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# THE PATRIOT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER



Student athletes honored at athletics banquet.

—Sports, Page 3

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2003

VOLUME 33 • ISSUE 12

## Classic event *Patriot Classic to feature tournaments, entertainment*

by Robert Boggs  
Editor in chief

The 2003 Patriot Classic tees off May 10 with the University of Texas at Tyler Cox Communications Patriot Million Dollar Hole-in-One Contest, the first of five events benefiting the University's scholarship program.

The Patriot Classic, which includes the hole-in-one competition, Patriot Tennis Classic Pro Am, UT Tyler Cox Communications Patriot Scholarship Concert, Texas Shootout Barbecue and Auction and the Patriot Golf Classic, raised more than \$100,000 for Patriot Scholarships last year, special events manager Dana Khan said.

Tickets for the hole-in-one contest may be purchased through May 9 from the Office of University Advancement or from members of the UT Tyler Patriot organization. Tickets are \$1 per shot, and contestants will receive 10 complimentary shots for every 25 tickets purchased.

Entrants will compete May 10-17 in Tyler on South Broadway behind the Sheraton Hotel and at the Longview

University Center. The contestants hitting closest to the hole qualify for the finals and a chance to win prizes.

In the finals, to be held at Hollytree Country Club on May 18, three holes will be set up on the green. Each hole represents one of the prizes—a 2003 Toyota Tundra, a Tahoe 202 deck boat and \$1 million.

The events continue with the Patriot Tennis Classic Pro Am, a tournament featuring local players in doubles play. Competitors include Stephanie Mabry, who ranked seventh in the world in juniors play and previously competed in doubles tournaments alongside Anna Kournikova, tennis coach Ken Olivier said.

At the tournament, former University tennis coaches Russell Seymour and Fred Kniffen will be recognized for their contributions to tennis at the school, Olivier said.

Admission to the tournament is free, and proceeds benefit the athletics program, according to information released by the Department of News and

CLASSIC, Page 6

### **PATRIOT CLASSIC**

Five events make up the Patriot Classic:

□ The UT Tyler Cox Communications Patriot Million Dollar Hole-in-One Contest — May 10

□ Patriot Tennis Classic Pro Am — May 10-11

□ The UT Tyler Cox Communications Patriot Scholarship Concert featuring singer Marcia Ball — May 15

□ The Texas Shootout Barbecue and Auction — May 17

□ Patriot Golf Classic— May 19

## Center christened *Building named for donor of \$6.4 million*

University officials announced Wednesday the Health and Kinesiology Physical Education Complex has been named the Louise Herrington Patriot Center.

The name honors donations made by the family of Louise Ornelas, a long-time donor to the University. Louise and Joseph Ornelas donated \$6.4 million toward the construction of the Patriot Center, one of the largest gifts in University history.

"With great enthusiasm, and great pride, we are pleased to announce the Louise Herrington

Patriot Center," President Rodney Mabry said. "This naming will honor Lou Ornelas and her family, and is something that Joseph wanted to do from the very beginning."

To further acknowledge the Herrington family, the Jean Lancaster Health and Kinesiology Wing is named for Mrs. Ornelas' sister. The wing will house the health and kinesiology department and includes laboratories and classrooms, Mabry said.

The center also includes the Maytee Fisch Convocation Center, the Jim and Bonna Bess

Vaughn Recreation and Therapy Pool and the Meadows Student Lounge.

Completion of the more than 127,000 gross square-foot academic and recreational facility is projected for July. It will house classrooms, laboratories, faculty offices, a gymnasium/convocation area with basketball and volleyball courts with seating for more than 2,000, indoor walking/jogging track, aerobics area, free weights and an outdoor pool.

"We needed a space where student life could thrive, and

CENTER, Page 6

## Biker gang



## President reports



# layoffs expected

President Rodney Mabry announced Wednesday budget cuts are likely to force layoffs and that school officials would finalize decisions on workforce reductions by June 1.

Most state funding is spent on salaries, wages, and benefits, yet most of the reductions will likely be made in areas other than personnel expenses, Mabry said.

State funding represents nearly 60 percent of the University's total operating budget, with the remainder coming from tuition, fees, donations, endowment income and research grants.

"It likely will be impossible to absorb such dramatic decreases in state support at UT Tyler without any reductions in the workforce. However, any such reductions will be very limited in number," Mabry said.

Open positions still will be eliminated if possible, but hiring will continue for needed positions such as employees for the new Patriot Center, Mabry said.

"Unlike the one-time budget reduction in February for our current year, the budget cuts we now face are long term, at least through 2005 and beyond in all likelihood," Mabry said.

Vice presidents and deans are preparing several budget reduction scenarios and sharing the burden of these reductions across all areas of the University, but there will not be across-the-board cuts, according to the budget update April 29.

"Instead our reductions will be made to focus our resources in support of our core educational mission and our effort to attract students and research dollars in accordance with budget reduction principles that I announced in March," Mabry said.

At a "Brown Bag Budget Discussion with the President" March 18-19 Mabry said he hoped by the first week in May it would be known what faculty cuts would be made to give the required 60 day notice to those laid off.



—Brad Smith/The Patriot

**OFF TO A GOOD START:** Hundreds of riders head out for a 64-mile bike race Saturday. The "Beauty and the Beast" start/finish line was on the University campus this year. Nick Kiernan of Eules took first place in the race.

## Constitution revision election voided

by Emily Stevens  
Staff writer

Voters elected three new senators during the April 23-24 Student Government Association special elections, but they will have to go back to the polls to decide constitutional revisions.

The revisions included the addition of a preamble and general clarifications in several articles.

Student officials voided the 28 constitutional votes cast after realizing the wrong copy of the constitution had been available for students to view, vice president Loree Ainsworth said.

Ainsworth also said no date has been set

for the next vote because the new officers will not meet until after Thursday.

Among those officers taking their positions Thursday are three senators elected by students of their colleges in the special election.

Student officials released complete, but unofficial results of the special elections to The Patriot April 30. The results are unofficial until all members of the rules committee approve them.

According to the results, representatives for the College of Education and Psychology will be KC Gibson, who received five of eight votes, and Tiffany Alexander, who received three votes.

The election for this college had to be run again because Lanesia Pennington's name was listed incorrectly in the April 1-2 general elections.

Pennington did not receive any votes in the special election. Therefore, one seat remains empty for the College of Education and Psychology.

Tony Naseiro won the run-off in the College of Engineering and Computer Science with nine of 14 votes cast.

Aaron Bonner placed second with four votes and Ronald Edwards received one vote.

Winners receive a \$150 stipend at the end of their one-year term.

## Tattoo-removal group erases troubled pasts

by Emily Stevens  
Staff writer

Intense flashes of light from a laser beam require Michael Whitehurst to peer through protective lenses as he removes unwanted tattoos from his clients, seemingly unaware of their clenched teeth and deep breathing.

Noises resembling the snap of static electricity accompany the flashes, and the skin seems to blister from the light energy shattering the ink.

Krystyna Alexander, junior criminal justice/English major, said she got her decorative tattoo removed because she was tired of it showing when she wore a bathing suit.

Alexander also said it hurt

**"A lot of people change inside first, but a change outside can bring out an inner change."**

— SALLYE MARTIN  
PROGRAM DIRECTOR, ERASING THE PAST

more to get the tattoo than it did to get it removed.

"Getting the tattoo felt like a razor blade cutting into me; this just felt like static electricity," she said.

Whitehurst, a retired mental health worker, said he became involved in tattoo removal because, "I got tired of not curing people, this cures a lot of people."

Whitehurst, a tattoo removal technician from Dallas, is part of a program at Women of Grace in Tyler called Erasing the Past, which removes tattoos for all ages for \$50 per session per tattoo.

Whitehurst, an Oklahoma native, said for those 20 years and younger, he removes gang-related tattoos on the hands, neck, and face for free.

April 25 marked the second time Women of Grace housed the event.

Whitehurst, who is also a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner, said it might take more than one session to completely remove a tattoo depending on the depth and type of ink.

Program director Sallye Martin said the program was "born out of love" and took two years to develop.

Martin said the program began with her class of students at The Castle, an after school meeting place for at-risk children and teens, who exhibited a desire to better themselves and wanted to remove gang-related

**TATTOO, Page 6**

## 11 cheerleaders selected from first squad tryout

by Joseph Elerson  
Sports editor

Cheerleading is officially ready to begin for head coach Susie Turner.

Turner announced her selections for the 2003-04 cheer squad after the first round of cuts on April 22.

Eleven of the 16 who tried out at T.K. Gorman High School on April 11-12 advanced from the first round of tryouts and a possible fall tryout could take place with the remaining participants having the option to try out again for the squad.

The first-year squad has

two incoming freshmen, four transfer students and five current University students.

The following is a list of the seven women and four men who have made the Patriots cheer squad:

Amanda Ellis, Tyler; Cassie Stinson, Lumberton; Jennifer Inman, Tyler; Kristen Riley, Houston; Liz Clark, Tyler; Maggie Rowden, Rockwall; and Athens native Whitney Warren are the seven women to cheer.

On the men's side, Tyler native and Kilgore College transfer Chris Mercer along

**CHEER, Page 6**



## Editorial

Following a path lined with good intentions, the athletics program sent a dangerous message last Saturday —the perceived tolerance of alcohol violations.

At the athletics banquet honoring exceptional student athletes, women's soccer coach Jodi Lovell presented freshman Lindsay Lyle with the Patriot Award, an honor she said went to the student who best represented the University and the athletics program on and off the field.

"Someone that's a wonderful ambassador for the University that represents not only the athletic program but the University as a student. She's an excellent soccer player-she's played most of her life-she has a wonderful family. You can tell by the way she carries herself in the classroom, out in public, on the field, and that's just a wonderful team player," Lovell said when introducing Lyle for the award.

By awarding Lyle, who was involved in alcohol-related incidents twice in September and suspended from games after receiving a citation for possession of alcohol by a minor, the University gave the perception athletes would not be held to a high standard.

Lovell said Lyle was the appropriate person to receive the award and that she had not had any problems since the incident. She said Lyle was given a second chance and came through with a good attitude.

"I know I made the right decisions," Lovell said.

There is no question Lovell has close contact with her players and knows which students

most deserve the awards. But closer consideration should be made to the perception stemming from her choice.

To parents, students and others who knew about the violations, Lovell's words of praise seem contradictory, which leads to a misperception of the athletic program's standards. The wording of the award could have been made to more properly reflect Lovell's intentions and reward Lyle's efforts, without going as far as to call her a "wonderful ambassador" for the school.

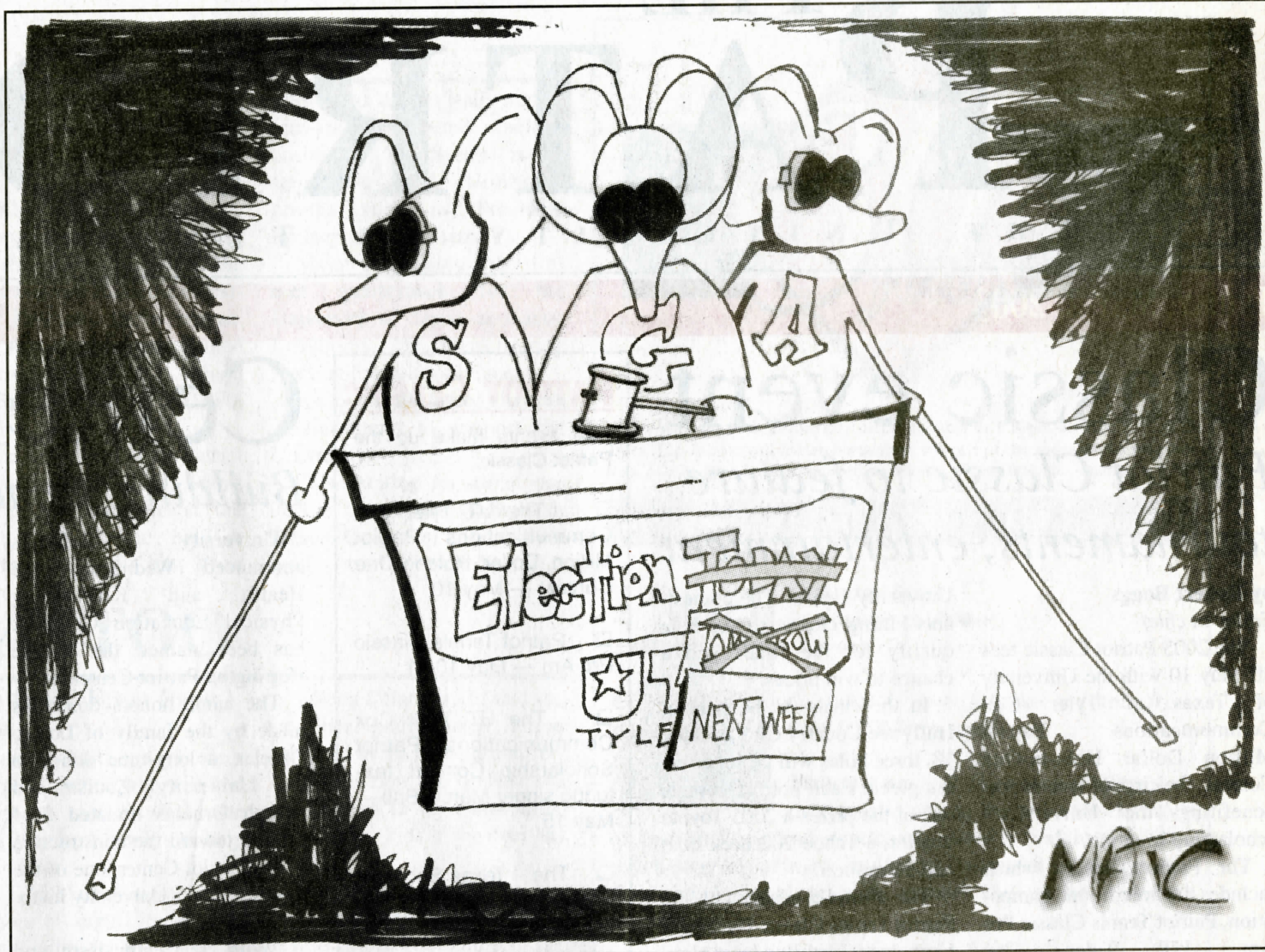
Perhaps players who have made mistakes and paid their dues can be rewarded in other ways. Only time will tell if a player has truly learned from those mistakes. Therefore players involved in alcohol incidents could be ineligible for an award in the current season but make an excellent candidate for a "most improved" honor the following year.

The awards could then be used to acknowledge players who have made healthy decisions and set a pristine example for other student athletes.

If administrators and coaches truly desire to build a program free of the alcohol problems which plague many schools, strong precedents must be set in the first years of the program.

The University always has insisted athletes would be treated no differently than other students, and this is an excellent opportunity to prove it. Set the bar high from the beginning.

The result of tough rules and high standards will be student athletes who meet those expectations and an athletics program to brag about.



## Quote of the Week

"I am crippled because of Saddam Hussein. On the occasion of his birthday, I wish to thank the U.S. and British military for getting rid of that tyrant."

-Ali Najdat al-Naqib  
a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel

## Letters to the EDITOR

Letters to the editor may be sent to patrioteditor@uttyler.edu. Letters should be a maximum of

## Summer sessions make good offers

by Jennifer Murray

before considering whether

## CAMPUS VOICE

What is your opinion about the University implementing a four-day work week during the summer?



"I don't like the fact that student services are closing, but if they need to save money, then it is nee-



### Opinion editor

It's that time again for those who have spent lots of time and money trying to get to that day to receive their diploma. But, for those who are not there yet let me make a suggestion.

To sum up my thought, let me give you two words, summer classes.

Summer classes are God's gift to those of us who want desperately to get closer to graduation, but don't want to wait a whole other semester to do it.

These classes help students balance their credits which will get them closer to graduation.

If a student needs one credit of political science to graduate, it's very convenient that the summer has that subject.

While a lot of us make our way through each semester there are those classes that don't pan out the way we had hoped.

A lot of times we muddle through it and pray we get at least a C in the course at the end, but usually that class is dropped like a hotcake.

But, summer classes are still available for those who need to make up those dropped or depressing classes with a hideous grade. Even though these classes help, there are precautions everyone needs to take,

summer classes are the way to go.

Summer classes are divided into a summer session one and two. This means these classes are only long enough to watch one episode of "The Crocodile Hunter." In these classes that go everyday - except Friday due to the new class week - time is fleeting and work has to be done.

These classes acquire the full attention of a student who plans on getting the work done. Now for those who are extremely focused on studying there are the intercession classes, which last about two weeks.

There's a song that comes readily to mind - "Only The Strong Survive."

Another precaution is weighing how many classes to take.

Taking three hours seems too much, but then why have summer classes? Please weigh the amount of hours carefully, so that in the middle of the session flowers are not being sent to your hospital room, because your nervous breakdown in biology lab scared some people.

Let this be a reminder when filling out a schedule for the summer, choose classes and hours wisely so your grades can be used for good and not evil.

250 words. For complete guidelines, see the letters policy in box below.

Dear Editor,  
Great dismay beckons this letter. I read for the umpteenth time, in your last paper, the poorly stated student government election process.

Although I enjoy reading about this foolishness, I pine for more.

Are you investigative journalists, or do you simply recite the headlines?

Regarding your articles ("SGA changes leaders, "Senator election negated", and "Students to vote on constitution revisions"), I saw no quotes or references.

Have you ever considered going straight to the source and asking some tough questions?

Many months ago, I submitted a beautifully written six-page document full of recommendations. I know you read it, because you told me so.

Had it come to light, we'd never be in this quagmire.

Even sadder is that for many offices, the students voted not for the best candi-

date, but rather for the only candidate.

In some cases, they were coincidentally the best candidates possible.

When candidates go unopposed, the City of Tyler cancels the election to save costs.

Why don't we do the same?

Sadly, the revisions (a lame quick fix) are sure to pass simply because only a handful voted.

Is this a fair representation of the entire populous?

Last time I did the math, a 3 percent voter turnout was not.

I therefore assure you that the new administration will surely not commit so many fouls.

I'm quite sure we're not capable of screwing up elections five times in a row.

I'd like to call for re-re-re-re-re-elections, but quite frankly, I'm tired of this nonsense, so here's to moving forward, cheers!

**Jay Dobrowalski**  
SGA Parliamentarian  
Tyler, Texas



essay."  
**Brian Biddle**  
mathematics  
junior

"I think it is fine. The only thing is that they tell us to check our schedules online, but they only have the time the class begins, not when it ends. They need to clarify that."

**Christine Villavisencio**  
education  
senior



"I feel good about it. I think it will relieve the stress of going to school five days a week, it gives you a chance to catch up on Fridays."  
**Derrick Robinson**  
sociology  
senior

"I think it will be hard for the calculus students because they have less time to pass the proficiency tests."

**Justin Veach**  
mechanical engineering  
freshman



I would like to have Fridays off in the summer. I'd rather go to class four days a week, especially since I drive over here from Longview."  
**Dirk Wall**  
political science  
sophomore

"It's fine with me because I don't take summer sessions, so it won't affect me."  
**Michele Thomason**  
English major  
junior



# THE PATRIOT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

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

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

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

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

### STAFF

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Hannah Buchanan

**Opinion Editor** - Jennifer Murray

**Sports Editor** - Joseph Elerson

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**Writers** - Emily Stevens, Brittani Mathis

**Adviser** - Vanessa Curry

**Circulation Manager** - Mark Risinger



# Patriots rising stars

by Joseph Elerson

Sports editor

University coaches recognized 21 student athletes for their accomplishments on and off the field on April 26 during the Patriot Athletics Banquet at the Patriot Center Gymnasium.

Daniel Barrett Browning, who received the Most Valuable Player award from coach Kenny Jones will return for the fall season after a 17-goal, three-assist season while receiving All-American and All-Tournament honors during the USCAA tournament.

"This person (Browning) was probably the most significant player to our season with a lot of firsts for the Patriots soccer team from scoring the first goal for the University to being the first All-American," Jones said.

The Patriots men's soccer team finished the spring semester with a record of 13-5-2 and finished with a USCAA national ranking of No. 1.

Other players who received Most Valuable Player honors for their respective teams were Justin Ripoll, golf; Lauren Collum, women's tennis; Greg Jones, men's tennis; and Amber Haralson, women's soccer.

"These students are true student-athletes for the University. They add so much in terms of their enthusiasm and it has added so much to the impact of athletics for East Texas," President Rodney Mabry said.

The following is a list of the

winners from each sport who participated in intercollegiate athletics last semester and some background on some of the teams for the season:

## Cross country awards

• Runners Marcin Piskozub, Matt Altman, Kyle Halberstadt, Melissa Torre, Corina Lucas, and I.C. Best finishing kick winner Stephanie Heeren were recognized during the event.

Coach Matt Owings is recruiting for the fall semester and said the team will be stronger next year.

## Tennis

• Freshmen of the Year Katie Burrow and Kevin Cook, Most Improved Players Lorita Morgan and Blake Ericsson and Most Valuable Players Collum and Jones.

The men's team wrapped up the spring semester with a 5-5 record and recorded seven All-American players during the tournament on April 12-13.

The women's team went 6-3 on the season and had two All-American players during the two-day event.

## Golf

• Most Improved Player Edman Warner, John Bailey, and Most Valuable Player Ripoll.

The golf team wrapped up the spring season with the April 27-29 American Southwest Conference Invitational Golf Tournament on April 27-29.

## Soccer

• Newcomer of the Year Alex Rebich and Appolo Turnbow, Most Valuable Player Haralson and Browning and Outstanding Patriot Award Lindsay Lyle and Josh Wilson.

"This person (Lyle) is someone that is a wonderful ambassador for the University, and she is an excellent soccer player, who has played most of her life with a great family and she is a wonderful team player," Lovell said.

Coach Jones said he believes Josh Wilson received the Outstanding Patriot Award because of his ability to represent the University in terms of his words and his actions during the season.

The 2003 season for the Patriot women's soccer team will be a rebuilding season after the team went 1-16. Lovell has been recruiting heavily this off-season in an attempt to get more depth on her team.

Currently, Lovell said 20 or 21 girls have shown interest for the team in the fall, with play beginning on Aug. 20 against The University of Texas-Dallas. at 3 p.m.



—Brad Smith/The Patriot

**TOP DOG:** USCAA All-American and All-Tournament recipient Barrett Browning, right, received the Most Valuable Player award for the men's soccer team at the Patriot Athletics Banquet on April 26 at the Patriot Center gymnasium.

## All-Americans honored

### Eight players receive top honors at tennis reception

by Joseph Elerson

Sports editor

After a dual United States Collegiate Athletic Association conference championship win by the men's and women's tennis team, the players received recognition for their accomplishments on April 21 at the University Center.

Head Coach Ken Olivier and assistant coach Bryan Witt handed out plaques to the athletes and also recognized the All-Academic nominees for the

Alicia Johnson, Kayla Fedowitz and Lauren Collum.

After a spring season of 5-5 for the men's team, the team had seven All-Americans in singles and doubles competition.

Greg Jones, Dallas Long, and Andy White received honors in singles while Greg Jones, Maciek Hunek, team captain Kevin Cook and Ericsson received honors in doubles competition.

Team members for the season were Jones. Cook. Ericsson.

University of Dallas, and Rhema Bible College during the semester.

On the women's side of competition, the team finished the season with an overall record of 6-3 with wins against McMurry University, Austin College, Hendrix College, University of Texas-Dallas, University of Dallas and Rhema Bible College.

Team captain Collum and Katie Burrow received All-American honors in singles and







—Brad Smith/*The Patriot*  
**MVP:** Amber Haralson (6) received the Most Valuable Player award at the Patriot Athletics Banquet held on April 26 at the Patriot Center Gymnasium. Haralson scored five goals for the team.

spring season.

Students receiving All-Academic honors for the men's team were Kevin Cook, Austin Caudle and Blake Ericsson, along with Karoline Jacobs,

Dallas Long, White, Hunek, Caudle and Stephen Brouer.

The men's team recorded wins against McMurry University, Austin College, University of Texas-Dallas the

doubles. Women's team members are Collum, Burrow, Kayla Fedowitz, Lorita Morgan, Karoline Jacobs, Alicia Johnson, Giannina Bregon and April Hibbs.

## PATRIOT SCOREBOARD

*Scoreboard for April 14-29*

**LeTourneau Invitational  
April 14th**

**Woodhollow Golf Course  
Longview**

Team Standings:

University of Texas-Dallas-  
590

University of Texas-Tyler-  
623

LeTourneau University-623

Individual scores:

John Bailey-149

Chris Cox-161

Justin Ripoll-153

Jonathan Sorenson-166

Edman Warner-162

**American Southwest**

**Conference Tournament**

**Wildflower Country Club**

*Temple, TX*

*April 28-29*

University placed seven out  
of 12 teams.

Individual scores:

John Bailey-230

Chris Cox-236

Edman Warner-254

Justin Ripoll-242

Jonathan Sorenson-260

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The Office of Financial Services will no longer mail bills. To view or obtain a copy of your current bill, please go to Campus Connect at <http://www.uttyler.edu/cc/>. Log on and choose ACCOUNT STATUS. Select the appropriate term code and press SUBMIT. Your bill will appear on the screen. Press PRINT to produce a copy of the bill.

For assistance, please contact the Cashiers Office  
at (903) 566-7227 or [cashiers@uttyler.edu](mailto:cashiers@uttyler.edu).

Note: Bills for the Fall semester will be available for  
viewing/printing in July.



## Dream turned reality for fan

by **Brittani Mathis**  
Staff writer

**Column** April 30 marks Texas icon Willie Nelson's 70th birthday and I figured there was no better way to celebrate than to spend it with him.

I was raised on the sounds of the Texas troubadour's raspy voice and heart-felt love songs.

For years I have longed to see him, yet something always stood in my way — until now.

So there I was — decked out in my Willie gear — counting down the hours until show time.

I completed my ensemble with my favorite cowboy boots I purchased at the Goodwill for \$5 and braids held neatly in place with a look-a-like red bandana.

Bossier City's Horse Shoe Casio booked Nelson for a four-day birthday celebration.

The Riverdome sold out so quickly that it seemed impossible to get tickets for most who wanted them.

I lucked out at the last minute and stumbled into a pair from a desperate fan who got stuck at work.

So for \$50 and a short drive to Marshall, my date with Willie was set.

From all of the stories I heard from others who had attended Willie shows and all the legends which surround him, I figured my cheesy outfit would fit right in.

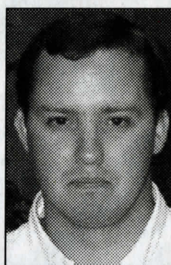
I assumed too quickly and

## Poets win awards in ceremony

by **Hannah Buchanan**  
Entertainment editor

At a literary awards presentation, the University's English honor society, Sigma Tau Delta, made junior Jeremy Light \$50 richer and student Mark Ford — a 42-year-old Jacksonville resident — received first place honors in an online poetry contest, on April 23 in the Robert Muntz Library.

Light received the cash prize for 'Best submission in *The Laurel*,' the University's literary magazine, which is published



JEREMY LIGHT

by the honor society.

Dr. Dana Adams, the honor society's adviser, said Light "was consistent of producing many poems of high quality."

"He submitted eight poems for *The Laurel* and all of them were superb, I couldn't even pick a 'best one,'" Adams said. "He clearly was the winner of the \$50."

Adams, along with English instructor Dr. Ann Beebe, English graduate student Saleh Jabr and Rick Phillips, the literary club 13 Ways president judged the "Best Submission" competition.

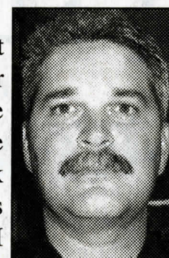
Ford said his wife happened to be the subject of inspiration for his winning poem

"Enchanted."

"I like to sit and mull over words. I'm one of those people who think afterwards about what I should have said," he said.

Besides Light and Ford, other winners of the online poetry contest and authors of this year's *Laurel* also were honored at the presentation.

Other University students winning honors in the online poetry contest, with their poem's title are: Second place: Crystal Hicks — "The Moan of the Dog" and Third place: Jeff



MARK FORD

## "I like to sit and mull over words."

— MARK FORD  
ONLINE POETRY CONTEST FIRST PLACE WINNER

Kuchinsky — "Wisteria."

Honorable mentions went to Tamara Brown and Seth Wilson for their respected poems, "Contemplation" and "Requiem."

The library and 13 Ways co-sponsored the online poetry contest as part of the library's celebration of National Poetry Month in April.

First place won a silver star-engraved paperweight, while second and third place finishers

took home transparent book-shaped trophies and honorable mentions received ribbons, Joanne Buendtner, event coordinator and head of library circulation, said.

Each contestant also received a certificate and read some of their winning selections at the presentation, she said.

To read the winning poems, visit [www.uttyler.edu/library](http://www.uttyler.edu/library).

Contributing writer *Jeremy Light* contributed information about Ford in this report.

## Jam session



—Brad Smith/The Patriot

**SINGIN' LOUD:** "Cerebus" is on display at the 18th Annual International Exhibition. The exhibit will be on display at the Meadows Gallery through June 6.

## Rusk county-based music station

## University musical production gave audience fun time, smiles

by **Robert Boggs**  
Editor in chief

Long before Annie sang the first verse of "I Think I'm Gonna Like it Here," I was already quite sure I liked being in the audience at the final performance of the musical "Annie" on April 13.

**Review**

Outstanding in the title role, Megan Ziegelbein led a believable cast with her energetic voice, though one cast member confided she was feeling hoarse by the final production.

Alongside a hodgepodge of University students, children and a live dog, Ziegelbein brought to life the story of Annie, an orphan searching for her real parents and finding the love of millionaire Oliver Warbucks in the process.

With optimistic musical scores including the ever popular classic "Tomorrow" and sentiment-laden "I Don't Need Anything But You," the production emerged as a family-friendly show, well timed as an alternative to the primetime war.

Although Roger Pharr gave an excellent performance as the booming

Daddy Warbucks, Denise Green dominated the supporting stage as the gaudy and wicked Miss Hannigan, the frustrated orphanage mistress.

Her performance of the uproarious "Little Girls," when combined with the antics of a horde of orphans, prompted a round of much-needed laughter from the audience.

The orphans, led by a particularly precocious girl reminiscent of Shirley Temple, provided a wealth of entertaining moments perfect to share with a date or close friend.

Though generally family friendly, the play did show a glimmer of New York's seedy side, with prostitutes occasionally tramping across stage.

But the sheer entertainment wasn't the only high point of the show — by the end of the nearly three hour performance, "Annie" alone seemed to be worth the \$30 per semester Fine and Performing Arts fee.

Taking Annie's advice that "you've never fully dressed without a smile," at curtain call the audience honored the cast and crew with a standing ovation — many wearing that vital accessory.



found out the minute I entered the arena that I definitely stuck out in the mature crowd.

I swear my friend Sarah and I were the two youngest fans there.

The elders seemed to get quite a kick out of my outfit.

I simply shrugged off the snickers.

I thought to my self, "Willie would be proud."

The concert was everything I expected and more.

Grumpy fans did not like when Sarah and I danced to the beat, so we eventually heeded there warnings and moved to the back of the auditorium.

There we were able to dance around, giggle and enjoy a Willie good time.

Bruce Robison asked fans an important question with his classic Texas tribute to Mr. Nelson, "What would Willie do?"

In my opinion, Willie would take a deep breath and enjoy the ride.

turning ears, heads across area

by **Brittani Mathis**  
Staff writer

**Review** The ringing sounds of the big band era and jazz standards have long since disappeared from most of America's radios. Thanks to station manager Chuck Conrad, citizens in Rusk County have the pleasure to reminisce and enjoy the sounds of a distant time.

Conrad's station, 104.7 KZQX plays a continuous rotation of nostalgic tunes by artists such as Ella Fitzgerald, Frank Sinatra, Louis Armstrong and other hits from the 30s, 40s, 50s, and 60s.

Originally targeted to attract listeners 40 and over, Conrad claims the station is a hit across the board.

"I listen to the station any chance I get. The music is calming and sincere, and it reminds me of a time when American music was fresh," 26-year-old Longview resident Josh Wilcox said.

The non-profit station not

only plays music, but they strive to keep the community informed with local news, trivia and boating and weather reports.

It is their goal to act as partners in the community and make it a better place to live.

Also the station's creator, Conrad conceptualized the idea after moving to the area three years ago.

"I realized there was no outlet in the area for this sort of music. You could probably call the station 'Chuck's favorite songs,'" Conrad said.

"Basically it is jazzy standards with an attitude," he said.

The station hit the airwaves in September 2002 and received an unexpected quick response Conrad said.

"I walked into the local water company one day to let them know we were on. They were already listening to us," he said.

In a time of forward movement and past eras dying, count on Rusk's 104.7 to carry on the big band and jazz traditions.

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2nd- The Pictures -PARTY!  
3rd - Rat Ranch - Rock 'N' Roll  
8th- Nathan Johnson Band- Rock 'N' Roll  
9th- Dear John - Party  
10th Big Daddy Band - Dance!  
-Annagrey - on patio  
15th- Stoney LaRue - Texas Music  
16th - Elvis T. Busboy - R&B  
17th - Heat - Funk and Dance  
22nd- Brandon Rhyder - Texas Music  
23rd - After Dark - Rock 'N' Roll  
24th - Passing Strangers - Dance!  
29th - Eli Young Band - Texas Music  
30th - Spank the Monkey - Rock 'N' Roll  
31st - Spank the Monkey - Dance!  
- Saltwater Flys - on patio



# Best bars in Texas

## Prison museum opens doors to life, history of state's 'least-loved' citizens

by Shalina Ramirez

Associate editor

HUNTSVILLE — Its leather restraints hang lifeless, cracking with age as visitors stare silently at the gruesome device that during its prime could send 1,800 volts through a condemned prisoner's body, knocking them unconscious and paralyzing their brain.

That was nearly 40 years ago.

Now a relic of the past, the decommissioned electric chair is considered, by far, the most chilling exhibit at the Texas Prison Museum in Huntsville.

Dubbed "Old Sparky," the hand-made machine is just one of the artifacts on display at the museum, offering a glimpse into the lives of the state's least-loved citizens.

Created in 1989, the Texas Prison Museum strives to educate the public on the history of the state penitentiary as well as the points of view of inmates and employees who work within the prison walls.

"There are a number of different things," Charles Combs, the museum's financial manger, said. "You get to see all of the parts of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice."

With more than 6,000 square feet of exhibits, viewers can begin their journey with a recap of prison system history highlights such as the 1871 convict lease period.

Convict labor was leased to private contractors to alleviate the financial burden that the prison placed on the state.

Inmates were forced to engage in manual labor including building railroads and quarrying the stone for the Texas state capitol building. The program was discontinued in 1912.

Another exhibit captures the excitement of Texas Prison Rodeo with an assortment of memorabilia includ-

ing posters, old ticket stubs and lassos.

The rodeo, performed until 1986, provided recreation for inmates who would compete in events such as bull-riding and calf roping as well as entertainment for prison employees. Superstars such as Reba McEntire, Willie Nelson and Minnie Pearl also took part in the festivities.

"There is also a replica of a cell," Combs said. "You can close the cell door and get an idea of what it's like."

Other museum highlights include brief biographies on some of the more famous Texas inmates including two-time Olympic gold medalist Bob Hayes and rock legend David Crosby.

Various drawings, crafts and sculptures made by inmates, including a "Prisonmonopoly" board game complete with sayings such as "You're weak, pay each player \$50 or get beat up," are also on display.

"There is even a flower made of toilet tissue,"

Combs said.

A homemade weapons exhibit, which includes a sharpened pork chop bone, remind visitors of how dangerous life behind bars can be.

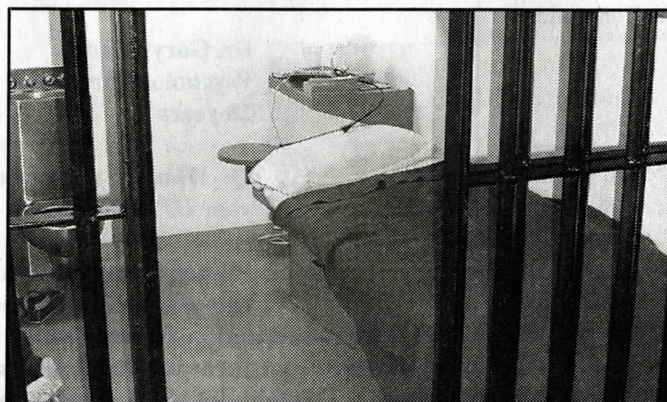
Another include an assortment of prison hardware including an old ball and chain, pad locks and modern handcuffs.

Heavy duty British made handcuffs called chubbs, leather restraints, belly chains, badges and uniforms of prison personal also are featured as well as weapons and uniforms used by prison personnel.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

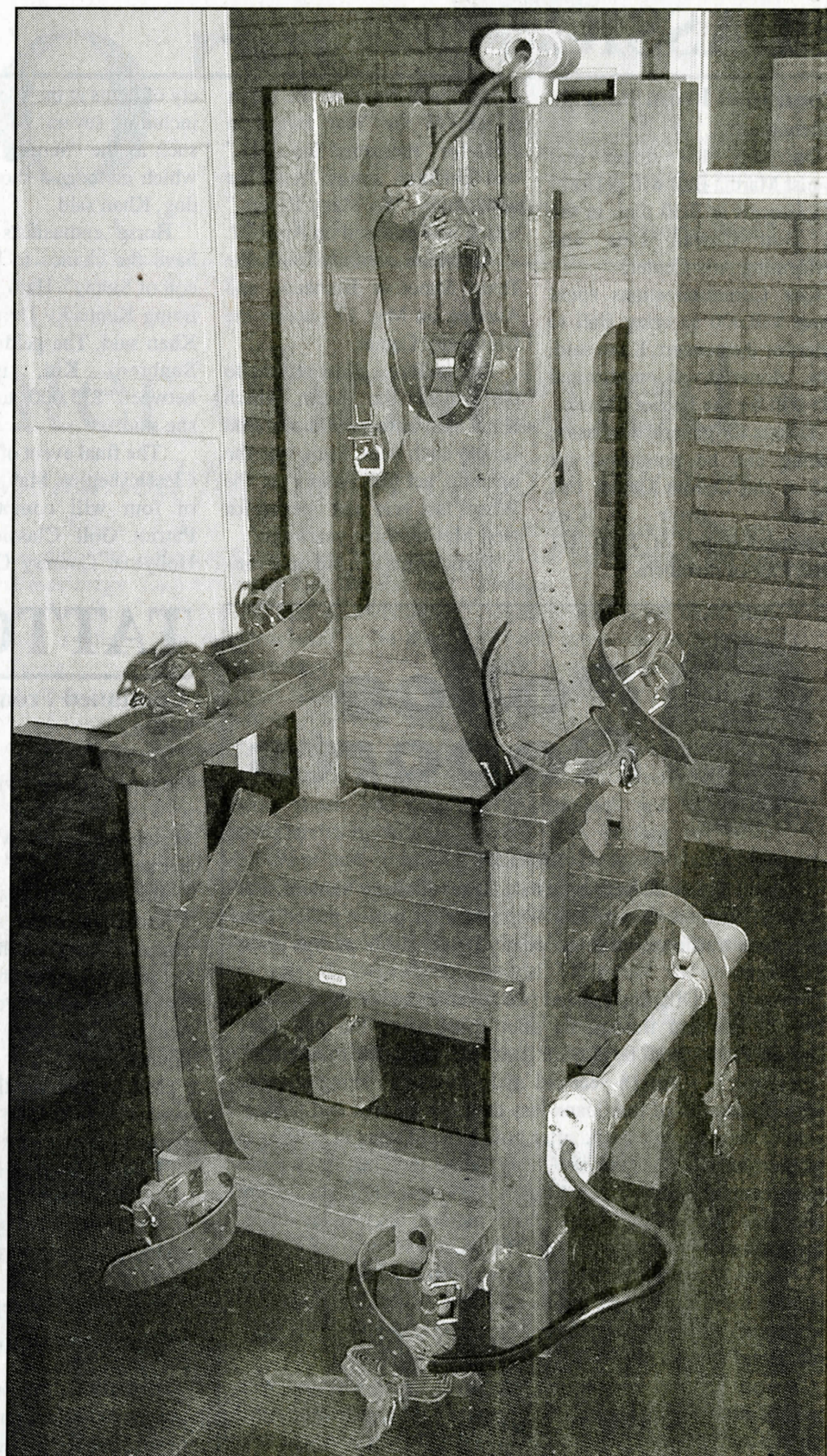
Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children between the ages of 6 and 17 with children under \$6 getting in free, Combs said. Senior citizens, TDCJ employees and TDCJ retiree discounts are available as well as special group rates.

"People just seem to find it interesting," Combs said.



—Shalina Ramirez/The Patriot

**HOME SWEET HOME:** A replica of a prison cell reminds visitors what's in store for those who disregard the law at the Texas Prison Museum in Huntsville.



—Shalina Ramirez/The Patriot

**RETIRED:** "Old Sparky," Texas's decommissioned electric chair, is considered the museum's most controversial exhibit. The gruesome device claimed the lives of 361 prisoners between 1924 and 1964.



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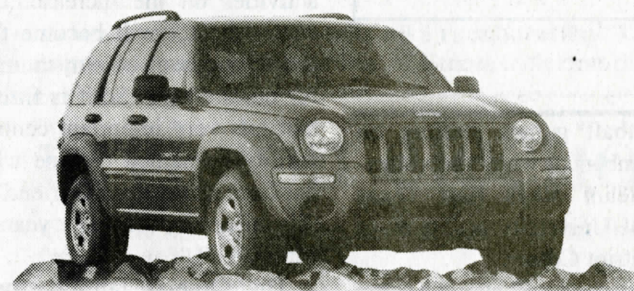
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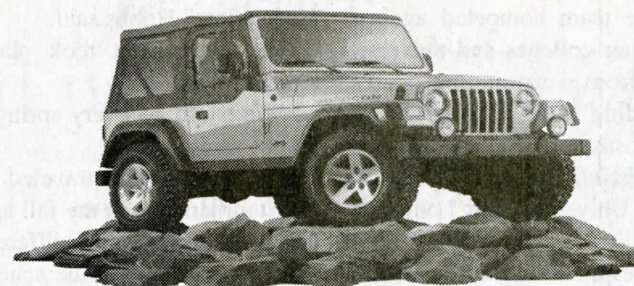
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## Campus Calendar

### May 3

- Piano recital-Junior recital featuring Micah Cooper and senior recital featuring Rhett Ansley, Braithwaite, 7 p.m.

### May 4

- UT Tyler choir concert, Vaughn Auditorium, 7 p.m.

### May 5 - 9

- Final Exams

### May 6

- Community Windy Symphony concert, Vaughn Auditorium, 7 p.m.

### May 7

- On Golden Pond with Jack Klugman, Vaughn Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

### May 9

- Registration and schedule changes, Intercession, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

### May 10

- Spring Commencement

### May 12

- Classes begin, Intercession, late registration and schedule changes, 9 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.

### May 16

- Last day to withdraw from Intercession with a "W"

### May 23

- Last day to withdraw from Intercession course

### May 30

- Final exams, Intercession
- Registration, Summer I, 9 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.



## CLASSIC

Continued From Page 1  
Information.

On May 15, singer and pianist Marcia Ball will perform at a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Cox Communications spent about \$10,000 to bring Ball to Tyler for the concert, Khan said. Cox donated an additional \$25,000 for the Patriot Classic.

Tickets for general admission seating can be purchased for \$15 at the Cowan Center box office, from Cox Communications or from UT Tyler Patriot members.

Ball, who received the Blues Album of the Year award in 2002 for "Presumed Innocent," will perform songs from her new album, "So Many Rivers," which was released on April 22.

Activities continue with the Texas Shootout Barbecue and Auction on May 17 outside the University Center.

Singer Tanya Sims returns to perform at the event, which Khan said attracts 900 to 1,000 people each year. Sims was the opening act for Asleep at the Wheel last year and opened for Neil McCoy three years ago.

Participants can bid on a variety of items at the silent auction,

including several package deals such as the "hunting package," which includes a shotgun and a dog, Khan said.

Horse enthusiasts also will have the chance to bid on the colt of Sunny's Halo, the oldest-living Kentucky Derby winner, Khan said. The gelding, named Sunbrero Kid, is valued between \$35,000 to \$40,000, she said.

The final event of the Patriot Classic begins May 19. Teams of four will compete at the Patriot Golf Classic, held at Hollytree Country Club. Khan

said teams are typically corporate-sponsored and include businesses, UT System representatives, and University groups such as President Rodney Mabry's team.

Major Applewhite, the former quarterback for the University of Texas at Austin Longhorns, will speak during lunch at the golf tournament.

Khan said she hoped students would attend to support the University.

"It's exciting for all of our donors to see our students. It makes them feel all of their work is worthwhile," she said.

## TATTOO

Continued From Page 1  
tattoos.

Because Martin says she's the type of person who will find a way no matter what, she began looking for ways to help her students.

Initially Martin said she took a group of eight students to Dallas County for the removals because no program existed in Tyler, but they got rejected because they didn't live in that county.

Martin said she then tried to contact area doctors' offices to try and get help, but to no avail.

Finally, a friend told her about Whitehurst, who agreed to do the program after it grew enough to be worthwhile for him.

Martin's next step was to try to get the program opened to the public.

"I dreamed of opening [the program] to the public. A lot of people change inside first, but a change outside can bring out an inner change," Martin said.

Martin said the Salvation Army and several churches' officials turned her down when she approached them about a location for the program because of the liability associat-

Zelena Delatorre, 16, said she got her gang-related tattoo removed because she is a different person now and because she didn't want to be a bad influence on her kids if she ever has any.

Whitehurst said no one has ever complained about the results of his work and some of his female clients break down in tears from joy and relief.

Whitehurst said one of his most memorable experiences involved a 28-year-old native African woman with a five-string necklace forcibly tattooed on her when she was 10-years old.

Whitehurst explained that although it was a traditional tattoo, she wanted to get it removed to get a better job.

"She speaks French, English, and five African languages and she works in a convenience store," Whitehurst said.

"It's amazing that we are still that prejudiced here. You can be the smartest cookie in the box, but not be able to get a job because of how you look," he said.

Whenever someone asks Whitehurst if he has a tattoo, he has a ready, sarcastic answer for



To mark the 30th anniversary of the opening of an upper-division college in Tyler, *The Patriot* will feature throughout the rest of the semester the recollections of long-time faculty members and tidbits of past University news.

## Faculty focus



**Dr. Gary Mears**  
Psychology professor  
28 years

**Q: What is your favorite anecdote from your UT Tyler career?**

"When it was still Tyler State College, one campus site was at the old Safeway store on Locust Street and we jokingly called it 'Safeway U.' The psychology department was in the fruits and vegetables section and I would jokingly answer the phone, 'produce department.'

**Q: What change has affected you the most since you began teaching here?**

"The biggest change was the masters program."

**Q: How have students changed since you have been here?**

"We have more young ones and I think we have more older ones too. More people that work and there are more females in the psychology department than we used to see. Quality of students in the masters program is still very high quality."



**Dr. W. Clayton Allen**  
Technology professor  
27 years

**Q: What is your favorite anecdote from your UT Tyler career?**

"When I interviewed with the dean of the School of Applied Arts and Sciences, Dr. W. A. Mayfield, his statement was, 'We think we want to do something in your area, but we are not really sure what. We have no faculty, we have no courses, so if you can make it work, you have a job.' I thought it was an interesting statement and it was a real challenge."



## Police Reports

## ARREST

• April 3 - A 22-year-old male Texas College student was arrested on three outstanding warrants after police pulled him over for a traffic violation on Varsity Drive. His bond was set at \$1,500.

• April 4 - Officers arrested two juvenile males, ages 15 and 16, for criminal trespassing after discovering the pair near Harvey Lake. Both boys were later released to their parents.

• April 11 - An 18-year-old male student is being charged with possession of marijuana less than two ounces and possession of drug paraphernalia after police found what is believed to be marijuana inside his blue Chevy Tahoe and University Pines apartment. Bond was set at \$1,000. A 19-year-old male student also was arrested during the same incident for possession of marijuana less than two ounces. His bond was set at \$500.

• April 12 - Police arrested a 19-year-old Tyler Junior College student for driving while intoxicated after pulling the male over at Patriot Ave. and Varsity Drive for a nearly wrecking his vehicle. Bond was set at \$500.

• April 19 - A 24-year-old woman is being charged with assault after turning herself over to police for her part in an April 16 incident, in which a pizza delivery person was attacked near UPines apartment building 4. Bond was set at \$2000.

## THEFT

• April 9 - An 18-year-old University student reported her purse had been stolen from her UPines apartment. Estimate value taken is unknown.

## MISC.



• April 11 - Officers investigated a report that someone was trying to gain access to a female student's UPines apartment with a key.

• April 14 - A 30-year-old University student reported that one of his vehicle's windows had been damaged while it was parked in Lot 6 near the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center. Estimated amount of damage is unknown.

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

## CHEER

### Continued From Page 1

with Curtis Scudder, Jr., Derrick Adams, and Jarod Watson, all from Tyler, finish out the cheer-leading squad.

The cheerleaders will participate at all home volleyball and

basketball games starting on September 26 when the volleyball team plays East Texas Baptist University at 7 p.m. at the Patriot Center.

The squad will attend a camp in summer to prepare for the fall semester, which starts Aug. 20.

## Debate team wraps up season in 8th place

by **Stephanie Smith**  
*Contributing writer*

Dr. Jeffrey Hobbs traveled with three members of the debate team to Louisiana Tech in Ruston to compete at the International Public Debate Association Championship Tournament last month.

Amy Arellano placed sixth in the open division debate and Noah Conklin claimed 10th place. Frank Patel also attended the competition.

Cumulatively, the team earned a Seasons Sweepstakes title and plaque for placing

eighth in the competition.

The team achieved this title even with the disadvantage of participating in fewer tournaments to count points than they are officially allowed, Hobbs said.

"They did great!" he said.

The team competed against 16 other colleges and universities from surrounding states including The University of Arkansas, St. Mary's University, Stephen F. Austin State University and Louisiana Tech.

"Despite its name, the associ-

ed with it.

Martin's efforts finally paid off though, as the program is now available to anyone.

## CENTER

### Continued From Page 1

believe me, we now have it. With athletics and other student activities on the increase, the center in fact will become the heart and soul of our campus for our students. So it is fitting that this very important central facility be named for one who has been a very special friend of this university for many years," Mabry said.

The Ornelas family established the UT Tyler Ben R. Fisch Endowed Professorship in

ation is more regional than international. Although we do have a few members in Japan, Israel and a couple of other countries, participants in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Missouri make up most of the association," Hobbs said.

The tournament took place April 11-13.

"We try to go every spring," Hobbs said.

The debate team traveled to four tournaments in the fall and six in the spring. Nine different students represented the school

them.

"Yeah, you wanna see it?" he says with a smile as he imitates dropping his drawers.

1995 to honor retired physician Ben Fisch. Their support also established an endowed presidential scholarship and an endowed academic scholarship, University officials said.

Mabry said the donation encouraged others to join the construction project. The Ornelas' "capacity to not only give but also to quietly influence countless other leaders in joining forces makes it possible to offer quality education right here in our East Texas community," he said.

in intercollegiate tournament competition.

"We won over 40 awards, including first place in debate at St. Mary's University, Louisiana State University at Shreveport, the University of Louisiana at Monroe, and the University of Arkansas at Monticello," Hobbs said.

This year, Dan Miller became the national champion in extemporaneous speaking at the Pi Kappa Delta National Speech Tournament and Amy Arellano earned selection to the All Texas Debate Squad at the Texas

**Q: What change has affected you the most since you began teaching here?**

**"The most significant change was we entered the UT system. It was a very positive impact on the institution and it gave us visibility on an international level."**

**Q: How have students changed since you have been here?**

**"I believe the most significant change I have seen is the age level of students. The mean age of students in the department was around 28. It has lowered since we have expanded our focus beyond mostly graduate work."**

## Patriot flashback

### 5 years ago:

- Former South African President and Nobel Peace Prize winner, F.W. deKlerk, discusses apartheid during his UT Tyler lecture.
- UT Tyler debate team travels to England and Scotland to debate teams from Cambridge, Oxford and St. Andrews.

### 10 years ago:

- Eisenhower International Golf Classic hosted at Willowbrook Country Club with guest athlete Troy Aikman.
- UT Tyler Patriots tennis team advances to national play-offs.

### 15 years ago:

- UT Tyler's 4th Annual Springfest held with a volleyball tournament, balloon toss and three-legged race.
- UT plans energy saving measures to cut back on costs.

### 20 years ago:

- Sister city program with Metz, France brings possible exchange students to visit UT Tyler.
- UT Tyler hosts Tyler-Smith County Texas-Exes Spring Banquet.

### 25 years ago:

- Board of Regents studies plans for proposed library on now UT Tyler campus.

### 30 years ago:

- Lake planned for campus.
- Education program students gain experience with mentally challenged at Lufkin State school.

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