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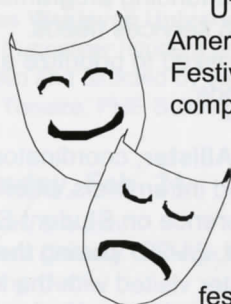
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## UT Tyler hosts regional theatre festival

*Theatre students from five states compete for advancement to final level*



UT Tyler will host the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) regional competition Feb. 23-26, Dr.

James Hatfield, director of the UT Tyler theatre program, announced.

The regional festival includes participants from Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and New Mexico. The event is expected to bring more than 1,000 students and faculty from colleges and universities in the five-state area to the UT Tyler campus.

The participants were chosen last November from the ACTF state

competition, also held at UT Tyler.

UT Tyler advanced to the regional festival after receiving the following awards at the state festival: Kathy Summers, An'janette Maxwell, Erin Brandenburg, and Aletha Nelligan, Irene Ryan Award; Nelligan, Excellence in Acting; and Hatfield, Excellence in Scenic Design.

The Irene Ryan Award qualifies these students to compete for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship.

This festival provides an opportunity for student growth and development in all areas of theatre, from house management and multi-production scheduling to fundraising and budgeting, Hatfield said.

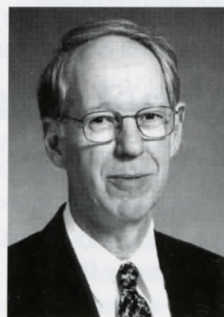
The regional festival also offers  
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## Dean of College of Engineering appointed

Dr. Troy F. Henson has been appointed dean of the College of Engineering at UT Tyler, President Rodney H. Mabry announced.

Henson has served the past five years as dean of the School of Engineering and professor of engineering at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He holds a doctorate in electrical engineering from UT Austin and bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering from the University of Arkansas.

His 21 years of university faculty experience also includes teaching positions at Louisiana Tech University and Texas A&M-Commerce. He was a part-time lecturer in electrical and computer



**Henson**

engineering at Rice University from 1987 to 1994.

Henson spent 18 years as an engineer, scientist and manager with IBM Corporation's Federal Systems Company in Houston and Huntsville, Alabama.

He was a member of

the team that designed and tested the flight control system for the Saturn Launch Vehicle in NASA's Apollo moon exploration program.

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## In the spotlight

**Vicki Conway**, senior lecturer of music, presented a seminar titled "Gross Motor Skills: The Learning Foundation" at the Texas Conference Weekday Ministries for Young Children Workshop in Galveston in January. Also, Conway will present a seminar titled "Blending Motor and Cognitive Skills" at the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Convention in San Antonio in February.

Dr. **Neil B. Ford**, professor of biology, has received a grant of \$3,100 from the Columbus Zoo to fund a trip to Trinidad to study ecological factors involved in facultative viviparity of the South American water snake *Helicops angulatus*.

**Barbara Haas**, senior lecturer of nursing, authored a paper titled "Focus on Health Promotion: Self-Efficacy in Oncology Nursing Research and Practice" published in the

*Oncology Nursing Forum*, Vol. 27, No. 1, 2000, pp. 89-97.

Dr. **Barbara Hart**, chair of social sciences, and **Shari Koukl**, lecturer in sociology, recently completed *Community Needs: A Survey of Public Perceptions 2000* for the United Way of Tyler/Smith County. The survey was conducted to assist the United Way in making decisions about prioritizing and funding programs that address area human services needs. Respondents were asked to prioritize a list of 28 human services needs.

**Ernest "Mack" McAllister**, coordinator of student activities and intramurals, attended the 38th National Conference on Student Services in New Orleans Nov. 21-23. During the conference, McAllister visited with the keynote speaker, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

## Henson named dean of College of Engineering

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At IBM, he also worked on the guidance, navigation and control system for the NASA Skylab and Space Shuttle vehicles. Later, he served as manager of independent research and development programs in the emerging computer technologies of artificial intelligence, neural network computing, systems engineering and software engineering.

"Dr. Henson is well qualified to lead the next phase of development of UT Tyler's engineering program and to capitalize on its considerable potential. With his academic credentials, teaching experience and significant industrial background, he will be a solid leader for our College of Engineering," Mabry stated.

At the University of Tennessee at Martin, he led the development of a new engineering degree program, guided it through several stages of administrative approval, and managed the program through the first accreditation evaluation by the Engineering Accreditation

Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).

Also, he worked closely with the university's School of Engineering Industrial Advisory Board and worked closely with other business, governmental, community and professional leaders to gain visibility and support for the program.

Henson is a senior member and past board member of the Society for Computer Simulation International. He is a member and past president of the Arkansas Academy of Electrical Engineering. Also, he is a member of the American Society for Engineering Education, Association for Computing Machinery, National Society of Professional Engineers, and a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

Henson succeeds Dr. Leonard Hale, the first dean of UT Tyler's College of Engineering, who retired May 31, 1999. Dr. Thomas Crippen, professor and chair of mechanical engineering, has served as interim dean since July.

## Theatre competition brings variety of shows to UT Tyler

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opportunities for recognition of individual student playwrights and achievements in theatrical design and technical support.

The American College Theatre Festival is presented by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to celebrate college and

university theatre programs and encourage participant professionalism and innovation.

For more information, please contact the UT Tyler Department of Theatre at (903) 566-7490 or the School of Visual and Performing Arts Events Line at (903) 566-7495.

### *ACTF schedule of productions*

#### **Wednesday, Feb. 23**

11 a.m. & 4 p.m.

##### **Texas Wesleyan University**

*The Puppeteer* (student original)

Written and directed by James Gilbert

The Theatre, PHE Building, Room 122

#### **Thursday, Feb. 24**

11 a.m. & 4 p.m.

##### **Tarrant County College Northwest**

*Getting Out*

Written by Marsha Norman

The Theatre, PHE Building, Room 122

1:30 p.m.

##### **Irene Ryan Acting Competition**

Vaughn Auditorium, Cowan Center

Finalists compete for scholarships and advancement to the final level at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in April.

8:00 p.m.

##### **University of Arkansas at Fayetteville**

*Pterodactyls*

Written by Nicky Silver

Vaughn Auditorium, Cowan Center

#### **Friday, Feb. 25**

12 p.m. (noon)

##### **The University of New Orleans**

*Lot's Daughters* (student original)

Written by Rebecca Basham

Vaughn Auditorium, Cowan Center

4 p.m.

##### **Collin County Community College**

*Through a Glass Onion* (student original)

Written by Jason Stuart

Braithwaite Hall, Cowan Center

8 p.m.

##### **The University of Central Oklahoma**

*Tea in a China Cup*

Written by Christina Reid

Braithwaite Hall, Cowan Center

#### **Saturday, Feb. 26**

12 p.m. (noon)

##### **Southwestern Oklahoma State University**

*Life Never Sleeps*

Vaughn Auditorium, Cowan Center

8 p.m.

##### **Lamar University-Beaumont**

*Lebensraum*

Vaughn Auditorium, Cowan Center

## Meadows Gallery presents studio faculty exhibition

The Meadows Gallery at UT Tyler is presenting a Studio Faculty Exhibition through March 8, Peter Calvert, curator of exhibitions, has announced.

The group exhibition includes works of art by the studio art faculty at UT Tyler, including Gary C. Hatcher, assistant professor of art; Dr. William B. Stephens, professor of art; James Robert Pace, The George and Pat Oge Professor of Art; and Calvert.

The exhibit will feature ceramics, watercolor collage paintings, "combine" paintings, and

woodcuts. Each of the artists has shown extensively for many years regionally and nationally.

The Meadows Gallery is located in the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Hours of operation are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The gallery also is open by special arrangement by calling the UT Tyler Department of Art at (903) 566-7250.

For more information, contact Calvert at (903) 566-7483.



## Longview University Center survey results reported

*Degree programs selected to be offered during fall 2000 semester at center*

The results of a recent survey have provided useful information in determining the courses to be offered at the Longview University Center, Karen Lee, director of the center, has announced.

"The survey was distributed in 11 counties, and we received 1,256 responses. The information provided in those responses will be most helpful as we finalize the degree programs to be offered and the class schedule for fall 2000," Lee said.

UT Tyler inserted questionnaires in 16 East Texas and Longview area newspapers in Cass, Gregg, Upshur, Camp, Wood, Titus, Morris, Harrison, Marion, Panola, and Rusk counties. The newspapers have a combined circulation of 88,000.

"We appreciate everyone who took the time to respond to the survey. All of the information will be useful to us as we prepare a schedule of course offerings that will be most beneficial to potential students of Longview and surrounding areas," President Rodney H. Mabry said.

Of the total respondents, 72 percent are female; however, when age is considered, the percentage of male respondents increases to 43 percent for those 55 and older and 42 percent for those 20 and under. The average age of the respondents is 37 and 71 percent of them work 31 - 40 hours a week.

Seventy-eight percent of the respondents indicated they would definitely enroll or that it was highly likely they would enroll if they could obtain their desired degree program in Longview. Over half of the respondents said they would enroll in one year and another

quarter said they would enroll in two years.

To determine whether the presence of more higher education opportunities in Longview would draw people back to college, data was analyzed on respondents who are not currently enrolled in a college or university but have some college credit. Of this group, 162 said they would definitely

enroll in one year, and 516 said they would definitely or probably enroll within two years.

"These results are encouraging," said Lee. "They indicate that the presence of the Center in Longview will make it feasible for more people to return to school to finish a bachelor's degree or pursue a master's degree because the time and distance to get to school is significantly less."

Based on the results of the survey, existing enrollment data, and information from area community colleges, initial decisions have been made on degree programs that will be offered at the Longview University Center when it opens fall semester 2000.

Bachelor's degrees will be offered in business administration, interdisciplinary studies, nursing, and technology. Master's degrees will be offered in business administration, nursing, educational administration, engineering, public administration and technology.

"We will also continue to offer individual courses in other majors, as we have been doing in the past in Longview," Lee said. The university has over 40 courses on the schedule for spring semester at its present location in the Kilgore College Longview Center.

