$14.

Admission is free to UTT, Tyler Junior College and Texas College students with current student identification card. Seating is limited. For reservations call 566-7110.

Other films showing include: Oct. 15 - "MASH" Nov. 20 - "Come back to the Five & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean" Dec. 18 - "The Player"

# 'My Big Fat Greek Wedding': Big Joke?

By Thomas Kearnes  
Staff writer

## Review

As much as I

your own star vehicle, based on your own one-woman show, it pays to look your best. It also doesn't hurt to have all the sup-

one another like over eager high-school performers.

With no strong emotional throughline to carry us, the film





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|--------------------------|---------------------------|
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## It's YOUR Library!



hate eating up valuable space reporting this, I should clue you in on the box-office bonanza status of the indie film, "My Big Fat Greek Wedding." Released in April in just eight cities, it has now clawed its way to the second position of its 20th week of release, raking in more than \$80 million, 16 times its budget.

While this kind of freakish success is certainly worth mentioning, it's more important to point out what the press isn't talking about - the movie itself. Not that there is much worth talking about.

Nia Vardalos plays Toula, the frumpy daughter of Greek immigrants. She hides out working in their restaurant, written of by her sizable family as condemned to spinsterhood for being 30 and without a husband.

Then - poof! - she's taking night classes, losing weight and giving herself a sexy makeover. What sparks this change, you ask, especially given that the opening scenes show a woman so pathologically shy, therapy would seem the only appropriate solution?

Well when you are the writer of

porting characters constantly remind you how beautiful/talente/goshdarn special you are.

Her chief admirer, however, is John Corbett ("Sex in the City"), a vegetarian WASP who teaches literature to schoolchildren, so of course, he is supportive, ardent and kind. Since Corbett's speciality as a performer is turning passivity into ingratiating aloofness, he makes a nice foil for Vardalos, who seems as tightly coiled as one of the curls trailing down her head.

But their relationship never hits any snags. Even the most cookie-cutter romantic comedies must include some form of suspense to keep the picture moving.

Instead, Vardalos' script trots out one self-consciously wacky member of Toula's family after another to pad out the film. Sometimes the parts work thanks to the veteran actor who plays them (Andrea Martin's bug-eyed mini-mogul aunt) or get by on sheer absurdity (Bess Meisler's demented beer-swilling grandma), but most often were stuck with actors doing their best to out shout

takes on an episodic feel; it's the longest sitcom pilot you have ever seen. Director Joel Zwick, strangely enough, learned his clunky moves and insistent editing rhythms from his extensive work in sitcoms.

Each vignette in the movie inevitably boils down to "Aren't these people wacky?!"

Yet, at the end, Vardalos' plaintive voiceover instructs us her story is about how all families are alike and strange but familiar and... you follow.

That Vardalos can make that statement after cashing in on her family's bizarre behavior and those same characters constantly admire her bravery in not fearing to look outside her ethnic group for love, is just a little disingenuous.

If the film's final big visual gag is any indication, however, Toula hasn't escaped from underneath her family's thumb so much as she has shoved someone under it with her.

Even after you've rendered them a squad of silly cartoons, maybe you can go home again.



104 W. ERWIN  
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111 E. ERWIN  
526-0225

## 10 Year Anniversary Party

September 12  
7 p.m.  
with  
"The Pictures"

### September Calendar

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 4th  | "Saltwater Flies" Acoustic FREE!                        |
| 5th  | Jim Suhler w/ Carlton on Bass - Great Blues Guitar!     |
| 6th  | "The Pictures" - Let's Dance!                           |
| 7th  | "The Klocks" - Awesome Light Show!                      |
| 11th | "Saltwater Flies" Acoustic FREE!                        |
| 12th | Anniversary Party w/ The Pictures - All Night Specials! |
| 13th | "Out of Phase" - 70's • 80's • 90's Dance               |
| 14th | "Out of Phase" - Great Party Band!                      |
| 18th | "Saltwater Flies" FREE - Come Early!                    |
| 19th | Carolyn Wonderland, Blues singer from Houston           |
| 20th | "The Rachels" - Check it out!                           |
| 21st | "Rat Ranch" - Rock Band<br>Annagrey on the patio        |
| 25th | "Saltwater Flies" Acoustic FREE!                        |
| 26th | "Big Daddy Alright - Swing Rockabilly Fun!              |
| 27th | "Jammy Jam" with DJ Downtown - Wear your jammies!       |
| 28th | "Passing Strangers" - Dance!                            |



## POLICE REPORTS

University police arrested a 31-year-old male on charges of possession of an illegal weapon and on a warrant issued by another law enforcement agency, records show.

Officer Ben Kiser said the suspect was observed parked near the campus' west entrance during the early morning hours of June 5.

Upon further investigation officers found several machetes laying in the floorboard of the suspect's vehicle.

The knives, Kiser said, were, by state law, illegal due to the length of the blade.

Blades more than five and one-half inches may be owned for work purposes only, he said.

The man was not a University student.

### ARREST

\* June 9 - A 44-year-old Tyler Junior College male janitor was arrested for making harassing phone calls to a 20-year-old female student.

\* Aug. 27 - A 27-year-old male was arrested for making alcohol available to a minor during an Aug. 24 incident at the University Pines Apartment. Bond was set at \$500.

### BURGLARY

\* Aug. 24 - A burglary was reported at University Pines Apartment.

### CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

\* July 19 - Two male juveniles were detained for setting off fire extinguishers in the University Center and Business Administration Building. Both juveniles were released in the custody of their parents.

\* Aug. 9 - Campus police are checking into an incident in

which a male student reported the gas tank of his car was filled with sugar.

\* Aug. 16 - Officers investigated a situation in which a soapy substance had been added to the fountains in front of the Braithwaite Recital Hall.

### THEFT

\* July 11 - A University employee reported a missing purse from Room 269 in the University Center.

\* August 10 - Police investigated the report of stolen license plates taken from a University student's car.

### MISCELLANEOUS

\* July 23 - Officers were dispatched to remove a snake discovered in Room 224 in the Sciences and Mathematics Building.

\* July 24 - Police investigated an incident involving a male non-student threatening to commit suicide with a knife at University Pines Apartments.

\* Aug. 24 - A female juvenile, discovered by police at the University Pines Apartments, was transported to East Texas Medical Center by ambulance for possible alcohol poisoning.

\* Aug. 30 - A campus police officer assisted in the removal of a six-inch water snake found near the corner exterior doors inside the Science and Mathematics Building. It was released in the grass outside the building.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Details concerning the above stories are taken from official University police records. If you are aware of a crime that is being committed or investigated, contact the campus police at 566-7060.



-Emily Stevens/Contributing Photographer

**THREE'S COMPANY:** University students rescued a trio of kit squirrels, two females and a male, after they fell from their tree nest and adopted them until the babies are able to eat and care for themselves.

## Baby squirrels rescued by students after storm

By Emily Stevens  
Contributing writer

Two of three baby squirrels knocked out of their campus nest during an Aug. 27 thunderstorm survived their first week under the care of their new "mother."

The 4-week-old male and female kits should open their eyes within the next few days, said Toby Breland, a senior biology student who adopted them.

High winds from a thunderstorm that blew through East Texas knocked the squirrel's nest from a tree to the ground near the campus bell tower.

Brian Miller discovered the first baby and took it to David Hamblin, a senior biology lab technician in the Hudnall-Pirtle-Roosth Building.

Malae Harris found the other two and their nest on the ground in the same area.

"They were very cold and wet, but appeared to be healthy otherwise," said Hamblin, who also

said he wanted to help keep the animals alive. "Growing up, my mother always took in wild animals and since Toby had previous experience, I felt like they could survive." Carolyn Martin, senior secretary for the Department of Communication, donated milk and feeding equipment, while Breland prepared a place for them in his home.

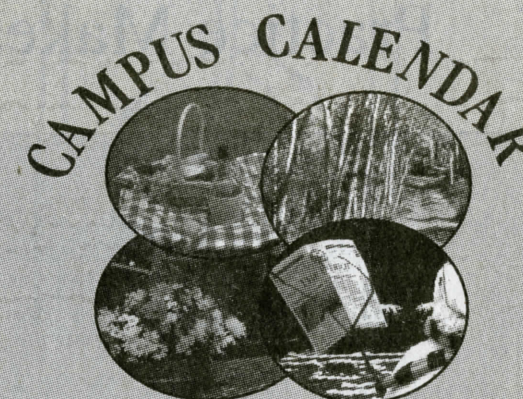
One of the female squirrels died the next day.

Breland said he has previously raised six other squirrels.

He said he planned to bottle feed the surviving babies until they are about 8-weeks-old and then plans to release them back into the wild.

"Squirrels go back into the wild very easily after being in captivity, Breland said.

"They adapt very well. Once they can eat solid foods, I'll let them go run around in the trees. Eventually, they'll stop coming home."



### Sept 9:

-NFL Monday Night Madness at U-Pines Clubhouse, 7 p.m.

### Sept 10:

-Men's soccer against Dallas Baptist University, Home 2 p.m.  
-Women's soccer, Dallas Baptist University, Home, 3 p.m.

### Sept 11:

-9/11 Memorial Ceremony, 7:30-8:30 a.m., Riter Carillon  
-9/11 Special Program, Dr. Davor Jedlicka speaking on his experiences at Ground Zero, 12-1 p.m., UC 118

### Sept 12:

-Intramural Softball begins  
-Alumni Banquet at Cowan Center White Lobby, 7 p.m., \$10 at the door, RSVP to 566-7225

### Sept 13:

- Women's soccer against the College of the Southwest Northwood, 5:00 p.m.  
- "Freaky Friday" Homecoming pre-game, free food, 4 p.m. at the soccer field.  
- "Freaky Friday" meet the Patriots, 4:30 p.m. at the soccer fields  
- "Freaky Friday" Homecoming soccer game, 5 p.m. at the soccer fields  
- "Freaky Friday" Homecoming tail-gate party, immediately following the game until midnight in the UC

### Sept 14:

-Women's Soccer against McMurry, at Northwood, 5 p.m.

### Sept 15:

-Men's soccer against Austin College at Sherman, 4 p.m.

### Sept 16:

-Intramural volleyball begins

### Sept 17:

-Women's Soccer against Ouachita at home, 4 p.m.

### Sept 18:

-Wednesday Film Series presents "Gosford Park", 2:30 & 6:30 p.m., Cowan Center Rm 1009, tickets are \$4 and free to students with current student identification.





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