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The Patriot Vol. 34 No.10 (2004)

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<https://scholarworks.uttyler.edu/teupatriot/128>

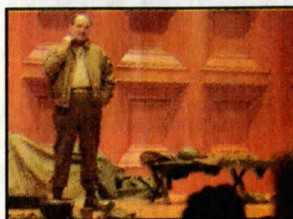
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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER PATRIOT

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FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 27, 2004
VOLUME 34 • ISSUE 10

Inside TODAY



Ernie Pyle play brings story of WWII correspondent to life
PULSE, Page 3

A \$1,000 tuition rebate gives students an incentive to hurry toward graduation.
CAMPUS, Page 6



Baseball team makes debut at Faulkner Park doubleheader.
SPORTS, Page 8

University tennis coach resigns to take position directing tennis programs at Faulkner Park.
SPORTS, Page 8



Amendments up for vote

❑ SGA constitutional revisions on ballot in March 3-4 election.

BY EMILY STEVENS
PULSE EDITOR

Students can vote on revisions made to the Student Government Association constitution, some of which officials admit they made illegally, March 3-4 in the University Center.

SGA parliamentary

Dustin Tallent said a copy of the changes will be available for students to view, however students will not be able to vote individually on each change.

Tallent said students can either vote to accept or decline the entire document.

SGA members present at

a special meeting held Oct. 28 unanimously voted to accept proposed revisions; however, more revisions were made after this vote.

According to the student constitution, proposed amendments must lie on the table for 30 days and then go before the SGA for a vote.

Once this is done, students vote on the proposed changes, which then go to the chief student affairs offi-

cer, the president of the University and the appropriate executive vice chancellor.

The SGA did not vote on revisions including moving an article from the constitution to the bylaws and adding provisions for bylaw amendment and ratification.

"The actual act may have been illegal, but we felt it was in the best interest of the SGA and the students,"

Tallent said.

Article V of the proposed constitution outlines the organization of the student judicial board, but in the constitution revised at the Oct. 28 meeting, Article V deals with standing committees.

Tallent said the article on standing committees was moved to the bylaws so the SGA could add more committees as necessary, but that

the SGA did not vote on this change.

"If it is in the constitution, the SGA can never make another standing committee without an amendment," Tallent said.

Article VII of the proposed constitution outlines constitutional and bylaw amendment and ratification; however, the document revised in October did not

See AMENDMENTS, Page 6

University says SGA not public

❑ *The Patriot* is seeking legal advice on information request.

BY ROBERT BOGGS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

University of Texas System lawyers declined an open records request from *The Patriot* seeking documents held by the Student Government Association, asserting the SGA is not subject to the Texas Public Information Act.

Barbara Holthaus, an attorney for the Office of General Counsel, also said the University does not have

“...the University does not have a right of access to the requested documents, and we cannot compel the production of this material.”

Mary Barr
Compliance officer



BRAD SMITH staff photographer

Guest ceramics instructor shows that getting there is half the fun.
PULSE, Page 3

University of Texas System Board of Regents names Cyndi Krier to vice chairman position.
CAMPUS, Page 6



University students get a snowy surprise with a white Valentine's Day.
CAMPUS, Page 10

Area childcare centers assist education majors develop creativity in the classroom.
CAMPUS, Page 5

QUOTE:

"Don't you have to sing something stupid like a Mariah Carey song?"

Michelle Branch
when asked how she would fare on "American Idol" in *People* magazine.

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the University does not have a right to access documents held by the SGA.

The Patriot is seeking legal advice from Student Press Law Center lawyers, who believe the SGA is subject to open records laws.

The newspaper sought documents relating to fraternities and sororities presented during an "informal" meeting of SGA members after the association's regular Feb. 3 meeting.

A reporter gave senator Tiffany Alexander a handwritten request for the documents following the meeting. Alexander handed the request to SGA adviser Shaune Martinez, who forwarded the request to University compliance officer Mary Barr.

"After review of this request, we have determined that the SGA is not subject to the Act," Barr wrote in a letter to *The Patriot*. "Consequently, the University does not have a right of access to the requested documents, and we cannot compel the production of this material."

Neither Barr nor Holthaus cited a specific section of the TPIA exempting student governments from open records laws.

The Act requires govern-

mental bodies to bear the burden of proof and cite specific exemptions when declining a request. Agencies also must seek the attorney general's opinion on declined requests, according to the Act.

Holthaus said the University does not have to ask the attorney general in this case because "the University is not seeking the application of an exception under the PIA in response to (the) request."

Instead, Barr said the University did not have control over the information being requested, citing a previous attorney general's opinion.

The ruling cited was a June 2001 decision stemming from a request from former SGA president Aimee Griffy to obtain a *Patriot* reporter's notes. The attorney general's office ruled the University does not own or have access to information held by student newspapers.

That decision was based in part on a decision that newspapers did not "collect, assemble or maintain" information for the University. According to the University's Manual of

See PUBLIC, Page 6



ROBERT BOGGS staff photographer

Snow Day —to— Slow Day

Weather on campus changed rapidly from three inches of snow on Valentine's Day to sunny with a high of 67 degrees the following Friday. Above, Mindy Wilson, 11, of Tyler, prepares to throw a snowball Feb. 14 while her cousin Kaleigh Huffine, 3, gets a ride. At left, a squirrel basks in the warmer weather Feb. 20 near the Business Administration Building.

E-mails critical of Greeks

BY KATHY SYLVESTER
STAFF WRITER

Greek life may be coming to the University as early as August, a plan by the administration to retain students even though some members of the faculty and administrators harbor reservations.

These reservations include concerns about binge drinking, drug use and hazing frequently associated with fraternities and sororities. A Greek system on campus does not automatically ensure a quality life for the student, improve student academics, or the retention of students.

The *Patriot* obtained copies of e-mails sent between Student Affairs Advisory Committee Chair,

Dr. Kathryn Morrison and committee members and coordinator of career services Krista Richardson through open record requests.

Implementation of Greek life is in progress. Information from nine fraternities and sororities who expressed interest has been received.

These organizations will submit presentations to a selection committee in March or April.

The committee will make their selections in May and establish the first six chapters in August according to documents received through open record requests.

According to the documents, Dr. Dale Lunsford,

vice president for student affairs and external relations, told the Student Affairs Advisory Committee "UTT has the worst retention rate in the state."

Having Greeks on campus is one administrative plan to retain students, Dr. Greg Orvis, a member of the Student Affairs Advisory Committee, wrote in an e-mail.

But he said the Student Affairs Committee has an obligation to consider whether the plan would cause more problems than it would solve.

At least two Student Affairs Advisory Committee members agree adding athletics and "Greek life" to the University isn't the fix to

retain students and improve students' academic performances in classes.

Orvis wrote, "the committee should be made aware there are some very important links between Greeks and student problems."

He cited two different surveys. In 1999 a survey done by the CORE Institute stated that fraternity members and athletes are more likely to drink heavily and to suffer negative consequences than other groups.

A survey of 17,000 students from 140 four-year colleges in 1993 expressed that Greeks, though they represent a small percentage of the student population,

See GREEKS, Page 6

Hill appointed to fill seat vacated by resignation

□ Senator position is first to be occupied without student votes.

BY JUSTIN RUELE

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Student Government Association members last week ratified the appointment of senior business major Jeff Hill to fill the vacant College of Business senate seat.

Hill succeeds former senator Lennard Stewart, who resigned in November after a verbal altercation in which

he allegedly used a racial slur.

Under a resolution passed earlier this month, president Ryan Palmquist appointed Hill rather than calling a special election.

In a brief presentation to the SGA, Hill discussed his previous student government experience and how much he wanted to be a part of representing the students

at the University.

"This is a beautiful school and the people here ... all the teachers knew my name in the first week," he said.

Palmquist asked Hill to leave the room while the members voted on his appointment. In an unexpected move, Palmquist conducted the vote so each member could not see how other members voted.

"I know this is like kindergarten, but I'd like to ask you to all put your heads

□ Kiepke resigns post as senator of University Pines Apartments.

CAMPUS, Page 6

down and raise your hands," Palmquist said.

SGA members hid their heads with one arm and raise their other hand to vote. The members voted unanimously—with one abstention—to approve Hill's appointment.

In an interview after the meeting, Palmquist said he used this voting method to

allow all members to feel anonymous when expressing their opinion.

Hill took office immediately. He has previously served in student government as speaker of the senate at The University of Houston.

"Running a senate with such conflicting ideas was hard, but rewarding," Hill said.

In addition to his senate work, Hill said he also was director of the Campus Security Executive Task

“Running a senate with such conflicting ideas was hard, but rewarding.”

Senator Jeff Hill speaking about his previous student government experience

Force. As director, Hill said he made headway in campus security with the placement of emergency call boxes.

SGA package promotes more trouble than worth

The proposed changes to the Student Government Constitution are on the ballot as a single pass-or-fail proposition, leaving little choice but to vote against the overall package despite a number of well-intentioned amendments.

At voting tables March 3-4, students will be able to view copies of the old and new constitutions, which they may hunt through to find scattered adjustments on their own.

The amendments include myriad housekeeping changes, the most significant of which moves the entire article on standing committees from the constitution to the SGA bylaws. SGA officials said they believe this change makes it easier to create new committees without requiring a student body vote to approve an amendment.

Unfortunately, the changes also introduce a "necessary and proper" clause into the constitution, writing SGA officers a blank check to do whatever they deem

Editorial

necessary involving "SGA business" that is not specifically mentioned in the constitution.

In city or national amendment elections, each proposition or amendment is outlined on the ballot, giving voters line-item options. This allows more direct democratic control over policy.

The best real-world model for an all-for-one-and-one-for-all package is a congressional bill with "pork-barrel" items. These items are personal projects tacked onto an important bill by representatives in exchange for their support. Under this system, other representatives are forced to vote for projects they don't want to get a larger goal accomplished.

The public, however, should not be forced to bow down to pork-barrel politics.

Demand the right to vote on individual items by rejecting the package deal on March 3-4.

CAMPUSVoice

What impact do you think fraternities and sororities would have on campus?



Mindy Kirby

Major: political science, sophomore

"It probably would have an impact on the younger students. It would interest them."

KIRBY

Meredith Moser

Major: biology, senior

"I think it would help to get people involved in school activities."



MOSER

Susan Rae Paulson



TAKING THE LEAD OF UT TYLER'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TRIES OUT THE "HEADS DOWN, HANDS UP" ANONYMOUS VOTING METHOD.



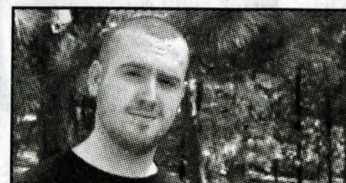
God's little patient takes his medicine

Right now, on such a lonely night, I can think of significantly better places to be than here writing this column. Monday night following Valentine's, I felt this strongest.

After a botch-up at the San Francisco airport, and missing my connecting flight, I stood in the Phoenix American West terminal staring at the carpet, mulling over missing school and where I was going to sleep that night.

I'm not afraid of flying. But I always pray for my survival during take-off and landing, simply because I feel so vulnerable. Earlier, while landing at Phoenix, I would've been content to crash. To explode across a quarter-mile of runway seemed slightly comforting.

I had made another trip to California to visit my girlfriend that weekend, and leaving Sara



SOAPBOX SPIEL

JOSHUA DAVIS

I do with the love of my life seems a bit disheartening.

But as I sat brooding in my smoking-hotel room watching \$12.99 movie rentals at 2 a.m., I felt the absurdity of it all very deeply.

I routinely question the regulated tedium of my scholastic life as well as my current residency. As an artist and an emotional, obsessive nut-job, it takes a lot from me to implement time and distance between Sara and I and still function. And so, at least once a week I consider a change.

I battled my familiar foe. Sadly enough, I won. By the time I was downstairs waiting for my 5 a.m. airport shuttle, I had

I would not make my Tuesday classes, nor be prepared for my tests, and I was so disgruntled and low I knew I wouldn't be sleeping, no matter how much I knew I needed it.

I often long for the distraction of change, but I'm always surprised when I find no solace or peace there.

I pine for a change, but reject anything short of completely perfect satisfaction. I was as ungrateful as ever. I had partially received my wish: I was out of state, out of class, and halfway to Sara. And when I was at my weakest, angry and alone, all I wanted was to head back to Sara and never return home to responsibility.

I battled my familiar foe.

Sadly enough, I won. By the time I was downstairs waiting for my 5 a.m. airport shuttle, I had

aware of how stuck I was, both in life and Phoenix, and I was cold and tired of struggling. I was ready to give up my romantic ideals and fantasies in exchange for a nap.

Looking back though, I can see now my trip was wholly worthwhile, and I was only responding to stress and anxiety. Now, having lost that sense of desperation, I see why surviving that night was a victory. I was pitiful and afraid. But I made it home and took my tests, and here I am working, alone, in a cold room away from my dreams.

But If I gave up then, or if I died on that flight, or if I threw it all down tonight, I'd regret it forever.

God crams life-lessons down my throat, force-feeding me truths I should embrace.

And since I've met Sara and



Susan Rae Paulson

Major: graduate student, clinical psychology

"The city of Tyler and the UT Tyler campus are already so cliquish that sororities and fraternities will only make the campus more exclusive."

PAULSON

Meagan Henry

Major: freshman, general business

"I don't think it would have a great impact, but it would keep people busy and give them things to do."



HENRY



Lanesia Pennington

Major: education, senior

"I don't think it would make any difference."

PENNINGTON

Kelsey Kamel

Major: freshman, biology

"I think it would be bad. I left my last school because the fraternities and sororities took over the campus and sucked people in."



KAMEL

Letter to the Editor

The family of Chad and Amy Kurtz would like to express their deepest appreciation to those of you who gave blood in Amy's name and visited us in the hospital, sent cards, brought gifts and food, and prayed for Amy during her recent illness. You will never know how much all of you have meant to us. Amy is home now and continues to recuperate please continue to remember her.

Thank You,

Chad and Amy Kurtz and Family

Corrections and Clarifications

The winners of the School Club Roundup amateur radio contest will be published in QST, the magazine published by the American Radio Relay League. The ARRL was misidentified in an article in the Feb. 13 issue. In the same article, the division University electrical engineering major Steve Wilt entered was unclear. Wilt is entering the competition as a school club with a single operator.

California to visit my girlfriend that weekend, and leaving Sara, getting first delayed, then stranded in Phoenix, seemed as surreal as any nightmare. Knowing I spend more time at school, or in my room, or even on the john than

still function. And so, at least once a week, I consider a change.

Well, there it was. I had my change. I was totally alone in my trashy hotel room with a pint of Ben & Jerry's and a heavy heart.

time I was downstairs waiting for my 5 a.m. airport shuttle, I had transformed from disgruntled rebel to pathetic conformist. I wanted back home.

I knew that I was not going to satisfy my true desire. I was well

And since I've met Sara and begun changing my life through college and hard work, the one taste I've grown all too familiar with and dread tasting is the most bitter of medicines, patience.

Reality presidential politics lacks real issues

I was very excited. I thought a new reality show had been invented just for me. On the screen, in bold, shiny and important-looking print: BATTLE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE.

It turned out to be a news station advertising its in-depth coverage of the presidential primaries. I have to admit they were very effective in capturing my attention. The media is exceptional at dramatizing the political process.

Corner lots are littered with brightly painted signs reading Who-Knows-Who For Congress and What's-His-Name For Texas Senate. Every election I enjoy watching the races for public office, but not for the reasons I should.

The game of politics is the ultimate reality show. Several contestants compete for votes, which will carry them into the esteemed reaches of public service. At the end of the race, someone goes



THE FINE PRINT

JEREMY LIGHT

home with nothing but a story to tell his or her disappointed constituents. The fun for me, however, is not in the end result but the bite-his-ear-before-he-can-rabbit-punch-you process, which is eventually settled at the ballot box.

What can we expect when the primaries are referred to as contests? How can we keep from laughing when the same issues are raised every political term and nothing seems to change?

Take the so-called issues, for instance: family values, job creation, Medicare, Social Security, bipartisan cooperation, and tax cuts. The candidate should always

respond to each of the above respectively: for it, will do it, keep it, strengthen it, try to do it, and by all means do it.

What, if anything, is resolved after the election?

Each newly elected president has a timetable to fulfill. Year one is spent in awe of his victory. Year two requires the formulation of a plan.

Year three brings the harsh realization that the plan will fail. Year four requires convincing the American people the plan will require four more years to succeed. Do we actually believe this drivel? We must, since I have heard the same thing every election cycle.

Ask yourself this question: would you vote for a candidate who admitted he would raise taxes? Chances are, your answer is no. If you answered yes, review the ill-conceived campaign of Walter Mondale in the 1980s. He spoke the truth and was summarily

defeated by his opposition. The winner eventually raised taxes anyway. How ironic that the liar is far likelier to be elected than the one who speaks the truth.

Why does this trend continue? Why do we elect only those who provide pat answers to predetermined questions? The reason is very simple: denial.

Voters want to hear how much better their lives will be after the election. The light fluffy clouds by a new administration will ease the misery felt right now.

You Decide 2004 should be retitled Political Survivor. Let's admit it's all a game and let the Nielsen's decide if we want an election next year.

It doesn't matter how high unemployment goes, how much taxes increase, how much the family value system declines, or how much bureaucracy stifles our freedoms.

Just as long as everyone tells us what we want to hear.

THE PATRIOT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

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* 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.

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Campus CALENDAR

Feb. 27

- Art History Lecture, Dr. Scott Montgomery, FPAC 1009, 6 p.m.
- Patriot Baseball, Faulkner Park, 6 p.m.

Feb. 27 - 28

- Seascape, The Theatre, 7:30 p.m.
- Patriot Tennis, American Southwest Conference Individuals, UT Tyler tennis courts, all day

Feb. 28

- Patriot Baseball, double-header, Faulkner Park, 1 p.m.
- UT Tyler Music Auditions, Braithwaite Recital Hall, 10 a.m.

Feb. 29

- Seascape, The Theatre, 2:30 p.m.

Mar. 1

- Blizzard of Bucks, The original crazy game show, UC open area, 1 p.m.

Mar. 2 - 4

- 5-on5 Intramural Basketball, Patriot Center, 7 - 10 p.m.

Mar. 2

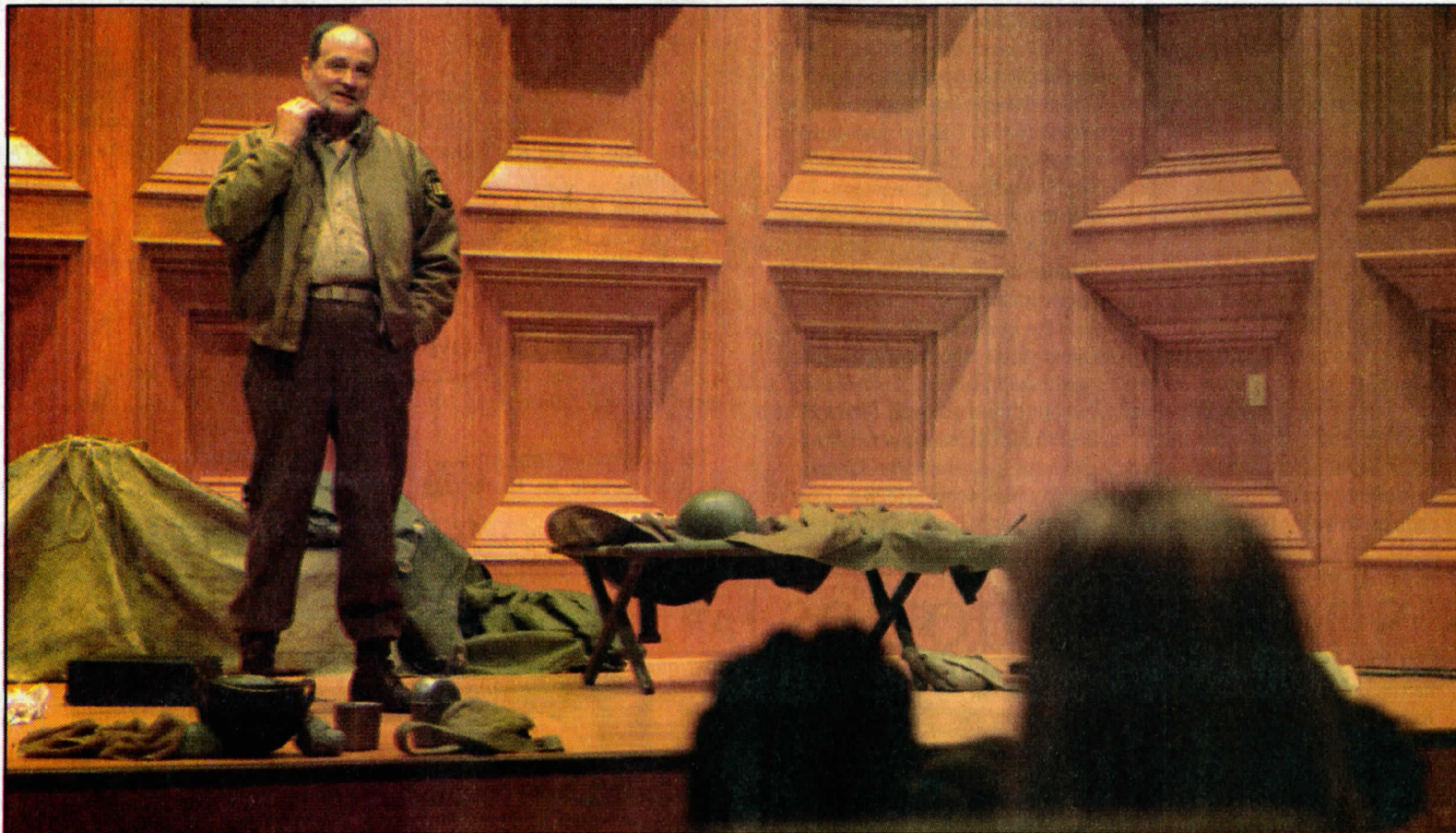
- Health Fair, UC 118 and 282, 11:30 - 1:30
- Criminal Justice Student Assoc. meeting, BUS 260, 3:30 p.m.

Mar. 3 - 4

- Vote - SGA constitution, UC

Mar. 3

- Free Home Cooked Meal, University Church of Christ, Fellowship Hall, 6 - 6:45 p.m.



BRAD SMITH staff photographer

Michigan professor Rick Plummer, who wrote and starred in "Live From the Front: Byline Ernie Pyle," takes time to rehearse in front of students in the Braithwaite Recital Hall on Feb. 20 before his first performance at 10:30 a.m. Plummer also performed Saturday and Sunday.

Professor bids writer respect

❑ One-man play offers tribute to Pulitzer prize-winning war correspondent and WWII vets.

BY EMILY STEVENS
PULSE EDITOR

Thunderous booms and the sound of missiles screaming through the air might make one think he or she is walking directly onto a battle-

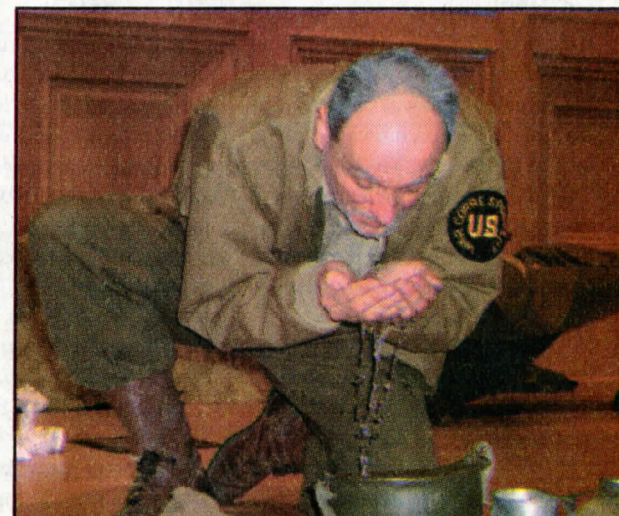
Plummer's father served in WWII, and Plummer said he felt a strong connection between his father and Pyle because they were both "farm boys from rural Indiana."

❑ Read about veterans' recollections of Pyle's death.

PULSE, Page 4

Plummer reread Pyle's books and "realized the enormity of his writing."

"It occurred to me then that, here was a man who was truly an American hero. He spent his life in loving sacri-



EMILY STEVENS staff photographer

Plummer rehearses a scene in which he washes his face with water from an army helmet after the Saturday night show.

play has been "very well received" and that "veterans organizations around the

touring Shakespeare company for 12 years. "It was a richly rewarding



ALL OR NOTHING

STEPHEN KIEPKE

Video game simple, yet entertaining

A small penguin poses on a precarious precipice 50 feet above the hard-packed snow. Looking down, he spreads his flippers, balancing himself, preparing for the moments to come.

Prompted by some unknowable signal, he leaps with all the grace of an Olympic high-diver. But there is no swimming pool below him—all that awaits him is the snow...and the yeti.

A shaggy brute who wears designer sunglasses and effortlessly holds a club thicker than his leg in his hand, this ne'er-do-well has no purpose in life other than to persecute the helpless.

The yeti shifted his grip and grasped the club with both of his massive paws, bringing it up over his shoulder in a Sammy Sosa stance. Now he waits, club trembling in his grip, waiting for just...the right....

POW! The club moves too fast to see, and the penguin, startled from his original trajectory by a more persuasive force, describes a steep upward arc.

He flies through the air, flippers back to minimize wind resistance. Lady Gravity, seeing this flouting of her sovereign will, exerts

Fellowship Hall, 6 - 6:45 p.m.

Mar. 4

- Free Lunch, CrossTalk, UC 118, 11:30 - 12:30
- Creative Writing Workshop, LIB 410, 6:30 p.m.
- UT Tyler Wind Ensemble, Vaughn Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Mar. 6

- A Streetcar Named Desire, Vaughn Auditorium,, 7:30 p.m.
- Patriot Baseball, Faulkner Park, 6 p.m.
- Patriot Tennis, Men's and Women's, UT Tyler tennis courts, Noon

Mar. 8 - 13

- Spring Break

Mar. 8 - 9

- Patriot Golf, Men, Eagles Bluff Country Club

Mar. 13

- Patriot Tennis, Women, UT Tyler tennis courts, 1 p.m.

Mar. 16

- Free Movie, The Glass Menagerie, LIB 401, 6:30 p.m.
- Patriot Baseball, Faulkner Park, 6 p.m.

Mar. 17

- Free Home Cooked Meal, University Church of Christ, Fellowship Hall, 6 - 6:45 p.m.
- Movie: Tampopo, FPAC 1009, 3:30 and 7 p.m.

Mar. 18

- Free Lunch, CrossTalk, UC 118, 11:30 - 12:30
- Momin-Cactus Opus, Vaughn Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- Junior Flute Recital, Braithwaite Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Mar. 19

- UT Tyler Student Recital, Braithwaite Recital Hall, 2 p.m.

one think he or she is walking directly onto a battlefield rather than into the Braithwaite Recital Hall. Once inside, the stage resembles an American WWII campsite, littered with authentic army gear and a typewriter. As the lights on stage begin to brighten, the audience sees a man lying on a cot with his back to the crowd. The man is Rick Plummer, a Michigan professor who wrote and starred in "Live From the Front: Byline Ernie Pyle," a one-man play memorializing the Pulitzer Prize-winning WWII correspondent. Plummer performed the play at the Braithwaite Recital Hall on Feb. 20 - 22

"farm boys from rural Indiana." Plummer said both of his parents were avid readers and had all of Pyle's books, so he "grew up with Ernie." Plummer said he remembered being vaguely disappointed knowing his father was a WWII vet and didn't want to talk about his experiences. "I grew up in the shadow of the war; it was the nature of our play in the '50s. [War] was on our minds and in our consciousness," he said. After Plummer's own combat experience in Vietnam, he said he realized his father simply didn't want to relive the war. It also was after his two tours in Vietnam that

here was a man who was truly an American hero. He spent his life in loving sacrifice for 18 and 19-year-old boys," Plummer said. Plummer said his play's "mission" is to memorialize Pyle as well as the soldiers who fought for our country. "The mission is to help celebrate the great courage, sense of duty, and patriotism of the more than 16 million men who really did do nothing short of saving the world 60 years ago," Plummer said. The play premiered three years ago at West Shore Community College in Scottville, Michigan, where Plummer has taught theater for more than 25 years. Plummer, who has been acting for 28 years, said the

received" and that "veterans organizations around the country have been very excited." He said his interest in theater began as a child. "As an only child for 12 years, I did a lot of singular play. I had a rich creative and imaginative life as a child," Plummer said. Plummer went on to receive his undergraduate and graduate degrees in drama from Ball State University, which he attended with David Letterman and Joyce DeWitt. Plummer then moved to Southern Illinois University for his Ph.D., where his interest in outdoor historical drama grew. Plummer said his favorite work was when he ran a

ny for 12 years. "It was a richly rewarding experience as an actor and a director," Plummer said. During this time, Plummer also met his wife, who was playing Calpurnia to his Caesar at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. "If for no other reason, I had to marry her because I've never seen anyone perform on that level," Plummer said. "She's the real talent in the family." Although he's been to Texas several times, Plummer said this was his first time in Tyler. "Everyone pitched in [to help with the performance], which reflects the friendliness of everyone in Tyler," Plummer said. "I appreciate all the hard work."

Gravity, seeing this flouting of her sovereign will, exerts her charms, and the mutual attraction she and the penguin share entices him back to the earth.

He bounces twice and skids to a halt, leaving a 20-meter furrow of overturned snow in his wake. A sign descends from the heavens and alights beside the now motionless penguin: 276.8.

The above was a melodramatic re-enactment of a game of "Smack the Pingu," one of the myriad Shockwave games a bored person can find on the Internet.

I don't normally play such games, my tastes running toward a few late-night hours of Final Fantasy and Smash Bros. Melee and, in rare moments of desperation, Minesweeper.

I'm amazed that the little yellow guy can keep on smiling after all the times I've blown him up.

However, a friend sent me a link one day when I was supposed to be working, and I was enthralled.

For me, a large part of the attraction stems from the pure quirky creativity. I never would have thought of having a penguin jump off a cliff, much less having a yeti smack him great distances with an improvised baseball bat.

Yet here is proof that someone not only had this idea but also felt strongly enough about it to invest the needed time and effort into making this idea—no, this dream—into a reality.

The pure simplicity of this game is wonderful. All you need is a mouse with one working button. You click once to start the dive, and you click again to swing the bat. Click, click. Click, click. A "game" can take anywhere from two seconds (if you miss entirely) to six (if you get just the

Artist demonstrates techniques

BY EMILY STEVENS
PULSE EDITOR

Ceramic artist Billy Ray Mangham doesn't care about his work after it's finished; he just likes to create.

"I really love making stuff. If it was up to me, I'd make it and it would just disappear," Mangham said.

Mangham came to the University on Monday as the guest instructor of a workshop on ceramics for interested artists.

The workshop was held in the ceramics studio and included demonstrations and a slide show of Mangham's work.

"He was very informative. It's always good to learn new techniques from different artists," senior art major Barbara Wadlinggon said.

Mangham, from San Marcos, Texas, has been working with ceramics for more than 30 years.

Mangham said he taught at the Art Museum in



KATHY SYLVESTER staff photographer

Ceramic artist Billy Ray Mangham, 58, from San Marcos, constructs the lower portion of a torso in the ceramics studio, where he taught a workshop on Monday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshop included a slide show of Mangham's work, demonstrations and a chance for participants to ask Mangham questions about his techniques.

Austin from 1980-1989, and has displayed work all over the country—from Baltimore to San Francisco.

Mangham received his bachelor's degree in fine arts from San Jose State University and, after four

years in the Navy, his master's from Stephen F. Austin University, but said he will never stop learning.

"I'll always be a student. I've only formally studied at the schools I attended, but I learn a lot from look-

ing at other exhibits," Mangham said.

Mangham said it was at SFA that he decided clay was his medium of choice.

"I started working with welded steel and wood, but when I first touched clay, it

had an immediacy and a great feel. I knew it was the material I wanted to work with," Mangham said.

During the demonstration on campus, Mangham manipulated the clay to his desired form, seemingly without effort.

By the end of the session, the pile of clay was a female torso with skulls replacing the arms and breasts, entitled "Wild Woman."

"You can work with clay, and you don't have to plan," Mangham said. "Clay is a real good tool to allow you to have fun and be creative."

Mangham said his least favorite part of being an artist is having to sell his work since he just likes to create.

"I make a living doing arts and crafts shows. The range of prices at the shows is \$50-\$1,200, but the most was a sculpture of a large

See ARTIST, Page 4

See VIDEO GAME, Page 4

VIDEO GAME

Continued from Page 3

right arc and get a few good bounces). After Pingu comes to a stop, you get a sign to display the distance he traveled. Click and the game resets.

While the game's graphics are rather basic and the plotline is nonexistent, the sheer replay value makes up for both.

I've spent half an hour at a stretch playing this game, trying to get just one-tenth of a meter farther.

If you prefer to measure in feet, take the value you get in the game and multiply by 3.2808399. Bonus points if you use pencil and paper.

Once you're sure you've gone as far as you can, you can set other challenges for yourself. Go for the shortest distance (zero doesn't count). Go for negative distance (I've done it once, and I

haven't figured out how). Aim for a round number.

Once, while playing this game, I decided to see if I could make Pingu fly precisely 200 meters. It took me at least 10 minutes, maybe as many as 20, but the sight of the little sign saying, with Spartan eloquence, "200," healed all hurts.

I wanted to remember the occasion, so I took a screenshot. I need to get out more.

You can easily find the game with Google. But if you don't feel like doing all that work, just go to <http://www.smackthepingu.tk/>.

You can play six different variations of the game there, including one version with improved graphics and a high score list.

Ultimately, of course, the game is nothing more than a passing fad. In times past, it was the care

and maintenance of pet rocks. Now it's hitting penguins with baseball bats. Tomorrow, it may be firing goldfish out of a cannon at flying monkeys while dodging falling eggs.

Still, sometimes it can be nice to look at the simple things, the silly things, the 10-second time-wasters that lighten and enliven our days.

Nowadays, when games have multimillion dollar budgets and serious stories and graphics that render us slack-jawed and drooling with wonder, it's nice to know a few people still know what games are about: wasting time and having fun.

Let the world wait for its Halo 2. I think I'll just sit here for a few minutes and smack the Pingu.

My high score is 320.5. Beat it if you can.

Veterans share memories

BY JENNIFER MURRAY
AND SABRINA MAERTINS
STAFF WRITERS

Headlines around the country screamed the news that April day in 1945: "ERNIE PYLE KILLED."

The beloved columnist died from a Japanese machine gun bullet just days after American soldiers captured the tiny island of Ie Shima. Pyle's trip ashore to report cleanup efforts was to be his final tour before returning home.

His death proved to be one of those moments in history some Americans - especially those involved in the war - never forgot.

Earl Montgomery of Longview was a pilot during World War II whose main task was to direct artillery fire on enemy targets.

"Machine guns, personnel, munitions, vehicles, anything that was opposing our forces we would take under fire," Montgomery said.

On April 18, 1945, Montgomery said he was flying with a news correspondent, whom

he can only recall by his last name, Robertson.

The news of Pyle's death came over the radio and Robertson pleaded for Montgomery to return to base.

"Can you fly me to Okinawa? I need to call New York and let them know that Ernie Pyle has been killed," Montgomery quoted Robertson as saying. "I flew him to the airfield in Okinawa, which was the only field that was open there at the time. I let him out of the plane and he called New York."

Pyle was initially buried in a mass grave on Ie Shima, but his body was later exhumed and reinterred in The Punchbowl, a national cemetery in Hawaii.

Clyde Wilfong of Tyler, was on duty as an honor guard member the day Pyle was reburied in Hawaii in 1949.

"I was one of two officers in charge of the honor guard, we alternated. We buried eight a day, four in the morning and four in the afternoon," Wilfong said. "It just

so happened that it [Pyle's burial] fell on my day. I couldn't believe it."

Wilfong said Pyle was buried with a sailor on one side, a soldier on another side, a Marine above him and nothing at his feet.

"They buried him because of his connection with the infantry and the troops," he said.

Wilfong said no one gathered for Pyle's service because there had been no publicity about his burial at the national cemetery.

Wilfong's said he knew of Pyle and his writings from the front lines. He said Pyle was famous because of his interaction with the soldiers.

"His writing was unique. He could describe it better than anyone," he said. "He was exposed to everything we were. He lived with us."

Despite all the burials Wilfong oversaw during his tour of duty, he said Pyle's stands out the most.

"It was an honor," Wilfong said of his involvement.

Medieval times return

BY MARK RISINGER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Four Winds Renaissance Faire, held between Whitehouse and Troup, celebrates its 10th anniversary on the weekends of March 13- April 18.

Special events include a Saint Patrick's Festival, an April Fool's Festival, and a J.R.R. Tolkien Celebration.

The Saint Patrick's Festival will be March 20 - 21, followed by a Romance and Chivalry themed weekend on March 27 - 28.

The April Fool's Festival will be April 3 - 4 and the Tolkien Celebration will fall on April 10 - 11.

The celebration on April 11 also will include an Easter egg hunt.

At the end of each day, there

will be fireworks as part of the 10th anniversary celebration.

Advance tickets are \$8 for adults \$4 for children, and season tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children.

Tickets will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children at the gates, which open under any weather conditions at 10 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.

Camping is available near the site at a cost of \$5 per person, per night and recreational vehicle electric connections are \$10 per night. Shower and restroom facilities are included.

The Faire is located about 20 miles south of Tyler off State Highway 110 on CR 2178. According to the Faire's pamphlet, signs will be posted to mark the way to the site.

Former University student

Dustin Stephens and current students Kristin Stephens and Leah Thompson helped organize the event.

"A Renaissance Faire encourages the arts. In major cities around the U.S. and abroad you see street performers everywhere. You don't see this in East Texas, as street performers are viewed as vagrants and hobos," Stephens said.

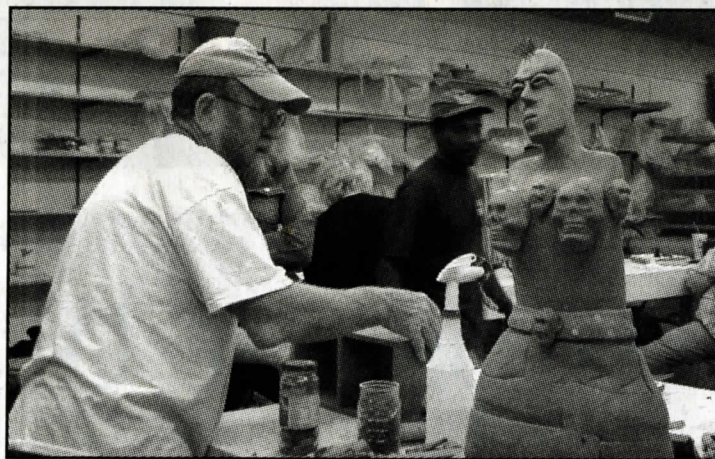
"The Faire is a venue for local performers to perform and accept tips," he said.

Stephens said they hope to field a large-scale 17th century military battle at some point during the run of the show.

For more information or to order tickets, contact the Four Winds Renaissance Faire office at (903)-839-5271 or e-mail fourwindsfaire1@yahoo.com.

ARTIST

Continued from Page 3



EMILY STEVENS staff photographer

Mangham looks over his finished piece, entitled "Wild Woman" at the close of the demonstration on Monday.

torso for \$3,000," Mangham said.

Mangham said his biggest influence is pre-Columbian clay work from Mexico and Central America, but "inspiration is everywhere."

"Everything I take in affects me. I take stuff in, synthesize it, and put it back out in my view,"

Mangham said.

Since Mangham doesn't care about his finished product, he said his favorite pieces are always the most recently completed ones.

"My wife is the only reason I have a collection of my work. She'll find one or two pieces worth saving and put them

back," Mangham said.

Besides ceramics, Mangham also enjoys playing music, which he did for five years before joining the Navy, and bird watching.

"[Bird watching] is a really nice way to get centered, and it gives you an excuse to be in nature," Mangham said.

He also said he doesn't know what his future will hold, but he's been thinking about getting involved in music again.

However, one definite event in Mangham's future is a display at the Tyler Edom Art Museum in May.

At the workshop's end, Mangham put the finishing touches on his piece and answered questions.

Graduate student JoJo Duncan said Mangham's demonstration was "awesome."

"He showed a lot of great techniques that might help students discover their own styles," Duncan said.

As Black History Month draws to a close, we remind the community

that the struggle for Civil Rights is an ongoing one.

I appeal to everyone who believes in Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream to make room at the table of brother and sisterhood for lesbian and gay people. Gays and lesbians stood up for civil rights in Montgomery, Selma, in Albany, Georgia, and St. Augustine. Many of these courageous men and women were fighting for my freedom at a time when they could find few voices for their own, and I salute their contributions.

-Coretta Scott King

Mrs. King has called for a national campaign against homophobia and rebukes those who claim her husband did not intend for gays to reap the benefits of the civil rights movement.

I've always felt that homophobic attitudes and policies were unjust and unworthy of a free society and must be opposed by all Americans who believe in democracy. As Martin once said, We are all tied together in a single garment of destiny an inescapable network of mutuality I can never be what I ought to be until you are allowed to be what you ought to be.

Homophobia is like racism and anti-semitism and other forms of bigotry in that it seeks to dehumanize a large group of people, to deny their humanity, their dignity and personhood. This sets the stage for further repression and violence, that spreads all too easily to victimize the next minority group.

Mrs. King also supports the National Black Justice Coalition in advocating civil marriage equality. Some of the many who join her are:

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu

NAACP Chairman Julian Bond

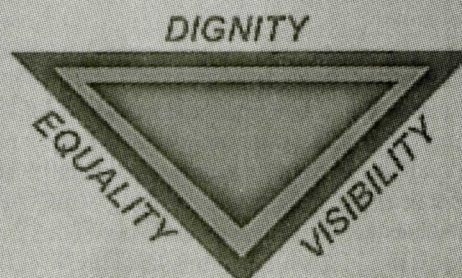
Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates Jr.

University Unitarian Church President Rev. William Sinkford

Nationally syndicated columnist Clarence Page

Join Campus GLBT Outreach in recognizing that Separate is NOT Equal for any group. campusglbt-owner@yahoo.com

Campus GLBT Outreach values the content of one's character, not the color of one's skin, and respects all aspects of people including ability, socio-economic background, political or religious affiliation, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression.



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Childcare centers stir classroom creativity

University of Texas at Tyler early childhood education students interact with children at two local childcare centers as part of a Play and Creativity in the Classroom course taught by Dr. Lisa Starnes, assistant professor of education.

The course teaches theories of play, and students demonstrate their skills by applying the knowledge at North Tyler Day Nursery and Faithful Child Care. UT Tyler students create interest centers with sand, water, clay, blocks, art, dramatic play, reading, science or math and bring the activities to the centers.

"The program helps the childcare centers by bringing developmentally appropriate activities into the classrooms for the children to experience and as models for the childcare staff," Starnes

said. "The university students benefit from the experience by implementing ideas they have developed under faculty supervision, working with a diverse population and providing service to the community."

Students read to the children and talk with them about letters, sounds and words, building early literary skills. The play activities are child-centered, so the child is in control of the play by first having choices about activities, then making decisions about how to use tools, devising problems to solve and exploring the possible solutions.

Sensory development is enhanced as the children are shown new ways to use open-ended materials through finger painting, playing with clay, smelling new fruits as they feel

the texture of a pineapple or hearing the crunch of crisp leaves. Building sophisticated block constructions improves large and small muscle development. Counting the blocks develops math skills. Dramatic play encourages creativity and language development.

UT Tyler students also independently do observation hours in classrooms, improving the adult-to-child ratio, Starnes said. "The ratio is important to language and vocabulary development because having an adequate number of adults in the classroom gives children more one-on-one interaction with adults."

During the six-week program, the UT Tyler faculty supervisor observes, using a laptop computer. Students submit reflections about their performance and the

faculty member responds to them individually via e-mail. Students can make changes and improvements before returning to the center.

Materials are brought from the university classroom, faculty collections and the Smith County Champions for Children Resource Room. Students and various organizations provide some materials.

"One goal of the program is to improve the quality at childcare centers serving children who need rich experiences to help them be successful when they begin school," Starnes said. "Another goal is to provide field based, practical experiences for future teachers. The best goal is to have fun while we learn."

LITTLE FRESHMAN?



GARY O'BERG contributing photographer

Haylee Dozier, a member of the First Baptist Church of Winona, enjoys a bite to eat during the Baptist Student Ministry's free lunch in the University Center Room 118 on Feb. 17.

Denver teacher to present two lectures Friday on art history

The University of Texas at Tyler will present two lectures featuring Dr. Scott Montgomery, assistant professor of art history at the University of Denver, on Friday, Feb. 27.

Open to the public, the lectures will be held in Room 1009 of the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center, near the Braithwaite Recital Hall.

Montgomery will discuss "Relics and Art in Medieval Europe" at 2 p.m. and "Companion Martyrs: Relics, Reliquaries and the Cult of the Eleven Thousand Virgins" at 6 p.m.

For more information, contact Dr. Jill Blondin, a University assistant professor of art, at 903-566-7482.

BE DIFFERENTIABLE



courtesy photo

University math students and members of the Mathematics Association of America's UT Tyler Chapter stand in the snow outside the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics on Feb. 8. The students are, from left to right, Lesley Wilson, Olivia Fant, Scarlet Worthen, Penney Jones and Sarah Graham. The conference featured speakers from the National Security Agency, National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Science and Technology. Worthen and Wilson presented research titled "Edge Ideals and their Symbolic Powers" at the conference. MAA adviser Dr. Jennifer McLoud drove the students 13 hours in each direction for the event.

Nanotechnology work recognized

Research in nanotechnology conducted by Dr. Robert Greendyke, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at The University of Texas at Tyler, has received national recognition.

For the third time in as many years, Dr. Greendyke's research was recognized in the "Year in Review" edition of American Institute of Aeronautics and

Astronautics' *Aerospace America Magazine*. The edition highlights cutting-edge aerospace engineering research work in the United States for the previous year.

Dr. Greendyke's work focuses on the computer simulation of the formation of carbon nanotubes.

Dr. Greendyke has been working in conjunction with NASA Johnson Space Center to simulate

the production of nanotubes so that the physics of their formation will be better understood and work can begin on improving the means of producing the nanotubes on a more economical scale. He has worked on the problem for three years, assisted by undergraduate engineering students at UT Tyler.

Student potters assist Empty Bowls event

❑ Ceramics projects aid luncheon to benefit the North Texas Food Bank.

For the fifth consecutive year, art students in Gary Hatcher's advanced ceramics class have participated in the North Texas Food Bank Empty Bowls luncheon to benefit the fight to end hunger.

University ceramics students made more than 100 bowls for the Empty Bowls project.

The event was held Feb. 20 at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, where for a \$25 donation guests were served a lunch of soups, breads and desserts in a handmade bowl they were allowed to keep.

Area restaurants, cooking schools and grocery stores pro-

vided food and art students and professional potters made the bowls.

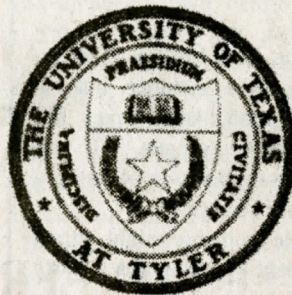
Guests were entertained by live music by Dallas Symphony Orchestra's Young Strings.

"This project provides a great opportunity for our students to experience 'service learning' giving something back to our community while perfecting their skills with clay," said Hatcher, an associate professor and chairman of the art department.

Four Winds Renaissance Faire

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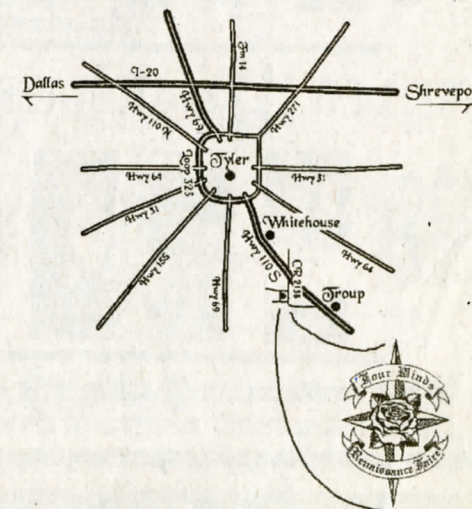
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Rebate rewards speedy graduates

BY ROBERT BOGGS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Good things may come to those who wait, but seniors who have hurried to graduate can settle for a nice check.

A tuition rebate of up to \$1,000 is available to certain graduating seniors who have attempted no more than three hours more than the minimum requirement for their degree plans.

To get the rebate, students must turn in an application to the registrar's office prior to graduation, preferably at the same time as their graduation application, Kim Sheets, a recorder in the registrar's office, said. The applicant

will then be checked for eligibility.

A total of 1,474 students received rebates statewide in 2001-2002, according to information provided by the registrar's office. Information was not yet available for 2002-2003.

At the University, four or five students received rebates last semester, Sheets said.

"It doesn't hurt to apply for it, especially if you feel you meet that criteria," Sheets said.

To be eligible, students must meet the following criteria:

- Students must have attempted no more than three hours more than the minimum requirement

for their degree plan. Credits earned by examination and dual-credit courses taken in high school are counted toward this total, but state law exempts the first nine hours earned from Advanced Placement exams, CLEP tests or high SAT or ACT scores.

- Students must be residents of Texas and entitled to pay in-state tuition at all times while pursuing their degrees.

- They must have taken all courses at Texas higher education institutions. This excludes credit granted from health institutions.

- They must have taken their first course in fall 1997 or later.

Qualifying students may receive up to \$1,000. If a student has been required to pay less than \$1,000 in tuition, the amount of the rebate would be equal to the amount paid to the university.

Students earning financial aid money are still eligible for the rebate, which was designed as an incentive for students to graduate with as few classes as possible to reduce costs to individuals and the state.

If a student receiving the rebate has an outstanding student loan, the rebate is first applied to reduce the amount of the loan.



Police Reports

BURGLARY

- Feb. 7 — Follow Up: Campus Police released the value of items taken in a burglary at the University Pines Apartments.

Reports showed a loss of \$1,650 in items stolen. Items taken were a Hewlett Packard computer, a monitor, a Lenmark printer, an X-Box game system and a Playstation 2 game system. Other items taken were two X-Box and seven Playstation games.

Nothing has been recovered.

- Feb. 15 — Campus Police responded to a possible burglary at Building 11 of UPines. No sign of forcible entry was shown and nothing was taken.

THEFT

- Jan. 22 — Two bottles of wine were reported stolen from Room 1040 in the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center. Two bottles were found missing from one case on the day of the Oliver North lecture, Sgt. Troy Smith said. Estimated value of loss is \$28.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

- Jan. 28 — A collision occurred between a 2003 Chevrolet S-10 pickup and a 2001 Ford F-150 in parking Lot 9. Estimated damage to the vehicles was less than \$500.

- Feb. 7 — Officers responded to a traffic collision involving a 1997 Pontiac Firebird and an unknown vehicle near Building 2 of UPines. Damage to the vehicle is estimated at \$1,500 - \$2,000, Smith said.

Kiepke announces senate resignation

BY ANTHONY DAVLA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Sophomore Stephen Kiepke resigned his senate position on the Student Government Association on Feb. 17 after admitting he has been "of almost no active help" to the organization.

Kiepke, an English major, represented University Pines and had been elected to the post just last year in a special election.

He announced his resignation

in a Feb. 17 letter submitted to the SGA office.

In the letter, Kiepke said he was concerned about his own lack of participation and the need for someone else to take his place.

"I have failed my responsibilities, he said. 'I ought to cede my place to someone with a commitment to, and an understanding of, student government.'"

Kiepke was appointed to serve on the SGA's Communication

Committee, but as a member he "have done nothing to fulfill my role."

Kiepke said he believes his resignation might cause the SGA a problem, but he believe the organization will bounce back.

"The SGA has had problems before, and it has overcome them," he said in his resignation letter.

Kiepke said he wants to spend more time involved with organi-

zations related to his major.

"I'm going to try and join some more English groups, since it is my specialty," he said.

Under a resolution passed earlier this semester, SGA president Ryan Palmquist may appoint a new senator to fill the Kiepke's seat rather than conduct an election.

The appointment must then be approved by 2/3 of the SGA members.

Debate team wins Fulbright sweepstakes

BY KATHY SYLVESTER
STAFF WRITER

The University's debate team won the sweepstakes at the University of Arkansas Fulbright tournament Feb. 20-22.

The tournament included International Public Debate Association and National Parliamentary Debate Association competitions.

Dr. Jeffrey Hobbs said this is a rare occurrence because it included both parliamentary and public

debate.

"This format allowed us to compete in both," Dr. Hobbs said.

When officials totaled up scores from both parliamentary and public debates, the University's debate team won the sweepstakes for overall performance.

In open parliamentary debate two teams from the University — Amy Arellano and Noah Conklin, Ryan Palmquist and Grant

McKnight — closed out the final round.

Arellano and Conklin defeated California Baptist University, while Palmquist and McKnight defeated the University of Arkansas to advance to the final round in the open parliamentary debate.

Palmquist won third speaker award in parliamentary debate.

In novice public debate, McKnight won first and Nicole Marks placed third. Marks also

won first speaker award in novice public debate.

In the open public debate Sean Dodd placed third. Conklin and Arellano placed in the top 16.

The tournament at the University of Arkansas Fulbright Tournament marked the end of parliamentary debate season and the beginning of public debate season.

The debate team's next tournament is March 6-7 at Stephen F. Austin University.

Regents appoint Krier board's vice chairman

BY ROBERT BOGGS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The University of Texas System Board of Regents elected Cyndi Krier of San Antonio vice chairman last week, filling a vacancy created by the death of Tyler's A.W. "Dub" Riter Jr.

Krier was elected unanimously during a Feb. 3 board meeting to join regents Woody Hunt and Rita Clements as one of three vice chairmen on the nine-member board.

Her promotion filled the last of two vacancies left by Riter's death. In November, Gov. Rick Perry appointed John Barnhill Jr.

Review Committee, the Finance and Planning Committee and the Health Affairs Committee.

She also is a representative to the Board for Lease of University Lands, which oversees the terms of leases of university lands for oil and gas exploration and development, according to the regents' Web site.

A newcomer to the regents, Barnhill is known for his experience in business and on advisory boards in Brenham.

"John Barnhill, I think is going to be one of the best regents to come around in a long

hastings

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Greeks

Continued from Page 1

generally have great influence on social scenes and norms on campus.

Again Orvis stressed to other members to consider whether the "Greek" choice is the best "student retention" choice for the University.

Orvis emphasized that overcrowded classrooms when small student-to-faculty ratios were promised and not offering required classes often enough because of the lack of teachers due to budget cuts are turning away students.

He said these problems would not be solved by a quick fix.

To further help retain students, Orvis recommends that a traditional food service be installed in both new dorms and apartment complexes along with small group-coffee dens found on other campuses for studying and relaxing.

Outlining the costs of being a member in a fraternity, Orvis wrote "I just wonder if the people in charge of putting together a 'Greek system' on this campus know the rules and costs associated with it, especially the student

costs."

Dr. Don McClaugherty, a committee member, also is concerned that if Greek life comes to campus, UT will get the reputation of being a "party college."

He said this might attract students looking for a party atmosphere but not a quality education and said it probably would not help to improve the University's graduation rate.

Members of the Student Government Association have been working in conjunction with the Student Affairs Advisory Committee to bring the Greek system to campus.

In its meeting on Feb. 17, the SGA appointed four senators to an ad hoc committee chaired by Senator Tiffany Alexander of the College of Education and Psychology to assist with bringing a system of fraternities and sororities to campus.

Alexander had been working with the Student Affairs Advisory Committee prior to the appointment of the ad hoc committee to bring fraternities and sororities to the University.

death. In November, Gov. Rick Perry appointed John Barnhill Jr. of Brenham to a six-year term on the board.

"We will always miss Dub Riter," University President Rodney Mabry said. "Behind the scenes, he was always so very productive."

Krier has served as regent since Gov. Rick Perry appointed her in March 2001. She serves as chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee and is a member of the Audit, Compliance and Management

going to be one of the best regents to come around in a long time," Mabry said. "He takes his time to learn about issues and doesn't make snap judgments."

Barnhill previously served as executive vice president and general sales manager of Blue Bell Creameries and is chairman of the Bank of Brenham and the Washington County Forum at Blinn College, vice chairman of the Main Street Brenham board and is a member of the board of the Economic Development Foundation of Brenham.

University promotes contest to name student apartments

Residence life director David Hill announced a competition to name the student apartments scheduled for completion this fall.

The contest is open to all currently enrolled students.

Each student is allowed one entry, which may be submitted via e-mail to housing@uttyler.edu.

The name of the apartments

will be chosen from those submitted and judged on how well it "reflects the spirit of UT Tyler," according to the University Web site.

The student who submits the winning name will win a \$100 gift certificate to the bookstore. Second prize will receive a \$50 gift certificate to the bookstore.

For more information, e-mail Hill at housing@uttyler.edu.

Amendments

Continued from Page 1

include provisions for the bylaws. SGA president Ryan Palmquist said the addition was made because "it was necessary in order for the constitution to work."

Palmquist added that the executive committee discussed these changes and "didn't feel there would be disapproval."

"It's not like we're trying to go behind people's backs. When an organization is in a crucial stage, it's important to get this in," Tallent said.

Palmquist agreed, saying "we need to have a working constitution in place for the next administration so they don't have the problems we've had."

The SGA began revising the constitution last semester due to confusion over which constitution they were under.

Officials determined that the

constitution marked as "old" on the SGA's Web site is the last approved constitution.

However, the SGA currently operates under some provisions of a constitution that was never approved by University officials, including filling two senator positions for University Pines Apartments.

The proposed constitution incorporates changes previously made in October, the illegal revisions, and provisions from the constitution that was never approved.

Revisions made in October include general wording clarifications, additional qualifications for officers, and a clause that gives the SGA the power to do what they deem "necessary and proper" in matters not specifically discussed in the constitution.

Public

Continued from Page 1

Operating Policies and Procedures, the purpose of the SGA is to identify and communicate to school officials the interests, programs and goals of interest to students and assist the University in providing such programs.

Barr said *The Patriot* would have to send a written request to the University's compliance office if the newspaper wanted an attorney general's opinion on whether the SGA is subject to open records laws.

But Adam Goldstein, an SPLC lawyer representing

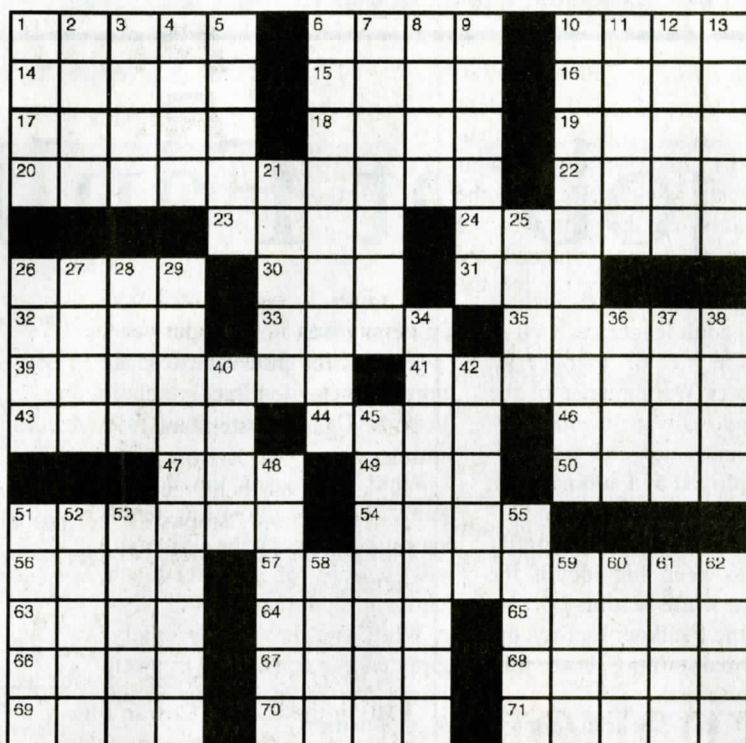
The Patriot, said the compliance office's request in itself is illegal and that the University should not respond to information requests given to agencies it claims not to represent.

The TPIA says government bodies may only contact a requestor to get clarification on what information is being requested.

Goldstein and SPLC executive director Mark Goodman are drafting a letter of support to explain why the SGA is open. That letter is expected to be completed this week.

Crossword

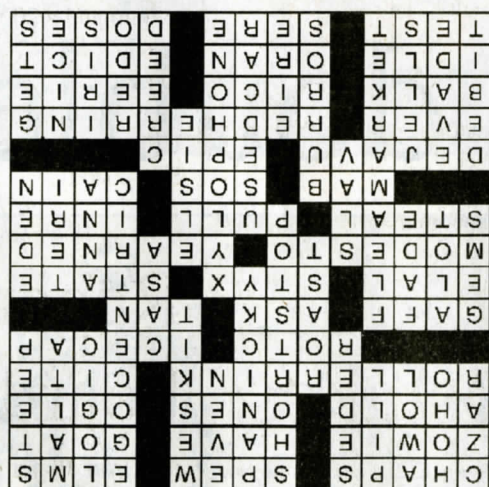
- ACROSS
- 1 Cowboy leggings
6 Gush
10 Park trees
14 Yikes!
15 Own
16 Fall guy
17 In touch with
18 "A Room of ____ Own"
19 Gawk at
20 Skating arena
22 Quote as an example
23 Campus military grp.
24 Snow-covered peak
26 Fish-landing tool
30 Query
31 Summer shade
32 Airline to Israel
33 Charon's river
35 Condition
39 San Joaquin Valley city
41 Had cravings
43 Unbelievable bargain
44 Clout
46 Regarding
47 Queen of the fairies
49 Distress signal
50 One of Adam's sons
51 Reality rerun?
54 Grand tale
56 Even one time
57 Mystery misdirection
63 Pitcher's miscue
64 Puerto ____
65 Creepy
66 Out of work
67 Algerian port
68 Royal decree
69 Dry run
70 Bone-dry
71 Gives medicine to
- DOWN
- 1 Old autocrat
2 Chuckle
3 Truant from the troops
4 Medicinal tablet
5 Passover dinner
6 Derek Jeter, e.g.
7 Terror-stricken
8 Tied
9 Vest
10 Self-absorbed
11 Reasoning
12 Valletta's country
13 Pricey
21 Facetious tribute
25 Hacienda, e.g.
26 Birthstones
27 Tons
28 Lose luster
29 Place to buy curios
34 Marimba cousin
36 Kournikova of tennis
37 Garr of "Close Encounters..."
38 Genesis garden
40 Serb or Croat
42 Borden bovine beliefs
45 Secondhand ride
48 Pack animals
51 Ledger entry
52 Dodge
53 Congeals
55 Statement of
58 Emerald Isle
59 Start again from scratch
60 Eye part
61 Pleasant
62 Obtains



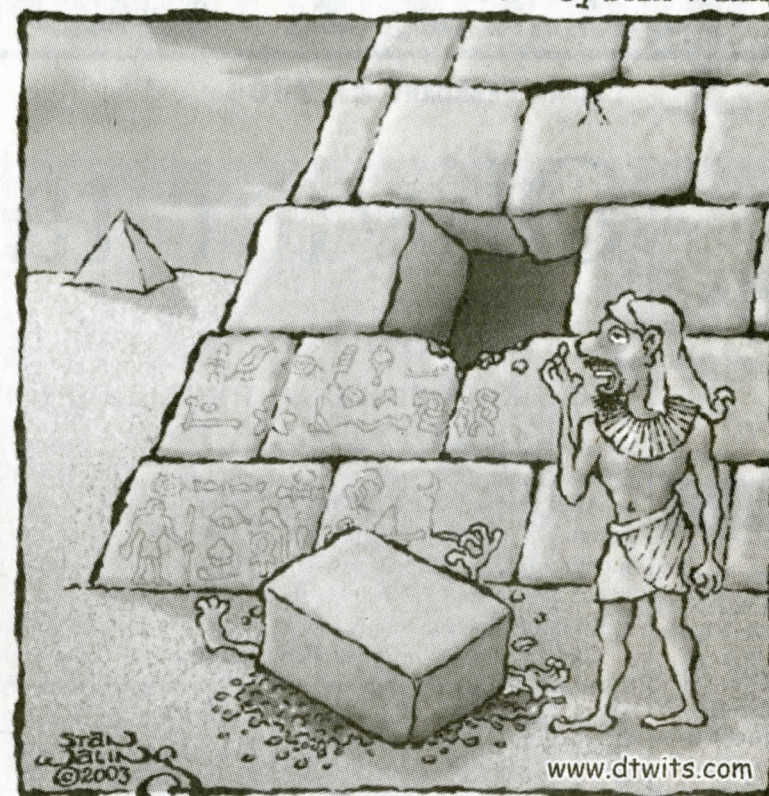
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02/27/04

Solutions



DITHERED TWITS by Stan Waling



"Printer's jammed."

CAPTAIN RIBMAN In A Glutton for Refreshment

by Sprengelmeyer & Davis



Fraancis Goes to College

by Joshua Davis



March 1-7, 2004

Aries (March 20-April 18).

Delayed business permissions may soon arrive. Pay special attention to letters, messages or



attention to new debts or sudden financial changes. Delayed payments will not work to your advantage. Remain determined to settle outstanding accounts.

be dismayed; renewed passion will soon become a top priority.

Libra (Sept. 22-Oct. 22). Over the next eight days, loved ones may neglect established

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 20). Social communications and business messages may be controversial over the next eight days. New employees, improved team roles

After Tuesday, expect loved ones to confidently state their intentions or long-term plans. Emotional stagnation in key relationships will soon end. Use this

attention to letters, messages or calls. Bosses and managers will clear a pathway to success. Expect advancement to come in the form of divided projects, last-minute promotions or unusual work partnerships. Thursday through Sunday also accent new friendships and complex group activities. Avoid competing schedules and expect jealousies.

Taurus (April 19-May 19). Long-term leases, official deeds and titles will be finalized over the next few days. After Tuesday, watch for unusual financial information to demand completion. Family ultimatums or rare home proposals may also be accented. Carefully resolve all outstanding legal documents. Friday through Sunday, powerful dreams may bring new awareness. Areas affected are friendships, romantic triangles or family expectations.

Gemini (May 20-June 20). Ongoing financial and business questions soon will be settled. Before mid-March, new sources

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

LASHA SENIUK
Knight Ridder

of long-term security may arrive without warning. Over the next nine days, revitalized career and social contacts will lead to lasting success. After Friday, however, carefully study taxation and spending records. Wednesday through Saturday also highlight serious family discussions or revised romantic promises. Emotions may be high. Take time to clearly explain your needs.

Cancer (June 21-July 21). Early this week, past romantic or social promises will be either finalized or dismissed. Before Wednesday, watch for loved ones to adopt new attitudes or revise unrealistic schedules. Use this time to establish romantic expectations. Friends and lovers will offer positive responses. Thursday through Saturday, pay

settle outstanding accounts.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 22). Relatives and romantic partners may suggest new home routines. Key areas of concern involve parent/child relationships, daily duties or long-term renovations. Be receptive. Family proposals or revised home plans will soon prove rewarding. Wednesday through Saturday also accents improved relations and renewed trust between friends. Stay firmly dedicated to the present and expect recent disputes or power struggles to steadily fade.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 21). Respond quickly to all job offers or business proposals. Office productivity and social planning will bring valuable employment options. Virgos born after 1972 should also pay attention to the health sciences or community services industries. At present, new career paths or educational programs may provide unique opportunities. Later romantic proposals will be reversed. Don't

ones may neglect established home duties or discuss stressful family gatherings. By early next week, however, revised emotional rules work to your advantage. Expect tensions between siblings, complex schedules or financial obligations to be permanently resolved. After Friday, some Librans may also encounter a rare social invitation or sudden romantic proposal. If so, remain quietly reserved. New relationships may be difficult to initiate.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21). Public images, social reputation and revised business roles are on the agenda. Before Wednesday, watch for key officials to offer greater access to restricted or difficult projects. People skills and team management will prove vital. Expect temporary job promotions and fast career proposals. Later this week, someone close may ask for special advice. Marital discord, social triangles and romantic trust may be key concerns. Remain diplomatic.

employees, improved team roles or quickly established policies will require delicate discussions. Let authority figures handle all such details. Complex personality clashes may soon be revealed. Thursday through Sunday, dream activity, sudden impressions and quick insights are highlighted. A troubled relationship may soon be revealed as unproductive.

Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 19). Workplace romance and social complications may be draining over the next few days. Late Tuesday, colleagues or close friends may ask probing questions, confront established routines or reveal unusual information. Play the diplomat. Before next week, loved ones may feel a strong urge to publicly defend their ideas. Wednesday through Sunday also accent new financial or legal deadlines. Stay alert. Key officials will announce revised.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Early this week, friendship and romance become top priorities.

Emotional stagnation in key relationships will soon end. Use this time to enjoy intimate moments or develop common goals. Friday through Sunday, family members or trusted friends may request clarification. Group plans, daily activities and social loyalties are accented. Offer detailed explanations and wait for key decisions.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 19). Subtle comments may reveal important information. Expect loved ones to gently request family improvements or express a need for change. Boredom and restlessness are key. Find positive ways to address ongoing frustration or social irritations. Some Pisceans, especially those born after 1974, will encounter a complex or mildly unethical romantic proposal. If so, remain quietly distant. At present, new relationships will take extra time to become reliable.

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Services.

Any fellow Delta Chi's here at UT Tyler?
Transfer students, like me,
grad students, faculty, etc.?



Contact Jeff at
903-565-6699 or at
delta_chi_@hotmail.com

Vote

March 3rd & 4th
to approve the
revised SGA
Constitution

Voting in UC open area

Sports

THE PATRIOT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2004

PAGE 8

COMING UP

- ❑ baseball, 6 p.m. Faulkner Park, Friday
- ❑ baseball, 1 p.m. Faulkner Park, Saturday
- ❑ tennis, all day, Friday & Saturday
- ❑ baseball, 6 p.m., Tuesday
- ❑ tennis, 1 p.m., March 13



BASEBALL

Game 1

UT Tyler d. Hillsdale Ba. 11-10
(Feb. 21)
Score 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Total
Hills B. 4 3 0 0 0 0 0 10
UT Tyler 2 0 0 0 6 3 -- 11
Pitching: UT Tyler- E. Carmouche
1-0, ERA 4.76 (5.67 IP, 5 K, 5 H,
3 ER, 4 BB)

Game 2

Hillsdale Ba. d. UT Tyler 8-7
(Feb. 21)
Score 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Total
Hills B. 3 0 0 0 5 0 0 8
UT Tyler 1 0 0 0 0 0 6 7
Pitching: UT Tyler- S. Phels 0-1,
ERA 11.56 (4.67 IP, 4 K, 9 H, 6
ER, 3 BB)

Game 1 & 2 Hitting: UT Tyler- J.
Ard .571 avg. (2 HR, 7 RBI), J.
Tips .410 avg. (1 HR, 3 RBI), S.
Campbell .500 avg (2 RBI), C.
Copeland .429 avg. (2 RBI), K.
Noles .375 avg (2 RBI) M.
Gallizzi .429 avg. (1 RBI), P. Grau
.143 avg. (1 RBI)

BASKETBALL

Men

UT Tyler d. Louisiana Co 87-67
(Feb. 12)
Score by periods 1 2 total
Louisiana College 43 33 76
UT Tyler 36 51 87
Points: UT Tyler- B. Weasby
(20), C. Hall (17), T. Murphy (17),
W. Leffingwell (10), D. Dennis (8),
J. Henderson (6), E. Simmons
(5), D. Johnson (2), K. Johnson
(2)
Miss. College d. UT Tyler 79-63
(Feb. 14)
Score by periods 1 2 total
Mississippi College 33 46 79
UT Tyler 28 35 63
Points: UT Tyler- J. Henderson

Olivier takes job at Faulkner

❑ University tennis coach resigns, accepts position as managing director.

BY STACIE DRINNING
SPORTS EDITOR

After tennis coach Ken Olivier resigned suddenly earlier this month officials named assistant coach Bryan Whitt the University's interim tennis coach. Olivier said he resigned Feb. 17 to devote himself full time to being managing director of Faulkner Park's new tennis facility.

"I wasn't happy doing what I

was doing. . . personally I wasn't fulfilled," Olivier said. "I'm very happy now. I'm looking forward to what's in store for me here and what's in store for the University."

Olivier received the Faulkner position from the Tyler Community Tennis Association, which has a contract with the city of Tyler to operate the tennis facility.

His job at Faulkner consists of

generating tennis leagues such as junior and adult leagues as well as taking care of all managerial duties, Larry Weinbrenner of the TCTA said. Olivier is an independent contractor and not officially employed by Faulkner Park or the TCTA, Weinbrenner said.

Olivier said he initially planned to keep his job at the University while setting up programs at the Faulkner facility, but he said maintaining both jobs became too much.

Olivier said the decision to resign was also "definitely" influenced by financial considerations.

The coach's salary at the University was \$24,720 per year.

"I think the potential to make more money is there," athletic director Dr. Howard Patterson said.

Whitt will coach the Patriots tennis team for the spring tennis season, after which the University will search for a new coach, Patterson said.

Whitt said he will "definitely" apply and be considered as a candidate for the permanent tennis coach position.

Whitt has been the assistant tennis coach for at the University

"I'm very happy now. I'm looking forward to what's in store for me here and what's in store for the University."

Ken Olivier
Former tennis coach

"

three semesters and Olivier said he believes Whitt will do an excellent job as head coach.

Play ball

Patriots split doubleheader

BY STACIE DRINNING
AND KATHY SYLVESTER
STAFF WRITERS

Patriots baseball picked up its first win, 11-10, as well as its first loss, 8-7, against Hillsdale Baptist College Saturday in the season opening doubleheader.

Hillsdale started out strong scoring four runs in the first inning of the first game, including a three-run home run.

Hillsdale defeated fourth ranked Louisiana College, in two games before playing the Patriots, showing how good of a team they are, Patriots coach James Vilade said.

In the bottom of the first outfielder Clay Copeland made the first stolen base in Patriot baseball history

absolutely had one of the gutsiest performances, to come in and closeout a one run game," Vilade said.

Trailing 7-2 in the fourth inning the Patriots rallied. After a base hit RBI, a two RBI triple, and a RBI double infielder Justin Ard hit the team's first home run over the center field fence bring in two runs and capturing a 8-7 lead.

Ard also made the team's first double.

"I just got lucky enough to be the first one," Ard said. "I feel great, just excited to get this season going."

In the sixth inning the Patriots allowed three runs.

After back-to-back runs there was a meeting on the pitcher's mound followed by a double play to end the



Points: UT Tyler- J. Henderson (17), C. Hall (10), B. Weasby (7), D. Dennis (7), T. Murphy (6), W. Leffingwell (5), D. Johnson (4), E. Simmons (4), K. Johnson (2), R. Olson (1)

U of Ozarks d. UT Tyler 97-89 (Feb. 19)

Score by periods	1	2	total
UT Tyler	41	48	89
U of the Ozarks	49	48	97

Points: UT Tyler- B. Weasby (32), T. Murphy (24), W. Leffingwell (11), E. Simmons (10), J. Henderson (6), D. Dennis (2), D. Johnson (2), C. Hall (2)

Women

Louisiana Co d. UT Tyler 79-77 (Feb. 12)

Score by periods	1	2	total
Louisiana College	42	37	79
UT Tyler	40	37	77

Points: UT Tyler- K. Denney (18), R. Hunter (16), L. Patton (14), S. Moore (6), S. Shead (6), J. Halverson (6), C. Stinson (5), C. Tetley (4), K. Herbert (2)

Miss. College d. UT Tyler 79-62 (Feb. 14)

Score by periods	1	2	total
Mississippi College	32	47	79
UT Tyler	27	35	62

Points: UT Tyler- R. Hunter (21), S. Shead (17), L. Patton (6), C. Stinson (5), S. Moore (5), C. Tetley (4), K. Hebert (2), K. Denney (2)

U of Ozarks d. UT Tyler 83-73 (Feb. 19)

Score by periods	1	2	total
UT Tyler	28	45	73
U of the Ozarks	45	38	83

Points: UT Tyler- L. Patton (16), R. Hunter (15), J. Halverson (9), S. Shead (9), C. Stinson (9), K. Denney (8), C. Tetley (6), S. Moore (1)

Coming up:

Teams: Patriot tennis vs. American Southwest Conference teams

When: All Day, Feb. 27&28

Where: Summers Tennis Center

Cost: Free

Patriot Path:

The Patriots will play numerous schools in this weekend tournament. It will be the second home tournament of the semester.

Patriot baseball history when he stole second base.

The University changed pitchers in the top of the second to long relief pitcher Eric Carmouche, who kept Hillsdale scoreless until the sixth inning.

"Eric Carmouche just

by a double play to end the inning.

"Coach was just telling me what I'd been doing. Trying to correct my mechanics, make me relax instead of get uptight, make me realize it's a game," Carmouche said of the meet-

WHERE IS FAULKNER PARK?

- LEAVING THE UNIVERSITY TAKE UNIVERSITY BLVD TO LOOP 323.
- TURN LEFT ON LOOP 323
- TAKE LOOP 323 FOR 2.1 MILES UNTIL YOU REACH SOUTH BROADWAY AVE.
- TURN LEFT ON BROADWAY
- TAKE BROADWAY FOR 3.3 MILES UNTIL YOU REACH WEST CUMBERLAND ROAD
- TURN RIGHT ON CUMBERLAND AND FAULKNER PARK WILL BE ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE.

(THE SPECIFIC MILEAGE NUMBERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM YAHOO!MAPS)



BRAD SMITH staff photographer

Freshman outfielder Clay Copeland of White Oak slides into third base during the Patriots' first game of the season against Hillsdale Baptist College at Faulkner Park in front of an estimated 600 onlookers.

ing.

The game made history as the first win of the Patriots' inaugural season.

In the University's second game against Hillsdale, the Patriots were down 8-1 until the bottom of the seventh inning when the University came back with a string of runs.

"We weren't stringing together good at bats. So finally we do string togeth-

er good at bats and balls start flying out of the yard," Vilade said. "It turned into a situation where you're down 8-1 then all of the sudden you're down 8-7. It's exciting baseball."

Ard started the innings action with a three run home run to center field.

Infielder Josh Tips also hit a three run home run to bring the team within one 8-7 with one out.

Infielder Chase Luburger was tagged out in a run-down between second and third base on Trent Goree's double.

Philip Grau hit a line drive to third base resulting in the final out of the inning.

The University is polled to finish fifth in its conference division.

First year teams are usually polled to finish last in

their division, Vilade said.

"To me it means there's probably four teams out there that expect to beat us and three teams that can't wait to try," Vilade said.

The Patriots first conference game is scheduled Feb. 27 against Concordia of Austin at Faulkner Park.

The team's Feb. 24 game against Texas College was postponed until March 2 due to inclement weather.

Basketball teams end 1st season

BY STACIE DRINNING
SPORTS EDITOR

Patriots women's basketball ended its inaugural season with a 8-17, 6-8 record and a fifth place conference standing. Patriots men's basketball is in sixth place East Division with a 8-16, 6-8 record and one game remaining.

The women played their last game Feb. 21 a loss 83-74 against second ranked Austin College in the American Southwest Conference's East Division.

Austin College also defeated the Patriots 75-69 earlier in the season.

Overall the season went better than freshman Sha Shead expected.

"Running the ball is our best quality and other teams know that and try to stop us, but we still get away with it a lot of the time," Shead said. "We need to work on



CHRIS KEMPER staff photographer

The Patriots' Brandon Weasby takes a shot.

defense. We need to be more vocal."

This season's most consistent point leader was freshman Katelynn Denney, leading the team in point scored in eight of the season's games and averaging 11

See BASKETBALL, Page 9

Expectation levels higher for athletes

Athletes traditionally are held to a higher standard of accountability than the rest of the student body.

They are expected to maintain a higher GPA and to conduct themselves with dignity and decorum when they travel to competition.

Regardless of whether these goals are achieved, or even attempted by the athletes themselves, they represent a questionable ideology.

The issue of favoritism for athletes remains an incendiary polemic that I have absolutely no interest in sticking my hand into.

However, it is undeniable that student-athletes receive a higher level of focus from the University



A PATHETIC APPROACH

KYLE HALBERSTADT

than those who are strictly students.

Being a member of the '03 cross country team, I honestly believe I had to fill out more paperwork simply to run for the University than I had to fill out to attend the University.

The reason commonly given for such rigid procedures is that athletes represent the values and ideas of their university.

Although this is certain-

ly true, it also is true that an athlete is no more a representative of the University than a regular student.

So, regardless of well-meaning intent, the message sent by these standards and procedures is that an athlete is somehow more important than a student.

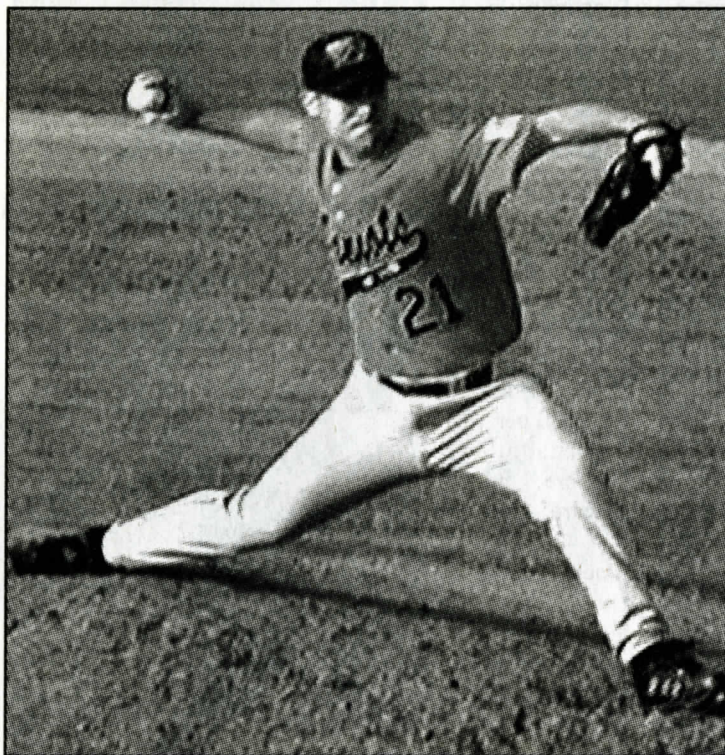
This is unfair to both students and student-athletes.

By not requiring a similar "promise of good conduct" from students as from student-athletes, the University is inadvertently implying one of two things.

Either, students are more dependable than student-athletes and therefore do not need such patroniz-

See ATHLETES, Page 9

FASTBALL



STACIE DRINNING staff photographer

Senior right-handed pitcher Stan Phelps of New Boston pitched the first five inning of the Patriots' second game in the doubleheader against Hillsdale Baptist College on Saturday.

Athletes

Continued from Page 8

ing treatment, or student-athletes are more valuable to the University than mere students and therefore held to a higher standard.

Ultimately, this becomes the message the University sends about its values and ideas when its athletes travel to competition.

Again, I am not saying that either of these is true, merely that creating such a disparity

between student and student-athlete inevitably implies them.

Therefore, such restrictions merely exacerbate a problem that would otherwise resolve itself.

If all students are held to the same standards, then those students who participate in athletics will inevitably embody those values as well.

Go Patriots.

**Don't forget to vote.
Primary elections
will be held March 9**

Basketball

Continued from Page 8

“

Running the ball is our best quality and other teams know that and try to stop us, but we still get away with it a lot of time.

Sha Shead

Basketball player

”

points per game.

Shead proved to be the most consistent rebounder, making the most rebounds in eight games for the season and averaging 6.5 rebounds per game. Shead also was awarded 'Player of the Week' in conference play for the week of Feb.2.

We need to work on getting better at defense and rebounding for next season, coach Terri Deike said. "I'm recruiting outside shooters because we have got to start nailing those outside shots."

Patriots men's basketball will finish out its season Saturday against the University of Dallas in Irving.

"You always want to finish in first place. I think the finish that we've got so far is good, it's better than expected for most first year programs," coach Matt Wallis said of the season.

"I thought we were going to make it further," freshman Tracy Murphy said.

The season's consistent leading scorer has been freshman Brandon Weasby who's lead in points scored in 14 games, including in six consecutive games.

Murphy lead the team in rebounds with 15 games for the season.



CHRIS KEMPER staff photographer

The Patriots' Cassie Stinson (20) attempts a shot during one of the last home games of the season. The women Patriots ended their season in fifth place — well above the pre-season poll placement.

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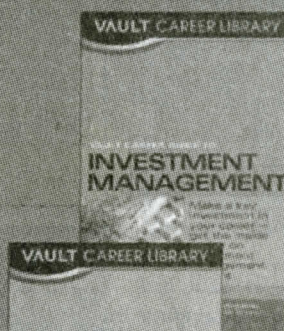


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\$2,362.50 Education Award

**No experience necessary, but some college preferred.
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and U.s. Citizen to apply.**

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and alumni. Contact UT Tyler Career Services
to obtain required password.

Krista Richardson, Coordinator of Career Services

krichardson@mail.uttyl.edu

University Center, Room 111

(903) 565-5581



ROBERT BOGGS staff photographer



ROBERT BOGGS staff photographer

At left, chemistry major Scott Brown looks out a the snow from the walkway connecting the Hudnall-Pirtle-Roosth Building and the Administration Building on Feb. 13. Above, water from melted snow runs off the "Dancing Girl" statue shortly after the snowfall began.

Snow



LEFT: A pet deer creates a picturesque roadside scene near Palestine in Anderson County. The snow storm on Feb. 14 provided a rare opportunity for Texas photographers.

Day

BY JENNIFER MURRAY
STAFF WRITER

Here in East Texas residents know the familiar view of pine trees and running creeks all too well.

But on Feb. 13 and 14 that view became blanketed by the appearance of falling snow.

Snow started falling on campus Friday 13 afternoon, surprising students and faculty as they tried to make their way home. The snow continued to fall overnight and all day Saturday and brought a white Valentine's Day.

Snowfall amounts in the area ranged from three inches in the Tyler area to more than eight inches in some parts of East Texas, Tyler weatherman Bob Peters said in the Tyler Morning Telegraph.

Peters also said he could not remember a previous snowfall on Valentine's Day.

Many took advantage of this by playing in the snow, building snowmen and even sledding.

"I went out and played with the little girl I baby-sit," junior elementary education major Jamie Sapp said. "She didn't know what to do with it."

While some took the safe approach to a day in the snow, others found more exciting ways to spend the day.

"I went sledding with about six or seven of my friends. We got a car hood and drug it around. It was pretty fun," freshman electrical engineering major Travis Raulston said.

Some didn't even enjoy the snow at all.

"I slept through the snow and when I got up I saw traces of it and then went to work," sophomore nursing major Brandi Bradden said.



STACIE DRINNING staff photographer

opportunity for Texas photographers. BELOW: Kaleigh Huggine, 3, of Tyler, takes a ride down a hill outside the Cowan Center on Feb. 14 under the watchfull eye of her 4-year-old cousin Sarah Wilson.



BRAD SMITH staff photographer



ROBERT BOGGS staff photographer

A woman walks to her car about an hour after snow began falling on Feb. 13. Although initially the snow did not stick to the ground, by Valentine's Day snowflakes blanketed campus.