

TEXAN

Fall 2000
Volume 1 Number 1



Election News and Views:
-Your Turn: Campus poll

Stermy Clark:
'Model Mom'

Profiles:

-Greg Rhodes

-Dr. Edward Barkowsky

-Raul Alcala

-Larry Markham

PRESIDENT'S AMBASSADORS



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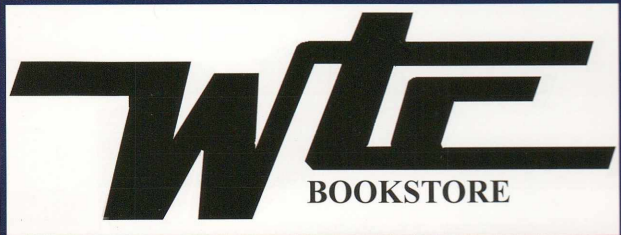
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Welcome to the new Texan magazine. With this premier issue, the Texan is changing from a newspaper venue to a magazine format. The emphasis is on timeless material with a feature slant, and the subject matter extends from the WTC campus to the five-county region served by the college.

All articles are written by students in WTC's fall magazine writing class with topics chosen by individual writers. As such, any opinions stated herein are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the college.

The Texan began publication during the 1971 fall semester under the direction of faculty advisor, Larry Thompson. The most recent advisor was WTC Mass Communications instructor, Donny Brown, who supervised the publication from the fall 1989 to the spring 2000 semester. Beginning with the fall 2000 semester, Brown began directing a weekly videotaped news broadcast written and produced by WTC mass comm students.

Since its inception, the Texan has won 38 Texas Intercollegiate Press Association awards. With the new format, the magazine will be published once in the fall and once in the spring semester.

We hope that you enjoy the publication and, in the spirit of lifelong educational pursuit, we hope that you also learn something from it.

Texan Staff



Chelsie Birks



Reid Johnson



Helen Fare



Daniel Markham



Amanda Gutierrez-Baez



Joyce May



Justin Guy



Candace Meares



Lisa Moore

Advisor: Sandra Hall

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PRESIDENTS' AMBASSADORS

--Reid Johnson

Western Texas College has named their inaugural President's Ambassadors for the 2000-01 school year. Serving a one-year team as ambassadors are: Lina Alvarez, Chelsie Birks, Helen Fare, Reid Johnson, Thomas Lowery, and Crystal Purser.

Each student received a \$1000 scholarship, as well as several WTC outfits as part of the new program.

As part of their duties, Ambassadors will give campus tours, speak at several engagements, attend and help with all WTC registrations, participate in leadership and training seminars, represent the college at various civic events, and assist WTC President Harry Krenek in any other duties he assigns.

To be eligible to become an Ambassador, a student must be enrolled full-time, maintain a 2.5 or higher GPA, have completed 25 semester hours, and attend both the fall and spring semesters.

Lina Alvarez was born in Columbia but has lived in the United States for about ten years. On campus, Lina is President of the Student Government Association this year and Vice President of Service for Phi Theta Kappa. Texas Tech University is in Lina's educational future, where she will pursue a doctorate in calculus and a minor in computers.

Chelsie Birks is the daughter of Bud and Barbara Birks. She has lived in Snyder her whole life. Besides being an ambassador, Chelsie is also a Phi Theta Kappa officer, made the International Dean's List, and has a 4.0 GPA. Her plans are to acquire a degree in Broadcast Journalism and Communications Studies at the University of North Texas. Chelsie says, "My career ambition would be to work on an international level doing one-on-one interviewing. I want to be the first 'white' Oprah with a Christian basis."

Helen McFarland Fare was born in New Brunswick, Canada, where she met her husband,

Sam. They married in 1998 on the banks of the Miramachi River and moved to Texas when Sam was offered the job at WTC. She has two grown children,

Matthew and Lenora. Helen has had articles published in her hometown newspapers as well as in nationally distributed magazines. She is pursuing a degree in Journalism, and plans to someday publish a book of short stories based on the people in her life and the events of her Canadian home.

Reid Johnson is the son of Eddie and Becky Johnson. This year, Reid is Vice President of Fellowship for Phi Theta Kappa, honoree of the International



2000-2001 Ambassadors, left to right: Reid Johnson, Lina Alvarez, Chelsie Birks, Crystal Purser, Helen Fare and Thomas Lowery. (Texan Photo)

Dean's List, and has a 4.0 GPA. Aside from school, he is also the Program Director for the new Christian radio station in Snyder. His educational goals include attaining a masters or doctorate in Radio/Television/Film from the University of Texas at Austin. Reid adds, "My career goal is to be a sports broadcaster for either ESPN or FoxSports someday."

Thomas Lowery was born in Harrisonburg, Virginia, is 30 years old, married, and the father of two. Thomas is the acting President of Phi Theta Kappa and is also a member of Student Government Association. His goals are to complete his education, obtain a degree, and to provide his family with a stable future.

Crystal Purser graduated from Lamesa High School and came to Western Texas College the following year. Currently, Crystal is the Vice President of the Student Government Association at WTC. She has also worked within the Student Activities office. Crystal plans to graduate in May from WTC and transfer to Angelo State University to major in Special Education.

The six newly-named Ambassadors hold the distinction of being the inaugural group of this soon-to-be annual Western Texas College tradition.

A Worthwhile Journey

--Joyce May

The road has been long and often tedious, but with the support of a loving family and the help of many, Raul Alcala has journeyed from a manual laborer who spoke only Spanish to a computer lab technician at Western Texas College.

Along the way, he has learned the English language and earned his GED and a college education in the United States.

I started talking to Robert Adams, and I thought if he could speak Spanish then I could speak English.

Raul graduated from Texas State Technical College in Sweetwater on Aug. 18 and began employment at WTC Aug. 21. Working under Britt Canada, director of technology, his duties include troubleshooting computers. He is grateful for the experience. "I have been learning a lot every day," he said.



Raul was born in Monclova, Coah., Mexico, and he married his wife, Sandra, in Mexico in 1985. In February of 1986, the couple moved to Snyder.

"We decided to come to the United States to try to plan a good future for the family we were going to have," Sandra said.

Over the years, Raul worked for a construction company, oilfield companies and as a farm hand, and he began to pick up English. "He knew enough to get him by when he was at work," Sandra said.

Raul said he found it very frustrating that he always needed his wife to interpret for him. "I wasn't able to buy the basic things," he said. The language barrier limited him in all areas of his life here in America. He wanted to become a correctional officer for the State of Texas, but the dream was dashed. "The day of the interview they told me that my English was not good enough," he recalled. "I knew I had big problems speaking English."

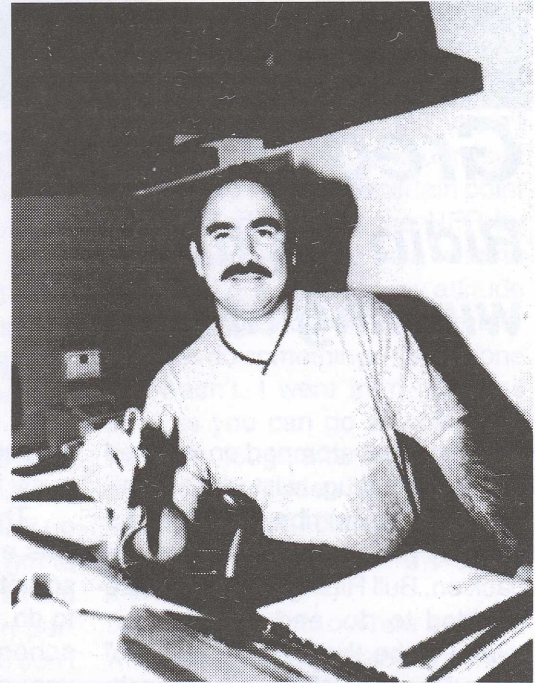
In 1994, Raul started English as a Second Language (ESL) courses at WTC and began practicing the new language every chance he had. He also encountered Robert Adams, history and Spanish instructor at WTC. "I started talking to Robert Adams, and I thought if he could speak Spanish then I could speak English."

Raul earned his GED in October of 1996 and continued studying English. In the spring of 1997, he started college level classes and became interested in computer technology. "At first I was just planning to get my certificate, but later I decided to go after my degree."

He said he knew that computer experience would be necessary.

"Computers are the main topic of everything. I knew it was a good paying job."

"Just about every job asks if you have computer experience," Sandra added.



Texan Photo

Getting Connected

Raul Alcala helps prepare a distance learning classroom for an evening session.

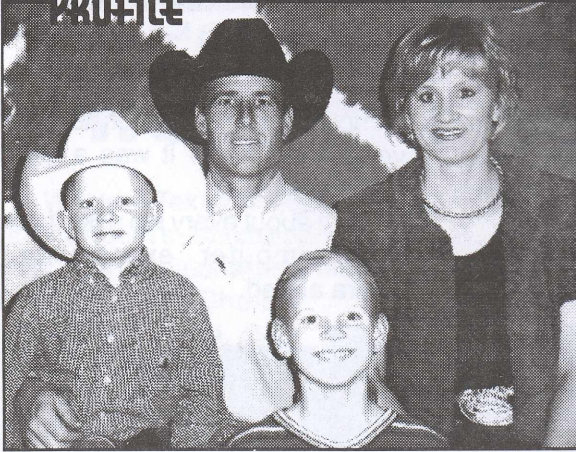
Raul said that when he first began the ESL courses there were several others in the class, but they gradually dropped out. "There were about 15 of us, but I was the only one that stayed. It was bad because people quit coming, but good because the three teachers had more time for me. One teacher taught me to speak, one taught me to write and one taught me to read."

In order to devote more time to his education, Raul quit the oilfield and went to work for the Dr. Pepper company.

He drove to Colorado City for the company, and on weekends, he would take his sons along for the ride. "I would take the boys so I could practice English."

Sandra said the experience

[continued on page 14]



Greg Rhodes

Ridin' high with a winning attitude

--Helen Fare

"I've been stomped on, bucked off, hooked, drug, twisted, hospitalized with broken ribs, and stove up in many more ways, but I still got back on. Bull Riding was what I had decided to do, and I was determined to be the best I could be." Greg Rhodes, WTC rodeo coach, knows what it takes to make it on the rodeo circuit. "When you rodeo, you know you are going to get hurt, you just don't know when or how bad" he says with a grin, "but taking all that into consideration, there is a successful side to riding bulls."

Canita, Rhodes' wife, remembers a time when she picked him up at the airport as he came in from a rodeo in Fort Worth. "He had to be in El Paso for a rodeo that night. He had torn his ACL and the Justin Healers had taped his knee so much that it looked like a cast. He was on crutches and couldn't put pressure on his leg, but insisted on riding anyway. I don't remember how many bulls he rode, but I do recall that he placed at Fort Worth and El Paso with his leg like that and that he couldn't get back to the fence; his knee was gone. A few weeks later Dr. Evans did a complete reconstruction on his

knee." Canita pointed out Greg's response to her concerns. "How you deal with obstacles that come up when you are trying to reach a goal distinguishes a winner's attitude from a loser's attitude. Are you going to lay down and die or are you going to find a way to overcome the obstacle and achieve your goal?"

The Rhodes live in Snyder with their daughter, Cayelea and son, Brenon. Greg was raised on a ranch and attended school in nearby Stamford. After high school, he attended WTC and got more seriously involved in rodeo.

The choice to get into rodeo was easy for Rhodes. "It was just something I wanted to do. I rode in high school but wasn't very good at all. In fact, I was horrible, and once I got to college, it was either do this correctly and be one of the best or don't do it at all."

Rhodes looks back on his high school experiences in sports with pride. "I was always the

backer you should be a fairly big individual, but what I lacked in size, I made up in attitude and gave it my best. It's the same attitude that I carried over to riding bulls. It's my main asset and I'm proud of the fact that although I wasn't very good, and ninety-five percent of the people out there were better than I was, I went a lot further and lasted a lot longer than people with more talent."

Coach Rhodes was in the PRCA for six years where he consistently finished in the top 25 in the world standings.

Rhodes was drawn to WTC for the opportunities it offered. "I came to WTC for three years because I liked the rodeo program and the school and because of the way my hours transferred. When I got ready to go to a four year school, they were all there. I went to Sul Ross after WTC to finish my college eligibility for rodeo."

Canita, Rhodes' wife, also



Gustafson Rodeo Photography

8 seconds...

Rhodes at the Houston Rodeo in 1988.

Above left: at home with wife, Canita, daughter, Cayelea and son, Brenon.

smallest guy in football, but was determined to not let that stop me. The coaches thought enough about the way I played the game that I was the starting defensive back, the guy that called the plays on defense, and in certain situations they moved me to linebacker."

"Now," he added, "to be a line-

went to WTC and was in the rodeo program. They competed in the same rodeos but didn't date until the last year of college.

Rhodes' family was always supportive. "Well," he said with a grin, "my Mom wasn't too pleased, but she supported me in my decision. My Dad rodeoed, so it was

something I was raised around. I ranched with my Dad and helped out other ranchers when I was young, and I always had great support from my Dad."

Rhodes chose teaching because of his love for rodeo. "It was something I never thought I would do," he stated. "When I decided to stop riding bulls, I went back and got my bachelors degree at New Mexico State at Las Cruces. I had a job in Clint, Texas, but wasn't satisfied with it because I always wanted to stay involved with some aspect of rodeo and wanted to give something back to the sport and help out. It's a great life style, so when the job came up, I applied and got it."

Rhodes expressed great pride in the WTC rodeo program. "There are only a handful of other programs in the nation that can compare with WTC. I think that started when Bob Doty was here. He had a great program that he took to a high level and it has been a great tradition. My aim is to continue that tradition and to try to get it to another level by setting the standard as to what college rodeo is all about."

Rhodes took both the WTC men's and women's teams to the National College Finals Rodeo this year, and the girls came home top winners.

Some might call that luck, but not Rhodes. "I'm not much on luck," he said, "but feel that you make things as they are. If you decided your life on luck, you might as well wake up in a new world every day and see how things go. You have to work with what you have and you have to learn to be good at what you do." He added, "I can say this because the inner circle that I ended up in was the best, and everyone said how lucky they were, but I know that the better you are the luckier you seem to be. So to me, it doesn't have to do with luck; it has to do with how good you are."

Rhodes has ridden with some

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of the top riders in the world. He spoke of them with great respect when he said, "I learned as much as there was to learn from Lane Frost, Cody Lambert, Tuff Hedeman and Ty Murray. The rest is work and skill. Cody knew how to win, and he taught me that. TY knew how to be the best, and I learned how to be the best from him. Lane and Tuff were the same. There is a certain attitude that goes with being the best, and I learned that it is all attitude."

"When you travel for 340 days out of the year with the same people 24 hours a day, you pick up a lot. It was a lot of fun and got to be more fun when I got to a certain level. You are there and can perfect your style. People say you don't seem to be working as hard when you get good, but it isn't that. It's that you are doing it in a different way. You are enjoying it because you know what you are doing."

In an account of the night Lane Frost was killed, Rhodes spoke of his friend with sadness. "We were in Salinas, California heading back to Cheyenne, Wyoming for the second round. I had not scored well on my first bull and my second bull wasn't very good either, so I chose to go home. Lane and the rest dropped me at the airport and returned to Cheyenne. I had turned down my second bull so there wasn't any point in going along. And that was the last time I saw Lane alive. That night Tuff Hedeman's mom called me and told me what happened. His death was a great loss for the sport of rodeo." Greg added with conviction and pride. "There was not a better person on

this earth. He was a great guy. We associate rodeo and the love of it with him, and we should."

Lane Frost died from injuries sustained when the bull he was riding turned on him and pierced his chest with its horn. Lane was featured in the movie, "8 Seconds." Shortly after the incident, bull riders started to wear protective vests to prevent such accidents.

Rhodes quit rodeo cold turkey. "It was kind of funny," he said, "to make the decision to quit wasn't that hard. I had always told myself that I would rodeo to a certain point and if I hadn't made the NFR by then I wasn't going to be a "wannabe." That goes back to my attitude through high school. I was either going to do something, - get it done or I wasn't. I went from going as hard as you can go to nothing; it was very tough after I quit, adjusting to the nonrodeo life. I never got on another bull. I didn't realize how tough it would be, having enjoyed it so much."

Rhodes points out how he deals with his students. "I can only show them the way to compete and hope the right attitude and motivation comes out in the way I interact with them. I hope my way of life speaks for itself. I think that may have an effect on my teaching the students. I convey the love of the sport with a positive attitude. I expect all my students to have a large amount of success in the PRCA. There is only one upper level competition in rodeo and that is PRCA. I expect the people that go through this program to excel, if that's what they want, and to have success and set the standard for what the future of rodeo is or should be. I encourage them to choose the life because it's a good lifestyle."

Being a participant in rodeo gave Rhodes the perspective he needed to be a teacher. "I enjoy people who are good, and I try to get them to that level. I can be quite blunt. If they aren't dedicated, they

are wasting their time. Rodeo is like any business, or any other sport, if you don't dedicate yourself to be the best at it, you can't excel. That is my attitude in everything. I didn't make it to the NFR but made it to the Texas circuit finals. Rodeo is a great lifestyle; you can't beat it. There are some wonderful people in the business, and I can't say enough good things about them."

Luke Richards, a former student of Rhodes, is now an assistant in the WTC rodeo program. He moved to Snyder from Australia in 1997 and was one of Rhodes' first students. He observed, "Coach Rhodes has a special way of getting things across to you. He has taught me how to win. I like the ability he has to instill confidence in the students and how he stresses the importance of a good mental attitude. We didn't always listen to him at first, but he gave us time to make our own decisions and set our own goals." Richards also expressed admiration for the way Rhodes focuses on his family. "He is very family oriented. Canita and his children are his main concern, and I admire that. They are a very close knit unit."

Rhodes scoffed at the term "natural ability." He spoke emphatically when he pointed out how people mention names like Ty Murray, Jim Sharp, and Tiger Woods. Tuff Hedeman was the most unlikely person to ride bulls, but he had the dedication and put the effort into it to be the best. He started when he was very young, just like Tiger Woods, and dedicated his life to being the best he could be. You learn to focus and follow through no matter what. Jim Sharp made it look easy, too, but he had put in the time.

Rhodes spoke with great conviction about his life now and how he balances family and career. "You make the time. You schedule around what is important. I am very satisfied with where I am; I don't look back and regret a thing, though it was wonderful to work with the

best. The only thing I would do different would be to start traveling with those guys a little earlier, but I don't have a single sour note about rodeo, as some do."

Now, as a father, Rhodes is teaching his own kids the value of a positive attitude. "Our children are not interested in rodeo as yet. Cayelea is interested in dance, fiddle, and basketball. She was good at softball, but decided not to play. We try to instill in them not to quit once they start something. After that, if they choose not to do it again, that's fine. It's their choice.

"Brenon loves to ride but pre-

Tuff Hedeman was the most unlikely person to ride bulls, but he had the dedication and put the effort into it to be the best.

fers the pasture to the arena. He loves t-ball and soccer. I don't know if they will ever rodeo, but if they do, we will do it right and support them."

Rhodes spoke of his wife with respect and admiration. "Canita is the best. We are very compatible and have the same values and attitudes. I could not do this if she didn't understand fully the time and effort teaching rodeo takes. She is very supportive, and having been in the sport she understands what is involved. Canita is the best. As for raising the children, we agree on what is important to instill in them and the methods of doing that."

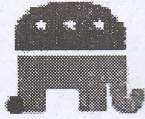
Canita echoed her husband's praise in saying, "Greg is consistent in everything he does, whether it deals with values, philosophy, or actions. He always tries to do the right thing all the time, not just when people are watching. We both agree that life is about choices, and that it is up to us as parents to teach our kids how to make the right de-

isions. I think being consistent in our values will help them make the right choices." She also pointed out the value of competition. "Life is competitive. Things that our kids learn from being involved in sports and activities, if taught properly, will carry over into the rest of their lives. Greg and I both value the lessons our competitive experiences have taught us and feel it is worth passing on to our kids."

The hectic rodeo schedule was something to which Canita knew how to adjust. She had been a participant in many competitions and had to deal with the whirlwind trips across the country. She told a funny story about one such incident involving Greg. "There were several times when Greg, Lane, Tuff and Cody had to layover in Phoenix, Arizona so they would stay with my cousin who lived there. One time she got a call from Greg, asking her to pick him up at the airport. She naturally assumed there would be several arriving, so she prepared her house and got extra food for her company. When she arrived at the airport, she found that Greg had called her to shuttle him to another part of the airport to catch his connecting flight. He knew if he took the airport shuttle, he wouldn't make his connection. My cousin was pretty upset at first but jokes about it now and says she is Greg's personal shuttle service."

Canita also expressed how she admired Greg's ability to focus on what had to be done, "He was very intense when he was rodeoing. The mental part became very important to him. During practice sessions, I can remember him getting on 5 or 6 bulls in a practice period to try to perfect his riding."

She stood with him when it came time to leave the life he loved, "I always knew how important rodeo was to him and though I hated to see him injured, I could never ask him to give it up. That was his decision to make, and he made it when it was the right time for him."



Cast Your Vote



--Amanda Gurierrez-Baez

I was born and raised here in Texas, and I have a lot of good old Texas values. I love it here and I plan on staying here as long as I can. My point is, when Bush decided to run for President it was like a dream come true. Now, don't get me wrong; its not just because of the whole Texas thing. I truly believe in what he stands for.

I think being from Texas is a good thing, and sure I'm proud of our governor. With all that America has been through, I think its about time that we get some fresh blood into office - someone who has some of those good ol' Texas values.

By 'fresh blood' I mean some-

one who wasn't already in office when Clinton went through his big mess. Whether he admits it or not, Gore was in there, going through the whole thing with Clinton. Sure, he wasn't there with Clinton and Monica but don't you think he knew about the whole thing?

In a way, by not saying anything, it's almost as if Gore was lying to us too. Personally, I think this whole thing has a sort of Nixon-Ford quality to it. After Nixon resigned, Ford became president and totally pardoned him of any wrong doing. Is it at all possible for Gore to do the same? I think it is. How can Gore go around saying that Clinton's reign of terror should not

reflect on him now? Americans have been dragged through the mud enough. We should save ourselves the agony of possibly going through this again.

At least if we elect George W. Bush as our new president, we will have an opportunity to begin anew. Texas as a whole is a good state economically and politically. Bush has made a difference here, and I think he deserves an opportunity to make a difference in America. So, when the day comes to vote for the next president, I will be one of the first out there voting for George W. Bush. Not only because I am from Texas but because I truly believe he is the right man for the job.

WHADAYATHINK?

YOUR TURN TO SOUND OFF ON KEY ISSUES



Q: Who will you vote for in November and why?

"Bush, because I am a little more conservative. I just have Gore tied to the Clinton administration, and I feel that some of Clinton's views were a little radical for me."

--Janice Camp

"Al Gore. He sounds like he would stand for his word."

--Lisa Alonzo

"I'm not voting. Bush made me mad, and I don't like Gore."

--Jake Babb

"Bush, because I don't like the way the democratic party has been running the country."

--Kathy Hall

"I'll vote for George Bush, because education is a priority right now in my life and it is also a priority in Bush's campaign."

--Brad Grimmatt

"Gore. He just looks like a nice guy. He and Tipper are cute."

--Lynde Martinez

"Bush, because I believe in most of the things he has to say. He has the same values that most Texans do."

--Johnna Ferris

"Bush. I really didn't like the way that Gore just stood by during Clinton's scandals."

--Amy Farmer

"I like Bush, because I don't agree with democratic policies on minimum wage; I think there are better ways to use government to help the less fortunate in our society."

--Caleb Herrley

"I like George W. Bush, because I want a president in office who is not a fake, stuffed-shirt radical democrat."

--Renae Hall

"Gore, because I am a democrat."

--Adan Garza

"Bush, because he's more conservative, and Gore looks like a robot."

--Josh Griffith

"Bush, because he is involved in agriculture, and he's from Texas."

--Calli Pierce

"Bush. I'm against big government and that's what Gore stands for, and then there's the character issue."

--Mary Dee Price

"It would seem impossible for an honest person to be elected to the office of the presidency since the election process involves making too many promises to too diverse a people in order to get enough support to win a majority of votes. The choice is between bad and worse, no matter who you support."

--Josh Burney

September 14, 1969: A Date with Destiny

Memories of the Vietnam War still linger three decades later

--Daniel Markham

Have you ever been scared? I don't mean scared of the dark, or scared of spiders, or something little like that. I'm talking about real fear. The kind of fear that makes you sick to your stomach. The kind of scared that makes you want to turn back time.

The scene is set. You're having the greatest time of your life. You are nineteen years old. You just finished high school in the top of your class. You've got a job, but it is a good job and you are really happy working. Everything seems to be going your way. You have your whole future to look forward to. You've got places to go to, people to see, and plans to make. And then things take a strange turn for the worse.

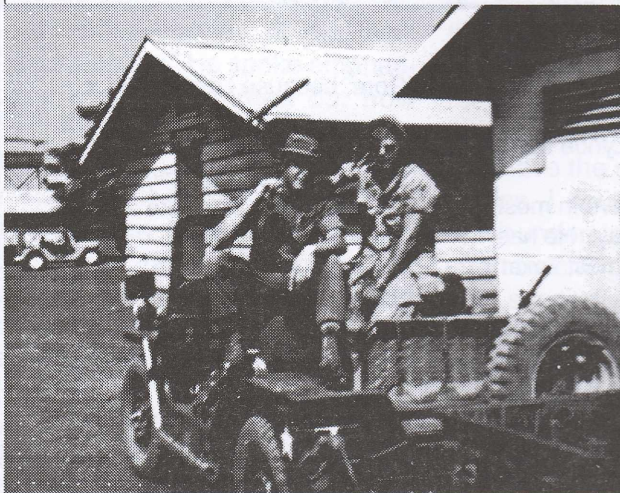
The year is 1969. Things are in turmoil in the East. There is a war going on in Vietnam. The United States has just made it official news that more soldiers are needed. To remedy this problem the government will reinstate the draft. They will draft according to birthdates, so 366 slips of paper go into a giant hopper. It is a leap year. The hopper spins, and spins, and spins some more. When it stops spinning,

date chosen out of this giant hopper is September 14, your birthday. Now are you scared?



Tour of Duty

Larry Markham (right) with buddies in Vietnam



one slip will be drawn. This simple slip of paper will decide the fates of many young men around the world.

All across America, people are sitting at home thinking they were going to be picked 366th. The first

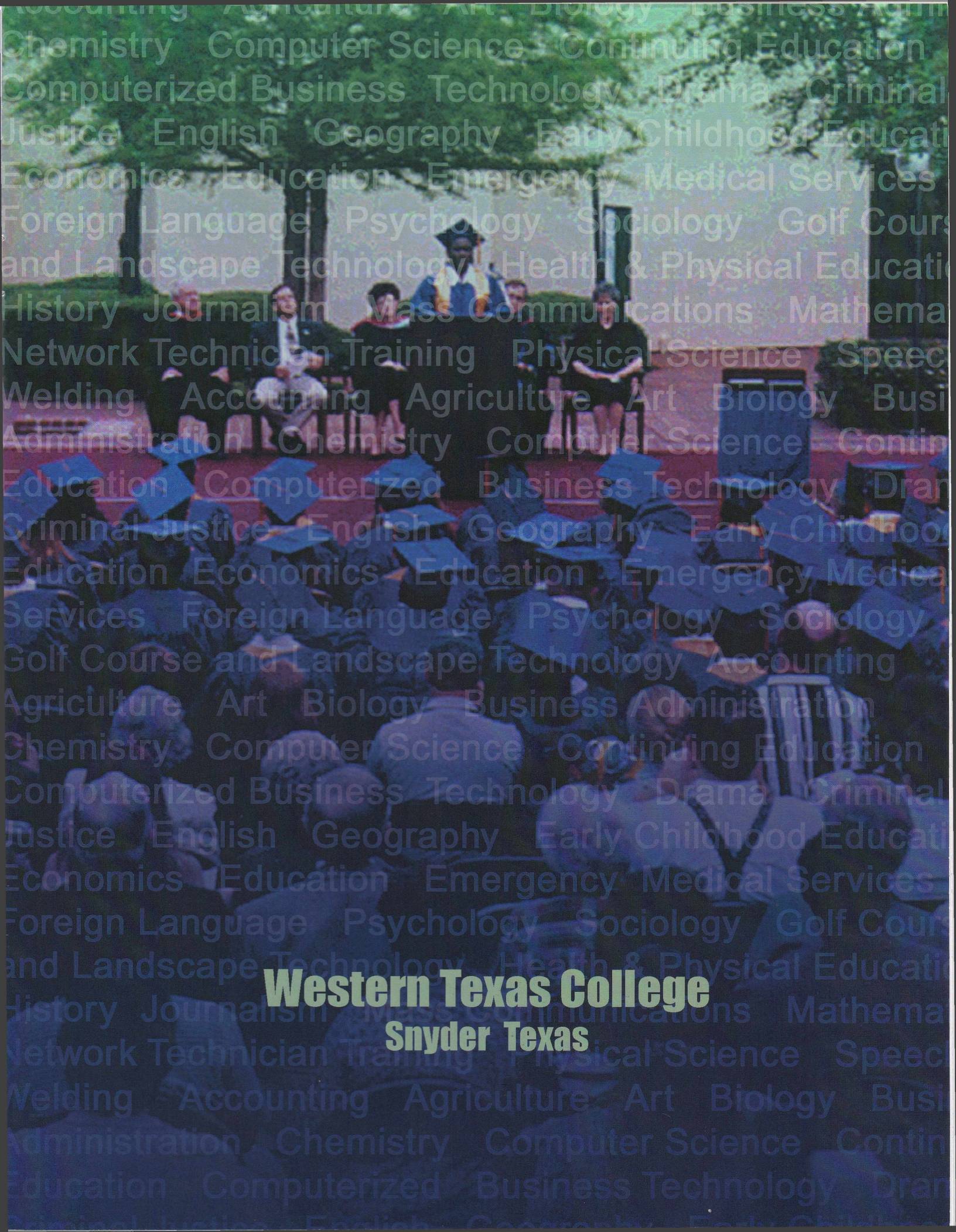
This simple slip of paper will decide the fates of many young men around the world.

Larry Markham, a resident of Rotan, just happened to be born on September 14th, 1950. In 1969, he was living in Arlington, Texas. He was one of the many who were watching the television that day in hopes of being chosen last. Surely he wouldn't be in the top 200, maybe not even in the top 100. At the most he would be in the top 50. But when the first slip was drawn, he took a double take. He had been chosen first out of all of the men in America. "It wasn't like I was asked to join the Army. I was chosen by the United States government," said Markham. "There was no way around it. I was going."

So he packed his bags and flew off to Fort Lewis Washington for basic training and then to Fort Bragg, North Carolina where he was stationed for six months. While in Fort Bragg, the orders came in to all of the soldiers. Some orders were for duty in Germany. Some were for Vietnam.

"They had an envelope that had the orders for Vietnam. There were only fourteen names in that

[continued on page 15]



Western Texas College
Snyder Texas

Accounting Agriculture Art Biology Business Admin
Chemistry Computer Science Continuing Education
Computerized Business Technology Drama Criminal
Justice English Geography Early Childhood Educati
Economics Education Emergency Medical Services
Foreign Language Psychology Sociology Golf Cours
and Landscape Technology Health & Physical Educati
History Journalism Mass Communications Mathema
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Education Economics Education Emergency Medica
Services Foreign Language Psychology Sociology
Golf Course and Landscape Technology Accounting
Agriculture Art Biology Business Administration
Chemistry Computer Science Continuing Education
Computerized Business Technology Drama Criminal
Justice English Geography Early Childhood Educati
Economics Education Emergency Medical Services
Foreign Language Psychology Sociology Golf Cours
and Landscape Technology Health & Physical Educati
History Journalism Mass Communications Mathema
Network Technician Training Physical Science Speec
Welding Accounting Agriculture Art Biology Busi
Administration Chemistry Computer Science Contin
Education Computerized Business Technology Dram
Criminal Justice English Geography Early Childhood

Academic Majors

Western Texas College offers the same basic courses as the state's four-year schools, and the transfer of these credits to other schools is guaranteed.

Agriculture

Art

Biology

Business Administration

Chemistry

Computer Science

Drama

Economics

English

Geography

Government

History

Mass Communications

Mathematics

Physical Education

Physical Science

Psychology

Sociology

Spanish

Speech



Vocational Training

If your interest is more jobs-skill related, Western Texas College offers one-year and two-year vocational certificates

Early Childhood Education

Criminal Justice

Golf & Landscape Technology

Welding

Computerized Business Technology

Emergency Medical Services

Vocational Nursing

Network Technician

Continuing Education

WTC's Continuing Education classes and programs are designed to provide adult education for individuals wanting to upgrade their present skills or to learn new skills, thus enabling them to explore new occupational fields. Training may be for academic credit or non-credit

Workforce Education

Prison Education

Allied Health

GED/ESL

Community Services

Correctional Officer Training

The Difference

There's a difference in the classroom instruction at WTC. Because our class sizes are small, you can expect personal attention from your instructor, who will know your name. Classes are guided by full-time professors with classroom hours above a Master's and many with doctorate degrees.

If you think you'll need help in such areas as English and math, WTC has established a recognized educational development program to help you gain the classroom skills needed to pass college-level work.



Student Life

An important part of the college experience is meeting new people and getting involved on campus. WTC offers you several opportunities to do just that with campus clubs, organizations, and activities.

Student Government Association
International Student Organization
Phi Theta Kappa Chapter
Intramurals
Student Activities

Men's and Women's Rodeo Teams
Men's and Women's Meats Teams
Weekly News Broadcast
Texan News Magazine
Aquifer Literary Magazine

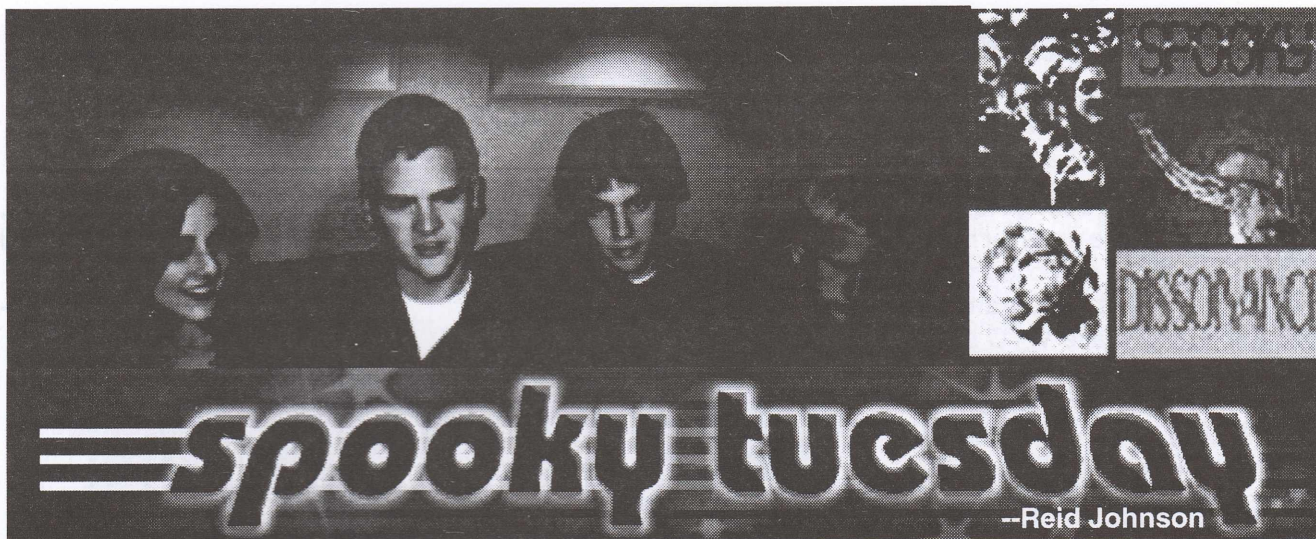
Cost

Cost is a big factor in choosing the right college. Compare the annual cost for attending WTC to the cost of a public or private four-year college. (Texas Resident - two semesters - 15 hours)

Commuter, in-district	\$1,370	Public Four-Year College	8,306
Commuter, out-of-district	1,520	Private Four-Year College	13,476
On Campus, in-district	3,970		
On Campus, out-of-district	4,120		



For more information or to arrange a campus tour
Toll-free 1-888-GO-TO-WTC
or 915-573-8511
<http://wtc.cc.tx.us>

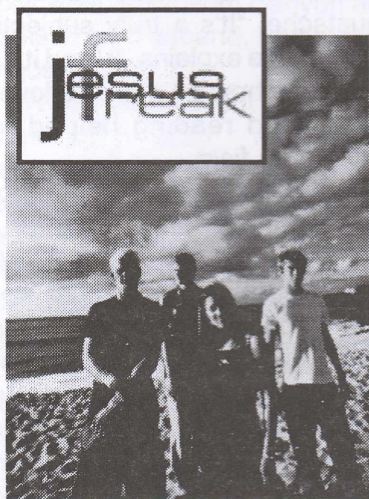


Over 100 high school and college students packed the WTC Student Center as Spooky Tuesday rocked the Western Texas College campus on Tuesday, September 12.

Spooky Tuesday is a four piece band from Kauai, Hawaii, whose infectious, Christ-centered music and willingness to minister beyond their concerts has earned them a large underground following across the nation.

Founded in 1994 by four young members of a church worship team, the band was a spin-off of a high school talent contest, which, interestingly enough, they lost to an Elvis impersonator. In fact, the name of the band materialized during a last-minute realization that their contest entry had to have a title.

The name Spooky Tuesday actually came from dialogue heard on a corny Saturday afternoon science fiction theatre production.



The band plays progressive modern rock with lyrics that reflect on the realities facing young people entering the next century.

With their range of tunes from energetic rock to songs of worship, Spooky Tuesday provides music lovers original sounds as well as a healthy dose of spiritual integrity.

Never a band to back away from tough issues, their work tackles problems that kids approaching the new millennium are very aware of: drug use, incest, suicide, and self-centeredness, to name a few. They

make no apologies for their faith, and even their darkest songs point to the hope proclaimed in the Christian message.

The band entered the charts for the first time in 1996 with their debut "It'll Never Fly Oriville." They were still in high school at the time, but since then they have been slowly and steadily building a following across the country.

The band is comprised of four committed Christians: Jessica, Kevin, Justin and Andrew.

Jessica is the lead singer and lead guitarist. She gives Spooky Tuesday much of its unique sound. Recently married to Kevin, the band's drummer, Jessica strives to model the life of a Godly woman.

Kevin is not only the band's drummer, but a computer whiz as well. He brings to the band a deep spiritually searching mind.

At age 22, Justin is the oldest band member. He plays bass and handles the band's graphic design and public relations. The son of a youth pastor, Justin understands the need and dynamics of his home church.

Andrew plays guitar and also helps out with vocals. He is often the creative voice behind the band's lyrics. His honest admissions of failure and struggle mixed with the joy of God's faithfulness show the mark of genuine faith.

Now, with the band's second project "Happy Dissonance" on the shelves, Spooky Tuesday has decided to spend their time touring the world and, perhaps, making a stop one spooky Tuesday night at Western Texas College.

Founded in 1994 by four young members of a church worship team, the band was a spin-off of a high school talent contest.

A Passion for Teaching

Dr. Ed Barkowsky Reflects on almost 30 Years at WTC

--Candace Meares

Western Texas College is well-known around these parts for many reasons. A winning rodeo team and a widely known GLT program are two factors that make WTC stand out. But there is also a certain English teacher known far and wide in these parts for his skill as well as his witty nature. He is a walking advertisement for a quality education. In case you are still wondering about this "mystery teacher," wonder no more. It is Dr. Edward Barkowsky.

Barkowsky was born in Lamesa, Texas to a farming family when, as he puts it, "dinosaurs still walked the earth." He lived about 12 miles south of Lamesa in a small farming community called Flowergrove, where he went to school and eventually graduated as Valedictorian of a class of 18. If you are wondering where Flowergrove is, Barkowsky explains that it is no longer a community, and that the school eventually consolidated with Klondike ISD.

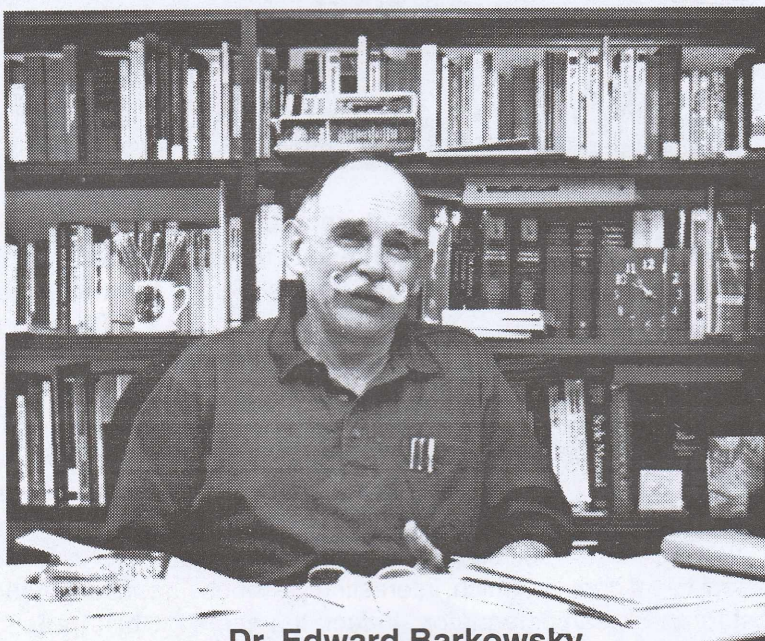
From Flowergrove, Barkowsky went on to Texas Tech University, where he wasn't quite sure what he wanted to major in. "I knew exactly what I wanted to do," protests Barkowsky, "I only changed my major four times! I started out as an electrical engineer, then went to education, then English, and then Theology."

When Barkowsky finished his first English degree at Texas Tech, he traveled to Kansas City to try something new. He went to St. Paul's Seminary and, after a year, decided that seminary school wasn't really his calling in life. He returned to Texas Tech to obtain his masters degree in English. It was at Texas Tech that Barkowsky discovered his real love: teaching at the college level. "I taught as a teaching assistant at Texas Tech

the two years I was there. I really liked the idea of teaching at the college level, so, from Texas Tech, I went to South Plains College [in

Texas College. That was in 1971, the year the college opened, and he has been here ever since.

As to why he chose to teach En-



Texan Photo

Dr. Edward Barkowsky

Levelland] and taught two more years. SPC showed me how exciting it could be to teach at a Community College. South Plains is the reason I am teaching English today," explains Barkowsky.

After two years at South Plains, Barkowsky got "itchy feet" and decided to return to school for his doctorate. He chose Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana after receiving a brochure in the mail advertising it as "the teacher's college." He taught at Ball State for two years and, after a case of the homesick blues set in, committed the ultimate crime.

"I did something I swore I would never do; I came back to West Texas," he says. After a successful interview with the then president of the college, Dr. Robert Clinton, Barkowsky found him self calling Snyder home and teaching English at a brand new school: Western

English, Barkowsky replies instantly with a smile that peers from beneath that infamous handlebar mustache. "It's a truly subjective answer," he explains, "I liked it." He illustrates how an extreme love of books and reading helped him choose his field.

"I got to Texas Tech and took my second semester literature class and just absolutely loved it. In that class we read Greek literature, about half of the *Canterbury Tales*, six plays by Shakespeare, and then *Paradise Lost*. I just could not believe that I was getting college credit for reading all this stuff that I always wanted to read," Barkowsky says. "That's really the reason I started liking English class. I think English is one of the most important things that students can take because it helps with their communication skills, their analytical skills, their thinking skills, their

communication skills, their analytical skills, their thinking skills, their expressive skills, and their composition skills."

At WTC, Barkowsky teaches Composition 1 and 2 as well as literature classes. His favorite class to teach? "World Literature," he says without hesitation. "It is the most exciting course I have taught recently." He says that he would also love to teach a few Ethics classes on campus, but cannot seem to find the time to do so. "There is such a great need today for Ethics classes. I really wish I could fit them into my schedule."

Barkowsky chairs the admissions committee at WTC and says candidly that he has probably served on just about every committee on campus at one time or another.

Getting back to the more personal side of Dr. B, he is married to Judy Barkowsky, a third grade teacher at Central Elementary here in Snyder. They met at Texas Tech in late 1963 and married on May 31, 1964 - the day after he graduated. He has two grown daughters. Lisa is a "recovering" lawyer who resides in Manhattan with her husband, Greg, and son, Connor. Holly lives in Ransom Canyon and works in her husband, Bart's, family business.

When asked about his famous "Monopoly Man" mustache, Barkowsky explains that he has been wearing it since way back in his hippie days at Ball State. "Back then hairy faces were in," he quips. "One day I noticed that it was curling on one side and I said lets see how it looks with the other side curled. I just haven't had the courage to cut it off since.

He also explains that wearing his mustache is somewhat an honorary gesture. "My granddad Barkowsky had one; it's kind of in honor of him." "You never know," he says. "The handlebar mustache is either going to bring to mind the villain or the jolly grandpa type." When

When asked about his famous "Monopoly Man" mustache, Barkowsky explains that he has been wearing it since way back in his hippie days at Ball State.

asked which he is going for, he gladly answers "the jolly grandpa type."

Being an English teacher, you would expect Dr. Barkowsky to have a favorite book, one he would recommend to anyone. This isn't the case. He explains that his tastes are changing constantly and that truly impacts what he likes to read.

A book that he has read over the past year and would highly recommend is *Citizen Soldiers* by Stephen Ambrose. "It's a book about ordinary people who came out of jobs, off the farms, out of college, out of all walks of life and fought World War II in Europe. It was, interestingly enough, the source for *Saving Private Ryan*," Barkowsky adds.

How does Dr. Barkowsky relax? With a little wood carving and pen-making. He saw a television show once in which a man was carving a Santa Claus out of a block of wood and decided he could do that. So he went and bought a few tools and some wood and now has 14 Santa Clauses to make before Christmas. The pen-making started as a creative idea for graduation gifts, but soon people started noticing them and wanting to buy them. Now, in the evenings after school, he goes into the "six foot" area his wife allows him in the garage and works on his profit-making hobbies.

World War II is something that Barkowsky is extremely passionate about. "It started out as just a fascination with the Pacific War. I couldn't understand how people could do the things they did," Barkowsky explains. "I discovered

that a good friend of mine living two doors down the street was a tank commander in World War II. A week before the war was over, he crossed the Rhine River and was fighting in Germany when his tank was finally hit. People like this are heroes. It is an honor to live down the street from a hero." Barkowsky has brought this passion onto campus. On December 7, 1991, the fiftieth anniversary of Pearl Harbor, he invited people who were in the war to campus for a panel discussion on World War II. The panel included four men in Scurry County who were survivors of Pearl Harbor. Barkowsky once again emphasizes, "People like this are heroes."

This past summer Barkowsky decided not to teach summer school for the first time in over twenty years. Instead, he traveled to Europe with his wife, daughters, and son-in-laws. He and his wife received tickets to fly to England for their anniversary last year and decided to turn their anniversary getaway into a family trip, which they planned entirely themselves.

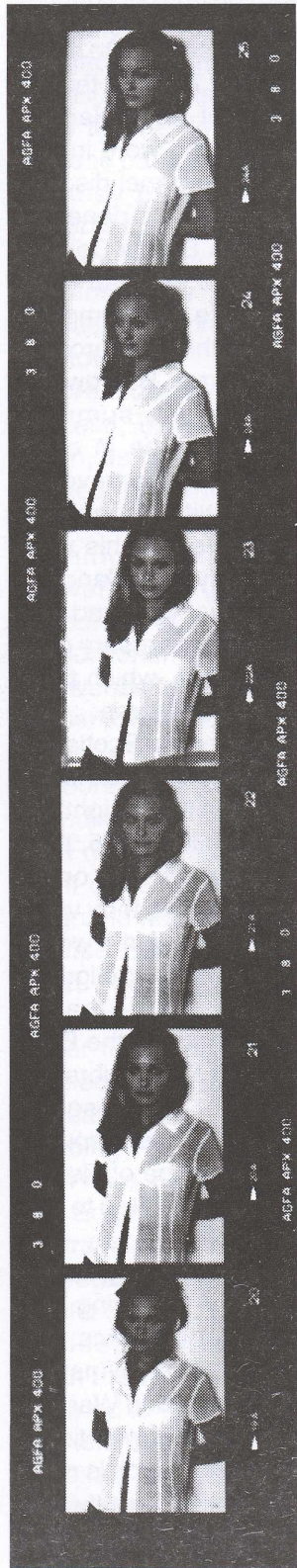
They spent a week in Scotland, visiting Edinburg and Inverness, and also spent a "splurge night" in a Scottish castle built in 1435, that Mary Queen of Scots had once escaped from. After that, they ventured to London and spent a week there. "I had to make my pilgrimage," Barkowsky says. "All teachers have to make a trip to the British Museum and the British Library." He saw all sorts of relics, some dating back to the writing of *Beowulf* and Egyptian times. One of his favorite parts of the trip related to his passion for World War II.

"The most touching thing about the trip to London was seeing the War Rooms, the set of rooms under the building where Winston Churchill conducted World War II," notes Barkowsky. He also mentions that one of the rooms, which is now set up as a museum, is exactly the way the inhabitants left it when they

[continued on page 14]

Stormy Clark

MODEL MATERIAL TO . . .



Photos by Clipse Model Management
Dallas Texas

MODEL MOM

--Chelsie Blrks

Walking through the front door of her house, Stormy Clark quietly tiptoes into her living room to find her six-month-old son asleep in his swing. Moments later the infant awakes, startled. Leaning down to comfort little Reese, Stormy comments, "He's a joy I'm glad I didn't miss out on."

Sadly enough, many young girls don't have quite the fairy-tale story that Stormy has had. The first fear of "Oh I'm pregnant" terrifies them, causing them to cut their story short. The issue of 1973, Roe vs Wade has brought about one of the greatest subjects of taboo in history. The inability of society to decipher between the right of the mother and the right of the baby has led to the death of 35 million innocents. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, only 7% of all abortions occur because of rape, incest, health of the baby, or threat to the health or life of the mother, while a horrifying 93% occur because of health or "birth control" reasons.

When the reality of abortion is revealed, the stated 4,000 abortions that occur daily become even more frightening. NCHS recently reported that the teen birth rate is at its lowest point in 60 years. Such news doesn't necessarily mean that it is time for party hats and balloons. The Center announced that for every 1,000 girls age 15-19, only 49.6 births occurred in 1999. In reality is there a real reason for celebration? Not when the birth rate is decreasing while the abortion rate is increasing. The reality is that the while the teen birth rate is down, the teen pregnancy rate may very well be up, but since abortion is often used as a means of contracep-

tion, the figures are difficult to decipher.

Although first, second, and third trimester abortions are occurring at untabulated rates, there is a small percentage of girls who choose to go against society. The story of a courageous Snyder resident who chose to go against the average and say yes to a life society would have told her to deny, will not only touch hearts but also, hopefully, save lives.

Always looked at as a model by friends and family, Stormy Clark decided to take her mother's advice and go for it. At the age of 14, Stormy went to Model Search America and captured the eyes of several agencies. She explained that she really wanted to choose the right one.

"After careful thought, I decided to go with Cclipse Modeling Agency in Dallas." It wasn't long before Stormy's natural ability to pose began to bring her out of the woodworks. Stormy said that the offers were flattering, but modeling was not her top priority. "Although modeling is important to me, my education will provide a better future."

I'm not proud of my decision to be sexually active; it wasn't worth it, but my faults were not Reese's fault.

Stormy's life changed drastically when August of 1999 brought to life a nightmare she prayed would never come true. "It was August 26th, 1999, and when I looked at the pregnancy test, I just started crying," Clark shared. With her young age, all the pressures, and



the fears of what her parents would think, Clark said that, unfortunately, abortion was the first thing to come to her mind, "I didn't want to get an abortion, but I thought it was my only outlet."

Stormy saw a brighter horizon the day her dad took her out to find out what was wrong. She explained that the love and support of her parents made all the difference in the world. "They were great! I never would have considered abortion if I had known they would be so supportive."

As Stormy's pregnancy progressed, she began to work harder on her school and studies. She made it clear that she was not about to let her pregnancy pull her down. "School was a big part of my future plans, and I wasn't going to let my being pregnant change that". This statement literally rang true for her when she received a phone call asking her to model.

The phone call Stormy received that day is what sets her story apart from any other. At 4 months pregnant, Stormy was asked to model for Beadini hair accessories, making a mere \$ 125.00 an hour. Stormy left her mark on Beadini's

covers and is now seen with her product in almost any Dillard's Department store.

Clark commented that this opportunity verified to her that she had made the right decision to continue her pregnancy, "It was just a God thing, and I believe He blessed me with Beadini for being faithful to Him."

Shortly thereafter, Stormy went from model mania to model mom. She gave birth to her son Reese in April of 2000. Stormy explained that being a mom is difficult at times, but she is so thankful to have supportive parents.

"With my parents having their own business, Mom can keep Reese during the day and work

at night, thank goodness!" Stormy shared that it is honestly very stressful at times to go from mom to student back to mom, but she would not have it any other way. "I can't imagine life without Reese. He has changed me so much; he makes every stressful day worth it."

Today, at 16, Stormy is working her way through her junior year at Snyder High School, playing mom, and making plans to model in the future. Though she wants to continue to model, it is not that important to her right now.

"I do want to model again, perhaps on weekends and in the summer, but I don't want to sacrifice school or my time with Reese."

Even though the runway may

not be in Clark's immediate future, she is definitely strutting her stuff as a role model for her fellow students at Snyder High School. She has become very outspoken about saying "no" to sex but "yes" to an innocent life.

"I'm not proud of my decision to be sexually active," she says "It wasn't worth it, but my faults were not Reese's faults". Stormy explains that she tells everyone she can to stay away from sex, but that if it is to late, they can do what she did.

"If I can do it, you can do it. Don't take the life of a baby that is nothing short of a God-given miracle that could change your life. It did mine."

was good for Raul because he wanted to associate with more English-speaking people. "He didn't learn much English in the oilfield because he worked with people who were from Mexico."

She said her husband made a lot of friends just by talking to people. "It was a way for him to learn new words, make sentences and have conversations."

The cut in pay was tough for the family, but they saw him through. "It was a long struggle for us as a family," Sandra said. "We were bringing in 70 percent less income. It was a big cut, but we knew it was going to be that way."

The sacrifice was difficult. "The hardest thing for me as not just the wife but as the mother was to say no to them when my children asked for something," Sandra said. "But

really what we are doing is trying to prepare ourselves, so we can give them a future."

The couple has four children: Kenny, 14; Omar, 12; Alex, 8; and Elisa, 4. The boys are bilingual. "It helps them," Sandra said. "Spanish was the only language they knew when they started school. That was the only way that they would be able to keep their main language which was Spanish."

The journey has not been easy for the Alcala family. Raul said that he still gets nervous sometimes speaking English, but he is grateful for what he has accomplished and for all of those who have helped him along the way.

"I give credit to the Scurry County Library, for letting me go there. The whole community was helping me. If it wasn't for the com-

munity, I would have given up.

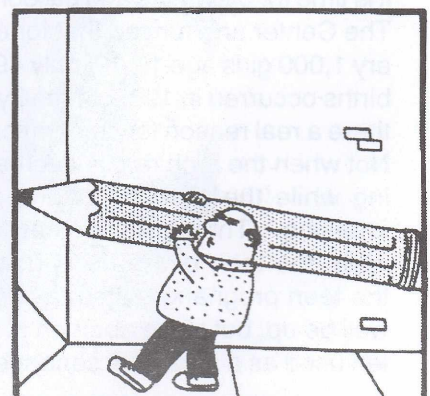
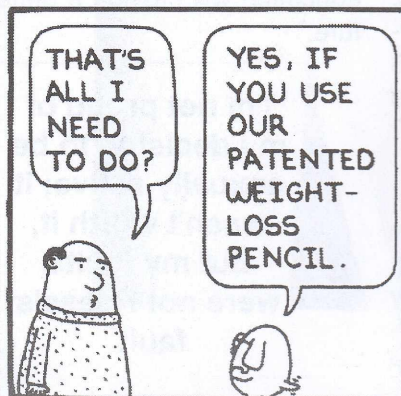
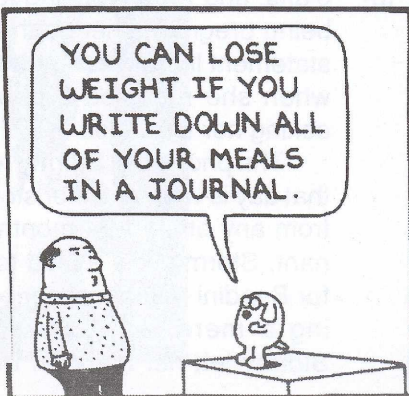
Every contact I make is like a class," he said. "The degree that I have doesn't belong just to me. I have it because God showed me the way to go."

recommend it to anyone.

When asked what his greatest achievement thus far in life is, Barkowsky clams up for just a second and then lets out a slight chuckle and smiles. "Being a good teacher," he states. "I don't want to be called a professor or a doctor; anyone can get their doctorate. I just want to be remembered as a good teacher."

Everyone here on the WTC campus knows, there will be no problem remembering that.

DILBERT®
by Scott Adams





Coyote Ugly nothing like previews

Coyotes are not only those pesky animals that run in front of you while you're driving down Roundtop Road. There is a new meaning, originated in a bar made into a movie entitle "Coyote Ugly."

It's a sappy love story about a girl growing up in nowheresville who winds up in the big city trying to make is as a song writer.

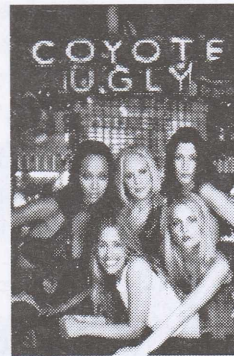
I was first motivated to see this because of the previews of all the

bar scenes and somewhat explicit material, but the actual movie is nothing like the previews. The only bar scenes in the actual movie were only those that were previewed, to my disappointment.

Other than this I would have to rate it one and one-half thumbs up. It's a sappy love story about a girl growing up in nowheresville who winds up in the big city trying to make is as a song writer.

The only way for her work to be heard is for her to perform. But of course the movie would not be a movie if she had no problems, so she has stage fright. Then she gets a job at a bar that

treats everyone like road-kill. Much of the action and adventure happens in the bar. This is also where she learns to sing along with the Karyokee machine and eventually gets over her stage fright.



So she makes it big like all her friends thought she would and it ends with a sappy reunion at the bar with Lyeen Rimes singing her music, which was her dream, having someone

famous sing her music.

In the end, it is a good chick flick to take a girl out and see or rent. It has its comical scenes as well as its tear jerking moments.

envelope, and mine was on it."

Markham then got a reprieve from his newfound military life when he was sent home on leave. He had thirty days to spend time with his family. He had three brothers and one sister. All three of his brothers were in the military. His older brother Terry was also going to Vietnam, but they would all be separated, and time was important.

After this short leave, Larry made the trip up to Seattle Washington for overseas and jungle warfare training. From here he flew to Camron Bay, Vietnam. For a kid who had never been more than five hundred miles from home in his whole life, this was a bit overwhelming, to say the least.

The 365 days Larry spent in Vietnam were not the fun days he had planned on. "It rained all of the time. It would rain so hard that you couldn't see three feet in front of you," said Markham. "It was always humid from the rain, so it would be 120 degrees outside. And in jungle gear that weighed at least 50 pounds, that is not the best thing."

After the 365th day in Vietnam, probably the longest year of his life, Larry was on his way home. Even today he can remember the date that he arrived back in the United States. "It was December 7, 1971. It was like I was

going to have five Christmas's in a row. I'm sure any 19 year old would agree." Soon after he arrived, Larry left the army, after two years of service.

Today Larry lives in Rotan with his wife Jan, son Daniel, and niece Sarah. He is now a self-employed metal roof/carpentry worker, and is very successful.

Even today when he is out in the hundred degree weather on top of a roof or working on a house, he thinks back to Vietnam. "I wouldn't go back even if I had to spend my whole life working out here. It might be hot, but it is worth it to be home."

After the longest year of his life, Larry was on his way home.

Don't Miss WTC's Christmas Productions...



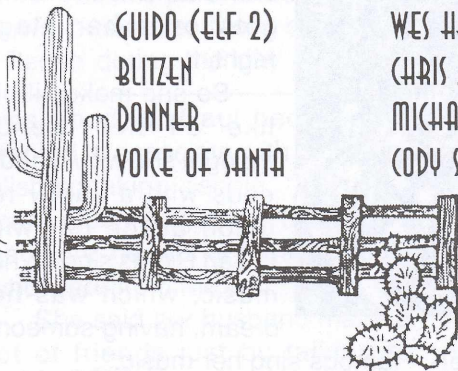
Rudolf: The Day After

by Marcel Nunis

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: ANGELOCIEL CASTELAN

DIRECTOR: KRIS HOLLIS

RUDOLF	TREY SHIRLEY
VERN	THOMAS LOWERY
SHEILA	AMBER ATKINSON
MORTY(ELF 1)	JUSTIN GUY
GUIDO (ELF 2)	WES HARDIN
BLITZEN	CHRIS JONES
DONNER	MICHAEL RASCO
VOICE OF SANTA	CODY SLATTON



Christmas Crisis At Mistletoe Mesa

by Eugene Jackson

DIRECTOR: ANGELOCIEL CASTELAN

THE BULLY	CODY SLATTON
TINY KIM	DEIDRE WEST
HAPPY HOLIDAY	CHRIS JONES
EBENEZER GRUNCH	KRIS HOLLIS
MAMA GRUNCH	DAMON EARLY
MARY CHRISTMAS	ANGELA SYDALL
CHIEF DASHING-THROUGH-SNOW	CODY SLATTON
PROSPECTOR	JUSTIN GUY
HOLLY BUSH	AMBER ATKINSON
SANTA	CODY SLATTON

PERFORMANCES NOVEMBER 16-19

Duo Guitarra

In Concert

Featuring

James Bogle Uros Dojcinovic

7:30 p.m.

November 9, 2000

Fine Arts Theatre

Free Admission



Western Texas College began classes in the fall of 1971. WTC is a two-year community college located in Snyder, Texas. - a small but progressive city with a population of approximately 13,000. Snyder is located in the region of West Texas known as the Big Country - sitting approximately 80 miles from such larger Texas cities as Lubbock, Abilene, Midland, or San Angelo and some 300 miles from the major Texas metroplexes of Dallas-Fort Worth and Austin.

WTC's average enrollment ranges from 1200 to 1300 students per semester. As a campus, it offers the full range of college life.

There's another aspect of WTC worth noting. The campus size, location and the general makeup of the student body has created a safe campus atmosphere.



Student Activities Include:
 Men's and Women's Rodeo
 Men's and Women's Meats Judging
 Drama Productions
 Student Government Association
 Phi Theta Kappa
 Campus News and Literary Magazines

Campus Features Include:
 11 Internet-linked Computer Labs
 All Dorm Rooms Wired for Internet
 Dormitory/Dining Hall
 Distance Learning Classrooms
 Computerized Learning Resource Center
 Student Center/Game Room
 9-hole Golf Course/Driving Range
 NCAA Size Swimming Pool
 Racquetball Courts
 Gymnasium/Weight Room
 Bookstore
 Fine Arts Theatre
 Art Gallery
 Local Museum
 Wild Flower Area



Please send me more information about WTC

Name _____

Year of High School Graduation _____

Street Address _____

City State Zip _____

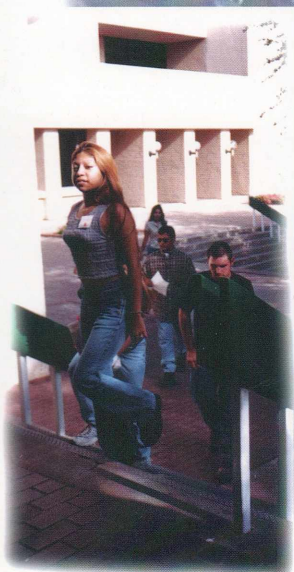
Home Phone _____

School Currently Attending _____

I would like information on:

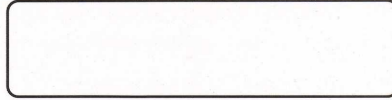
- Tuition and Fees
- Financial Aid
- Disability Accomodation
- Other
- Please Send Me a Catalog

List Up to Three Areas of Interest at WTC



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Snyder, Tx. 79549

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Western Texas College
6200 S. College Ave.
Snyder, Tx. 79549



**NO POSTAGE
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