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5-8-2012

### Patriot Talon Vol. 45 Issue 6 (2012)

Archives Account

*University of Texas at Tyler*

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**A&E 3**

Jack White releases new album

**Campus 6**

Chapter takes canoe to national competition



**Sports 9**

Patriots prepare for regionals

# PATRIOTTALON



A Student-Run Newspaper Since 1976

www.patriottalon.com ■ May 8, 2012 ■ Vol. 45 ■ Issue 6 ■ The University of Texas at Tyler

## SGA to support removing tobacco

Admin. to seek more input on potential ban

Danielle Haberly  
Campus Editor

The Student Government Association voted last week to endorse a tobacco-free campus policy that received support from students via a survey attached to the spring election ballots.

"We feel that this is a really big issue with funding and health concerns and I think that the University as a whole should move towards(sic) ... enacting policies to promote health for our students," Senator Brakeyshia Samms said.

Dr. Randall Powell, vice president for business affairs, said that no University policy regarding a smoking ban has been put in place.

"We will respond to SGA's position when we have their resolution and after careful consideration of input from other campus groups," Powell said.

The resolution states the student body, represented by SGA, is in favor of making the University a tobacco-free campus.

SGA representatives hope to institute a fine for students who use tobacco on school grounds and to designate smoking locations on the outskirts of the campus. Free cessation programs for students will also be discussed with the Department of Wellness and Prevention.

In regard to the resolution, a committee would be created to review the policy after one year to make sure it still meets guidelines and is effectiveness on campus.

SGA is approaching a tobacco ban with a resolution that will be presented to the administration, President Tiffany Allsion said, which is similar to the way they lobbied for the study days policy last year.

"My theory, honestly, is that eventually this

## University tuition to increase

Andy Taylor  
Managing Editor

The University of Texas System Board of Regents approved a tuition increase last week that will cost undergraduate students an extra \$79 this fall.

On Thursday, University administrators received the go-ahead to increase tuition for the 2012-2013 academic year by 2.1 percent for undergraduates and 3.6 percent for graduate students, said Dr. Randall Powell, vice president for business affairs. The increase for undergraduates will be applied again the following year.

Of the eight UT System universities that requested an increase for next year, only the University of Texas at Austin's proposal was rejected, according to system records.

The approved hikes range from 1.7 percent for un-

dergraduates at the University of Texas at San Antonio to 6.9 percent for graduate students at UT-Dallas.

The University's request was an effort to absorb a sharp decline in funding allocated by the state's biennial budget, Powell said.

"We had about a 20-percent reduction in our appropriation from the state," he said. "That's a devastating blow to our revenue stream. This doesn't even begin to fill that gap, but it helps us a little bit."

The increase will cost undergraduates an additional \$79 this year and \$75 in fall 2013. Graduate students will pay an extra \$108 this fall, though no increase has been finalized for next year.

Powell said administrators will supplement the tuition increases with spending cuts to help bridge the

### Tuition Fast Facts:

**Fall 2012:** Tuition is set to increase 2.1 percent for undergraduates and 3.6 percent for graduate students.

**Fall 2013:** Undergraduate tuition will increase again by 2.1 percent. A potential tuition increase for graduate students has not been determined at this time.

**Forecast:** Education funding is expected to be a priority when the Texas Legislature meets again in 2013. Future tuition prices could depend on the outcome of legislative talks.

TUITION >> 4

### NURSING PROGRAMS EQUIPS MAJORS

## GRADUATING STUDENTS APPLY TRAINING TO LIFE



## Assisting in fatal car wreck shaped careers

Morgan Jones  
Pluse Editor

Helping a young man during his final moments of life is an experience few people can even imagine. But for three University nursing students, it's a memory they will never forget.

"I'm not glad it happened, but I am glad I was there because it was an experience that I learned from," said Brooke Saddler, who was one of the three present at a fatal car accident. "I was there for someone's last breath, last time of their life and I am just glad I was able to support and comfort him."



policy last year.  
 "My theory, honestly, is that eventually this will happen anyway," Samms said. "We will go tobacco free. So, I feel like now is the appropriate time to get students' response."

SGA conducted a survey, located at the bottom of the spring SGA elections ballot, to discover how the student body felt about the issue. There are about 6,700 students enrolled at the

**TOBACCO >>> 5**

# Officials talk changes in Journalism degree plans

**Andy Taylor**  
 Managing Editor

With the media landscape consistently becoming more integrated and accessible in recent years, the University's Department of Communication is moving to a more modern curriculum.

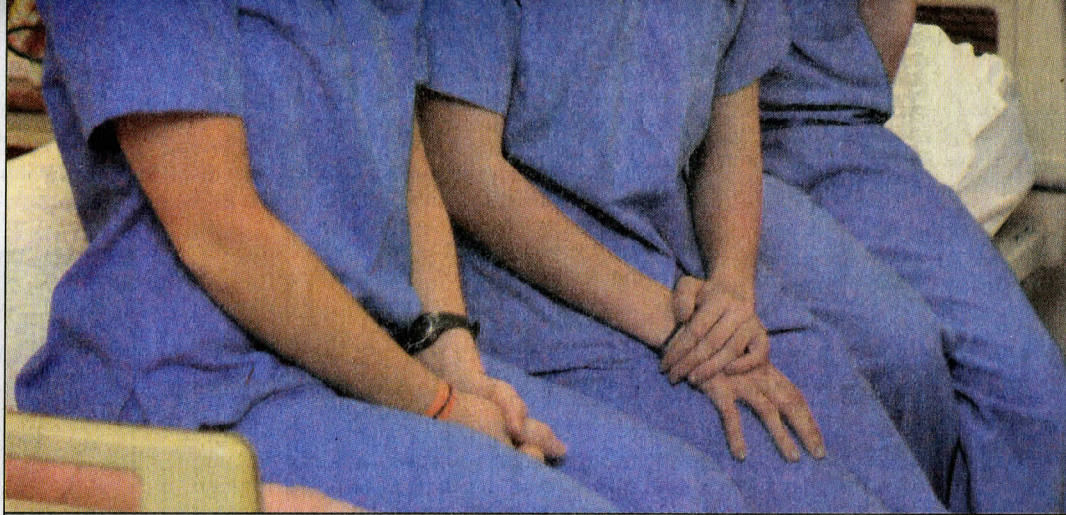
In addition to implementing multimedia tools into existing coursework and adding faculty members, the journalism program will soon have an entirely new degree program called mass communication.

The mass communication program will include two new degree paths: multimedia journalism and public relations integrated marketing. The department will still include speech communication as a degree program.

Much of the journalism coursework will remain the same, though students can expect more multimedia assignments.

The most visible change comes in the form of a multimedia laboratory students began using last fall. The lab includes about a dozen Apple iMac computers, professional video-

**COMMUNICATION >>> 4**



TALON >>> ANDREA CALDWELL

On the way back from Spring Break in March 2011, graduating nursing students (from left) Brooke Saddler, Leah Lopez and Terra Taylor helped a driver and her grandson involved in a fatal car accident.

**NURSING >>> 5**

their life and I am just glad I was able to support and comfort him."  
 In March 2011, Terra Taylor, Leah Lopez and Saddler assisted with a devastating car accident when they used their medical training and individual traits to help an injured driver and her grandson, who later died.  
 Since the accident, these three nursing students have lived with the haunting memories from that morning that have changed their outlook on life and their careers.

"I am pretty good with compartmentalizing, so I didn't allow it to drift into my school work," Taylor said. "We have all dealt with it in different ways and it has affected us, but life goes on."

After graduation on Friday, these three nursing students have jobs awaiting them at Trinity Mother Frances Hospitals and Clinics as graduate nurses.

"It taught me that I am not cut out for emergency situations," Lopez said. "It scared me to

# Softball succeeds in regional tournament

**Victor Texcucano**  
 Sports Editor

As the spring semester winds down, the Patriots look to extend a season that has already brought an American Southwest Conference Championship, and a ASC East Division crown, as well as multiple individual honors.

For the first time in school history, the team won the division title and the conference championship in the same season. The Patriots won both titles in previous years but never in a single season.

The Patriots are now preparing for the NCAA West Regional Tournament, which will be held May 11-13 in Tyler.

As the team gears up for the Regional Tournament, several Patriots stand out after the ASC released All-Division teams and awards on May 2.

Head coaches voted for individual standouts in each division.

Senior Katelyn Thomason earned the top honor of Player of the Year in the East Division. Thomason ended the regular season with an impressive .437 batting

average, three home runs and 42 RBIs. She also had a 13-3 pitching record and maintained a low ERA of 1.85.

Junior Ashley Endsley was named the East Newcomer of the Year, after hitting .412 with 10 home runs and 49 RBIs.

The Patriots also won East Coaching Staff of the Year, an honor shared by Head Coach Mike Reed and Assistant Coaches Megan Dobrinski, Christy Shipley-Gipson, Coby Gipson and Whitney Wyly.

Patriots named to the ASC All-East Division first team include Endsley, Thomason, junior Joey Cronin and junior Heather Abshire.

Juniors Rachel Howell and Taylor Petrick were named to the All-East second team. Sophomore Lauren Robenault was awarded All-East Honorable Mention.

As the team celebrates their individual honors, they are preparing for the regional tournament.

The Patriots will enjoy an added advantage by hosting the competition on their home turf, Reed said.

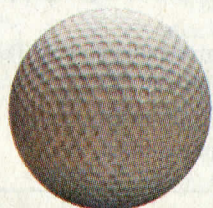


TALON >>> JACOB WADDINGHAM

Junior third baseman Ashley Endsley applies a tag to a Louisiana College baserunner during an April 11 game.

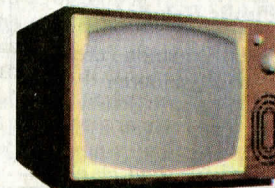
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Check out our other pages.



Patriot golf  
 >>> Go to [www.patriottalon.com](http://www.patriottalon.com) to check out more photos of the baseball team.

Faculty receives fiction award  
 >>> Luke Goebel, visiting assistant professor of English was given the 2012 Joan Scott Memorial Fiction Award.



Bernie movie review  
 >>> Check out Mark Layne's review of Bernie online at [www.patriottalon.com](http://www.patriottalon.com).

**Index**

- 2** Opinion
- 3,7** A&E
- 4,5** News
- 6** Campus
- 9,10** Sports



# Live intently through difficulty, delight

Meet me  
where I am  
Lea Rittenhouse



of myself into my current circumstance. This characteristic ensures I truly commit and enjoy circumstances like jobs, college and relationships, but it definitely doesn't make transitions easier.

In a few days, I'll be graduating and also completing a two-year run at the *Patriot Talon*, the last of which I served as Editor in Chief.

My time at the *Talon* has provided some of the toughest challenges I've ever faced. I've been a part of difficult circumstances I probably can't accurately express, served on committees to hire a new adviser, built pages well into the early morning and even lost hope in journalism at certain points.

But in retrospect, I've learned irreplaceable skills, like building a newspaper and running the staff — but that's only the beginning.

There really is nothing greater than the smell of coffee in the newsroom, watching the editors perfect their dart skills and attempting to outwit each other with sassy remarks.

But the absolute best part of my time at the *Talon* was the people I was privileged to meet. It was seeing a writer excited about their first byline. It was the delirious late-night moments in the newsroom. It was knowing the staff inside and out, disappointed and elated, at the point of giving up and thriving.

I've met some of my best friends while working at the *Talon*, and perhaps that is why this goodbye is particularly hard.

Despite this sadness, it was completely worth living in the moment. So, I challenge you to immerse yourself in your current circumstance in order to gain the most character, cultivate the truest friend-

ships and experience blissful interactions.

It's so important to chase after what you're pursuing with full abandon, even if by doing so it hurts to let it go. I believe this is what it means to live life to its fullest.

French poet, journalist and author Anatole France explained it best when he wrote: "All changes, even the most longed for, have their melancholy; for what we leave behind us is a part of ourselves; we must die to one life before we can enter another."

I know my journalism professors would advise me to end here, but I can't finish without saying thank you.

Bonnie Davis, your joy is infectious. Thank you so much for your encouragement and optimism through last year.

To Kevin Dilley, there is not a doubt in my mind that you care about students and

want them to succeed. You helped me believe my writing can still change people's lives. Thank you so much for everything.

Andy "Lieutenant Dandy" Taylor, I can't believe we got through this past year. I'll always remember your two a.m. newsroom pep talks. Thank you. I have no doubt that you will do even greater things with the *Talon*.

To Kamren Thompson, thank you for being my design sensei, but more importantly thank you for being an incredible friend and listening when there was no one else.

To my staff this past year, there honestly aren't words for me to appropriately thank you. I could not have imagined a more committed and talented group of people to work alongside.

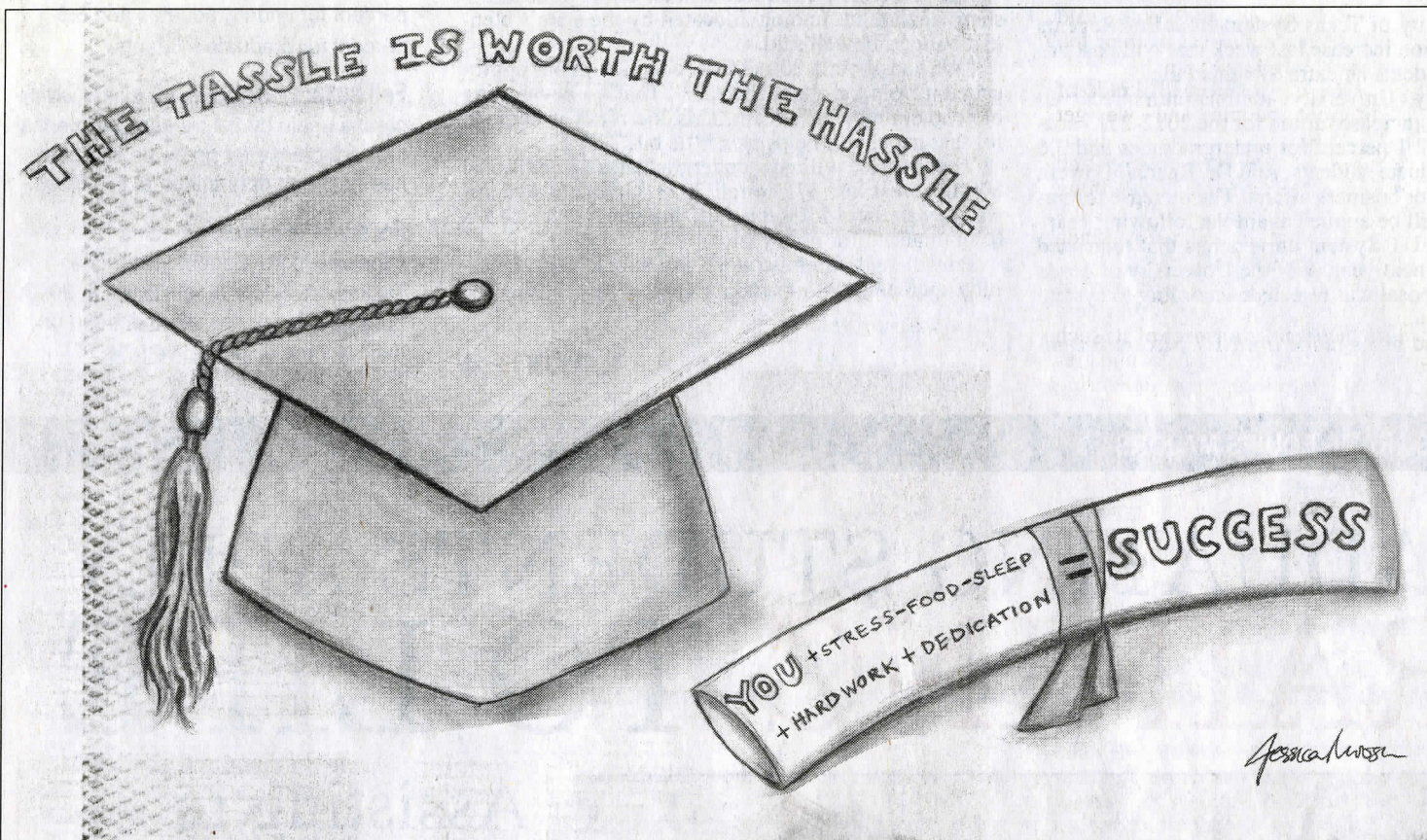
Thank you for letting me be a part of your lives.

I've never been good with goodbyes.

It's not that I don't like change. In fact, change excites me, but letting go of certain experiences in my life can be extraordinarily tough.

I've been like this since my childhood, actually. As silly as it may seem, I would get upset when my baseball season would end or my choir play was finished. During the event, though, I was alive. It always felt like the best moment of my life.

I think it's because I exert every ounce



## Tips for surviving graduation

If it were up  
to me  
Andrew Latham



Very soon, quite a few of us will be graduating from the University and moving on in our lives. And whether or not that means graduate school or a career, there remains one final challenge for you to undertake: surviving your graduation ceremony.

thing to do.

I realize of course that the faculty will have read this and will be preparing for all of these interruptions during graduation, which is why I have saved the best ones for myself. I wish you all luck in surviving, and do remember not to yawn openly during the keynote speech. Just smile politely and think of the "Family Guy" rerun you watched last night.

### Here are some tips:

Make friends with your neighbors. Having conversations and pointing out all the funny names you are bound to hear will make the experience more bearable.

If you have your phone, do not stare at it

with buzz cuts, hum softly to yourself while you rethink your life decisions.

Have fun debating which menial labor job you will take to pay back your student loans (this tip applies for liberal arts majors).

An iPhone can be concealed underneath your robe. Play Angry Birds and Plants vs. Zombies with caution.

Try and fail to understand the logic behind Nicki Minaj's style of dress, success and the lyrics to her song "Starships."

Search for your family in the crowd. It's like "Where's Waldo," but everyone's looking at their watch.

Question the real-world usefulness of an art

## CAMPUSVOICE

What are your plans for the summer?



JONES

"I'm staying in Tyler, and I plan on taking classes and working."

» Mike Jones  
Sophomore Accounting major



FLICK

"I'm coaching debate at my former high school, reading 'Game of Thrones,' and getting my old mechanics job back."

» Dallas Flick  
Freshman Speech and



challenge for you to undertake: surviving your graduation ceremony.

Regardless of what films and television may have told you, graduations are not magical events where dreams are realized and love is won right before the closing credits.

In actuality, graduations have long speeches and a lot of walking. And while that is all well and good, you will be bored for the entire ceremony, excluding 10 ten seconds you are on stage. This article is for the remaining time when you are bored and looking for some-

names you are bound to hear while the experience more bearable.

If you have your phone, do not stare at it. Master the ability to read through brief glances and text without staring at the screen.

Wonder why you decided to streak today. Seriously, be subtle about your cell phone while texting. No one looking at their crotch and smiling is up to anything good.

Regret various hazing rituals you went through to get into a club.

Use one wireless earpiece to listen to music and cover it with your hair. For those of you

like "where's waldo", but everyone's looking at their watch.

Question the real-world usefulness of an art history degree.

For graduate students: use your hood to become the Emperor from "Star Wars" and continuously quote him during the speeches.

Do some calculations in your head to determine the trajectory that will cause your cap to strike your least-favorite professor when everyone throws their caps into the air.

Realize you still have your family's tickets to the ceremony in your back pocket.

# Benefits of summer for students

## Flying by the seat of your pants Danielle Haberly



I don't know about you, but around this time of year my brain is overworked and I'm almost too fried to function.

As a full-time student nearing the end of the spring semester, my sleeping schedule is off and I often forget about eating at regular mealtimes. The only thing I can think about is finishing up the list of 10 million things I have to do before summer.

I remember the adventurous summers I had growing up and the anticipation that hung in the air during that last 10 minutes of homework before the bell rang to signal summer had finally arrived.

As children, summer stood for swimming, playing outside with the neighborhood children and snow cones.

However, now summer vacation has a more important role. Whether you take summer classes, pick up where you left off at your summer job or just lay by the pool for two months, summer break serves a greater purpose.

Students lose two months of grade-level equivalency over the summer break from

school, according to the National Center for Summer Learning. Although that may be true, I feel like the break we get between May 11 and August 20 is absolutely essential.

We are expected to put most of our brain capacity into learning the subjects that we pay our university to teach us.

I try my best for as long as I can, but if I had to think about the Fibonacci sequence or the human circulatory system for another two months I would have a meltdown.

My focus is centered on school the weekend before finals, when the bar is raised and I remember why I'm here.

After studying for weeks, even months, and staying up all night cramming as much information as possible into our minds, we need a hibernation period. We need time to relax, reboot and reconnect with our creative side.

Having a summer vacation lowers the chance of being depressed, according to Changes in well-being associated with time away from work. Duh. Of course you're going to be a happy camper if you get to take a break from hard work and the stress that comes with responsibility. During school, my anxiety level is at an all-time high.

I'm constantly worried about appointments and deadlines. Without these worries, you are a much happier person.

With the warm and fuzzy feelings a little sunshine gives me, I have more motivation

to finish personal projects. I can take the time to finally clean out the garage or get through the mountain of laundry that has accumulated over the past few weeks in the corner of my bedroom.

If you're more ambitious than me, the summer could be the time to learn how to play an instrument, get scuba certified or retake that class you failed your first semester.

Summer is a time for adventure. Although relaxation during the summer months is important, I don't condone being a lazy couch potato or turning into a video game junkie.

The psychological benefits of summer come from exploring and experiencing things you could have never fit into your schedule during the fall or spring semester.

Take a trip somewhere you've never been, or apply for a job doing something just outside of your comfort zone. Students should come back to school in the fall with amazing stories of crazy people they met or beautiful places they saw.

With these added experiences, we can grow as individuals and build our character.

To milk summer for all it's worth, we must balance three things: our down time, our fun time and the time we have to catch up. Without these components, our summer break is wasted.

There are real psychological benefits of summer if we use our time wisely.



HOOD

I'm planning a boat trip with my family and playing club soccer.

»» Parker Hood  
Freshman Finance major



GRIBBIN

I am babysitting my six year old twin cousins. That involves six flags and a lot of swimming.

»» Addison Gribbin  
Sophomore English and Political Science major

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## PATRIOTTALON

**General Statement:** This is a student publication and the opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the administration, faculty, staff, alumni or student body of the University.

**Letter Policy:** All contributions in good taste will be edited for grammar, spelling, length (300 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 Talon is designed to inform, entertain, educate and heighten awareness of students, faculty and administrators at The University of Texas at Tyler. Staff members will be responsible journalists by maintaining high ethical standards with fairness, accuracy and balance.

The Patriot Talon encourages and provides an avenue for free flow of student expressions and opinions. The newspaper will serve as a learning tool to help students gain experience in all aspects of the print media.

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**LOCAL  
EVENTS**

**LIBERTY HALL**

**"My Fair Lady"**  
May 10 7 p.m.

**"West Side Story"**  
May 17 7 p.m.

**Monique Marvez  
with Card 53**  
May 19 8 p.m.

**"Singing in the Rain"**  
May 24 7 p.m.

**TYLER CIVIC THEATRE**

**"Moon Over Buffalo"**  
May 11-12 7:30 p.m.  
May 13 2:30 p.m.  
May 16-19 7:30 p.m.  
May 20 2:30 p.m.

**UPCOMING  
RELEASES**

**MOVIES**

**"Dark Shadows"**  
Director: Tim Burton  
May 11

**"The Dictator"**  
Director: Larry Charles  
May 16

**"Battleship"**  
Director: Peter Berg  
May 18

**"What to Expect When  
You're Expecting"**  
Director: Kirk Jones  
May 18

# Local photographers describe seamless, surreal photo style

**Lea Rittenhouse**  
Editor in Chief

With spiders scattering, large lights hung and a battery-powered fog machine by his side, local photographer Daniel Poe attempts to stay dry from the pond water as his counterpart, Matthew Hogan, snaps photos of their subject.

It was nearly midnight and 12 hours into the shoot. Their client was dressed as a gypsy in an old beat up rowboat in the pond with an old antique lantern illuminating her face.

The fog machine batteries were dying, leaving only a few opportunities for the perfect picture before the shot was spent.

"It was a really kind of ethereal, you know, very fantasy looking picture and definitely not your run-of-the-mill senior portrait," Poe said. "It looked like something seriously from a movie," Hogan said.

Previous to the shoot, Poe said they met with the client for about an hour to get to know them and discuss the type of senior portraits they desired.

"They made it known that they didn't want it to be just average hands on a mail box, letter jacket over the shoulder (pictures)," Poe said. "Each one was in a different scene, in a different setting, and she had on really cool outfits and a lot of stuff that was very reminiscent of her character."

Hogan and Poe own a prominent local photography business, Matthew Hogan Photography.

Previous to starting their own business, they both worked at CBS 19 in Tyler.

As co-workers, the duo learned they shared an interest in media. Poe said he was largely interested in film, and Hogan said he grew up around photography.

"When Matt and I met up at that TV station and realized we had a lot of common interests and everything it just seemed like kind of a natural progression," Poe said.

Hogan said they spent their free time after work different than most people, and that's where their photography experimentation began.

"We'd get out of work at 10:30 at night and be like 'hey let's go hang out in this abandoned bo-

nior College and also took general classes the University.

Tamara Haynes, photography professor at TJC, said she remembers having Hogan in class.

"He was a very good student," she said. "He was always very creative and went above and beyond what was asked of him."

When they began, the majority of their jobs are wedding shoots, but over the past year Poe said a larger percentage has been portrait shots and band shoots.

Poe said he enjoys photography because it's dynamic and ever-changing, but both said their favorite aspect of their job is traveling.

"We get to meet all kinds of different people and we get to shoot in all different locations with different focuses and themes," Poe said. "Everything with photography really has it's own character and really kinda take it's own life."

Hogan said the hard part of owning a photography business is the business aspect of it, such as the marketing, accounts receivable, editing and delivering the photos.

"The smallest percentage of our job is being out in the field shooting, the rest of our job is a lot of the post work," Poe said.

In terms of style, Hogan said the team tries to stick to what they envision, and he believes this has assisted in their success.

"It's really easy to do what everybody wants and kind of shoot what's popular in this area... because you can get guaranteed success."

Poe said their style is edgy and classy, while also versatile.

"You could look at a maternity session we've done and then a band session we've done and see just a drastic variance in style and approach," he said.

Hogan said their appreciation for movies influences their approach to their work.

"We try to create stuff that's semi-cinematic," he said. "It's kind of fun to make everything look, like to put a lot of work into one picture and make it look like it's a still from a movie."

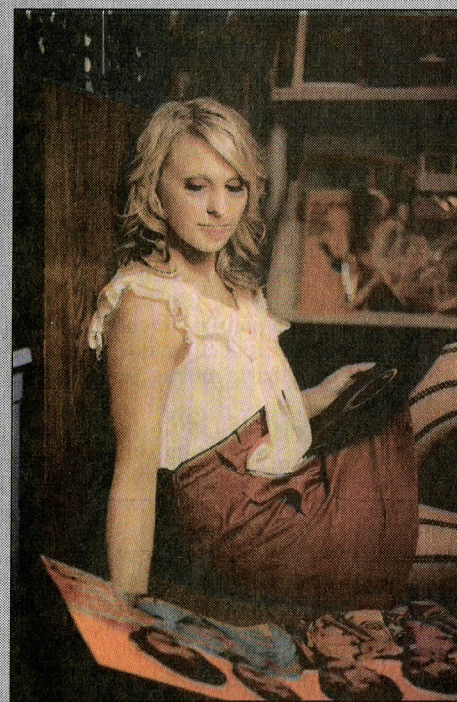
Hogan said a unique dynamic to their business is they have two minds working together rather than just one photographer.

Poe typically controls the lighting aspect of the photos, while Hogan takes most of the



TALON >>> PHOTO COURTESY OF MATTHEW HOGAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Matthew Hogan and Daniel Poe attempt to create out of the ordinary scenes on a unique photoshoot for a local high school senior, Rachel Stanely, seeking to break the mold of senior photos.



Left: Courtney Hagan poses for a senior photo. Right (top): Mark Hanson takes aim in a promotional shot. Right (bottom): From left to right: Jake Taylor, Miranda Day, Matthew Hogan, Ashley Foxx and Daniel Poe.

ested in photography, but they warn aspiring photographers to be realistic about the amount of

"With the web, everybody is putting it out there, but they're not really concerned with the

"It's not competition, its just art," he said. "We really love giving back because people have



**"Chernobyl Diaries"**  
Director: Brad Parker  
May 25

**"Men in Black 3"**  
Director: Barry Sonnenfeld  
May 25

## MUSIC

Keane  
**Strangeland**  
May 8

Silversun Pickups  
**Neck of the Woods**  
May 8

Best Coast  
**The Only Place**  
May 15

Garbage  
**Not Your Kind of People**  
May 15

Willie Nelson  
**Heroes**  
May 22

John Mayer  
**Born and Raised**  
May 22

## VIDEO GAMES

**Diablo III (PC)**  
May 15

**Max Payne 3 (PS3, Xbox360, PC)**  
May 15

**Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon: Future Soldier**  
May 22

at night and be like they let's go hang out in this abandoned hospital and test out our flashes," Hogan said. "We would just go shoot each other wearing random stuff over and over again."

Between trial and error, books and the Internet, the team perfected their skills. They began experimenting in 2006, but it became their full-time professional job in 2008.

Hogan received his formal photography training at Tyler Ju-

while Hogan takes most of the photos, but they collaborate for the photo concepts.

Hogan said they always do shoots together, and will turn down jobs if the client won't use the team.

"It's either both of us or none of us," he said. "We have a really awesome system down and it just works well."

Poe said they are both excited when other people become inter-

be realistic about the amount of work that is required to run a business.

"The camera is only going to be as good as the photographer," he said.

Although she supports photography as a career, Haynes said she instills the basics of photography into her student's education, because she believes that's what separates the professionals and amateurs.

not really concerned with the quality," she said. "Anybody who has a camera that they can put it on automatic, they're not going to get a good shot. They're not going to get a quality image consistently that my students that have taken my courses can get."

Hogan said he would love to see the photography community grow in Tyler, and encourages anyone to ask them questions about photography.

giving back because people have done that to us when we were learning."

As for their long-term dreams, Hogan said he would love to travel and shoot for magazines and famous musicians. Poe added he would love to see their photos on the front of *National Geographic* one day.

"I don't think there's any limit to where we would go to shoot," Poe said.

# Jack White covers sonic spectrum with impressive solo debut album

Andy Taylor  
Managing Editor

Almost 13 years after the release of the White Stripes' self-titled debut, Jack White has made his much anticipated return to the music scene.

White launched his solo career in earnest on April 26 with the release of *Blunderbuss*, a jazz-infused conglomeration of tracks that draw on the tone and intensity of his illustrious career.

The Detroit-turned-Nashville rocker is known for delving into every corner of the music industry — he's recorded with everyone from Loretta Lynn to Danger Mouse — and his solo debut highlights the eccentricities for which he is famous.

Much of his opportunity to work with high-profile artists stems for White's record label, Third Man Records, which he established in Nashville in 2009.

In addition to producing albums from a host of established and up-and-coming artists, White uses his label to release unique material for his previous bands, the Dead Weather, the Raconteurs and the White Stripes.

On Record Store Day, which is held nationwide on the third Saturday of April every year, Third Man Records released "Sixteen Saltines," the second single from *Blunderbuss*, as a 12-inch record that literally was filled with a blue liquid.

This is just another example of the Third Man brain trust finding a unique way to release music.

Prior to releasing *Blunderbuss*, the label affixed 1,000 copies of the single "Freedom at 21" to helium balloons and launched them into the sky above their Nashville headquarters.

The unprecedented format of "Sixteen Saltines" is somewhat paradoxical to the single's role on the album.

It is the most unique form in which White has released a record, yet it is more reminiscent of his early work with the White Stripes than perhaps any other track on his solo debut.



TALON PHOTO COURTESY OF NASTY LITTLE MAN

On solo debut *Blunderbuss*, Jack White covers extensive musical territory across 13 distinct yet cohesive tracks.

## REVIEW

The high-energy song is punctuated with chunky guitar riffs and quick lyrics White strings together with an angry delivery.

It is decidedly more intense than the rest of *Blunderbuss*, which consists mostly of toned-down tracks from a variety of genres.

Notably audacious exceptions include

"Freedom at 21" and "I'm Shakin'," which comes across as an homage to Bo Diddley, whom White references in the soulful blues tune.

While the guitar work on *Blunderbuss* is everything you would expect from the man who wrote "Seven Nation Army," the album includes a host of piano-based songs.

"Weep Themselves To Sleep" features

the best of both instruments with its piano-driven breakdowns that are supplemented by a stammering guitar solo. This track takes advantage of a backing band that produces a fuller sound than perhaps any of White's other projects.

In an interview with NPR, White said he employed several groups of session musicians to perform on various tracks.

The result is an eclectic album with multiple songs that bear little sonic resemblance to one another.

White plays the role of a central conductor who makes sense of the madness and spins each of the 13 songs into a cohesive masterpiece.

For example, "Freedom at 21" and "I Guess I Should Go to Sleep" are such strikingly different songs that it is doubtful anyone would guess they appear on the same record. However, when listening to the album as a whole, no song seems out of place.

Nestled near the center of the eclectic album is "Hypocritical Kiss," a singer's song that could easily be compared to the White Stripes' "Forever For Her (Is Over For Me)."

It features perhaps the best lyrics on the album, including the harsh lines, "You're the boy that talks but says nothing/A big game they're the ones that you think will believe you."

But you don't know how to read/the look on my face when it says I've read that book too."

*Blunderbuss*' other lyrical themes draw heavily on failed love and torturous women who "take pieces of you ... and walk away."

These topics may seem familiar to fans of White's previous work, but like other aspects of his solo debut, he manages to present them in a distinctly new way.

For that reason, *Blunderbuss* stands among White's best releases.

It simultaneously channels the signature sounds for which he is famous, while remaining as fresh and relevant as ever before.



## COMMUNICATION

from page 1

recording equipment, a green screen and multiple sound-recording booths.

Department leaders said the combination of new hardware and software with new courses and faculty will better prepare students for a career in the media.

"It was a convergence of good will, talent and an interest in growing the department," Chair Dennis Cali said. "We think this is going to give our students a certain edge."

The move comes amid a 24-percent drop in journalism enrollment, which fell to 55 students between spring and fall of last year, according to department records. The number of speech communication majors dropped by 7 percent to 40 in the same period.

Cali said the decline in the number of journalism students is not indicative of future trajectory.

"If anything, as a department we are stable," Cali said. "But our goal is to thrive, and that's what our recruitment and retention strategies are pursuing."

There were 57 journalism majors in fall 2009, just two more than the 55 students in the program last fall.

The implementation of the new program will fall to faculty members, many of whom have experience with multimedia journalism.

Cali said recent personnel additions are the most important changes the department has undergone.

Kevin Dilley, who serves as adviser of the *Patriot Talon*, joined the journalism faculty in January. Justin Velten, who recently defended his doctoral dissertation, became a full-time speech communication professor this spring.

Another integral personnel move was the addition of Derik Gray, a graduate teaching assistant whom Cali said was instrumental in preparing the multimedia courses.

Gray, who worked for broadcast network KLTU prior to joining the University, said the new program will give students skills they can apply to the real world.

"If you're interested in being on-air ... you obviously need a place to practice that craft and get good at it," he said. "That's what this lab affords students the opportunity to do."

Gray said the updated curriculum will also appeal to students focused on other areas of the media, such as public relations and print news.

With access to free online media becoming pervasive in today's society, media professionals are being asked to learn new skills.

While video journalists are being asked to write content for the web, print journalists have begun shooting video to accompany their stories.

Considering these industry changes, Gray said the department is moving in the right direction.



TALON &gt;&gt; PHOTOS BY LEA RITTENHOUSE

Students work in sound booths located behind the new media laboratory. These and other tools will be used by mass communication students with the program begins in earnest this fall.

In the wake of a decline in enrollment, he said the changes also should help attract and retain students.

"Just about every student that we're going to attract to this program is going to benefit from this laboratory, and it's going to make them competitive in the job market," he said. "If they were to come out of here without this experience, it's going to put them at a disadvantage to those students who were at a program that has this technology.

"To me, it's crucial that we have this, and it is a big selling point."

Much of the coordination of the program included Dr. Marsha Matthews, who taught the first multimedia production course last spring, before the creation of the media lab.

Matthews said the new curriculum includes essentially the same competencies required by the old plan. The main difference, she said, is that the courses reflect a modern approach to journalism that requires new skills and equipment.

For example, students will still take courses that hone writing and editing skills. However, instead of focusing primarily on writing for a print publication, students will receive training for a variety of media.

The idea is to let the story dictate the medium, she said. If a story could be told more effectively via a podcast or video package, students will now have the necessary tools at their disposal.

"There's this whole myth that print journalism is dead," she said. "It is not dead, it is in a rebirth into something really exciting."

Lea Rittenhouse contributed to this report.



Brittnee Kennedy operates a professional video recorder for a multimedia production course. The course is taught in a new media laboratory that includes a news desk, green screen and Apple iMac computers equipped with editing software. The new mass communication curriculum will require students to develop video, audio, writing and editing skills.

## TUITION

from page 1

one implemented in 2010.

There also is a chance the rate increases could be offset by funding from the UT System, Powell said.

The Board of Regents allocated \$16 million to system institutions to mitigate the need for fee increases, according to a UT System news release.

The Board allotted UT Austin an unprecedented \$13.2 million after denying their tuition request.

State Rep. Leo Berman, who served in the Legislature that implemented the higher education cuts, described the tuition increases as an unfortunate but necessary measure to generate revenue.

"A tuition increase should be the last resort," Berman said. "But for many schools in Texas, based on their location, based on their student population, based on the courses that are being taught, it has to be used."

After reviewing the increases approved last week, Berman said the University's request was not exorbitant given the sacrifices already endured by faculty and staff.

"It is my understanding pay raises have been cut and that trav-

el has been cut for two years, and that the University is now at its last resort," he said. "That's why tuition increases are necessary in order to keep professors in the classroom and to give students at UT Tyler the best education possible."

Berman said he remains hopeful that future legislation can reduce the burden placed on students in recent years.

"I don't want to get to the point where we're pricing college students out of a college education," he said.

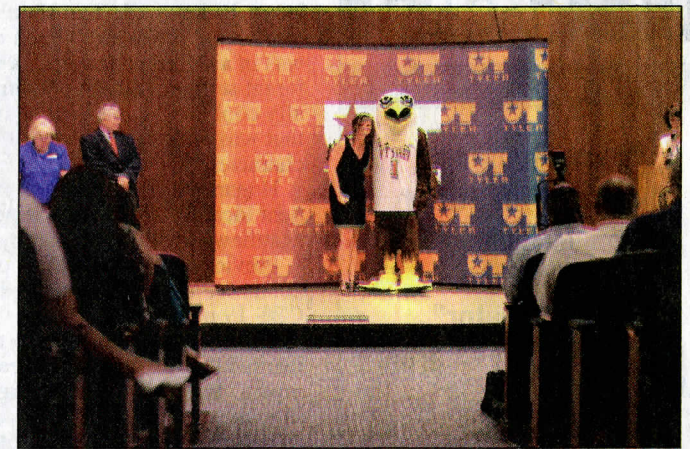
When the University opted for a tuition increase in 2010, the Student Government Association sent a representative to a Board of Regents meeting in support of the decision.

Former SGA President Tiffany Allison said Powell met with the Executive Board earlier in the semester to discuss increasing tuition.

However, Allison said she did not formally present the issue to senators.

"We didn't really give him our stance on it," she said. "From his viewpoint, he proposed something that was a lot better than it could have been."

## Patriot ring ceremony held last week



TALON &gt;&gt; ANDREA CALDWELL

Education major Kaitlyn Thornton poses with Swoop the Eagle at the class ring ceremony on May 4. Thorton is the second student to graduate from the University's teacher preparation UTeach program. The University is one of only 21 universities nationwide to offer the program.

Apply to be a part of the fall *Patriot Talon* staff.  
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<u>Regular Class Day/Time</u>	<u>Final Exam Day/Date</u>	<u>Final Exam Time</u>
MWF 8:00 a.m.-8:50 a.m.	Wednesday, May 9	8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
MWF 9:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m.	Friday, May 11	8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
MWF 10:00 a.m.-10:50 a.m.	Wednesday, May 9	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
MWF 11:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m.	Friday, May 11	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
MWF 12:00 p.m.-12:50 p.m.	Wednesday, May 9	12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
MWF 1:00 p.m.-1:50 p.m.	Friday, May 11	12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
MWF 2:00 p.m.-2:50 p.m.	Wednesday, May 9	2:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m.
MWF 3:00 p.m.-3:50 p.m.	Friday, May 11	2:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m.
MWF 4:00 p.m.-4:50 p.m.	Wednesday, May 9	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
M 8:00 a.m.-10:40 a.m.	Monday, May 7	8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
M 11:00 a.m.-1:40 p.m.	Monday, May 7	11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
M 2:00 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Monday, May 7	2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
M 5:00 p.m.-7:40 p.m.	Monday, May 7	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
M 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m.	Monday, May 7	6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
M 7:00 p.m.-9:40 p.m.	Monday, May 7	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
W 8:00 a.m.-10:40 a.m.	Wednesday, May 9	8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
W 11:00 a.m.-1:40 p.m.	Wednesday, May 9	12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
W 2:00 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Wednesday, May 9	2:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m.
W 5:00 p.m.-7:40 p.m.	Wednesday, May 9	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
W 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m.	Wednesday, May 9	6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
W 7:00 p.m.-9:40 p.m.	Wednesday, May 9	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
F 8:00 a.m.-10:40 a.m.	Friday, May 11	8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
F 10:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m.	Friday, May 11	10:00 a.m.-12:40 p.m.
F 11:00 a.m.-1:40 p.m.	Friday, May 11	11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
F 2:00 p.m.-4:40 p.m.	Friday, May 11	2:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m.
F 5:00 p.m.-7:40 p.m.	Friday, May 11	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
F 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m.	Friday, May 11	6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
F 7:00 p.m.-9:40 p.m.	Friday, May 11	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
TR 8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.	Tuesday, May 8	8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
TR 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	Thursday, May 10	9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
TR 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Tuesday, May 8	11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
TR 12:30 p.m.-1:45 p.m.	Thursday, May 10	12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
TR 2:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m.	Tuesday, May 8	2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
TR 3:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m.	Thursday, May 10	3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
TR 5:00 p.m.-6:15 p.m.	Tuesday, May 8	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
TR 7:00 p.m.-8:15 p.m.	Thursday, May 10	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
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R 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m.	Thursday, May 10	6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
R 7:00 p.m.-9:40 p.m.	Thursday, May 10	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Saturday exams will be May 12 for two hours starting at the regular class time.

# SPRING 2012 COMMENCEMENT



## IS COMING!

**FRIDAY, MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES - 3 P.M.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES - 6 P.M.

**SATURDAY, MAY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY - 10 A.M.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY &

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE - 1 P.M.

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# NURSING

from page 1

death really, and it's not really something I can handle. Some people are meant for situations like that, which they have to make split-second quick decisions, but I am not like that."

At the time Saddler, Taylor and Lopez were three friends experiencing their first college Spring Break trip on the sandy beaches of Panama City, Fla.

"We just wanted to cut loose and have a good time," Lopez said. "We needed a break from nursing school because it is very mentally stressful."

After spending a week at "Legacy at the Sea" condo, they started their 13-hour drive home an hour behind schedule after waking up late. Just outside of Milton, Fla. city limits on Interstate 10, the three women noticed an accident.

"When we got out of the car and were running, it was kind of like excitement because we didn't know what was going on," Saddler said. "Once we got to the scene, that changed."

Running down the side of Interstate 10 in flip-flops and t-shirts, Saddler was the first to spot the 2002 Chevrolet Blazer SUV flipped over in the ditch. Then she saw the victims.

"The first thing that went through my head was to make sure everyone was okay and to get them out of the car," Taylor said. "Then we saw him on the ground. My first thought then was 'please move.'"

While waiting on emergency vehicles to arrive, Taylor and Lopez began to help get the woman out of the car and stabilize her.

"We had to recline the seat to pull her out of the car," Lopez said. "We had to get her lined up, but there wasn't much else we could do for her."

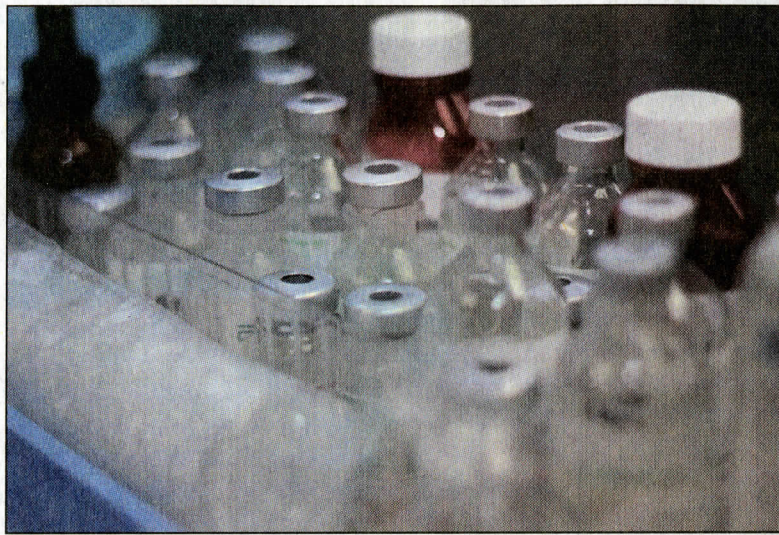
After getting the woman out of the car, Taylor and Lopez looked for other ways to help the situation.

"(Lopez's) organizational side kicked in by getting their stuff together ... (for) the hospital," Taylor said. "I was in a circle praying (with others at the scene) because I thought there was nothing else to be done."

Taylor said she and Lopez began assessing the scene and figuring out how they could help by relying on their initial instincts.

"In situations like that you see your true characteristics come out," Taylor said. "I just went straight to my spiritual side of things, just because that's who I am and how I felt I could help."

Meanwhile, remembering her training from previous CPR classes, Saddler and another roadside volunteer, a retired fire fighter, rolled the young male victim on to his side and



TALON &gt;&gt; ANDREA CALDWELL

**Nursing students regularly use medicinal vials, in the nursing competencies lab, to practice for clinical and future careers in the medical field.**

tried to stabilize his airway.

"It was horrible because you could hear him choking on his blood, which was the only way we knew he was still alive," Saddler said. "We couldn't feel for a pulse or anything."

That morning, 65-year-old driver Patricia Thompson overcorrected her SUV, causing it to rotate clockwise, flip twice and land upside down, according to the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Patrol police report verified by Lieutenant Steven R. Preston.

The young man who Saddler was holding, Gerald Thompson, was ejected from the Blazer's windshield, landing face down on the side of the four-lane highway, according to the police report.

"I propped his back up against my body so I could keep him up and the guy helping me was laying down holding his head," Saddler said. "It took a toll on my body. I didn't realize how much until later."

The grandmother was flown to the Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, Fla. after her grandson was pronounced dead at the scene, according to the police report.

"When we were there, they pretty much just rolled him over and pronounced him dead," Saddler said. "I was just like, 'Oh my gosh, everything I just did, all of that effort, just didn't matter.'"

Once emergency crews took control of the scene, the students began assessing their own conditions.

Saddler was covered in Thompson's blood and had minor cuts from kneeling on glass while holding the victim. With hand sanitizer and beach towels from their car, they at-

tempted to clean Saddler until they could reach the next gas station.

"It was just so surreal that I had someone else's blood on my hands and it wasn't even like 'Am I going to get something from him?' It was just the first time I had ever had anyone else's blood on me."

More than a year later, the three girls said they still are affected by the traumatic event.

"There is still emotion involved but that memory is significant because we were there and were able to help them a little bit," Taylor said. "Everyone turned into nurses that day, but I think all three of us walked away with something new in ourselves."

To deal with the traumatic incident, these nursing students have turned it into a learning experience, they said.

"It doesn't matter where we go as nurses, ultimately we are going to have to see dead people and deal with death," Saddler said. "I know there are times when you can't fix everyone. That's hard to really grasp, but I understand it better now after that accident."

One person is killed every two hours and 54 minutes and one person is injured every two minutes and 26 seconds due to a motor vehicle accidents, according to the Texas Motor Vehicle 2010 Crash Report.

"We didn't do anything super heroic, we didn't do anything super awesome," Taylor said. "It didn't even take nursing students to do what we did. Any decent person would have helped. We just had some knowledge that helped with their bodies."

# TOBACCO

from page 1

University, and about 250 students participated in the survey, according to the University website.

Election results showed 59 percent of students who took the survey supported smoke free campus, 21 percent were against the policy and the remaining 20 percent were neutral.

"As you can tell from a 59 percent to a 21 percent response, ... this indicated that they wanted a tobacco-free campus," Samms said.

However, the percentage of students who voted in favor of the policy was comprised of less than 148 students.

In February, the Cancer Prevention Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) announced that any entity that receives CPRIT funds for cancer research would need to certify themselves as tobacco-free, said Adrienne Howarth-Moore, director of human resource services at the University of Texas at Austin.

The University's biology and health departments receive funding for research from CPRIT.

"I believe as a University we are trying to do more research, so this would be a big blow to us if we couldn't get that grant funding," Samms said.

The data collected and presented in the resolution was questioned by Senator Jamie Newburn.

"The people that I've talked to are actually against this quite adamantly," Newburn

said.

Senator Samms responded by reiterating that the majority of students surveyed supported the proposed policy.

Senator Daniel Simpson inquired about the remaining 20 percent of the student body.

"These percentages are based on the students who chose to take the survey, not on everyone else," Parliamentarian Rene Hernandez said.

Faculty and staff were not formally polled, since only students can vote in SGA elections, but an informal poll alluded to them being in favor of the policy, Samms said.

"That survey found, generally, that students wouldn't mind a full smoking ban," Powell said. "But the several questions gave no context and led students to that conclusion."

Powell said he believes the result of the survey would have been "strongly against a full ban" and the "students would have voted to uphold student liberty" had the question been rephrased.

"I understand the anti-smoking sentiment (I personally loathe cigarette smoke)," Powell said. "However, tobacco remains a legal product and the rights of all parties must be respected."

"Those currently supporting a smoking ban on campus might not be so enthusiastic when products they use are banned."

## Police Reports

The Patriot Talon collected the following information from public reports released by the University Police Department and the Tyler Police Department. All police reports obtained by the Talon are public records as defined under Texas Open Records law.

### April 22

- Theft (Misdemeanor)  
Complainant reported iPhone 4, valued at \$440, stolen from the Cowan Center. After notifying campus police three hours after incident, phone was found by police in trashcan outside of Nursing Building. Owner did not want to press charges after property was returned.

### April 25

- Accident Motor Vehicle: Hit and Run  
Professor reported vehicle had been stuck in Lot 10.

### April 26

- Theft: Felony  
Student reported black Nike backpack with personal laptop, textbooks and

TI-83 calculator with a net value of \$1,110. Property was found April 28.

### April 28

Alcohol: Minor in Possession  
Campus police dispatched to Patriot Village apartments to an on-site party. Police found three female University students and four male Trinity Valley Community College students. TVCC students were issued criminal trespass warning and University students were given Minor in Possession citations.

### May 1

- Accident Motor Vehicle  
An off-campus driver backed into a small retaining wall at Harrington Patriot Center. There was minimal damage to both vehicle and wall.

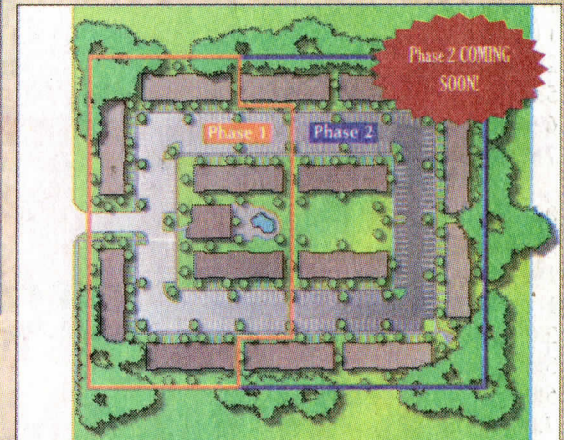
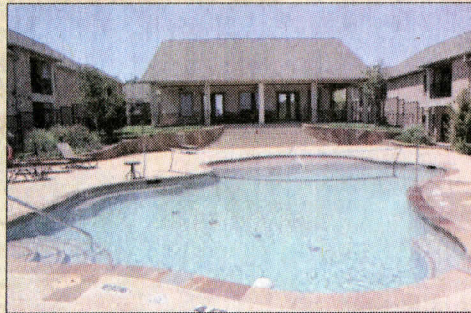


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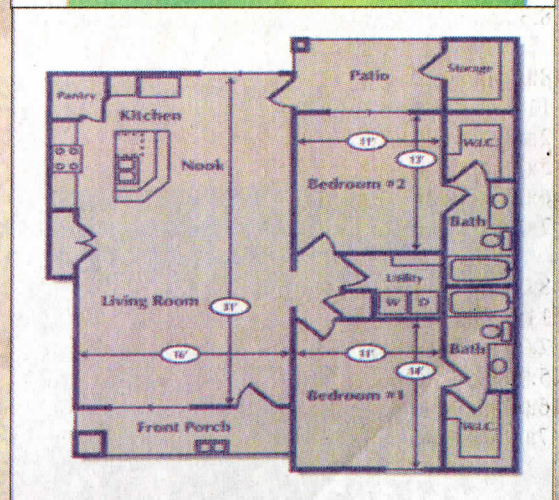
  
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TALON » Courtesy Photo

Bobby Fuller, Nadia Nedahosseiny, Jennifer Moore, and Art Riley placed first in the co-ed race at the Regional Concrete Canoe Competition. The overall team placed first which qualifies them for nationals in Reno, Nev.

## Students row concrete canoe to national race

Morgan Jones  
Pulse Editor

For the second time in University history, the American Society of Civil Engineering student chapter placed first at the Regional Concrete Canoe Competition on April 20 and 21.

Their performance qualifies them for the 25th Annual National Concrete Competition on June 14-17 at the University of Nevada, Reno.

"I really believe that this group can be competitive at nationals," Dr. Michael McGinnis American Society of Civil Engineering adviser said. "They could leave with their heads held high and proud of placing in the top 10. It's a possibility."

The ASCE team is left with less than a month to raise funds needed for the 19 student participants and two advisers to travel and stay for the national competition.

The team will need to raise \$9,000 if they drive and \$14,000 if they fly to Reno. The organization is asking for assistance from the University, national organization and local engineering companies, McGinnis said.

"The University has definitely been supportive in the best way they can with funding," Dr. McGinnis said, "but there is still a need for funding."

The University ASCE team will be competing with their 20 foot long, 28 inches wide and 210 pound solid concrete canoe against other top teams from the other 18 conferences.

"It seems silly and dumb to make something like this," Dr. McGinnis said. "But our students are learning to manage a huge project, learning to motivate people and learning how to read specifications and apply the rules. That's what engineers do."

The national competition brings together 25 of the top universities with a recognized ASCE Student Chapter or ASCE International Student Group.

Schools can only compete if they placed first in their conference competitions or placed second behind a university that had previously place in the top five at nationals the year before, according to the National Concrete Canoe Competition completion rules.

"I am excited about nationals, but also nervous," said Marco Weidmer, junior civil engineering major. "We are going to be going against much bigger teams than we have been. I am hoping for the best but at the same time it is just a good experience to have no matter what happens."

The team captains, junior civil engineering major Michael Lisk and seniors Jeremy Orr, Joseph Hornisher and Chris Wall, have led the team since last September. They help apply the competition rules, develop a theme and build the canoe with a specific concrete mixture.

After about 2,000 hours of work, the team traveled to the regional competition in April, McGinnis said.

"We felt like we put the best canoe that we could have out there," Lisk said. "Once we got there we saw some intense competition, so we were a little worried, but (we) competed very well."

The competition is divided into four categories, including technical design report, oral design presentation and canoe final product. There are co-ed and gender-specific races involving 12 teams, including the University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech University, Texas A&M University and Rice University, McGinnis said.

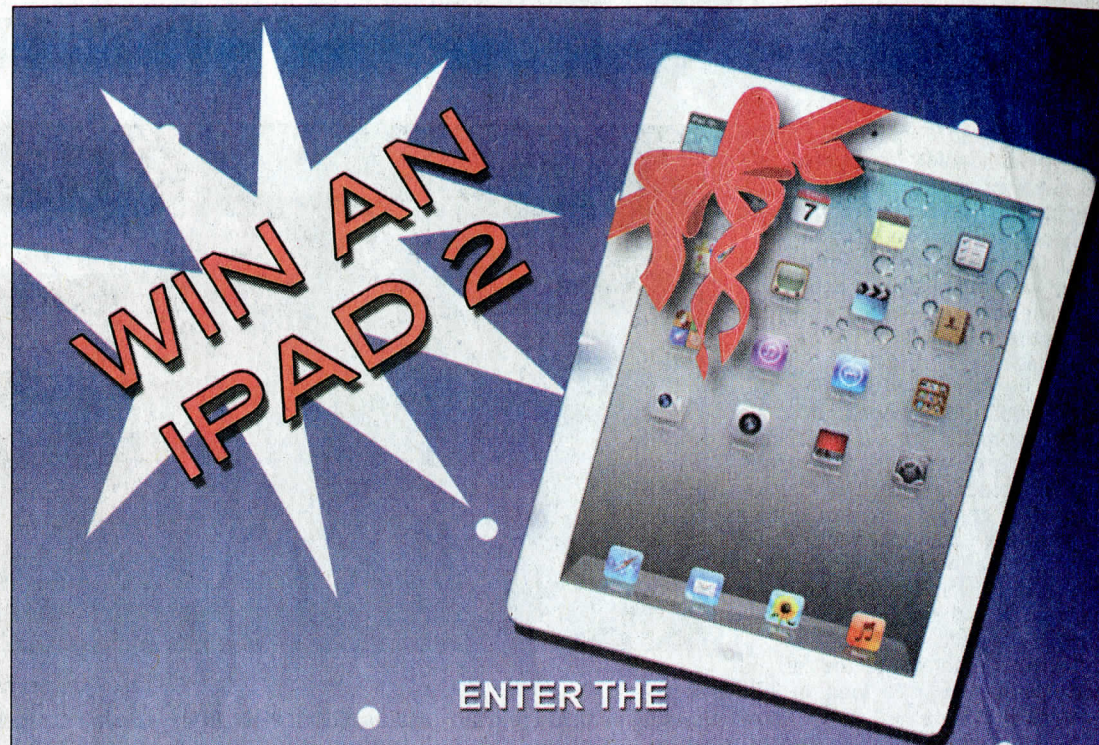
The University placed first in oral presentation and overall canoe quality and second for their technical design report.

The team named the canoe "Ace in the Hull," and incorporated a casino theme in reflection of Reno casinos, where the national competition is held.

"It was a group decision to go with the casino theme and it was something everyone could get behind and support," Lisk said. "It reminded people what the goal was."

In the canoe races, the team placed first in the co-ed, second in men's and women's endurance races and third in the men's and women's sprint races, Lisk said.

"I was really proud just to be with UT Tyler and part of the organization because of the work and hours we put into it and the captains who put even more in," Weidmer said. "Once we finally won it was relief on top of gratitude and I am proud to be part of the team."



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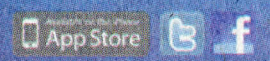
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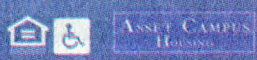
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# Intelligent horror movie triumphs over genre issues

Andrew Latham  
Staff Writer

Why do we watch horror films? Is it because we enjoy watching people be dismembered? Maybe. Is it because we enjoy the designs of the costumes? Possibly. Is it because we enjoy watching actors pretending to be teenagers frolicking around nude? Obviously.

Joss Whedon's *"The Cabin in the Woods"* may be one of my new favorite horror movies, as it seeks to answer all of these questions and more.

Like many of Whedon's productions, *"The Cabin in the Woods"* delves deep into the genre of film to make the audience wonder why we enjoy watching the pretty party girl get half-naked then brutally stabbed.

The answer is obviously because she gets half-naked in a horror movie, which is often the provisional requirement for death, but I digress. All horror movie monsters hate sexual exploration.

The cast, which is quite likeable, mostly serve as pieces in a much bigger game.

Though I do not wish to spoil anything about the film, I will state that the most brilliant move comes in Whedon's decision to allow the characters themselves to choose how they will die.

There's this basement, you see, in the cabin, which hosts multiple trinkets of various monsters. When they activate one, it sets the plot into motion, which points out that the cabin can serve as the killing ground for a number of monsters.

In a tremendous misstep, the possible monsters are infinitely more interesting than the ones that take actually center stage in the film, and I greatly lamented that the Gi-



TALON >> PHOTO COURTESY LIONSGATE AND DIYAH PERA

Horror offering *"Cabin in the Woods"* features a likeable cast that manages to portray traditional genre archetypes in a fresh way. Currently in theaters, producer Joss Whedon's latest film addresses the genre's clichés.

## REVIEW

ant Molesting Tree was not given screen time. I would have also liked to see Kevin, but we cannot dwell on the more interesting monsters when there's killing to be done.

Really though, why do we love watching these movies? Whedon seems to think that the reason is ritualistic. We want to watch idiots be punished for being idiots.

Many horror movies are not inter-

ested in why things are happening, only that things are happening, regardless of whether or not it makes sense.

Have you ever wondered why teenagers think splitting up is a good idea? Whedon's film actually has a reason for it. Did you ever care why these movies always have the same archetypes of characters, such as the jock, the smart one, the partier and the naked lady? Wonder no more, because Whedon's film has a reason for it.

Chances are, though, you don't care about those things. You might be more interested in the fact that a female Power Ranger (Anna Hutchison) gets naked in the movie with the guy who played Thor (Chris Hemsworth). I certainly did, but don't let that be the only reason you see the movie.

It's a horror movie that's smart, funny and actually has a good twist, which is rare these days in a genre where people have to be sewn together to shock audiences.

## >> COLUMN

# Dead icons revived by technology

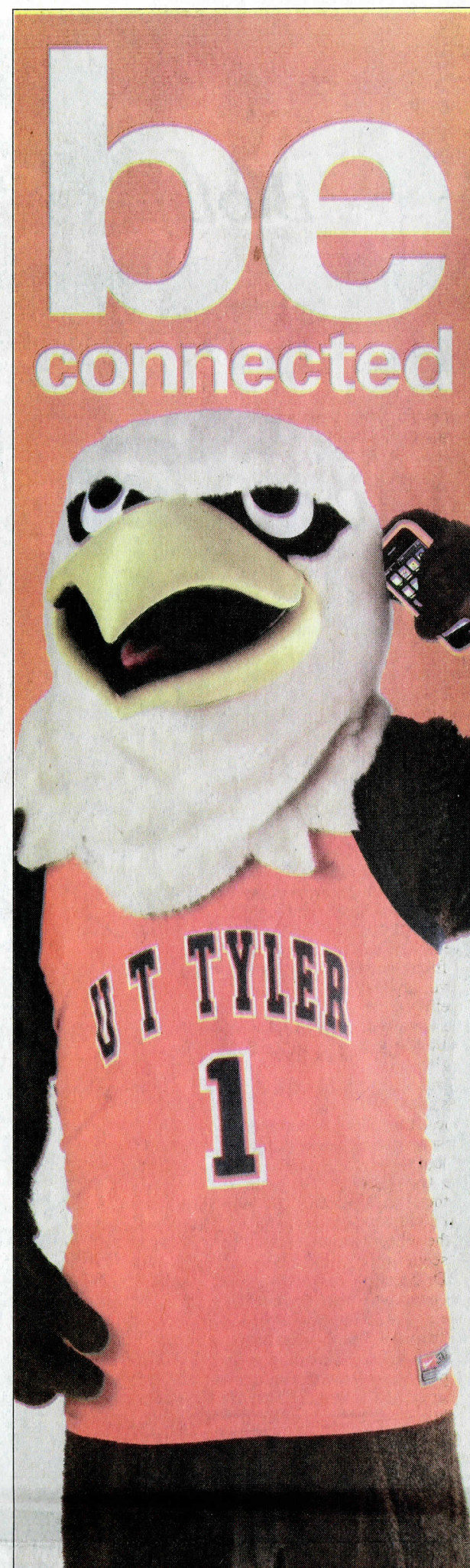
## Summer music festivals

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Lollapalooza





## Lollapalooza

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This year's festival will follow its predecessors with notable acts like Black Sabbath and The Black Keys.

## Sasquatch!

The Gorge, WA May 25-28 \$315

Boasting artists such as Jack White, Girl Talk and Beirut, this year's outing is worth the attention of any festival-head.

## Bonnaroo

Manchester, TN June 7-10 \$259.50 4-day pass

Campers and performance-only attendees will have the privilege of experiencing the reunited live debut of The Beach Boys. The iconic Radiohead will be performing, alongside other big-league acts like The Avett Brothers and The Roots.

SOURCE: MUSICFESTIVALJUNKIES.COM

## Local performance draws sports alumni



TALON >>> PHOTO COURTESY OF LUCAS SCHILDER

University alumnus Kirk Noles performs as KaiN with hip-hop fusion group ZolotiNation. The group will perform at Clicks Live in Tyler May 12. Visit [www.patriottalon.com](http://www.patriottalon.com) for the full story.

## Andrew Boze

A&E Editor

If this were the 90s, a Snoop Dogg stage performance alongside hip-hop messiah Tupac Shakur would just be another West Coast celebration.

Those lucky enough to decorate their arms with Coachella 2012 wristbands on April 15 were treated to a performance a bit more spectacular than the average gangster party.

Relieving the audience's anticipatory jitters, a highly realistic digital projection of dead legend Tupac Shakur addressed festival-goers as if he had just stepped off of Afterlife Airlines.

The technological surprise launched into a performance of West Coast classic "Hail Mary," exhibiting the hip-hop martyr's recognizable mannerisms as it navigated the stage.

Moments later, the real-life Snoop Dogg joined the digitization of his fallen friend and initiated a performance of 1996's "2 of Amerikaz Most Wanted."

While I have no problem admitting that Digi-Tupac looked impressive, I worry that the entertainment industry could lean on the technology's novelty a bit too heavily.

Of course, this isn't the first time a deceased icon has been recreated for entertainment purposes - Elvis Presley was digitally resurrected for television audiences during 2007's "American Idol" season to perform alongside Celine Dion.

But the eyebrow-raising realism of Tupac's temporary reincarnation represents new possibilities for musical exposition.

Imagine all the people who would share a stadium for an evening with the digital ghost of John Lennon. Switch the second projector on and here comes George Harrison with a pre-recorded guitar solo.

Given the public's obvious interest in entertainment's latest gimmick, industry figures might view this magic trick as a new way to make easy money. My concern is that intrigued consumers will pay high-dollar for what could essentially be described as a glorified light show.

I hypothesize that public curiosity would lead to immediate ticket purchases for the computerized reunion of The Grateful (and literal) Dead. And can we get a pixel-made Ray Charles to sing "Georgia on My Mind" one last time? Player pianos exist - we're halfway there.

I believe that we should let our dead entertainers to stay dead.

Tupac's album sales skyrocketed after his death, leading him to have already sold more records dead than alive since his murder in 1996. Don't our artists live on through their contributions?

Rumors circulated the web that digital Tupac would be joined on tour by Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre, with special guests such as Eminem and 50 Cent.

Dr. Dre recently released a video online to dissolve any rumors that the Coachella performance marked the beginning of a tour.

I'll likely roll my eyes if a tour is confirmed. If hologram performances generate enough revenue, the trend could result in oversaturation.

I'd like to see Dre and Snoop leave the image of hip-hop's most celebrated figure alone. If hologram Tupac isn't allowed to make another appearance, it could mean the end of the technology's novelty.

However, if hologram recreations are here to stay, I hope I live long enough to see a digital Christina Aguilera butcher the national anthem before 2074's Super Bowl.



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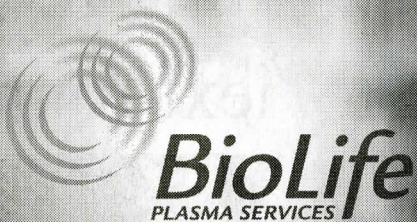


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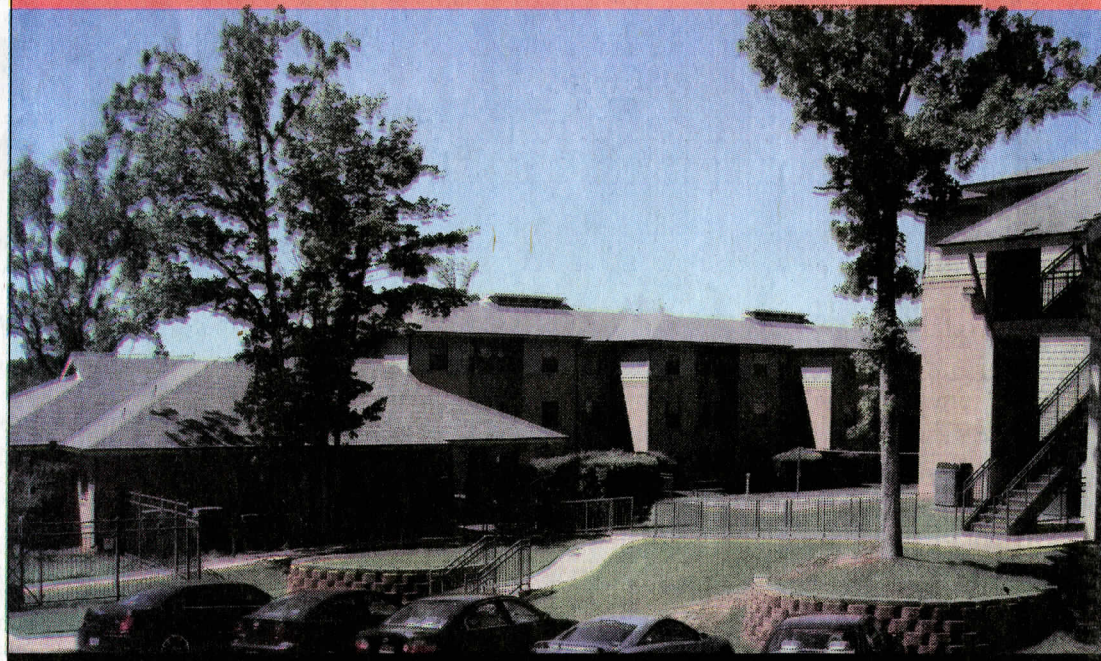
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# Patriots head to Regionals

## Teams advance through ASC tourney, look to next round

**Chase Hardy**  
Staff Writer

The University's tennis teams advance to regionals after the men and women's teams won the American Southwest Conference Championship tournament.

The Patriots held the ASC Championship Tournament at Summers Tennis Center at the University on April 27-29.

Both teams opened the competition with a first-round bye, which enabled them to have an extra day of rest before competition.

"It's really big," criminal justice major Ryan Spencer said. "It's an extra day to save energy from the regular season and another day to prepare and get ready."

On the second day of the tournament, the women's team advanced to the championship round by defeating the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor 5-1. The men advanced to the championship round after defeating the University of Texas at Dallas in the second round, 5-0.

In the championship round against Mississippi College, the men found themselves in a hole after losing all of their doubles matches. The round was not looking any better when, during singles play, they found themselves down 4-1.

The Patriot men began mounting a comeback and eventually tied it up 4-4.

Bizot said he could see in his players' eyes and in their hearts that they knew they could do it. At this point, freshman marketing major Robert Hodous was the only player left competing. Whether or not the Patriot men would advance to regionals laid on his shoulders.

"I started to feel the pressure a little bit," Hodous said.

In his first set, the score went back and forth before Hodous came out on top. Hodous found himself behind at one point, but he fought his way back into the set and eventually won the tie breaker 7-5 and the match 7-6.

"It was amazing," Hodous said. "Everyone rushed the court and pushed me around. It felt like I

was on top of the world."

Senior Kevin Wright was named the tournament's most valuable player. Hodous, Spencer and sophomore finance major Edward Timponi were named to the All-Tournament team.

The Patriot women did not encounter the same dramatic ending to their round.

The women competed against UT Dallas and jumped out to a 3-0 lead after winning all of their doubles matches.

The Patriot women clinched the title soon afterward with two wins in the singles matches by Wilkins and freshman accounting major Jennifer Payne.

"Thankfully it wasn't as dramatic as the men's," Bizot said. "I don't think I could have gone through that again."

Senior psychology major Ashley Albro, sophomore psychology major Jessica Blundell and Payne were named to the All-Tournament team for the women. Wilkins was named tournament MVP for her 4-0 performances.

"It's not a surprise that Morgan went 4-0 in the weekend," Bizot said. "She really just dominated her opponents."

By winning the tournament, the men and women's teams will now move on to the NCAA Regional Tournament on May 11-13.

### Saturday April 28

In their first round of play, psychology and political science major Amy Friesenhahn won her match with scores of 6-2 and 4-2. Jessica Blundell, psychology major, won her match by defeating her opponent 6-1 in both sets.

Brittany Trich, kinesiology major, was victorious after she put up sets of 6-2 and 4-2 over her opponent. Wilkins followed that performance up with 6-1 and 6-3 sets to win her match.

In doubles matches, Blundell and Payne won with a score of 8-2. Wilkins and senior psychology major Ashley Albro defeated their opponent with an 8-2 score as well.

Hodous and Wright won their doubles match by a score of 8-2. Spencer and senior electrical engineering major Kevin Singer also



TALON >> JACOB WADDINGHAM

won their doubles match with a score of 8-5.

In singles play, sophomore kinesiology major Doug Kierstad won his match, 6-0 and 6-2, and Wright won his match 6-0 and 6-4.

### Sunday April 29

The men's teams lost all three of their doubles matches.

In singles play, Spencer won his match with sets of 6-2 and 6-1. Wright followed that up with a win in his singles match, where he defeated his opponent 6-1 and 6-2.

In the women's matches Amy Friesenhahn and Sydni Hersmdorf, senior kinesiology major doubles match 8-5. Their teammates Payne and Blundell won their match as well, 8-4. Wilkins and Albro finished the sweep with an 8-2 win over UT Dallas.

Payne kept the winning going in singles when she beat her opponent 6-1 and 6-2. Wilkins finished the tournament off for the ladies with a two 6-1 sets and clinching the title for the Patriots.



TALON >> CHASE HARDY

**Above:** Freshman Robert Hodous is swarmed by his teammates after clinching the Patriot's fifth straight ASC title and an automatic bid to the national tournament. The Patriots rallied for a 5-4 victory over Mississippi College. **Below:** Sophomore Ryan Spencer competes in doubles competition on April 29 against Mississippi College. The Patriot men beat Mississippi College in overall matches 5-4.

## Team ousted from tournament

**Victor Texcucano**  
Sports Editor

The Patriot baseball team was eliminated from the American Southwest Conference Championships over the



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## Patriot athlete pursues pro soccer career

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UT Tyler - 5  
McMurry - 6

May 4 at Austin, Tx.  
UT Tyler - 0  
Concordia - 9

April 28 at Home  
Hardin-Simmons - 1  
UT Tyler - 3

April 28 at Home  
Hardin-Simmons - 6  
UT Tyler - 5

April 27 at Home  
Hardin-Simmons - 0  
UT Tyler - 10

April 22 at Home  
Louisiana Coll. - 6  
UT Tyler - 11

April 21 at Home  
Louisiana Coll. - 5  
UT Tyler - 14

April 21 at Home  
Louisiana Coll. - 3  
UT Tyler - 5

April 17 at Home  
Mary Hardin-Baylor - 5  
UT Tyler - 4

### SOFTBALL

April 28 at Farmer's Branch, Tx.  
UT Tyler - 1  
Louisiana Coll. - 0

April 27 at Farmer's Branch, Tx.  
UT Tyler - 3  
Louisiana Coll. - 2

April 28 at Farmer's Branch, Tx.  
ETBU - 2  
UT Tyler - 11

April 23 at Home  
ETBU - 9  
UT Tyler - 10

April 23 at Home  
ETBU - 0  
UT Tyler - 4

April 22 at Clarksville, Ark.  
UT Tyler - 13



UT Tyler - 15  
Ozarks - 0

April 22 at Clarksville, Ark.  
UT Tyler - 4  
Ozarks - 1

April 21 at Clarksville, Ark.  
UT Tyler - 9  
Ozarks - 0

April 21 at Clarksville, Ark.  
UT Tyler - 1  
Ozarks - 8

## TENNIS

### MEN

March 29 at Home  
UT Dallas - 0  
UT Tyler - 5

March 28 at Home  
Mississippi Coll. - 4  
UT Tyler - 5

### WOMEN

March 29 at Home  
UT Dallas - 0  
UT Tyler - 5

March 28 at Home  
Mary Hardin-Baylor - 1  
UT Tyler - 5

## GOLF

### MEN

April 16  
ASC Championship  
Lufkin, Tx.  
1st/9 teams

### WOMEN

April 16  
ASC Championship  
Lufkin, Tx.  
2nd/8 teams

The team will now wait to see if they receive an at-large bid to qualify for the NCAA tournament. Selections are made Monday.

The ASC championship tournament was a four-team double-elimination style competition.

The Patriots started the tournament facing Concordia University on Friday.

Concordia stifled the Patriot offense effectively, as they shut them out 9-0. Both teams had eight base hits in the game, but only Concordia was able to materialize them into runs.

The Tornados spun off to a quick start, tallying two runs in the first inning off Sophomore Patriot starter Jack Barkley, who lasted three and two-thirds innings.

Barkley allowed eight runs, but only three were earned. The Tornados took advantage of two Patriot errors in the fourth inning and added six runs to their total.

Concordia scored one more in run in the sixth inning, to make the final score 9-0.

After the loss, the Patriots were thrown into an elimination game in the loser's bracket. They faced the McMurry University War Hawks on Saturday.

The Patriots started the game on the right foot by striking first with an RBI triple from senior left fielder David Ring.

The War Hawks soon struck back, however, and tied the game with a fourth inning sacrifice fly.

The game then went back and forth, as McMurry took a 2-1 lead in the fifth inning with an RBI single.

The Patriots then tied the game again, 2-2, with an RBI single by senior Hayden Chick.

The Patriots then tried to put the game out of reach, adding two runs in the seventh inning with RBIs from Chick and junior Issac Tijerina.

They added one more run the next inning to make the score 5-2 at the end of the eighth inning.

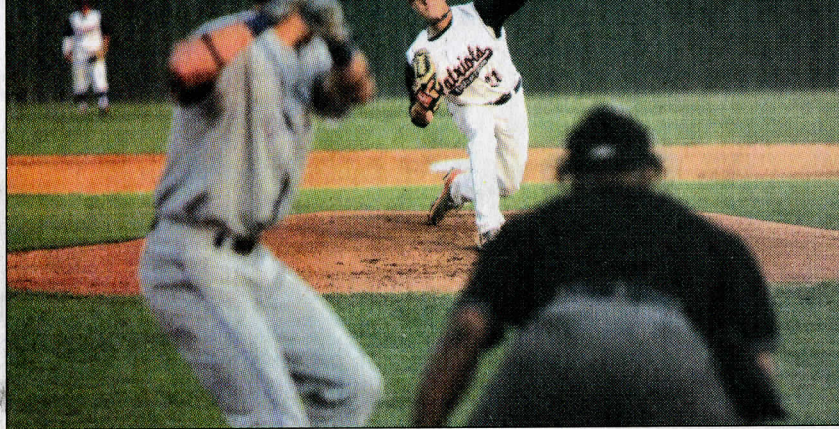
The game fell apart in the ninth inning, however, when the Patriots lost the lead, allowing four runs on four hits, making the score 6-5.

The Patriots were unable to retaliate from the bottom of the ninth, eliminating them from the game and the ASC tournament.

Elimination from the conference tournament does not necessarily end the Patriots' season.

The team will wait to see if they are selected as an at-large school to qualify for the NCAA tournament.

They could have received an automatic bid to the tournament if they had won the conference title, so they now lay at the mercy of the NCAA tournament selections to see if their season is over



**Patriot southpaw Chase Willard fires in a pitch during a non conference matchup with the University of Dallas on April 10.**

or not.

At the end of April, the Patriots qualified for the ASC tournament by defeating Hardin-Simmons University in a three-game series at Irwin Field in Tyler.

The Patriots rolled to 10-0 shutout in the first game, which was called in the seventh inning because of a mercy rule.

Junior second baseman Will Allen and freshman designated hitter Garrett Machacek led the charge offensively.

Allen went two-for three, including a double and a triple, while batting in four runs and scoring twice.

Machacek went two-for-four with two RBI singles and a run scored.

Jack Barkley pitched seven scoreless innings, allowing six hits and no runs. He also walked one batter and struck out two.

Senior kinesiology major Parker Sheets said he was impressed by his teammates' performances.

"We came out firing from all angles, and pitching did well. Our hitters hit the best I've seen them hit all year," Sheets said. "We scored six runs in the first inning. For a pitcher, there's nothing better than to see your run support go up in the first inning."

Coach Paul Wyczawski said he knew game two would be tough after the 10-0 shutout.

His prediction proved correct as the Patriots lost a closely contested game by a score of 6-5 in 14 innings the following day.

The Patriots struck first in the second inning, when Allen scored on a throwing error.

Hardin-Simmons fought back with three runs in the fifth inning and another in the eighth to take a 4-1 lead.

The Patriots answered with three runs in the ninth inning, taking the game to extra innings. The game remained tied 4-4 until the 13th inning, when both teams added a run.

Unfortunately for the Patriots, Hardin-

TALON >> JACOB WADDINGHAM

Simmons dealt the final blow with a single to center field in the 14th, which scored a runner.

Sheets said the loss was heartbreaking. However, the Patriots took the series later that day with a 3-1 win in game three.

The Patriots scored with a single from junior T.J. Martin, a double from senior Hayden Chick and a triple from senior Aaron McCain.

Senior Bryan Shore threw eight scoreless innings, allowing only five hits en route to the win. He walked one hitter struck out four.

Jacob Yanker allowed one run in the ninth, but held on for the save.

Winning game three closed out the series and allowed the Patriots to advance to the ASC Championship Round.

McCain said he was glad to move past the series.

"Game three was relief, happiness, a little bit of everything," he said. "Hardin-Simmons was a good team. They fought hard, so it was good to get a win over them and build a little confidence."

Sheets expressed similar feelings.

"We showed we had more stamina than the other team," he said. "It really shows we have the heart to win, the will to win. It was a very, very accomplishing series for us."

The Patriots, led by Wyczawski, finished the regular season with a record of 33-10 (14-4 ASC), earning them a share of the ASC East division title, along with The University of Texas at Dallas, who also ended with a 14-4 conference record.

The share of the division title makes it six straight years that the Patriots have topped the East division and the seventh time in the past eight years the Patriots have won the title.

Wyczawski said that while the conference championship is the main goal in each season, division titles are an added bonus.

**Rhiannon Holmes**  
Staff Writer

Victor Almendariz has made a name for himself in the world of collegiate soccer.

As a forward for the Patriots last season, Almendariz was awarded MVP of the conference, and was named first team All-American — along with teammate, Jake Urbaniak. He was also named Student Athlete of the Year and was voted MVP by his teammates.

Almendariz, a senior finance major, had 11 goals for the season, including two goals in the NCAA tournament. He had 12 assists for a total of 34 points, second in the ASC.

Jonatan Benitez, a senior education major and Almendariz's close friend and roommate, attributes his success to a positive attitude.

Almendariz said soccer is his life. "I grew up in a soccer family," said Almendariz, who grew up in Ecuador. "Every Sunday I would be at Monumental Banco Pichincha Stadium. I would never miss a game."

Almendariz started playing at age four and was a youth member of a professional team in Ecuador by the time he was 17.

He spent his first two years of college at Richland College before transferring to the University.

When deciding on a college team on which to play, Almendariz said money wasn't his deciding factor, but rather the sincerity and overall attitude and demeanor of Coach Kenny Jones.

"As a senior, he represents the soccer program with his community service hours, GPA and good values," Jones said. "They are all a reflection of the program."

Almendariz has improved a great deal from his junior to senior year and his focus on teamwork has improved "leaps and bounds," Jones said.

Almendariz's original team, his family, has remained in Ecuador for the duration of his collegiate years. He is the only boy among four children.

He said he has missed them a lot and that one of his favorite memories of the year is when his father came to watch him play.

In November of last season, the Patriots beat Trinity University 2-0 in San Antonio. Almendariz said this was one of his favorite games because the Patriots were the underdogs.

"They are a team that you just don't expect to beat," he said.

The idea of playing professional soccer is still on the table for Almendariz, who said he will know more about his plans after the summer. He plans to get a job and then to put together a highlight video, which he said will be the ultimate determining factor.

Almendariz has agents in Ecuador who are looking for professional offers for him. Almendariz said the expensive price to make a highlight video is one of the only things hindering his chances of playing professionally.

Almendariz will be graduating Saturday. He has received offers from professional teams in Ecuador, but he said his main goal is to remain in the U.S.



# Patriots head to nationals

## University athletes earn gold medals at ASC meet

From Staff Reports

The Patriot track and field teams are preparing for national competition after five members earned conference gold at the American Southwest Conference Track and Field Championships in Clinton, Mississippi on April 27-28.

The Patriots trailed the top ranked team in the nation, McMurry University, by only two points after the first day of competition thanks to a strong showing from the distance squad, jumpers and throwers.

Chris Stonestreet dominated the competition in the hammer throw for 10 points. His toss of 55.21 meters was 10 meters further than the second place throw, the equivalent of two average four-door cars.

His personal best this season is the 16th best hammer throw in the nation. To qualify for the Division III national meet this year, participants must compete in an approved meet and upload results to [www.tfrs.org](http://www.tfrs.org).

"The last few weeks I am taking every aspect of my training seriously," Stonestreet said. "Every practice, every workout and every meal because every inch counts."

The top 20 individuals in field events and the top 16 in running events advance to nationals in Claremont, Calif. May 24-26.

In the high jump, Tanner Conkel edged out McMurry freshman Jajuan Austin at 6 foot 6 inches. Conkel is tied for 15th in the nation with a personal best of 6 foot 8 inches.

Christian Kearny and Joel Hunt both made finals in the long-jump competition. They placed sixth and eighth respectively.

Kearny is currently 20th nationally in the triple jump. He will be attending a last-chance meet in San Antonio to try to improve his mark and guarantee a trip to California.

On the track, the Patriot men swept the 3,000 meter steeple chase for the second year in a row, securing the top three spots.

The steeple chase is a seven and a half lap race. The athletes clear 35 barriers (5 each lap) including a 12 foot water jump.

Jacob Waddingham broke the tape in 10:08 for his first collegiate victory. Teammate Nicklas Huff was second and Will Krogman took third.

In the final event of the evening, Ross Renfroe survived 25 laps in the 10,000 meter run in 34:31 for second place.

Kyle Clawson battled through calf pain, holding on for fourth overall.

The Patriot women were highlighted by a fourth-place finish by Sarah Hankla in the 10,000-meter run. Baylee Talaska and Virginia Murphy took fifth and sixth in the same event.

Their three times were the three best times recorded in the 10,000 meter event in school history.

The University's throwing team was back in action early on the second day of competition.

Buck Thompson had a gold-winning performance in the discus.

The throwing duo of Thompson and Stonestreet also won silver and bronze in the shot put respectively.

"The biggest difference in practice this year has been having Buck to throw with," Stonestreet said. "It makes a big difference having someone, especially someone with his ability, to practice with."

Thompson is currently 12th in the shot put and 13th in the discus in the [tfrs.org](http://tfrs.org) national rank-



TALON >> PHOTO COURTESY OF ED PALENCIA

**Ross Renfroe gaps the field in the 1500 meter run during the ASC Championships in Jackson, Miss. on April 27. Renfroe took second in the 10,000 meter run, 1,500, and was fifth in the 5,000 meter.**

ings.

In a breakout performance, first-year javelin thrower Travis Crafton set a new personal best by 8 meters for third place. Crafton plans to focus on the decathlon for the University next spring.

"Physically, I rested my arm for a couple weeks and really just focused on my footwork and technique," Crafton said. "I knew I had it in me, I was just waiting for my technique to click."

Back on the oval with temperatures in the upper 80s and little protection from the sun, hydration and race strategy played critical roles in the outcome of the remaining races.

The Patriot men took second, third and fourth in the 1,500-meter run.

Stuck in the slower heat, Kelly McQuaid raced the clock to a fifth-place finish in the 1,500-meter run. She doubled back with a bronze performance in the 800 meter less than an hour later.

"Over the span of five weeks, she went from high 2:30 to a school record 2:21," Hepler said.

Using a well-timed kick down the home stretch, Nick Huff defended his 800 meter title in 1:54.13.

"I expected Mississippi College to get out fast," Huff said. "I'm really confident in my kick

so I just waited for the perfect time to use it."

Huff was named the ASC Track and Field Male Athlete of the Meet for his victory in the 800, second-place finish in the steeple and fourth-place finish in the 5,000-meter run.

"He was able to bounce back after the steeple chase and win the race of the weekend in a really good 800," Hepler said. "It was a gritty performance that the other coaches noticed."

At most track meets, athletes focus on one or two events. At conference, the Patriots load up on multiple races to try to score as many points as possible.

"We don't have a very big team compared to other schools," Hepler said. "In order for us to compete, we have to ask our athletes to go above and beyond."

In the relay competition, the 4x100 men took fourth and the women were fifth. They also placed fourth and fifth in the 4x400.

Several Patriots with national aspirations will continue on to last chance meets in San Antonio, Texas and Arkansas in order to punch their ticket to nationals.

For the rest of the team, the off-season training will be motivated by a chance to capture the conference title next spring.

## SOFTBALL

from page 1

"We're certainly excited we get to play that here," he said. "For the girls to stay here and take their finals, it's a big help. ... They get to sleep in their own beds, so I think it's a big advantage."

Ashlee Johnson, senior nursing major, said they would benefit from playing in their home field, where they maintained a near-perfect 17-1 record this season.

"We have a great record on our field," Johnson said. "And it definitely helps with classes being able to stay here and not having to travel."

Thomason said she believes the Patriots will benefit from the home crowd, which has helped the team throughout the season.

"It's still going to be a battle no matter what," she said. "But it's going to be nice to play at home because we're going to have the community here behind us."

The Patriots enter the tournament ranked first in the NCAA West region, after winning the ASC Championship Tournament on April 26-28 in Farmer's Branch, Texas.

As ASC East division champs, the women enjoyed a first-round bye in the conference tournament, which meant the Patriots played one less game, thus keeping them fresher for later rounds, Reed said.

The Patriots began the tournament by defeating East Texas Baptist University 11-2 on April 26 in a game that was called after the fifth inning.

The Patriots began the onslaught early with a two-run homerun by junior Heather Abshire in the bottom of the first inning.

ETBU answered with two runs in the top of the second to tie the game, but the Patriots silenced their opponents with five runs in the bottom of the inning.

Thomason, Endsley, Cronin and Abshire provided one RBI each. The Patriots also took advantage of an ETBU throwing error by scoring an additional run to make the game 7-2.

The women put the game away by scoring four more runs in the fourth inning.

The following day, the Patriots squared off against Louisiana College in the next round of the conference tournament. The women won a tight affair 3-2.

Abshire started the Patriot charge in the third inning by batting in a run with an infield single.

In the top of the fourth inning, Howell blasted a solo home run.

Louisiana College responded to the Patriot 2-0 lead with two runs in the bottom of the fourth, coming from an RBI single and a passed ball by Thomason.

The game remained tied 2-2 until the top of the eighth inning, when Ashlee Johnson singled to right field, bringing in Cronin for the go-ahead run.

The Patriots held on in the bottom of the eighth inning and walked away with the 3-2 win.

The win advanced the Patriots to the tournament championship game, where they faced Louisiana College for a second time. Since the ASC tournament is a double-elimination tournament, Louisiana College advanced through the losers' bracket and reached the finals to face the Patriots again.

The game was an even closer contest that ended as a 1-0 win for the Patriots.

Endsley, who reached home on a ball put in play by Johnson, scored the only run of the game.

Abshire was lights out, allowing only five hits from 28 Louisiana College batters.

Johnson said she was relieved after defeating Louisiana College for a second time.

"Louisiana College is always a tough team, they're scrappy," she said. "They're our conference rivals, so anytime we can beat them, it's great."

Heading into the regional tournament, Reed believes his team is playing at their best.

"Every coach says that you want to play your best at the end (of the season)," he said. "I feel like we're playing our best softball this time of year. You work hard and you can't always get that to happen, but with this team it has."



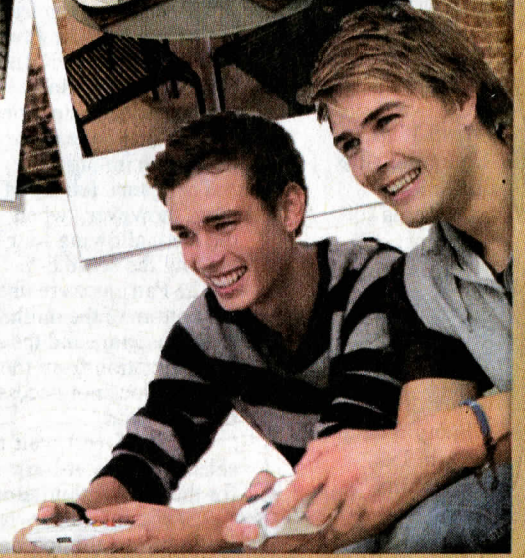
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