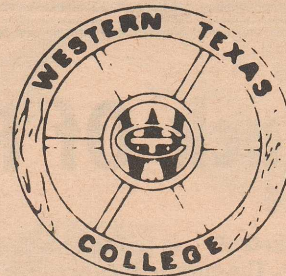


# The WESTERN TEXAN



Volume 3, Issue 7

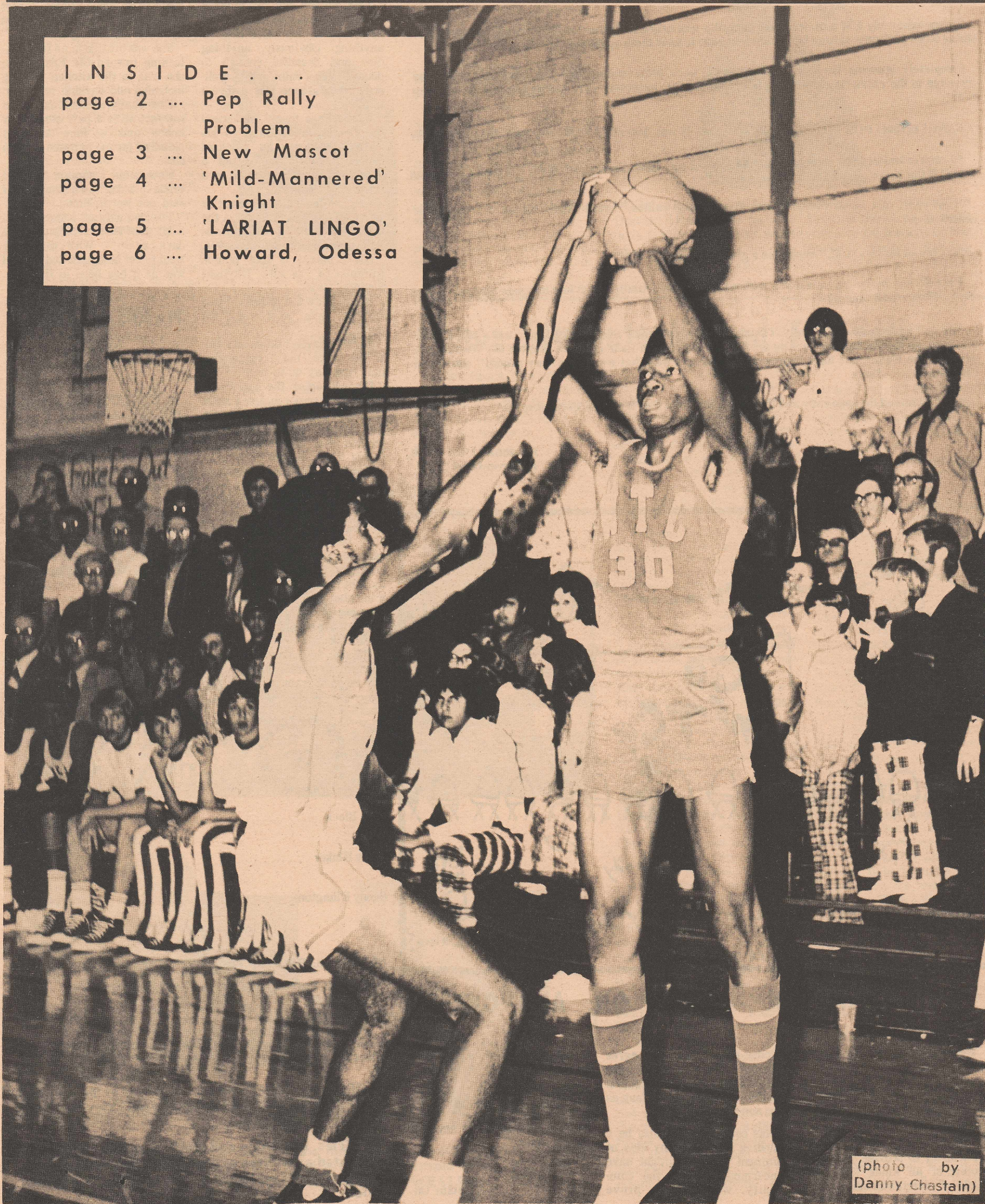
Western Texas College

Snyder, Texas 79549

Friday, February 1, 1974

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Problem
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Knight
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- page 6 ... Howard, Odessa



(photo by  
Danny Chastain)



# Lack Of Pep, Lots Of Pshaw!

..Basketball is here whether you like it or not!!—so are the cheerleaders, students, and pep rallies. The question has arrived: where in the hell is the spirit??

..“I’m embarrassed!” claimed Cheerleader Paula Bell after the January 24 pep rally which was blown away by the WTC student body. “The basketball players were just sitting down and staring at the ceiling!”

..At approximately 9:30 a.m. when the pep rally was called to “attention,” basketball players were sitting down patiently waiting for the student body to back them up for the Odessa game.

..Completely ignoring the pep rally, students were promenading into the Student Center and traveling to the cafeteria, bookstore, television lounge, bathroom—everywhere except to the pep rally!

..BANG! BOOM! POW!! The pep rally was over. It was described as the pep rally that didn't pep.

..Of approximately 900 students, only 20 showed up! How about that? Well, it's nothing to brag about! If this keeps up, what will become of WTC??

..“Last year, just about everyone came to the pep rallies,” cried Cindy Jenkins a second-year cheerleader.

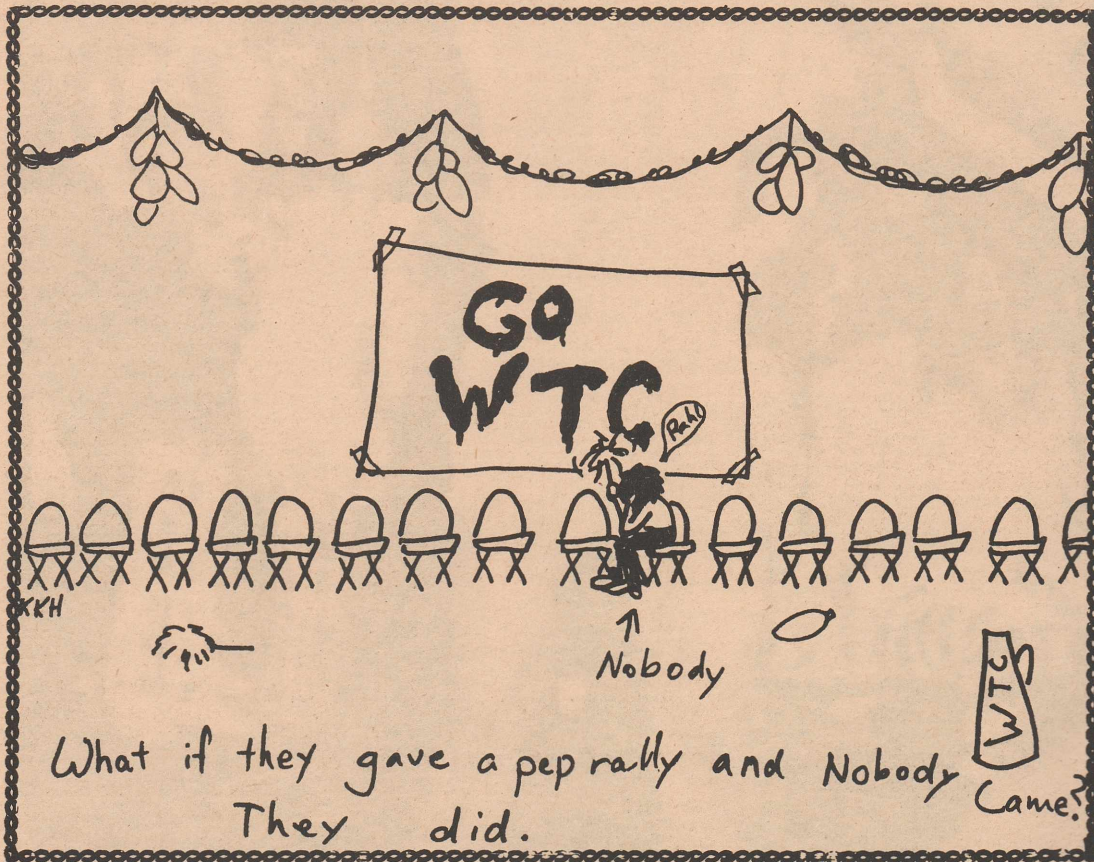
..“It's junior highish stuff,” explained a group of students.

..Face it! Any ballteam cannot win without spirit! Incidentally, WTC lost its game against Odessa 80-88. Whose fault was it?

..“We will have another pep rally. I think everyone (students and faculty) could use a touch of enthusiasm. Both students and faculty need to get together in their effort to support the Westerners. After all, the Westerners have represented WTC in a way that we can be very proud!” concluded Cheerleader Dunn.

..Let's all attend that pep rally and the games and show that WTC has 'got that spirit!

Freshman Pam Block,  
Editor-in-Chief



## RAMBLIN' ON --- AND ON, AND ON!

by David Dean

Welcome to a new semester at WTC!

I hope that this will be a good semester for everyone. This is a new column, and I hope you will enjoy it.

I will try to provide you with review of all kinds from the world of entertainment.

Some people may not agree with my view point and some will, but any kind of reaction would be appreciated, as long as it is non-physical!

This columnist will also be a sounding board for any idea or comment anyone might have concerning WTC or the community, which might prove

beneficial to the student body or faculty at WTC.

I hope that in the future this column will be longer, but I didn't have much to say this time around...

Ramblin' On

## DST No Dog's Delight!

by Bob Burton

The circulation Manager was in here a while ago and did something strange: he calmly but distinctly said, “Darn.”

I was shocked. Hearing him make a noise above a grunt was a rarity in itself—but profanity!

This person was never upset by anything before because he never paid any attention to anything. Obviously, anything dire and dreadful enough to disrupt his calm and well-ordered existence was a threat to all.

In response to my concerned questioning, he pointed to his watch and gave an eloquent grunt. Then he pulled out a handful of hair, deposited it on a table, and departed.

I feared for his sanity until he returned and put the hair in the trash. His native preciseness is still present—he will recover.

His problem is that plague common to us all— Daylight Savings Time.

We all know the pitfalls of this troubled time, so I won't list them.

Sofar, I haven't fallen into any of the traps, but I remember that first day quite well.

During winter, the dog sleeps in the service porch and I must let her out each morning. On that fateful day, I opened the kitchen door and found myself facing flying fangs.

How I got atop the refrigerator I don't know, but there I was. Below me was dumbfounded dog.

“Boss!” thought the dog (We have been together for twelve years and have reached a good level of understanding). “I thought it was still night and that a burglar was about.” Did you ever see a dog blush?

I got down and opened the outside door.

The dog started out with head and tail up and ears forward. She stopped when she saw the

darkness and everything drooped while she considered. Then she came inside and curled into her box. “If you're up early it's no concern of mine,” spoke the eyes above the tail over the nose.

Later, as I listened to the radio, her ears suddenly shot straight up. “The sun is always up when that program is on!”

She was outside in an instant, looking toward the East. Then she was in the kitchen running incircles and barking furiously.

Eventually, she quit and sat at my feet with a paw across my knees and a face tearfully pleading for me to make the sun rise.

How could I explain the fuel crisis to a dog? In desperation I said one word: Nixon.

The dog calmed instantly and said, “Oh! He's keeping us in the dark again!” With that, she went to her box, satisfied that all was as it has been in the past.

## Heatavision?

## Ask Nixon!

If Nixon is going to stay in office, we may as well get some use out of him, but electricians will have to work fast to convert all TVs to heatavisions.

Heatavisions? Yes, send heat via radio waves the same way light and sound are now broadcast.

Then have Nixon make a speech each night and broadcast the hot air into homes all of the nation. Think of it! Heat, light, and comedy from one source! You could even cook on top of the TV!

Would we have smellavision installed at the same time? Mercy sakes alive, no! At least not until after January, 1977—except if HHH is elected.



## WESTERN TEXAN

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Barry Rinker ..... Assistant Editor

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Opinions expressed are those of the staff and do not necessarily reflect the views of the administration of Western Texas College.

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# 'Pee Wee' New WTC Mascot

by Pam Block

"It gives me a chance to go to the game and be right down with the players. It's easier to get involved in the game that way."

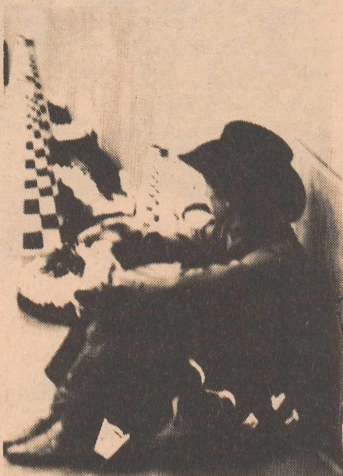
Effective at the beginning of the spring semester, freshman Donald (Pee Wee) Sellars became the second Western mascot at WTC.

Pee Wee, who replaced Leonard Cotton who decided not to attend WTC this semester, is a graduate of Ira High School. He held sundry honors which included sophomore and senior class favorite, agriculture officer for three years, best all-around student in his junior year, several UIL awards, and class officer all four years.

Asked what responsibilities the 19-year-old obtains as being the 1974 mascot, he explained, "Mainly to arouse spirit. I don't perform at pep rallies; I just hollar alot. Speaking of pep

rallies, I think ours are a let-down to the players. We need more student participation in them and also at the games. We need to develop some real spirit around here!"

Currently a member of the Rodeo Club and Los Vaqueros, Pee Wee enjoys attending WTC because "of the friendly atmosphere. Here you're not just a number like in larger schools."



Majoring in Animal Nutrition, our mascot sometimes gets embarrassed because he gets all wrapped up in a game pretty easily. "When this happens I'm afraid I'll do something wrong or say something that I shouldn't!"

"Being the mascot is quite a bit of fun. Of course, I get laughed at and I get some wisecracks, but I get them

anyway. It doesn't bother me. It's all in fun."

If you ever feel like poking some wisecracks at someone who can take it, you may go to Mrs. Baird's office, the playroom, or chemistry lab where Pee Wee Sellars usually hangs around.

## Webbed World

Wondering about those spider web strands that were all over campus last semester?

They were made by young spiders taking their first steps into the world.

When the spiders grow large enough to be on their own, they leave home by spinning a strand into the air and letting the wind carry it away with the little arachnid hanging on.

These strands are not only encountered at eye level but also several miles above the earth



**LOOK OUT!**—By the expression of Freshman Donald (Pee Wee) Sellars' face, it looks as though he is trying to tell the Westerners to be aware of the opposite team. Sellars is the new mascot for the 1974 spring semester. (photo by Danny Chastain)

## Honor Students Named For Fall

Dr. Ben Brock, vice president, had named the students qualifying for the President's List, Dean's List, and Merit List for the fall semester.

To be eligible for the President's List, students must make no grade lower than A (4.0 grade point average) in at least 15 semester hours of courses, exclusive of physical education.

Students on the President's List are Leola Anderson and James Beavers of Colorado City, Bobby Cobb of Haskell, Charlesa Kingston and Richard Osborne of Roscoe, Cherita Dossey of Rotan, Durt Schertner of Wilson, and E. H. Dever, Jr., Susan Ferrell, Kathleen Genuchi, Charles Kraatz, Philip Loyd, June Brewer McCormick, Debra Rogers, Kyle Smith, and Clay Sullivan, all of Snyder.

The Dean's List is composed of students who earn a grade point average of 3.5 or more in at least 12 semester hours of work, exclusive of Physical education.

Students on the Dean's List are Glen Altman, Patty Collier, Susan Giusto, Deborah Sharp, and Andrew Stephan of Abilene; Jay Cromeens of Anson; Courtney Ballard, Johnny Hedges, and Mark McCraney of Big Spring; Sonny Edwards, Pat Fuller, Kenneth Golden, Charles Miles, and Susan Scott of Colorado City; Hohnn Grossett of El Paso.

Susan Mueller of Hamlin; Starla Vinson of Hawley; Charles L. Bridges, Randy Gillum, Robbie Guinn and Charles Kuss of Hermeligh; Rollie Cantu and Charles Vest of Hobbs; Eddie Nettles, Mary Ray, and Janie Roddy of Ira; Melissa Weaver of Melvin; Debbie Winters of Midkiff; Brenda Guthrie of Mountainair, N. M.

Kyle Howard of Odessa; Steve Oualline of Olney; Johnny Wallace of Post, Riley Waldrop of Robert Lee; Terry Posey of Roby; George Brazil, Donald Garrett, and Larry Ratliff of Roscoe; Merri Hammitt and Gary Rackley of Rotan; Nancy Matteson of Spur; Roy D. Boland, Bess Caldwell, Cecil

Guthrie, Billy G. High, Charles McGowen, and Joe Torres of Sweetwater; Carl Mahler of Thoreau, N. M.; Rhonda Schwartz of Winters.

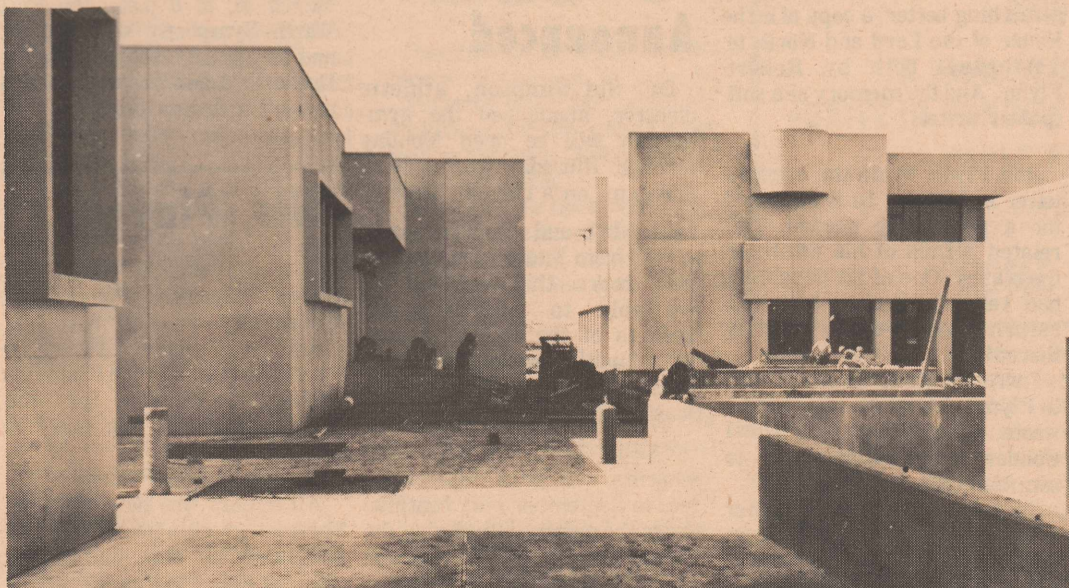
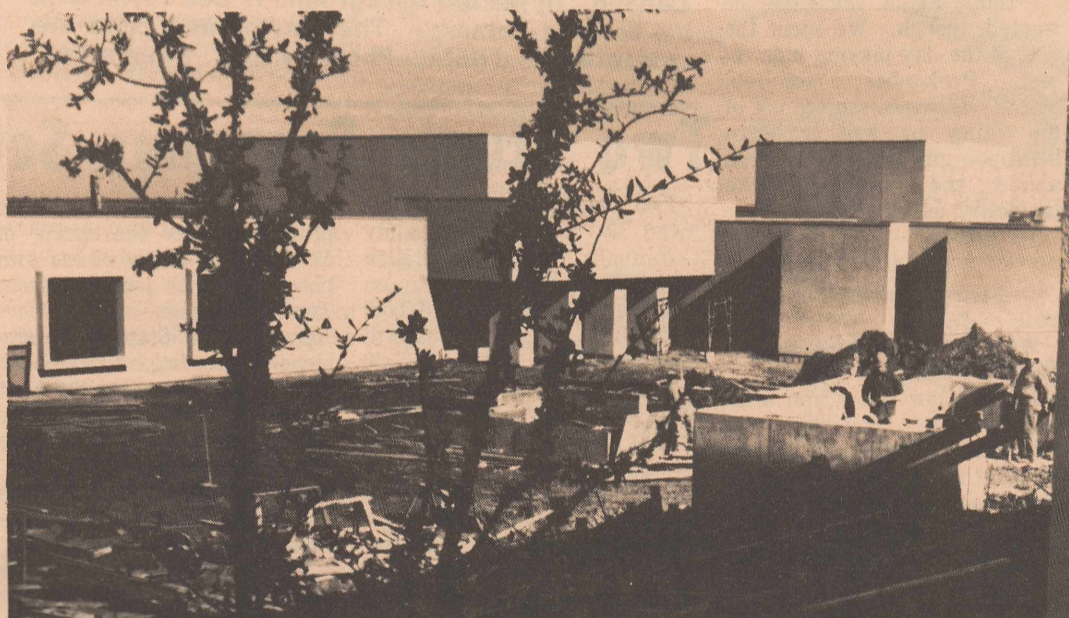
Dianna Almond, Don Altman, Ronald Anderson, Larry Bagwell, Andrea Baker, MARH Jane Bartlett, Bobby Bavousett, E. Wayne Beck, Cary Billingsley, Ronald Boley, Hollye Crenshaw, Larry Cummings, Janice Dickey, Shelia zeades, Benny Ellington, William Erwin, William Fuller, Amalia Garcia, Armando Garcia, Bobby Goodwin, Donna Gray, Julia Griffin, Elaine Hamm, Richard Hanks, Vicki Hinshaw, Loren Hinson, Daniel Howell, David Jennings, Howard L. Hones, and Kevin Hones, all of Snyder.

Also Robert L. Jones, Wallace H. Jones, Patricia Kirby, Peter Kulpaca, Janet Leavell, Robert McFaul, Jimmy Martin, Donna Messimer, Gerald Moore, Brooxie Morgan, James Nix, Donna Orsburn, Teresa Palmer, Robbie Panter, Kenny Patrick, Donna Pemberton, Nina Platt, Becky Rasco, Danny Reynolds, Teresa Scott, Billie Smith, Jerry sullivan, Robert Tuggle, Wayne Turner, Charles Sam Walker, and Richard Mack Walker, all of Snyder.

The Merit List is made up of students who earn a 3.5 grade point average in eight to 12 semester hours exclusive of physical education.

Students on the Merit List are Clayton Black and Rhonda Caffey of Abilene, Addie V. Payne and James Trulock of Colorado City, Maggie Barnes of Hermleigh; Edward P. Brown and Mary Williams of Roscoe; Linda S. Smith of Sweetwater.

Sal Amato, David Baker, David Burkett, Pete Canales, Jerry Day, Marilyn Lancaster, David Loflin, Martha Millhollonn, Wanda Pollard, and Dorothy Taylor, all of Snyder.



**THE WAY WE WERE**—Two views of the inner campus before courtyard construction and walkways were completed are but a sample of a "yesterday-today" photo story planned for an upcoming issue of the WESTERN TEXAN.



# Author In Vietnam 'Mild-Mannered' Knight

By Bill Baldwin

When sitting in the company of story-tellers, most people have a special memory they like to recall. Some are funny, others strange coincidences and a few sad tales that touch the heart.

This is a funny story with a sad ending about a strange man.

It was sometime in January 1971, I walked into the Public Affairs Office of 1st Marine Division, Danang, South Vietnam. There on the diesel-soaked wooden floor of the tin-roofed quonset hut, we called home, sat Robert Flynn.

## A Soft-Spoken Man

Bob Flynn, a civilian reporter I was told, was working on an assignment for True Magazine and had just come in from a training mission on Monkey Mountain, overlooking Danang harbor.

After an introduction, I retreated to my cardboard cubby-hole. The dust and paper pile I called an office had a service window, and I surreptitiously watched Flynn. He methodically laid out the gear he had borrowed from our office, while Bob 'ThermalUpdraft' Hingle kept up a barrage of inanities.

Among the 'snuffies,' we called our office the 'Pubic Affairs Center' because besides putting out official press releases we escorted civilian correspondents. The majority of these being obnoxious, ego maniacs who needed coddling and catering.

Flynn was different. He was quiet and extremely courteous, was soft-spokenly inquisitive, but never pushy.

Flynn was tall, exaggerated by a slender build. Forty-ish, he had thinning blonde hair, a red mustache and wore black horn-rim glasses. His fair, slightly sunken cheeks were set below light-colored eyes. He puffed on Herbert Tareyton cigarettes.

## Old Corps from Korea

That night as I lay in my bunk, I asked 'Thermal' about Flynn. "He's neat," he said. "Updraft" started all conversations this way. He specialized in taperecording Mother's Day messages to home. "You know he's old corps from Korea. He used to be a cannon-cocker. He's not like most of the other correspondents I've taken out." Thermal was still talking as I faded into dreamland. Anyway, I had new material to mull over in my search to figure out Bob Flynn.

I also had a new respect for Flynn. The way the old corps salties talked, it would have taken a Paul Bunyon to make it in the old corps. Still, I had respect for those who had passed this way before me.

A few days went by and I didn't see or hear of Flynn.

Then we got the word from the higher-ups that a big operation was planned for a river island

south of Danang. It was important enough for the captain in charge of the office to go along and two peons besides myself to accompany half a dozen newsmen and photographers. Flynn was among them.

## Mild Knight

We arrived at a bunkered base on a river bank at dusk. We split the group of newsmen up.

The three peons and Flynn went down the river with a squad of Marines to spend the night in a village. The rest of the newsmen and the captain took refuge in the bunker headquarters to get a final briefing on what was to happen the next morning.

After we had settled in for the night, I sat outside next to a hootch with Flynn. He carefully cupped the Herbert Tareyton he puffed on and talked very softly under the neon glow of the moon.

He told me he had written two novels, taught English at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, had two daughters and a wife. He had served in the Marines during the Korean War, but had never gone overseas.

I asked him, foolishly, what he wrote about. He didn't say much. What does anybody say when you ask them what they write about?

It was a very poignant moment for a just-turned-twenty literary aspirant. I was satisfied just to sit and share the company of a mild-mannered knight, who had done battle on the dragon's teeth of words. It was very quiet and the soft glow of the moon made shadows move when they didn't. The next morning we were to make a helicopter assault on an island, with guns and rockets and bombs.

## Scratched Mission

I left Flynn with Don Streetman and John Lamb, 'Drippy' and 'Sheep,' and slipped off to spend the night at a listening post down the river. I was walking on air. To have sat and talked with Flynn was like getting near that greatness that some strive for.

The next morning the mission was scratched. The captain, Drippy and Sheep, with the newsmen returned to Danang. Flynn and I went to a unit working in the Que Son valley about 30 miles south of Danang.

We stopped off on the way at Combat Base Baldy, a main base for operations south of Danang. Flynn wanted to eat in the enlisted men's messhall, a glorified hog trough.

It was a tin-covered hut where you sat for five minutes and picked trash out of some stuff labeled food.

I don't know why Flynn wanted to do that. As a civilian

he was entitled to eat in a nice, clean officers mess. And as his escort I had to accompany him wherever he went. So much for lunch.

## Dodging Fire

We spent the night on a hilltop bunker preparatory to a company sweep operation the next morning.

About midmorning the next day we were sweating our way through a tall cane field in the valley. We took fire from a house and a man was wounded. While waiting for a medevac helicopter to come in and pick up the wounded, a squad moved into position to rush the house.

Flynn loped out to join the squad behind a forward paddy dike. Throwing myself down beside Flynn I asked, "What are you doing?"

"I'm going to rush the house with this squad."

I looked into his expressionless face and said, "Okay." I remember thinking, "You're about as appealing as a public toilet."

As it turned out we didn't rush the house. Helicopter gunships were called in, and we witnessed close-up some of those rockets and bombs we had missed the day before.

I think Flynn got what he wanted, though. We spent the rest of the day playing hide 'n' seek. Peek-a-boo, I see you, blam! We were escorted out of the valley by half a dozen helicopter gunships who hovered above the company like protective angels.

## Flynn Returned Home

We got a late ride on a chopper back to Danang.

I never saw Bob Flynn after that.

I heard from the captain that he spent some time down at the airbase and had then made tracks back to the states.

An article with his byline never appeared in True. I have every issue of True from May to December 1971. I have something better, a copy of *In the House of the Lord and North to Yesterday*, both by Robert Flynn. And the memory of a soft spoken writer.

Bob Flynn wrote the office a letter in March. In it he asked for a picture he needed, and related details of his return to the states. One of his daughters had taken sick soon after his return and died shortly thereafter.

I wrote a letter of condolence to Flynn. I have no idea what I wrote. I received no reply. Now I wonder why I don't try to communicate with him.

Sergio Ortiz, a photographer friend, who paid his dues in Vietnam and is now working for *Paris Match Magazine* told me why a couple of years ago in California.

"William," he said with a masculine hug, "it was great, wasn't it."



CHINA BEACH—An orphanage on the outskirts of Danang. In the left background is Bob Flynn with his back to camera. The Marine and child are unidentified. (USMC Photo by D.K. Streetman)

## Two Scurry Programs Set

Two programs will be sponsored by the Scurry County Community Concert Association during February. At 8 p.m. on Feb. 8, in the High School Auditorium, J.D. Thomas will appear as Mark Twain. At 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 22, the North Texas State University Lab Band will appear in concert at the same place.

Joe David Thomas is a professor of English at Rice University who has been im-

personating Mark Twain in programs since the spring of 1970, mixing a few of his own phrases in with passages from Twain's writings.

North Texas State University pioneered the field of jazz music in college, becoming the first school in the United States to offer a bachelor of music degree with a major in dance band. Since that time, 1947, NTSU's lab bands have attracted international recognition.

Two more programs have been scheduled, also for the High School Auditorium. On March 16, at 8 p.m., the Fort Worth Symphony will appear, and on April 9, at 8 p.m., Cecile Rutherford and Judy Olson will present a drama program.

## Gym Hours Announced

Dr. Sid Simpson, athletic director, announced the gymnasium will be open Monday through Thursday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on a regular basis.

Saturday and Sunday hours will be from 3 to 5 p.m. During these hours, the gym will be available to all full-time students of the college, members of adult physical education classes, faculty members, and Booster Club members.

"Adult physical education students who paid registration fees in September may continue to use the gymnasium during the spring semester." Dr. Simpson said.

The gymnasium will be closed on those nights when the varsity basketball team plays a home game, even though the game is in the coliseum, he concluded.

## 'His Players'

His Players, a theatrical group from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles, Calif., will appear twice on Tuesday, Feb. 5, in the Fine Arts Theater. Hours for the programs are 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

All seniors who have filed for spring graduation will be measured for caps and gowns starting Feb. 1 to Feb. 15. Those who have not filed will not be measured and you are encouraged to file as soon as possible in the administration building.



# 'LARIAT LINGO'

by Carolyn Woolsey

Bill Jamison of Wimberley, John Paul Bastiste of Dallas, and Richard Rodriguez of San Antonio will present a program in song and narration entitled, "What makes a Texan?," from the views of an anglo, a black, and a Mexican-American, Thursday, Feb. 7.

The three Texas natives will conduct an informal preview at 9:30 a.m. in the lounge area of the Student Center and will present a complete program in the Fine Arts Theater at 7:30 Thursday night. There will be no charge and all persons are welcome.

The programs, which are going to ten Texas towns, are being paid for by the Moody Foundation in Galveston and are being sponsored by the Texas Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

Volunteers to serve on the committees of the Union Board are urged to contact Mrs. Mickey Baird. Duties of the Union Board are planning the activities of the Student Center.

Committees to be organized are film, entertainment, lecture, informal courses, coffeehouse, and publicity.

Students interested in helping on any of these activities may go to the office of the director of student activities.

Tickets for the Scurry County Concert Association programs are free for the asking to WTC activity card holders who go to the business office and request tickets in advance. This is one of the bargains covered by student activity cards.

Next program scheduled is Feb. 8, featuring J.D. Thomas as Mark Twain. Program time is 8 p.m. in the High School auditorium.

In an effort to save energy and personal expenses, the office of student activities has developed a program to help students organize daily car pools and week-end trips.

The program, to be called 'Transpo '74', will organize students living along general routes and in certain areas into groups going to and leaving school about the same time every day.

Also, students planning or desiring to take week-end trips may advertise through the activities office for possible rides or passengers traveling to the same town or vicinity.

The students who indicated an interest in car pools during registration should contact Mrs. Mickey Baird, director of student activities. Or anyone interested may check with the activities office in the student center.

Charles Holland, assistant professor of drama, and the drama department are proud to announce that Dinner Theatre comes to WTC!

In its first production, a farce by Arthur L. Lopit will be presented entitled "Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Mamma's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feeling So Sad."

A production guaranteed to bring laughs from everyone, "OH Dad, Poor Dad" will be presented March 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$6 for non-students. Advance reservation is required, and no tickets will be sold at the door.

Members of the cast are: Madame Rospettle, Retha Boyd; Jonathan, Zack Baker; Kosalie, Paula Cox; Commander Raseaboue, Clayton Black; Head Bellboy, Moses Brazil; Bell Boys, Jay Burney, Mark Summer, and David Dean; and Venus Flytraps, Sherry Taylor and Sheretta Trout.

A blood drive will be held in WTC's Student Center lounge area on Feb. 14, sponsored jointly by the Student Senate and the Interclub Council.

Blood Services of Lubbock will be in charge of this drive to give blood to the Lubbock blood bank. Donors will receive letters of credit allowing members of their families to use the amount of blood donated, if needed. Credit is for six months.

Anyone interested in giving blood may get more information from any of the student senators or the president of any of the campus organizations.

Only two requirements for persons giving blood are listed. Donors must weigh at least 110 pounds and never have had either hepatitis or ulcers.

Blood drives are held on college campuses because college students respond well to the need.

Deadline for entering the 1974 games tournament is Feb. 15.

Students may sign up in the activities office for table tennis, pool, or foosball. Entry fee will be 15c per event.

Schedules for the tournaments will be made after all entries are in, and posted in the lobby.

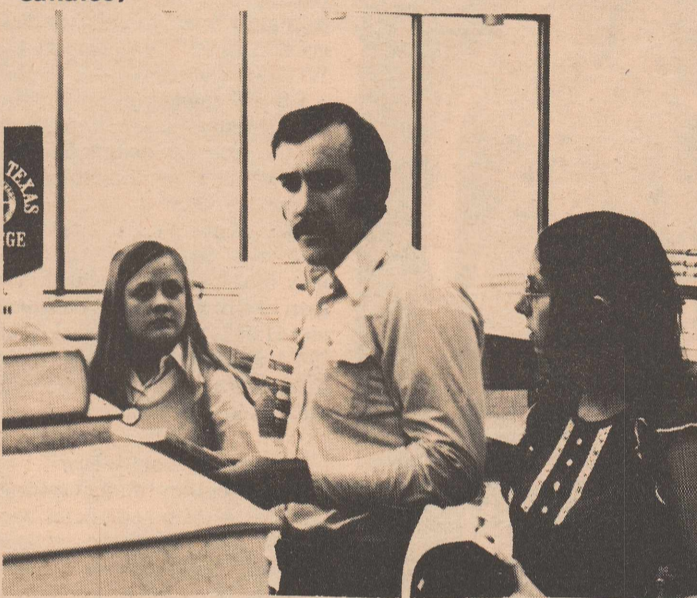
Medals will be awarded to winners.

Students wanting to apply for the new Basic Educational Opportunity Grant Program for the spring semester of 1974 will have until April 1 to apply.

Applications may be obtained from the financial aids office. Basic Grants do not have to be repaid, and are used to cover tuition, fees, room, board, books, supplies, and miscellaneous expenses.



**MINE! NO, MINE!—WTC's Ken Fowler (24) and Odessa's Ernest Jenkins (31) bend over backward for the ball while others stand and stare. (Photo by Pete Canales)**



**ANOTHER CLASS, ANOTHER DOLLAR!—Bill Baldwin contemplates buying textbooks in the college bookstore for spring courses as Kay Dunn and Becky Rasco look on. Registration for the semester closed Tuesday. (Photo by Danny Chastain)**

**ALL IN YOUR STARS—Planetarium Director Mickey Schmidt prepares to present a program on the comet Kohoutek for interested visitors to the campus.**



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3706 College Ave.

The WTC planetarium resumed its Sunday afternoon shows Jan. 20 for the public with a look at the past and present.

Planetarium Director Mickey Schmidt, titled the new show "Comets: Harbingers of Things to Come?"

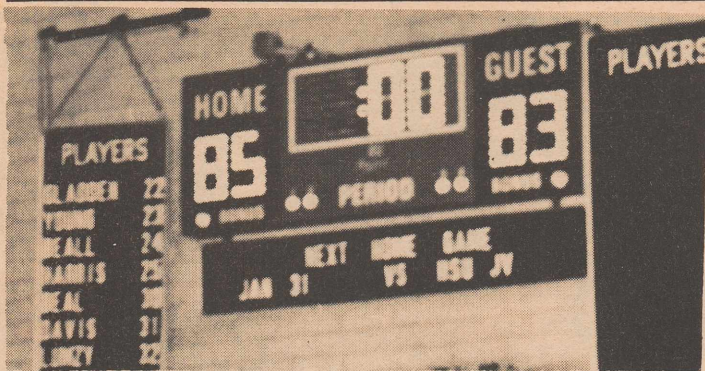
The program began with a discussion of items of current interest, including Jupiter, Mercury, Pioneer 10, Mariner 10, the four Russian space craft now enroute to Mars, and Kohoutek.

*Snyder Sound Center*

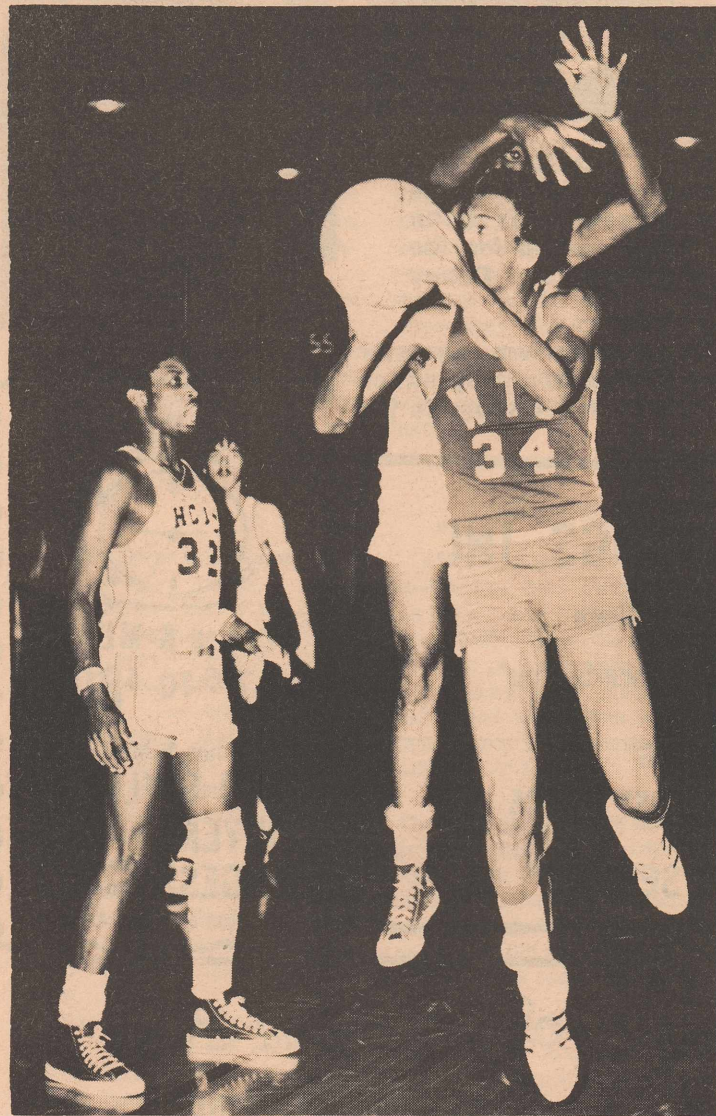
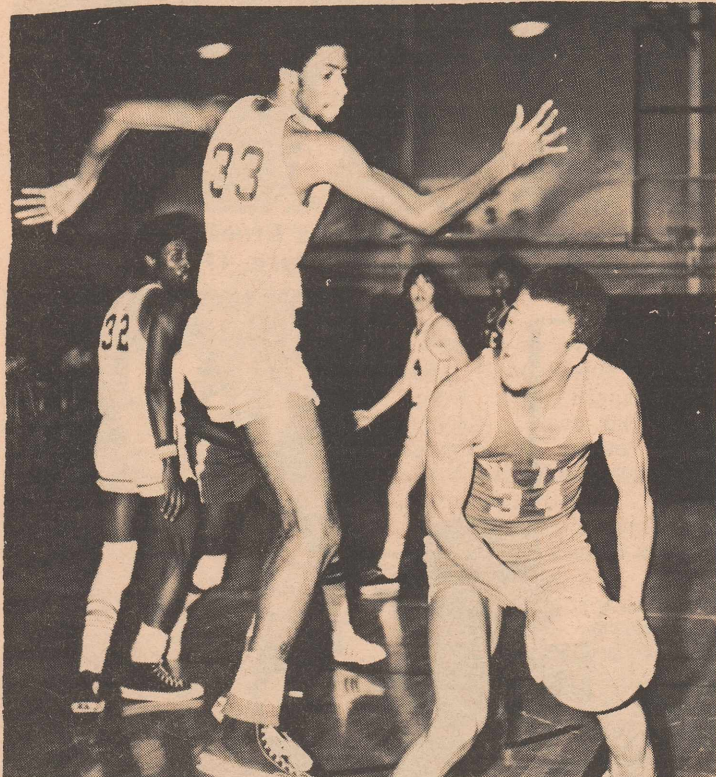
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TELL IT ALL—"Home 85, guest 83" is history now, but memories of the rivalry will long continue." (Photo by Danny Chastain)



'AROUND AND...UP!—WTC's Harold Ward (34), 6-6 sophomore, (top) fakes out a Howard College defender, plants, and (bottom) leaps high for a bucket as Hawks surround the play. HC nipped the Westerners in the highly-contested loop battle. (Photo by Danny Chastain)

# WTC 'Slain' By Hawks, Odessa In Crucial Conference Play

by Benny Ellington

David only faced one Goliath, and two of the biggest armies in history watched.

Last week, the Western Texas Westerners faced two giants and their supporters almost could be counted on one hand or foot, thumbs not included.

Riding ball-hawking rebounding and bucking for recognition, the Westerners tangled with two of the top Juco teams in the nation, and fell two points short of pulling off the upset of the season in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference.

WTC's cagers invaded the nest of the Howard College Hawks Monday in Big Spring. The few Westerner supporters who journeyed to Hawkland, primarily went to see just how great HC is. Few expected a WTC win.

The HC quint is the only junior college squad in the state rated in the top 20 teams in the nation—number 11 with a 24-2 record.

But when the feathers had cleared at the end of regulation play in the old crackerjack box gym in Big Spring, the Westerners and Hawks were deadlocked at 72-72, and the Birds were more than lucky to salvage a tie with the Green and Blue.

### Hawks Win By Two

In the bedlam-filled overtime, the Hawks took a two-point win, 85-83, protecting their national ranking and remaining undefeated in conference action, 7-0.

"The boys were emotionally high for the game," Western's coach Mike Mitchell said following the Hawk clash.

"They haven't been receiving much support in previous games," Mitchell continued, "and they just wanted to beat

Howard County to get recognition and support."

The huge crowd of Howard College boosters seemed to make the breaks in the overtime period favor the host flock.

Again, the fabled home court—big crowd factor, helped win a ball game.

Pulling down a team total of 61 rebounds, the Westerners controlled the boards in the Hawk gym.

"Norman Barnes was just super," said Mitchell, "Grabbing 23 rebounds against a team like Howard College.

### HC Held Below Average

Barnes, a big 6-8 freshman center from Richmond, Va., was a stalwart in immobilizing the explosive hawk attack that was averaging 105 points a tilt. He pitched in 25 points to take runner-up scoring honors behind Danny McDaniel who netted 27.

Playing for recognition, the Westerners raised a few eyebrows with the near upset of the conference leader on the road.

They returned home to the Scurry County Coliseum Thursday night to face one of the two clubs to have beaten the Howard Hawks this year.

Odessa College's Wranglers downed the nationally-ranked Hawks by one point before conference play began in the championship of the Odessa Tournament.

Coming off the thriller in Big Spring, a large throng of supporters was expected for the contest in the coliseum.

Forget it!

The small but vocal group that arrived later to support the visiting Wranglers seemed to ignite the spark that brought Odessa back from a 20-6 deficit to tie the affray in the second

half.

### OC Gains Lead

WTC lead the highly-touted OC squad for 33 minutes, before its followers, often louder than the hometown Westerner fans, cheered it back from 14-points behind into the lead with 6:30 to go in the game.

Playing before a handful of backers, the Westerners did not appear to have the defensive edge they sliced up Howard College with late in the Odessa tussle.

"Odessa was hitting well in the latter part of the game," Mitchell commented, "but a lot of it was due to our broken-down defense."

Odessa won, 88-80, and took a big step toward the regional tourney.

The two giant battles last week left the Westerners with a 13-6 season mark and a league ledger of 4-4.

The Odessa-WTC contest ended the first round of competition in the quest to be a WJCAC representative in the regional tournament.

### Eight Contests Remain

A slate of eight tilts remain on the Westerners' schedule before the regional tourney.

Western Texas College could send a basketball team to the meet for the second year in a row with an outstanding showing during this second round—the home stretch.

But crowd support, the kind that wins overtime battles and brings a team back from a 14-point deficit to win, will be needed.

A large hometown crowd wins ball games—ask the loop-leading, nationally-ranked, number one team in Texas, the Howard Hawks!

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# Conference Recruiting Practices Questioned

by Benny Ellington

The development of the community college approach to higher education has been the most beneficial advancement in career preparation of this century.

Academic study has been taken from bolted, ivy-covered, cold scholar halls and handed to the people.

Technical-Vocational training, in a well-rounded program, has kept pace and actually anticipated personnel needs of today's technical society.

No other education facility fulfills, anticipates and totally meets the needs of its students as sufficiently as the community college.

The reason for this success is the relationship the college enjoys with the community. Through such avenues as the TVO advisory boards and community services courses and continuing education courses, the college checks the employment and education pulse of the community.

### AVERAGE AGE

This intercourse is exemplified by the fact that the average age of a Western Texas College student was 28 during the school's first year of operation.

The dream, drive and disappointment and finally fulfillment that brought WTC to Snyder is a unique story that further demonstrates community involvement in its campus.

The people of the Snyder area refused to give up the dream that an excellent educational facility could be constructed here.

It was built.

WTC was staffed with excellent administrators and faculty, and its education programs are truly meeting student needs.

But founders, faculty, students and community supporters have been short-changed.

### WJCAC MISTAKE

A mistake which now plagues the entire Western Junior College Athletic Conference has been committed, perhaps with good intentions.

Something must be wrong with an athletic program or perhaps its public relations approach when 2,000 students and community leaders are present for the first basketball game of the season. Though the team produces a winning season and plays the number one team in the state to an 85-83 decision, only 200 fans show for the next home game following the near upset. Many dozed during the first half.

Something must be wrong.

In their perhaps too zealous desire to win basketball games several schools in the WJCAC have "recruited" and in a sense "hired" semi-professional basketball players.

The excellent community relationships with the community college are exploded in WJCAC basketball recruiting at South Plains, Clarendon, WTC

and Amarillo College.

Athletics are a major facet of educational institutions in West Texas, and students and community college supporters in this area fervently support such programs.

So why the breakdown of support in the local conference?

Take a run down of the home and visiting teams' rosters.

Players hometowns—New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Mississippi.

Yes, its a heck of a long way from eastside New York, N.Y. to southside Snyder, Texas.

Many of the players, far from their home environment, face their job on the ball court like professionals.

Rarely do they participate in any activity other than basketball—they just don't have time.

Intellectual interchange is difficult since nearly all spare time is spent in the dorm or on the court.

This breakdown in community support and cultural interchange is easily apparent. No further examples are needed.

### NOT AT FAULT

The players are not at fault. They play their hearts out. Basketball is their first love and often only friend in "barren, bleak" West Texas.

The recruiting practices and public relations efforts of the conference schools are at fault.

"We have to cover a wide area to get good players," said WTC Athletic Director Sid Simpson.

"The caliber of players locally and in West Texas is good, but there are not enough of them. If a team from the conference used only local talent and made the national tournament, they would be humiliated," says Simpson.

Howard College (Howard County Junior College) is labeled the number one team in the state and ninth in the nation.

The two ace players at the Big Spring school—Taylor Williams and Thomas Bledsoe—hail from Mississippi.

But Howard College enjoys excellent student and community support for athletics.

Why?

Public relations.

"We try to incorporate our players into our environment," said Harold Wilder, coach of the Howard Hawks on a recent TSN radio broadcast. "We acquire them through the assistance of large four-year schools. We encourage and help them take an active role in the college and community environment."

### PROGRAMS NEEDED

Programs are needed at Western Texas College to present the basketball teams and their coaches to the community.

The local high school and a local civic organization carry on "Visiting Student Rotarian" programs.

Why not a "Host a Player" program for every civic club in the community at each meeting!

This channel of interchange between community and athletics must be brought up to

the standards of other community college programs.

If not, what will happen?

Suppose they play a basketball game and nobody comes?

Many of the conference players acquired from 1,000 or more miles away are "farmed" out by large schools.

The large university wants the prospective player to keep playing after high school, but he neither has the grades nor meets the admission requirements. He is "farmed" out.

This is good for both institutions and the players. He has a chance at an education.

But hardships are developing for both players and the distant

schools.

Again, its a long way from New Jersey to Sparkle City.

How does a player go home for Thanksgiving, Christmas, semester break? Or does he?

With the energy crisis, skyrocketing costs and difficulties of transportation, recruiting a player more than a 1,000 miles away becomes even more foolish.

In view of the present energy and transportation crisis, which many officials predict could last for years, something should be done to remedy such hardships and expenses.

The WJCAC executive committee in its spring conference

should limit recruits to within a 350-mile radius of the respective school.

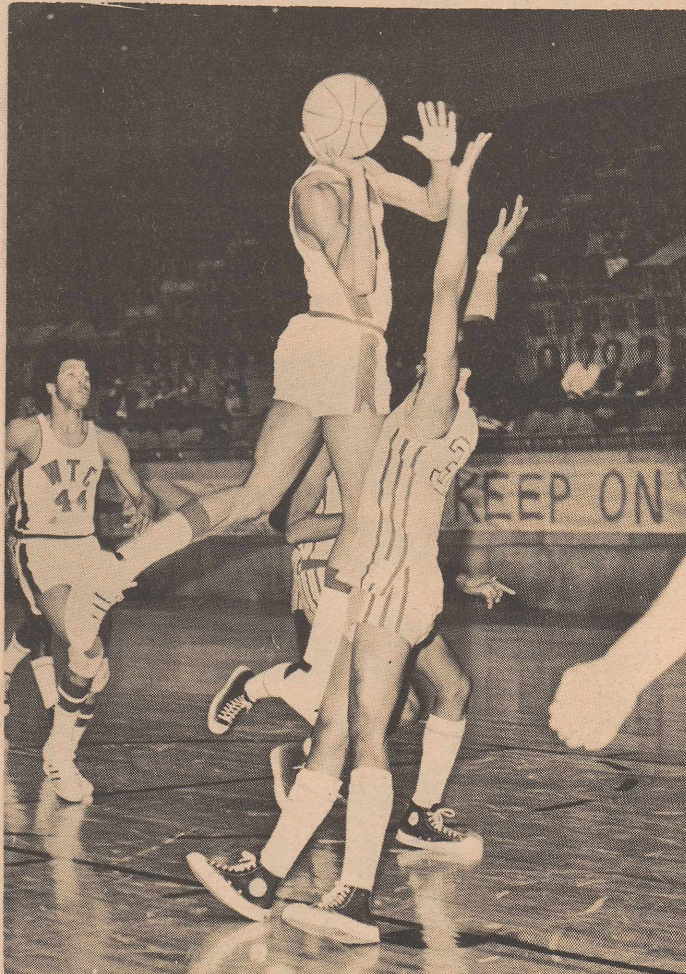
Of course WTC would be forced to play less than quality local talent if and when "we go to the national tournament."

But maybe WTC could win with less quality if it had true, dedicated support from a large number of faculty members, students and community backers.

An entourage of dedicated fans can help win ball games.

Ask the men in the striped shirts at the Hawks-WTC game in Big Spring.

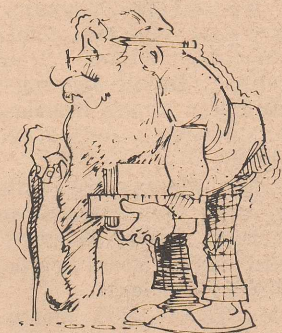
Remember 85-83?



IT'S A BALL! IT'S A BIRD!—It's WTC making like a shot putter, flying high past Odessa's lean and leaning Jenkins (31) on his way to the goal. (Photo by Pete Canales)



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# Game That Got Away : Coach Mitchell

## Intramurals

### Get Underway

Men's intramural basketball is scheduled to get under way this week, according to Dr. Sid Simpson, Athletic Director.

Simpson stated that the Intramural Council met Monday and drew up a schedule of games for the first week. This procedure will be continued each Monday until the season is concluded.

The games will consist of four six-minute quarters. Five players must be present before a team can compete in a contest, but it is not necessary at the end since an individual might foul out.

Teams and their members are as follows:

**B.S.U.**—Mike Hinton (captain), John Odom, Bob Bavousett, Ronnie Boley, Jerry Neill, Mack Walker, Frank Woner, Kerry Billingsley, Sherman Floyd, Jerry Bob Lee, Mike Marlar, and Hal Guinn.

**The Bulls**—Bill Stokes, Randy Dryden, Wayne Rowan, Darrell Coats, Greg Welch, Jesse Rollins, Mack Joe, Jimmy Martinez, Bill Bayer, Doug Smith, Ricky Berry, and Bill Morrow.

**Kappa Chi**—Mike Kerley (capt.), Danny Lawrence, Karl McCormick, David West, Paul Hook, Ricky Conrad, Dean Morgan, Randy Gillum, Tommy Vineyard, and Rick Martin.

**The Irish**—Alex Ynguanzo (capt.), Pete Canales, Junior Bilano, Joe Bilano, Paul Carreliepo, David Jennings, Jimmy Mason, Jimmy Brandon, Julian Suarez, and Steve Daughtery.

**Beta Mu Sigma**—Joe Dale Price, Noah Rodriguez, Kevin McCormick, Larry Bagwell, Richard Castilli, Moses Brazile, and Rupert Rodriguez.

**Eta Mu Theta**—Mark Morris, Jay Cromeens, John Wendeborn, Cary Billingsley, Carl Mahler, Dan Rose, David Higgins, Olin Burditt, and David Byrum.

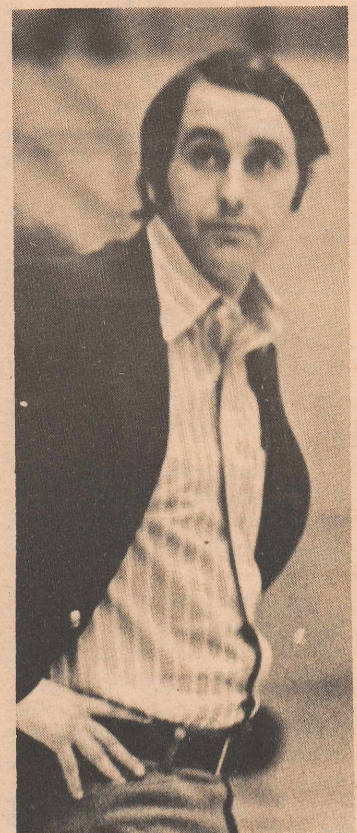
**Tigers**—Travis Bunch, Louis Loyd, Rich Bowman, Jackie Murray, Randy Wright, Scott Dickerson, Gary Hall, Jim Patric, Tim Howell, and Paul Davis.

**Shanks**—Fred Liner, Marty Pat, Moell Blalock, Jimmy Don Dyess, Mark McCraney, Mark Hargerove, PeeWee Sellars, and Bo Lovell.

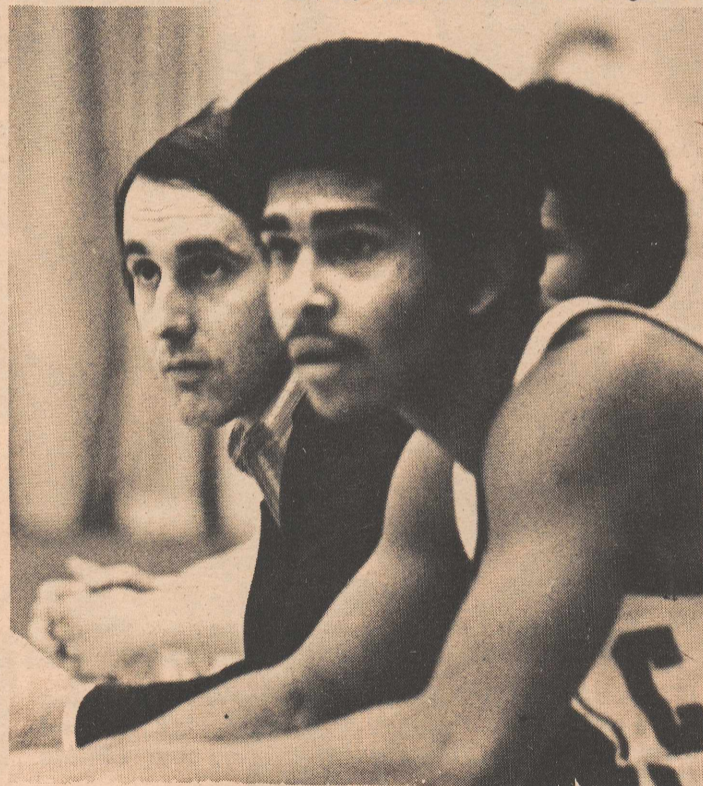
**Fake N Break**—Acoitty Hoyle, Bryant Lewis, Dennis Huffaker, Riley Waldrop, Henry Lee, Dingle Casselburry, and Larry Ratliff.



"Now fellas, here's what we've got to do!"



"I can't believe it."



"Yeah well, uh, let's see..."



"So close, so close..." (Photo by Danny Gristain)

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