

Up to \$1,500 per student . . .

HOPE Credit offers tax relief for college costs

By Cindy Goates
Texan Staffer

You're the parent of a student enrolled at Western Texas College and you're about to pay your 1998 Federal Income Tax.

How would you like \$1,500 erased from that tax bill based on the college expenses you paid for tuition, required books, and lab fees?

Effective this tax year, this tax refund is possible through a new provision called the HOPE Credit.

This new law is part of new benefits created by the Taxpayer

Relief Act of 1997, passed by Congress and signed into law by President Clinton.

The HOPE Credit applies only to the first two years of post-secondary education, such as community college or a vocational school.

As a parent, if the student is still counted as a dependent on your tax return and if they were enrolled at classes at WTC any time during 1998, you can qualify for the HOPE Credit.

Under the new law, you are allowed 100 percent of the first \$1,000 of qualified tuition and

related fees, such as books, lab fees, and similar items.

Then you are allowed 50 percent of the second \$1,000.

For one tax year, you can receive up to \$1,500 per eligible student. If you had more than one student enrolled at WTC or some other post-secondary school, you may claim up to \$1,500 for that student as well.

This total amount is deducted from the "taxes owed" line of your income tax form.

For a student to earn the Hope Credit tax break, he or she must have been enrolled at least part-

time and be seeking either a degree or certificate from the institution.

Institutions like WTC have mailed certificates to the student and duplicate copies to the Internal Revenue Service indicating if the individual qualified at least as a part-time student.

There are several qualifications to the Hope Credit.

As an example, a taxpayer can claim Hope Credit for only two tax years.

In addition, individuals filing under the category "married fil-

See HOPE, page 6

THE WESTERN TEXAN

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March 8, 1999

Western Texas College, 6200 S. College Ave.

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Local club forming for star gazers

By Reece McCain
Texan Staffer

The effort of a WTC science instructor is helping to form a community-wide Astronomy Club.

Dr. Rollin Swanson, adjunct instructor here, is organizing the group.

He said he wants "to give more people in the community the opportunity to appreciate the night sky."

In addition, the club's membership would be used to help operate the WTC planetarium.

Those interested should attend an organizational meeting March 25 at 7 p.m. in the Scurry County Museum.

As planned, the club would have meetings once a month to make general observations of the sky and would meet with other planetarium groups from around the area.

In addition, there would be meetings centered around special celestial occasions.

As an example of this, he noted that this week four planets of our solar system, Mercury, Jupiter, Venus and Saturn, will be in line from the horizon up. Viewings are best just after dusk in the west.

To help the club get started, a 12-inch telescope has been donated to the club by Swanson and WTC professor Joe Carter.

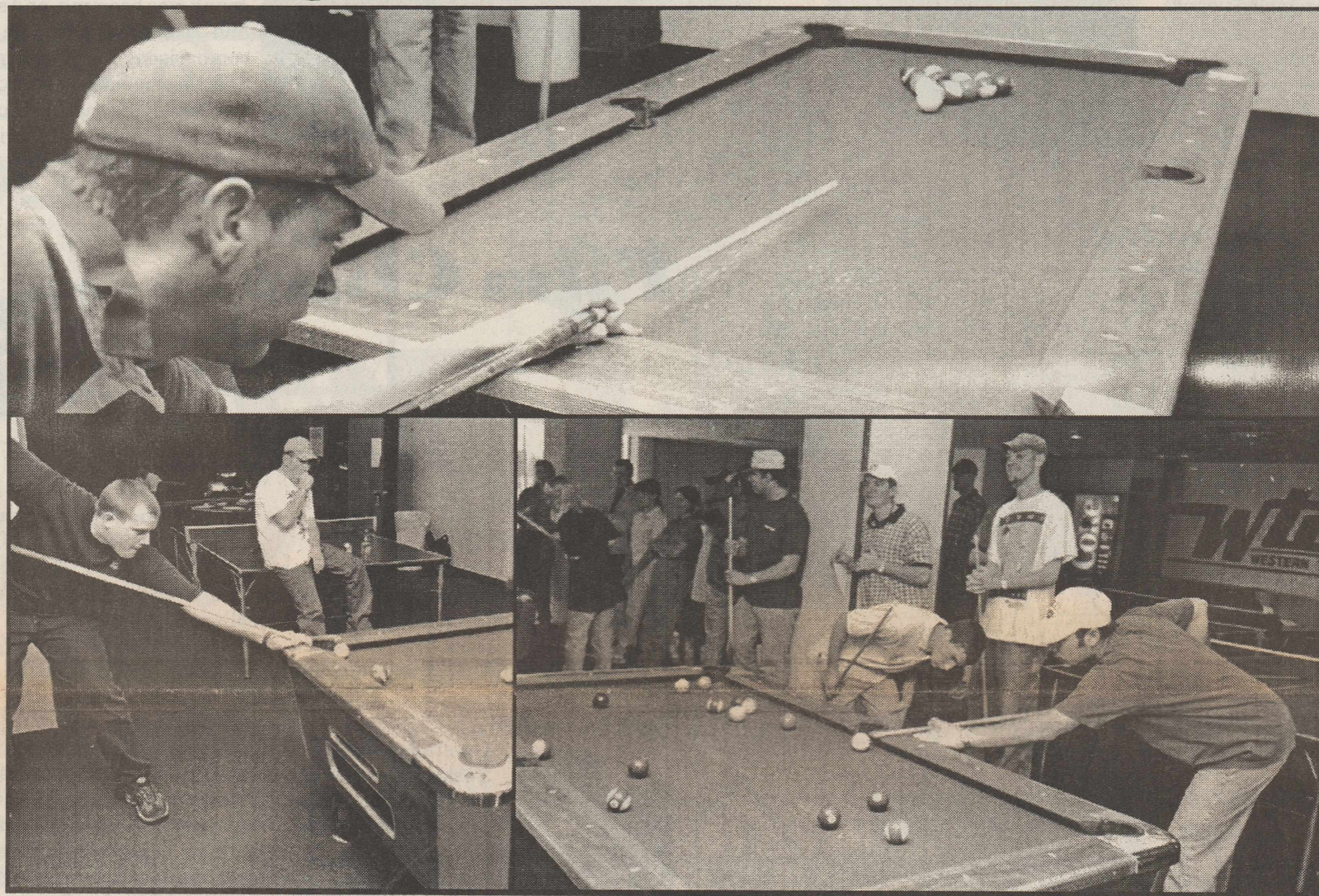
Among its capabilities, the telescope can be set to "track" a star's path, allowing for more viewing time.

Organizing the Astronomy Club is among Swanson's latest work to interest the general public in the stars.

Beginning four years ago, he took on the planetarium's revival as a personal project and, due primarily to his work, the WTC Planetarium now offers several shows weekly to area school students.

Three separate shows are given: the pre-kindergarten show, entitled "Magic Sky," gives information about our moon and

See ASTRONOMY, page 6



Pool Tournament

The Student Government Association-sponsored pool tournament began last week with a good turnout of both competitors and spectators. The three entries shown manning the sticks

here include (top photo) Joe Smith and (bottom, from left) C.J. Chaney and Chris Holt. (Texan Photos by John Michel)

Four WTC teams plan to 'Walk Across Texas'

By Shannon Null
Texan Staffer

More than 30 individuals connected to WTC—to include both the college president and vice-president and several faculty and staff—will be participating in the Scurry County Walk Across Texas scheduled March 14 through May 8.

Walk Across Texas is an eight-week exercise program undertaken by teams normally consisting of eight people. The teams will compete to see who can accumulate the most miles walking, jogging or biking.

Participants are also allowed to walk on a treadmill or ride a stationary bike to accumulate miles for their teams.

Each team is asked to walk

100 miles a week, with every teammate walking at least 12.5 miles weekly.

There are expected to be from 20 to 25 teams competing—four of these from WTC.

Jim Clifton, criminal justice instructor here, is serving as a co-chairman for the event along with Kathy Roberts, extension service agent.

"This is a good way for the public to become more active in health and fitness," Clifton said.

The four teams formed on campus have as team captains Sara Fritz, executive secretary to the president; Gina Goolsby with the Student Services Division; David Hanes in the technology department; and Allen Hodges in the

See WALK, page 6

Student balances college, Army Reserves

By Melinda Hernandez
Texan Staffer

When thinking of a typical WTC student, you might imagine cowboys and cowgirls on the Rodeo Team or cheerleaders dressed in green and white.

You probably don't think of a Spec. 4 in the Army who spends his weekends setting up fuel sites for military aircraft.

Freshman student Matt Metler is just a little different from his fellow students here at WTC.

He is currently in the Army Reserves from Midland and for three days out of every month he travels there for military duty. His particular specialty involves refueling military aircraft.

One of the most important benefits Metler expects to receive from his military service is a fully paid for college education.

All of his college-related expenses are paid for by the Army Reserves, and he also receives a \$150 a month allowance and approximately \$250 a month for

living expenses.

He is a full time student here majoring in Business Management. In addition, he works 26-30 hours each week at Lawrence IGA.

With his military commitment, this summer Metler plans to travel to New York. In the summer of 2000 he will be going overseas to Egypt.

Before becoming a Spec. 4, Metler had to go through the hard work of basic training in South Carolina. He began in

December of 1996 and finished in July of 1997.

Metler said there were both good and bad points about training.

Some of the "bad things" he remembers include getting up at 3 a.m. and not being able to have soft drinks or sweets. Smoking and phone calls were not permitted either.

"Basic Training is nothing like the movies," he said, noting the soldiers were constantly moving and working.

Sunday was their day off, but Metler remembered some Sundays when the troops had to "dig holes around the barracks, fill them up, then dig them up again."

He said a lot of basic training was more a mental rather than a physical challenge.

"In the beginning of camp, the drill sergeants could be brutal on the recruits to test if they could mentally take it," he said.

He remembered some of his fellow recruits "wanted out" on

See METLER, page 6

Psi Zeta inducts sixty-six

Sixty-six students at Western Texas College were formally inducted into the Psi Zeta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa this past Sunday.

Featured speaker at that event was Cassius Johnson, 1998 international president for Phi Theta Kappa.

He is a student at Texas Tech and received a full Phi Theta Kappa scholarship to that institution.

To qualify for Phi Theta Kappa, students must have completed 12 college credit hours and earn a GPA of 3.2 or higher. The chapter sent more than 80 invitations to qualifying students this spring.

Spring inductees included Jessica Brown, Jennifer Bullis, C.J. Chaney, Lonique Coots, Jacey Davis, Melissa Doucette, Sean Duncan, Amber Eagle, Rhonda Elam and Jamie Ellis.

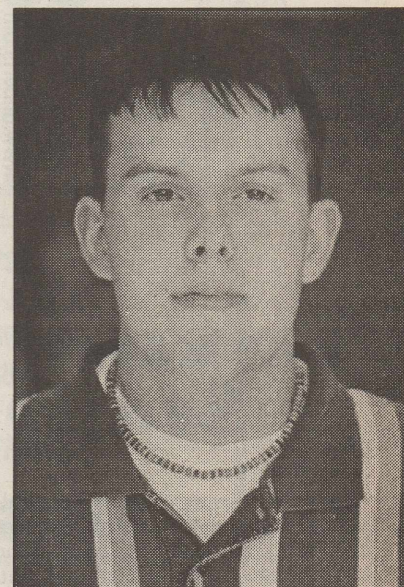
Also, James Elrod, Lori Favors, Jennifer Featherston, Rachel Foster, Norma Garcia, Nicholas Graham, Sharon Gulseth, Chris Halbert, Bradley Hart, Kacy Henard and Andrea Hernandez.

Others were Melinda Hernandez, Christopher Holt, Kenneth Irwin, Bryan Kolb, Lisha Leatherwood, Kyle Long, Michelle Lumpkins, Jennifer Majkszak, Linda Maynard, Lauren Middleton,

In addition, Charsalynn Mitchell, Ginny Phillips, Victoria Proctor, Russ Rankin, Deanna Regalado, Todd Richardson, Patrick Sheridan, Michael Tedford, Jady Underwood and Wade Yearwood.

Also recognized Sunday were the fall 1998 inductees.

They were Brian Bohannon, Kay Brooks, Greg Gonzales, Amy Gruben, Rosa Linda Gutierrez, Mandy Heaton, Casi Joiner, Jason Kerby, Olivia Martinez, Tanner Means, Matt Pond, Nick Riggs, Geoffrey Sanders, Jason Tyler and Antonio Williams.



Matt Metler

music reviews

by Chris Halbert

Godsmack recording called must have for 'Alice/Chain' fans

Godsmack - Godsmack

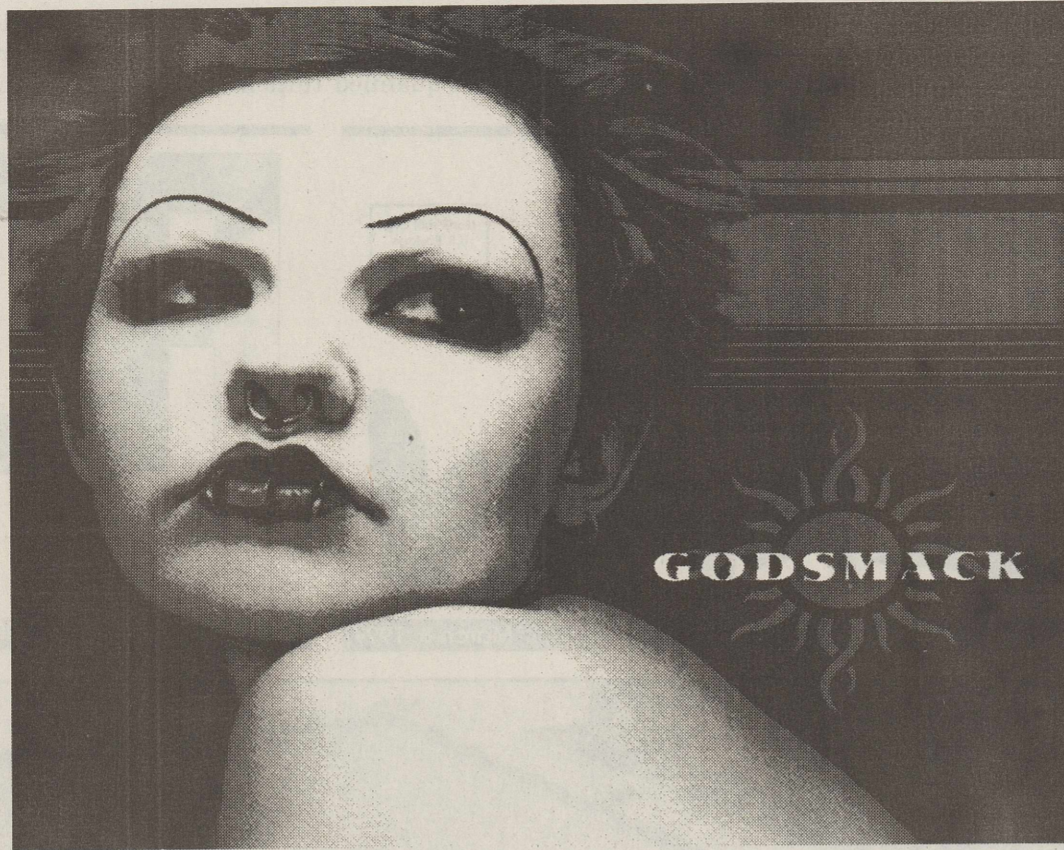
The highly popular "grunge" scene of the early nineties stemming from Seattle has certainly seen its downfall in recent years: Nirvana and Soundgarden have both seen their respective splits, Pearl Jam delivered lackluster albums such as "Vitalogy" and "No Code," and saw their popularity decrease further

The song writing is also similar to that of AIC, with much use of wah pedals and straightforward guitar licks a la Jerry Cantrell.

with their bouts with Ticketmaster and their refusal to cooperate in the production of videos for air on MTV

and other music stations, and Alice In Chains has not delivered a studio album of new material since '95, and now it doesn't look like we'll see one for a while.

Even with the Seattle scene not flourishing any longer, the influences of the four above-mentioned bands live on today. The most obvious are bands such as Stone Temple Pilots, Seven Mary Three, and most recently, Creed, who all earned comparisons to Pearl Jam. Now enter Godsmack, the Boston-based quartet that is drawing comparisons to Alice In Chains. Actually, the name Godsmack is taken directly from an



Alice In Chains song of the same name.

The most obvious and at first noticeable bond between Godsmack and AIC is the almost replicated vocals of Layne Staley by Godsmack vocalist Sully Erna. At first listen, Godsmack could easily be mistaken for Alice In Chains. The song writing is also similar to that of AIC, with much use of wah pedals and straightforward guitar licks a la Jerry Cantrell.

Godsmack's debut disc is the first truly garage-inspired album to come America's way in a while. It offers extremely catchy lyrics blended with catchy and dark guitars to arrive at a sound that is an instant hit, as many new fans have found out with the major popularity of their first single, "Whatever," which is still on its way up the charts and currently resides in the number four slot. "Immune" and "Get Up, Get Out!" are among the better cuts on the album, and "Keep Away" is actually the song that broke the band. A copy on a demo received regular airplay on a Boston radio station, and that prompted their signing to Republic Records.

"Godsmack" is a must-buy for any fan of Alice In Chains, the Seattle sound, or just heavy music in general. It offers a brief return to the time of about '93 when the whole garage sound was booming, and stripped down, simple song writing and recording were the way to go. Now that all of the comparisons have been made between Godsmack and the Seattle movement, you might be curious as to whether or not the band likes that style of music. Ironically enough, guitarist Tony Rombola's favorite album of all-time happens to be Alice In Chains's "Dirt." Go figure.

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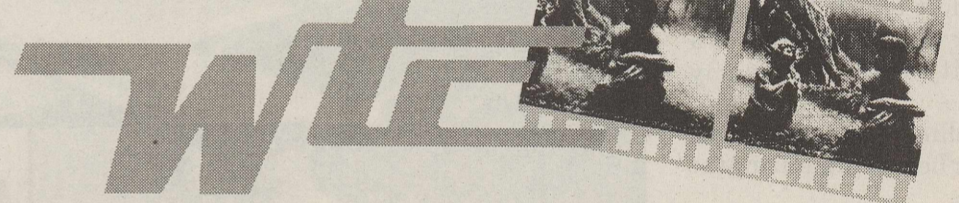
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Film Clips



FILM CLIPS

For release 03/05/99
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(RATINGS: The movies listed below are rated according to the following key: 4 stars — excellent; 3 stars — good; 2 stars — fair; 1 star — poor.)

ANALYZE THIS. This slick and rambunctious Harold Ramis comedy - with Robert De Niro as a Mafia boss suffering from panic attacks and Billy

Crystal as the hip young New Yorker who becomes his personal psychotherapist - is smart, funny and seems to have everything going for it. Still, there are little chinks and script flaws in its comic armor, just as there are neuroses boiling under the Cosa Nostra cool of De Niro's twitchy Paul Vitti. Crystal and De Niro are often a delight working together; so are Crystal and Joe Viterelli, as Vitti's affable bodyguard, Jelly. And Ramis ("Groundhog Day") is a director with a sure touch for contemporary urban comedy. This sure ain't "Jane Austen's Mafia." But as far as being a comic "Goodfellas": (ital) Fuggedaboutit.(end ital) R. 3 stars - M.W.

ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE. Nobody plays sleazy modern American outlaws better than James Woods. And "Another Day in Paradise" - the second film by Larry ("Kids") Clark - contains one of Woods' all-time top performances: heroin addict, thief and deadly surrogate dad Mel. He's playing the ultimate evil enabler: a volatile pro robber who takes under his wing a couple of junkie kids - Bobbie (Vincent Kartheiser) and his girlfriend Rosie (Natasha Gregson Warner) - and pulls them on a joyride to hell, along with his own lady, Sid (Melanie Griffith, in a fine, measured, deeply felt performance). Reminiscent of "Drugstore Cowboy" but with more violence and urgency, less lyricism. R. 3 stars - M.W.

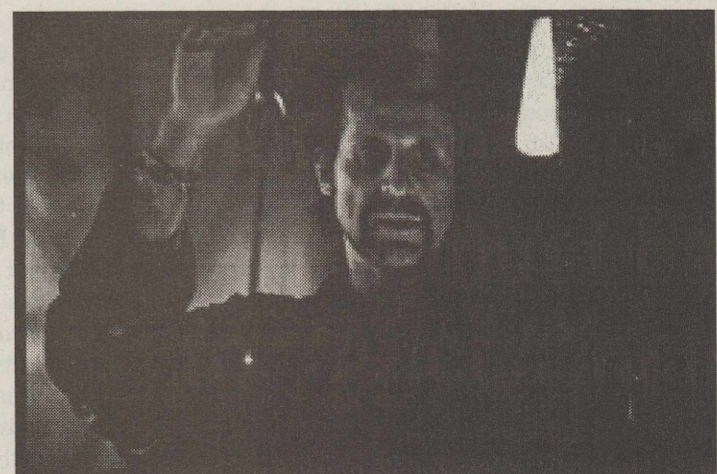
and Sebastian just come across as spoiled, disaffected rich kids. Like the stylish, vacant "Jawbreaker," "Cruel Intentions" revels in its heroine's nastiness, then expects you to get charged up for her downfall. R. 2 stars. - M.C.

EIGHT MILLIMETER. This film is a stomach-churning, nerve-shredding thriller about pornography and murder. But just because a movie gets our guts heaving, does that mean it's a good show? Set in the darkest cranny of the illicit pornography industry, the bloody domain of so-called "snuff," this is a truly grisly story, with realistically rotten villains and gore galore. As the movie unwinds its nasty tale - about a straight-arrow young detective (Nicolas Cage) scouring the sexual underworld to find the killers of a possible snuff victim - director Joel Schumacher and company keep throwing fresh atrocities at us. It's possible that Schumacher ("Flatliners," "Batman and Robin") and writer Andrew Kevin Walker are at cross-purposes: Schumacher trying to make a serious statement on obsession and sex-for-sale, while Walker just tries to take us on just another gruesome "Seven"-style ride. "Eight" promises more than it delivers - on every level but gore. R. 2-1/2 stars. - M.W.

JAWBREAKER. Teen flicks like "Carrie," "Heathers," "Pretty in Pink" and "Rock 'n' Roll High School" are loopy enough that a parody/tribute seems redundant, but that didn't stop 26-year-old writer and director Darren Stein, whose "Jawbreaker" is a fluorescent black comedy that's about as useful as a 1999 version of Pong. This stylish but empty movie revels in the mean-spirited behavior of its anti-hero, Courtney Shayne (Rose McGowan in Christina Ricci-wannabe mode), who employs unseemly means in leading her girlfriends to cover up the accidental death of a clique-mate. Yet the movie also feels the inexplicable need to hammer home that it really, truly disapproves of that nasty high-school queen. The result is the cinematic equivalent of a jawbreaker with a gooey center and sour aftertaste.



Nicolas Cage



Scene from new film "Eight Millimeter."

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Intramural action March 2 in the WTC gym Photo by John Michel

WTC intramural 5 on 5 is underway

By Elizabeth Covey
Texan Staffer

WTC Intramural five-on-five basketball games are still scheduled Tuesday, Thursday and the following Thursday returning from spring break.

The six intramural teams are: Champions, Beers, And 1, GLT, Faculty Plus, and 4U2NV.

Each team must have four players to start a game and have matching shirts. Games consist of 18-minute halves.

There are two one-minute time-outs allowed per team per half. Everyone that plays must be on the team roster and the winner of the league will be the team with the fewest losses.

If two teams are tied, the winner of the game played between the two teams is the winner and if three teams are tied, the team that beats the other two will be declared the winner.

If there is still no winner a toss of the coin will determine place in a single elimination tournament Thursday, April 1.



Breakaway ropers

The WTC Rodeo Team will compete in five rodeos this semester. Breakaway ropers for the team are (top row, from left) Erin Kelly, Brandee Brock, Kacy Henard, Sequin Downey; (front row) Shelley York, Jaymi Schmidt, Jill Childers and Lauren Middleton. Not pictured is Terra Bynum. (WTC Photo)

Denmark is home for golfer

By Reece McCain
Texan Staffer

WTC's newest golf team member is also its latest international student, Michael Hanson from Copenhagen, Denmark.

In Denmark, Michael participated in the Denmark Talent Program, a program that acts as the springboard for the 12 national members on the Denmark golf team.

He participated in the Talent Program for five years, and was on the national team for two, playing in the European Championship in Belgium for the 21 and younger group.

He finished first for the WTC Westerners Golf Team at the first tournament of spring.

He paced his team with rounds of 72-75-75 for a total of 222.

He commented that his experiences here at WTC so far are "definitely different from home."

Golf Team places 6th at Bronco Invitational

By John Baez
Texan Staffer

The Westerners Golf Team returned from the first tournament of spring last week, finishing at the New Mexico Bronco Invitational in 6th place.

The WTC team had rounds of 302-302-295 for a total of 899. Newcomer Michael Hanson of Denmark led the team with a score of 72-75-75 for a total of 222.

The rest of the team's scores were: Martin Gustafson of Sweden, 79-73-73 (225); Jason McGrath of Ontario, Canada, 73-80-74 (227); Cory Mahaney of Tulia, 79-74-77 (230); and Brad Nutt of Bastrop, 78-80-73 (231).

The Westerners will return from their next tournament Tuesday.

They are playing at the Gulf Coast Invitational at Galveston.

Lady Dusters end competition with 17-12 tally, 6-7 conference

By John Gutierrez
Texan Staffer

The Lady Dusters '98-'99 season has come to a close with a winning season for the Lady Dusters. The game count was 17 wins to 12 losses, 6-7 for conference play.

The record marked only the second winning season for a Duster team this decade and was the second year for Coach Valery Jackson.

The team failed to advance to the regional tournament after two losses during the final week of the regular schedule. February 25 marked the final game for the Lady Dusters this season.

In that contest, WTC lost to Midland College 78-38. Midland went through the WJCAC with a 14-0 record.

The previous game against South Plains was a loss for the Dusters also, 75-54.

WTC Rodeo season starts during break

The WTC Rodeo Team will spend a part of spring break competing in the first of five rodeos slated this semester.

The team will be at the New Mexico Junior College Rodeo in Lovington, N.M. March 18-20.

Rodeos to follow will be the Odessa College Rodeo March 25-27; the Howard College Rodeo April 1-3; and the hometown WTC Rodeo April 8-10.

Also scheduled is the Tarleton State University Rodeo April 29-May 1 in Stephenville.

At the end of five fall rodeos, the WTC Men's and Women's teams were in 3rd and 2nd place respectively.

Leading the conference in both categories is Tarleton State University.

The men earned 762 points last fall, trailing TSU with 997 and West Texas A&M with 944.

In fourth place is Odessa College with 743.

For the women, 650 points placed them well ahead of 3rd place West Texas A&M but far behind Tarleton with 1,298.



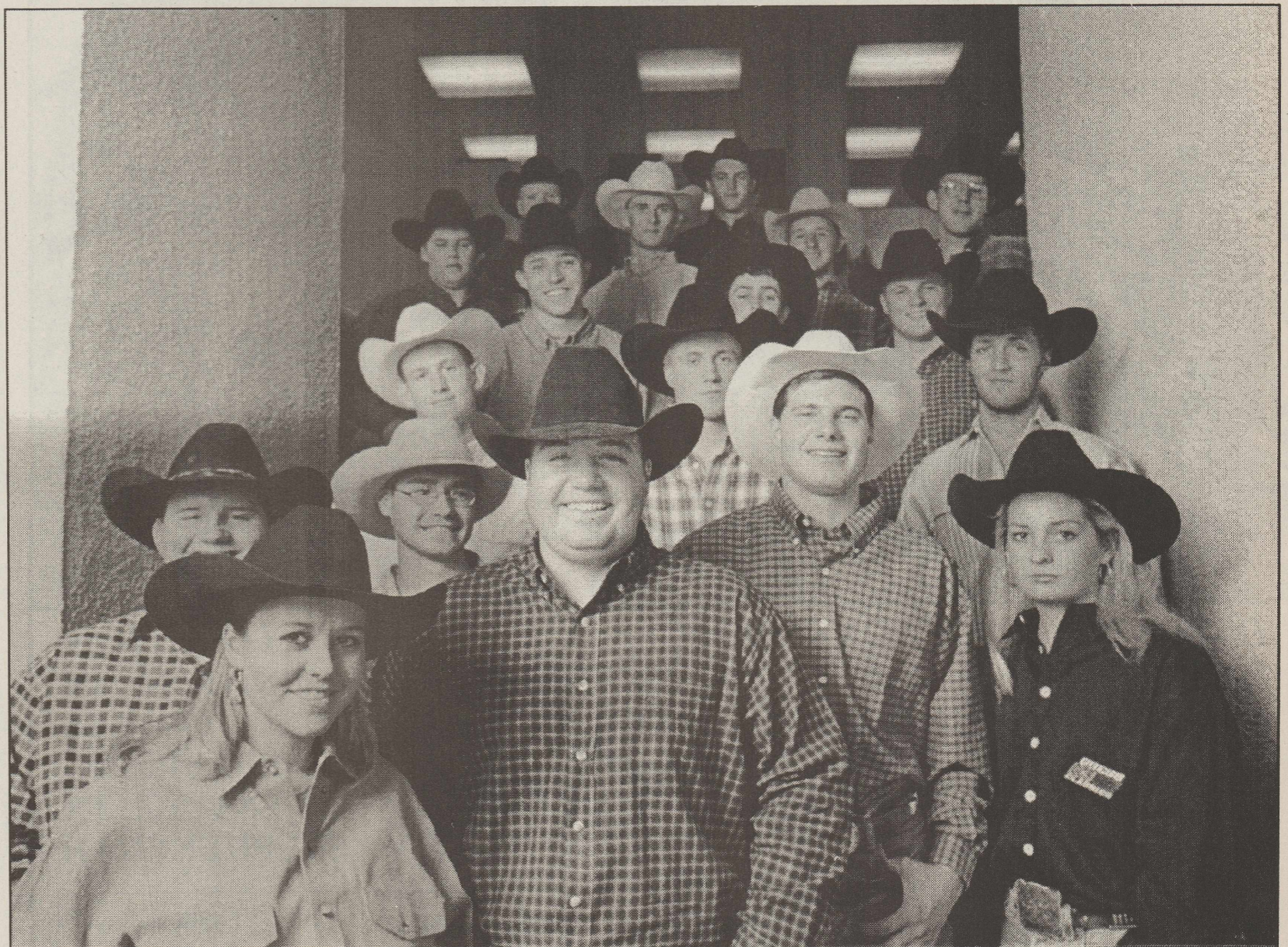
Bareback riders

Riding in the bareback event this spring for the WTC Rodeo Team are (from left) Kyle Bowers, Casey Baize, Bay Hecht, Bee Jay Scott and Brandon Hackfeld. (WTC Photo)



Barrel Racers

Team members shown are, from left, Lauren Middleton, Sequin Downey, Brandee Brock and Casie Joiner. Not pictured is Terra Bynum. (WTC Photo)



Team Ropers

Ropers for the team are (front two rows, left to right) Layne McCasland, Shelley York, Dee Bland, Brandon Compton, Chad Williams, Erin Kelly, (third row) Dawson Burns, Casey Baize, Bill Herbert, (fourth row) Zane Runyan, Jim Bob

Ellisor, Joe Ross Jameson (fifth row) Chad Beaver, Eric Greer, Cody Hunnicutt, Brad Bruce (back row) Cody Lawrence and Bay Hecht. (WTC Photo)

Art department to host artists from Hong Kong

Three artists based in Hong Kong will be visiting the WTC campus the week following spring break as part of an art exhibit originally shown in China last spring.

That exhibit includes the works of WTC Fine Arts instructors Ty Brunson and Ben Sum and examples of the work of all five artists have been on display in the Fine Arts Building all during March.

Some 30 individual pieces are on display in a variety of art mediums. On Thursday, March 25, a "gallery talk" featuring the five is scheduled in the Fine Arts Gallery.

Visiting the campus from Hong Kong will be Kong Ho and Marie Geiger-Ho, a married couple who attended graduate art school at Texas Tech University; and Chan Kam Shing, the

owner of the I-Kiln Studio in Hong Kong, where the original exhibit was displayed in the spring of 1998.

Brunson's work in the show is primarily earthenware and stoneware pottery as well as fused glass and wood creations. Sum is exhibiting both oil and charcoal paintings.

Chan Kam Shing's exhibits are raku-style creations; Marie Geiger-Ho is offering pottery forms to include raku and clay with mixed media; and Kong Ho is showing mixed media creations on wood.

The show will move to Midland College for a one-day show March 29.

As part of the original exhibit in China, both Sum and Brunson visited Hong Kong, offering art workshops and lectures at the Hong Kong Visual Arts Center.

'Walk Across Texas' teams

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Continuing Education Division. The members walking on Sara Fritz's team include WTC President Harry Krenk and Vice President Bettie McQueen. Others are Marjann Morrow, Terry Busby, Linda Englert, Margie Green and Patty Kuhl.

On Goolsby's team, participants are Kathy Hall, Michelle Lumpkins, Debbie Duddleston, Kassie Upton, Deborah Baremore, and Mary Dee Price.

Dave Hanes' team consists of LaDonna Hanes, Britt Canada, Kevin Fritz, Cindy Fritz, David Kattes, Molly Kattes and Carla Nunlay.

Members walking with Allen Hodges will be Judy Bartels, Roxanne Stoker, Sandy Hodges, Mark Bland, John Gibson, and

Denise Gibson.

Members from the college on the organizing committee for the Walk Across Texas event were Lee Burke, David Hanes, Donny Brown, Allen Hodges, Rhonda Ward and Terry Busby.

Total miles for each team will be posted on a map at the county extension office so participants can check progress each week.

The teams that reach their destination first or logging the most miles will win prizes.

If anyone is interested in joining this event, participants need to form a walking team of eight or a biking team of four, choose a team captain, and pick a name for the team.

For more information, contact Clifton at extension 304.

Time to order caps & gowns

Cap, gowns and invitations for the 1999 WTC Graduation Ceremony are ready to be ordered.

Orders should be placed in the Student Activities Office located in the Student Center.

Students may order Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. until noon and from 1-4 p.m.; and Friday from 8 a.m. until noon. The deadline for orders is Friday, March 26, at noon.

Social Science Dept. offers scholarship

By Amy Lester Texan Staffer

Students are encouraged to apply for a Social Science Scholarship to be offered to returning WTC students next year in the amount of \$250 a semester.

No certain major is required for application, but grade point average will be a consideration. The stated purpose for the scholarship is "to help people who want to further their education."

Funds for it have been generated by an honors class team taught for the past several years. Funds normally paid to teach such a class have been donated by various faculty members over the years.

The idea for the honors class was implemented by Dr. Gil Fleer, who taught sociology and philosophy here before his retirement. The plan has been continued by the Social Science faculty.

These funds have now built to such a level that interest money from it can equal the yearly \$500 scholarship amount.

Who's Who nominees noted

(Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of two articles profiling WTC's listings in the 1999 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. The first series of profiles appeared in the Feb. 22 edition.)

The 1999 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges is now out and the publication includes the names of 19 students from Western Texas College.

The following are profiles for WTC's 1999 Who's Who honorees:

—**Jason Hargrove** is a graduate of Rotan High School. He was involved in Phi Theta Kappa last fall.

—**Keri Kemp** is a sophomore elementary education major and the daughter of Sheila Kemp of Snyder and Rick Kemp of Colorado City. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was named to the Merit List last fall. She graduated from Snyder High School.

—**Michelle Lumpkins**, a sophomore majoring in computerized business technology, is the wife of Robert Lumpkins and the mother of Joshua and Justus Lumpkins. She is a graduate of Wuerzburg American High School in Germany and a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

—**Tiffany Nicole Lyons** is a sophomore majoring in business. She is the daughter of Roger Lyons and Rickey and Tori Thompson from Snyder. She is a graduate of Snyder High School. While attending WTC, she has been active in Phi Theta Kappa, serving as vice president of Leadership. She was named the Outstanding Business Student last spring.

—**Nicol Mazarova** is a sophomore majoring in business/accounting. She is also involved in Phi Theta Kappa and SGA. She is an international student from Slovakia and her host parents in the U.S. are Tommy and D'Dee Morris of Colorado City. She graduated from Colorado City High School.

—**Lindsey Northcott** is a sophomore majoring in finance. She is the daughter of Gale Northcott of Ira and Steve and Sylvia Northcott of Snyder. She is a graduate of Ira High School. She is a vice president for Phi Theta Kappa and a member of the SGA.

—**Deanna D. Regalado** is a

sophomore at WTC majoring in computerized business technology. She is involved in Phi Theta Kappa and was named to the Dean's List last fall. Her mother is Minnie D. Regalado. She graduated from Colorado High School.

—**Geoffrey M. Sanders**, a sophomore majoring in golf course management, is the son of Jack and Anne Dosset and the husband of Libby J. Sanders. Sanders is a graduate of J.M. Tate High School in Pensacola, Fla. He is the vice-president of the WTC GCSAA student chapter and a member of Phi Theta Kappa. His honors at WTC include being on the President's List spring and fall of 1998. He is a recipient of the Southwest Turfgrass Association Scholarship and a West Texas Golf Course Superintendent's Association Scholarship.

—**Travis D. Simpson** left WTC after last fall and is expecting to complete his golf and landscape technology degree with classes from Texas Tech. He is married and employed in Lubbock at a public golf course.

—**Jason Tyler** is a sophomore majoring in criminal justice. He is the son of Doug and Joanne Tyler of Pullman, Wash. Jason is a graduate of Pullman High School in Washington. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and SGA. He is one of two WTC students nominated this year for the All USA Academic Team. Jason was also a campus favorite and Mr. WTC last spring.

—**TJ Wood** is a sophomore majoring in criminal justice. He is the secretary for SGA and was a campus favorite in 1998. His parents are Jim and Nancy Wood of Hermleigh. He is married and is a 1997 graduate of Hermleigh High School.

There are specific forms for the scholarships. Anyone interested should go to the Financial Aid Office in the Student Center.

Metler trains in Army Reserves

Continued from page 1

the second day of training. There were some 60 recruits that started and only 46 made it through.

The training included how to use different weapons, such as the M-60 and the M-16AZ, and "the finer art of grenade throwing."

The good outweighs the bad, he said, adding he feels basic training was an important part of his life.

"The Army has helped me grow up a lot," he said. "It has taught me discipline to get things accomplished."

Metler received an Army Achievement Medal in January for his service in the field.

Drama planning dinner theater

Continued from page 1

stroganoff, ham, a side vegetable, and a dessert.

Performing in the play will be a number of WTC students. Four of the cast members are students from past WTC productions: Dallas Pollei, Vickie Williams, David Olson, and Tiffany Martin.

Dallas will play Hudson Hotchkiss, "an actor by day and a private eye by night." Vickie is playing "an outrageous busybody" who works in the theater named Suzie Sockwasher.

David Olson and Tiffany Martin will play a married couple, Oswald and Daisy Fromper. Oswald is described as "a nerd" henpecked by his aggressive and domineering wife, Daisy.

The rest of the cast consists of Russian spies, a computer scientist, her ex-husband, and the host of the whole evening. Cast members who will be playing these

parts are: T.L. McAdams, Tiffany Britton, Cam Hargrove, Kris Hollis and Stephanie Bell.

Mrs. Cogan will direct and double as a costume director along with Ruby Johnson. Lights will be run by Kris Hollis and the stage manager is Stephanie Bell.

The play run will be April 16-18 with no matinee on Sunday. Since the production involves a meal, faculty and staff tickets will cost \$10, Snyder students and senior citizens will cost \$12, and adult tickets are \$14. For those attending in pairs the price will be \$22.

Students who wish to attend and have a weekend dining pass will be charged \$7. They will need to inform the drama department that they will be attending.

For more information or to reserve tickets, call 573-8511, ext. 234.

HOPE Credit offers tax relief

Continued from page 1

ing separate return" cannot claim the Hope Credit.

The maximum credit of \$1,500 also declines proportionately for taxpayers earning more than \$50,000 as an individual or \$100,000 if it is a married couple filing a joint return.

The student must also be free of any felony conviction for possessing or distributing a controlled substance.

All college-related expenses claimed under Hope Credit this year also must have occurred during 1998. Expenses prior to that cannot be used for Hope Credit, but may qualify toward the second aspect of the new legislation called the Lifetime Learning Credit.

The Lifetime Learning Credit applies to graduate level and professional degree courses, including instruction to acquire or improve job skills, as well as undergraduate courses.

If you qualify, your credit equals 20 percent of the post-secondary tuition and fees you pay each year for a maximum credit in 1998 of \$1,000 per year.

The Lifetime Learning Credit

can be used for an unlimited number of years, starting with expenses after June 30, 1998 for academic periods beginning after that date.

These credits may be claimed by the parent or the student, but not by both. If the student is claimed as a dependent, the student cannot claim the credit.

A taxpayer cannot claim both the Hope Credit and the Lifetime Learning Credit for the same classes taken.

Taxpayers with further questions should contact a certified tax preparer or their individual certified public accountant. The deadline for filing is April 15.

Astronomy Club

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the sun; the K-5th grade show, called "Our Place in Space," gives a description as to where Earth is in comparison to our solar system of planets; and the adult show, "More than Meets the Eye," discusses and compares what we can see in space through binoculars, telescopes and via the pictures sent by the Hubble space telescope.



WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE RODEO TEAM 1999 SPRING SCHEDULE

DATE	SPONSOR	LOCATION
MARCH 18-20	NEW MEXICO JR. COLLEGE	LOVINGTON, NM
MARCH 25-27	ODESSA COLLEGE	ODESSA
APRIL 1-3	HOWARD COLLEGE	BIG SPRING
APRIL 8-10	WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE	SNYDER, TX
APRIL 29-MAY 1	TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY	STEPHENVILLE

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