

# THE WESTERN

# TEXAN

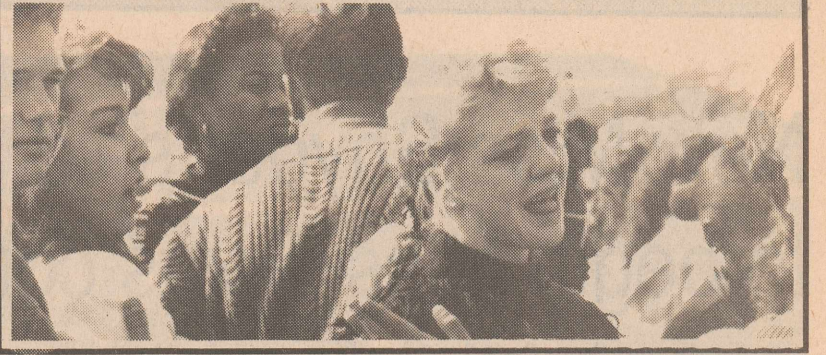
Volume 20, No. 5

November 20, 1989

Western Texas College, Snyder, TX, 79549

FIRE...

See Texan Photos, pages 7-8



## Blaze evacuates dorm, classes dismissed

A third-floor fire in the west-wing of the Western Texas College dormitory Friday caused smoke damage throughout the wing and destroyed or heavily damaged three dorm rooms.

As a result of the fire's disruption, college officials canceled the three-days of classes planned before the Thanksgiving break.

No injuries were associated with the fire, but the dormitory's west wing—one of four—had to have holes knocked through the roof of the first floor to allow water to drain.

There was also reportedly 1-inch of water standing in the second floor of the west wing shortly after the fire was brought under control.

At mid-afternoon Friday, the extent of damage was uncertain, but fire officials indicated at least one of the dorm's four wings—the south

wing—likely did not have smoke damage.

College officials immediately moved into action to try and find housing for the dorm students without alternate places to go.

At mid-afternoon, motels were being contacted as well as individuals willing to bring students into their homes temporarily.

The cancellation of classes will affect only Monday, Tuesday and through noon of Wednesday this coming week. Classes were to dismiss already for the Thanksgiving break at 1 p.m. Wednesday.

The heavy fire damage was said confined to the dormitory's west wing and primarily to the third floor of that wing. The room where the fire started was destroyed and the two rooms adjacent to it were said heavily damaged.

College officials said it appears the roof of the dormitory was not affected by the blaze.

An exact cause of the fire was not known Friday, but the most prevalent speculation involved some type of electrical appliance. This was not confirmed by fire officials, however.

Black smoke was spotted coming from a third floor window of the dorm shortly before noon by maintenance director Leon Pettit. He noted, "By the time I got inside, all the alarms were going off."

Pettit managed to shut off the air-handlers serving the dorm and to help alert residents. The dorm was evacuated quickly with a minimum of confusion.

See FIRE, page 6

*Controls being planned...*

## Speeders beware on campus roads

By Sharon Doty  
Texan Staffer

When you're a little late for class, it's easy just to put the accelerator down a little more and, "voila," you're on time.

Next semester, that might not be so easy.

The college has been worried for sometime about the speeds at which drivers on campus, students and faculty, drive on the college roads, according to Dr. Harry Krenek, college president.

The Snyder Police were asked to clock speeds at which people were driving, and these ranged from 40-60 mph in WTC's 30mph speed zone.

Although the college has not yet decided what to do, it is exploring different options which include having city police patrol the road.

In this scenario, traffic tickets would go on one's permanent record. This would involve also receiving the City of Snyder's approval and possibly naming the road as a city street.

Another option is to hire off-duty policeman to work for WTC,

Krenek said. The first offense would be paid to WTC and not go on a permanent record, but the second would be turned into the city police, to be paid to the city. This second ticket would be on the driver's permanent record.

Employing security to patrol the campus would give the college more say in how to handle traffic violations, he noted.

To slow down speeds on the service roads of the campus, speedbumps will most likely be built. This will include the service road behind the administration building that leads to the Fine Arts building, the roads to the dorms and the road around the driving range to the gym.

In the past there have been only two major wrecks at the college. One involved a student from the local high school who ran into the entry sign and turned his truck over. In the other incident, a student and a faculty member were in collision at one of the apartment parking lots, an accident that happened about 10 years ago.

While Krenek admitted that WTC has been lucky in the past in having no more than these two wrecks, he said, "We really don't want to wait until someone gets hit by a car or we have a major wreck."

Although it has been decided something is going to be done to reduce speeds at the campus, nothing has been absolutely decided on. Krenek said for now, "We're listening to people's ideas." This has included a meeting with the student senate.

Krenek said a decision will be made before the end of the fall term and the changes will most likely be implemented next semester.

He emphasized the effort to patrol the roads is not an attempt "to make money or punish people, we're trying to make the roads safe."

He continued, "Obviously, if people would stop driving fast we wouldn't have to patrol."

## Yule event slated after brief break

By Naomi J. Gutierrez  
Texan Staffer

WTC students returning from the Thanksgiving holiday can look forward to the 11th annual Christmas Happening, which will be held Sunday, December 3, from 1-5 p.m. at the Scurry County Museum and the WTC campus.

The event traditionally attracts hundreds of visitors to Western Texas College.

This year, it will feature a "parade of trees." These will be Christmas trees decorated by college departments, local businesses and organizations.

There will also be two pinata breakings, at 2:30 and at 3:30, and Santa Claus will be present all day long.

Those attending may be photographed in an old-time sleigh from 2:30-4:30 during the afternoon.

Throughout the day, there will be a country store which will contain hand-crafted gift items for the family. Children may participate also in holiday craft activities.

See HAPPENING, page 2



SARENA WRIGHT  
...new Miss Snyder...



### HONORED BY STUDENTS

Mickey Baird, student activities director for WTC since the college's beginning, was honored Thursday with the annual PTK Founder's Day Award. The honor, given by the campus group to a deserving faculty or staff member, was decided on by

a vote of various campus organizations. The surprise announcement was made during WTC's activity period Thursday morning. (Texan Photo by Wylie Dakan)

## Holidays find some far from family, home

By Amy Presler  
Texan Staffer

"I'll be home for Christmas..." Many students at WTC from out-of-state and out-of-country will be singing that popular tune in a few weeks.

But for several students whose "homes" are far away, the holidays will be a time away from their family.

For a few, friends will be the next best thing. Jill Forrest, a Lady Duster, is an accounting major from Bay St. Louis, Miss.

Jill said that over Thanksgiving she will be going home with Gena Stockett, who lives in Happy. At Christmas, she will be flying home.

See FAMILY, page 2

## Turkey plucking game scheduled here today

By Tabby Lewis  
Texan Staffer

Take a vow of silence, ladies. Earn a little pocket change, guys. The recreation committee of the WTC Student Senate urges everyone to take part in "Pluck the Turkey" activities today and Tuesday.

Ladies should pick up a feather in the Student Activities Office by noon today and put their name on it. The rules of the game are that no girl who has a feather may talk to any males, either student or instructor, before noon Tuesday.

If she does she must forfeit her feather to the male she spoke to. The guy with the most feathers will receive a \$10 cash prize.

All coeds who retain their feathers by noon Tuesday may return it to the Student Activities Office. They will be treated to a pizza party at 6 p.m. in the Student Activities Center provided by the Recreation Committee.

## WTC elementary ed. major is new Miss Snyder

By Misty M. Stevens  
Texan Staffer

"Someone once said, 'In order to achieve you must first believe.' I believe in the future of young people and that is why I'm an elementary education major at Western Texas College.

"Good evening ladies and gentleman, I'm 18-year-old Sarena Wright, contestant number six," said the upcoming 1990 Miss Snyder.

Sarena Ann Wright was crowned Miss Snyder this past Nov. 11, receiving a full scholarship to WTC along with a \$500 cash scholarship, a crown and a bouquet of red roses.

The honor allows her to advance to the Miss Texas Scholarship Pageant in Fort Worth the week of July 8-14.

Upon receiving her crown, Sarena said, "I was overwhelmed with excitement but I really

couldn't believe it was happening."

She is no stranger to the world of pageant competition after already being named fourth runner-up in the Miss America Teenager Pageant. Sarena was Hamilton's 1989 Junior Miss, Dove Festival Queen 1987, and FFA district talent winner.

Her goal is to someday become Miss Texas. Sarena said, "This has been a dream of mine

since I was a little girl and now I'm one step closer to making it come true."

Sarena was voted Best Looking at Hamilton High School and was a homecoming queen nominee. She was a state golf qualifier, member of the district champion volleyball team, class officer and staff section editor for the annual her senior year in high school. Her hobbies include golf, collecting. See MISS SNYDER, page 2

# TEXAN

## New Miss Snyder said anxious to begin Miss Texas competition

Continued From Page 1  
dolls, cooking, singing, dancing, running, volleyball, being with friends and family and working with children.

Sarena's duties as Miss Snyder began last Sunday morning, Nov. 12, at Colonial Hill Baptist Church, where she attended the morning service with the reigning Miss Texas, Leah Kay Lyle. Sarena said, "I'm nervous yet anxious to get started on my preparation [for Miss Texas]. I know it will be tough but I'm

willing to strive to fulfill my dream."

When receiving the title of Miss Snyder, Sarena accepted the responsibilities that come along with it. Her preparation for the Miss Texas Pageant will be difficult and trying, she notes. "My life will become busier with public appearances and speeches but I'm ready for that challenge," the new Miss Snyder said. Sarena has numerous appearances, public functions and activities to attend as the reigning Miss Snyder 1990.

Bill and Judy Moss, chairpersons for the Miss Snyder Pageant, became Sarena's personal managers as soon as she received the crown. She was also assigned a hair dresser, make-up artist, nutritionist, photographer and voice coach to aid her in the Miss Texas Pageant.

Sarena's is the daughter of John B. and Christy Wright of Hamilton. Her future ambition is to become Miss Texas and later to find success as a top elementary education teacher.

## Martial arts holds interest

By Amy Presler  
Texan Staffer

Walking alone in a dark alley shouldn't frighten Cameron Hopson, because he REALLY knows karate.

Hopson has been involved in Tae Kwon Do for the past year, a sport he began to participate in for health reasons.

Hopson, a philosophy in Eastern studies major from Shallowater, involved himself in Tae Kwon Do after realizing that he was, in his terms, "unhealthy."

He participated in his first tournament a few weeks ago at the Fort Worth Invitational and won third place in both forms and fighting.

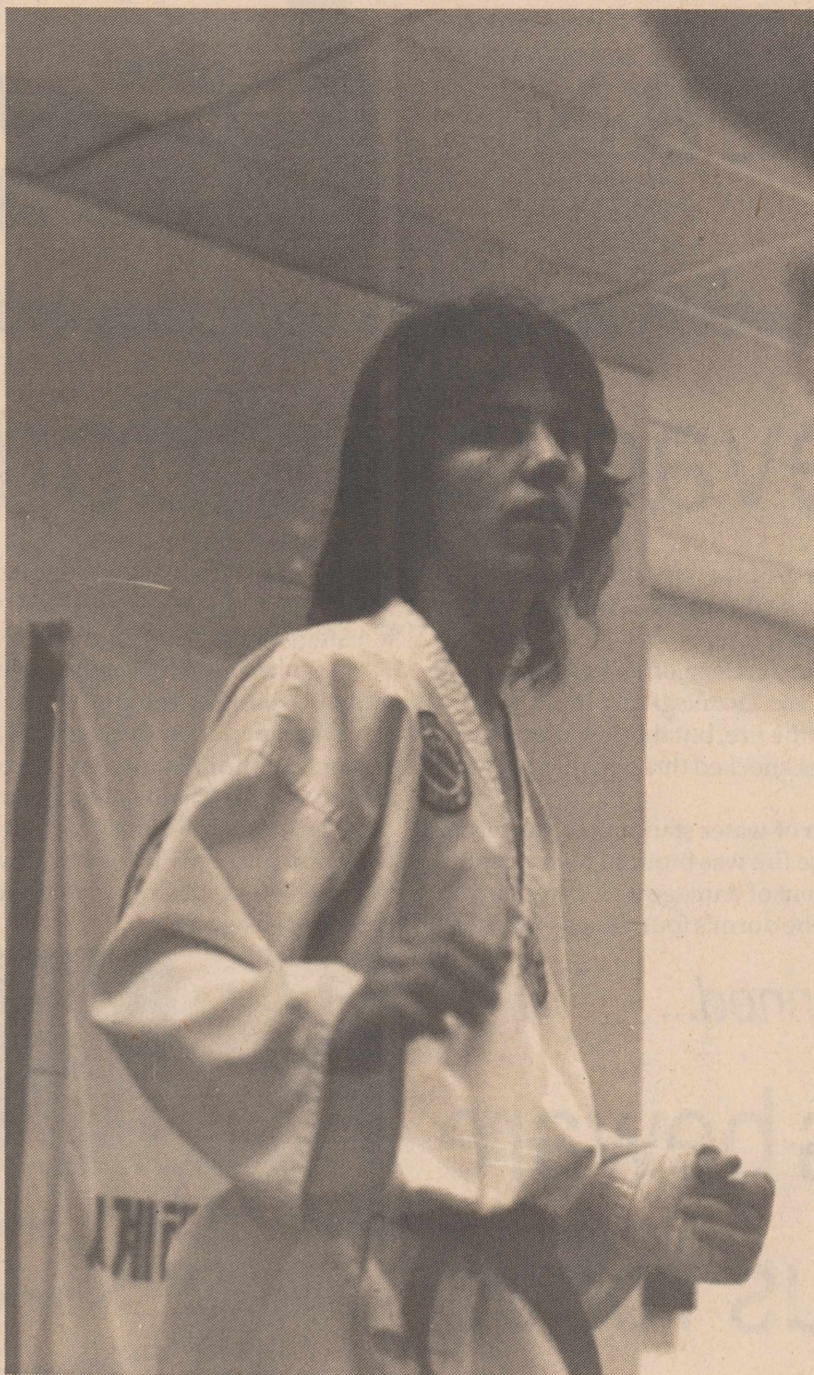
Hopson is a sixth keubed green belt. He hopes to get his black belt in the next couple of years.

He said that karate has strong roots in Korea, noting he learns much of the Korean language because it is "yelled" before performing a technique.

Hopson said that they yell in order "to intimidate the opponent and also because it expels bad air and allows you to breathe in fresh air right before you hit."

He also added that breaking boards and bricks uses a lot of technique because if you hit the brick the wrong way you could get seriously hurt. Hopson said that he has broken boards but is still working on breaking bricks.

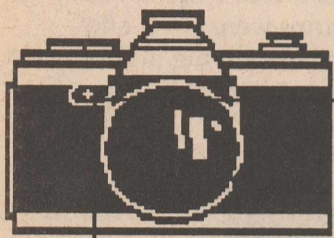
Hopson attends the West Texas Tae Kwon Do Academy in Snyder.



Tae Kwon Do

Cameron Hopson has been involved in Tae Kwon Do for the past year, a sport he began to participate in for health reasons.

Hopson, a philosophy in Eastern studies major from Shallowater said he enjoys the sport because each new technique introduced to the student "steplatters" in difficulty. (Texan Photo by Wylie Dakan)



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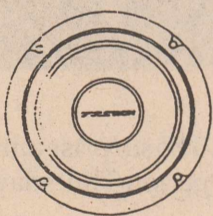
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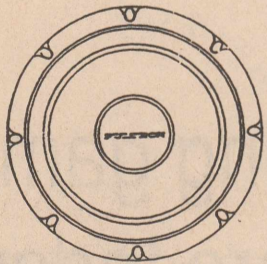
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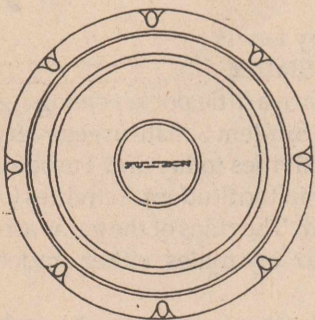
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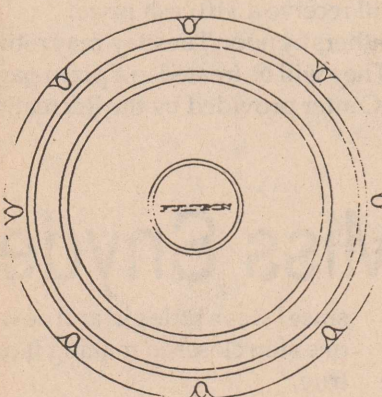
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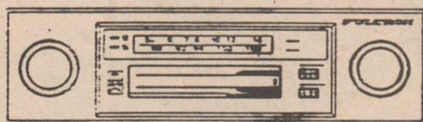
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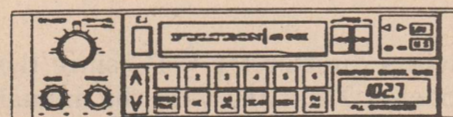
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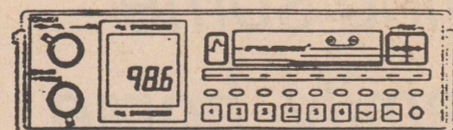
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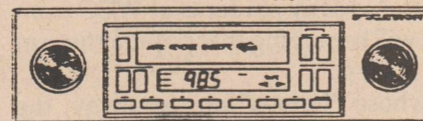
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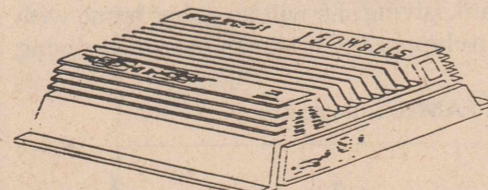
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## Family not always part of holidays

Continued From Page 1

Portia Poiter is from Freeport, Grand Bahama in the Bahama Islands. Portia is going to be spend Thanksgiving with the Peery family in Abilene, but her two friends and fellow WTC students, Char and Roz, will be away at a basketball game.

Portia said that she will be flying home for Christmas though. She said she misses the beaches and the food but is excited to see snow during her stay here.

She said, "I've never seen snow so I hope I will have a chance to experience it this winter if it gets cold enough."

Shaun Quinn, a member of the rodeo team, is from Schuler-ville, N.Y. He will be spending Thanksgiving with Carl Ghulson at his parents home in Jayton.

Quinn said he will be driving home for Christmas although he likes the weather here.

"I like the rodeos in Texas and also the warmth here because back home right now it would probably be 20 degrees."

He misses his parents, the hills and the trees most of all in New York and he's looking forward to the big party his family gives every Christmas.

Still other WTC students now a long way from home will make the trip back for the holidays.

## 'Happening' set to start holidays

Continued From Page 1

A Christmas Concert will be held at 2 p.m. at the Fine Arts Theatre with performances by the WTC Choir, the Collegiate Singers, the Flute Ensemble and the WTC Women's Ensemble. There will also be a craft sale in the Fine Arts Building ceramics studio from 1-4 p.m.

John Gibson and Ty Brunson will be holding a faculty art exhibit in the Fine Arts Gallery. Their opening reception for the general public will be at 1 p.m. at the Fine Arts Gallery.

There will also be a Christmas play by Ellie Dryden's junior high students from 3-3:30 p.m. at the Fine Arts Theater.

Linc Taylor, originally from Johannesburg, South Africa, said he will be flying home for Christmas, a journey that will total 24 hours, to spend the holiday with his mother.

Taylor, a GLT major, came to the United States in 1987 to visit his father who lives in Chicago. Taylor said he started work in New Mexico and began looking for a GLT school and chose WTC because of its reputation of being one of the best in the country.

Taylor said that he'll stay in the campus apartments over Thanksgiving because he never celebrated it in South Africa.

Taylor said, "I celebrated it once with my father in Chicago but it just seemed like we ate a lot of food and that's it." He added, "Since I never celebrated it in the past, I don't really miss anything because I never knew what it was all about, I don't feel anything."

Taylor said that he misses his family and the South African people most because "they seem to have more values than Americans, Americans are so carefree."

Sandy Niessen, a GLT major from Peewaukee, Wis. said she will be flying home for Thanksgiving and will drive home for Christmas.

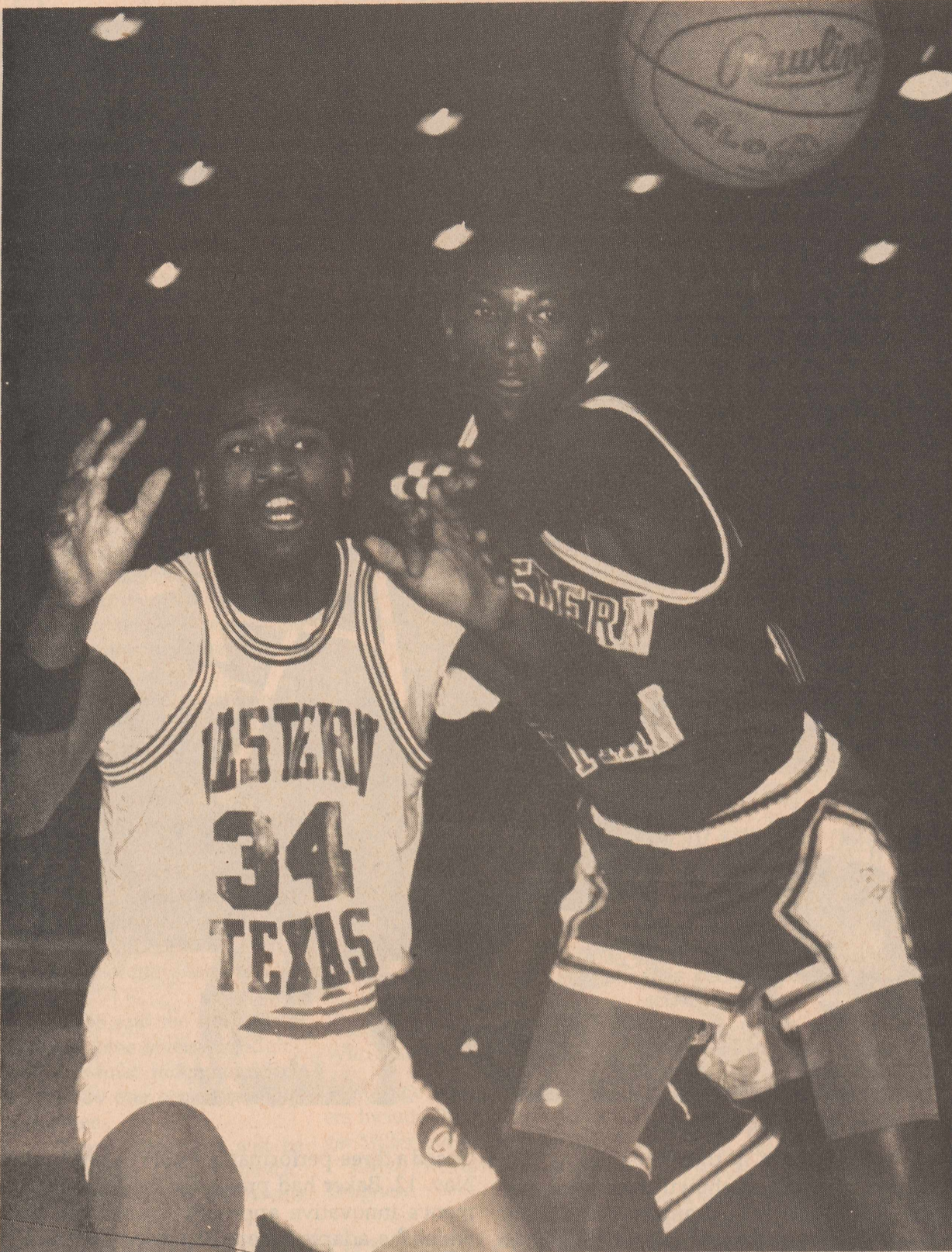
Niessen said that she misses the trees in Wisconsin. Even more, she said, she misses her fiance. Niessen said that she likes Texas because the people are friendlier.

Another WTC student, while far away from where he calls home, at least has one parent nearby.

Pat Sanders is from Anchorage, Alaska. Sanders said his mother lives in Lubbock so he will be going there for Thanksgiving and Christmas. He said his father and brother still live in Alaska, but he said that he probably won't make it back until he finishes school.

During Christmas, he said he will miss the snows of Alaska most of all. "Snow during Christmas is very important to me, and having family around."

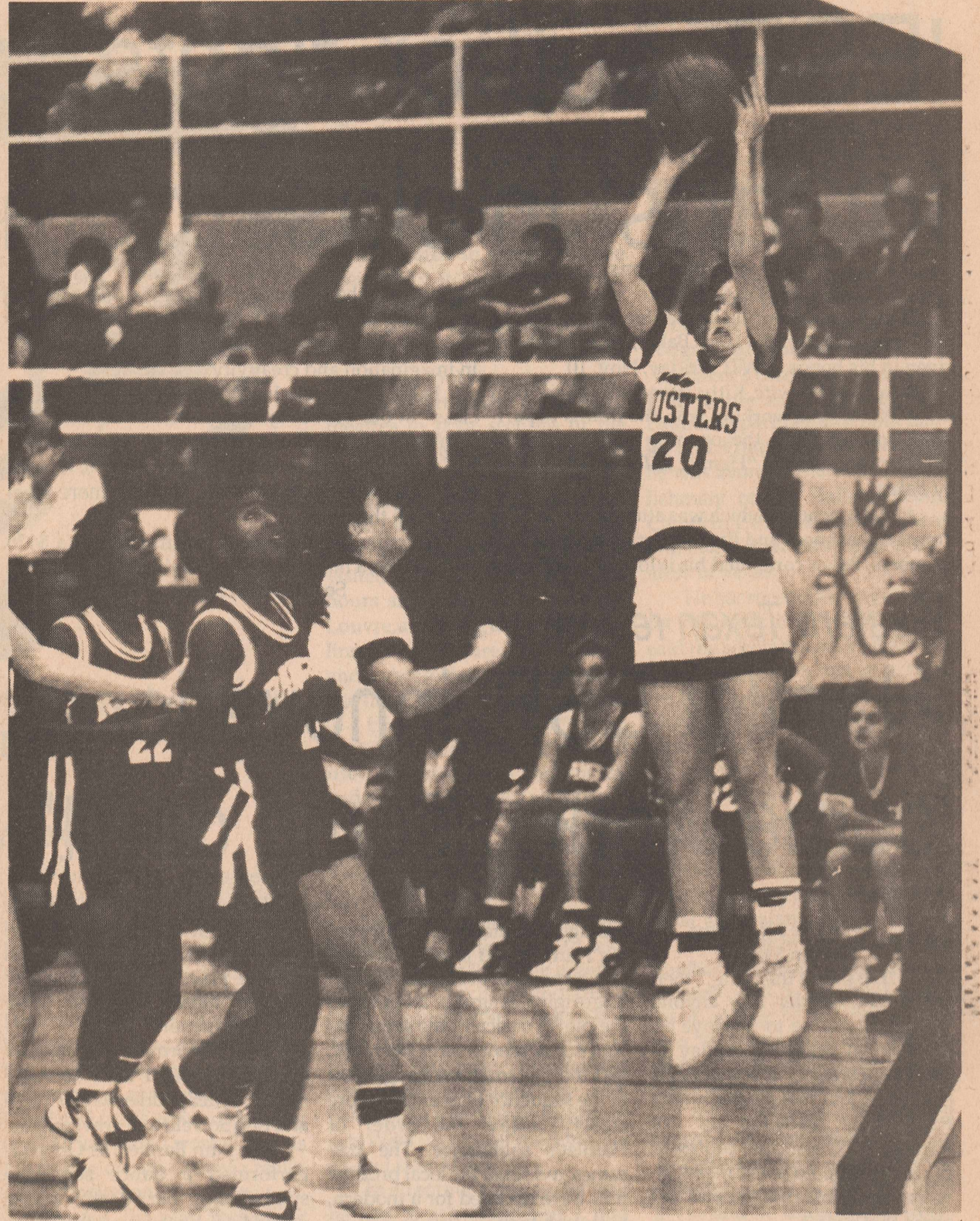
1 out of every 25 cars on the road is driven by a drunk driver.



**A TALL CONFRONTATION**

Western Texas College proved to be too tough to handle as they beat Southwest Christian twice in one week. Jacoby Garmon (34) fights for position as the men won 103-89 in the

WTC McDonalds Classic played here the weekend of Nov. 10-11 (Texan Photo by Wylie Dakan).



**HEADED FOR THE HOOP**

Bobby Brown (20) shoots for two over Jill Forrest in the Lady Dusters victory over Ranger Junior College Nov. 7. The Dusters

meet Ranger again tonight, a game to be played on the road. (Photo by Howard Bigham)

**Early season wins have WTC men enjoying perfect 6-0 season record**

By Todd Perry  
Texan Staffer

The WTC Westerners remain unbeaten after their first five games, defeating Ranger twice, Southwest Christian twice and Cisco Junior College.

Last Monday, Nov. 13, WTC faced Southwest Christian, a team they had already defeated earlier this year. The game was closer than the last but the outcome was the same with the Westerners winning 103-89.

Leading the WTC squad was Dominick Byrd, who poured in a game-high 29 points and also led the team with 19 rebounds. Alfredo was also a spark with five goals from the floor including two 3-pointers and a perfect four of four at the free throw line with a total of 16.

Jeff Shelley added 13 and David Smith had 12 with one 3-pointer.

Rounding out the scoring was Cedric Mason with 9, Allan Smith with 7, Kenneth Critton had 6, Jacoby Garmon and Lester White had 4 each and Ray Johnson ended with 2.

In the McDonalds Tournament, played Nov. 9-11, WTC faced Ranger for the second time in a week. The team took a commanding 66-40 lead at half time and ended with a 113-96 victory.

Scoring for the Westerners were Jeff Shelley

with 28 to pace the team, followed by Kenneth Critton with 26. Dominick Byrd had 20, Alfredo Porter 12 and Allan Smith had 11.

Cedric Mason and Jacoby Garmon each had 4 while Lester White and David Smith had 2.

In the second day of action, WTC faced Cisco in what would be an awesome come-from-behind victory. WTC was 16 points behind at the half but came back to win 98-95.

The team had four players in double figures. Allan Smith led the team with 15 points and a perfect five of five from the free throw line. Alfredo Porter had 14 points while Kenneth Critton and Jeff Shelley added 11 each.

Other members scoring were Cedric Mason with 9, David Smith with 5, and Lester White and Ray Johnson with 4 each. Jacoby Garmon had 2.

Western Texas completed their first home game on Nov. 7 with a win over Ranger Junior College. Alfredo Porter led the Westerners to a 108-103 victory with a team high 19 points. Porter hit four 3-pointers and was one of two from the line.

Adding to the team was point guard Allen Smith and center Kenneth Critton, who both had 13. David Smith had 12 while Ray Johnson and Dominick Byrd picked up 11 each. Rounding out the scoring was Cedric Mason with 9, Lester White with 8 and Tony Joyce with 5.

**Dusters stand at 6-1 after tourney**

By Carol Johnson  
Texan Staffer

The WTC Lady Dusters stand at 6-1 after their loss to Howard Junior College by 2 points in the WTC Classic Nov 11.

The leading scorer for the Lady Dusters was Carla Gladden with 15 pts. She hit 6 field goals and 3 out of 3 from the free throw line.

Roberta Brown poured in 14 points including two 3-pointers, and Tami Wilson with 12 points.

Other Lady Dusters helping build the score were Jeana Stockett and Jill Forrest with 4 each and Tammy Williams with 3.

Despite the loss in the non-conference game, Coach Kelly Chadwick said the Lady Dusters have set a goal not only to go to the Nationals, but to win it.

The Dusters beat Cisco Junior College November 10, 72-64 in the second game of the tournament. Leading for the Lady Dusters was Tami Wilson with 27 points, Roberta Brown poured in 12

points. Both Jill Forrest and Jeana Stockett hit 10 points each.

Vicky Jones added 7 points, Tammy Williams with 4, and 3 from Tracy Edmunds, Kelsey Koester and Carla Gladden.

The Duster's opening game in the WTC Classic saw them defeat South Plains November 9, 78-70.

Roberta Brown led the Lady Dusters with 26 points. She hit four 3-point shots and was two of two from the free throw line.

Carla Gladden and Tami Wilson were also in double figures. Gladden hit 16 points making eight of 10 free throws and four field goals.

Tami Wilson scored on six hoops and a free shot. Jill Forrest also had a double figure for the night with 10 points.

Other Lady Dusters scoring against the Lady Texans included Jeana Stockett with 8 points, Vicky Jones with 3 and Tammy Williams with 2 points.

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## 'ESP' author fights for 'arts' in classroom

By Janice Northern  
Texan Staffer

"I've been a guerrilla fighter for the arts all my life," said playwright Paul Baker, at a luncheon given in his honor at WTC Friday, Nov. 10.

Baker and his wife, Kitty, spent Nov. 9 and 10 on the WTC campus working with the drama department and attended the opening performance of WTC's production of "Hamlet ESP," an adaptation by Baker.

At the luncheon, which was attended by WTC's drama department and English department faculty members, Baker continued his informal address by

saying that the latter part of this century and the beginning of the next "will belong to creative art." Our real wealth is not in oil wells or land, he said, but in imagination and creativity.

Baker said he felt the arts were treated as "second class" in our school systems, and commented that "America's in a hell of a state." "Individual creativity" is not valued in our educational system, he said, and those who do value it are "getting more lonesome" all the time.

He criticized the recent construction of a \$126 million opera house in Dallas, saying the promoters See BAKER, page 5

Western Texan review...

## 'Hamlet ESP' innovations, 'some work ...some don't'

By Janice Northern  
Texan Staffer

If "the play's the thing," then one might wonder why anyone would risk trying to improve on the original version of a play as good as "Hamlet." It is a difficult challenge, and this adaptation by Paul Baker, directed by Jim Rambo, WTC associate professor of drama, offered some major innovations, some that worked and some that didn't.

"Hamlet ESP" ran from Nov. 10-12 at WTC and was this year's entry in the American College Theatre Festival held in Beaumont last week.

The play features three actors

onstage simultaneously portraying Hamlet, and much of the action takes place in Hamlet's mind. The original language is kept, and the plot is basically the same, except some scenes have been cut, and there is some rearrangement in the sequence of events to more closely follow the order of Hamlet's soliloquies. The costumes and set in the local production were updated for a modern, high-tech look.

The biggest change had Hamlet being played in triplicate by Scott Weaver, Brandon Neely and Jeff Hicks. All three actors turned in capable performances without any one overpowering or

outshining the other two. The trio worked well together and maintained a high energy level throughout the play, despite being onstage for almost the entire three hour production.

Fine performances were also given by Richard Lack as Polonius, Joy McSpadden as Gertrude and Lisa Sorrells as a gravedigger.

Lea Ann Bonner, as Ophelia, performed a dance sequence symbolizing her death which proved to be one of the most moving scenes in the play. She was aided by excellent sound, lighting and choreography.

The rest of the cast was competent, with the exception of a couple of performers in minor



### THEATRE MASTER

Paul Baker, known in theatre circles as "Mr. Regional Theatre," is shown during his sessions Nov. 10 with WTC drama students. Baker met with classes as part of his local visit for the opening production of "Hamlet ESP," which

closed a three-performance local run on Sunday, Nov. 12. Baker had praise for the local department's innovative approach toward the play, which he adapted from Shakespeare's classic. Texan Photo.

roles, one of whom was completely inadequate, at least at the Friday night performance I attended.

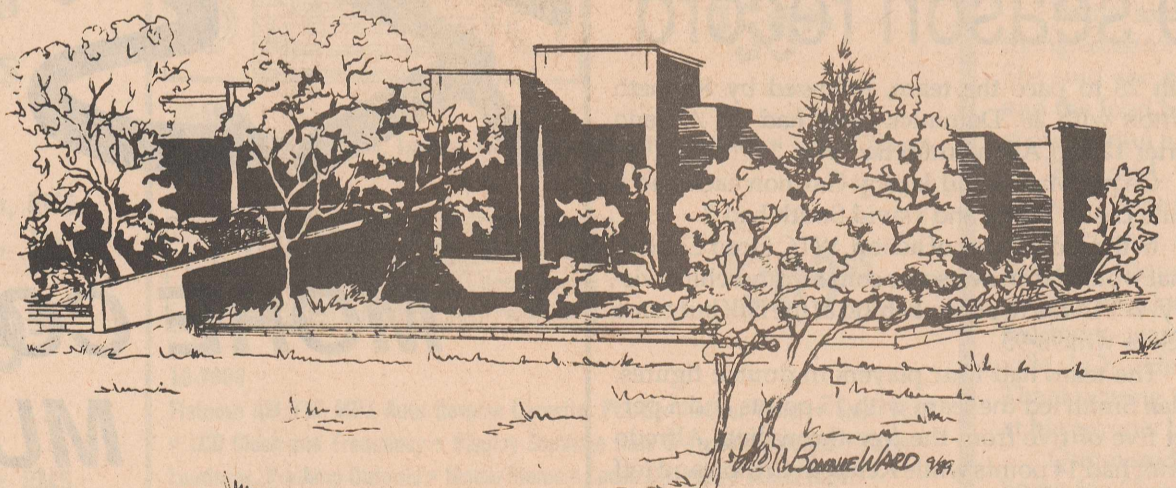
Some of the high-tech changes

worked especially well—the costumes, for the most part, were wonderful, particularly the use of long strands of colored sequins,

which symbolized alliance with the king and also helped to create a mood of surrealism.

See REVIEW, page 5

## THE SCURRY COUNTY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION



Drew Bullard, President

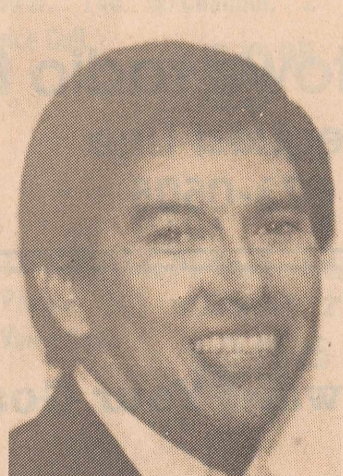


Mary Strelecki, Vice President

### INTRODUCING... MUSEUM BOARD MEMBERS



Judy Moss, Secretary



Joe Coronado, Treasurer

**Drew Bullard, President:** Rancher and High School teacher, Drew has been involved since the museum's inception. His wife, Carol, has also volunteered at the museum for many years. They have two children, Mark and Christine.

**Mary Strelecki, Vice President:** Mary is married to David Strelecki, and they have one son, Carl. Mary is a member of the Snyder Genealogical society.

**Judy Moss, Secretary:** Judy is married to Bill Moss, Director of the Chamber of Commerce. Judy teaches at North Elementary School.

**Joe Coronado, Treasurer:** Joe is a certified Public Accountant with the firm of Yorgensen Blakely and Coronado. His wife's name is Geneva and they have three boys, Pablo-Estebon, Josue, and Mateo.

**Jo Flynn:** is a retired art and home economic teacher and the wife of Doug Flynn. They have three sons, John, Michael, and Tim.

**Ruby Patterson:** Ruby and her deceased husband, Robert Patterson, operated Snyder Drug for many years. They have four children: Robert Jr., Allana, Peggy, and Ann.

**Jearldene Anderson:** Jearldene is an Engineering Technician Three for the highway department. She has four children, Anita, Morris, Brenda, and Donna.

**Jon Derouen:** Jon is a county rancher and farmer. He is married to Carolyn Derouen, a high school teacher. They have two children, Jon and Michele.



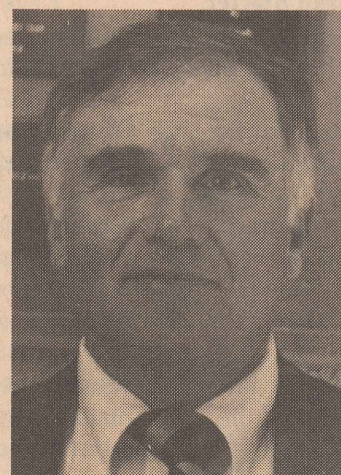
Ruby Patterson



Jearldene Anderson



Jo Flynn



Jon Derouen

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# TEXAN

## Theatre troupe travels to regional competition

By Amy Presler  
Texan Staffer

The cast and crew of 'Hamlet ESP' was in Beaumont through the weekend performing in the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) at Lamar University. Galen Price was to compete in the festival for set and light design as well.

Results of the competition were not expected to be known until the cast and crew returned to Snyder.

Jim Rambo, drama instructor, said the competition is an annual event. He noted he tries to attend it every year but has declined the invitation occasionally because the play at the time wasn't "appropriate."

Rambo said, "I'm real careful in what play I choose to perform at the competition."

WTC was to compete with five other colleges at the weekend competition, which is a part of a five state region that includes New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas.

The plays will be critiqued this year by Jeff Kope, a critic from the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.

Rambo said the competition includes three levels of judging and the final judgement isn't reached by one person but by a committee.

Kope's judgement will be known as the "critic's choice" while all the directors will have a

"director's choice." Both of these will be considered when the regional committee makes the final decision. The winner of the final "regional choice" will advance to another competition in Lubbock in February.

The winner of the regional competition in Lubbock will have the opportunity to perform the play at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

Rambo said he has had two shows in the past that were nominated to advance to Washington D.C.

He also said that the competition is not limited to junior colleges, noting WTC competes with large universities such as Texas Tech.

The lead actors portraying the three Hamlets are Scott Weaver, Brandon Neely and Jeff Hicks.

Actors in supporting roles include: Kenn Kern, portraying Horatio; Joy McSpadden, portraying Gertrude; Jay Burns, portraying Claudius; and Richard Lack, portraying Polonius.

Other members of the cast include: Jerry Vizena, Clay Travis, Rodney Gestes, Lea Ann Bonner, Trisha Phillips, Frank Pointeau, Lisa Sorrells, Steve Warner, Christi Wilcox and Kim Helton.

On-stage technicians and dressers include Brian Hamrick, Ginger Miller and Rebecca Kizer.

Galen Price is the set and light designer.



A composite drawing of the three Hamlets from Hamlet ESP.

## Play review offered by Texan staffer

Continued From Page 4

The costumes, together with the stark set design and lighting, showcased the actors far better than period costumes and stage sets ever could.

Rock music was employed effectively in many scenes. Several plexiglass panels, which the various Hamlets painted key portions of soliloquies on during the play, also added impact.

One change that didn't quite work was the addition of five television monitors. They fit in well with the set design, but even from the second row, where I was sitting, it was impossible to see what was on them, rendering them more a distraction than anything else.

The length of the play was another weak point. Brevity may be the soul of wit, but it wasn't the soul of "Hamlet ESP." The three-hour running time left many in the audience restless.

There were many moving scenes in the play, but some which should have been were not. Osric appeared in a costume reminiscent of Liberace, and though his costuming and characterization were perhaps an attempt to portray the mockery of death, the character was vastly overplayed. This ruined the fencing scene between Hamlet and Laertes, which should have been a climactic point in the play.

"Hamlet ESP" relies heavily on Hamlet's soliloquies, and the repetition of them. This choral presentation worked well for much of the play, and was especially effective in portraying Hamlet's madness. By the end, however, it grew tiresome. The final scene depended too much on the emotion generated by well-loved and familiar words to carry it, and it just didn't work. One was left feeling cheated out of a really good conclusion.

Overall, the play had many strengths. It also had some weaknesses, one of the main ones being the difficulty in following the plot. Shakespearean language is hard to understand unless clearly heard. Part of the problem was at times the cast simply did not project well enough, leaving the audience to guess what was being said.

It helps if one is familiar with Hamlet, and that is probably not an unreasonable expectation. However, to properly enjoy this play, one would have to have seen or read Hamlet fairly recently, or risk getting lost in all the innovations. It turned out to be an unfair requirement.

Some theatergoers in Friday night's audience may have felt as a person sitting near me did, when he commented half-way through the first act, "I wish I'd brought my 'Cliff Notes'."

## Play's author praises efforts benefitting arts

Continued From Page 4

did it for "their own egos," and that the tickets were so expensive, "no one can afford to go." Baker said if that \$126 million had been invested in artists and the community, it "would have revolutionized Dallas."

"I tried, I had several plans," he said, adding that he thought the money could have been better used to start small community theatres in poor sections of the city, but "they put money into ego, and not where it counts."

During lunch, Baker also discussed how he came up with the idea for "Hamlet ESP." He said he visited Paris in 1952 and spent hours studying paintings in the Louvre, analyzing the use of space, line, color, texture and rhythm, and trying to decide how he could use those ideas in a play.

He noted that Picasso "tipped the table" in a still life and Rouault used distorted faces and angles, and that both came up with brand new perspectives. Using those ideas, he decided to "tip the stage" and use three actors to make "one big Hamlet's face."

Baker said this approach was based on his philosophy to take "the best ideas from the greatest minds you can find and distill them through your personality. This 'Hamlet' . . . was distilled through Paul Baker, through the eyes of a West Texan," he said. Baker, who was born in Hereford, said West Texas was "the first great space I ever knew."

In adapting the play, he said he had to ask "Who was I, and who am I? I [had] to find out for myself that 'Hamlet' is good and has gorgeous language, I [couldn't] take someone else's word for it." He added that he didn't do that play for anybody but "that little boy" from Hereford, Texas.

Baker compared the space he

knew as a child in West Texas to the theatre, saying "You start out with an empty space and fill it with your own ideas or use worn ones from someone else." He commended Jim Rambo and the WTC Drama Department in their production of his play, saying "You have used fresh ideas, and I congratulate you on that."

Baker's career has included a long tenure as Chairman of the Drama Departments of both Baylor and Trinity Universities, and he was instrumental in the establishment of the Dallas Theatre Center in 1959. Baker said this was one of the first professional theatres in Texas.

He has received many awards for his work in the theatre, but said the accolades paid to him are due partly to the fact that "I've been at it long, and I'm still here. A lot of people leave earlier," the 78-year-old added with a smile.

"If you can stick it out long enough, reward will come," Baker said, and noted that while the reward might not be in the form of international acclaim, there would always be growth, and "growth is what we're after."

In a brief interview after the luncheon, Baker again complimented WTC's Drama Department, saying he felt Jim Rambo was "excellent" and that both he and his students were producing "new and imaginative ideas."

Baker, who now resides just outside Waelder, Texas, near San Antonio, says he does not miss the theatre because he has never left it. He said he leads drama workshops from time to time, and is very involved in the community where he now resides. He and Mrs. Baker both do volunteer teaching in the Waelder school system. Baker works with a class of learning disabled students, incorporating various methods from the arts as therapy.

## Fall term nearing last days

The fall term at WTC is winding down as classes are due to begin the week of Dec. 11-13. The fall recess for the Thanksgiving holiday Wednesday at 1 p.m.

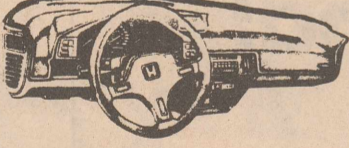
For the Thanksgiving break, the WTC dormitory will close Wednesday at 2 p.m. and reopen Sunday at 2 p.m. Offices will close at 3 p.m. and will reopen at 8 a.m. the following Monday, when classes resume.

When students return from the Thanksgiving break, they will face only two weeks of classroom

instruction before final exams being given the week of Dec. 11-13. The fall semester will officially end Dec. 15.

The annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony will be in the courtyard on the Tuesday night after students return from the Thanksgiving break.

The ceremony will be staged at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 28. The WTC Choir, under the direction of Jane Womack, will perform Christmas carols

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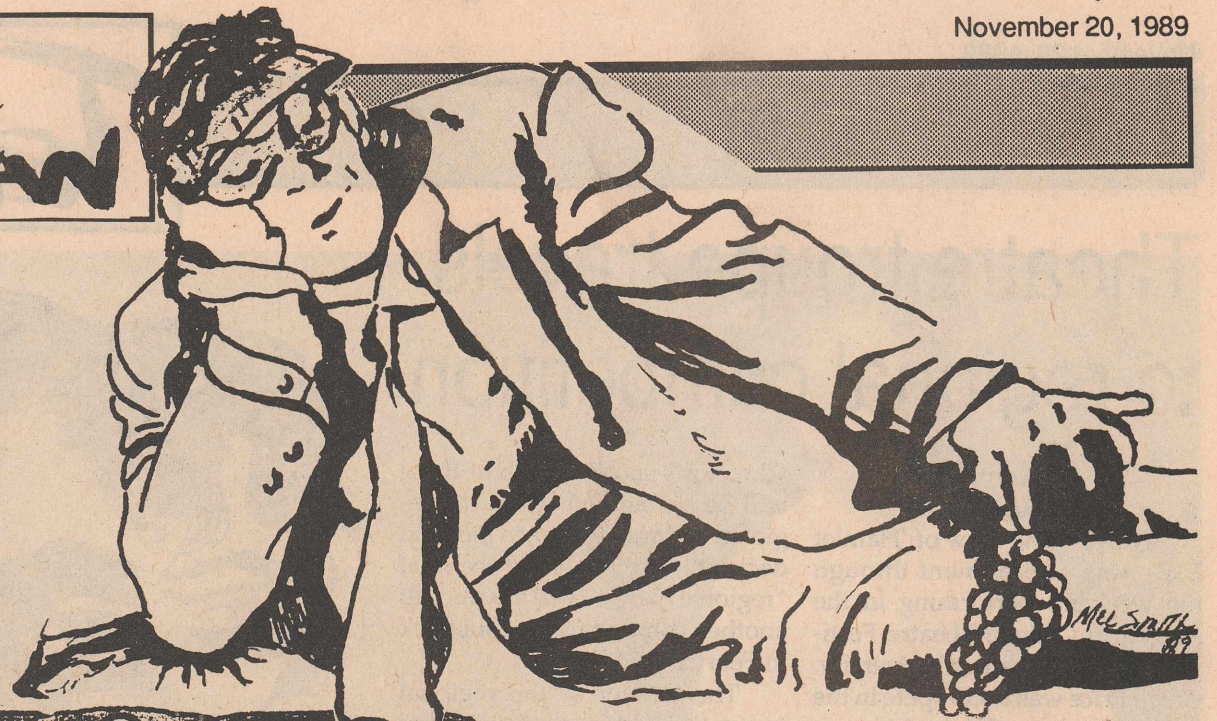


WTC students Lorre Moser, Jeanie Edgar, and Tracey Moberly modeled the latest shipment of WTC logo T-shirts, including a new southwest design, available only at the bookstore.

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(Texas Book Company)  


TEXAN



Teacher is nominee for honor

By Misty M. Stevens  
Texan Staffer

Marilyn Lancaster, professor of English and communications at WTC, has been nominated for Piper Professor of 1989.

Ten outstanding college teachers are selected each year through the Piper Foundation and are chosen from nominees around the state. There are approximately 100 candidates from Texas colleges and universities.

The Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation was established to support charitable, scientific or educational undertakings. The Piper Professor award was started in 1958 to honor teachers of well deserved recognition.

A check for \$2,500 representing a honorarium together with a certificate attesting the confirmed nomination and a gold pin commemorating the event also accompany this honor.

Lancaster received her bachelor's and master's respectively in 1975 and 1977 from Texas Tech University in Lubbock. She has since completed additional graduate study at the University of Texas at Austin.

Lancaster has been a member of the WTC faculty since 1980. She was nominated for the Graduate Writing Award at Texas Tech in 1988 and 1989. She is presently serving as secretary for the Texas Junior College Teachers Association, she was English chairperson in 83-84 and TASP chairperson in 88-89.

She has had several publications including "Priorities and Goals for the Performance-Based Basic Writer," and "Developing Rhetorical Skills in Basic Writer."

Along with her teaching responsibilities, Lancaster is involved with the Snyder High School Band Boosters and has been a volunteer for Snyder Neighbors Sharing Project.

Fire guts dorm room  
Continued From Page 1

The north parking lot was filled with students—many still in their bathrobes—while all units of the Snyder Fire Department worked to douse the blaze.

Fire could be seen escaping from a third-floor window, its flames licking toward the roof.

After the fire was brought under control around 1 p.m., many students headed for the pay telephones in adjacent campus buildings to notify their parents of the incident.

For the dorm students, their possessions—clothing, money and other valuables—remained inside the vacated building. Fire officials were keeping students out of the dorm by mid-afternoon.

The third-floor wing where the fire erupted housed only women students, an estimated 16. The WTC dormitory has 189 dorm residents, approximately 189 per wing.

The rest of the WTC campus was operating as normal Friday, including the heating and cooling systems.

While classes will be dismissed next week, faculty will report as normal Monday and the campus will be open

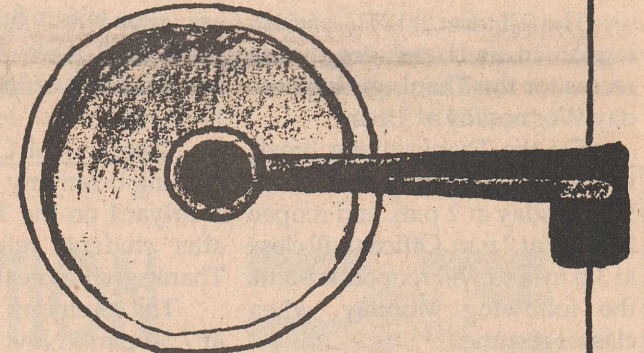
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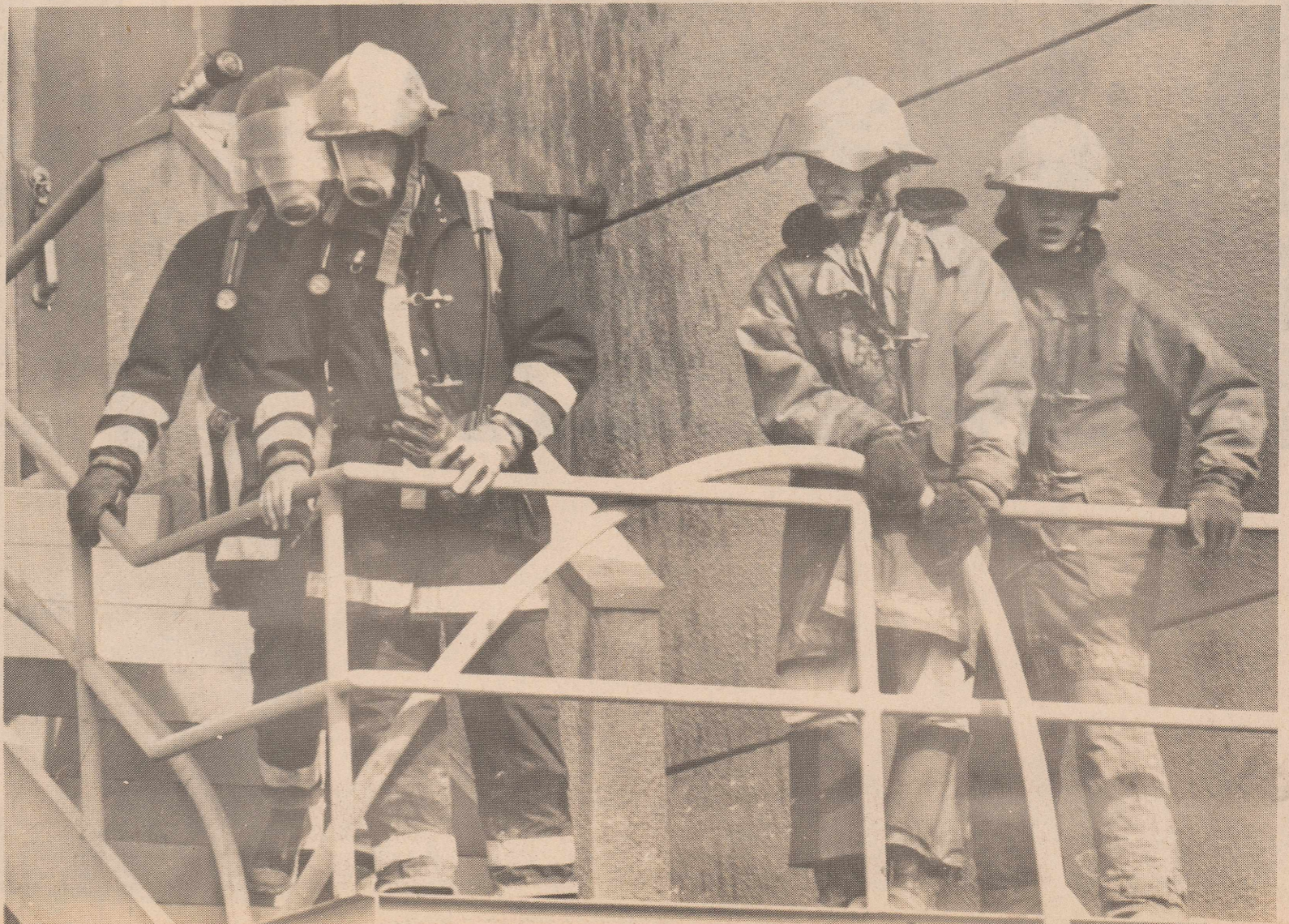
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