

Concurrent classes expand again for fall 2000

Continued growth is the trend for college classes offered through Western Texas College and made available to area high school students with the start of fall 2000.

From a beginning in 1996 of two participating high schools, this fall's count has grown to 19 schools with some 60 college classes offered.

The final figure for concurrent enrollment is expected to easily exceed last year's number of some 300 students enrolled, according to Dean of Instruction Jim Palmer.

Among those taking advantage of the concurrent program—which allows the student to earn both high school and college credit simultaneously—are those enrolled at both Snyder High and Ira High School.

SHS students could choose between 11 sections involving six individual classes of both academic and vocational/technical instruction.

New this fall at SHS, students may enroll in one of three sections of college credit English (ENGL 1301) as well as two new vocational/technical skill classes.

These include instruction to become licensed Emergency Medical Technicians (two sections offered) and the first class (CPMT 1045) in a new eight-unit program begun at WTC leading students toward their certificate as Computer Network Technicians. (see related story).

Other academic classes offered to SHS students include two sections of U.S. government and one section of psychology as well as two sections of the advanced computer publication/design classes teaching the digital imaging software Photoshop.

On the academic side, Ira students will be enrolled in college algebra and government classes as well as sharing the classroom with Snyder students for the computer network technician class (CPMT 1045).

The concurrent classes reach well beyond Scurry County, however, with 17 area schools involved as well.

Newly added high schools this fall with WTC course listings are Jim Ned, Blackwell, Lueders-Avoca, Jayton, Miles, Roby and Sudan.

They join such returning schools as Colorado City in Mitchell County; Rotan ISD, Fisher County; Anson, Stamford, Hamlin and Hawley ISDs, Jones County; Crosbyton ISD, Crosby County; Post ISD, Garza County; and Patton Springs ISD, Dickens

County.

The instructional staff for these classes include both full-time campus instructors and adjunct teachers employed on a part-time basis. The adjunct faculty has grown to some 37 individuals this fall.

Many of the concurrent classes offered away from Scurry County will be taught by these adjunct faculty.

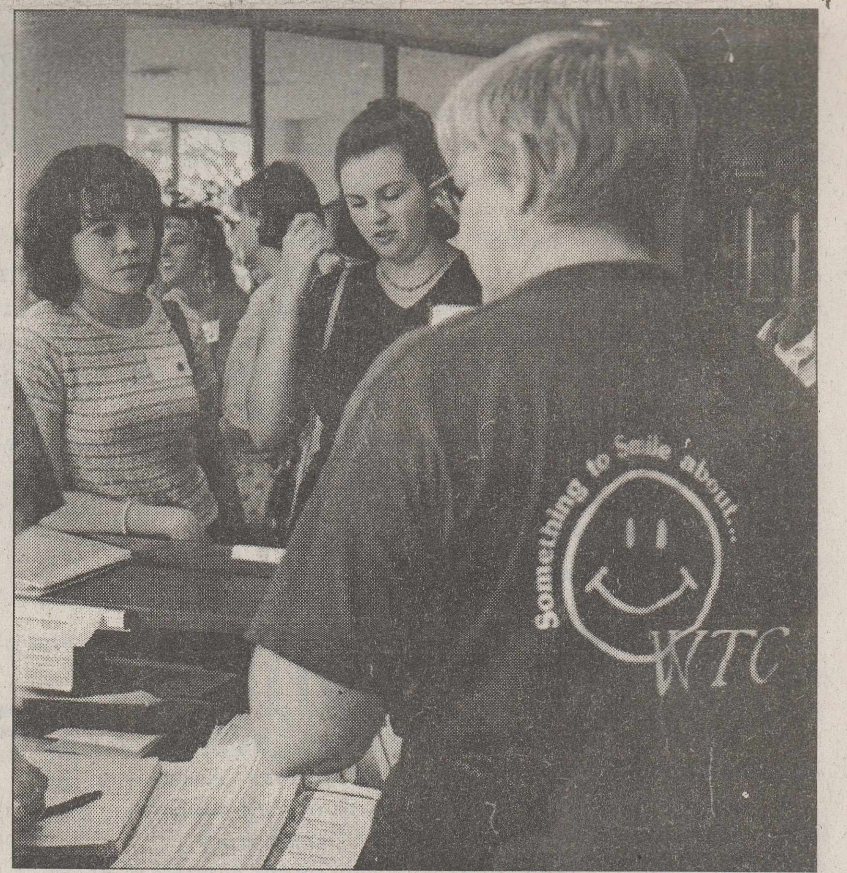
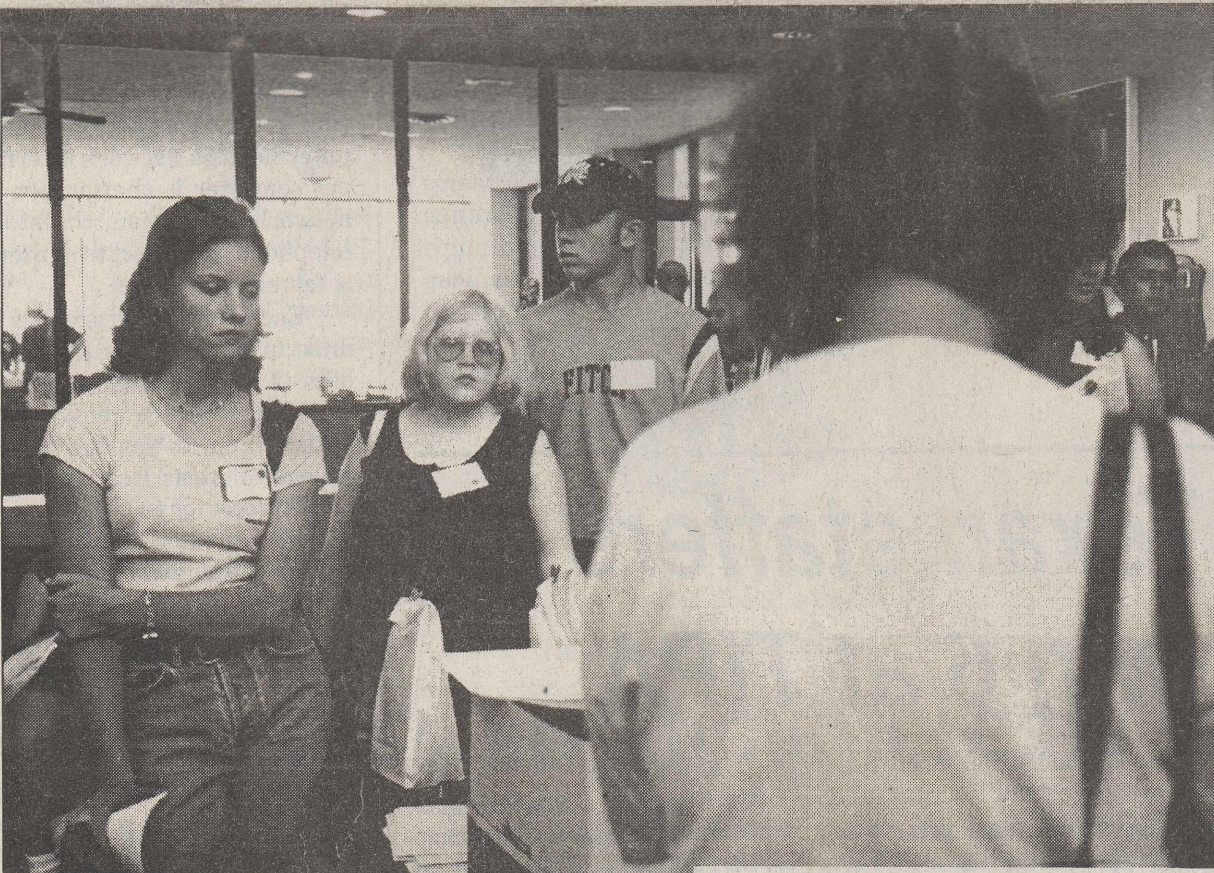
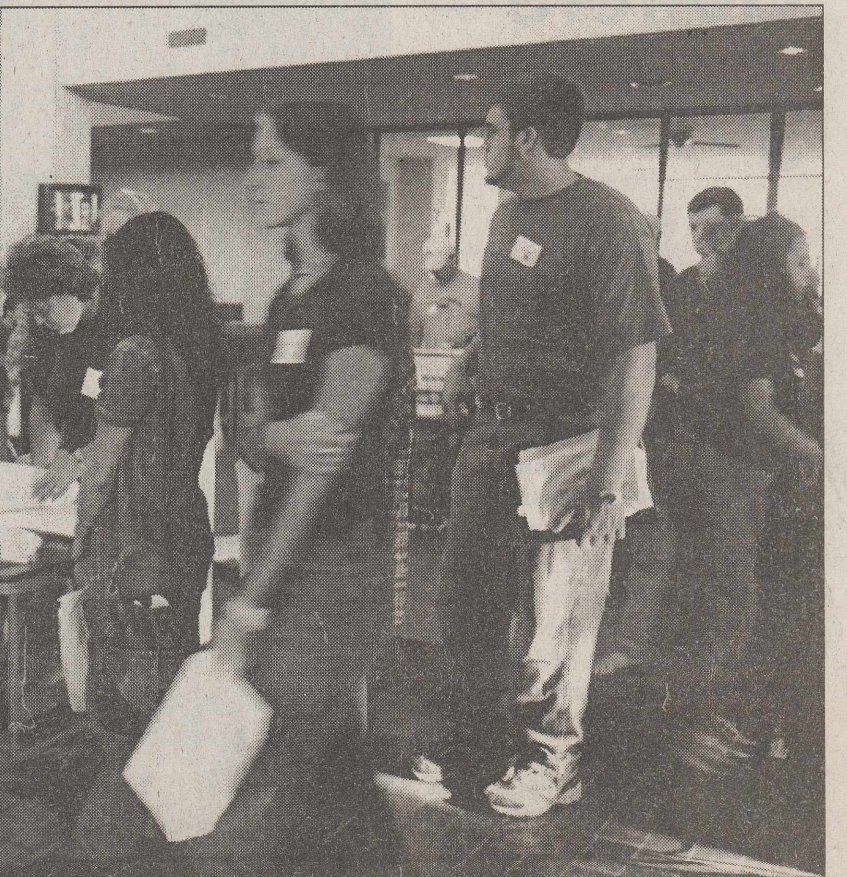
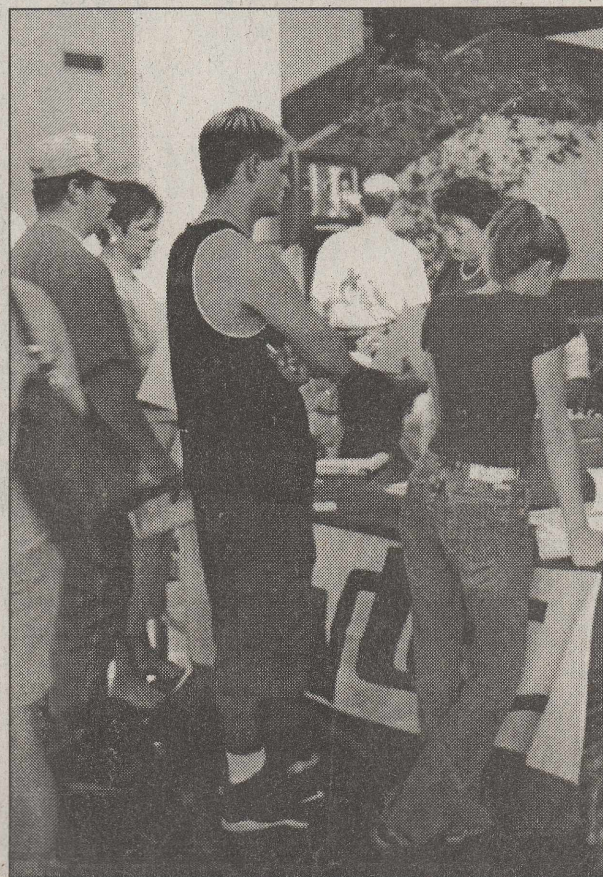
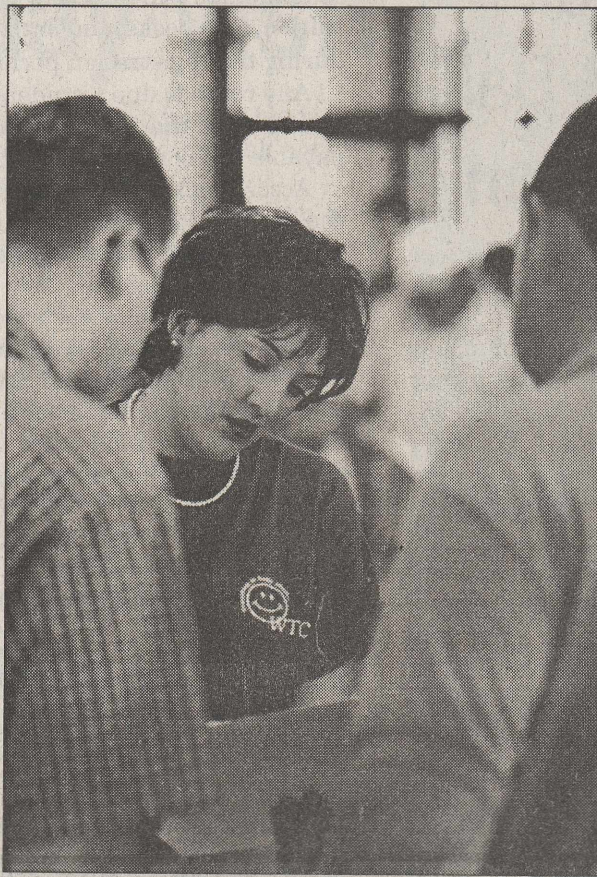
In addition, several classes will be sent via interactive television over the distance learning network and some will be delivered via videotape. These classes

will be primarily taught by on-campus faculty members.

Palmer, who heads the concurrent enrollment program, notes that this type of class not only gives the students a substantial lead on college work, it

has the potential to save their parents thousands of dollars in college-related expenses.

The cost savings occurs since the students may take from six to eight college credit classes without having to leave their hometowns.



The first of two Freshman Success Seminars were held at WTC Wednesday, each with the theme "Something to Smile About"

Network Technician program started

Effective this fall, Western Texas College begins its Network Technician program, a series of eight classes which can ultimately lead to seven national certifications for the repairing and networking of computers.

Both Snyder and Ira High School students are taking advantage of the program this semester as a class in Computer Systems Maintenance (CPMT 1045) is being offered on the "B" day schedule from 8:15-9:45 a.m.

Students from both campuses will meet at this time in the Workforce Development Center on campus, where the computer classroom for the program is located.

In addition, two courses in the series are offered to the general public as evening classes this fall, CPMT 1045 and Introduction to Networking (CPMT 1049).

Completion of CPMT 1045 allows the student to take the national A+ Certification Test which qualifies them as a Certified Computer Technician.

This test is sponsored by Comp Tia, a nationwide professional association comprised of representatives of the major computer corporations such as Microsoft, Novell and Cisco.

"In effect, if you gain this certification you're qualified to work on the systems of any of the big guys," said Dave Hanes, director of workforce education here and one of three certified instructors for the new program.

It is a joint venture of the Continuing Education and the Vocational Education Divisions.

Instruction consists of eight core units (classes) within the

See **NETWORKING**, page 10

Major redo for web page underway

Each department gaining individual pages

The Western Texas College web page underwent a major overhaul during the summer in an effort to better provide prospective students with information about the institution.

Included in these changes, students can now access college application forms via the Internet, download these as "PDF" files which can be viewed and printed from their individual computer.

These include forms for admission, housing and scholarship applications.

Current schedule information is listed also to include fall 2000 as well as school year calendars dating through spring 2001.

Sub-sections at the site include individual pages for all of the educational departments at WTC, both academic and vocational.

The Continuing Education Division has an active web page and individual pages for various departments will be completed as time allows.

Some departments already have pages "up," to include Mass Communications—complete with a streaming video message for computers with a Windows Media Player plug-in.

Other departments with

linked pages are Physical Education and College Preparatory.

Active pages are indicated by an underline and a green "link" color.

Prospective students scrolling through the site can click on

pages to gain more information about the college's literary magazine, "Aquifer," the International Student group, intramural athletics, the rodeo team and meats judging team, and the two main

See **WEB PAGE**, page 10

'Texan' becomes magazine; news broadcasts to startup

Changes are underway for the WTC Mass Communications program as the focus of the department's print program changes and a new electronic technology is added for news delivery.

Effective with the fall of 2000, the print program at WTC will shift from the newspaper venue to a magazine format.

The emphasis will be on timeless material with a feature slant

and the subject matter will expand from the WTC campus alone to the five-county region served by the college.

The new WTC magazine "Texan," will be published twice annually, once in the fall and once in the spring semester.

Also in spring, WTC mass comm students will be involved with the WTC literary magazine "Aquifer."

Print students will be taking

such classes as news writing, photography and computer page layout using the software Adobe PageMaker.

The print instruction and its related print magazines will be overseen by Sandra Hall, who will work also with the college's public information office and its related campus publications. Ms. Hall joined the WTC faculty in the fall of 1998.

See **TEXAN**, page 10

Women win Rodeo's top prize

SPORTS

ish first some 290 points ahead of their closest competition.

The WTC men had qualified also and, as a team, finished fourth overall at the event, staged in Casper, Wyo.

For the women, Jamie Standifer from Colbert, Okla.

was named the women's All-Around Champion and second for the average in barrel racing; and Houston Hutto for the men won a first place national title in the calf roping.

Standifer contributed 300 points toward the women's team total of 730 with competition in both the long-go and the short-go.

The Western Texas rodeo women, competing as a team, swept the National Finals Rodeo in mid-June to fin-

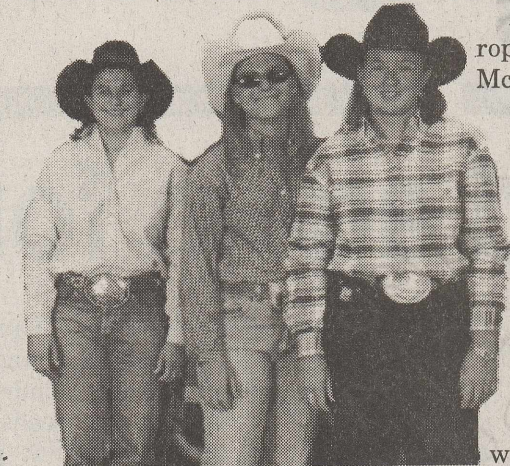
As the rodeo ended June 16, WTC had five competitors, three women and two men, in the finals.

In addition to Standifer and Hutto, Jill Childers, a national title winner last year in goat tying, finished sixth in the average this year.

Also, Tibba Smith won the short-go in breakaway roping and finished sixth in the average; and Rawley McFarland finished third in the finals for saddle bronc riding, making him the runner-up for the average.

The team is coached by Greg Rhodes, who finished his third year at WTC with the National Finals.

The school has produced 17 regional champions and five national champions since Rhodes took over the program. This year, the team won also some \$20,000 in scholarship monies at the National Finals.



Jamie Standifer, Jill Childers, Tibba Smith



Houston Hutto

Golfers go out on top

Western Texas' golf team tied for 15th place in the nation for junior college teams while competing at the Men's NJCAA Golf Championship in Dothan, Ala.

At the four-round event, which ended May 26, the five-man team carded 330. They tied with Northeast Community College.

The three previous rounds had WTC scoring 326, 312 and 311 for a tournament total of 1,279.

Overall winner was Central Alabama with a four-round total of 1,185. Conference opponent Midland College finished second with a total of 1,191.

Individually, Michael Hansen had rounds of 78, 80, 78 and 80 for a four-round total of 316.

Following him was Scott McLaughlan with a 320 total; James Higdon with 321; Jason McGrath with 328; and Martin Gustafson with 337.

The team was coached by Milton Ham.

Since 1971, WTC had qualified for the national event nine times.



Compete at nationals

This five-man team competed in late May at the national JUCO golf tournament, finishing 15th. Team members, shown with Coach Milton Ham, were (standing, from left) James Higdon, Michael Hansen, (kneeling) Jason McGrath, Scott McLaughlan and Martin Gustafson.

Howard wins B-Ball for women

Teams in WTC's conference advancing to the National Junior College Athletic Association Region V basketball tournament included Howard College, owner of the top spot in the West, followed by Midland College, Odessa College, and New Mexico Junior College, who held the fourth seed.

The event was played at the United Spirit Arena in Lubbock in late February.

The Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) played teams from the Northern Conference.

A pair of losses at the close of the season kept the Lady Dusters from advancing to the NJCAA Region V tournament.

The Lady Duster season ended with a 5-25 record and a 3-11 mark for conference play in Coach Valery Jackson's third and final season.

Since 1974, women's teams from WTC were conference champions five times; co-champs twice; and regional champions twice. In 1987, the team finished fourth in the nation; and in 1989 they were sixth, both wins under Coach Kelly Chadwich.

'Aquifer' wins 7 in TIPA contest

"Aquifer," the WTC literary magazine, won seven awards recently from the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association including an honorable mention for best overall publication and first place honors for both poetry and short story.

Seven awards is the most ever won by the campus publication, which was initiated in the fall of 1990.

"Aquifer" competes in Division 2 for TIPA which includes two and four-year colleges with enrollment up to 3,000. The judged version was published in the spring of 1999.

Winning first place for poetry was Leslie S. Hefner, for her poem "Six Times . . . Six Times . . . King Henry VIII."

For short story, Reece McCain's fantasy adventure "Ridge Runner" was singled out for the top award. The story won a second place honor for "Story Package" also, which considers both the written work and its accompanying illustration, a dragon creature drawn by WTC art student Jr. Godinez.

McCain won a third honor with an honorable mention for his second short story, "A Kind Word."

Other "Aquifer" illustrations by campus art students were singled out also, a second place award to Norma Y. Garcia for her illustration of the essay "If Women Were Leaders."

Garcia received a third place prize also in the cover category for her drawing of the 1999 "Aquifer" cover.

Editors for the 1999 edition were faculty members Janet Halbert, Sandra Hall, Jana Wesson-Martin, Ben Sum and Donny Brown.

Texan staffers win 6 at TIPA

The special Millennium Edition of the Western Texan earned its staff a third place prize from the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association recently, one of six TIPA awards won by the newspaper.

These were announced April 15 at the annual TIPA convention, held this year in Waco on the campus of Baylor University.

The Texan won two second place honors, three third place prizes and one honorable mention.

The Millennium Edition was published Nov. 15, 1999 and featured articles from every staff writer last fall.

The Texan staff covered the entire day's events, which included nine presentations from more than 12 guest speakers.

Millennium Day was sponsored by the Psi Zeta Chapter of

Phi Theta Kappa.

Staff writers contributing to that edition were Joshua Burney of Snyder, Kacy Henard of Tatum, N.M., Reid Johnson of Snyder, Sarah Martin of Dickens, Candace Meares of Mertzon and Lisa Moore of Snyder.

Amanda Gutierrez of Snyder won the two second place awards. As sophomore writer for the newspaper last year, she won for an article written in the "Sports News" category regarding the proposed implementation of a baseball program at WTC; and in the "Series" category for three articles written profiling the realignment on campus of the college's instructional divisions.

Page layout won two sophomore staffers third place awards. Ben Brown of Snyder won for "Opinion Page Design" and John Gutierrez of Snyder won for "Sports Page Design."

Brown was the staff's second double winner, receiving an honorable mention in the "News Photo" category for his photo illustrating new "kiosk" maps placed on campus.

The Texan competes in Division 4 of TIPA which includes two-year and four-year schools with an enrollment under 2,000 students.

Others winners in Division 4 this year included Sul Ross State University, Howard Payne, Houston Baptist University and Austin College.

WTC has open admission policy

All high school graduates may be admitted to Western Texas College, but college officials remind that certain requirements must be met before students may register for classes.

Students must provide an official transcript or GED to WTC; submit their scores from the ACT or SAT admission exam or take the college's placement test; and complete the application for admission.

WTC offers also an early admission program for high school seniors. Those who have completed their junior year may enroll in classes to earn college credit.

Application forms for both regular and early admission are available in the Student Services office located in the front of the Learning Resource Center. Transfer students from another college must make application and present a transcript of their entire college record before they may register.

Many qualify for financial aid

A wide variety of financial aid is available to WTC students including scholarships, Pell, TPEG and Workstudy. Those interested are urged to contact personnel with the financial aid office, newly located in the Student Center.

Kathy Hall, financial aide officer, stresses that early application is the most important aspect of receiving aid.

Financial aid funds will be disbursed to students in two forms: by credit and by check. Students awarded grants and scholarships will have the amount of these awards credited to tuition, fees, books, and/or room and board (if in college housing) during the registration periods of each semester.

Any refunds due a student, after crediting accounts, will be issued after the 12th class day in the form of a check made payable to the student.

According to Mrs. Hall, students needing help in paying for the cost of an education should begin by picking up a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Pack from the financial aid office.

The form enables the student to apply for money from the federal government, state agencies, colleges and other programs. The complete FAFSA may be mailed or sent electronically through the financial aid office. The student should contact the financial aid office if they wish to send their FAFSA electronically. Questions should be addressed to the financial aid office.

Western Texas College scholarships are awarded in most departments on campus. The FAFSA and a brochure listing the various grants and scholarships available at WTC are available.

Four wing dorm will house 192

The WTC dormitory is comprised of four wings—two to house men students and two to house women—and has a total capacity for 192 residents.

Each floor accommodates 16 students and there is a large common area between the four wings to serve as a meeting place for occupants and their guests. These furnished living areas include a color television and a telephone for local calls.

Many students bring a computer with them to use in their dorm room. Every WTC dorm room has Ethernet connections which allow connection to the Internet. To connect, the computer needs a network interface card. In addition, a fee of \$60 per semester is charged for the network connection. With a network connection, the student does not have to use their telephone to connect to a Internet provider and the access speed is faster.

Each dorm room is wired for telephones, although students must bring their own phone equipment. Laundry facilities are offered plus vending machines and pay telephones also.

Residents are required to purchase meal tickets which entitle them to eat the 15 meals prepared each week in the college cafeteria located in the Student Activities Building.

The cost for room and board is \$1,150 if it is paid at the start of each semester. A pay-out plan is available also. These plans consist of an initial payment of half the cost at registration and two equal installment payments due Oct. 1 and Nov. 1 for the remaining half. A \$50 deposit must be sent to the WTC Housing Department before a student can be considered for dorm residency.

Televisions, stereos and small refrigerators are allowed in the resident's rooms. There is a \$25 charge for cable per semester for a television and a \$25 charge per semester for electricity if small refrigerators are used. A completed housing file is required before a student can move in. These forms consist of the \$50 dorm deposit plus completion of a dorm contract, medical form, proof of insurance and immunization records.

Campus apartments also available

For students who meet specific criteria, WTC offers on-campus apartments rather than the traditional dormitory housing.

The apartments are available to all students, but preference is given to those enrolled in quarterly rather than per-semester programs; to foreign students; and to students living out-of-state or in-state students living a far distance from home.

Meal tickets are available but not required for apartment residents. Each apartment is fully furnished and including telephone jacks. Televisions are not provided, and students provide linens and other personal items.

To rent an apartment, a deposit of \$125 is required. The cost of the apartments is \$1,100 per semester, which includes five meals per week through the WTC cafeteria.

An apartment file must be completed before the student may move in. This includes the deposit amount and filling out an apartment contract, medical form, proof of insurance and immunization records.

LRC offers varied facilities, Internet

WTC's Learning Resource Center houses thousands of books now served by an electronic card catalog, a computer access area with Internet capabilities and a reading center which is used for developmental reading students.

Also, the LRC houses a reference room complete with encyclopedias, research material, daily and weekly newspapers and periodicals.

The LRC contains also a microfilm area with magazine articles from past years stored and available. A copy machine is available to students and the library staff will make copies using the facility's microfilm copier. For both, the charge is 10 cents a copy.

The LRC also features an audio-visual department which will make copies of non-copyrighted cassette tapes for students at no cost. The students must provide a blank tape.

Cassette tapes and some movie videotapes are available. Cassette tape recorders are available from the circulation desk also with a three-day limit for use.

The LRC's operational schedule is: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. until 9 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.; and Sunday, 2 until 5 p.m.

Workforce receives \$84,343 grant

WTC's Workforce Education Department has been granted an \$84,343 grant from the Skills Development Fund of the Texas Workforce Commission, it was announced April 14.

The moneys will go towards training of new employees for the soon to re-open Snyder Brick Plant.

According to a news release,

the training will be in two phases.

During the first phase, some 15 individuals will be involved with renovating the facility, first constructed in 1952 on Brick Plant Rd.

With the second phase, an estimated 46 employees are to be trained for specific jobs at the facility.

When the plant is completely

re-opened, it is expected to employ 60 persons.

Announcement of the new grant was made by Dave Hanes, director for workforce development on campus, and Terry Stephens, coordinator for workforce education.

Workforce development is a part of the Continuing Education Division at WTC.

THE WESTERN

TEXAN

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Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

Snyder, TX 79549

Vo-ed review . . .

Evaluation team due on campus for 3-day visit

By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer

The WTC campus will be visited beginning Wednesday, Sept. 22, by a review team from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).

As an entity, THECB reviews on a continuing basis the vocational instruction and student services areas affecting these students in Texas community colleges.

Traditionally, a six-member team visits each of Texas' community and technical colleges every five years as part of a regularly scheduled review.

While here, team members will be reviewing such local vocational programs as computerized business technology, crimi-

nal justice, golf and landscape technology, vocational nursing and welding.

In addition, the group will study programs which affect these areas to include the administration of federal programs which aid vocational students such as the Carl Perkins grant and federal Pell grants.

Campus publications, such as the college catalog, and the fiscal budgets related to vocational instruction will be reviewed also.

Planning for the THECB visit on the WTC campus has been carried out mainly by WTC Vice President Bettie McQueen and two WTC Deans, John Gibson, Dean of Vocational Instruction, and George Cormack, Dean of Student Services.

Campus systems called Y2K ready

By Josh Burney
Texan Staffer

College officials say WTC is almost fully prepared for the problems possibly arising from the Millennium date glitch, also known as the "Y2K bug."

Computer programmer/analyst Sam Lujan, along with WTC comptroller Charles Meek, have coordinated the system update.

"The mainframe is ready," Lujan said last week. To students this means they don't have to worry about losing transcript information or course credit records maintained by the college. Accounting and billing information is also safe, Lujan said.

The Y2K bug is a computer glitch which pertains mainly to computer systems built in the 1960's and 1970's. To contend with high memory costs, programmers commonly used a six digit field to describe the date so as to reduce data storage requirements.

If these systems are used after New Year's Eve 1999, the

date Jan. 1, 2000 will be translated to a six digit field as "01-01-00", which the computer recognizes as the year 1900, setting the stage for a number of potentially large miscalculations.

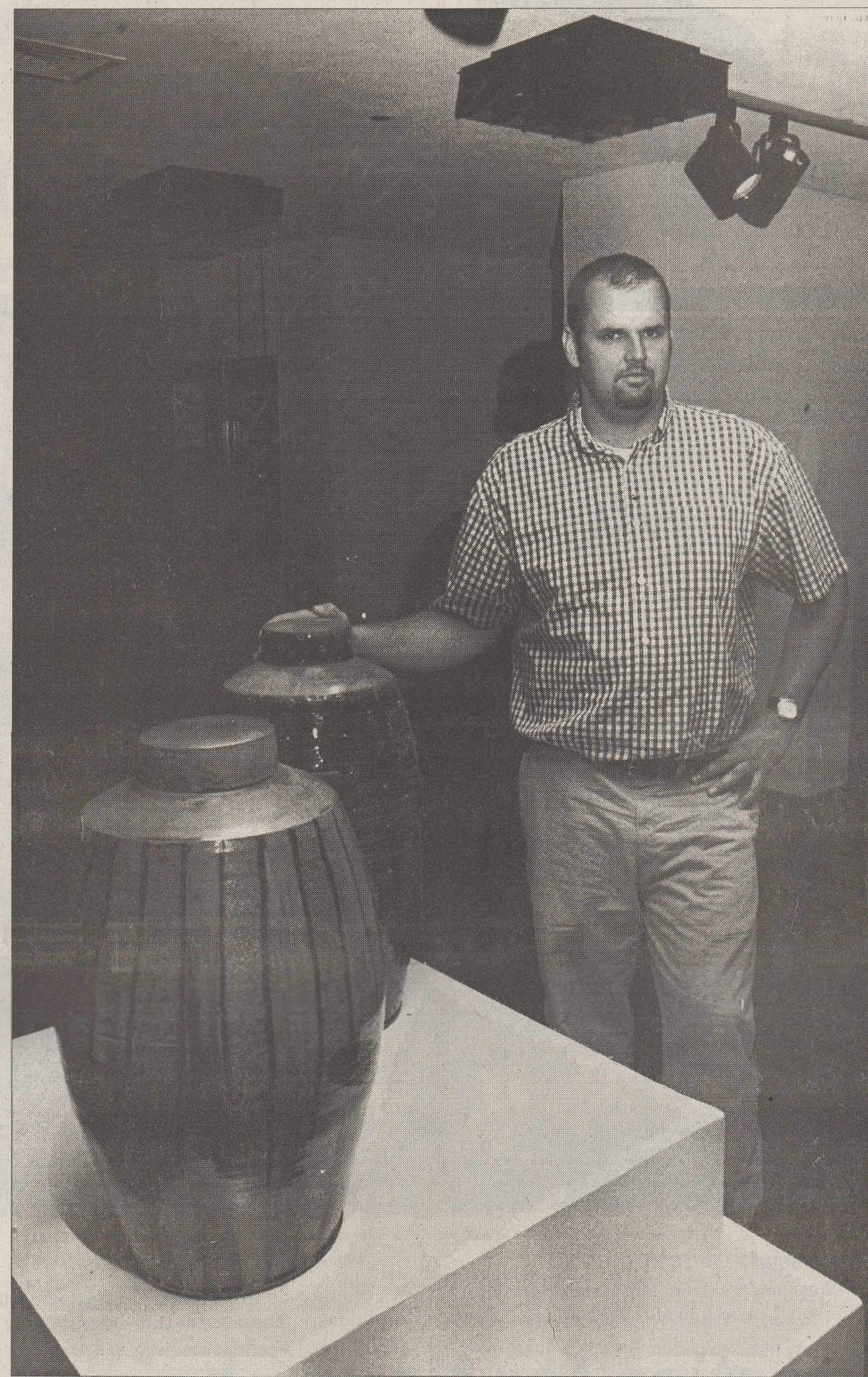
Lujan and Meek began preparing for the Y2K system overhaul back in 1997. Although the work isn't necessarily difficult, Lujan said that the work has been "long and tedious" due to the sheer size of the project, which involved updating every system on campus.

Instructor's artistic interests began early

By Sarah Martin
Texan Staffer

WTC's new ceramics instructor says he has been interested in art "since elementary," but didn't take his first ceramics class until high school.

Shane Christensen, 30, has moved to Snyder from Pennsylvania with his wife, Lisa.



New Fine Arts instructor Shane Christensen with his work (Texan Photo by Ben Brown)

She is working part-time for the college also, teaching aquaerobic classes and serving as the new supervisor of the WTC pool facility.

Christensen remembers, "I took my first class in ceramics in high school because my sister took it and said she liked it."

He attended high school at

Westwood High School in Mesa, Ariz. until his junior year. After finishing high school in Utah, he went on a two-year mission to Korea with his church.

He attended Dixie College for two years before going to Southern Utah University, where he met his wife. After graduating in 1997, he moved to Pennsylvania

to complete his graduate studies at Edinboro University. He finished in August.

He explained he had offers from other schools, but he wanted to teach at a community college to start his teaching career. After his job interview here, he and his wife decided that this was where they wanted to be.

Carpet project near end

LRC 2nd floor
gains makeover

By Lisa Moore
Texan Staffer

The new carpeting project in the WTC Learning Resource Center (LRC) is expected to be completed within the next two weeks, college officials say.

Work on recovering the second floor of the LRC—a project involving some 1,300 square ft.—began July 19 and was originally expected to be completed around the opening of school.

Work delays have held up the project, however, including a longer than expected wait for the original carpet to be delivered.

Some of the carpet also had to be removed after it was initially installed.

This carpet was deemed defective—it had a wavy or uneven surface—and it was ultimately ripped up and new carpet ordered.

Cost of the project is set at some \$14,700.

From 10 to 12 workers have been involved with the effort.

Cindy Fritz, campus technician, has been working with the contractors during the project.

"Hopefully, in about a week we will be able to move the books back on to the shelves," she said last week.

Since work began, the library shelves, or "stacks," have been temporarily stored on the outdoor patio areas around the second floor of the LRC.

The books themselves have been stored in adjacent classrooms and in other storage areas at the facility.

"Once the stacks are back in place it will still take about five to six days to get the books in place," Mrs. Fritz said.

Work to replace the stacks had begun last Friday.

She helped with the removal and relocation of the books this past summer.

The books were stored "in the same order they were on the shelves," she said.

The disruption on the second floor caused the relocation of several WTC classes, including all introductory computer classes.

SGA gains new advisor, new office, new officers

By Shana Parkerson
Texan Staffer

WTC's Student Government Association (SGA) is starting a new year with a new advisor, a new office, as well as new officers and members.

The new advisor, Debbie Duddleston, accepted the position as Director of Student Activities along with her current position of Director of College Relations on Aug. 20.

Duddleston's new responsibilities include student activities, cheer leading sponsor, SGA advisor, college programming and entertainment and recruiting new students to the college.

"I plan to keep the activities on the rise and possibly improve things," explained Duddleston.

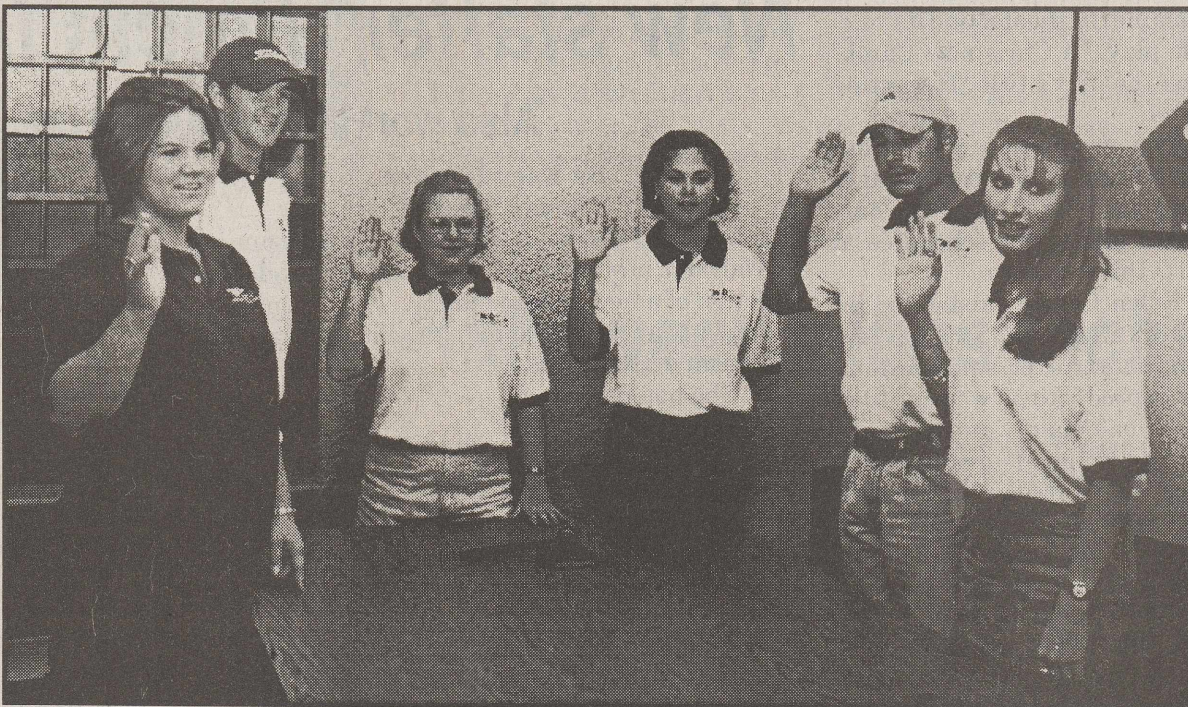
Duddleston's position of Di-

rector of College Relations includes coordinating college advertising and public information releases for the college.

"As the Director of College Relations I would like to see more high school visits to the campus because I feel that if we can get them here we can sell them the campus."

Duddleston shares an office with Gayla Leary, her assistant, who is over intermediate sports, and Kassie Upton, the college's traveling recruiter.

The 1999 SGA slate of officers include Kara Wood, president; Amanda Wells, vice-president; Jason McGrath, secretary; Chris Holt, treasurer; Shana Parkerson, parliamentarian; and Elizabeth Covey, historian.



New SGA officers

The 1999 SGA slate of officers includes, from left, Elizabeth Covey, historian; Jason McGrath, secretary; Amanda Wells, vice-president; Kara Wood, president; Chris Holt,

treasurer; and Shana Parkerson, parliamentarian. The new group was officially sworn in last week. (Texan Photo by Ben Brown)

ENGL 1302 is official 1st Internet class

By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

"Class, open your textbooks to page 98," now sounds like, "Class, get on-line and read today's assignment."

The first-ever Internet-based course offered to students at WTC is Janet Halbert's English 1302.

Students get on-line during their free time and complete the day's assignments through e-mail, bulletin boards and a chatroom.

The class is not completely Internet based. For example, students still have to attend class on test dates, but this on-line class serves as the first step towards what Mrs. Halbert believes is the future of education.

Student count up 9.3 percent; 2nd high overall

**By Josh Burney
Texan Staffer**

A concentrated effort to "recruit" new students to WTC is credited with this fall's near-record enrollment.

Western Texas' count for the 1999 fall semester is 1,298 students, the second highest fall enrollment in the school's history.

The figure, up 9.3 percent from the previous fall, is second only

to the all-time fall enrollment set in 1984 of 1,319 students.

Dean of Student Services George Cormack predicts next year's enrollment will break the 1984 record.

When asked what is responsible for the enrollment increase, Cormack said he believed it is the continuing effort by the college recruitment team, consisting of Debbie Duddleston and Kassie Upton, to promote the

school throughout West Texas.

Cormack also attributes the high enrollment to a more "hands-on" attempt by teachers to recruit students for their own programs.

On campus, student enrollment went from 668 last year to 714 this year.

Off campus student enrollment went from 127 last year to 179 this year.

Concurrent class enrollment,

which is college credit courses offered to area high school students, increased from last year's 171 to this year's 248.

ITV enrollment this year is 65, with last year's enrollment being only five.

The only division of students that has decreased since last year is the Texas Department of Criminal Justice inmate segment.

PAGE 4

BACK TO SCHOOL, 2000

THE WESTERN

TEXAN

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Donor advocate to speak

**PTK speaker
Johnny Harper is
organ recipient**

**By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer**

As part of an on-going international project, the WTC Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa will sponsor this Thursday a campus presentation profiling the steps required to become an organ donor.

The speaker will be Johnny Harper, an area advocate/speaker for organ donation.

He will appear in the Fine Arts Theatre during the Thursday activity period which begins at 10:45 a.m.

Harper himself has benefited from a pancreas transplant/donation after he was injured in an automobile accident several years ago.

Local counselor and PTK chief advisor Carolyn Osborn is a long-time friend of Harper, a native of Midland who now lives in Midland.

Phi Theta Kappa International has undertaken a worldwide project to increase awareness for the organ donor program.

To become an organ donor, advocates say, one must make an informed decision and share that decision with your family.

Needed organs include the heart, kidneys, lungs, liver, pancreas, and intestines. Tissues which may be donated include bone marrow, skin, bone, the corneas, heart valves and tendons.

Induction for PTK set Oct. 21

The fall induction ceremony for the WTC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa is scheduled Oct. 21.

Phi Theta Kappa is an international honor society for the two-year college.

To become a member of PTK, a student must have completed 12 college hours and maintained a 3.2 grade point average.

Assisted by Jennifer Beard, the chief adviser is counselor Carolyn Osborn.

She noted there are 35 current members returning from last year. Another 60 have been invited to join this semester.

In the spring, a formal ceremony will be held for all fall and spring Phi Theta Kappa inductees in the Fine Arts Theater.

Phi Theta Kappa is "more than just a club," she said, "it's a chance for students to participate and build leadership skills."



New yell squad

New cheerleaders (from left to right) are Tina Alvarez, Shana Parkerson, Linda Gonzalez, Amanda Keil, Jessica Hernandez,

Jennifer Reed, Laurie Kerly, Steven Jones, and Jessica Fowler. The mascot this year is Cody "Red" Slatton.

Practice for November play begins

**By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer**

Rehearsals for the fall drama production of "Inspecting Carol" begin this evening.

"Inspecting Carol" is a comedy with a Christmas theme involving an "overly rambunctious" theater group in the Midwest that runs into financial problems with the National Endowment Association (NEA).

In the play, a "wannabe actor" is mistaken for an inspector from the NEA that has come to examine the theater and its yuletide play, "A Christmas Carol," thus the play's title "Inspecting Carol."

The production will debut Nov. 18 with a four performance run scheduled. This is the only drama production scheduled at WTC this semester.

Helen Cogan, production director and WTC drama and speech instructor, said the number of productions was cut from two to one mainly due to time.

"We will have four out-of-town trips on Thursday nights that will show us a little more about acting in full length plays."

"With these trips and other fall activities planned, we just don't have time to put on another production this semester," she said.

Regarding the play, "This piece is great because it has many male parts. I have seven male actors this semester which is almost unheard of," she said.

Among her male actors will be 13-year-old Daniel Day, son of

Dani Day, a member of the WTC English faculty. He will play an actor portraying "Tiny Tim."

Another newcomer to the WTC production cast is Carolyn Girard, an adjunct faculty member for speech and drama and formerly a professional actress in Quebec, Canada, a French-speaking province.

In another "first," Cogan noted, Ms. Girard will be performing in English rather than

her native French-Canadian.

Other cast members are Tiffany Britton of Hawley, Brad Williams of Roscoe, Tiffany Martin of Snyder, Rick Freeman of Breckenridge, David Olson of Hawley, Tiffany L. McAdams of Abilene, Kris Hollis of Sweetwater, and Turney Coulter of Jayton.

The playwright is Daniel Sullivan and the production was

first performed by The Seattle Repertory Company.

Ms. Cogan said she chose this play for many reasons.

"It's well written," she said, "but, the main reason . . . is because it's an ensemble piece without a star."

"You can use all your different actors with all their different abilities."

"Everyone is important."

New staffer directs intramurals

Also works with student government

**By Kacy Henard
Texan Staffer**

Intramural sports activities are just beginning this fall and, new this year, the program is under the direction of a new college staffer.

Gayla Leary is heading up the intramurals part of student activities this year. She has resided in Snyder for almost two years, but is a new face on the WTC campus.

She said she hopes to bring new ideas to the program that will help attract more student participation.

During the term she will also be working with Debbie Duddleston at the Western Texas Student Government Association.

Students have already had a glimpse of what Intramurals are like with the recent pool tournament, softball games and flag football.



Gayla Leary

Since the year is moving towards colder weather, the activities will soon be moved indoors, she said.

There will be 3-on-3 basketball tournaments as well as the Schick Super Hoops 5-on-5 tournament in Arlington in mid-February.

Ms. Leary noted, "Intramurals belong to the students of WTC, and I'm just here to try and put it together for them."

She said she is very interested in "what the students are interested in" and urges students to come and talk to her and give her suggestions about the program.

There will be further details in the future along with posters around the campus informing students about intramural activities.

Ms. Leary is officed in the Student Center next to the Student Activities office and students with suggestions are welcome to drop by.

Intramural events scheduled in October are: Monday—Ping Pong in the Student Center, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 9—Softball, WTC Softball Field, 2 p.m.

WTC Cheerleaders announced

**By Shana Parkerson
Texan Staffer**

The new WTC cheerleaders for 1999-2000 were announced following try-outs Sept. 16.

The squad consists of one returning cheerleader, seven new cheerleaders and two alternates.

Tryouts for the new cheer group included a WTC group cheer, a dance, one individual cheer, a linked jump series and an additional three jump series.

Returning as a cheerleader this year is Jessica Hernandez. Jessica is the daughter of Tsidro and Yolanda Hernandez and a graduate of Caprock High School in Amarillo. She is also a member of Student Government Association and a WTC recruiter. Her major is International Affairs.

New Cheerleaders are:

Amanda Keil is the daughter of Lonnie and David Powell and a graduate of Hamlin High School. She is also a member of Student Government Association. Her major is Medical Lab Technician.

Angela Riggs is the daughter of Dwayne and Kathy Riggs and a home school graduate. She is a member of Student Government Association.

Jennifer Reed is the daughter of Tim Reed and Irene Gill and a graduate of Sweetwater High School. Her major is Business.

Jessica Fowler is the daughter of Terry and Tonia Fowler and a graduate of Roscoe High School. Her major is Animal Science.

Lina Alvarez is the daughter of Anastacio and Alice Alvarez and a graduate of Snyder High School. She is a member of the Student Government Association and a WTC recruiter.

Linda Gonzalez is the daughter of Porifirio and Juana Quintanilla and a graduate of Hamlin High School. Her major is Early Childhood.

Laurie Kerly is the daughter of Cecile Kerley and a graduate of Snyder High School. She is a member of Student Government Association. Her major is Elementary Education.

Shana Parkerson is the daughter of Melisa Kurklin and the late Dwight Parkerson. She is a graduate of Snyder High School and is the Parliamentarian of the Student Government Association and a staff writer for the Western Texan. Her major is Mass Communications/Secondary Education.

Steve Lomas is the son of Norma and Steve Lomas. He is a graduate of Highland High School and a member of the Student Government Association. His major is Business.

Cody "Red" Slatton was named the new mascot (Dusty). Cody is the son of Charlie and Judy Mayfield of Lometa.

Millennium day has fact and fun for everyone

By Kacy Henard
Texan Staffer

Plans for the campus Millennium Project, set for Nov. 3, have been finalized with 13 speakers scheduled. Theme for the project is "Millennium: Reflections and Beyond."

Phi Theta Kappa, along with the WTC Faculty Association and Student Government Association, have scheduled numerous speakers and "fun filled" projects

for both the young and old.

There will be speakers throughout the day at three campus sites speaking on subjects ranging from history to religion, from the stock market to the importance of individual freedom.

Among the visiting speakers will be Ron Elkins of Fort Worth, a professor of psychology for Education America. He will discuss "The Effect of Turn of the Cen-

tury Technology on Social Interaction."

Also appearing will be Robie Robinson, Fisher County Attorney. He will discuss "Death of Privacy and Individual Freedom."

Other speakers will be drawn from members of the community and the WTC faculty.

Fun activities are scheduled also with the day. A contest using the computer slide show soft-

ware Powerpoint will have students winning prizes by identifying the faces of historical figures from the past 100 years.

Phi Theta Kappa adviser Carolyn Osborn said she hopes for a big turnout with members of the community invited. Classes on campus will be dismissed for the day.

Tentative plans for a sock-hop dance were announced as well.

BACK TO SCHOOL, 2000

PAGE 5

THE WESTERN TEXAN

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Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

Snyder, TX 79549

Directional kiosks placed on campus for clear WTC access

By Josh Burney
Texan Staffer

A plan is now being implemented to establish "kiosk" maps at different locations on campus for those unfamiliar with the WTC campus.

"We finished all the details of the kiosks this summer," said Mike Thornton, dean of continuing education, "and they are being installed right now."

Last year, lack of visible signs and the poor quality of existing ones, along with lost students on campus at the beginning of each year, prompted WTC Vice President Bettie McQueen to appoint a "signage committee" chaired by Thornton.

Its purpose was to evaluate existing signs located at all ar-

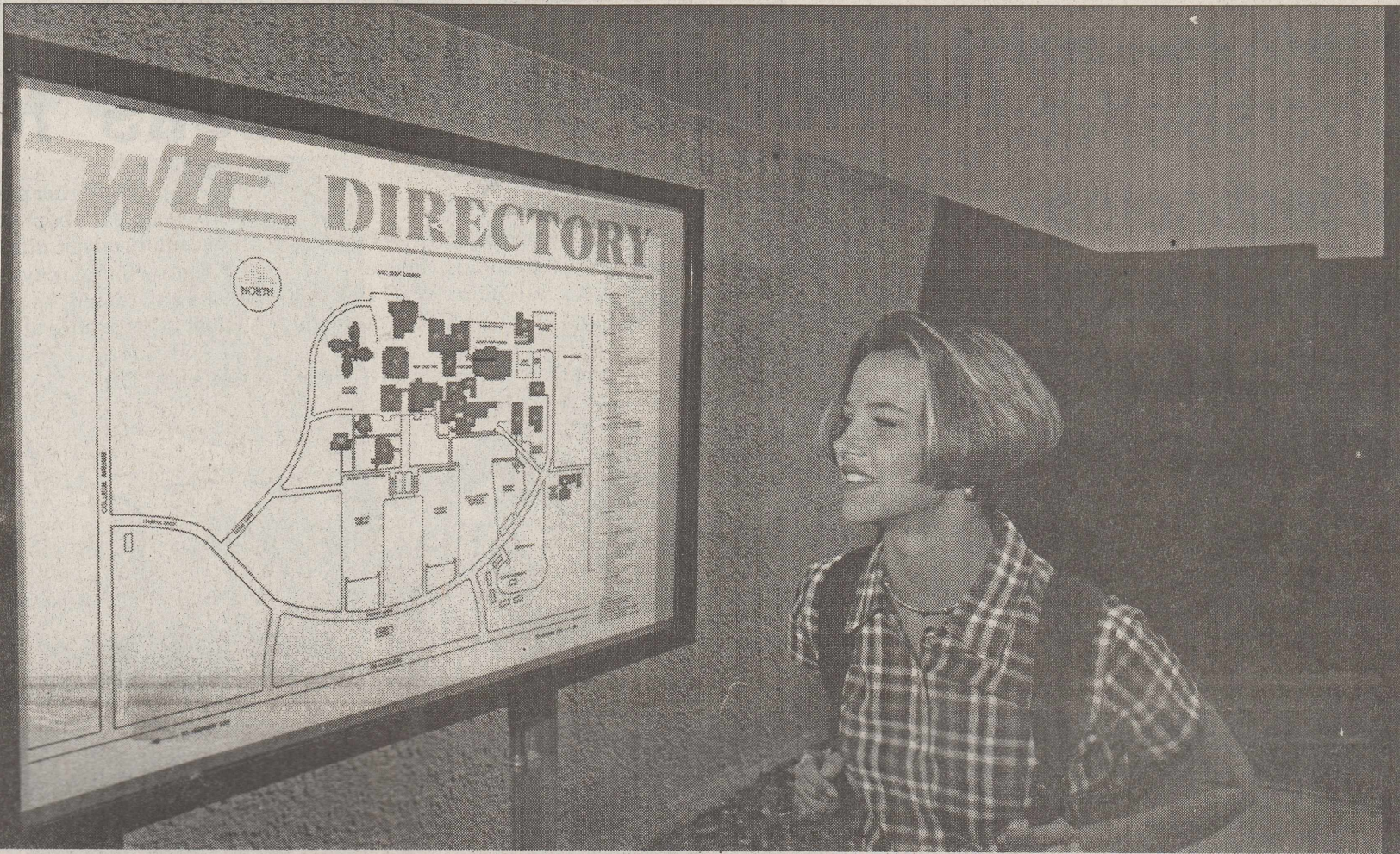
reas of the main campus and to make recommendations.

The most popular suggestion was to implement the "kiosks" at different locations on campus, similar to signs seen at malls, with "you are here" notations on campus buildings.

The new signs are located at several locations.

These include outside the Learning Resource Center, in front of the Student Center and beside the WTC Gymnasium area and the Workforce Development Center.

Another recommendation was to officially "name" WTC buildings, which are now identified by a letter-number system. For example, the faculty office building is listed as 2-B.



WTC sophomore Mandy Heaton studies one of four new campus maps

Texan Photo by Ben Brown

Seniors due on campus Thursday for College Day

By Lisa Moore
Texan Staffer

Some 26 colleges and eight other institutions had committed as of Friday to take part in WTC's annual College Day. It will be held this Thursday, Oct. 21.

The event is scheduled for area high school students as well as WTC students planning to transfer.

"College Day is meant to help give students an easier way to learn about several colleges without having to visit a lot of differ-

ent ones," said Debbie Duddleston, director of student activities who has been in charge of organizing the event.

Activities will be from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. in the WTC gym area. The different colleges will have display material profil-

ing their college and a representative on hand to discuss specific information.

Also Thursday, representatives from several branches of the armed forces, a technical school, and a public entity will be on hand to answer questions and

to distribute literature.

"We want to encourage all students, even if you have a mindset on what you want to do, to come to College Day and take a look at what's available because, you may not know what's all out there," Mrs. Duddleston said.

The general public is invited and no admission will be charged.

Colleges committed to College Day include Angelo State University, Cisco Junior College, Frank Phillips College, Hardin-Simmons University, and Howard College.

Organ donor speaker is recipient himself

By Sarah Martin
Texan Staffer

"Many people know just enough about transplants to be afraid of them."

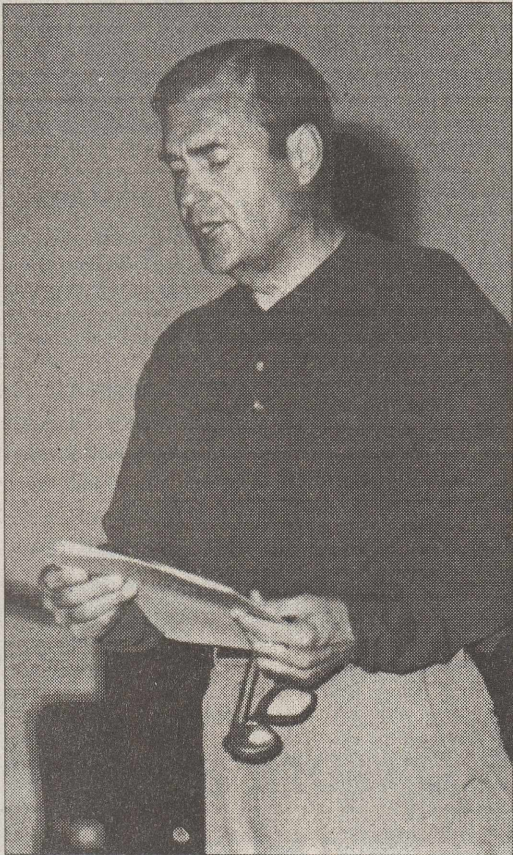
Johnny Harper, an organ transplant recipient, spoke to a small group on campus Oct. 7, "in an attempt to quell fears and educate people about organ donation," he said.

His appearance was sponsored by the campus chapter of

the body cannot function properly without a pancreas and, because of this, he had to have his blood sugar checked every 30 minutes.

Harper went to hospitals all over the country in search of help, including the Mayo Clinic, who told him that nothing could be done for him.

Harper found renewed hope after seeing a "Today Show" segment explaining the advancements that had been made in transplant technology.



Johnny Harper

here," he said.

Harper says that he is now in good health, though he still takes medication each day.

To illustrate his good health, he told the audience that two years ago he began backpacking and hiking and has hiked up Pike's Peak twice. Harper also told the audience of his plans to take a 225-mile hike through the Himalayas this October.

He said his efforts are being used as a tool for education.

Faculty position manages WTC Golf Course

By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

Like Kevin Costner, star of Randy Weaver's favorite movie "Tin Cup," Randy spends the majority of his time on the golf course.

Randy is the WTC golf course and campus grounds superintendent, which is a new position created this year.

"My position oversees the maintenance of the campus and the golf course," says Weaver.

Randy is also an instructor in the Golf and Landscape Technology program and is currently teaching the study of turfgrass and how to maintain

it.

Weaver notes he has been "on the golf course" since the sixth grade.

He played golf on the collegiate level and even tried a professional career.

When Randy is not on the golf course, he is at home with his wife, Barbara, and their two children, Daysha and Jay, who are also golfers.

He had been employed by the college as a horticulture instructor at the John Wallace prison unit extension campus since 1994.

He earned his associates degree from Western Texas.



Randy Weaver

Halloween plans include 6 events

The WTC Student Government Association (SGA) is sponsoring six Halloween events starting Wednesday and continuing through Halloween night Oct. 31.

These events include a pumpkin carving contest, a haunted dorm contest, a dance and a two-day Fall Festival.

The pumpkin carving contest will be Wednesday in the Student Center from 6 to 8 p.m. Contestants can keep their

pumpkin creation or leave them to be displayed on the campus.

The haunted dorm contest will be judged on Tuesday, Oct. 26. Dorm students will be decorating their floors and the winner will receive two large pizzas of their choice.

The Halloween dance is set Wednesday, Oct. 27, in the Student Center from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

A contest will be held at the dance for the best costume, for the best couple costume, and for

the best group of three or more in costume and prizes will be awarded.

All WTC students with a valid I.D. will be admitted at no charge and an admission fee of \$3 will be charged for non-students attending with a WTC student.

On Friday, Oct. 29, the Fall Festival will open to elementary school children from 1 until 3 p.m. At 2 p.m., elementary students will "trick or treat" the dorm.



Phi Theta Kappa.

Speaking about the car accident that left him without a functioning pancreas, Harper explained the benefits of donation from a recipient's standpoint.

For the next four years, he said he "required around-the-clock care." He explained that

Millennium day activities begin this Wednesday

The campus Millennium Project is Wednesday with the theme "Millennium: Reflections and Beyond."

Phi Theta Kappa, along with the WTC Faculty Association and Student Government Association, have scheduled numerous speakers and "fun filled" projects for both the young and old.

There will be speakers throughout the day at three campus sites speaking on subjects ranging from history to religion, from the stock market to the importance of individual free-

dom.

Among the visiting speakers will be Ron Elkins of Fort Worth, a professor of psychology for Education America (see related story). He will discuss "The Effect of Turn of the Century Technology on Social Interaction."

Also appearing will be Robie Robinson, Fisher County Attor-

ney. He will discuss "Death of Privacy and Individual Freedom."

Other speakers will be drawn from members of the community and the WTC faculty.

Fun activities are scheduled also with the day. A contest using the computer slide show software Powerpoint will have stu-

dents winning prizes by identifying the faces of historical figures from the past 100 years. "Faces of the 20th Century" will be on display both at noon and 3 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre.

Classes on campus will be dismissed for the day, which will begin at 8 a.m. with opening ceremonies and remarks by Dr. Harry Krennek, WTC President; and Dr. Jim Palmer, Dean of Instruction regarding "Importance of History"

Other speakers will follow throughout the day.

**REFLECTIONS
& MILLENNIUM
Beyond ... M**

PAGE 6

BACK TO SCHOOL, 2000

**THE
WESTERN**

TEXAN

**NOVEMBER 1
1999**

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Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

Snyder, TX 79549

Millennium speaker Elkins . . .

Diverse effects of technology to be addressed

By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

Technology and its effects on society beyond the year 2000 will be the central focus Wednesday from guest speaker Ron Elkins of Dallas.

Elkins is an author, counselor and educator who has worked with a number of governmental agencies and school systems.

Through his private business, Research and Training International, he addresses a broad spectrum of human service problems.

"Basically, I'll be talking about how all the technology has begun to interfere with social interaction," said Elkins.

"For example, a lot of parents feel safe because their kids have cellphones, and so the kid calls them from the mall and says, 'Hey Mom, I'm here,' and everybody goes to bed to sleep, then they (the children) go out and get loaded up."

Again, the technology has its advantages, but we're going to talk about the disadvantages in terms of how it interferes with communication skills," he said.

He is licensed in marriage and family counseling and has a private practice.

Computer lab times expand

Josh Burney
Western Texan Staff

In an effort to give WTC students more usage of the approximate 200 Internet-linked computers on campus, the college has now implemented expanded night time and weekend computer lab hours at several campus sites.

The new lab times allow for three sites to be open nightly Monday through Thursday and, on weekends, students may now use computers on Saturday as well as Sunday.

Previously, there was only one computer site open to the general student population at night and, regarding weekends, the only time a site was open was on Sunday afternoon—the LRC computer lab.

Rodeo offers 'bucks' for bucks

By Kacy Henard
Texan Staffer

Can you imagine earning hundreds of dollars for five weekends each semester while attending college?

At least four rodeo athletes attending WTC this fall have done this, one earning up to \$4,500 in a single weekend event.

There potential for earnings comes from contest money for the winners and sponsorship money for a few. For others, the rewards can be in the form of college scholarships.

WTC rodeo coach, Greg Rhodes, explains how the money payoff works.

Rhodes noted, "Unlike other collegiate sports, collegiate rodeo athletes earn money by winning."

Payoff in rodeo is exactly the same for each event. Money is paid to the Top Four in the long round, which includes all rodeo athletes entered in that event, and to the Top Four in the short round, which includes the Top Ten in each event and the Top Four in the average standings.

"The more contestants that compete in an event, the more total payoff the contestant will receive," Rhodes said.

For example, in the event of team roping, which attracts approximately 150 contestants, close to several thousand dollars is divided among the winners.

Assuming each pays a \$50 entry fee, 150 contestants would equal a total of \$7,500 shared on a percentage basis among the Top Four for the long and the short go and the average.

Some events do not pay as much, Rhodes noted, citing as an example the bareback riding and goat tying, which traditionally do not attract as many entries.

Events which do pay well include the team roping and breakaway roping, he said.

Just to get an idea at how much money is up for grabs, Jill Childers, Okla. said, "The

WTC goat tier from Durant, most money I have won at a single college rodeo was about \$2,200 at the College National Finals Rodeo."

Casey Baize, a WTC bull rider from Wall, also has won large dollar amounts, citing the largest at a college rodeo as \$1,200.

Baize also "pro rodeos," where



Rodeo team members, clockwise from left, are Wes Stevenson, Jill Childers and Casey Baize. (Contributed Photos)

the payoff is much more for events sponsored by the Pro Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA).

"I've won close to \$4,500 at Cheyenne Frontier Days PRCA rodeo," he said, more than a months salary won in about a weekend.

Some rodeo athletes are lucky enough to get sponsorships. These sponsors help pay fees in return for that athlete to wear their logo on their clothes.

TASP test retake law is clarified

By Sarah Martin
Texan Staffer

If you are in college preparatory classes this fall, be prepared to retake the TASP test.

Confusion over the "B" law has prompted WTC counselor Carolyn Osborn to try a clarify the issue for students.

According to Ms. Osborn, some students were under the false impression that the "B" law exempted them from retaking the TASP.

The "B" law states that if a student can get a "B" or better in specific college level classes after taking developmental classes, that student does not have to pass the test.

According to Ms. Osborn, it is true that a student does not have to pass the test but there is still a catch. While they don't have to pass the test, they do have to retake it.

Students who have taken the TASP test for the first time and not received passing scores must then follow a "prescribed course of remediation."

This means that they are recommended to take a developmental class for the subject that they did not pass.

After receiving a "C" or better in that class, they are eligible to take college level classes in that subject. During that semester, it is mandatory that students retake the TASP.

If a student receives a "B" or better in the college level class, that student is not required to pass when retaking the TASP.

This is the only course of action students can take if they have not passed the TASP and wish to be enrolled in regular college courses.

"It's state law," says Ms. Osborn.

Students who have not passed the TASP are not allowed to take a "B" law course until developmental classes in that area have been completed.

Pamela Odhuong'o remembered for her hard work and kind ways

Former Duster dies suddenly at age 30; event raises funds to aid family

By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer

Friends and faculty members paused last week to remember former Lady Duster Pamela Odhuong'o, 30, who died Oct. 20 in Lubbock after apparent kidney failure.

"Pamela came to the United States to make a better life for her and her family," said Lady Duster Coach Valery Jackson.

At this time, the Lady Dusters are trying to raise approximately \$4,000 to send Pamela's

body back to Kenya for burial.

A meal was held Thursday evening in the WTC Dining Hall to help raise funds for the effort. The food for that event was prepared by Great Western Dining Services and donated by friends. Tickets were sold by members of the Duster team.

Cafeteria manager Lee Jones, who sold more than \$300 in tickets himself, said he expected the event to raise some \$1,500.

Pamela arrived at WTC in 1997 from Nairobi, Kenya and

played for the Lady Dusters from 1997 to 1999.

She was married to a former Olympic boxer, and she was the mother of two children, ages four and seven.

Her family remained in Kenya throughout her stay in the U.S.

"It was so refreshing to see someone working so hard toward a goal and sacrificing so much to achieve it," said Mary Dee Price, WTC's special needs coordinator and one of the sponsors of the International Students group on

campus.

"Students could learn so much from her."

"She had a great sense of humor," said Coach Jackson. "She looked as stern and serious as could be, but there was a great amount of humor behind all that."

"Her teammates referred to her as Mama," Coach Jackson remembered.

"Her age, as well as her ways, made them see her as a parental figure."

She was honorable mention all-conference for the 1997-1998 season and the 1998-1999 basketball season, primarily due to her defensive skills.

She also led the Lady Dusters in rebounds during the 1997-1998 season.

She transferred to Wayland Baptist University after last school year to finish her education and to continue playing basketball. She was planning to major in some field of social work.



Pamela Odhuong'o

Christmas Happenings make Thursday busy night

A mix of four separate holiday events are planned on the WTC campus this Thursday evening, Nov. 18—culminating at 8 p.m. with the opening performance of the drama department's holiday comedy "Inspecting Carol."

Included in the evening will be a Christmas-related exhibit and opening reception at the Scurry County Museum; a Christmas show at the WTC Planetarium; and the traditional Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony in the central courtyard.

Similar events on the campus last year attracted a crowd numbering in the hundreds from

both the student population and the community. With the exception of the drama department performance, all events are free to the general public.

The festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a visit from Santa Claus, who will be posing for pictures with youngsters. A \$3 fee will be charged for the photos.

Also at 5:30 p.m., the holiday display at the Scurry County Museum will open to the public.

The museum will feature "Christmas A to Z" from 5:30 until 7 p.m.

Toys representing each letter of the alphabet

will be on display, along with the museum Christmas tree.

Visitors will be able to buy Christmas collectibles also through the Museum Gift Shop.

Featured this year is a red Christmas ball imprinted with the likeness of the Hermleigh Hotel, a building dating to the 1930s and 40s which was razed sometime after 1959.

Visitors to the museum may view "Christmas A to Z" through Dec. 15.

At 6 p.m., the WTC Planetarium will present "A Christmas Story" free to the public.

The program speculates on how the heaven's might have looked some 2,000 years ago on the night of Jesus' birth.

In part, the program proposes that a conjunction of two stars or a star and planet might have been the "Star of Bethlehem" which legend tells us led the three wise men to the baby.

The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will be at 6:30 p.m. and will include again this year a talent show. Entrants will receive prizes.

At 8 p.m., the first performance of "Inspecting Carol" will be presented.

See **CHRISTMAS**, page 8

BACK TO SCHOOL, 2000

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PAGE 7

Millennium Day looks at future, past

By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

The importance of history was the primary focus for the opening address Nov. 3 at WTC's Millennium Day.

The speech was presented by Dr. Jim Palmer, dean of instruction. His address followed the opening remarks from WTC President Harry Krennek.

Palmer opened his slide show presentation by saying, "The Past: Why Bother? Clichés that Say It All."

Throughout his presentation, Palmer would quote famous clichés that confirmed the importance of history.

He began his list with the cliché "Experience is the best teacher."

"There is no substitute for experience," he said, "because experience is the only teacher."

The Dean of Instruction then moved to the familiar cliché "Live and learn."

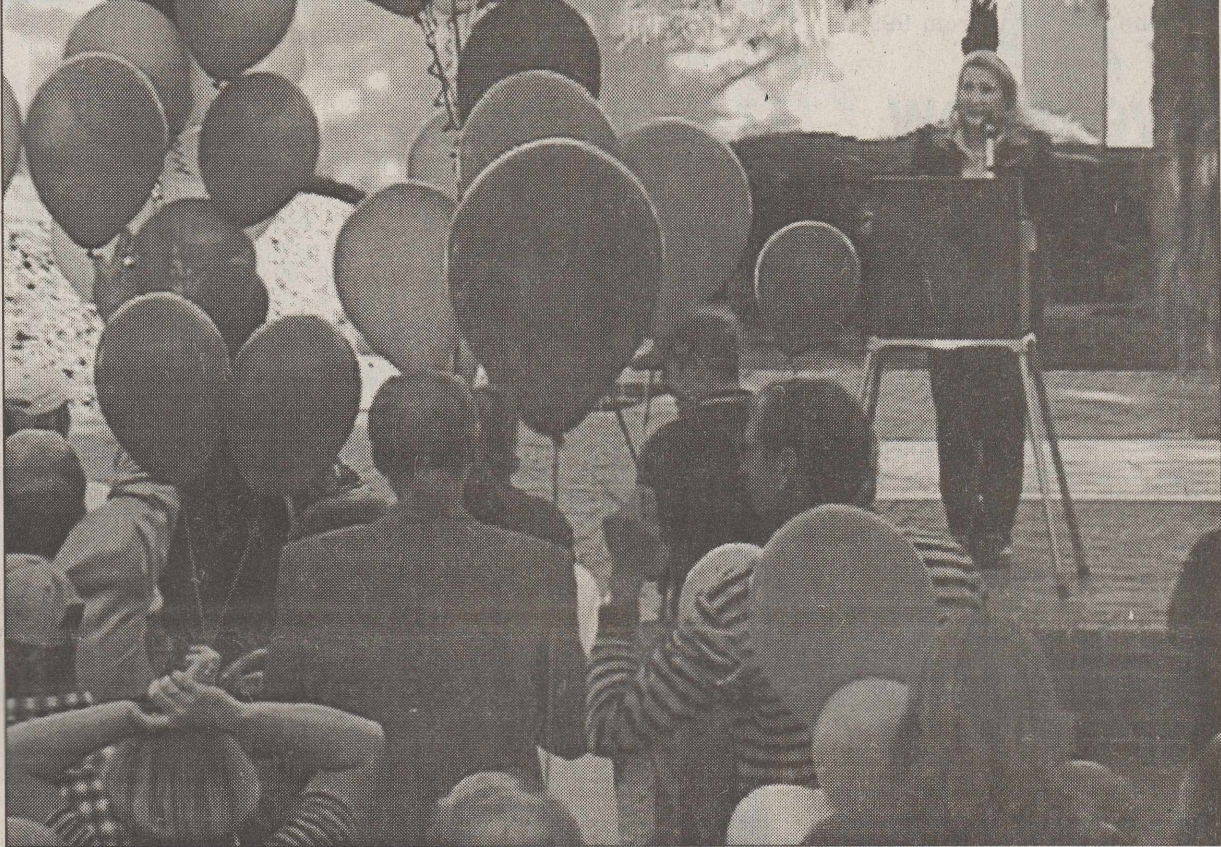
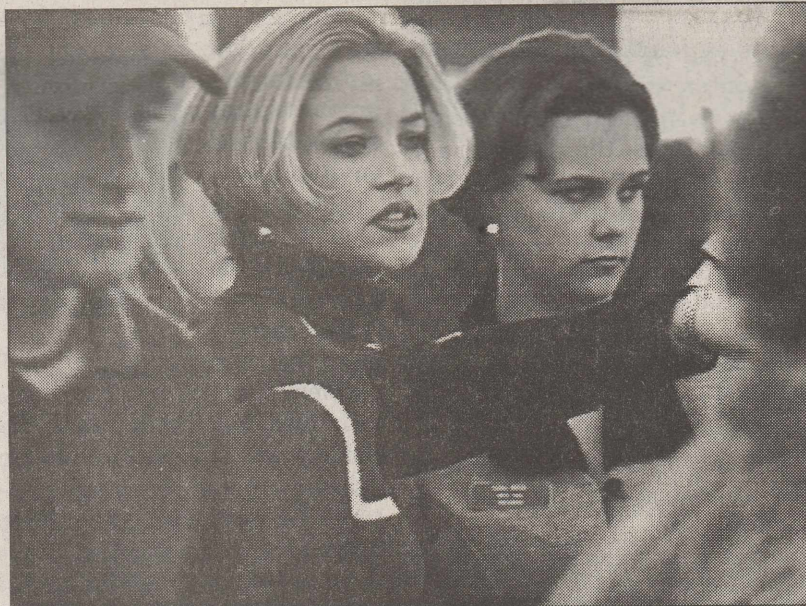
Does this mean if we are not learning we are not living? he asked the audience.

"If that's true, then I've had students that were just dead," says Palmer as a stretch of comic relief.

Do you have to live an experience to learn from it?

"Not necessarily," quotes

See **HISTORY**, page 8



Once in a lifetime event . . .

A balloon launch, with participants attaching notes which held their thoughts and dreams about the future, ended Millennium Day activities here Nov. 3. The day-long event featured nine speakers addressing a variety of topics, from religion to financial planning, from privacy to the role of society in the twenty-first century. Dean of Instruction Jim

Palmer, who was the leadoff speaker, writes his "hope for the future" (upper left). The day was sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa and the Student Government Association, and two of their leaders, Mandy Heaton, PTK, and Kara Wood, SGA, are shown at left. Above, Phi Theta Kappa officer Jamie Ellis spoke just prior to the balloon release. (Texan Photos)

Society's future considered

By Sarah Martin
Texan Staffer

A panel discussion, titled "Perspectives, Predictions, and Politics of Social Control," covered many topics pertaining to the concerns of society and their relationship to the coming millennium.

Participants included Jim Clifton, criminal justice instructor here at WTC for the past two years; Jack Price, who has taught government and management at WTC since 1989; and Dr. James Durham, professor of history and sociology here at WTC.

Approximately 100 students, faculty and guests attended the discussion, which was held in the Fine Arts Theatre as part of the millennium celebration organized by the WTC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the WTC Faculty Association and the Student Government Association.

See **SOCIAL**, page 8

2nd Coming one fear with 2000

By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

The possibilities of the Second Coming were among the religious topics addressed during a two-person panel discussion on campus Nov. 3.

Tom Holcomb, min

See **CHURCH**, page 8

Students advised 'invest now'

By Sarah Martin
Texan Staffer

It takes an investment of only \$100 a month starting at age 18 to retire a millionaire, according to Tim Riggan, an investment adviser who spoke as part of the day long millennium observa

See **INVEST**, page 8

Personal privacy is concern

By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer

"You won't know as much when we're through as you do when we start," said Robie Robinson, Fisher County Attorney and a speaker at the Nov. 3 Millennium event at WTC.

See **PRIVACY**, page 8

Technology isn't only answer

By Josh Burney
Texan Staffer

We will need more than technology to be successful as human beings in the next century.

That opinion was expressed by Ron Elkins of Dallas in his address "The Effect of Turn of

See **SOCIETY**, page 8

Ecological issues addressed

By Lisa Moore
Texan Staffer

"Do your part to save the environment."

This was the main point Britt Canada and Sue Freemyer returned to several times while addressing environmental issues at Millennium Day Nov. 3.

Canada talked about the near extinction of certain animals and the importance of protecting those animals before they reach extinction.

He also talked about natural disasters that have happened in the past. Some examples he gave were droughts, oil spills, the big U.S. dust storm, and in 1978 the Love Canal incident involving pollution.

"We need to learn from all the past disasters we've had and plan in advance on how to deal with future disasters," Canada advised.

He discussed natural disasters and he told of ways we can help pre

See **ECOLOGY**, page 8

Medicine past 2000 promising

By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer

Life expectancy, infant mortality and gene therapy were just three of the topics covered during the Millennium day seminar "Health care—2000 and Beyond," presented by Dr. Bob Rakov.

Dr. Rakov is part of St. Mary's Medical Group in Snyder and has lived in Snyder for 14 months.

He began his presentation by telling how change is constant in medicine.

"Medical volume information has doubled twice since I graduated medical school in 1986," Dr. Rakov said.

"The past 100 years have been pretty much trial and error in the medical profession," he explained.

He pointed out the life expectancy for men and women has drastically improved since 1900.

The average man's

See **DOCTOR**, page 8

Historical lookback ends day

By Kacy Henard
Texan Staffer

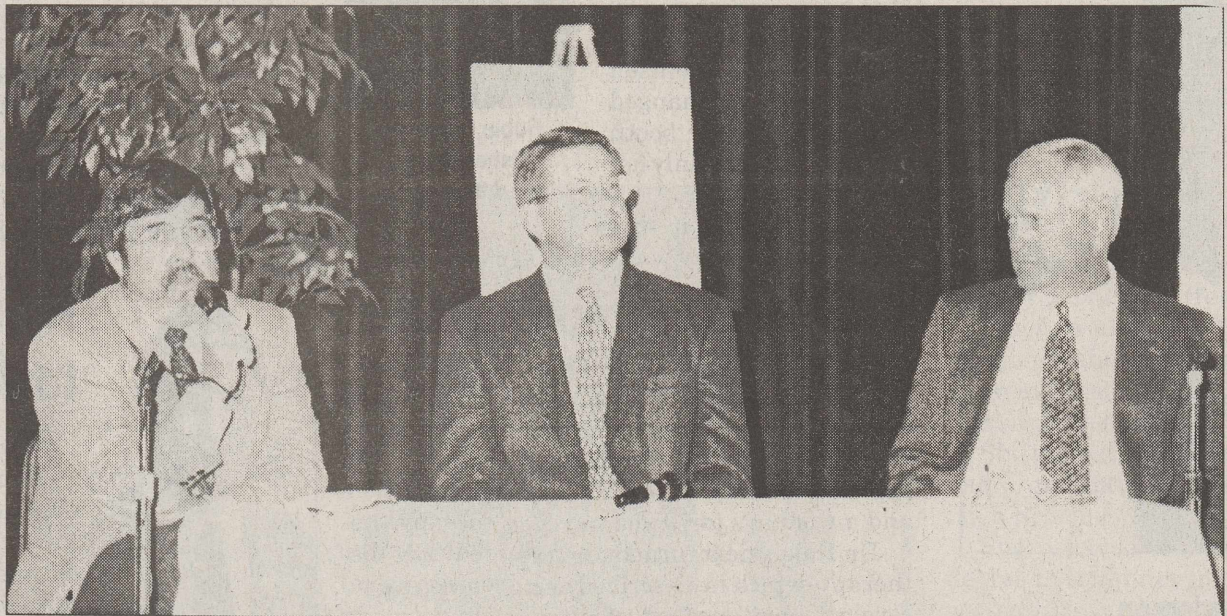
The history of Scurry County—named after a Confederate General—and its county seat Snyder—named after a Union private—were related as part of Millennium Day activities here Nov. 3.

Charles Anderson, who noted he was "born in a tent" and raised on an Indian reservation, offered these and other details about the history of both Scurry and Snyder.

Anderson, a former Snyder Middle School principal and Snyder school board member, is a well known historian and author. His latest book is entitled "Confederate General: Dirty Neck Bill," after William Scurry.

It was Scurry, a Confederate general, for which the county is named. Anderson pointed out that it was unusual the county was named for a Confederate.

See **PAST**, page 8



Social issues discussed

These three faculty members fielded questions from the audience during Millennium Day as part of their panel discussion "Perspectives,

Predictions, and Politics of Social Control." From left to right are Jack Price, Jim Clifton and Dr. James Durham. (Texan Photo)

Church, change are addressed

Continued From Page One

ister of East Side Church of Christ, and Marty Akins, pastor of First Baptist Church, took part in Millennium Day activities.

Their overall topic was "Searching for God; the Journey of Faith, Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow."

Both spoke on the history of religion and present day religion, before finally turning their thoughts to the future of religion.

"Obviously the new millennium is coming up and there's a lot of talk about Jesus coming back, and there's even some churches in our community saying, 'He will come back within the next few years.' What do you guys think?" asked a concerned audience member.

"The Second Coming is a question that has challenged our thinking all throughout the century, and it follows a pattern that around the turn of a millennium or the turn of a century, there is a lot of talk about the end of the world and Jesus coming back," responded Holcomb.

"When we went from 999 to



Marty Akins, Tom Holcomb at Millennium Day

1000 A.D., there was an awful lot of talk around this once again, so it's pretty common," he continued.

"I think that there are two things that we need to keep in mind. One is as far as trying to predict, the scriptures turn us away from that. When Jesus's disciples tried to pin him down and say 'When are you coming back,' his answer to them was 'The son of man does not know, not even the angels in heaven; only the Father knows that,'" quotes Holcomb.

"In my book, that puts an end to too much speculation, and I think you need to be extremely wary of those who think they've got it all figured out."

"My response to you is that the return of Jesus Christ is the same for us as it was for the people of Jesus's day in that it is just over the horizon," summed up Holcomb, "We need to live more fully in the expectation of Christ's return."

Akins emphasized the same message with fewer words, "Be ready and be busy."

"If you're ready and you're busy, let it be today," finished Akins.

Both pastors also pointed to the growth of so-called "Megachurches" as a future trend in religion. These churches are fast growing non-denominational churches primarily in larger metropolitan areas.

Social issue inequalities identified

Continued From Page One

The panel discussed topics put before them by the audience in a question and answer style.

One question asked by an audience member pinpointed the "inequality between the rich and poor in the criminal justice system."

Clifton explained that while it may seem that the criminal justice system favors richer persons, it actually does not.

The system is equal, he said, but justice "usually falls to the ability of an attorney to get his client proven innocent."

"The value goes beyond the right," he said, explaining that the abilities of an attorney are not guaranteed but the right to an attorney is.

'I am more dismayed by the possibility of the Internet.'

According to Clifton, an attorney will invest as much time in a case as that attorney sees as necessary to make it worth his time monetarily.

Another question posed by the audience asked about the impact of favorable presidential polls during the recent impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton.

Price said, "We like to think of impeachment as a constitutional legal process but it has political ramifications as well."

According to Price, the impeachment of the president needs to be understood as a political tool with the potential for abuse.

A question was posed about how technology, specifically the Internet, will affect the future.

Durham said, "I am more dismayed by the possibility of the Internet."

He expressed concern that the computer will isolate the population as opposed to the socialization process that is necessary in society.

In relation to the field of criminal justice, Clifton stated, "If you had any idea what was coming, it would scare you to death."

According to him, there are 36 different ways a law enforcement officer can track a person to find out anything that they want.

"There is a serious potential for abuse, as well as good," he added.

The panel was the second of the morning sessions at the day-long Millennium observation on campus.

Role of technology questioned

Continued From Page One

the Century Technology on Social Interaction" at the Millennium Day event held on campus Nov. 3.

Millennium Day was a special event conducted by Phi Theta Kappa, the WTC Faculty Association and Student Government Association.

The event had numerous speakers and projects all centered around the theme "Millennium: Reflections and Beyond."

"Technology brings us efficiency, but not necessarily effectiveness," Elkins explained.

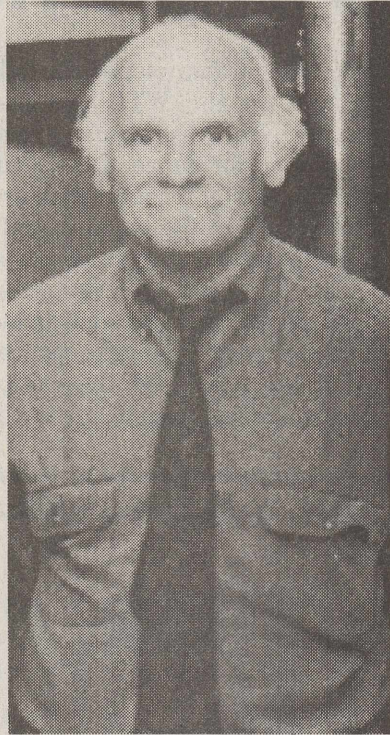
Throughout the speech, Elkins pointed out that although technological "know-how" is important for a student's future professional career, one shouldn't lose sight of basic social skills that will make an employer choose one person over another for a position.

"Don't think that I'm ragging on technology, but it may be partially responsible for an emotional atrophy and loss of social skills in young people."

Elkins imparted that communication skills outweigh efficiency in the job market, and that it is the "art of listening" that will separate the exceptional employees from the mediocre.

According to Elkins, dialog also plays an important role in dealing with interviews. "Listen

BACK TO SCHOOL, 2000



Elkins is speaker

Ron Elkins of Dallas spoke on "The Effect of Turn of the Century Technology on Social Interaction" at the Millennium Day event held on campus Nov. 3. (Texan Photo)

to understand," he said, "before you speak to be understood."

Elkins, who holds degrees from both the University of North Texas and the Southwestern Theological Seminary, is an author, counselor and educator.

He operates a private business in the Metroplex, Research and Training International, and has worked with both private and public institutions in a broad spectrum of human service projects.

Professors note ecology begins with individuals

Continued From Page One

vent future disasters. He recommended we stay informed, ask questions, go to the polls and vote.

Another approach is to "vote with your dollar" by buying products that are good for the environment.

C a n a d a closed with this advice, "Be a part of the solution not a part of the problem."

In her discussion related to ecology and the environment, Freemyer noted, "You can't disturb the environment without disturbing the eco system," saying how both go hand in hand.

Freemyer spent much of her time talking about rain

forests, water and the ozone layer.

She talked about the importance of preserving the rain forests and the water.

What will we do when we finally run out of these things? She asked her audience.

"It's not hopeless but it is going to take a lot of work, time and dedication."

We're all going to have to get busy and give up some of our lifestyle," she said.

The session was part of a day-long observation of the new Millennium sponsored on campus by Phi Theta Kappa and the Western Texas Student Government Association.



Britt Canada



Sue Freemyer

Invest now is advice to students

Continued From Page One

tion on Nov. 3.

"Don't set a goal to get rich quick, because it won't happen," Riggan said. Instead, he explained that with the right planning and investments a person could retire with plenty of money to live on.

Riggan stated that "ninety-five percent of the population retires financially unsuccessful."

With this figure in mind, he then explained that the most important thing to remember when investing is "have the time to let your investment work for you."

"My job isn't to tell people how to get rich overnight," Riggan said, "but to tell people how to accumulate wealth over a matter of time in their lives."

According to Riggan, if a college-age person could save and invest \$100 a month in long term mutual funds, theoretically, that person could retire with over \$4 million.

"It doesn't take much money to get started," he explained. The initial investment for some mutual funds is as low as \$50.

"If you have a goal, you've got to develop a plan," said Riggan. This is where he and other financial counselors come in, he



Investment speaker Tim Riggan

said.

According to Riggan, the public in general does not know what, where or how much to invest. Guidance in these matters comes in the form of planners who help individuals decide the best route

to take when investing.

"Anything worth doing well is worth planning well for," he told the audience.

He also suggested that if an individual wants to begin investing, the best place to start is to seek the advice of a professional.

Past recalled for city, county by Anderson

Continued From Page One

ate soldier and the city Snyder for a Union soldier, Pete Snyder.

William Scurry settled in East Texas and became a Texas Legislator in 1850. He was killed during combat in the Civil War in 1864 and likely was never in Scurry County, Anderson noted.

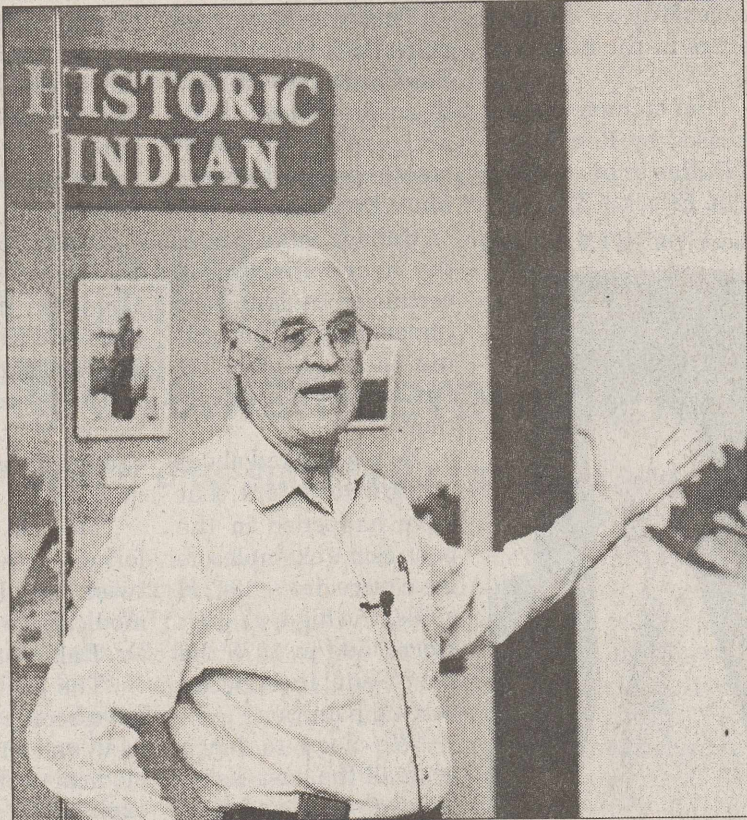
He pointed out that many Texas counties are named after Civil War generals as a form of tribute.

The city Snyder was initially referred to as "Snyder's Place" after the store built on the banks of Deep Creek by Pete Snyder.

In its early days, the community had other names also, "Hide Town," because of all the buffalo and buffalo traders, and "Robbers Roost," because of the outlaws that stayed in the area.

Pete Snyder arrived locally as a buffalo hunter before starting his trading post which shipped furs and hides to Fort Worth.

Snyder moved to Colorado



Local historian Charles Anderson

City and bought 12 sections of land. In 1916, he died in Colorado City.

After his discussion, Ander-

son guided audience members on a tour of the Scurry County Museum, where his presentation was held.

Privacy beyond 2000 may be shrinking

Continued From Page One

He was referring to facts related to privacy laws in the U.S., his topic for the day.

"A wheel is round and that's something that hasn't changed in forever," Robinson said. "Privacy laws change daily."

His seminar, "The Death of Privacy and Individual Freedom," addressed the limits of privacy today and also what boundaries will surround privacy in the future.

Robinson explained that privacy is created by individual's perspectives.

"Just think," Robinson said, "Superman changed clothes in a phone booth and that was certainly not very private."

"Just because it was Superman, privacy wasn't a real concern."



Robie Robinson
Fisher County Attorney

Doctor sees improvements

Continued From Page One

life expectancy in 1900 was 49 years and a woman's was only 46 years. As of 1990, a man's life expectancy had risen to 72 years and a woman's to 79 years.

Dr. Rakov next turned to gene therapy, which he described as a revolutionary method of altering the structure of genes to combat disease.

Dr. Rakov explained that gene therapy was still quite experimental, yet it looks to be a cure

for many diseases in the future.

"With gene therapy, hereditary diseases are no longer going to be such a large problem," Dr. Rakov said, noting "About 75 percent of all experimental gene therapy has been used to (fight) cancer."



Dr. Robert Rakov

History points toward future

Continued From Page One

Palmer, "You can learn an experience by watching others live it." The next cliché explored each individual, "The beginning of knowledge is to know yourself."

"Why do you speak the way you do?"

"Why do you dress the way you do?"



Callie Smartt

Texan Photo by Ben Brown

WTC is latest advancement for Callie Smartt . . .

'I had to challenge myself'

By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer

When Callie Smartt moved into the WTC dorm last August, she and the people around her did not know exactly what to expect.

When they got to know her, they found an average 18-year old college student who loves to dance, likes to check out guys and hates people that stare.

She is different from most, however, since Callie must go from place to place in a motorized wheelchair.

She was diagnosed with cerebral palsy when she was six months old after her parents noticed her inability to sit up on her own.

Cerebral palsy is a severe disorder of the central nervous system which normally results from brain damage caused during childbirth.

In Callie's case, she lost oxygen to her brain because her umbilical cord was wrapped around her neck.

Despite this, she remains the all-American girl.

Her attempts to lead a normal life have sometimes drawn additional challenges, however.

She grew up in a loving home in Andrews with her mother, two brothers and sister.

In high school, she was a cheerleader her freshman year—a fact which brought her to national attention.

In the spring of 1996, the school district raised the question of her personal safety and legal liability in relation to her being a cheerleader. Ultimately, the school district decided to not let her participate.

BACK TO SCHOOL, 2000

PAGE 9

THE WESTERN

TEXAN

NOVEMBER 29 1999

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Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

Snyder, TX 79549

Sinking bricks prove nagging WTC dilemma

By Josh Burney
Texan Staffer

The long range effect of water erosion is credited as the main cause of the "sinking bricks" WTC students have noted this fall term in the WTC courtyard and around the campus.

The most prevalent example of a brick sink hole is now being replaced on the west side of the 2-B Building.

Ed Galyean, maintenance staffer in charge of fixing the problem, said the primary cause is the erosion of the sand beneath the bricks as water has caused first a small and then a larger hole.

The courtyard bricks lie atop a layer of sand, which itself rests on a foundation of clay.

As erosion washes away the sand, in time the clay collapses and the bricks fall with it.

The apparent catalyst for WTC's current problems with the

"sinking bricks" was last summer's heavy rainfall amount in a relatively short time, Galyean said.

To a somewhat lesser extent, the extreme dry weather of recent years has further complicated the problem. During a drought, the clay beneath the bricks dries up and contracts, making cracks that allow water to drain through and wash away the sand.

This stream of rain runoff has washed this sand and clay foundation into a "pier and beam" area beneath Bldg. 2-B.

Galyean noted the majority of WTC buildings have this crawl space beneath the flooring. The foundation of these buildings rest upon concrete pillars.

This style of construction allows for plumbing and wiring to run beneath the campus structures rather than above ground on poles.

Three Vo-Tech programs to be added on campus

By Sarah Martin
Texan Staffer

"Three really hot areas" will be tapped into," says John Gibson, dean of Vocational Technology, as WTC adds three new programs to the Vocational Technology department.

Along with adding Emergency Medical Services and Early Childhood Development associate degree programs, WTC will offer a course in commercial truck driving to begin in March.

Continuing Education is currently offering both EMS and child development classes but the change in curriculum will bring them into the vo. tech. school as

one-year certificate programs. Also available will be the option to get an associate degree in either major area.

According to Gibson, WTC will be "partnering up with Texas Tech Health Science Center" on the EMS program.

Because of this, Gibson says students will get a more complete idea of what is going on in the field of medicine. It will be an "eye-opener to possibilities" and an opportunity to find a student's "niche."

In addition, Gibson says they will expand the childcare courses continuing ed has offered "at least going back to the early 90s."



Instructor honored

This year's Founder's Day Award winner, presented each fall by members of Phi Theta Kappa, was Dr. David Kattes, science professor here. He is shown with Psi Zeta executive

officers, from left, Chris Holt, Andrea Hernandez, Mandy Heaton, Jamie Ellis and Matt Pond. The award was announced Nov. 18. (Texan Photo by Ben Brown)

Kattes receives Founder's Day Award

By Lisa Moore
Texan Staffer

Dr. David Kattes is the latest recipient of the Phi Theta Kappa Founder's Day Award, an honor announced here Nov. 18.

"PTK is filled with kids who make you want to come back and teach each year," said Kattes following the award's announcement. Following tradition, the winner of the honor is not revealed until the award ceremony.

"It's truly an honor and I really appreciate it," he said.

Kattes attended high school at Garland, where his ag teacher encouraged him to go on to Texas A&M. He earned both his bachelor's and his master's degree in entomology there.

In 1976, he was one of the first to graduate in this field. He then went to work at A&M as an entomologist.

In 1979 he re-located to Scurry County, working as a seed breeder for the Von Roeder seed farm.

He was employed as a science

instructor at WTC in 1990 and he finished work toward his doctorate degree in agronomy from Texas Tech in 1992.

He has been active in the

community, serving as president of the Chamber of Commerce for one year and as president of the Board of County Development for the last two years.

He also helped initiate the boll weevil eradication program in Scurry County.

His hobbies include photography and "hunting for bugs."

Third distance learning class ready; Midwestern, ACU, ASU on schedule

Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

A third distance learning classroom is now complete and is going to be put into use this spring.

The \$60,000 newest addition to WTC was obtained by a matching grant. It has three monitors and will connect to several of the schools in our area including Hamlin, Stamford and Bangs.

It is a smaller room with fewer microphones as compared to the larger distance learning area in the 7D Building. Technically it is the same equipment, just less of it, according to Britt Canada, dean of technology.

"Basically the way I describe it is that the first one is like the Cadillac, the second one is like the Volkswagen, and this one would be like a mid-range car," says Canada.

"They are all going to get you where you need to

go, we just don't need three big classrooms nor do we need three small ones."

"This time last year, Stamford ISD was the only school that had a distance learning center up and running, and now there's probably 10. By next fall, there will probably be 20," continues Canada.

"We've got an agreement with Midwestern to bring courses in."

"We've scheduled to bring some courses in from ACU in the spring."

"We're also trying to work with Angelo State bringing some courses in," adds Canada.

"The demand for distance learning is there, and we're just trying to meet the demand," finishes Canada.

Western Texas College is currently looking at a fourth distance learning center pending grant approval.

Math instructor relates to student needs

By Shana Parkerson
Texan Staffer

Ava Russell is WTC's newest addition to the math department as an instructor of college credit math courses.

She is a native of Denver City and a graduate of Denver City High School.

She received her associate's degree in computer information systems from South Plains College, her B.S. degree in mathematics from the University of Texas at the Permian Basin, and her master's degree in mathematics from Texas Tech Uni-

versity.

She is currently a doctoral student at Texas Tech University in the Higher Education Department.

While attending college, Russell received the Math and Science Award, the Computer Information Systems Award, was listed on the Dean's list and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

She is married to James Russell, who will graduate from Texas Tech University with a degree in Petroleum Engineering in a couple of months. They celebrated their 20th year anni-

versary this year.

She has three children: Amber, 15, who attends Snyder High School as a sophomore; Matthew, 14, an 8th grader at Snyder Middle School; and Cole, 9, a 3rd grader at Central Elementary.

Before beginning her college career, she and her husband owned an agriculture business where they grew cotton and grain near Seminole. Russell taught for a couple of years at Ralls High School, one semester at South Plains College, and was an adjunct faculty member for WTC.



Ava Russell - math instructors begins this fall

Texan Photo by Ben Brown

Five new full-time faculty begin first fall term

Five new full-time campus instructors join the WTC faculty this fall: two in the Academic Division and three in the Vocational Division.

For academic instruction, the Fine Arts, Communication and Letters Division gains two English instructors: Melanie Graf and Matthew Rose.

In vocational instruction, the campus gains a new criminal justice department instructor—Eric Coleman—as well as a new instructor for correctional officer training, Jim Petty; and a new assistant rodeo coach, Luke Richards.



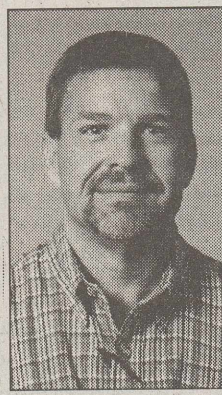
Melanie Graf

Ms. Graf received her associate in arts degree from Western Texas College in May, 1989, and her bachelor of arts degree in English with a minor in psychology from Texas Tech University in August, 1992.



Matthew Rose

'The news broadcast will be taped at various sites around campus and from the WTC studio/classroom located in the Learning Resource Center.'



Eric Coleman

She completed her master's degree in English from Tarleton State University in December, 1999.

Ms. Graf has taught in several different areas including substitute teaching, P.E. aide, secondary English teacher and coach, secondary English and Theater Arts teacher, and Graduate Assistant Rodeo Activities.

Before moving to Snyder, she was a research assistant for the Texas Agriculture Experiment Station in Vernon. Professional service and volunteer work include Meals on Wheels, United Way, Community Concert, Wilbarger County Hospital, "Special" Rodeo for children with disabilities, Christmas Tree Star Program, and HOPE, Inc.

Rose earned his master's degree from Texas Tech in the spring of 1999.

He earned summa cum laude honors at Tech and was also selected for Phi Beta Kappa. He received the Outstanding MA Instructor Award from the English Department in the spring of 1999.

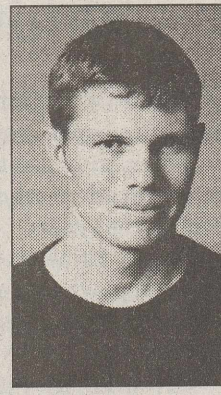
He earned his BA in English with a Secondary Teacher Certification in English and Theater from Southwestern University in 1996, graduating magna cum laude.

In the criminal justice department, Coleman received his



Jim Petty

master's degree in Political Science and Public Management from Midwestern State University in May, 1999 and his BA degree, with a concentration in law enforcement and justice administration, in August of 1997.



Luke Richards

He worked as an adjunct instructor of Criminal Justice and Political Science at Vernon Regional Junior College. He is currently a member of Pi Sigma Alpha and the National Political Science Honor Society. He has served on several boards including the Anson Independent School District, the Advisory Board for Vocational Education, and the Jones County Drug Abuse Resistance Education.

For correctional officer training, Petty graduated from WTC's Correctional Officer Training in May, 1990, and received his associates degree in criminal justice in April, 1995.

Before joining the teaching

staff, he was captain of correctional officers for the Wallace/Ware Units in Colorado City.

He holds various TDCJ certifications and has served on the WTC Criminal Justice Advisory Committee.

Richards is a native of Beaudesert Queensland, Australia. He attended WTC for three years, completing his AAS in Welding Technology.

He was a member of the rodeo team for three years and was the 1999-2000 Southwest Region Steer Wrestling Champion and a member of the 4th Place WTC Men's team at the College National Finals Rodeo in June 2000.

Texan format changes; video broadcast added

Continued From Page One

For students more interested in "electronic" technology, timely campus news will be delivered via a weekly videotaped broadcast written and produced by mass comm students.

This broadcast will be seen over public access cable television, which reaches a near saturation point in the Snyder community. Future plans are for Internet delivery as well.

The news broadcast will be taped at various sites around campus and from the WTC studio/classroom located in the Learning Resource Center.

Students will use digital cameras and perform post-production work in both 3-D motion graphics software and non-linear editing software.

"Electronic" technology classes include video production and the computer software programs associated with digital photo editing, 3-D animation and non-linear production.

Supervising the electronic instruction, including the weekly news broadcasts, will be longtime Mass Comm Department instructor Donny Brown. Brown joined the WTC faculty in 1989.

Networking class new for fall 2000

Continued From Page One

overall certificate program. All equal four hours of credit, three hours of lecture and two hours of lab.

For concurrent high school students, who also earn high school credit for the classes, only one class per semester may be taken.

Hanes noted the classes can be taken either as non-credit—through the Continuing Education Division—or as credit through the Vocational Education Division.

Either route qualifies the student to take the national exam for ultimate certification.

Hanes will teach one of the night classes this fall and David Brown, a computer instructor at Ira High School, will teach the on-campus concurrent class.

Next spring, Tammy Wesson, computerized business technology instructor, will teach classes also.

Jump Page

Web page makeover underway

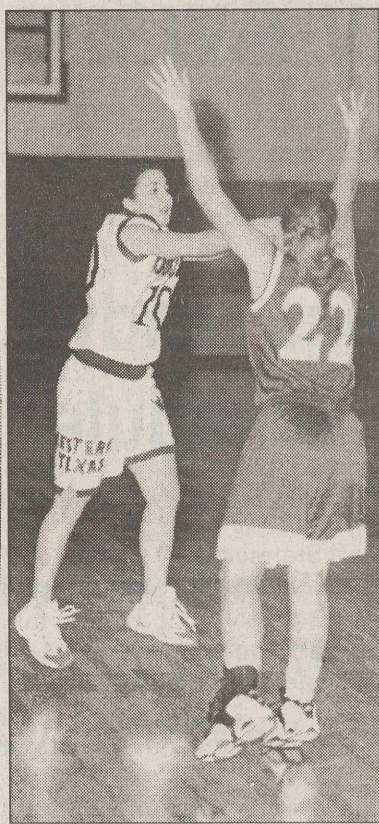
Continued From Page One student organizations, Phi Theta Kappa and the Student Government Association.

There are also pages outlining facts about Snyder and the surrounding area and "virtual tours" comprised of color photographs of select campus sites. Currently featured on the virtual tours are the Fine Arts area, Golf and Landscape Technology, the Student Center, Student Housing and the Scurry County Museum.

There is also a directory listing of all faculty and staff and a "Frequently Asked Questions" section.

Work on the web page was supervised through the Dean of Technology office headed by Britt Canada. Primary HTML work was completed by WTC student Josh Burney and digital photographs were provided by staffer Cindy Fritz. The site's URL (Universal Resource Locator) address is wtc.cc.tx.us.

Conference record 3-11 for WTC Lady Dusters; 5-25 for '99-'00 season



A pair of losses at the close of the season kept the Lady Dusters from advancing to the NJCAA Region V tournament, which concluded the first weekend in March in Lubbock.

Teams in WTC's conference advancing to the tourney included Howard College, owner of the top spot in the West, followed by Midland College, Odessa College, and New Mexico Junior College, who held the fourth seed.

The Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) played teams from the Northern Conference.

Grayson College, with a perfect 30-0 record, controlled the top rank, followed by Weatherford College. McLennan Community College and Temple Junior College were tied for fourth seed.

The Dusters ended their season with back to back losses to Midland College and Frank Phillips College, a team they had defeated in home play here.

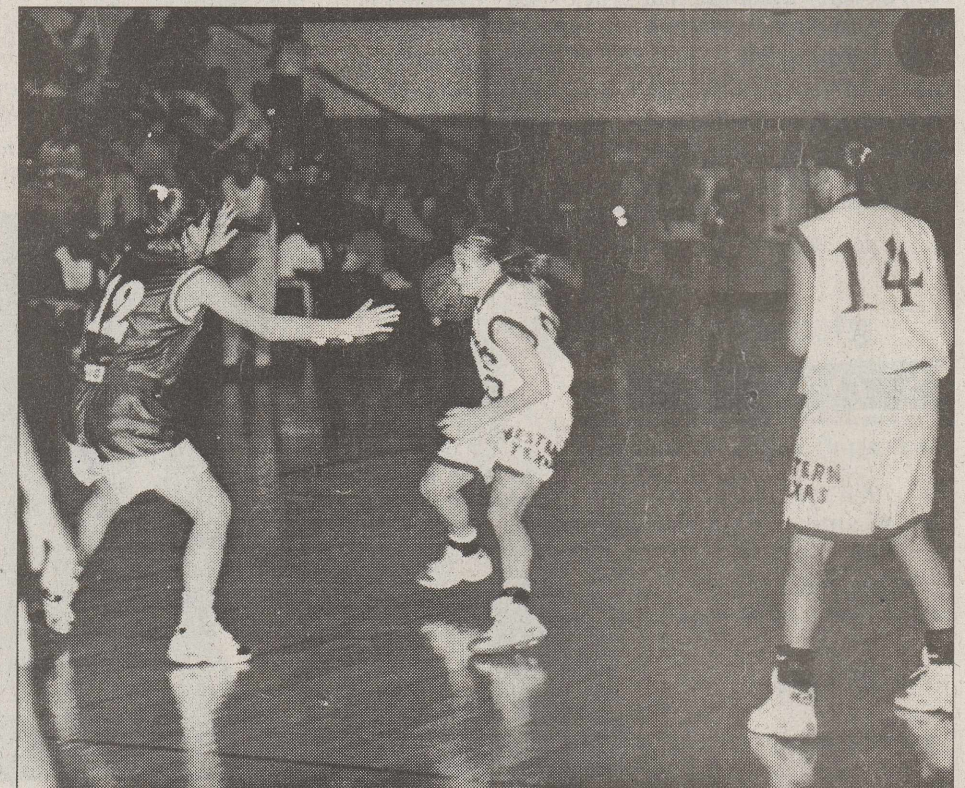
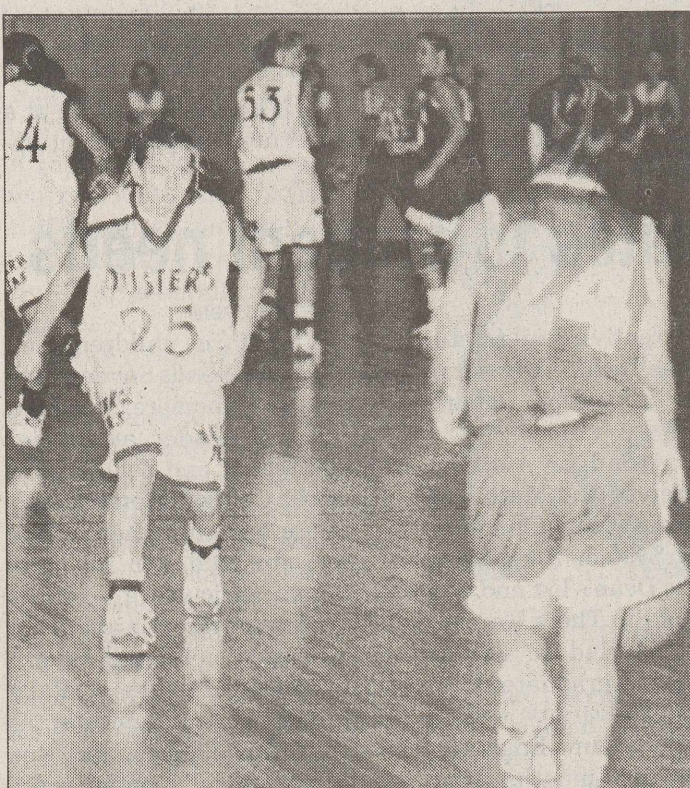
The loss ended the Lady Duster season with a 5-25 record and a 3-11 mark for conference play in Coach Valery Jackson's third season.



Lady Duster Basketball

The 1999-2000 Lady Duster Basketball team included (top row, from left) Marquis Ellis, Heather Moon, Crystal Williams, Danielle Brown, Cassie Wilson, LaKeisha Ross,

Mary Cavazos, Charsalynn Mitchell, Veronica Hubbard, (bottom row) Shante' Russell, Erica Jackson, Akisha Waters, Olivia Carrasco and Carrie Fincher.



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TEXAN

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Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

Snyder, TX 79549

Two new programs 'up and running' as semester opens

By Sarah Martin
Texan Staffer

Two of the three new vocational programs due to start at WTC are "up and running," according to John Gibson, dean of vocational technology.

Newly added to the college catalog are Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Early Childhood Development (ECD) and a course in commercial truck driving. Instructors were hired at the close of last semester for each of the new programs.

Tammy Leigh Shirley has been hired as the Director of Allied Health and Jeanine M. Wilburn has been hired as the Early Childhood Education instructor.

An instructor was hired at the beginning of the spring semester for the truck driving program, but the post is currently vacant.

Ms. Shirley, who holds her bachelor of science degree in education from Wayland Baptist, is a graduate of Texas Tech Health Science Center Emergency Medical Services Division.

For the past six and a half years, she has taught for Ira schools. She is also Advance Cardiac Life Support certified, an EMT-Paramedic/Instructor/Examiner, and a member of Snyder's Search and Rescue Team.

PTK induction is in February

The spring Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) induction is slated for Feb. 27 on campus.

The induction will be held in the Fine Arts Theater.

Invitations should be sent out within the next week, according to adviser Jennifer Beard.

To be invited into PTK, students must complete at least 12 hours and have a minimum grade point average of 3.2.

When asked how many students would be invited to join PTK this semester, Beard estimated more than 100.

If there are any questions about PTK or the induction, students are encouraged to contact Beard or fellow advisers Ava Russell and Carolyn Osborn.

Ms. Wilburn holds her bachelor of arts in early childhood education from Eastern New Mexico University. She is an active member and chapter president of the National Association of Educating Young Children.

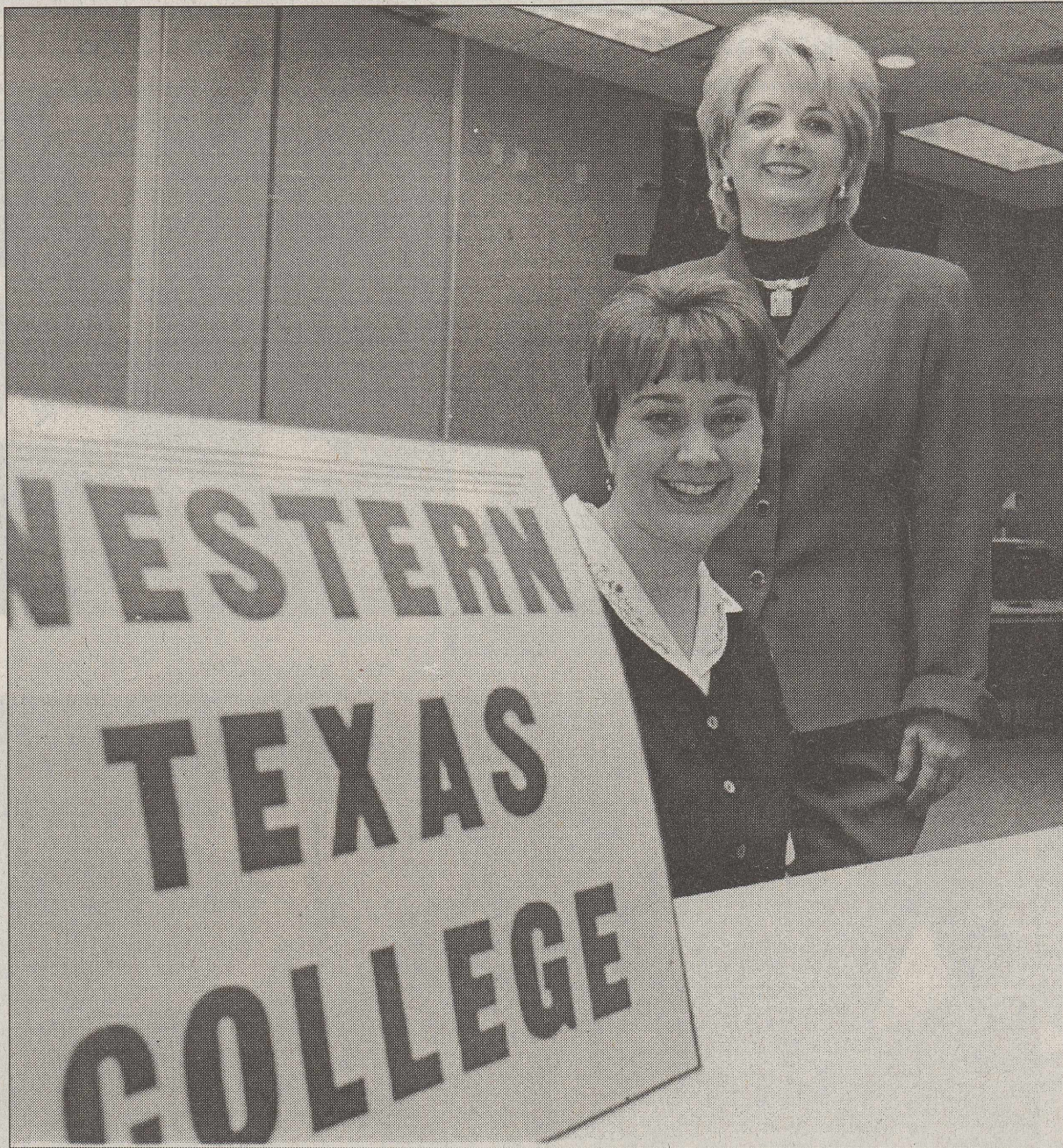
Continuing Education has offered both EMS and child development classes in the past, but changes in the curriculums have brought them into the vocational tech school as one-year certificate programs.

Also available will be the option to get an associate degree requiring two years in either major area.

Also, both associate degree programs are transferable to four-year universities that offer bachelor degrees in that field.

According to Ms. Shirley, things are "going great" with the EMS program.

There are currently two courses being offered in the EMS program. The first, EMT/Basic, begins in Rotan on Feb. 24. The other class, EMT/Intermediate, is set to begin in March and will be taught as an ITV (Interactive Television) class with Stamford.



New instructors, from left, Jeanine M. Wilburn and Tammy Leigh Shirley

Texan Photo by Ben Brown

Valentine stuff includes 'grams,' dance Wednesday

By Shana Parkerson
Texan Staffer

The WTC Student Government Association (SGA) is hosting a number of events for the upcoming Valentines holiday.

The SGA sold "Valentines Grams" consisting of red, pink or white carnations which will be delivered to the person named this Wednesday.

Cost per flower was \$2.

The color of the carnation indicates the relationship of the "valentine."

Red indicates love, pink is for a secret admirer and white is for friendship.

Candy bags were also sold for \$1.

The students receiving the most "Valentine Grams" will be named the King and Queen of the Valentines dance to be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the cafeteria this Wednesday night.

The deadline for ordering flowers and candy bags was last Friday, but anyone still interested in buying flowers or candy bags can go by the activities office by noon today.

WTC rodeo students receive academic nomination

By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

Eight WTC students have been nominated for the 2000 National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association's Academic All-American Program.

Casey Baize, Ryan Brewer, Brandee Brock, Terra Bynum, Jill Childers, Sequin Downey, Luke Richards, and Wes Stevenson are among the sophomore students recognized.

"Of the 103 students nominated from our region, 21 are current or former students of WTC," says WTC Rodeo Coach Greg Rhodes.

"This is the first year that they've done this, so we don't know a lot of the details," adds Rhodes.

To be nominated, a student must qualify in a specific NIRA event: bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, calf rop-

ing, steer wrestling, team roping, barrel racing, goat tying, breakaway roping, men's all-around, or women's all-around.

They must have a cumulative 3.0 GPA or better on a 4.0 scale for 36 semester hours or three semesters of college coursework.

They must have participated in at least one full season of college rodeo and ranked regionally in the top five or top 30 percent of those with points in the event

nominated at the end of the 1999 season or ranked regionally in the top two of those with points in the All-Around at the end of the 1999 season.

All nominees must submit two 3 X 5 photos, an official copy of their college transcript, and two letters of recommendation.

"The winners will be recognized at the college rodeo finals through the media's national coverage," concludes Rhodes.

Students ignoring TASP law

By Helen Fare
Texan Staffer

You may be TASP liable.

Concern regarding this recently prompted Director of Counseling Carolyn Osborn to send letters to several hundred WTC students who may be affected.

"Some students are neglecting to take the part of the TASP that they failed," she noted, adding that an alarming number of students are not completing their TASP requirements.

As a result, these students will not be able to graduate from junior college or enter junior level classes at a university.

Mrs. Osborn noted a student must retake any failed section of the TASP after he or she has completed remediation.

The best time to do this is as soon as possible upon finishing the developmental course, she said. Waiting to retake TASP may result in loss of skill, especially in math.

College prep classes are offered to assist those students failing either the reading, writing or math portion of the TASP. These are intended to help the student pass the test on their next attempt.

SGA plans 'kiss the pig' event Feb. 10

WTC's Student Government Association (SGA) is planning both a date auction and a "kiss the pig" contest.

Volunteers for the date auction are students Brad Easter, Cory Mahaney, Scott McLaughlin, Chris Holt, Wes Stevenson and Ryan Brewer.

In addition, Laurie Kerley, Crystal Purser, Lindsay Josey, Angela Riggs, Sequin Downing and Heather Hail.

Faculty and administrators who have volunteered for the "kiss the pig contest" are George Cormack, David Kattes, Sam Fare and Stephanie Ducheneaux.

The "Kiss the Pig" event is slated Feb. 10.

Two recognized as WTC's USA TODAY nominees

By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer

Students Chris Halbert and Pete Olivarez have been nominated as WTC's selections for the USA TODAY All-USA Academic Team.

To be nominated, students had to have a GPA of 3.5 or greater, hold at least a sophomore standing and be nominated for Who's Who Among American Junior Colleges.

Both Halbert and Olivarez accomplished these tasks.

Each had to write an essay of 500 words or less about the most educational moment in their college background.

These essays could be about an instructor who at one point reached them in a certain way or about an assignment that possibly changed their life or their outlook upon it.

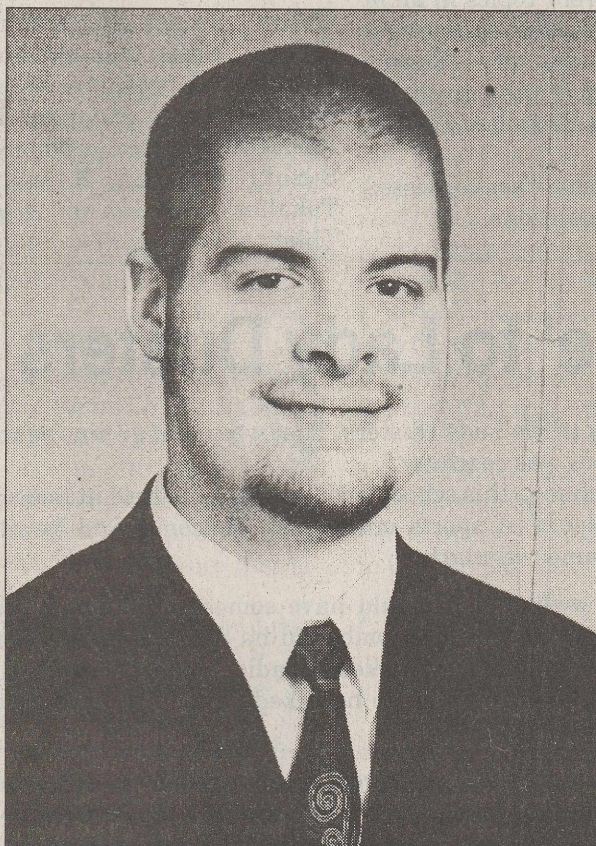
They also had to solicit written recommendations from two WTC faculty members. Halbert, son of Bill and Janet Halbert of Snyder, and Olivarez, son of Pete and Josie Olivarez also of Snyder, are competing with 1,419 other applicants from all over the U.S. for a cash stipend of \$2,500.

This is the greatest amount of entries ever sent in to the All-USA Academic Team.

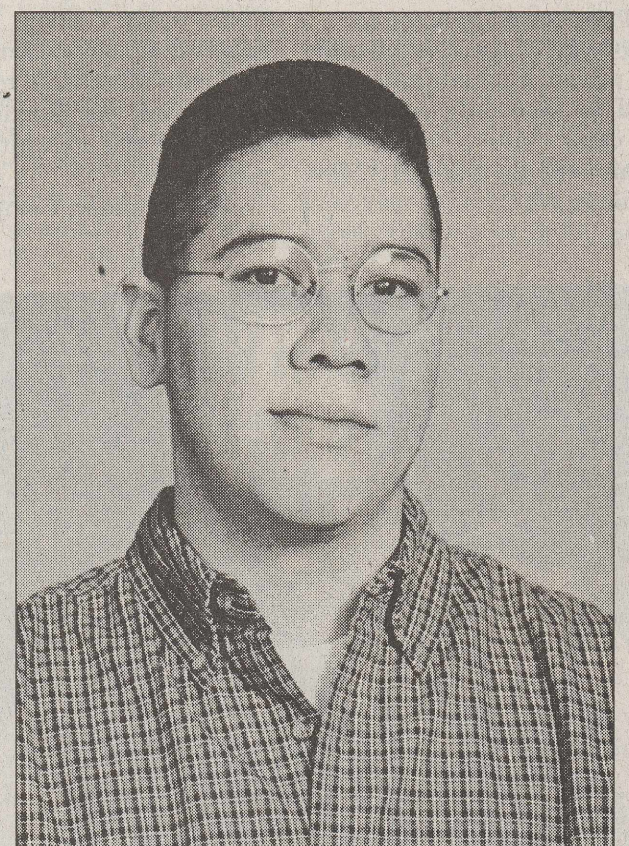
There are also awards on a state level that will be given out to certain winners.

The prizes are two scholarships of variable amounts.

There will also be a luncheon in Austin recognizing all of the Texas nominees later this spring.



Chris Halbert



Pete Olivarez

THE WESTERN

TEXAN

FEBRUARY 21 2000

Volume 29, Number 8

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Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

Snyder, TX 79549

Enrollment is 10- year WTC high

By Josh Burney
Texan Staffer

Western Texas College is experiencing its "largest spring enrollment in the last 10 years," said Dean of Student Services George Cormack.

This is mainly due to the continued growth of concurrent college classes for area and local high school students, additional Interactive Television (ITV) classes and the addition of a Child Care course to the vocational department.

Total Spring enrollment for this year is 1,268 (817 part-time and 451 full-time students), an increase over last year of 6.3 percent.

The total figure last spring was 1,192 (714 part-time and 478 full-time).

This continues a growing enrollment trend at WTC, which has had increased numbers in the spring semester for the last three years.

All academic programs have grown since last spring, especially the concurrent and ITV classes, which now account for some 300 students enrolled. Concurrent enrollment is 245, and ITV enrollment is 44.

May-mester offers credit in 3 weeks

By Lisa Moore
Texan Staffer

WTC students who either failed to get the classes they needed for graduation or would like to repeat a class they didn't do so well will have a second chance here this spring.

The college is planning a "May-mester" with students given the chance to earn three college credit hours within a less than three-week period.

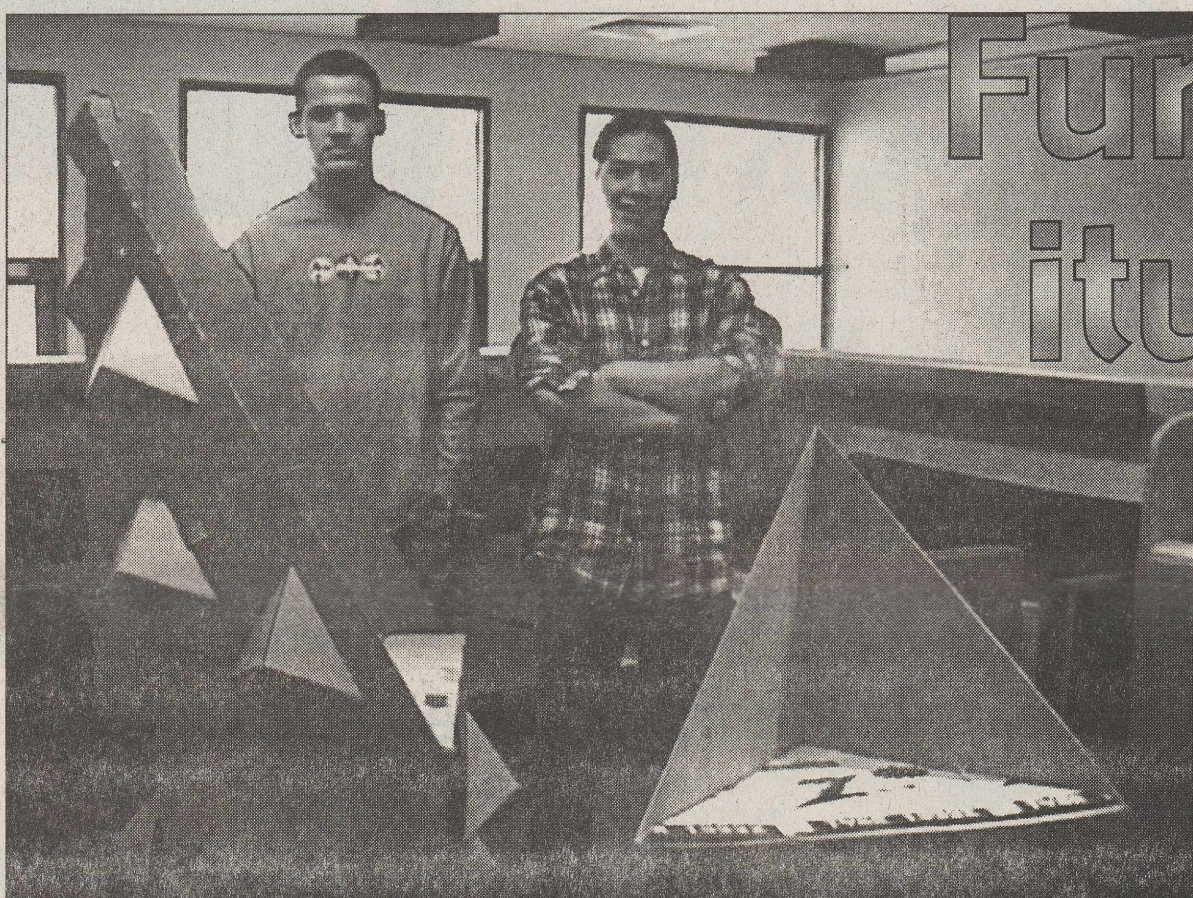
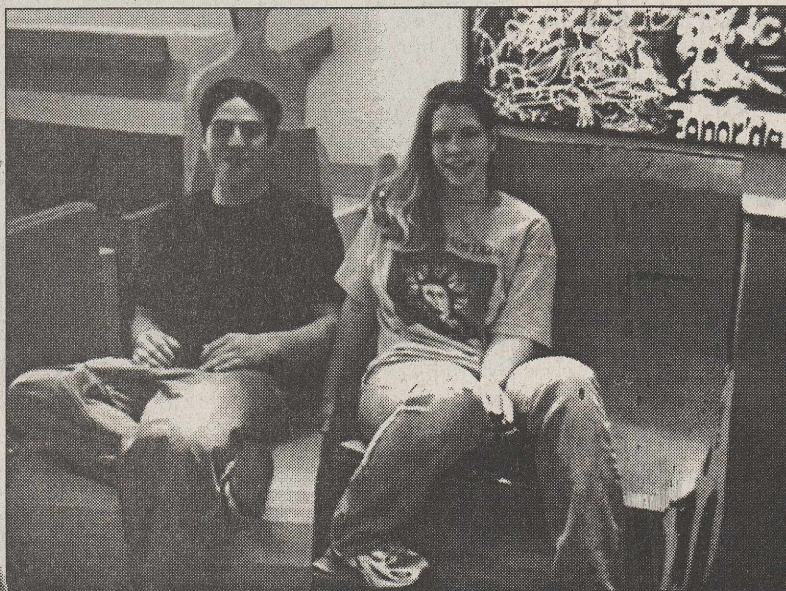
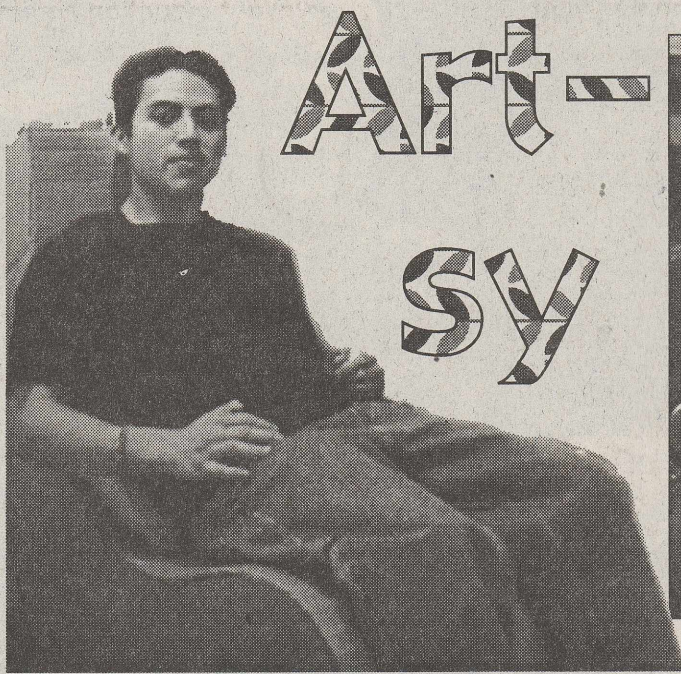
May-mester classes will begin on May 15 and final exams are scheduled for a one-day period June 1.

There will be a two-day registration period May 15 and 16.

Classes to be offered are not finalized as yet. Class meeting times, however, will be in the mornings and evenings, from 9 a.m. until 12:20 p.m. and again at 6 p.m. to 9:40 p.m.

Because of the concentrated time period, students will be allowed to take only one three-hour class.

This will be the first May-mester at WTC.



The furniture now on display in the Fine Arts Theatre gallery is anything but traditional. All of the pieces are made from cardboard boxes as part of a 3-D design class project. Art students "lounging" in their art are (upper left) Daniel Martinez, also shown with Aimee Beam (above) and (below left) Tony Martin and Pete Olivarez. (Texan Photos by Ben Brown)

Comedy set here March 3-5

By Sarah Martin
Texan Staffer

The WTC Drama Department will perform "The Odd Couple" by Neil Simon as its spring semester production.

It will be performed as dinner theater March 3-5 at 6 p.m. in the Student Center dining area. Seating is limited so advance reservations are recommended.

The cast was chosen the first week of school and has been in rehearsal Monday through Friday for three hours each evening.

Student cast members include:

—Dallas Martinez of Breckenridge as "Oscar Madison."

—David Olson of Abilene as "Felix Unger."

—Tiffany Britton of Hawley as "Cecily Pigeon."

—Lana Rice of Lubbock as "Gwendolyn Pigeon."

—Justin Stice of Snyder as "Roy, the accountant."

—Kris Hollis of Sweetwater as "Speed."

—Angel Castelan of Ira as "Murray, the cop."

Wes Hardin, who is a high school student from Snyder, is cast as "Vinnie."

The play is directed by Dr. Helen Cogan.

Multicultural food day set for Tuesday

By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

The 12 international students at WTC are preparing for Multicultural Food Day this Tuesday, Feb. 22.

It will be an all you can eat buffet from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the student dining hall.

In addition to the main course of seafood with fried rice, visitors will have the option of tasting such foreign dishes as mafeteou (a meat sauce); jansonsfrestelse (a potato dish); mandazi (a type of bread); and okonomiyaki (stuffed cabbage rolls).

Students participating and their home countries are: Steven Fraser of Great Britain, Martin Gustafson of Sweden, Michael Hansen of Denmark, Kit Ho of China, Jason McGrath of Canada, Scott McLaughlan of Scotland, Mary Muhia of Kenya, Koichiro Okabe of Japan, Luke Richards of Australia, Nobuyuki Suzuki of Japan, Kanemistu Takahashi of Japan and Aissata Thiam of Guinea.

GLT students headed to New Orleans

By Helen Fare
Texan Staffer

Randy Weaver, an instructor with the Golf and Landscape Technology department on campus, and four GLT students will be attending the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America (GCSAA) national conference in New Orleans this week.

Students attending will be Artie Rollins, president of the student chapter and a freshman at WTC.

Also, sophomore Matthew Hughes, vice president of the chapter; and sophomores Toby Robinson and Daniel Navarrete.

"The students will have an opportunity to make contacts with golf course superintendents

from all over the world for jobs and internships," Weaver said.

"They can also view the latest technology and equipment used in the industry at the trade show that accompanies the conference."

On Saturday, Feb. 26, the four-man team will represent WTC in the Collegiate Turf Bowl Competition.

The Turf Bowl will bring together students to participate as teams to identify specimens and answer questions about turf grass identification, weed identification, insects, soils, mathematics and growth and development.

The GCSAA is an international organization with a membership of approximately 18,000.

Instructors to attend TCCTA convention in Austin

By Shana Parkerson
Texan Staffer

Some WTC instructors will be attending the upcoming Texas Community College Teachers Association convention (TCCTA) in Austin March 2-4; but college classes will not dismiss on the Friday of the convention as in past years.

Joann Snider, Computerized

Business Technology Instructor, is the chairperson for one of the event's seminars. She is in charge of planning the Office Technology section meeting.

Gerald M. Corkran, developmental reading instructor, is active in TCCTA also, serving as the campus representative for the membership committee as well as on the group's Legisla-

tive Committee.

Campus instructors wishing to attend the event have been instructed to make arrangements for their classes individually.

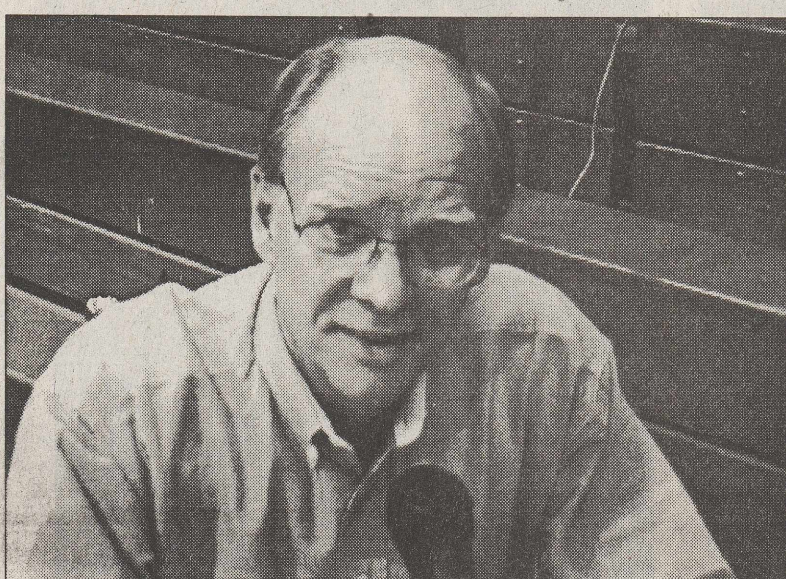
The 53rd annual convention will begin on Thursday, March 2, and will run through Saturday, March 4 at the Austin Convention Center.

The theme for this year's event is "The Courage to Teach."

Members can attend seminars profiling current topics in all of the instructional areas taught in the state's community colleges.

A highlight of the convention is the annual election of TCCTA officers.

This year there are contested races for all positions.



Holcomb volunteers time, 'voice' to Lady Dusters

By Joyce May
Texan Staffer

The voice is unmistakably his. Whether it is on the radio bringing a message from God's word, behind the pulpit at East Side Church of Christ or drifting out over a Lady Dusters' basketball game, there is a quick and certain identification of Tom Holcomb's voice.

It has been the voice announcing home games for the Lady Dusters' for several years now. Originally, however, Holcomb announced men's basketball at WTC.

"I first started doing the men's games when Tony Mauldin was here. Kelly Green was here after Tony left." Green was to be the last men's coach as the men's program was terminated.

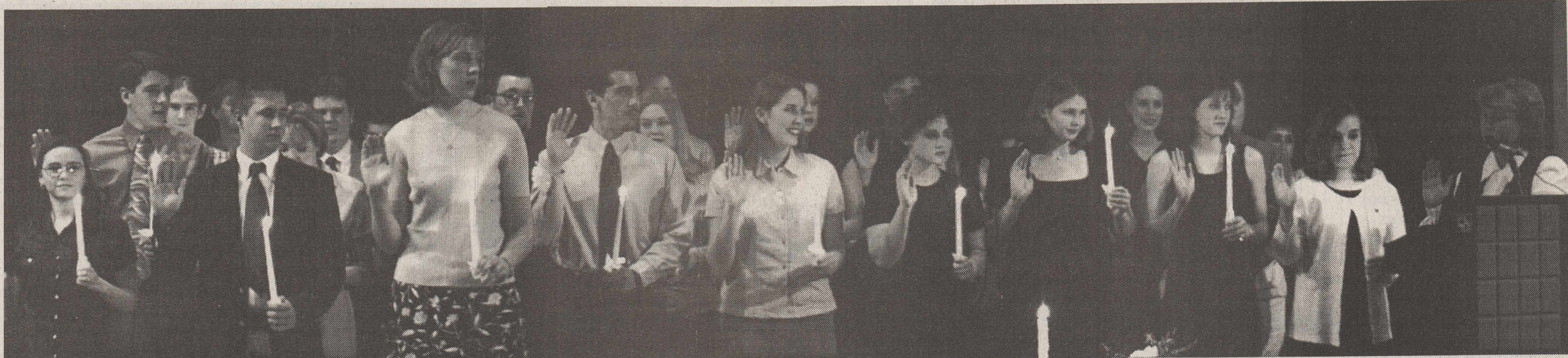
It was then that Holcomb began announcing the women's games. "They were called the Lady Westerners then and have since

changed back to the Lady Dusters. That was eight or nine years ago. Ron Jones was coaching."

Until the change this school year, games were held at Scurry County Coliseum. A sports enthusiast, Holcomb said he attended the games regularly.

"Once in awhile they would have someone announce the games, but not always." Holcomb said he has always enjoyed public address and he had worked in radio doing sports broadcasts when he was younger, so he asked Coach Mauldin if he could announce the games.

"Dave Smith, the athletic director then, called me and said they would like for me to do it. I wanted to do it because I enjoy athletics and had been following the basketball program at WTC," he said. "I've been doing it every since."



The names of 90 WTC students were added to the rolls of the Psi Zeta Chapter for Phi Theta Kappa this year. The formal candlelight induction ceremony was held Sunday, Feb. 27

BACK TO SCHOOL, 2000

PAGE 13

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MARCH 6 2000

Volume 29, Number 9

Reprinted from March 6, 2000 Issue

Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

Snyder, TX 79549

Place 6 contested by three candidates with spring election

The retirement of a longtime board member and a contested race for his seat are features of the upcoming May election for three places on the Western Texas College Board of Trustees.

Three places on the WTC board are expiring—Places 5, 6 and 7—and incumbents for two of these have indicated they will seek a second six-year term.

A contested race has developed following the announcement that R.C. Patton, the final seated member of the original WTC board, would not seek another term for his Place 6.

Patton was first elected to serve in 1969 with the formation of the college district. The board formed two years before the college opened for classes in the fall of 1971.

Two candidates have to date announced for this post: John Zalman III and Scott Richburg.

Zalman is the owner/operator of Z-TV in Snyder, a cable access video news operation; and Richburg is the owner of Black Watch Systems, an engineering firm which specializes in security-type systems.

The first date to file as a candidate was Feb. 21 and candidates may file through March 22—the Wednesday following spring break.

The two incumbents seeking

re-election are Lee Presswood for Place 5 and Eddie Peterson for Place 7.

Presswood is an elementary school principal in Snyder first elected in May of 1994. He is completing his first six-year term.

Peterson, owner of Peterson Pharmacy here, was first elected in May of 1994 and is completing his first six-year term.

The WTC Board is comprised of seven seats with each member running at large. Trustees announce for specific seats on the board, although these seats do not represent specific geographic sites within the college district.

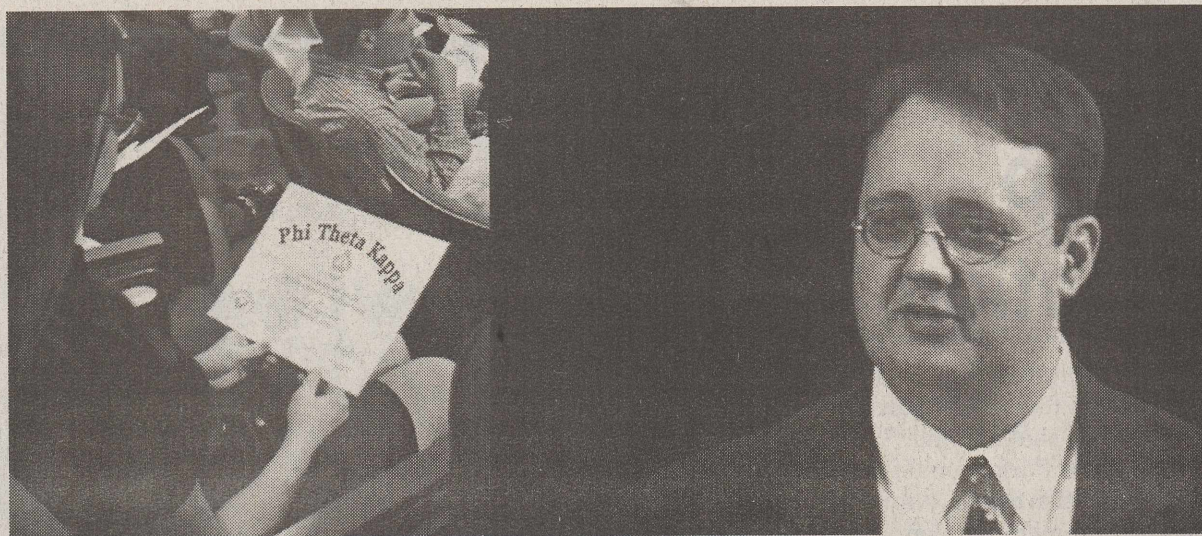
To file as a candidate, a person must fill out an application and file it with the executive secretary for the college, Melony Schwertner.

The filing process takes place in the Administration Building.

Any eligible citizen living within the college district—which follows the same legal boundaries as Scurry County—can run for the board with the exception of employees of the college.

Other current board members are: Jay Kidd, Carolyn Barbee, Jackie Greene and Drew Bullard.

The board regularly meets on the second Monday of each month. Each trustee serves a six-year term.



PTK ceremony

Guest speaker at the Feb. 27 Phi Theta Kappa induction was Nick Friemel of Amarillo College (upper right), student vice president for

District 1. In the photo below, new inductee Adrienne McJimsey of Snyder lights her symbolic candle. (Texan Photos)

Students added to Psi Zeta chapter PTK

Formal spring induction ceremonies for WTC's Psi Zeta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa were held Sunday, Feb. 27, with some 90 names added to the list of chapter members for both the fall and spring semesters.

To be invited to join the honorary society, a student must have completed at least 12 semester hours with a minimum

grade point average for college level work of 3.2.

Guest speaker Sunday was Nick Friemel, student vice president for District 1. He attends Amarillo Community College in Amarillo.

District 1 includes the community colleges from the northwest quadrant of Texas which includes WTC.

The traditional candle-lit ceremony saw each new member attending write their name in the Phi Theta Kappa membership book. Faculty sponsor Jennifer Beard welcomed the group and Ava Russell led the students in the Phi Theta Kappa pledge.

Outgoing sponsor Carolyn Osborn "presented" the new members to the audience.

Creations for Aquifer due soon

Students have until Friday, March 10, to submit written work for the 2000 edition of the WTC Literary magazine "Aquifer."

"All WTC students, either full or part-time, are eligible to submit their creative works," said editor Sandra Hall.

"Aquifer," which has won 29 awards from the Texas Intercollegiate Press since it was begun in the fall of 1990, affords students their first opportunity to be published in print.

Written work submissions are accepted for poetry, short stories and essays.

To illustrate these, WTC students may submit also original art work, photographs or computer designed graphics.

These should be submitted to any of the five campus instructors who serve as co-editors. In addition to Ms Hall, editors are Janet Halbert, Ed Barkowsky, Donny Brown and Ben Sum.

Writers retain all publishing rights to their material.

For written work, the preferred submission format is as a word file saved on a 3.5 inch floppy disk. If this is not possible, students should submit a printed copy of their work.

Two copies of printed work are required and these should be double spaced with the author's name on every page.

For more information, call 573-8511, ext. 269.

Since its founding, "Aquifer" writers or artists have been recognized by the Texas Intercollegiate Press with eight 1st place awards, eight 2nd place prizes, nine 3rd place honors and four honorable mentions.

Submissions from the 1999 "Aquifer" are currently being judged.

"Aquifer" competes in Division 2 which includes two and four-year private and public colleges with up to 3,000 enrollment.

Team barely misses second national title

By Josh Burney
Texan Staffer

The WTC meats judging team ended its season with a near miss at a second national title at the Houston Livestock Show Feb. 26-27.

The point difference between WTC and the ultimate winner, a team from Clarendon College, was 50 points.

To illustrate how small a margin this is, team Coach Jim Judah noted that a team point total for such a competition normally ranges from 3,500 to 4,000 points.

"There's a lot of points in a lot of events, and we were just really close," he said.

This marked the second time a WTC team has finished in 2nd place at the national level following the team's one and only 1st place win at Houston in 1992.

Regarding his team this year, Judah commented, "It's probably the most consistent team I've ever coached."

The Western Texas College

meats judging team consists of Amber Chisum, Jimma Chapman, Jeff Ellis, Chris Hartman, Jeremy Hernandez, and Matt Thackerson.

At Houston, there were a total of 30 teams and 160 contestants from all around the United States and Australia.

In individual categories, WTC was first in questions, second in pork judging, second in beef judging and fifth in lamb judging.

Team member Matt Thackerson of Colorado City was first in placings, second in beef, fourth in lambs and sixth overall in the competition.

Jeff Ellis, also of Colorado City, was first in questions, sixth in beef judging and seventh in pork judging.

Chris Hartman of Sweetwater was ninth in beef judging, ninth in questions and 10th overall.

Amber Chisum of Jayton ranked eighth in beef grading, and Jeremy Hernandez was fifth in lamb judging.

Spring break begins Friday

Classes will be dismissed next week for spring break and the WTC dormitory will close this Friday at 2 p.m.

The residence hall will re-open on Sunday, March 19, at 2 p.m.

All campus offices and facilities will be closed during the week of spring break March 12-18.

Grief workshop effort published in state journal

By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer

Helping students come to terms with the death of one of their own was the challenge for WTC counselor Merry Trammell in the fall of 1999.

Her efforts culminated in a grief workshop held on the WTC campus, and, most recently, an article arising from that workshop and published in the fall edition of the TCA (Texas Counseling Association) Journal.

"Development of a Grief Workshop at a Community College," is the title of Trammell's article.

It deals with how to help both students and faculty cope when there is an unexpected death on campus.

The idea for the workshop came about in the fall of 1999 after a WTC student was killed in a car

accident mid-way through the semester.

Trammell quickly put together a workshop which was presented that fall and had a very strong faculty attendance.

In addition, many students contacted Trammell individually, she said.

"(With students) I still followed the context of the workshop, but when it's one on one it is much more personal."

"Putting the entire workshop together was a really quick deal," said Trammell. "Putting the article together was a very different thing."

Some time after the workshop, Trammell was approached by Duffy Wilkes, associate professor of psychology here, about writing an article for the fall 1999 publication of the TCA Journal.

Partial reallocation proposed for athletic scholarship funds

By Joshua Burney
Texan Staffer

A portion of the scholarship money that was previously assigned to students in the recently canceled women's basketball and men's golf programs is in the process of being reallocated among other academic and vocational programs.

The programs had a combined scholarship budget of \$101,100, which was funded from three sources, according to Dean of Students George Cormack.

He listed these as the Student Services Fee paid by all WTC students, revenue generated from the WTC dorm, and—by far the largest share—college dis-

trict taxes.

The portion generated by tax dollars made up 81.2 percent of the scholarship budget. This translates into approximately \$82,000.

This amount will be returned to the overall budget, Cormack noted, and was part of the "savings" attributed to eliminating

the two programs.

As profiled to the WTC board, which made the decision to discontinue the programs March 6, these overall savings are estimated at some \$250,000.

The return of the \$82,000 to the general budget leaves some \$19,100 which is to be given out in the form of other scholarships.

\$250,000 cost savings cited . . .

Sports teams dropped

By Sarah Martin
Texan Staffer

Questions surrounding the future of two WTC athletic programs were answered here last March 6 as the board of trustees voted to discontinue both the men's golf and women's basketball program.

In a meeting attended by several faculty members and Lady Dusters, the board vote was 4-2. The two trustees voting against the elimination of the programs were Carolyn Barbee and R.C. Patton.

With the decision came the non-renewal of two employee contracts, basketball coach Valery Jackson and golf coach and athletic director Milton Ham.

PAGE 14

BACK TO SCHOOL, 2000

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MARCH 27 2000

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Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

Snyder, TX 79549

GED program here offers initial step back into education

By Joyce May
Texan Staffer

They come from various backgrounds and different levels of education, all with their own unique stories as to why they never graduated from high school.

Some dropped out to go to work fulltime or to care for a

have had to have a ride to school, so I just got fed up and quit and got married that summer."

Geraldine Parker, one of three adult education teachers at WTC, has helped many students like Kelly during her 10 years working with the program. The other two teachers are Faye Cook and Patsy Williams.

The classes are held Tuesday and Thursday mornings and nights from 8 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 9 p.m.

"We feel that the varying hours provides an opportunity for people to work around their work schedules. We hope to add some more times," Parker said.

Students do not have to attend every class, but rather come when they can.

"We just work with the people who come," Parker said.

The classes are designed to assist persons with reading and math skills and to prepare students to take the GED exam. English as a second language classes are also taught.

"Anyone who wishes to improve reading skills or math skills or any skills may come in," Parker said.

A person must be 17 in order to test for their GED.

Parker said she has seen many people of various ages and backgrounds with different motives come through the program.

"The oldest student we've ever had was 71," she said. "Sometimes the students come because they want to advance in their jobs. More and more we have ones come in and say they know they have to have a GED to get a job. Some come just to improve



Geri Parker

A former Snyder school principal, she now heads the college's GED program. "More and more we have ones come in and say they know they have to have a GED to get a job," she says. (Texan Photo by Ben Brown)

themselves, just to say they have completed their GED, not to go to work, just a personal goal."

Parker said the adult education program has averaged approximately 165 students a year and about 40 people a year earn their GED.

"I'm expecting to have that this year. In the 10 years that I've worked with this, we've had 394 people get their GED. That

averages about 40 a year. I expect to get about 40 graduates this year."

Parker explained that the GED covers five areas including math, literature, science, social studies and writing. The writing portion includes a 200-word essay. Testing is done when a person first comes into the program to decide which areas they need assistance in.

WTC board candidates set for April-May vote

Three seek Place 6 position

By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer

The deadline to file as a candidate for the Western Texas College Board of Trustees passed last Wednesday with three candidates announced for Place 6.

The latest to file for the position is Dr. James Hanks, a chiropractor with his own practice here in Snyder. He joined two previously announced candidates, John Zalman III and Scott Richburg.

The contested race for Place 6 developed following the announcement that R.C. Patton, the final seated member of the original WTC board, would not seek re-election.

Patton was first elected to serve on the board in 1969, two years before the college opened for classes.

Hanks has been a candidate for the board one previous time, in 1998, seeking position 4 against incumbent Jay Kidd.

Regarding the other two candidates, Zalman is the owner/operator of Z-TV in Snyder, a cable access video news operation; and Richburg is the owner of Black Watch Systems, an engineering firm which specializes in security-type systems.

A drawing was held last Thursday to determine the order candidate's names will appear on the ballot.

The drawing for Place 6 set the ballot order: Zalman, Hanks and Richburg.

Absentee voting will begin April 19 and continue through May 2. Election day is May 6.

The upcoming May election includes also two incumbents seeking re-election, Lee Presswood for Place 5 and Eddie

Peterson for Place 7. As the filing deadline passed, both are unopposed.

Presswood is an elementary school principal in Snyder first elected in May of 1994. He is completing his first six-year term.

Peterson, owner of Peterson Pharmacy located in Snyder, was first elected in May of 1994 and is also completing his first six-year term.

The WTC Board is comprised of seven seats with each member running at large. Trustees announce for specific seats on the board.

Psi Zeta has new leaders for 2000-2001

New executive officers for the Psi Zeta Chapter of WTC's Phi Theta Kappa were named last Thursday.

They were elected by a vote of chapter members.

Thomas Lowery of Snyder was named president.

In addition, there were four vice presidents named for each of the four hallmarks of the organization. These officers are: Lina Alvarez of Snyder, vice president for service; Jeff Ellis of Colorado City, vice president for leadership; Renae Hall of Snyder, vice president for scholarship; and Reid Johnson of Snyder, vice president for fellowship.

Also chosen were the chapter communications officer, Chelsie Birks of Snyder; and the treasurer, Jason Campbell of Sweetwater.



Cathy Kelly

She earned her GED degree through the local program and is now enrolled as a WTC college student.

baby. Others, like Cathy Kelly, were just "fed up."

They are students who are in or who have completed the adult basic education program administered through Western Texas College's Continuing Education Division. Some are here to improve their situation in life, others simply to improve themselves.

Not your traditional students, many dropped out of high school years ago.

Kelly quit school right after her junior year.

"I dropped out of high school in the eleventh grade and got married. Sixteen years later I decided to get my GED and I came here to get it. I've been here ever since."

Kelly received her GED, the equivalent of a high school diploma, in 1997 at the age of 34. She is now enrolled in college courses and is majoring in computerized business technology.

The 37-year-old said she remembers exactly the situation and emotions surrounding her when she dropped out of school.

"It was three days before the end of school my eleventh grade year and the principal told me I couldn't graduate with my class because I had to have two years of physical education," she said. "It was a small school so there was no summer school. The closest place was Big Spring. I would



Submission date passes

Submissions for the 2000 "Aquifer," WTC's literary magazine, are now complete. The editors report some 35 poems and 10 essays submitted. From this list, works will be selected for final publication. Both art and publication design students are now illustrating the submitted works. The new "Aquifer" is expected to be given out to students at Awards Day.

Summer jobs possible via Kids College

New director named, applications now being accepted

By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

A new director for Western Texas College's Kids College has been named and planning is now underway for the annual summer community event.

Newly named director Liffin Molter says she hopes this year's effort will be both bigger and better than previous years.

In addition, applications for Kids College workers are now being accepted.

Job opportunities presented by Kids' College include several instructors, guest speakers and staffers serving as "runners."

The runners or assistants will help the students with their class projects and the teachers with their various tasks.

Kids' College is slated June

12-22. Parents may bring their youngsters from 1-4:30 p.m. each Monday through Thursday.

Classes will be offered for children ages kindergarten through 6th grade. For three to five-year-olds, a pre-school program will be offered also.

SGA elections set for April 12

By Shana Parkerson
Texan Staffer

WTC Student Government Association (SGA) officers for the year 2000-2001 will be elected April 12 by their fellow SGA members during the regular SGA meeting time.

Members running for office include Lina Alvarez and Calli Pierce for president; Crystal Purser for vice president; Lisa

Children may enroll in old favorites such as Ooey Gooley Science, magic, cheerleading, and dance classes. Among the many classes added to this year's curriculum are photography, creative writing, and ornament making.

Campbell for secretary. Also, Jason Campbell for treasurer; and Aimee Beam for historian.

SGA members will be attending their State Convention which will be held in Corpus Christi April 6-9.

SGA will leave on Wednesday, April 5, stopping to spend the night in San Antonio and continuing on to Corpus Christi the next morning.

THE WESTERN TEXAN

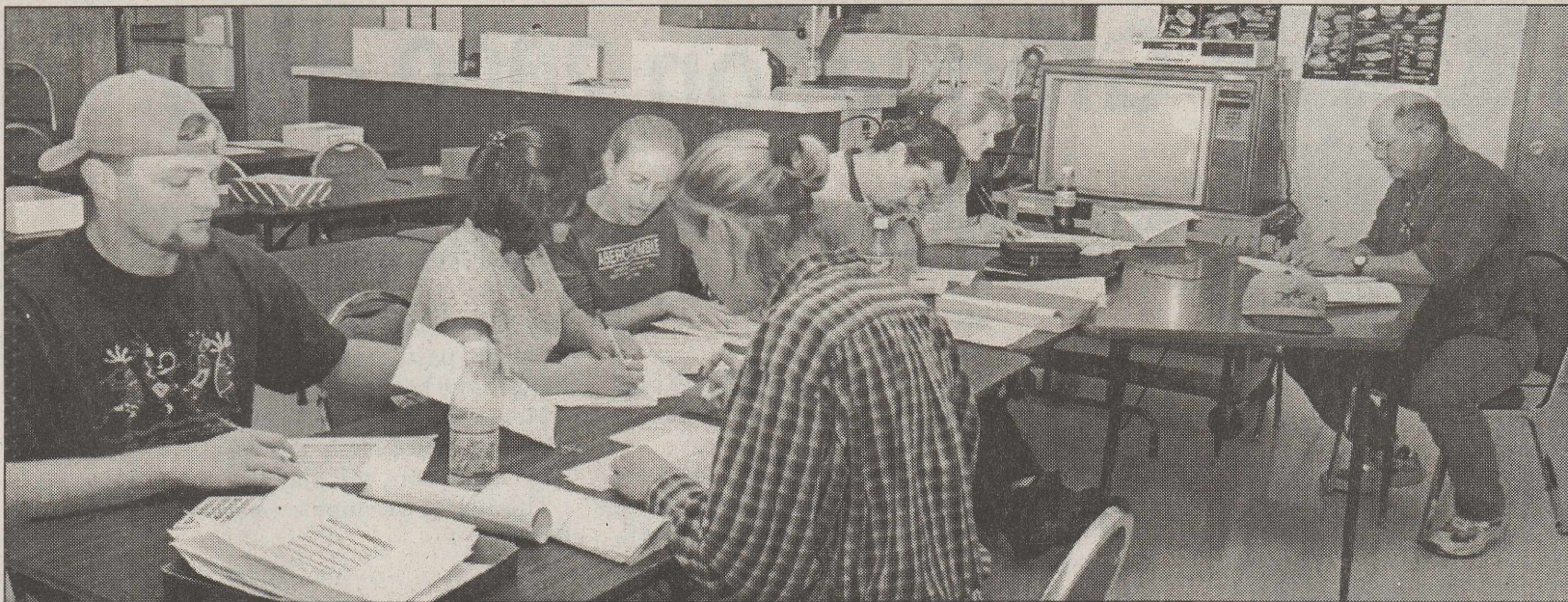
APRIL 10 2000

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Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

Snyder, TX 79549



April 28-29 event . . .

Students, staff aid cancer walk

By Candace Meares
Texan Staffer

A group of twenty-nine WTC faculty and students will make up two teams participating in the Relay for Life this spring.

Relay for Life is a large fundraiser set to raise money for the American Cancer Society and also to raise community cancer awareness.

This year's event begins on Friday, April 28, at 7 p.m. and ends Saturday, April 29, at noon.

The event will be held at Tiger Stadium in Snyder.

There will be miscellaneous live bands playing continuously until the event is over and various booths will be set up to help collect money for the cause.

Teams from all over Scurry County will be formed to walk around the track continuously for a total of 17 hours.

WTC has two teams registered for the event.

Assisting with Relay for Life on the WTC campus is David Kattes.

Team one is mostly made up of college faculty.

Members of this team include: Lee Burke, Linda Englert, Julie Sentell, Jim Clifton, Tammy Wesson, Lisa Christensen, Shane Christensen, Britt Canada, Harry Krennek, David Kattes, Molly Kattes, Robert Adams, Jeanine Wilburn, Marjann Morrow, Sam Fare, Helen Fare and Tracy Medley.

Team two consists mostly of WTC students. Members include Jason Campbell, Crystal Purser, Lina Alvarez, Aimee Beam, Laurie Kerley, Calli Pierce, Michael Cole, Jennie Kinney, Chris Holt, Kristin Kuhl, Debbie Duddleston and Jennifer Beard.

The first lap of the night is called the "Survivor's Lap," and cancer survivors or people that are battling cancer will walk that lap alone.

At 10 p.m. Friday night, a luminary service will be held.

At this time, the stadium lights will be turned off and special candle-like devices will be lit in memory of those who have died from cancer.

Collection cans will be set up all over the WTC campus sometime this week for donations.

Any of the above listed team members will also take donations.

Last year, Scurry County

raised over \$24,000 for the American Cancer Society.

This year they hope to raise about \$27,000.

All the money collected during this event goes to the American Cancer Society for patient services, early detection services, and prevention information.

If anyone is interested in joining one of the relay teams, making a donation, or in purchasing a luminary, contact David Kattes, ext. 247.

Judging event set Tuesday

Joshua Burney
Texan Staffer

A High School Agriculture Cotton and Entomology Judging Contest will take place on the WTC campus this Tuesday.

The April 11 competition, which will be conducted in various rooms on campus, will begin at 6 p.m. and continue until approximately 9:30 p.m., when it will end with an awards assembly in the cafeteria.

According to WTC Agriculture Instructor Jim Judah, competing in the event will be about 25 high schools throughout our area, including Snyder High School.

"The event will be good practice for the Snyder High team," Judah stated, "when they go to the state ag competition at Texas Tech on April 15."

Judah will be in charge of conducting the cotton judging portion of the event, and science instructor Dr. David Kattes will be heading the entomology share of the competition.

Also participating in managing the event will be staff personnel Donna Robinson and Sharon Gill. WTC agriculture students and golf/landscape technology students will also be helping out.

Last week, a high school meats judging contest was conducted at WTC also which attracted teams from some 28 area high schools.

More than 120 students participated in that event, according to Judah.

One act 'Rain' cast announced

By Lisa Moore
Texan Staffer

The five-member cast has been announced for the one-act play "Rain," directed by Ira graduate Angel Castelan.

The play consists of five characters. Kristopher Hollis of Sweetwater plays the father, Staff; Lindsay Josey of Snyder plays Mary, the mother; and, the two children, Tyler and Lyndy, are played by Wes Hardin of Snyder and Aimee Beam of Sweetwater.

Easter egg total equals \$100 prizes

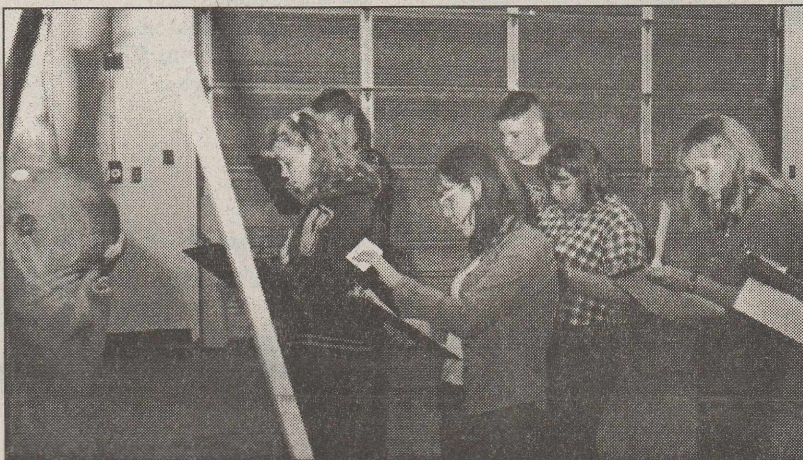
The WTC Student Government Association will sponsor an easter egg hunt on campus Monday, April 17, with students searching the campus grounds for money prizes totaling \$100.

Most of the eggs will have candy inside them, but a select few will have money prizes totaling \$100 cash.

No eggs will be hidden until the 17th, an SGA spokesman said.

Judging judges

PTK members helped score last week's high school meats judging contest which attracted some 120 entrants. Local students shown, from left, are Brad Williams, Lina Alvarez, Chelci Birks, Cassie Wilson and Thomas Lowery. Also assisting were Deborah Judah and David Kattes. (Texan Photos by Ben Brown)



Botany students give tours of WTC's Texas wild flowers

By Helen Fare
Texan Staffer

Thanks to the recent rains, wild flowers are blooming on the WTC campus and students in WTC biology classes have to date identified some 65 different species.

Individuals or public school groups interested in viewing the flowers may schedule a guided tour beginning this Monday. These tours will continue through May 4.

To request a tour, contact the Scurry County Museum.

The tours will be conducted by WTC botany students, who will both guide the tours and discuss the wild flowers in bloom.

To compliment the tours, public school students have drawn pictures of wild flowers which now hang on the museum's walls. Along with the creative art, students have entered also amusing limericks relating to flower species.

The museum plans a reception open to the public Saturday, April 15, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for friends and relatives of these students.

The wild flower tours will be given by

students of instructor David Kattes.

For individuals simply interested in looking at the flowers, Kattes suggested the Wild Flower management area, the prairie which fronts the campus on the south side.

"It's a good place to start," he said.

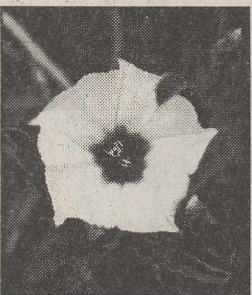
This site was first suggested by Britt Canada, director of technology at WTC.

"Before this change took place," Canada said, "wild flowers would bloom, start looking ragged and would be mowed before the seeds could mature. Thus the number of wild flowers would greatly diminish over time."

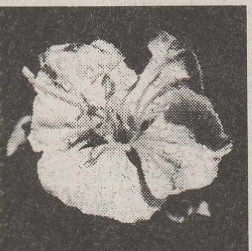
Now the managed area is mowed just twice a year, once in late spring after the early blooming plants have matured and once in late October.

Dr. Kattes and 11 students from his botany class recently completed a wild flower tour which included eight stops enroute to Eden, Tx.

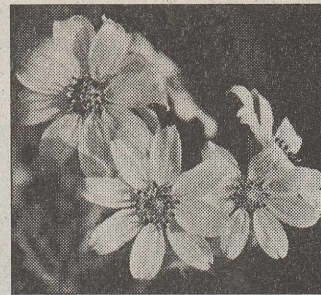
According to Dr. Kattes, "We were able to identify 27 species at our stop at the cross in Ballinger."



Bindweed



Buttercup



Cutleaf Daisy



Wild Onion

Viva 'Las Vegas Nights' at WTC Spring Formal

The annual WTC Spring Formal is next week, Wednesday, April 19, with the theme "Las Vegas Nights."

The event, planned and sponsored by the Student Government Association, will be held from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. at the National Guard Armory.

All WTC students will be admitted with their I.D. and their guests can get in for a \$3 charge.

A traditional feature of the Spring Formal is the naming of this year's Mr. and Miss WTC from a slate of 12 campus favorites announced last week.

Following the "Las Vegas Nights" theme, all attending will start the night with \$300 worth

of chips which can be exchanged for donated prizes. Casino games will include four blackjack tables, two roulette wheels, two dice tables and a money wheel.

Male students nominated as this year's campus favorites are Brad Easter of Lubbock; Kory Williams of Stanton; Michael Hanson of Denmark; Trevor Thompson of Snyder; Ryan Brewer of Seagraves; and Daniel Martinez of Roscoe.

The girls include Angela Riggs of Colorado City; Ashley Herrera of Snyder; Aimee Beam of Sweetwater; Brandee Brock of Springtown; Sequin Downey of Amarillo; and Bradi Johnson of Snyder.



Campus Favorites

Two of these campus favorites will be named Mr. and Miss WTC April 19. Nominees are (top row, from left) Brad Easter, Trevor Thompson, Daniel Martinez, Ryan Brewer,

Michael Hanson, Kory Williams (bottom row) Angela Riggs, Bradi Johnson, Brandee Brock, Aimee Beam, Ashley Herrera and Sequin Downey. (Texan Photo by Ben Brown)

'Christian' flag football now formed

By Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

Western Texas College students have been instrumental in starting a Christian Flag Football League in Snyder.

Reid Johnson, WTC freshman, started the league with help from Aaron Stansell, Brad Grimmett, and Randy Green. They are joined by 28 other students from both WTC and Snyder High School.

These four coach and play with teams of six every Sunday afternoon for the past four months. The league's second season is currently underway.

THE WESTERN

TEXAN

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Mr./Miss crowned last week

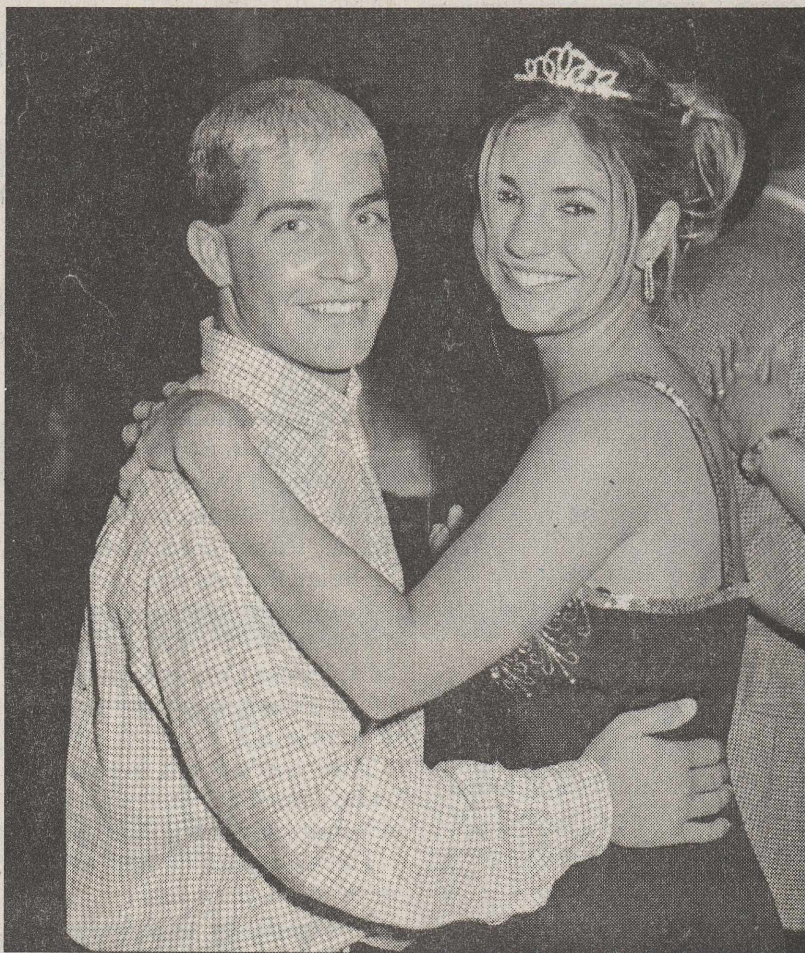
By Shana Parkerson
Texan Staffer

Mr. and Miss WTC were announced last Wednesday at the annual Spring Formal.

Receiving the honor were Brad Easter of Lubbock and Sequin Downey of Amarillo. It was Easter's second time to be named Mr. WTC, winning the honor the first time last spring.

He is a sophomore majoring in GLT and is a member of the WTC Student Government Association (SGA) and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). Sequin Downey is also a sophomore and competes with the WTC rodeo team as a goat tyer.

Mr. and Miss WTC are selected from a slate of 12 campus favorites voted on by the student body.



Mr. - Miss WTC

Brad Easter and Sequin Downey

Photo by Terah Hatter

Graduation 2000 date set May 5 in courtyard

Reid Johnson
Texan Staffer

The 2000 graduating class from Western Texas College will be recognized Friday, May 5, at 7:30 p.m. in the WTC Courtyard.

Speaking at the ceremony will be students Christopher Holt, Matt Pond, and Connie Irving. Rev. Craig Cuny, pastor of First United Meth-

odist Church, will offer the invocation, while Homer Anderson, pastor of 37th Street Church of Christ, will give the benediction.

Mayor Dayton Robertson will also be giving a special presentation to the WTC retirees.

Lynn Baldwin will play the carrillon.

The list of graduates released last week included:

Brandon D. Bankhead
Kerry L. Bankhead
Charlotte Barrett
Carolyn Elam Botts
Danielle L. Brown
Lisandra Bueno
Cindy Bynum
Chad Jeffery Chaney
Brad E. Easter
James D. Elrod
Carrie Fincher
David F. Ginkinger
Steve M. Gonzales
Mandy Leigh Heaton
Christopher Bryant Holt
Matthew L. Hughes
Alicia Irwin

Crystal D'Ann Johnson
Whitney Rebecca Kimbley
Larry Joe Lambaren
Beverly J. Larkin
Melissa R. Lee
Laurel M. Leuck
Olivia Ann Martinez
Robert Tyson Evans McDonald
Jason McGrath
Joylynn Shepard McGrew
James Tanner Means
Vick Miller
Heather Annette Moon
Kristen Lynnette Null
Natasha Ojeda
Sana Janeen Parkerson
Dallas Pollei

Matt Mason Pond
Jana Leigh Potter
Daniel Lee Pulattie
Loretta F. Rios
Monica Jill Robertson
Toby Joe Robinson
Jeronimo L. Ruiz
Connie Jo Rushing
L. Shante' Russell
Chad Sauntry
Robert Shane Sellers
Joe Smith
Cecilia Jeanette Valadez
Christina Michelle Wagner
Amanda Joy Williams
Belenda Wortham
Shelley Lanese York

\$1000 scholarship offers part of new WTC program

Joshua Burney
Texan Staffer

A new scholarship, dubbed the President's Ambassadors scholarship, will be available to Western Texas College students starting in the fall semester of 2000.

According to Dean of Student Services George Cormack, the program, which was devised at the end of last month by WTC President Harry Krenek and Vice-President Bettie McQueen, will avail four students, who will

serve as "ambassadors" for WTC and WTC's president.

The program and scholarships will be funded by the now defunct cheerleading program, which ended conversely with the cancellation of women's basketball and men's golf.

Scholarship awards of \$1,000 per school year will be made available to each of the four selected individuals for the program.

Requirements for the schol-

arship include having a 2.5 GPA, being a full-time student, and the completion of 25 hours of course work.

Students interested in the program will be chosen through a competitive selection process. In addition to individual applications, faculty and staff will be able to make nominations.

Students for the program will be selected from a special committee headed by the college president.

1-act 'Rain' set to open for 3 shows

By Lisa Moore
Texan Staffer

The opening performance of the one-act play "Rain" is slated tonight, Monday, April 24, beginning at 7 p.m.; and there will be daytime performances during both student activity periods this week, beginning at 10:45 and ending at 11:30 a.m. both Tuesday and Thursday.

The work is student-directed, a job taken on by Angel Castelan, a sophomore student from Ira who enrolled at WTC this past fall.

All performances in the Fine Arts Theatre last about 45 minutes and there is no charge for admission.

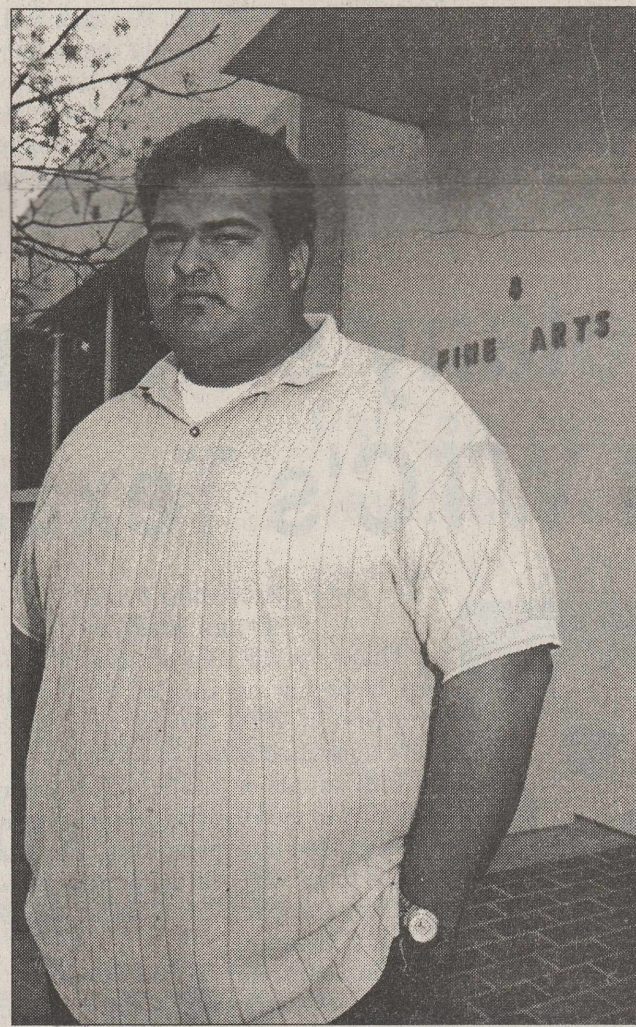
In the past, Castelan has been involved in 15 plays and has directed three.

His schedule has been to meet with each member of the five person cast individually between Monday through Thursday to go over their lines or scenes and work through any problems they may be having concerning the play.

Some rehearsals involved two or three members and, as the opening drew near, the entire cast met once a week to go through the play.

There are five characters. Kristopher Hollis of Sweetwater plays the father, Staff; and Lindsay Josey of Snyder plays Mary, the mother.

They have two children, Tyler and Lyndy, played by Wes Hardin of Snyder and Aimee Beam of Sweetwater. Also, Lina Alvarez of Snyder plays Tammy, a friend of the family.



Angel Castelan

one-act debuts this week

The play details how one family has to deal with tragedy when the father becomes disabled and can no longer work their farm.

Castelan admitted that "Rain" was not his first choice. Originally, he considered a more light-hearted play called "Scrambled Eggs."

"We realized we wanted to do a play that had substance, not something that would make you laugh for forty-five minutes, then as soon as you left the theater you'd forget it."

Patton saw WTC from start

Last seated member from original board

(Editor's Note: Joyce May has served double duty this past semester as both a fulltime reporter for the Snyder Daily News and as a college student and staff writer for the Western Texan. This feature article appears in both publications)

By Joyce May
Texan Staffer

It has been said that actions speak louder than words and the kind of man that R.C. Patton is was spoken clearly when he and his wife, Amy, arrived at the Snyder Daily News office.

Patton got out of his car and proceeded to open his wife's door, take her hand and help her out of the vehicle.

A comment to Mrs. Patton about him being a gentleman received the simple response, "he's been doing that for 62 years."

Patton has spent the majority of his life in service, having spent more than 30 years on the Western Texas College board. In addition, he has served 33 years on the West Texas State Bank board of directors and more than 30 years on the Boys Club board.

He has also been chairman of the Salvation Army Service Unit since the early 1960s and is a Goldcoater.



Patton to retire

R.C. Patton, the last seated member of the original WTC board, will retire following the spring election. He is shown with WTC President Harry Krenek. Patton served as the board of trustees president the year Krenek was hired as president. (Texan Photo by Ben Brown)

Three seeking Place 6 to speak . . .

Board candidates agree to forum

The three candidates seeking the Place 6 seat on the WTC Board of Trustees will meet this Tuesday for a candidate forum.

The event, sponsored by the WTC Faculty Association, will begin at 7 p.m. in the Science Lecture Hall and the public is invited.

Following the format of the program, each candidate will be given the opportunity to comment regarding their seeking office, then questions will be accepted from the audience.

Candidates, following the way names will appear on the ballot,

are John Zalman III, Dr. James Hanks and Scott Richburg.

Zalman is the owner/operator of Z-TV in Snyder, a cable access video news operation; Hanks is a chiropractor practicing in Snyder; and Richburg is the owner of Black Watch Systems, an engineering firm which specializes in security-type systems.

The contested race for Place 6 developed following the announcement that R.C. Patton, the final seated member of the original WTC board, would not seek re-election (see related story).

Absentee voting is now underway and will continue through May 2. Election day is May 6. Absentee ballots may be cast on campus at the Administration Bldg.

The ballot includes also two unopposed incumbents seeking re-election, Lee Presswood for Place 5 and Eddie Peterson for Place 7.

Both were first elected in May of 1994 and are completing their first six-year term. Presswood is an elementary school principal in Snyder and Peterson owns a local pharmacy.