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The Western Texan

March 10, 1988 Western Texas College Snyder, Texas Volume 17, Issue 8

Texas plays important role in Super Tuesday

By Missy Trull
WT Page Editor

Super Tuesday. It was the single most important day in U.S. history for presidential primaries. Twenty states were involved although the primary target was the deep south.

Texas seemed the focus with the most delegates available. Texas voters responded by turning out in record numbers. An estimated 2.7 million voters participated in the Texas primary. This broke the previous record of 2.3 million voters set in 1972.

On the national and state level,

Vice President George Bush was the big winner. He claimed two-thirds of the delegates needed to win the Republican nomination. In addition he won 65 percent of the Texas vote winning all 111 of the state's GOP delegates. Bush celebrated his victory Tuesday night in his adopted hometown of Houston. Bush, who in the New Hampshire primary was pleading for support, emerged as the Super candidate of Super Tuesday.

Robert Dole suffered a humiliating defeat. He now focuses on the Illinois primary on Tuesday. Political analysts doubt

that his campaign can recover.

Pat Robertson was also disappointed. He once referred to the South as his "backyard". Robertson did win the Washington primary although it is quite a distance from his "backyard".

In the Republican delegate count, Bush has secured 705 to Robert Dole's 163. Robertson is a distant third with 17.

In contrast to the "Bushwhacked" Republican race, the Democratic race boasted no clear winner. Michael Dukakis, Jesse Jackson and Al Gore all three claimed Super

Tuesday victories. Both Gore and Jackson won five states each.

However, it was Gov. Dukakis (D-Mass.) that carried the two coveted states, Texas and Florida. No doubt his bilingual campaign worked in these two states. Concerning the Dukakis campaign, he spent a reported \$4 million preparing for the Tuesday primary. By contrast, Jackson claims to have spent a mere \$100,000.

Dukakis leads in the number of delegates with 454. Jackson and Gore closely follows with 397 and 346 respectively.

Locally, 46 percent of the

county's registered voters trekked to the polls, approximately 4,000 people. It was Gore who led the Democrats. Dukakis was second followed by Dick Gephardt and Jackson. Not surprisingly, Bush won on the Republican side leaving Robertson and Dole distant second and third finishers. Republican voters endorsed the proposal to make English the official language of Texas. Democratic voters supported the continued election of judges.

The campaign focus now shifts to Illinois where they will hold their primary on Tuesday.

On the lighter side, the British have a quite different, although maybe just as serious view of American politics. London bookies are closely watching the presidential primaries. After Bush's overwhelming win on Tuesday, they are no longer taking bets on the Republican ticket.

However, for the Democrats, Dukakis seems the best bet boasting 2:1 odds. Gore who the British describe as looking like Superman, is second with 5:2. Jackson is picked 6:1 while Gephardt is all alone with 20:1 odds that he will make it to the White House in '88.



A little recreation

WTC students enjoy a game of one-on-one basketball during the

spring-like weather during late afternoon. Warmer weather should encourage more outdoor recreation. (Photo by Bill Summerlin)

Board appoints committee to discuss land use

By Howard Bigham
WT Page Editor

During their March 7 meeting, the Western Texas College Board of Trustees appointed a committee to work with the agriculture department in drawing up a plan of the use of land acquired for the college farm.

A "master plan" detailing how the recently acquired land could be used was tabled due to a delay in receiving maps of the property.

Jim Judah, agriculture instructor and Bob Doty, rodeo instructor, requested input and guidance of the board in drawing up the plan for the land's use. Dr. Robert Hargrove, board chairman, appointed Howard Sterling, Bill Wilson and Edwin Parks to assist Doty and Judah with the

plans.

Dr. Harry Krenek, WTC president, noted that the land had cotton and wheat allotments on it already.

In other business, Krenek told the board that Jerry Dennis, diesel mechanics instructor, had inspected a Caterpillar D6B, for possible purchase and use on college land.

Dennis reported the dozer had 269 hours on the engine and appeared to be worth the \$2,800 price. The board agreed to purchase the dozer from Texas Surplus Equipment in Lubbock.

The board heard proposed changes in the operating agreement with Scurry County Museum Association. After a lengthy discussion of various points the proposal was sent back

to the Association.

The Board and the Museum Association will each go over the agreement before any further action is taken.

Dr. Hargrove noted that revision of the agreement was needed to "let your board (Scurry County Museum Association Board of Directors) work as a board should. It would be better for both of us (boards)."

A College Coordinating Board rule requiring a rate to be set for Adult Vocational Educational Courses was the next item. The rate of \$1.25 per contact hour was set.

Expenses were approved for a Golf Landscape Technology trip of approximately \$3,400. A donation of \$1500 was set to help defray costs by one student's

father. The board acknowledged that they would issue a letter of thanks to the father.

AFM reported to the board that the college's cost for AFM's service would rise one percent. Krenek noted that according to their contract, AFM is allowed to raise their cost to the college six percent. Payment for a new dishwasher was also approved.

In other action, the self-study committee will continue its work as a follow-up committee. They will work on the various areas that require an answer be sent back to the Accreditation Committee. "The real meat of this thing (self-study report) is we need to pick up on the fifty or sixty things not requiring an answer," said board member Roy Baze.

SACS evaluation yields 24 recommendations

By Suzette Harris
WT Production Editor

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) made recommendations to WTC for its re-accreditation.

The SACS committee was on campus Feb. 22-25. The committee gave 24 recommendations and 12 suggestions in seven areas: institutional effectiveness, administrative processes, educational programs, faculty, educational support services, student development services and institutional advancement financial resources.

The most notable recommendations were in educational programs, Recommendation number 2 stated the re-affirmation committee recommends that the college provide adequate computer resources to meet instructional needs.

According to Dr. Harry Krenek, WTC president, the college bought a few computers last year. "The money for these computers would come from Computer Science as well as other budgets," Krenek said. "We (the college) feel like we are doing a good job," Krenek said.

Another recommendation made by the committee was in the area of student developmental services. Recommendation number 5 stated that the college develop appropriate procedures to involve faculty and students in the control and direction of inter-collegiate athletics.

Krenak said this means "to involve the faculty and students to establish direction and control over the athletic program."

Some of the suggestions made were that the director of the library be made an ex-officio member of the college's curriculum committee, so that he could be more effective in adjusting the library's collection to meet curriculum changes.

Another suggestion that was made was for the college to undertake efforts to develop formal articulation agreements with upper level institutions to insure efficient transfer students in the future.

"This is a statewide problem," Krenek said. "We hope to develop close ties with the four year schools, so that the students wouldn't lose hours," he added.

Krenak said he was very pleased with the findings.

Pell Grant reductions result in loss of grants

Pell Grant checks for millions of students during the 1988-89 school year may get smaller, or vanish entirely, the U. S. Dept. of Education warned colleges around the country.

According to Dennis Carlton, WTC financial aid director, the Pell grants will not vanish entirely. Carlton noted the Pell Grant program payments were more than the budget, which resulted in a shortage of funds.

"Pell Grant has already made a schedule of payments. There will be a reduction in higher and lower awards. No awards will be made for less than \$100 and the maximum will be \$2200," Carlton said. Carlton said he urged students to send in their finan-

cial aid packets since deadlines are approaching.

As many as 53,000 low-income students could lose their Pell Grants while 1.2 million could get smaller grants next year because the government is about \$99 million short in its grant budget, the administration warned.

In a Feb. 1 "Dear Colleague" letter to campuses, Education Dept. officials blamed Congress for the shortfall, saying it raised the maximum Pell Grant to \$2,200 for 1988 without appropriating enough money to give students that much more.

To solve the problem the department said it will either shave \$31 off every Pell Grant recipient's check next year, or

cut as much as \$400 from "least needy" students so that "most needy" students could get the full \$2,200.

The letter warned the department was giving Congress until April 30 to come up with more money, or it would start cutting "least needy" students off the Pell Grant roles for next year.

"They're telling us that if we don't do something, they'll do something harmful," complained Gary Garwood, chief aide of the House Postsecondary Education Subcommittee.

Garwood doubts Congress could meet the deadline--which the Education Dept. says is necessary because it must establish final Pell Grant pay-

ment schedules by April 30--and questions the department's numbers.

Congress, depending on a Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate, budgeted \$4.42 billion to give out in Pell Grants for the 1988-89 school year, Garwood said. But the Education Department, using different estimates, thinks it'll have to give out \$4.5 billion in Pell Grants. CBO estimates, said Charles Saunders of the American Council on Education, have proven more accurate in the past.

"Students shouldn't worry, additional monies could come from additional departments, such as work study or scholarships," Carlton said.



Making repairs

Zeke Sevilla and Juan Rodriguez of Lydicks-Hooks Roofing Company in Abilene are repairing the major leaks on many of the campuses buildings. (Photo by Bill Summerlin.)

Editorial

Dorm safety

Students, administrators must strike compromise

Dorm students are worried that the locked gates surrounding the fire escape exits present a potentially deadly situation. If a fire broke out in the dorms, and students had to use those escapes, they would be trapped inside the fences until someone could open the gates from the outside. This concern is a warranted fear, and some believe, a violation of fire code.

Dorm students and administrators are on opposite sides of the fence on this issue, but a compromise of dual responsibility should abridge the problem.

Whether or not the gates remain locked should depend on how much responsibility the dorm residents are willing to take for their own safety. Administration's reason for locking the gates is to keep unwanted visitors out of the dorm, and this includes students who sneak in through the fire escapes after visiting hours. Locking the building doors so that students could get out of a fire, but not in from the outside should solve the problem, but since students in the past have propped doors open to let others in, the doors and gates have been locked from the outside.

Door propping has been blamed for several serious crimes on college campuses in the United States. Students prop dorm doors open so other students can sneak in and instead, murderers and rapists walk in. This is a hypothetical motivation for the locked gates.

If students want the gates to be unlocked, they will have to take the responsibility of closing the doors to the fire escapes, which would then lock them from the outside.

The locked gates present a potentially dangerous situation, and so does door propping. Students and administrators both have a responsibility to keep the dorms safe, and since safety is the common motivation, a responsible compromise should be the common goal.

Trip ends in sticky situation despite harried efforts to de-gum

At a recent family gathering, the family sat around the dining room table confiding their most embarrassing moments. Some were quite interesting but I secretly knew no one could top mine.

My thoughts drifted back to a crisp November night of several years past. I was on a high school band trip and we were returning from regional competition. It had been a grueling trip. The rest stop was approaching. I decided to brush my hair and otherwise make myself presentable before facing 200 of my peers.

"Trace."
"Uh?"
"Can I borrow your brush?"

"Yea, here."
"Thanks."

"...Ouch!"

Trace, can you get this brush out of my hair? It seems to be stuck!"

"Missy, did you fall asleep with gum in your mouth?"

No, why?" I asked, fearing the answer.

"Well, I'll get the brush out of your hair, but I think the gum is there to stay!"

GUM?!

In my hair?!

My worst nightmare was being realized.

I had to rationalize the situation. This couldn't be happening

'Artsy' type continues search for artistic niche

I've always fancied myself as an "artsy" type of person. I enjoy both the classical and abstract paintings and Shakespeare to Spielberg. Unfortunately, liking "artsy" things doesn't mean you're an artist. And I'm the prime example.

I don't have any artistic talent. I know this, because I have tried my best to find it.

For instance, I began my talent search when I was five. I wanted to be like Shirley Temple, so I staged little performances for my relatives. They oohed and aaahed at my "Good Ship Lolly-Pop" routine and because of their encouraging response I dreamed of a singing career. My dream was shattered a few years later.

I was outside practicing "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" for my big debut, when my mother came to the screen door and hollered for the cats to quit fighting. Since then, my voice has been compared to dogs whining at the door, calves bawling and an assortment of other disgusting animal sounds.

The singing career was "put out to pasture" and I focused on playing musical instruments. In the sixth grade I was issued a chubby, red flute called a tone-ette. The ton-ettes were used to learn the scales and to see which students might be interested in



360° Off Course

By Deidre Gantt

"My parents not only took the tone-ette away, but they told me it was against our religion to have brass instruments within two miles of the house."

band. I was very interested in band. My grandma was a Glen Miller fan, so I decided to play the coronet (after mastering the tone-ette, of course). I could picture myself with the sparkling brass instrument using the wah-wah plug and wearing a white tuxedo jacket.

Well, I had considerable trouble playing the tone-ette. In fact "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" proved to be beyond my abilities. Yet I was certain the coronet would allow my true musical self to come through. I never got it. My parents not only took the



Tell Me Trull

By Missy Trull

to me. After all, I was a young adult. Only those of preschool age get gum in their hair. But it was happening to me. I was being repayed for past sins.

"Somebody, please help me!"

Someone volunteered to try to pick the gum out of my hair. Their attempt was in vain. Meanwhile, the band director made his way to the back of the bus to offer his assistance.

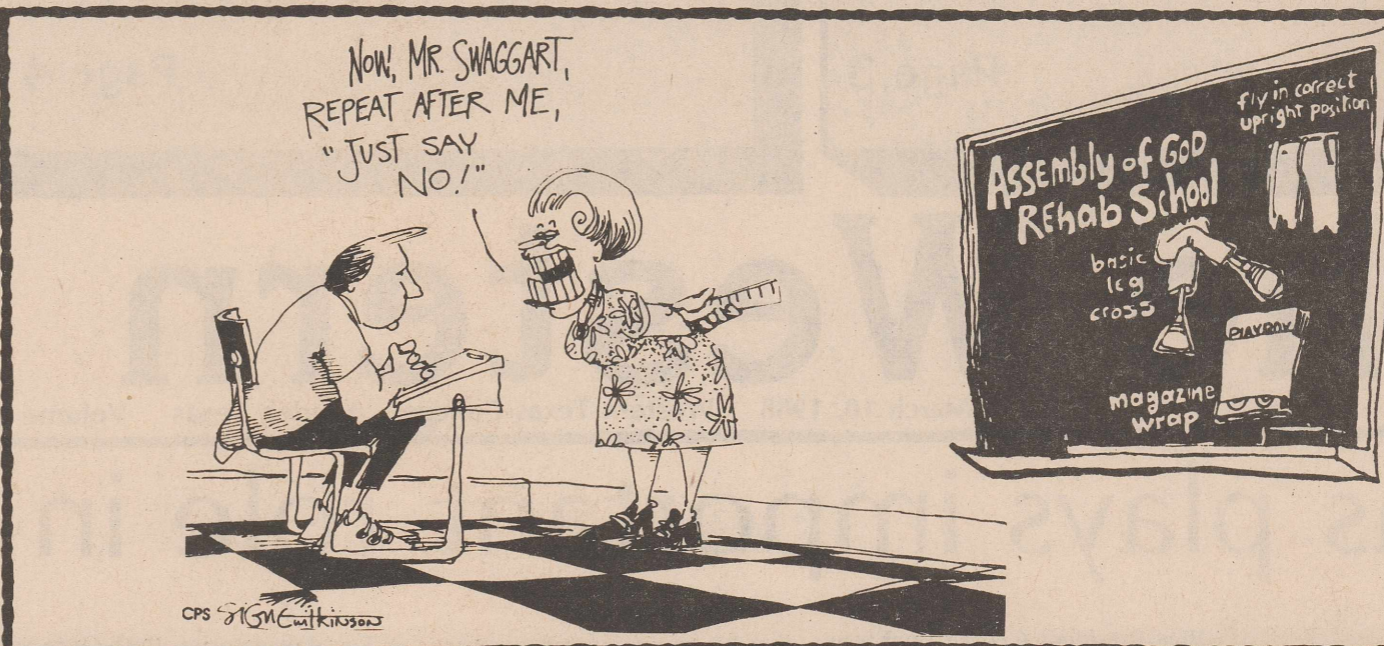
So I gave up dancing and decided to try my hand at ceramics. My first day of class I was positive my instructor would call me aside and wonder why I wasn't an art major. I had the idea I could make a set of dishes for my best friends wedding present and I knew world class art galleries would be pressing me to have a show. I thought I could even start my own line of pottery and market it to selective stores.

I was wrong. I had an entire semester to make four matching cups, three matching jars with lids, a candelabra and a teapot, but the potters wheel was my enemy. I saw a lanky basketball player, an arthritic housewife and a genuine wild bronc rider who could make four matching cups, but I never could.

Mostly, I just made strange looking paperweights which nobody thought were loaded with artistic merit. I gave up ceramics.

Since the ceramics ordeal I have experimented with oil painting, photography, modern jazz dancing and face painting. But I have yet to succeed in anything. I get very frustrated knowing I have artistic talent, but just can't find it.

I'm going to keep looking. I know I'll find my talent and when I do...look for me on the cover of *Rolling Stone*.



Long-distance relationship requires mutual trust

He is tall, dark and handsome, not to mention smart and wonderful. We go to the nearest places. He takes me to the movies and we go out to eat. Sometimes he even sends me roses out of the blue. Everything is wonderful between us except the 80 miles that separate us and the fact that we attend two different colleges.

Although it is trying on a relationship, it provides more than a challenge; it's an adventure.

The adventure begins with one's pocketbook. The company that benefits the most has to be good ol' Ma Bell. The first couple of phone bills are usually outrageous until parents threaten to take away the phone. This has the effect of drastically reducing the bills. Speaking of money, there are problems other than the phone bills. Sometimes you don't even consider the problems with gasoline and transportation. With the price of gas these days you can't see one another very often.

The next mode of communica-



On the Air

By Melinda Thomas

tion is through the U.S. Postal Service. Through rain, hail, sleet, or snow, Mr. Postman comes through delivering the ever important love letters and the chocolate chip cookies to show that I still care. Sometimes I wonder what the postman thinks about all of the hearts and sweet messages on the outside of the envelopes? (Maybe I don't want to know!) If you have lost count, the relationship has doubled. It now involves me, him, the phone operator and Mr. Postman.

Money isn't the only problem that long-distance relationships run into. The distance apart

begins to take it's toll as does the fact that both individuals are pursuing their own different lives encountering different things every day.

Though there is a mutual trust in the relationship, sometimes temptation causes problems. The temptation can range from simple admiration of a good-looking person to the complex situation of chemical attraction. Acting upon these feelings can prove to be disastrous. Most relationships like these result in a breakup that can be permanent. I think that there must be strong, open connections (and I don't mean

phone connections) between the two for them to survive across the miles. If it is meant to be it will.

Don't get the wrong idea about long-distance relationships. When you get to see your boyfriend/girlfriend after weeks apart it makes up for the time not spent together. The happiness of seeing this loved one is almost indescribable (so I won't try to explain). You don't realize how much you miss him/her until you see them. It makes the time spent together "quality" time instead of the couple feeling like they "have to go out."

If you have never had a chance to experience this type of relationship, I would suggest that you at least try one. It is definitely one thing that you will never forget no matter how it turns out.

So far my long-distance relationship is going strong. We look forward to seeing each other and this makes the brief time spent together more special. Who knows how it will end (or if it will)!

"Here, wrap this rubber band around the part of her hair with the gum in it. It will separate it from the rest of the hair so it doesn't spread." They sounded like words of wisdom.

With the rubber band in place a hush fell over the bus. Slowly the silence was interrupted by snickering and intermittent giggles. I sensed something was wrong, terribly wrong. Cautiously I moved my hands upward and it was there I discovered the GLOB.

The rubber band had made my hair stick up in a mass of hair and gum. I had been transformed into Alfalfa. I tried to take the rubber

band out. No use. It was stuck just like the gum.

We would soon be getting into town. I had to psyche myself into facing 200 people with gum in my hair. Shortly thereafter we arrived at the band hall. I bravely stepped off the bus looking like an Alfalfa look alike reject. Composure does not come easy while telling 200 individuals, "Yes I know I have gum in my hair!" I just wanted to go home!

"Missy, do you have an embarrassing moment to share with us?"

I was back at the dining room table.

"Who, me? No, I guess not."

The Western Texan

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Letters are welcomed but must be signed by the author with attached phone number for verification and are subject to review by the editor.

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The Dresser: Dramatic tragedy features death, depression in old actor

By Jim Miller
WT Guest Critic

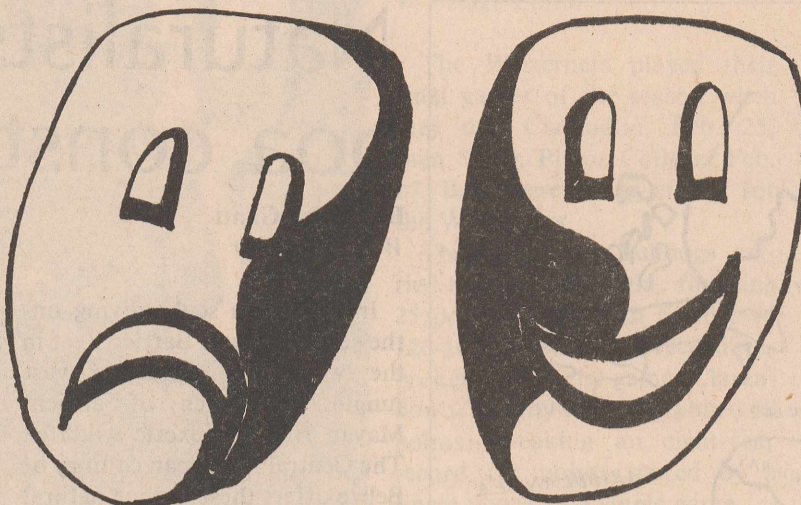
Some good advice: If you are intrigued by an immense challenge of the emotions and appreciate fine actors bringing life to beautiful literature and you missed Western Texas College's production of *The Dresser* demand an encore performance. However, if your theatrical expectations consist of only bombastic laughter and staging, *The Dresser* may not be for you. If you fall into the latter; my friend, the loss is yours.

Ronald Harwood's tragedy, *The Dresser*, is set in the forties in a theatre near London amidst the bombing of the Luftwaffe. Sir, an aging Shakespearean actor/manager, played by Dave Harveson, continues to entertain audiences despite World War II with his ragged traveling company. However, on this night Sir has taken quite ill, both physically and mentally. Norman, his dedicated dresser, played by Jeff Milburne, must get the radical old actor prepared to play King

Lear. "Struggle and survival" perhaps would satisfy the mood of this show as Norman and the rest of the company must deal with the bombs being dropped nearby and the health of the manager. But even after the final curtain the struggle for survival continues as Sir dies and leaves the cast mixed with emotions, and in particular Norman who must face the realization of his upcoming loneliness without his beloved friend.

It seems incredibly inappropriate to discuss the story line in only a few paragraphs, when in truth it would literally take several performances and many read-throughs of the scripts to completely understand the lyrical music and subtext of this powerful script.

Jeff Milburne and Dave Harveson approached their portrayals of Norman and Sir with great care and sensitivity. Honest performances from each created many emotional scenes which peaked wonderfully. Milburne and Harveson offer a valuable



message in their performances which reveals how fragile and vulnerable one can be when he becomes dependent on others. Like an embryo connected to its mother, Harveson and Milburne became one-upon-another and fed each other with Harwood's words, creating life on the stage.

Milburne convincingly and effectively handled the tragic progression of Norman. Many raw, unexperienced performers might have shown Norman reaching his peak and breaking down long before the end of the show.

However, Milburne milked Norman's decline almost perfectly. In fact it was quite magical how he managed to harmonize Norman's fall with the fading of the lights ending the show.

"You're not taken through it, you're put through it night after night", rumbled Sir played by Harveson. This statement could probably serve true also for eighteen year old Harveson as he successfully portrayed a seventy-year old man at the verge of insanity. This performance only assures and compliments Harveson's in-

tense concentration and confidence on stage.

Like almost any tragic performance, *The Dresser* had its laging moments. The actors or the staging cannot take full blame for this as in a show so deep and full of emotional subtext, an audience must take a break. Perhaps a slow beginning was present in this production but as the story line began the show seemed to pace just fine. Nice variety in pace and attitude was brought on stage by Her Ladyship, played by Jari Todd. Matthew, played by Jamie Cofer and Geoffrey, played by David A madaris. Noteworthy and subtle effective were the supporting cast, which served as the Lear cast. This device created a unique "look-see" at the world backstage during the performance.

Director Jim Rambo has definitely showed versatility as this fine performance follows up the contrasting fall comedy *Wild Oats*. This show could only be work and touch of a truly sensitive director. Rambo has

treated this fragile script with great care not insulting or going overboard in any aspect of the show. A keep sake in theatre-goers scrapbook is definitely the tenderly tragic scene which ended "The Dresser."

One picky, yet confusing element perhaps was found in the use of music. Although the selections of music were pleasant to the ear, it did not seem to move the progress of the play. Lighting seemed to accomplish scene shifts adequately and the use of choppy music fades just seemed a bit unbeneficial.

The Dresser is indeed a difficult challenge for its director, actors, and even its audience. An audience must work with the actors on stage to benefit in Western Texas' production. However, this show will be remembered as a patiently sensitive show which is rare in college theatres. To critique this show is also a difficult task, but becomes an enjoyable challenge thanks to the hard work and care that Western Texas absorb with "The Dresser".



Counselor's Corner

By Dan Osborn

Groups provide student jobs

Work opportunities exist this summer in many of the nation's camps and recreational areas, offering salary, job experience and fun. Students might investigate the Texas Lions Camp for Handicapped Children in Kerrville, Texas. The camp serves physically handicapped children and provides their counselors with \$100 a week, room/board and an opportunity to work in a social service field. Applications are available in the Counseling Center.

Also, the Soroptomist Camp, near Dallas, serves physically handicapped and mentally retarded campers. This camp also provides salary, room and board and valuable work experience to put on a resume. Phone (214) 634-7500.

The National Parks Services employs students during the summer to work in all areas of park

operation from maintenance to forestry. For information, call or write: National Park Service, Southwest Region, Box 728, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

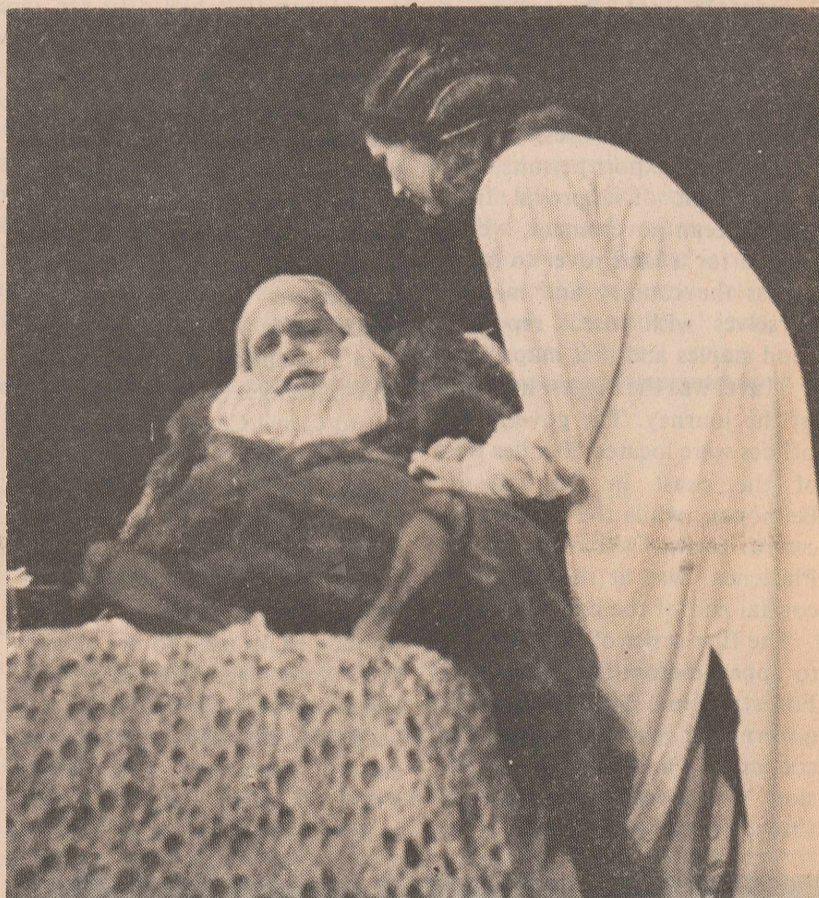
Want to get away from the Texas heat? North Carolina offers a number of job opportunities at camps which serve various interest groups, ranging from weight watchers to stargazers. The Counseling Center has a list of facilities.

But don't hesitate, jobs are filling quickly! Work experience can be a tremendous asset in securing employment after graduation. Since competition will exist for almost every job opening, employers look at other factors besides education in selecting an employee. Summer work experience will help you gain the advantage in landing that first job.



The show goes on, then...

Norman, *The Dresser*, (Jeff Milburne), coaxes Sir, King Lear (Dave Harveson) into one final performance while Her Ladyship (Jari Todd) confronts Sir's failing health.



-(Photo by Kim Koening)

SMU offers monies to junior college students

DALLAS (SMU) -- A new program at Southern Methodist University will offer scholarships of up to full tuition for junior and community college graduates who transfer to SMU beginning in the 1988-89 academic year.

Need-based transfer scholarships of up to full tuition will be available for all new transfer students who meet the requirements for admission to SMU and who demonstrate financial need.

The University will offer half-tuition honors scholarships to transfer students who have at least a 3.5 (out of a perfect 4.0) grade average in all transferable courses.

Transfer students from Methodist junior colleges may qualify for a new \$2,000 annual merit scholarship to SMU beginning next year.

As a special incentive for top students in Dallas area community colleges, SMU will award up to full-tuition honors scholarships to students selected from the Dallas County Community College District, Tarrant County Junior college and Collin County Community College.

In announcing the new transfer scholarship program, SMU President A. Kenneth Pye said, "By offering these new transfer scholarship opportunities, we hope to attract more of the bright, highly motivated students who otherwise might not be able to afford a private university."

"One of our major goals is to increase the diversity of the SMU student body. Junior and community college students tend to represent a wider range of racial and ethnic groups, ages and socio-economic backgrounds

than the bodies of most private universities. Bringing more of these students into SMU will enrich our student body and broaden the educational experience of all of our students."

All junior and community college students must have 50 hours of course work before applying for SMU's new transfer scholarships. All recipients of SMU's new honors transfer scholarships are eligible for additional financial aid to meet full demonstrated need, including the cost of room and board.

SMU Admissions Director, Andrew L. Bryant, said, "Many junior and community college students don't have the financial resources to extend their education beyond the associate's degree from a two-year institution. We want to make it possible for all students who qualify

academically to transfer students, any qualified junior college student should be able to earn a degree from SMU."

April 17 is designated as New Transfer Visitation Day at SMU. On that afternoon, prospective transfer students will have opportunities to meet and talk with representatives of various academic areas, transfer students now enrolled in SMU, and members of the University's admissions and student life staffs.

Applications for SMU's new transfer scholarships should be made by June 1 to the Office of Admissions, Southern Methodist University, P.O. Box 296, Dallas, TX 75275-0296. Additional information and application forms may be obtained by calling (214)-692-2058 or 1-800-323-0672.

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Expedition to Belize fun adventure for Gantt

By Deidre Gantt
WT Reporter

I stepped from the air-conditioned 737 aircraft and my body rocked from the sudden onset of heat and humidity. I surveyed the lush, tropical beauty of the countryside before me and took a deep breath. I was in Belize, ready for the biggest adventure of my life.

I had traveled to this Central American country with three companions in order to find, collect and export an obscure species of boa constrictor. The boa is only native to a small island, called Crawl Caye, approximately 20 miles off the coast of Belize.

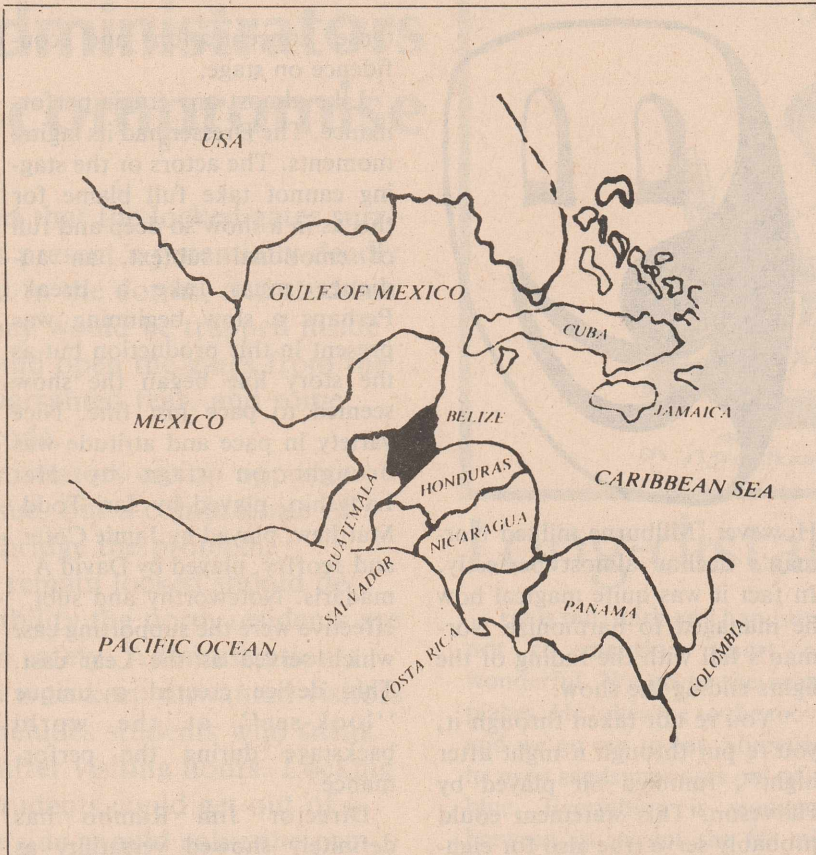
Traveling with the expedition were Bob Sears, boa constrictor collector and trip organizer; Mike Murphrey, professional photographer; Doug Hudleston, public relations expert and myself, promising writer.

We were interested in collecting the Crawl Caye boas in order to study their breeding habits in captivity and subsequently study the growth and development of the offspring. The Institute of Herpetological Research in California gave official approval for the expedition and provided letters of introduction to the Belize Minister of Forestry to aid in obtaining export permits.

Confident of approval from the Belizean government, we arranged for a land rover to travel across the country and manned ourselves with insect repellent, food staples and plat maps.

Travel was the biggest hardship of the journey. The government offices were located 50 miles west of the coast in the city of Belmopan, while the port of access to Crawl Caye, the town of Placencia, was at the southern, coastal end of the country.

The first order of business was to appear before the Minister of Forestry in Belmopan. The government was thorough, but cooperative and granted permission to collect and export 10 Crawl Caye boas.



The next leg of the trip was travel to the coastal city of Dangriga for fuel, then directly south to the small fishing village of Placencia. The road on the journey Placencia were rickety and unpaved which was physically exhausting. Yet, even with the uncomfortable conditions, the surrounding beauty of the countryside was worth every bruise. We saw vast rain forests at the base of the Mayan Mountains, large citrus orchards, banana plantations and the quaint, peaceful life in rural Belize.

In Placencia, we hired a small, four-passenger boat to take us out to Crawl Caye. The cay was a narrow island approximately a mile and one half long and located 35 minutes across the Caribbean Sea.

The only signs of man on the island were several crude, wooden racks used to dry sharks and large fish. The cay was densely covered with a variety of vegetation and a rooted mangrove swamp blanketed the floor. Crabs of every shape and size scurried under foot and unseen

insects hummed in delight at the intruders.

Our guide, Kevin, spotted three boas within the first 15 minutes. The boas were nestled in the crooks of stately trees and wrapped around thick clusters of palm trunks. Diminutive in size, the snakes were gentle as they were plucked from their posts by Bob Sears. After collection, they were quickly placed in clean, white sacks to ease their excitement.

Sears did all the snake handling, while everyone else searched the forest for another specimen.

We collected sixteen boas. Sears examined the animals to determine the sex. Six females and four males were taken from the cay.

After the snake hunt was over, we were able to travel to the Xanantunich Mayan Ruins and Guatemala. The experiences were extraordinary, but somehow paled against the Crawl Caye expedition.

I had had my biggest adventure on a tiny island somewhere off the coast of Belize.

Naturalists explore Belize for boa constrictors, fun, profit

By Deidre Gantt
WT Reporter

Interested in scuba-diving on the second largest Barrier Reef in the world or traversing vast jungles in search of ancient Mayan ruins or exotic wildlife? The Central American country of Belize offers these unique natural and cultural experiences.

Belize, formerly British Honduras, is located on the Caribbean coastline of Central America, directly south of Mexico.

Compared to other Central American countries, Belize is very distinctive. English is the official language and the language of instruction in schools.

The country's population is approximately 170,000, with thirty percent living in Belize City, known as the commercial capital and travel center.

The Belizeans have heavily intermixed ethnic backgrounds, of which the main ethnic groups are Creole (African), Mestizo (Spanish-Maya) and Garifuna (Caribbean).

Belize gained full independence in 1981 and is now a member of the British Commonwealth and the United Nations.

Although the tourist industry ranks below the sugar, citrus, fisheries and banana industries in Belize, the government has begun promotional campaigns to develop tourism.

Belize is most popular among nature lovers, archaeologists, fishermen and scuba-divers, because activities and travel are more physically demanding than an average vacation site.

Naturalists are drawn to Belize to explore immense jungles whose dense interiors house many natural caves once inhabited by the ancient Mayan civilization between 300 and 900

A.D. The jungle is located in the Cockscomb Basin which rises from 300 feet above sea level to around 3700 feet at the peak of the Mayan Mountains.

Over 600 discovered Mayan ruins are located in and around the basin. The Xanantunich ruins harbor stone temples and mound structures which are still among the tallest man-made structures in Belize.

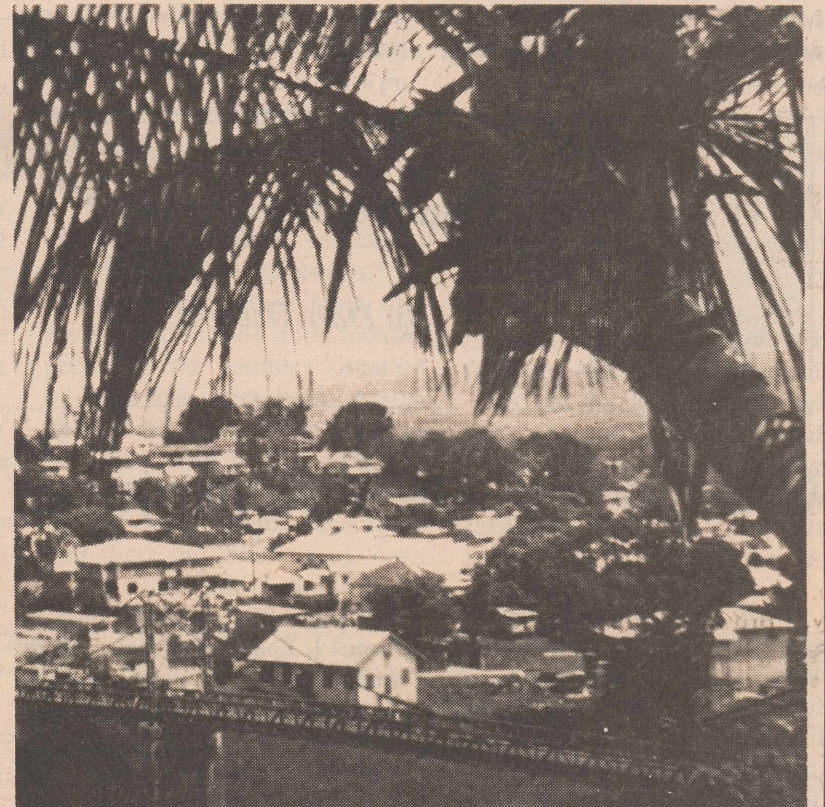
The Cockscomb Basin jungle also is home to an abundance of wild-life. Among the many varieties of mammals, birds and reptiles present in the Belizean jungle are jaguars, black howler monkeys, iguanas, armadillos, anteaters and Scarlet Macaws.

Belize implemented the Wildlife Protection Act in 1982

which prohibits the sale, exchange or hire for profit concerning wildlife. The export or import of any wildlife is not allowed without permit.

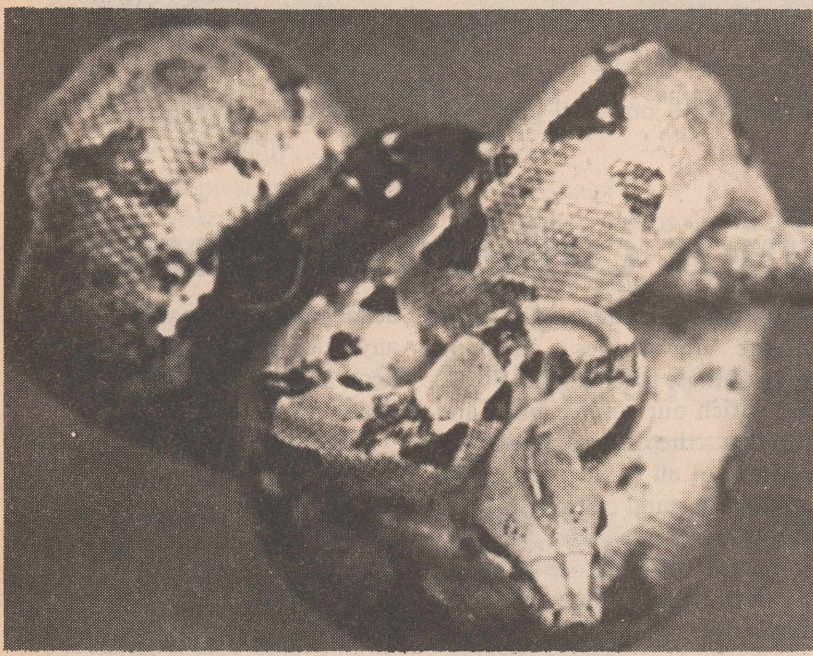
Perhaps an even greater attraction than the jungle is the Barrier Reef. The reef is found off the coast of Belize surrounded by hundreds of cayes. The cayes are small islands, mostly undeveloped, which are reached by small boats. Scuba-diving and fishing on the Barrier Reef is a source of exceptional beauty and discovery.

Although still primitive by American standards, Belize is a virtual paradise for the explorer. Belize offers a natural setting for adventure and uncommon vacationing.



What a view

This is Belize, home of abundant wildlife and jungles. (Staff photo)



Snakes alive

Pictured is a Crawl Key boa born in Salt Lake City Zoo in 1979 and was purchased by Bob Sears. (Staff photo)

New snake charmer crowned tonight

By Howard Bigham
WT Page Editor

Holly Jones, freshman from Sweetwater, will relinquish her crown tonight to Miss Snake Charmer 1988. Jones will ride in today's parade at 4 p.m. which will mark the official beginning of the 1988 Rattlesnake Round-Up in Sweetwater, Texas.

The Round-Up week will continue March 11-13.

After the parade, the annual beauty pageant will be held at 7:30 pm to pick a new "Miss Snake Charmer" for 1988. As current Miss Snake Charmer Jones will crown the new winner at the pageant.

Jones said some of the prizes for the winner include a \$1,000 educational scholarship, a trophy

and crown, and she also will travel to other snake shows. "I've been to the Gainesville Rattlesnake Round-Up, and the Big Spring Round-Up. I would have gone to one in Andrews, but the weather got too bad," Jones said.

Sweetwater's Round-Up is the world's largest. "We get people from all over the United States. We have even had people (attend) from other countries," said Jones.

Other activities that will be part of the round-up include snake hunts conducted every hour, a gun show, flea market, carnival and contests with prizes for the largest snake, smallest snake and the largest amount of snakes by weight.

Snake handling demonstra-

tions are a large attraction, and snake hunts are conducted hourly to demonstrate how to catch snakes at a den. The snakes are placed in 'pits' as they are brought in.

Bill Ransburger, who is a snake handler, conducts demonstrations with the snakes in the pits. Jones has also been in the pits with the snakes. "I've been in the pits with the snakes. I wanted to do it. It wasn't something I was required to do," she said.

"I've skinned some snakes. I've also held them. I went on some of the hunts for the snakes at the show. When I had finished skinning my first snake they gave the skin to me," Holly said.

Jones' interest in snakes seems to run in the family. "I might get to pass my crown to my sister,

Shannon. I hope I get to," she said. There is also another Jones in the pageant besides her sister, she added.

Jones had heard of one person being bitten at Sweetwater. Ransburger, who handles snakes in the pits, was bitten, but after a trip to the hospital, he was back at the show that afternoon.

A suction device is used to extract the poison. Portable suction kits are available in Sweetwater for hunters who are not close to a hospital when they are bitten. These devices also work on other bites such as bee stings.

Another popular activity at the round-up is eating snake meat, but Jones said she has no intention of eating it. "I'll catch them, or skin them, but I don't eat meat. I am a vegetarian."

Rattlers provide good eating for avid hunters

By Howard Bigham
WT Page Editor

Spring is on its way, and as spring arrives we are reminded that, we should watch for snakes.

Some of us take that statement as a warning, while, others consider it an invitation to hunt snakes.

The snake hunters generally fit into one of two groups. Some hunt for snakes to capture alive and others to kill.

Both types of hunters can be found on campus. Bill Summerlin of Shallowater, enjoys hunting snakes (rattlesnakes) to kill for the skins and the meat. He said he wants to go (hunting) as soon as he has some free time. "I've only got a couple left in my freezer," Summerlin said. "They are rather good eating," he add-

ed.

Sam Walker, welding instructor, catches snakes alive. The snakes he catches will be killed later. Walker noted that catching the snakes live allows the hunters to carry less equipment and to keep the meat fresh. This also allows the hunter to have ample time to properly clean and store the meat and skins. Snakes may also be "milked" (have their venom extracted).

Walker makes his own snake catchers. "I generally make them about 5-6 feet long. That way, I have a good bit of room between the den and myself. I also have a longer reach, which makes it easier to catch them," Walker said.

A snake catching device is a long rod with a loop of wire or rope attached at one end, so that

a person may close the loop (make it smaller) around the snake from the upper end (farthest from the snake). More modern models feature a trigger-controlled rod with long metal pinchers on the end to grab

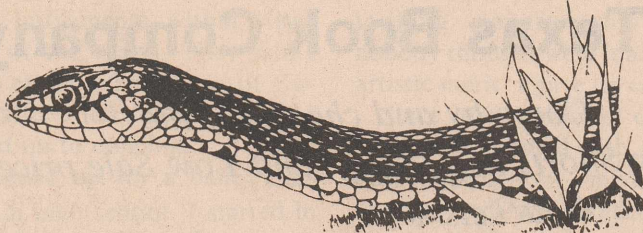
range and a six-foot snake won't win any prizes at all," he added.

Walker provided some other interesting facts for others wanting to hunt snakes. The snake's den usually has the opening on the south. A "new" den (one

gas into the dens in an effort to drive the snakes out of hiding. "You just spray the gas into the den and wait. The snakes won't come out right away. They will stay in the den as long as possible. When they do come out, all they want is fresh air to breathe. They put off coming out as long as possible, I would imagine a lot of snakes don't ever come out," Walker said.

Snake dens have any number of snakes in them, from three to 200 snakes have been taken from dens. "Snakes will crawl out of the den anytime during the winter if it warms up enough for a day or so," said Walker.

Sam said he has seen skins from snakes that were over eight feet long. These were old skins from snakes killed in the past. Reports of these add hope of at-



snakes.

"I used to take some of my catches to the 'Round-Up' in Sweetwater and other places, but I quit doing that a few years ago," Walker said. "Most of what I catch is in the six-foot

which a snake hasn't inhabited long), may not have a well defined exit and the snakes may come out anywhere. Dens are usually in rocks or under a projecting bank.

Hunters use cans of gasoline with spray attachments to spray

taining the prize for the longest snake at any show. Sam had read about an offer of \$50,000.00 for a rattlesnake alive and over eight feet in length. "I used to have one (snake) in my office about four inches in diameter, but I had to get rid of it," Walker said.

On a recent hunt Sam and the others with him caught about 35 snakes. The most he's gotten from one den is 47. Sam and a friend caught eight that dressed out to about 40 pounds. "All together we've probably got between 100 and 125 pounds of meat," he said.

"When I sell the meat I'll probably take it to a buyer. You can find buyers in Lubbock, Colorado City, Abilene, and there are buyers who come through Snyder occasionally. There is also one in Inadale," Walker said.

Golfers place 7th at Abilene

By Kay Carrizales
WT Reporter

Western Texas College golf team finished seventh out of 12 teams competing in the Abilene Intercollegiate Golf Tournament Tuesday at the Abilene Country Club.

Abilene Christian University finished first with a score of 295-287-582. The WTC golfers score was 315-295-610.

In individual competition, Bret Taylor of Hardin-Simmons finished first with a score of 69-70-139. Scores for the WTC team members were: Jeff Beal, Andrews, 78-73-151; Mark Burgen, Andrews, 78-75-153; Todd Neal, Carlsbad, Calif., 79-74-153; Gary Schoem, Hamilton, 81-73-154; Kevin Glaspie, Stanton, 82-78-160; Lance Jones, Andrews, 80-83-163; Mike Thelen, Marble Falls, 81-83-164 and Jack Poe, Sweetwater, 82-84-166.

In the annual Bronco Collegiate Invitational Golf Tournament in Roswell, N.M., WTC was ranked 8th out of ten competitors. High scorer for WTC was Beal, who finished 19th with a score of 73-70-74-217.

Brown joins Lady Dusters

By Howard Bigham
WT Page Editor

Bobbie Brown of Jayton is the latest recruit to sign with Western Texas College's Lady Dusters.

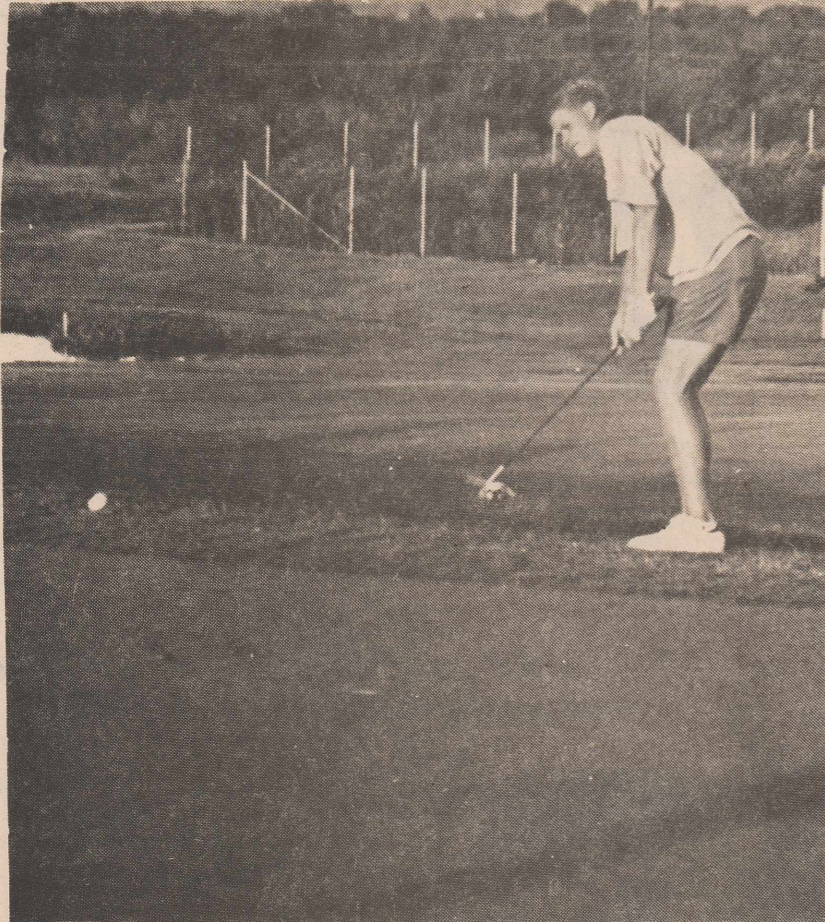
"It's (WTC) close to home. I knew they had a good coach and a pretty good team. I wanted to play," Brown said.

Brown is 5'11" and has averaged 15.8 points and 9.8 rebounds per game for the Lady Jaybirds. She has been named to the all-district team twice, once as a sophomore and again her junior year. Her coach says she has a good chance of being named again this year.

Brown also excels at golf, tennis and track. She advanced to the post-season competition in cross-country and high jump, as a sophomore.

Brown should make an excellent addition to the team. Coach Kelly Chadwick said.

Signing Brown gives the Dusters eight players. The others will be returning sophomores. They are Stephanie McKnight, Snyder; Julie Roewe, Haskell; Staci Smith, Amarillo; Nicky Allen, Amarillo; Tabitha Walton, Beaumont; Cathy Crowder, Ira and Monica Norman of Houston



Slow and Steady

Mark Bergman of Andrews practices his aim while preparing for the UT-SA Invitational in San Antonio March 14-15. (Photo by Bill Summerlin)

Rodeo team fares well in Houston livestock show

By Missy Trull
WT Page Editor

Rodeo club members competed in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo March 4.

"It was more of a rodeo club activity rather than rodeo team competition," explained Bob Doty, rodeo coach and club sponsor.

The teams competed in the

wild horse race, a special event for college students. Taking first place for WTC was the team of Kenny Tatom from Marcus, SD, and Shawn Goemmer from LaVeta, Colo. and Troy Budvarson from Alberta, Canada.

By winning the event, they won scholarship monies for themselves and for the college.

Also competing from WTC was the team of Barry Byrd, Snyder; Jim Blain Kenny, Pecos

and Thance Springer of Snyder.

The rodeo teams begin their spring schedule March 24-27 in Canyon. This is the first of six regional spring rodeos.

The finals are slated for June 13-18 at Montana State University.

"A lot of schools up north don't get out of school until June. That is why the finals are so late," Doty said.

After fall semester competi-

tion, the men's and women's teams are fifth and sixth respectively. "We need to have a good spring. We just had some bad luck in the fall," Doty said.

Spring break will interrupt the team's preparation for their opener. However, Doty said he was not concerned.

"The break will help. The (team members) will go home and practice. Some will even compete in open rodeos," he said.

Coach Tony Mauldin collected two technical fouls when he disagreed about calls by the officials against the Westerners. Although the Westerners tied the score several times during the first half, they could not get ahead of the Bulldogs.

Bobby Spear, freshman from Albuquerque, NM, and Melvin Thompson, freshmen from Dallas, were high scorers for the Westerners with 25 and 28 points respectively. Team totals were 33, 31-46, 101.

In the following game against South Plains College, the Westerners let SPC get the jump on putting points on the board. The Westerners could not regain momentum and stop the SPC Texans, or get ahead in the second half and lost the season's final game in front of a hometown crowd 98-82.

Four Westerners earned points in double figures; Bobby Spear, 26; Melvin Thompson, 14; Malcolm Waters, freshman from Stratford, 13; and Gerald Wells, sophomore from El Paso, 12. Westerners team totals were 23, 35-52, 82.

Conference standings did not change, however. The only changes were that the first and second teams, Odessa College and New Mexico Junior College, tied for first place.

Midland and South Plains Colleges tied for second and the Westerners finished behind third place Howard College in conference games.

"We did better than we expected after we played Clarendon and lost by 25 points. Then we played South Plains and only lost by 16 points. We didn't expect to do that well," said Assistant Coach Bruce Johnson, noting that Clarendon was ranked seventh in conference and South Plains, fourth.



Riding proud

Chuck Smith, Townsend, Del., tests his best time at calf-roping

(Photo by Bill Summerlin)

Sports briefs

Hall of Fame

National Junior College Basketball Coaches Association proudly announces its 1988 selections for induction into the National Junior College Basketball Hall of Fame, located in Hutchinson, Kan.

Paul Pressey, played for Western Texas College in the 1979 and 1980 National Tournaments. Team won the Championship in 1980 with a perfect 37-0 record and Pressey was named MVP.

Many consider Pressey the finest defensive player to ever play in the National Tournament. He then played at Tulsa University where his team won the NIT.

Pressey is currently in his sixth year with the Milwaukee Bucks.

Intramural schedule

Glaspie and Faculty Plus are tied for second place in intramural five-on-five basketball.

Games were played March 9 and 10, but results were not available at press time.

In first place, Running Rebels took the title. After Spring Break, Mike Harrison, intramural coach, said sign up for water volleyball and softball will begin.

American Food Management

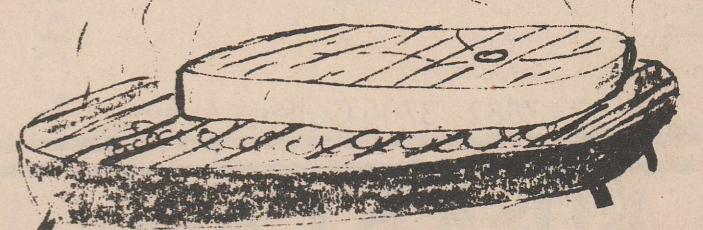
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WT Staff.

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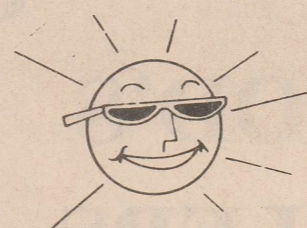
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State candidate visits campus

Melinda Thomas
WT Page Editor

Students today are not as politically active as they were in the sixties said eleventh district court of appeals Judge Bud Arnot.

He stated that the interests of today's college students is away from politics and more toward education. "I am surprised at the lack of interest in the presidential race," Arnot added.

Arnot noted if students would like to be involved politically they can join young republicans and democrats. In these organizations students attend forums and work for the candidates. Arnot stated, "The parties are begging for

help. It is not hard to become involved."

Arnot believes in a two party system in which students should take part in. He believes that we're coming to a no party system in Texas, although it is not physically possible.

Prior to being appointed Court of Appeals Judge by Governor Mark White in 1986. Arnot was a lawyer in Abilene. He was mainly a general practitioner. "It is hard to specialize in this part of Texas," stated Arnot.

In his 11 years as a lawyer, he defended a few criminal cases and handled all types of trial work. The differences between being a judge and a lawyer are that you use a different set of

skills, he explained. "It is something that has to be developed. You use a lot of writing skills. Also you do a great amount of writing and reading," said Arnot.

In Judge Arnot's court last year they handled 307 cases with 209 of them being civil. The court is the third in the state, being led by Houston and Dallas. "Fifty percent of the cases filed were in Harris and Dallas counties," he explained.

In the court of appeals, two-thirds of the cases are criminal cases in which burglary leads statistically. The rest of the cases are procedure problems. Arnot said, "There is no such thing as an error-free trial."



We need to learn more about reading and English.

Dennis Alvarez
Colorado City



The classes we are taking will prepare us.

Frank Bailey
Fort Worth

What do you think?

What do you think of the basic skills test to be administered by the state in 1989?



I feel too many (functionally) illiterate (students) are being allowed into college.

Margie Ornelas
Abilene



It's a good test. The teachers do a good job of preparing you for the test. They tell how to get ready for it and what it will be like.

Kevin Cotney
Amarillo



Whatever is included on the test should be required.

Cindy Carter
Hamlin

Placement program developed

The office careers department at Western Texas College is developing a job placement program for the students majoring in a field.

According to Tammy Wesson, instructor, the department is trying to advertise to the public the skills that the students are trained to do.

"We want to let people know we are here," Wesson said. "We hope the program will help our department grow," she said.

Wesson noted the job placement program will begin approximately in April. "We won't see

the results until next year," Wesson said.

"You can forge close partnerships with local businesses" to help students get jobs and keep college enrollments up, McLaughlin said in a speech to the convention of the Association of Community College Trustees.

McLaughlin cited a \$3.75 million effort by the Illinois Community College Board, which hired such a business liaison officer, helped get government contracts for businesses that, in turn hired two-year college students, and had a hand in

the "creation and retention of nearly 20,000 jobs."

According to Dr. Mary Hood, counselor, WTC tried to help the departments with job placement, but "it didn't work".

"The departments like doing it themselves. They keep up with the jobs available and the contacts," Hood said.

Job placement programs for WTC are occupational-technical, cosmetology, welding, diesel, automobiles, law enforcement, management and golf landscape technology.



Passing time

Walter Rayburn, Minard, plays pool for an audience in the student center.

(Photo by Monica Hinojos)

Students default on loans

Students who take out Guaranteed Student Loans (GSL) are not paying them back.

According to Dr. Duane Hood, dean of student services, students don't realize the reality of what will come to pass on those loans in the long run.

"Colleges do not make out the loans nor are they responsible for the collection, but they have been blamed for students not paying," Hood said.

According to CPS, students who tend to default on the GSL's aren't dishonorable, they're just poor.

The General Accounting Office (GAO), which audits federal spending programs, is trying to draw a "profile" of a typical GSL defaulter according to

William Gainer, agency official.

"The GAO is finding so far that dropouts, students who support themselves and students who are stuck in lower-paying jobs make up the bulk of nation's defaulters.

"More than half, 56 percent, of the former students in default did not graduate," Gainer said.

Many campus aid directors asserted defaulters were not deadbeats, but people who were simply unable to afford to repay their loans.

The GAO's emerging profile of the typical defaulter "raises serious concerns about forcing needy students to take out loans, rather than (get) grants" that don't have to be repaid, American Council on Education

official Charles Saunders said.

In its new budget proposal, released last week, the Reagan administration suggested raising the amount of money the government gives out in grants.

In its prior seven proposals, the administration had sought to reduce students' reliance on grants, which are much more expensive for the government, in favor of loans.

Hood said that if students do not pay back their loans, they would be paid out of their income tax refunds.

"Students can be sued by the college for not repaying the loans," Hood said.

The bad part of this is "those defaults count against the colleges," Hood said.

Briefs

Spring Dance

To Breakin' Spring, a dance will be tonight in the cafeteria at 8:30. Z-93 will entertain. Bring your I.D.

Lip sync

Puttin' on the Lips will be held March 29 in the Student Center at 7:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded. The Student Activities office is sponsoring the event.

Photo contest

As part of the 1988 Wildflower observance, a photo competition will be held. There are three age groups, non-student 18 years and older, high school students and WTC students.

Each photographer may submit up to three photos, 8"10 or larger, matted or framed ready to be hung.

The two categories are landscaping and general. The entry fee is \$3 for non-student per photo and \$1 for students per photo.

Deadline is April 6. For more information call 573-6107.

Class dismiss

Classes will dismiss Fri. March 11 at 1 p.m. for Spring Break. Classes will resume on March 21.

PTK travels

PTK will attend a National Convention March 23-27 at the Omni Shoreham in Washington D.C.

Those who will be attending are Allison Adams, Cecelia Meek, Amy Wilson and Julie Jones all of Snyder, and Dannielle Tice of Hamlin. Sponsor Dr. Mary Hood will also attend.

Individuals place well

Meat judging competes in Houston

By Kay Carrizales
WT Reporter

The Western Texas College meat judging team won second place in the lamb grading competition in Houston, missing first place by one point.

The team also ranked sixth in pork judging and is now ranked eighth out of 18 teams competing in the national finals.

According to Jim Judah, in-

structor, this is the best the WTC meat grading team has ever done in the national finals.

Among the individual results, every member of the WTC team placed in the competition. Tiffany O'Brien of Borden was second high individual in lamb grading while Shane Gann of Snyder and Jeff Roemisch of Hermligh tied for third high individual in beef grading and Shondra Robinson of Snyder

took fifth high individual in beef grading.

Also placing were Kyle Cain of Frankston, who took fifth in lamb grading and was also ranked high individual on the team.

"The students placed higher as individuals than ever before. We got close but no cigar this time," Judah said.

According to Judah, the college will host a high school judging competition on March 22.

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