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### The East Texan, 2007-04-26

Texas A&M University-Commerce

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# The East Texan

XCI, NO. 27, 8 pages

www.theeasttexan.com

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2007

## IN SPORTS



### Larry, the able guy

Larry Gilbert, as played football and thrown for the men's track & field team during his college career here at Texas A&M-Commerce. Not to mention he works 40 hours a week.

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## IN SCENE



### 'Our Town' takes stage tonight

"Our Town" — it's the "quintessential American play," says theatre faculty member Jim Tyler Anderson of the Thornton Wilder work.

PAGE 5

## IN CAMPUS LIFE



### Remembering 4.16.07

Students, faculty and community members gathered on the East Lawn to honor the memories of those lost in last week's tragic shootings at Virginia Tech.

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# Cullins elected SGA president

By Michael Jones  
Editorial Assistant

Last week students elected Anthony Cullins SGA president. And he's already planning on how to make his mark during his term.

"I want to restore some integrity back to the SGA," Cullins, a senior management information systems major, said.

"So many of the newly elected students ran unopposed, and my goal during my term is to encourage the campus and educate them on the power that the SGA truly

has. I want to motivate students to get more involved on campus and maximize the potential they have."

Another one of Cullins' goals is to create a logo for the SGA.

"So many other great campus organizations have logos. Everyone on campus knows Breakout Entertainment and the bee, I want a logo that will garner that same buzz, no pun intended!"

Cullins is confident that the experience he's obtained gained from the other organizations like Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.,

Order of Omega, and SGA will serve him well as he embarks on the important task of representing the student body.

"In all of my organizations, I have tried to take advantage of the people that I've met. It's forced me to step outside my box and along the way, it's prepared me for this position."

According to many students on campus, Cullins will represent the student body admirably.

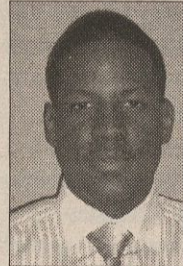
"I've been in organizations with Anthony before and he's been great. He's very organized, down-to-earth and personable. Those are some of qualities that I feel like any leader should possess, and I'm glad our SGA president has them," senior social work major and former SGA senator, LaDondra Wilson said.

Cullins said he is excited to get to work in his new position because he knows he has a great

support and cooperation from other SGA members, starting with the adviser, Interim Dean of Students Brian Nichols.

"Dean Nichols is veteran when it comes to the ins and outs of SGA. He's been vital in my progression to president," Cullins said.

"I know that we have so much work ahead of us, but we're dedicated and passionate about representing our student body to the best of our abilities. I look forward to the challenge and I'm grateful for the opportunity!"



Anthony Cullins  
SGA president-elect

## Rock n' GO



Emily Wynne-Hughes, lead vocalist of the Los Angeles based all-girl punk band, Go Betty Go, performs at Breakout Entertainment's Pridestock, held at the Morris Recreation Center Friday night. The two-day event featured music from Texas Country artists, Deryl Dodd and Maren Morris on Thursday to California rockers Go Betty Go and Smith Point, the next night. The event was part of Breakout's annual Spring Fever Week.

► For more photos turn to PAGE 6

ANDREA CANAFAX/  
The East Texan

## Former student charged in child molestation case

By Troy Brakefield  
Managing Editor

Former Texas A&M University-Commerce student Clayton Stephen Paris faces charges of molestation after being arrested by McKinney police.

Greenville resident Clayton Stephen Paris, 22, allegedly molested a 14-year-old girl after meeting her through his MySpace account. According to McKinney Municipal Court Records, Paris was charged with a third-degree felony of online solicitation of a minor to solicit sexual conduct and a third-degree felony charge of indecency with a child by contact.

Paris had been in trouble before, stemming from two incidents in Commerce.

In December 2003, Commerce police questioned Paris about an incident in which a woman notified police a man exposed himself to her 6- and 12-year-old daughters while he sat in a car in a Wal-Mart parking lot. After police identified him, Paris confessed dur-

ing questioning. Police pressed charges against Paris for indecency with a child by exposure.

In February 2004, another woman called police claiming a man had masturbated in his car while she was walking with her grandchild. Police identified Paris again and arrested him on a charge of indecent exposure, a misdemeanor, at his apartment on campus.

Records from the Texas Department of Public Safety indicate that after pleading guilty to the misdemeanor charge in December 2004, he received deferred adjudication and one year of probation.

Although a Hunt County grand jury indicted Paris on the felony charge in August of 2005, the district attorney's office dismissed the charge Oct. 13, 2005. The motion to dismiss stated the victim's mother agreed to the dismissal after discussions with officials from the district attorney's office.

► SEE STUDENT, PAGE 3

## Commencement slated for May 12

By Wyndi Veigel  
Senior Editor

Graduation can be a time of stress as well as one of relief for all university seniors, especially those attending Texas A&M University-Commerce.

Graduates are faced with making a multitude of decisions including where to find announcements, how to get a cap and gown and details of the commencement ceremony itself. This commencement ceremony is not any different than those held in the past, however, some students still find the process of graduating a bit confusing.

According to the A&M-Commerce Web site, the commencement ceremony will be held on May 12, beginning with the college of arts and science at 8:30 a.m. this ceremony will also be combined with the College of Business and technology and students will be receiving eight tickets.

The second undergraduate commencement ceremony will be the College of Education

and Human Services, which will be held at 11 a.m. Students participating in this ceremony will receive 11 tickets.

The last ceremony will be for Master's and Doctoral students at 2:30 p.m. and each student will be getting eight tickets each.

This year's commencement ceremony will be held at the university fieldhouse and parking passes are not required to park on campus during the ceremony.

Seniors can also order invitations, announcements, certificates of appreciation, thank you notes and address labels with the official university seal on them at the Lion Card office located in the Memorial Student Center.

"The deadline for these things is May 1," Vickie Haddock, ID specialist who is in charge of printing the invitations said. "Otherwise we cannot guarantee that students will get the min time for graduation."

► SEE MAY 12, PAGE 3

## Professor ponders: Performance or physiology?

By Troy Brakefield  
Managing Editor

For young women working out on campus, don't be alarmed if someone asks you to take part in an experiment. The experiment is real and it could help dispel some anecdotal "knowledge."

Dr. Serge P. von Duvillard, health and human performance professor, is currently heading a study to determine if physically active women's athletic performance affected during their menstrual cycle.

Why?

"Because some ladies claim that, depending where they are in their menstrual cycle, their performance declines," von Duvillard said.

And if anyone can find out, von Duvillard can. He is a member and Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine (FACSM) as well as a Fellow of the European College of Sports Medicine. The

Yugoslavia native often serves on national and international committees for sports medicine and exercise science.

Von Duvillard wants to measure salivary concentrations of progesterone and estrogen to determine if there is a difference in physical performance between the two phases of a volunteer's ovarian cycle.

"If they do differ, then we have good reason to say, 'OK, there's an effect,'" he said. "If there's no difference, we can say, 'Well, there's no performance difference between those two phases of either group.'"

But if there is no difference, it could be the result of a psychological effect, according to von Duvillard.

Graduate assistants, Stacey Stancik and Danny Irwin, will help

with they study; Stancik will be conducting interviews since they will be of personal nature.

And why should ladies step up to be tested?

"Participants can increase their knowledge and understanding of the physiological factors and underlying mechanisms, which determine their performance," Stancik said.

When testing the subjects, von Duvillard and his assistants will take samples before activity, at exhaustion and at different thresholds of aerobic and anaerobic metabolism.

Volunteers will encounter varying power output while riding a cycle ergometer, which is a special stationary bicycle used in performance research and costs \$65,000.

► SEE PROFESSOR, PAGE 3



S. Von Duvillard  
Professor

## Hey Dora, take a hike

As a parent, I am constantly amazed at what my children have to deal with compared to my childhood—which my wife might say still continues.

Kids are supposed to be kids when they're young. But it seems the modern world wants them to grow up a bit too quickly. Maybe this speaks to my heart since I often feel my childhood was cut short due to my having to support my mother at the age of 15. (Which is what I say to my wife when she says I'm immature.)



**Troy Brakefield**  
Managing Editor

But perhaps it's the lack of decent role models in today's culture that chaps me the most. When I was younger, there seemed to be a decent amount of people to look up to. Sure, some of them were fictional, but hey, aren't those the easiest kind to follow?

Which leads me to my least favorite cartoon character: Dora. Dora the Explorer, whose name is constantly mispronounced as to pho-netically warp a generation of viewers, easily makes me cringe every time she takes a step outside.

What's that? She's just a cartoon?

Yes, I realize this is true, but I am old enough to remember stories of kids breaking their legs by jumping off roofs, thinking they were Superman. The next day, they were Prof. X.

Now maybe kids are smarter these days. My friend whose 13-year-old son keeps finding his stash of porn would agree. (Hey, Billy, why do you even get hard copies anymore?)

But why take chances that some kid is going to see something on TV and think it's OK to act it out. So what does Dora do that's so bad?

Let's see ... how about walking outside, better yet, in the freakin' jungle without a dang parent anywhere near! Yeah, I've seen a few episodes where her parents show up, but I'm pretty sure that's just to calm the fears that she had run-away a long time ago.

And who lets their kid wander around Mexico anyway? Heck, the US State Department has issued travel advisories to tourists because of the violence from the drug wars south o' the border. (The only people who can walk around free are in the drug families. Maybe that's why we rarely see her folks.)

Let's say your kid wanders off in Commerce. What's the worst that could happen? Who knows, there's only 11 registered sex offenders in town. (How ya doing, Gary Glen?)

Then there's cruelty to animals. Who puts boots on a monkey so he can't defend himself by climbing up a tree? That monkey is going to buy it, mark my words.

Let's not forget the logic train at work here,



either. In one episode, Dora's friend, the purple cow (more drug culture!) crashed his hot air balloon (usually he drives a truck) on top of a volcano. In reality, Dora would have been eating barbacoa for lunch. But here, the writers decide to have a 6-year-old and her monkey rescue the bovine balloon. Why not call mom or dad? Oh yeah, they're on a drug run ... and don't mention the police.

So we reach in the magic bag (yet another drug reference!) and pull out a 25-foot ladder (what the ... ?) to cover the distance, then using a bicycle pump to get the balloon airborne again. Hey, why didn't the heat from the volcano cause the balloon to rise before, expanding the air due to its heat? And how the heck is she not going to pass out from exhaustion by using the little pump to inflate ...

Oh, never mind.

Usually my wife knows what programs will send me into orbit and changes them before an aneurism causes blood to shoot out of my head like a whale's blowhole.

I say we ban this little chickita before some poor child takes a cue from her and goes missing or gets maimed while telling some fox "Swiper, no swiping!" (Why doesn't he man up and keep everything he steals? Oh wait, her parents could have him bumped off.)

So please join with me and turn the television off for the sake of the kids. Let them play in their back yard where it's safe. Have other kids over for a playdate.

And while they're outside, open a beer and watch the game.

E-mail Troy at [theeasttexan@gmail.com](mailto:theeasttexan@gmail.com)

### GUEST COLUMN

## Thanks for the memories ...

Three years ago if you would have told me I would be leaving A&M-Commerce in three years, I would have bet my house on it. I guess I would have lost the nice Spanish-style home



**Frank Ashley**  
Interim Provost

we built here in Commerce — which we have not lived in for two years. Let me set the record straight: I was as shocked as everyone when the chancellor asked me if I would consider being Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the A&M University System. This wasn't a position I had lobbied for. My family and I felt things were going great in Commerce. Heck, my wife and I were even dance celebrities!

On a serious note, it is because of my experience here at A&M Commerce that I was selected for the position. I do have 21 years of experience in the system, with 18 of those years

being in College Station, but there are many individuals with more years. However, there are very few with experience at the "Flagship" and also a "Regional". But, it is not just any regional; it is one the chancellor has said "is one of the best examples in the system as to how a university should run." So you can proudly say "you" have trained me to be the vice-chancellor.

I left College Station for Commerce three years ago for three reasons. The first reason was the reputations of the University, the faculty, and specifically the College of Education and Human Services. I brag about this University anytime I get the opportunity to address a crowd. I tell them "let me tell you about this hidden jewel in Northeast Texas." I hope you are as proud as I am of the outstanding faculty here. They are also genuinely concerned about students. They want you to be successful. I can truly understand why the new marketing campaign is around "passion" because our faculty are passionate about learning. The second reason I came is because of the students here at A&M Commerce. Our students do not drive fancy cars and most of them have jobs — not to buy designer clothes or jewelry, but to pay for books, tuition and fees. Some are even working to support their families here and back at home. The majority are here to get an education and not just to hang out. Because I was a first generation college student and because that is what I had to do, I really respect these students. Last, but not least, a major factor in my decision was the potential that I saw for the College and University. Because of our rural roots and our proximity to the Metroplex, I felt that the University was poised for something big and I wanted to be here and a part of it.

It is sad leaving because I feel A&M Commerce has such a bright future. Though I am leaving I hope the momentum I have generated continues. The faculty moral is improving, we are increasing the number and quality of students we are admitting, we have a new strategic plan, we have new buildings coming up and really, the sky is the limit for Old ET. I wish I could be a part of it, but as I have told many individuals, I will probably be able to have a greater impact on what happens here as a vice-chancellor than I could ever have as a dean or provost.

I will never forget the experiences I have gained here and A&M-Commerce will always have a special place in my heart. I would like to wish a special thank you to everyone who has made these past three years special for me.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Frank Ashley

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I am a graduate student here at A&M-Commerce and the proud-parent of a daughter who is a student at Virginia Tech.

This past week has been difficult and emotional for the students, faculty, and their families. The "Hokie Nation," as VT calls itself, has much to do to begin the process of healing. The press, including editorials like yours entitled "E-mail was error in tragedy," has contributed to the pain and grief of all involved. There is a propensity to seek someone to blame, but attacks on the VT administration are counterproductive at this point. The students there love the school and are hurt by anything that adds to the horror of what they have experienced.

There will be plenty of time for recriminations and Monday morning quarterbacks playing the "woulda, shoulda, coulda" game. Inevitably, attorneys will crawl out of the woodwork and drag anyone who might be considered culpable through years of court battles. The sad reality is that the one to blame is the shooter himself, but he is dead, so we feel compelled to substitute the living.

In the meantime, the entire country can help Virginia Tech get back on its feet by honoring the survivors and memorializing the dead.

They (and we, their families) need encouragement and support, not criticism and reproach. My daughter will return to VT in the fall, and I will be prouder still of her courage and the courage of those who refuse to let this defeat them. They are the "Hokie Nation," but for now, we are all Hokies.

Maryann Whitaker  
Graduate Student

Dear Editor,

I thought that I should bring it to your attention how ignorant and illiterate our student government is. Upon reading the revisions the student body was asked to vote on, I came across several grammatical errors in the constitution. Article IV, Section 3D is a prime example of their inability to show elementary level knowledge. I suggest directing your attention to the spaces between the words "as an" and the complete lack of words in the sentence as a whole. When directed to the link that brings up the constitution, the browser's header state "CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION."

I refuse to vote on revisions to the constitution if it is not grammatically sound. If something is deemed so important, why it not

thoroughly revised before students are asked vote on it.

D. In the event that there are no Senators who meet the qualifications to serve as an Executive officer, the current active Executive Board shall individuals who have ever served on Senate to fill the empty seat. The person will be approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the current Senate.)

Timothy Carder  
Senior

Posted on [theeasttexan.com](http://theeasttexan.com) in response to Troy Brakefield's column "E-mail was error in tragedy"

The following questions are misleading: "Who decided it would be best to use e-mail to warn students and faculty? And how soon will this person be fired?" Asking these questions might be a result of the either/or thinking that typically muddles the thought of such tragedies. No one, I'm sure, said that email is the "best" way to warn people of what had happened, but it is ONE way, one quick and immediate way.

E-mail certainly has serious limitations, especially with college students who often have erratic habits regarding it. As a teacher, I often use email to communicate with my students, and those who have early morning classes often do not

check that email. Many of my own student check their email every couple weeks, and so don't get important information. But in the face of a crisis situation, one that was AT THAT TIME STILL UNFOLDING, e-mail is certainly one way to alert people. The question also assumes this "person" did nothing more other than fire off a quick note to the campus, and resumed her or his regular duties.

Asking when this person would be fired is also typical gut reaction thinking that shows little understanding of the position such people are in. This question demonstrates that though you have some knowledge of the events these people did not have at the time, you have paid even less attention to it.

You seem to have a plan, one that would have saved many lives, and been more effective. Funny how the university hasn't seen your wisdom and made you guardian of the universe. Why didn't CNN interview YOU about what should have been done instead of the roommates of the shooter who were obviously merely seeking attention and had nothing to add? Like so many, you have an answer "after the bullet hit" but nothing to actually contribute to the conversation.

Michael Morris  
Alumni

## The East Texan

Student Newspaper of Texas A&M University-Commerce

Established 1915

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### Letters To The Editor

Letters to the Editor are welcome and should be limited to 250 words. They will not be edited for spelling, grammar and libelous or malicious statements. We reserve the right to refuse publication. Letters should be typed or e-mailed and must include a signature, classification (grade level) and telephone number. Mailing address is The East Texan, P.O. Box 4011 Commerce, Texas 75428.

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The Truth and Other Lies | By Michael Thompson

## BRIEFLY...

## TAMU-C chorale and wind ensemble featured

The Texas A&M University-Commerce Department of Music will present an "Evening at the Eisemann" on Monday, April 30.

The free concert at the Eisemann Center in Richardson will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Margaret and Al Hill Performance Hall. A&M-Commerce alumni, friends and the public are invited.

The A&M-Commerce Chorale and Wind Ensemble will be featured. There will also be a tribute to Gene Lockhart, a longtime music professor and former A&M-Commerce vice president.

The Eisemann Center is located at 2351 Performance Drive.

For more information, contact the music department at 903-886-5304.

## President appoints new interim provost

On April 24, President Keith McFarland appointed Dr. Mary Hendrix as the Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, effective May 14, 2007.

"I hope to continue the momentum that Dr. Ashley established this year and focus on having high expectations for our students and valuing our faculty," Hendrix said.

Dr. Hendrix has been serving as the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs since 2002 and has an excellent grasp of the role and responsibilities of the Provost.

Her knowledge of the position, along with the excellent interpersonal skills and the respect she has earned from those who have worked with her, are what have made her a most logical choice for this position, according to McFarland.

"I know the entire campus community will rally around her as we all work together to move the University forward," McFarland said.

## Phi Alpha Theta annual banquet to come

Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society, and the History Department invite all students to attend the annual Phi Alpha Theta member induction ceremony, taking place Saturday, April 28 in the Heritage Room of the Memorial Student Center, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Attire is business casual. Tickets are \$6.50 for students, and \$10.00 for all others, and are available in the History Department Office until April 25. Further inquiries may be directed to John Howard Smith.

## Chill with S.W.A.T

As the spring semester nears its finish, students around campus are stressing out as finals approach. Peer education group S.W.A.T. T.E.A.M. is providing students without a way to alleviate some of their stress and anxiety.

"Last semester we had an event at the Morris Recreation Center called 'Let's Chill' and things went so well, we're doing it again. But this time with a twist," S.W.A.T. T.E.A.M. president Tieranee Jones said.

This spring's "Let's Chill" will feature games reminiscent of elementary field day extravaganzas.

"As college students, we have to be serious all the time. So we wanted to create some events that brought back memories from our younger days but still allowed to socialize and have fun," Jones said.

Some of the games are a relay race, tug of war and a volleyball tournament. And for the dancers, a hip-hop class will be available as well.

But Jones is excited that some of the mainstays from last semester's events are back again.

"We're going to have the aqua massage beds, ion foot baths, and food and drinks. And everything's free of charge so there's no reason not to have a packed rec center," Jones said.

"Let's Chill" is on Wednesday, May 2 at the MRC from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. For questions and concerns, contact Tieranee Jones at tjones1@eo.tamu-commerce.edu.

E-mail theeasttexan@gmail.com

## The end of a stupid era

Reign of wiener jokes and ridiculous comedy concludes as humor columnist graduates

*Editor's note: This article is not factual and is parody of Michael Thompson's time on campus. He really is this arrogant, however.*

For two years, Michael Thompson has harassed *The East Texan* readers with his humor column, "The Truth and Other Lies." Many found it offensive; others deemed it sophomoric. The rest thought it was incredibly stupid. Nevertheless, Thompson has continuously challenged authority; indeed, he shook his literary fist at the establishment, spit out his tongue at the status quo and raised his middle finger at those in charge.

"I did my best to piss off everyone," Thompson said in an exclusive interview. "It's not that I'm inconsiderate. It's just that I don't care."

Thompson's buffoonery has been displayed not only in *The East Texan*, but also on KETV - 3, KKOM Radio Texas and on 88.9 KETR Public Radio, making Thompson the only student at Texas A&M University - Commerce on all media outlets.

"He was everywhere," Derik Gray, a fan who asked not to be identified, said. "I couldn't turn on my DVD player or my PS2 without seeing his ugly mug. Although, I will say, he was (expletive deleted) hilarious."

Thompson had a penchant for calling others "weeners."

"Every humor writer has a catch phrase," Thompson said. "Mine just had something to do with 'mushroom sticks!'"

Not everyone found Thompson's brand of jocularity funny. In fact, many university officials and students thought Thompson's type of comedy was moronic.

"He is an idiot," said a football coach. "I mean, he called me a wiener!"

Senior linebacker J. R. Satchell agreed.

"[Thompson] was wrong," Satchell said. "But coach is a wiener."

Despite Thompson backing every claim about the university's football team he made with cold hard facts, his criticism caused much turmoil in the athletic department.

"How dare he," outgoing athletic director Jim Johnson said. "We're trying to build this organization and program to make it a winning ... hang on a second, my cell phone is ringing."

Thompson didn't single out the athletic department. He also cast daggers of truth at the Greek societies.

"I wish that bastard had rushed KA," said an unnamed Kappa Alpha member. "He said that the Greek fraternities

and sororities were a bunch of drunks. We would have let him know that the Greeks do a lot for the community. Now hand me my beer, you miserable prick."

University president Dr. Keith McFarland thought Thompson was "a little out of bounds" when describing the atmosphere of the school.

"Who?" Dr. McFarland said.

Fellow students thought Thompson was an egomaniac and a know-it-all.

"I had many classes with him," Josh Henry, a jealous punk who hates everything Thompson does, said. "He walked the halls of the Performing Arts Center like he owned the place. Everyone knows that I wish I could be like him."

Senior Shay Moore felt likewise.

"Michael is the man, but he had a way of rubbing it in people's faces," Moore said.

Thompson won many awards from the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association, including first place television anchor, second place radio announcer, first place headline writer and world-class arrogant SOB.

"I'm better than you," Thompson said.

Thompson has never apologized for his in-your-face attitude, and his professors backed his philosophy of, "Michael Rules."

"Michael may have been a little

cocky, but he was always audacious to his fellow students," radio and television professor Dr. John Mark Dempsey said.

"That egotistical fool took many of my classes," Dr. Lamar Bridges, a journalism professor, said. "He may have been overbearing, but he was hilarious ... like a good journalist should be."

Thompson finally graduates this May with a degree in Radio/Television and a minor in Journalism.

"Those wiener-heads are giving ME a degree?" Thompson asked. "What a bunch of morons!"

Despite his many flaws, Thompson always takes the time to recognize "the little people" who helped him along the way.

"I hate all of you," Thompson said.

Thompson may go down as the most conceited personality in A&M - Commerce's history, but he loves the school, that let him finish his education.

"I am a 'legendary legend' and the 'brat prince' of Commerce media, and my legacy will live forever," Thompson said. "Sure, they call me proud, overbearing, superior and swaggering. But I ask you this: 'Daddy' is good, isn't he?"

He sure the hell is.

Next week: Michael's final column

thetruthandotherlies1@gmail.com

## Student

Continued from Page 1

On March 26, McKinney police arrested Paris, who was expecting to meet a 14-year-old girl.

According to a probable cause affidavit, he met the girl via MySpace using the name Damion and eventually met her to take her to the movies. After visiting the theater, he drove to another location and touched her through her clothing and instructed her to put her hands on him. The girl told him "No" and informed him of her age.

He later allegedly exposed himself to the girl and her friend through the use of an online Web cam. Scared, the girl told her mother, who called police.

Police had the girl maintain contact and obtained an arrest warrant. Paris was taken into custody at a prearranged location where he was expecting to meet the 14-year-old.

Paris posted a \$50,000 bond on March 27, obtaining his release from the Collin County Detention Center.

Police are investigating Paris further, obtaining warrants to search his computer and cell phone.

Some material provided by the *McKinney Courier-Gazette*.

## Professor

Continued from Page 1

Other variables will include the oxygen and carbon dioxide levels as well as blood lactate concentrations. All three will be measured during the process.

As the women exercise on the cycle, saliva samples will be collected for analysis.

Researchers have known physical activity can have an effect on a woman's biology. Serious runners sometimes have an absence of their regular menstrual cycle.

But von Duvillard hopes to see how the performance will coincide with the release of hormones and estrogen, in other words, how the biology will affect the physical activity.

And he suspects he knows what the answer will be.

Previously, he conducted a study measuring the blood lactates of 19 women in Austria and he believes the results from that experiment will be mimicked in the new tests.

"We found absolutely no difference," he said.

Women between the ages of 18 and 35, who are physically active, but "not necessarily in super shape" would meet the criteria. Volunteers would also need to have had regular cycles for the last six months and not be taking oral contraceptives.

Those wishing to volunteer should contact Dr. von Duvillard at 903-886-5556 or Serge\_VonDuvillard@TAMU-Commerce.edu.

## May 12

Continued from Page 1

Students should purchase invitations or announcements to inform family and friends and to let people know what they have accomplished, Haddock said.

"Also, many times people will mail graduating seniors a gift so that is an added benefit," Haddock said.

Up to this point, Haddock has printed invitations and announcement for over 200 student that are graduating.

"We also print invitation for those graduating from our other campuses, especially Navarro," Haddock said.

Official A&M-Commerce rings are also available for seniors through the Lion Card office and come with a student's degree on one side and the year of graduation on the other.

"One thing that is great is that if a student buys a ring for their bachelor's degree, Balfour [the ring company] will change the date to match their master's degree date for free if they go on to get their master's degree here," Haddock said.

Caps, gowns and tassels can be purchased by A&M-Commerce seniors at the Texas Book Company located on the bottom floor of the student center.

**SMART MOVE**  
for your future!

**COLLIN COLLEGE**  
www.ccccd.edu  
1-877-COLLIN1

Register now for Maymester and summer

## NEED FINANCIAL AID FOR FALL 2007?

Come to the financial aid workshops! Financial Aid Advisors will be there to assist students in completing the application process.

April 27  
Noon - 1 p.m.

Located in the Leadership Lounge at the MSC

## SOUND OFF!

### How can we boost the athletic department at A&M-C?



"Get more teams, quick! They don't have men's soccer team, baseball or softball team. Women's basketball is doing great. They should emphasize on the rival games or who we are playing against. I would make sure I'd go if the match is against the rival teams."

Jamal Carter, undergraduate student



"I don't know. May be having more practices would help."

Samantha Whitley, undergraduate student



"The ladies basketball team is doing good. They should invest more money and try to involve more students. I never go to games because I don't know when they take place. They should bring in good players. They should be winning games to attract more audience."

Pravin Pandey, undergraduate student



"I think they should attract good players to the university and should practice more."

Anitha Garapati, graduate student



"I think we should include more sports like men's soccer and lacrosse; offer more scholarship money to the players and high school athletes."

Justin White, undergraduate student



"They never send out e-mails informing when the games take place. They should send out e-mails with the schedule of entire season so that students can plan ahead. They should include more games."

Brittany Kilgore, undergraduate student



"Recruit more players, redecorate the facility. They should do more advertising to get students involved with more activities."

Brian Lee, undergraduate student



"I think there should be more publicity. I would like to go to the games but I don't know when they are."

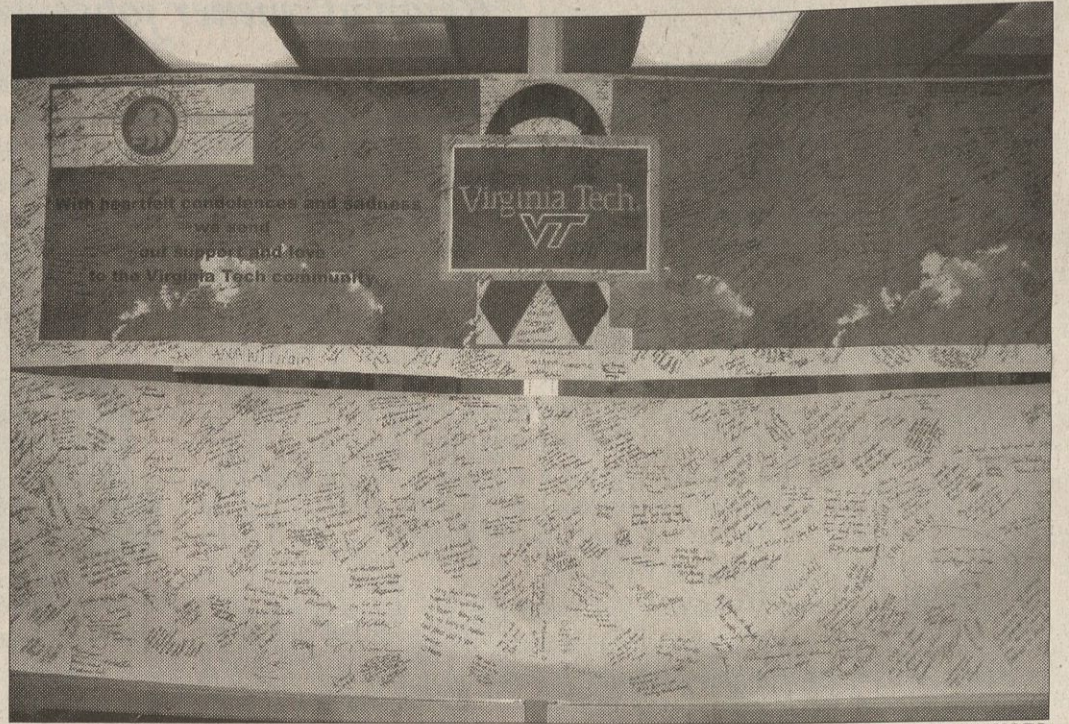
Alex Piper, undergraduate student



"There should be more money, more facility, more practice and more hard work put into it."

Simranjit Kaur, undergraduate student

## Remembering 4.16.07



CONNIE MEARS/COURTESY PHOTO

"With heartfelt condolences and sadness we send out support and love to the Virginia Tech community," read the banner, which collected signatures and sympathy messages from the university community. The outpouring of support demanded a second banner to be put up. (Above)

(Right) Texas A&M-Commerce students, faculty and staff honoring the memory of those who lost their lives in Virginia Tech at the East Lawn on Friday, Apr. 20. Campus ministries and local clergyman from surrounding churches conducted a prayer vigil. Likewise, Breakout Entertainment hosted a candle light vigil following outdoor concerts held at the Morris Recreation Center on Thursday and Friday evenings.



CONNIE MEARS/COURTESY PHOTO

## Instructors get to know costs of texts

Troy Brakefield  
Managing Editor

Although there will likely be no measures passed creating tax-free periods for textbooks, students at higher learning institutions may get a little break when it comes to texts' costs.

A bill primarily authored by Rep. Scott Hochberg proposes instructors consider the cost of required books before assigning the text and makes it a Class B misdemeanor for a university or college trustee, administrator or faculty member to "accept a gift, favor, or service that could influence the selection textbooks."

Faculty members will also be prohibited from requiring "any textbook that isn't going to be used in the course," according to bill analysis by Hochberg.

The bill also calls for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board "to monitor the cost of textbooks and recommend to the legislature ways to lower the costs of textbooks for Texas college students."

Another key element of the bill mandates the board to work with colleges, universities and "others" to develop and make available open access publications.

"Bundles" or textbooks bundled with workbooks and other materials cannot be required unless the publisher allows students to return opened bundles unless faculty members demonstrate need for the materials.

Instructors also cannot have students purchase texts without knowing the publisher will not release a later edition at least three years from the release of the most recent edition, unless a good cause is given.

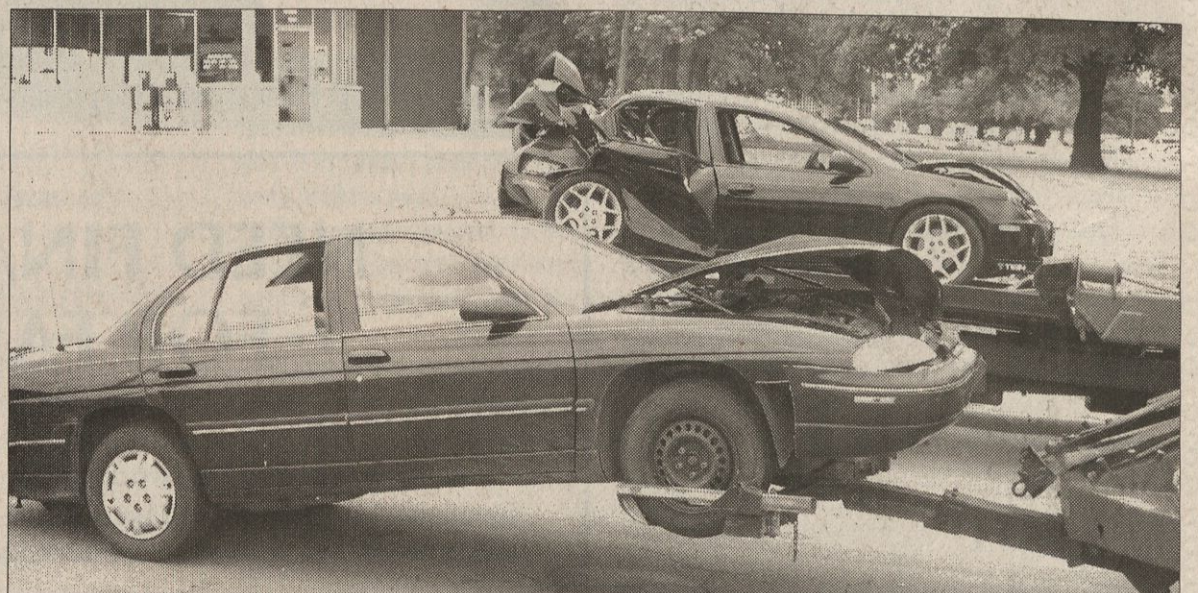
Although there have been several bills concerned with the costs students pay for textbooks presented during this session of the Texas legislature, students have yet to see any relief.

State senators and representatives have proposed no less than six bills designed to eliminate taxes on college texts, yet none have made it to a vote on the floor.

Most of the bills call for a tax-free time period, much like "tax-free weekends" which allow anyone purchasing items such as clothing or school supplies to not pay sales tax during a specified time period.

While the proposals are popular with students — and parents — legislators have tried several times in recent years to come to an agreement with no luck. None of the current bills have made it out of committee. The bookstore on campus took in approximately \$146,000 last year, according to Lisa Richardson, the operations supervisor for the store.

Hochberg filed his bill Jan. 30 and it was sent to the Higher Education Committee less than two weeks later. On April 18, representatives voted unanimously in favor of the bill, sending it out of committee to be scheduled on the calendar for a vote on the floor. If passed, the bill would take effect on Sept. 1.



DANIAL DREILING/The East Texan

A three-car accident occurred Apr. 18, near the intersection of Live Oak Street and West Neal Street. Police arrested Quintis Lavance Weatherall on counts of reckless driving, unsafe speed, failure to maintain financial responsibility and not having a valid driver's license, according to the accident report from Commerce Police Department.

## Classic play engages with simplicity

University Playhouse opening performance starts tonight at 8 p.m.

### Special to The East Texan

"Our Town" - it's the "quintessential American play," says Texas A&M University-Commerce theatre faculty member Jim Tyler Anderson of the Thornton Wilder work.

It's been 30 years since this play was presented by the University Playhouse, and a talented cast of students and community residents and backstage crew are preparing for a two-weekend run of performances that starts Thursday, April 26.

"Our Town" will open at 8 p.m. April 26 in the Performing Arts Center with other shows at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 27-28 and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 29.

Other performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, May 3-5. Reservations in advance are urged and can be made by calling the Playhouse Box Office at 903-886-5900.

The play is suitable for all ages, Anderson said. "Our Town" is one of the greatest American plays ever written with strong family values, community values, and patriotism," he said.

During his writing career, Wilder won three Pulitzer Prizes: in 1928 for fiction with "The Bridge at San Luis Rey," in 1938 for drama for "Our Town" and in 1942 for drama for "Skin of Our Teeth."

In about the last 15 years, there has been a revival of interest in Wilder and he is "just now becoming recognized as one of our greatest authors," Anderson said.

One of Wilder's greatest attributes

is he understood "what the strengths of the theatre are," the director said. "He cut the theatre down to its bare essentials so it's easier for the audience to engage with the characters and the story."

Wilder uses a narrator character, which he calls the stage manager, played in the Playhouse production by College Station graduate student Quincy L. Johnson II. The narrator moves in and out of the action on the stage and has an ongoing relationship with the audience, Anderson said.

Set in Grover's Corners, N.H., in the early 1900s, the play focuses on two families: the Gibbs and the Webbs.

A&M-Commerce staff member Rob McWhorter, plays Dr. Gibbs, the town's physician. His wife, Mrs. Gibbs, is played by Colleyville graduate student Lacy Lalene Lynch.

The Gibbs' son, George, is played by Austin graduate student Chris Martinez, with Greenville sophomore Rachel Fields cast as the Gibbs' daughter, Rebecca.

Mr. Webb, who runs the town's newspaper, is played by Wills Point freshman Matt Plummer. Commerce senior Katie Townsend is cast as Mrs. Webb.

Rusk junior Rachel Joseph plays the Webb's daughter, Emily, and 12-year-old Matthew Brantner of Plano plays Wally. Other actors in the cast are Commerce High School student Ian McIntyre as Si Crowell, Azle graduate student Phillip Ingle as the church organist, Forney freshman

Lacey Allen as Helen, Garland junior Holly A. Stone as Professor Willard, Colleyville junior Jessica Babin as Ernestine and Arizona freshman Glenn Davis as Sam Craig.

On the main stage of the Performing Arts Center, there will be only two ladders, and some benches, chairs and trellises.

"The artistry is in the lighting, costuming, and acting," Anderson said. "The production is also very rich in sound effects, and we will have



COURTESY PHOTO/The East Texan

Texas A&M -Commerce students rehearse a scene from the University Playhouse production of "Our Town." The Thornton Wilder play will open on Thursday, April 26. From left are College Station graduate student Quincy L. Johnson II as the stage manager character, Austin graduate student Chris Martinez as the Gibbs' son, George, and Rusk junior Rachel Joseph as the Webbs' daughter, Emily. The play runs Thursday through Saturday, April 26-28, and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 29; and Thursday through Sunday, May 3-5.

Lacey Allen as Helen, Garland junior Holly A. Stone as Professor Willard, Colleyville junior Jessica Babin as Ernestine and Arizona freshman Glenn Davis as Sam Craig.

On the main stage of the Performing Arts Center, there will be only two ladders, and some benches, chairs and trellises.

"The artistry is in the lighting, costuming, and acting," Anderson said.

"The production is also very rich in sound effects, and we will have

a sound effects team and live music composed and directed by Ken Dickinson," he said.

"Our Town" touches on all human emotions. "The humor derives from the characters; in sparse terms, Wilder can turn that around to grief for the audience to see and feel," the A&M-Commerce faculty member said.

Article contributed by A&M-Commerce Media Relations.

## WHAT'S HOT ... WHAT'S NOT

### MUSIC

#### All that Remains



COURTESY PHOTO/The East Texan

Band: All That Remains  
Album: Fall of Ideals  
Genre: Screamo/Rock  
Label: Prosthetic Records

By Cody Giles  
Special Contributor



All That Remains' "Fall of Ideals" is a spare. That is to say that if albums were tires, this one would be a donut. Not one that you would want to go with for first choice, but if you were in your car and wanting to listen some generic "screamo" music, then this would be your back up. The problem is that if you had another CD of "screamo" style music, then you would get the same musical satisfaction.

All That Remains consists of five musically talented individuals with Mike Martin and Oli Herbert ripping on guitars, Jeanne Sagan strumming and thumping on the bass, Jason Costa beating away at the drums and Phil Labonte screaming away at the mic.

Listening to "Fall of Ideals" will leave you bored and uninspired.

It isn't the guitar playing or the drums that won't excite you, but rather the over-use of screaming. Now don't get me wrong, as you have read before, I am a fan of screaming in songs, but when it makes up 90 percent of your song and overloads the CD, then it becomes meaningless and tiring. "Over screaming" leaves it difficult, if even possible, for the listener to understand or even digest the lyrics that the band obviously took the time to write down and set to music.

"Fall of Ideals" in all rights is generic and unoriginal. The only reason I would think about listening to it again would be in the event that I was in my car, with nothing else to listen to, and wanted to hear some screaming to take my mind off whatever else I was thinking about.

All That Remains' "Fall of Ideals" is not a complete loss, and don't think I am completely dissing on their music. The talent, instrumentally, is quite exceptional. Had he decided to scream in order to back up or reinforce the lyrics he sings on "Fall of Ideals", the effect would have been a better one.

- CG Rockstar

## As seen on television ... LOST

By Shauna Banks  
Editorial Assistant

Did anyone else hope Charlie was actually going to kick the bucket this past week? It certainly looked like the guy was on his way there in the beginning of last week's episode. Of course, an arrow to the jugular doesn't usually bode well for anyone does it? As usual though, no such luck. The beginning sequence turned out to be another one of Desmond's mysterious flashes into the future, in which Charlie always dies a tragic death. The only catch this time: Desmond doesn't intend on telling Charlie he may be killed and is fully prepared to let things fall as they may with no interference or grand gestures on his part.

The flashbacks for the episode, center on Desmond and his previous ambitions of becoming a monk. Upon leaving the monastery, he meets his future fiancé Penny, who seems quite smitten with him at first sight and vice versa.

Back in the present time, the escapades of Jin, Hurley, Charlie and Desmond continue on throughout the day. It's never really said what

exactly they are looking for as they tromp through the jungle, but the opening scenes of the episode keep the viewer wondering if Charlie's really going to get it and when. In the end though, Desmond's desire to save people wins out and Charlie is spared at the last minute.

Meanwhile, while those four are out gallivanting in the jungle, back at the main camp, Sawyer attempts to call on Kate for a little "afternoon delight." Of course, she shoots him down without a second thought. In true Sawyer form though, he asks her if he needs to make her a mix-tape in order to win her affections again. She counters with a "Yeah, why don't you do that," before leaving him standing in her tent without so much as a kiss.

Later that evening, Kate comes in contact with Jack in the makeshift kitchen on the beach, and tries to make small talk about how great the oatmeal is. Jack, never being one for the small talk and light conversation, tells her to enjoy the leisure time, because something is bound to happen.

Not two minutes later, Kate is forced to watch Jack and Juliet laugh-



ABC

ing over their dinner, making her clearly jealous.

She immediately takes out her frustrations at seeing Jack fraternizing with the enemy by running into Sawyer's arms—which he doesn't seem to mind so much.

After a night spent camping out, the adventurous four starts back on their trek through the thickets of the island and comes across a mysterious person hung in a tree above them, sporting a parachute and helmet.

Since most of the flashbacks in the

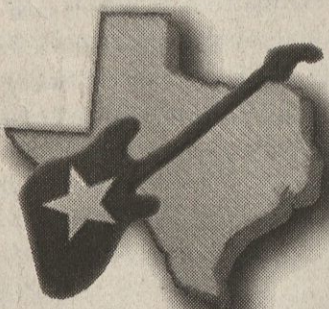
episode are of Desmond and Penny, it leads the viewer to believe that she has somehow crash-landed on the island in search of him. But, in the spirit of "LOST", what is expected to happen doesn't.

After making a scene of cutting the figure down and building up the excitement to it being Desmond's true love Penny, the helmet is pulled free to reveal another random, mysterious girl, whom the viewer knows not a thing about. Talk about killing the cliffhanger ending!

## KKOM "Radio Texas" featured tracks

See what's spinning for the week of April 26 on kkomradiotexas.com

Live this week!



The Ackermans  
Albert & Gage  
A Single Frame  
BarNun  
Bowling for Soup  
Brad Davis  
Brave Combo  
Dallas Super Starz  
Derailers  
Drayton Russel  
Eisley  
Eleven-Hundred Springs  
Embodiment

Mama Burned  
Full Moon  
The Slip  
Hard Cuffing  
2113  
This World  
Human  
Jump Out Jump Clean  
The One Before Me  
Daybreak  
Escaping Song  
Pair of Shoes  
Decade

Eric George  
Fair to Midland  
Flyleaf  
Harold Walker  
Hourly Radio  
Jet Screamer  
Joe Burns  
Midlake  
Monkeyshyne  
Spin  
Strange Fruit Project  
Wade Bowen

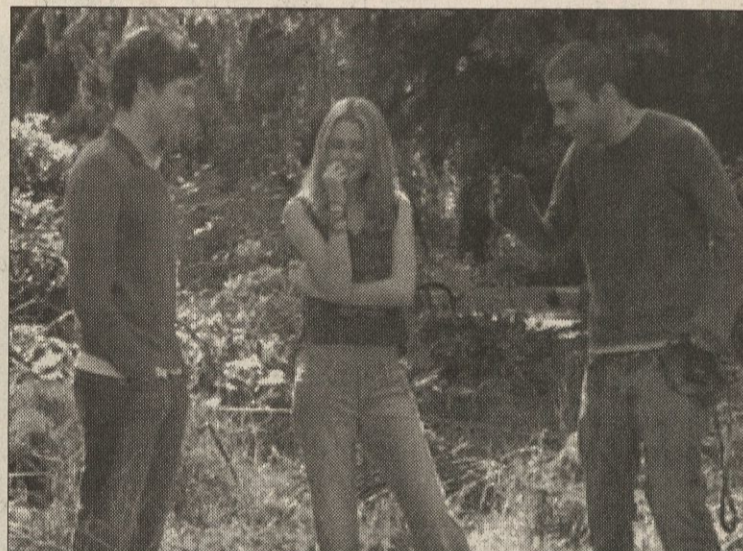
On My Way  
Stiff Back  
Fully Alive  
Bad Sign  
Fear of Standing  
Blackhole  
Reinberance  
Her Spiral Hair  
Eyes Behind  
You Say  
Soul  
Not Finished Yet

KKOM "Radio Texas," student radio for Texas A&M University-Commerce, features Texas music and is heard on Cable Channel 3 from 2-11 p.m. weekdays and 24 hours a day at kkomradiotexas.com.

Local musicians: Send CDs and MP3s to Radio Texas. See our Web site for details.

### FILM

#### In the Land of Women



COURTESY PHOTO/The East Texan

Cast: Adam Brody, Meg Ryan, Kristen Stewart, Olympia Dukakis, Elena Anaya, Makenzie Vega and Clark Gregg.

Director: Jon Kasdan

Release Date: April 20, 2007

MPAA Rating: PG-13, for sexual content, thematic elements and language

By Wyndi Veigel  
Senior Editor



In the Land of Women, is a film about people trying to make sense of love and all that love entails. After Carter Webb (Adam Brody) is dumped by his true love Sophia, he decides to spend the summer looking after his grandmother and decides to work on a project that he has been trying to write for 10 years: a screenplay about the perfect high school existence. Shortly after his arrival, he discovers the family across the

street and gets involved with both the mother and the daughter.

Overall, this film is not what I expected — a happy-go-lucky romantic comedy. This film contains parts that are extremely dark, making the film more enjoyable for males who are taking a female on a date night. Also, it doesn't end the way audience members may expect it to, but it is a happy ending, in its own way.

Meg Ryan, Adam Brody and Kristen Stewart all do an extraordinary job of acting in this film, making the love triangle believable to the point that audience members actually feel sorry for all three members. Olympia Dukakis' performance cannot be overlooked as Adam Brody's grandmother. She plays the part with hilarity and believability that can only be found in actress with her standing in the film world.

The plot is very subtle, with twists and turns impacting the audience gently, not overwhelming them.

I would recommend this film to anyone and would advise couples to consider this for a date night movie.



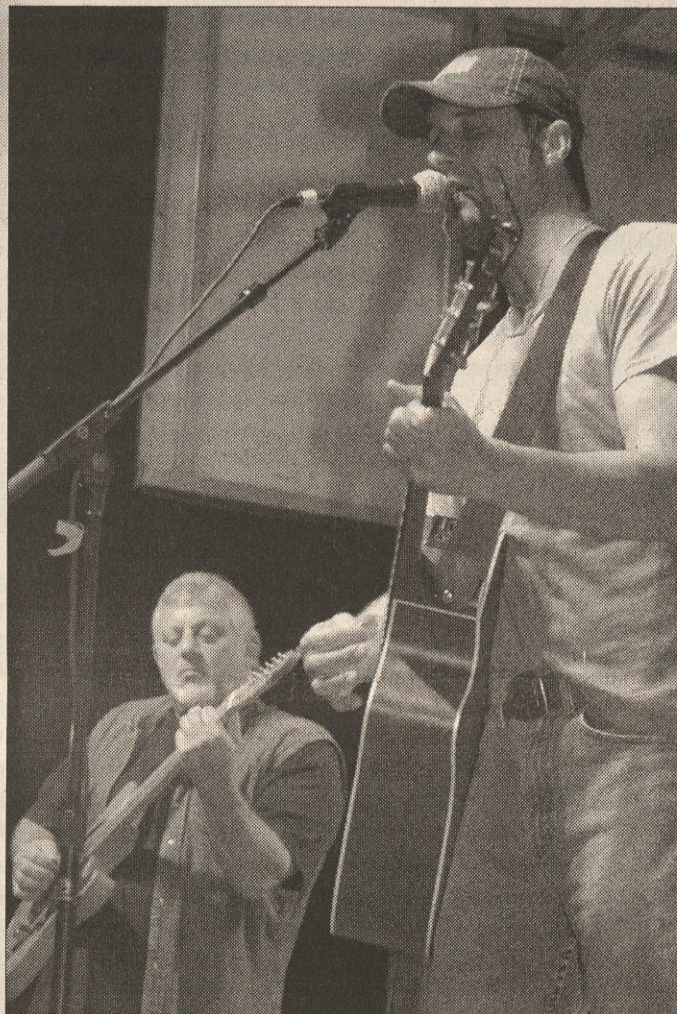
The band Stavelly entertained A&M-Commerce students with their soft rock sound. Local A&M-Commerce students, Amber Ramoz and Jerry Petter find a moment to dance with each other during their performance. Stavelly was named winner in this year's Battle of the Bands.

## Spring Fever



Pridestock 2007 brings entertainment to Commerce

Photos by Andrea Canafax



Headliner Deryl Dodd performed as part of Texas Country night. Dodd has performed with artists such as Martina McBride and for Garth Brooks and Brooks and Dunn. Dodd's latest album, Full Circle, is now available.



Students and residents of Commerce were entertained on Thursday night by various country bands during Texas country night. Artists such as Deryl Dodd, Fat Dixie, Maren Morris and the Dust Devils gave residents music to dance to and provided a relief for the upcoming stress of finals week.

## Texas Tech looks at text messages for emergencies

By Naomi Kaskela  
The Daily Toreador

LUBBOCK — Several universities around the nation have communication capabilities through text messages. Because of the Virginia Tech shootings, schools such as Texas Tech are considering expanding these services beyond marketing and simply disseminating information so they may be utilized during emergency situations.

Texas Tech uses Red Raiders Mobile Campus, which is "Tech's approved text messaging service. It connects students to organizations, clubs, faculty, restaurants and stores," according to redraiders.mobilecampus.com.

Students can opt into this service and get information for specific organizations or topics they designate when signing up.

Mason Moses, president of the Student Government Association, said when members of the SGA decided to use Mobile Campus, they knew it eventually would be used for emergency purposes.

Red Raiders Mobile Campus started this year, and Texas Tech is one of 14 schools in the nation to use this particular company, Moses said.

On Monday, Margaret Lutherer, executive director of Communications and Marketing, said she was writing a request for a proposal seeking an application-service-provider-messaging system.

She said the type of company she is looking for is one that can contact people in a quick fashion.

"The systems that we are asked to give us proposals are those that can contact (people) in a variety of ways," she said.

Companies she has looked at offer four to eight different methods of communication, she said, including text messaging, e-mail, land-line calls and cell-phone calls.

The company who gets the proposal must be able to contact students, faculty, staff and possibly parents within 30 minutes, Lutherer said.

Texas Tech has been looking into this type of service since the fall, but it has had difficulty finding service providers until after the Virginia Tech shootings, she said.

The final REP hopefully will ask for proposals from service providers within 30 days, she said.

"I would say that our plan is to have it in effect even during some of our freshman orientations, so we can talk to them about this," Lutherer said.

Companies offering these types of services include Informz and MESSAGEbuzz.

Steven Kelley, chief executive officer of MESSAGEbuzz, said he started the company with other individuals three years ago with the goal of providing a backbone for organizations.

MESSAGEbuzz, according to www.messagebuzz.com, offers text messaging capabilities, which includes services such as sending out information about organizations, the weather and emergencies.

According to the Web site, "by the end of 2006, roughly 2.3 billion people across the globe had a mobile phone, twice the number of those using the Internet. The

mobile channel has made it possible to reach these on-the-go consumers - anytime and anywhere."

Kelley said since the Virginia Tech shootings, he has received phone calls from six universities across the nation specifically asking about the use of mass text messaging during emergencies on campus.

Two schools already using MESSAGEbuzz are the University of Southern California and Neosho County Community College.

Kerry Ranabargar, director of Technology Services at Neosho County Community College, said the school has been using MESSAGEbuzz for about a year.

"Basically, we kind of thought that one of the main pieces of communication students have is their cell phone," he said, "so we felt that sending announcements via text messages rather than other mediums (made sense)."

At Neosho County Community College, students can choose whether they have the service.

Ranabargar said 25 to 30 percent of students at Neosho County Community College are currently using MESSAGEbuzz.

"It's been slow to adopt, but it continues to grow, and obviously this is something that is needed," he said.

At Neosho County Community College and USC, MESSAGEbuzz is not currently used for emergency purposes, but both schools are looking into expanding their services.

Ranabargar said a committee has been formed at the college to talk about using MESSAGEbuzz in case of emergencies.

Jonielle Schmidt, program specialist at USC, said after the Virginia Tech shootings, she sent out an e-mail informing individuals in the emergency management part of the school that MESSAGEbuzz is already in use on the campus and that it can be expanded to be used during emergency situations.

Schmidt said USC started using MESSAGEbuzz in 2006 to hold a mobile scavenger hunt to send out other types of information, however only approximately 200 students signed up to use it.

Schmidt said despite the small number of students who signed up for the service, she believes it is a valuable tool for college campuses.

"My personal opinion on that is this is a really great way to get a hold of students," she said. "Text messages, it's not intrusive, but it gets your attention. It's a phenomenal service."

At Texas Tech, there are more than 700 students signed up for Red Raiders Mobile Campus, Moses said. Additionally, there are more than 600 students signed up who have not activated their accounts.

He said he encourages students to sign up for the service because it lets them know what is going on around the Texas Tech campus and the Hub City, gives them weather updates and, in the future, can warn them about emergencies.

*Editor's Note: The Daily Toreador is the student publication of Texas Tech University in Lubbock.*

## Books, childhood development part of annual Bill Martin Symposium

By Shauna Banks  
Editorial Assistant



Ashley Bryan  
Children's Author

Ending the semester with one of their biggest events of the year, the education department is bringing the third annual Bill Martin Jr. Symposium to Texas A&M-Commerce Friday, April 27.

This year's speaker and author of more than 100 children's books, including "Let it Shine" and "Beautiful Blackbird", Ashley Bryan, will start things off on with a keynote session at 9 a.m. and then speak again at the symposium luncheon. Ashley

*'This symposium is useful for classroom teachers, present and future, as an inspiration to best practice in classroom teaching through using quality literature in every level of instruction'*

— Nicole Wilkins, administrative secretary

has been featured in The Washington Post and Eye on Tomorrow.

In the morning and afternoon breakout sessions, experts on bilingual, early childhood, mid-level and secondary education from northeast Texas will be featured.

The day will wind down with an exhibit fair, authors' book signing and tours of the Bill Martin Jr. Library, Planetarium and Children's Museum. Throughout the day, there will also be opportunities for those

attending to win door prizes.

"This symposium is useful for classroom teachers, present and future, as an inspiration to best practice in classroom teaching through using quality literature in every level of instruction," Nicole Wilkins, administrative secretary said.

Registration improved from the event's first year at 435 participants and the second at 537.

"Registration for this year's symposium

is going well. We have introduced online registration this year and have had a great response from A&M-Commerce students, and from area public school teachers as well," Wilkins said.

The keynote speaker in the inaugural symposium in 2005 was Steven Kellog, author of "Pinkerton" and "The Island of the Skog".

Kellog was followed in 2006 with Jose Aruego, author and illustrator of more than 100 books, including the classic "Leo the Late Bloomer".

Each year, the Education Department of Curriculum and Instruction has sponsored the symposium, in which many of the faculty knew Bill Martin Jr. through workshops, seminars and because he had retired to Commerce for the last decade of his life.

Martin died in Commerce in August of 2004, after having donated his entire library to the University seven years prior, now housed in the Sowers Education building on campus.

According to Wilkins, the department chair, Dr. Martha Foote is responsible for the vision and coordination of the annual symposium, with the help of three co-chairs and several other committee and faculty members.

Following the event, a large portion of the net proceeds will go into the Bill Martin Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund, where students can apply until May 1 at <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/EDCI/scholarshipfellowship.asp>.

"We are looking forward to Ashley Bryan. His books are beautiful, and important in picture book literature," Wilkins said.

# NATIONAL LAMPOON SPORTS MINUTE ORSO

Written by Steve Hofstetter, Adam Hofstetter, Cody Marley, Ryan Murphy, Rich Ragains, Elliot Steingart, and Chris Strait.

(4/26/07) Top NFL draft prospect Amobi Okoye admitted during interviews at the NFL combine that he has used marijuana. Teams are now wary of drafting him, as they now have to factor in the price of all those Cheetos.

Barry Bonds is continuing his pursuit of Hank Aaron. Let's hope all of this success doesn't go to his head. His massive, melon shaped head.

In basketball, Detroit Pistons guard Flip Murray says three gunshots were fired into his home by a pair of masked men. All three shots missed wildly, leading police to suspect that one of the shooters may have been Antoine Walker.

SuperSonics majority owner Clay Bennett has announced that Seattle will no longer have a basketball team beyond the 2007-08 season. The news shocked fans, who thought the Sonics stopped playing basketball in the late nineties.

Curtis Strange and Hubert Green have been elected to the World Golf Hall of Fame. The news was greeted by a very quiet and polite round of applause.

Friends report that reality star and wrestler Hulk Hogan has been quarreling nearly non-stop with his wife. Luckily no one has been hurt as all of their fights are heavily choreographed and planned out in advance.

David Beckham has been selected as the sexiest dad among a list of sexy entertainers and athletes. Former NBA star Shawn Kemp did not win, despite 75 of his children casting ballots.

And Nike took out a full-page ad in the New York Times thanking disgraced radio host Don Imus for bringing the issues of race relations and sexism to the forefront. The company also plans on throwing a parade for John Rocker. Imus' joke has also led to a lucrative book deal for the Rutgers coach Vivian Stringer. The book is tentatively titled, "Acting for Beginners."

(4/23/06) Congratulations to Kenya's Robert Cheruiyot, who won the Boston Marathon by outrunning the rest of the Kenyans. We're tired of Americans losing every marathon, and are starting our own. The course will be nine miles and can be driven.

Yankee pitcher Carl Pavano's girlfriend will be photographed for Maxim. Unless she gets injured first.

In basketball, Tim Duncan was given a technical foul and thrown out of a game for laughing at a call while on the bench. Officials feared for their safety as it's the first time Duncan has ever smiled.

Georgetown juniors Jeff Green and Roy Hibbert will submit their names for the NBA draft but will not sign with agents. That's great news for savvy NBA teams who are looking to sign the players for \$15 a piece.

Turning to football, Minnesota Vikings cornerback Cedric Griffin was arrested at a night club for refusing to pull up his pants. Mr. Griffin, there is a time and a place for that kind of behavior, and that's on a cruise with the rest of your team.

For more of the Sports Minute (Or So), visit [minuteorso.com](http://minuteorso.com)

# Rangers, round ones and NFL rumors

Ok folks, here's a wrap up of the sports scene in DFW metroplex.



Steve Shwartz Sports Columnist

The Texas Rangers won two out of three from the Oakland A's after dropping the opener of the series 16-4 on Friday night.

The Rangers broke open a close game Saturday night by pounding the A's 7-0. A big four run 8th inning powered the Rangers to the victory. On Sunday, the most competitive game of the series had Oakland with a 3-1 lead going to the bottom of the eighth inning, but the Rangers scored three runs on five hits to pull out a 4-3 victory, before

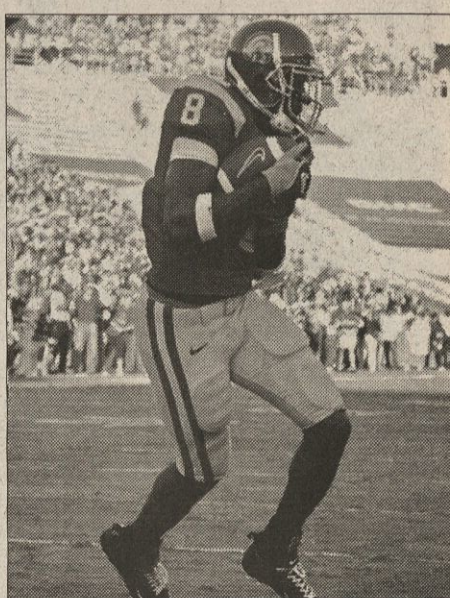
falling to the Seattle Mariners on Monday night 5-4.

Upsets, talk about upsets, gee whiz, I can't begin to express how shocked I was in watching Golden State's Warriors defeat the Dallas Mavericks 97-85 in game one of the NBA Western Conference Playoffs held in Dallas.

The Mavs considered by many, including yours truly, to be the best team in basketball after winning 67 games this season, looked like a mediocre team against Nellie's (Don Nelson's) Warriors. Baron Davis had 32 points against the Mavericks that made him look like Michael Jordan, Larry Bird, or Magic Johnson. I picked Dallas to win the NBA title this year and they still might, but with many more performances like Sunday night, the Mavericks will be home watching the playoffs on TV.

I saved the best for last: the NFL Draft and the Cowboys. The 'Boys have resigned Marc Columbo and added a few offensive linemen to their team. Wade Phillips, the Cowboys new coach should have a good defensive team this year. I'm wondering, should the Cowboys draft another running back? Julius Jones and Marion Barber are good, but not great. A third running back would sure help if Barber or Jones were to go down with an injury or not perform up to expectations.

The Cowboys are set with Tony Romo at quarterback but could use another weapon at wide receiver to go along with T.O. A likely scenario would be the 'Boys taking USC wide receiver Dwayne Jarrett, Texas Longhorn defensive back Aaron Ross, Florida Gators safety Reggie Nelson or even trading out of their position for more picks in the later rounds.



COURTESY PHOTO/The East Texan  
Deweyne Jarrett, is one of many options as the Cowboys first round pick.

## Awards

Continued from page 8

Women's basketball recognized their seniors - Alicia Johnson, Kanani Marshal, Dawn Montgomery and Tradawn Short. Montgomery was named the recipient of the Susie Knause Memorial Heart Award, which is presented to a women's basketball player for her desire, dedication, leadership and scholarship.

The team left a lasting impression at A&M-Commerce - they broke 40 school records, advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight by defeating four top-13 teams. On their way to the Elite Eight game, the Lions won the LSC North Division regular season title, LSC Tournament championship title, as well as claiming the South

Central Regional Championship.

Head Coach Denny Downing was named the LSC North Division Coach of the Year, after leading the Lions to the most successful season in school history. Marshal garnered many honors for her outstanding contributions to the team's run to the Elite Eight.

Among Marshal's honors, were her being named 1st Team All-LSC team, second team All-South Central Region, LSC North Player of the Year, while also being named LSC North Division Player of the Week three times during the season. Marshal also set the records for three pointers in a game (11), season (145), and in a career (242).

Britney Jordan also was a strong con-

tributor for the Lions in their run to the Elite Eight, by being garnering 1st Team All-LSC honors, being named Most Valuable Player of the LSC Tournament, being named LSC North Division Player of the Week three times during the season, and she also tied a school record by scoring 43 points in a single game, against Tarleton State in the first round of the LSC Tournament.

Dominee Evans was named to the LSC All-Tournament team, while Katedria Moseley was named LSC North Division Player of the Week in late November.

Montgomery and Marshal were unable to attend the banquet, as Montgomery is currently working as an intern for the Dallas Mavericks, and Marshal was at

a try-out for the WNBA's Houston Comets. After their remarkable season was highlighted, the team stood to be recognized and in doing so, they received a standing ovation from all who were in attendance at the banquet.

Towards the end of the banquet, former A&M-Commerce Athletic Director, Dr. Margo Harbison presented the Lib Huggins Award, which is given out to the most outstanding female student-athletes at A&M-Commerce.

The award was presented to co-recipients, Niki Williams and Amber Ramoz, for their contributions to A&M-Commerce athletics in their four-year college careers as student-athletes for the Lions.

## 2007 volleyball schedule

DATE	Opponent/Event	Location/Time
8/24/07	TBA (SEOSU Tournament)	Durant, Okla./ All Day
8/25/07	TBA (SEOSU Tournament)	Durant, Okla./ All Day
8/31/07	TBA (Henderson St. Tournament)	Arkadelphia, Ark./ All Day
9/01/07	TBA (Henderson St. Tournament)	Arkadelphia, Ark./ All Day
9/04/07	at Paul Quinn	Dallas, Tex. /7:00 p.m. CT
9/07/07	TBA (ACU Tournament)	Abilene, Tex. / All Day
9/08/07	TBA (ACU Tournament)	Abilene, Tex. / All Day
9/13/07	at Cameron	Lawton, Okla./7:00 p.m. CT
9/15/07	at Midwestern State	Wichita Falls, Tex. 2:00 p.m. CT
9/20/07	vs. Southeastern Oklahoma	Commerce, Tex. /7:00 p.m. CT
9/22/07	vs. Central Arkansas	Commerce, Tex. /2:00 p.m. CT
9/27/07	at Tarleton State	Stephenville, Tex. 7:00 p.m. CT
9/29/07	at Texas A&M - Kingsville	Kingsville, Tex. /2:00 p.m. CT
10/05/07	TBA (SWOSU Tournament)	Weatherford, Okla./ All Day
10/06/07	TBA (SWOSU Tournament)	Weatherford, Okla./ All Day
10/11/07	vs. Eastern New Mexico	Commerce, Tex. /7:00 p.m. CT
10/13/07	vs. West Texas A&M	Commerce, Tex. /2:00 p.m. CT
10/18/07	at Abilene Christian	Abilene, Tex. /7:00 p.m. CT
10/20/07	at Angelo St	San Angelo, Tex. /2:00 p.m. CT
10/25/07	at Texas Woman's	Denton, Tex. /7:00 p.m. CT
10/27/07	at Harding	Searcy, Ark. /2:00 p.m. CT
11/01/07	vs. Southwestern Oklahoma	Commerce, Tex. /7:00 p.m. CT
11/03/07	vs. Central Oklahoma	Commerce, Tex. /2:00 p.m. CT
11/08/07	TBA (LSC Tournament)	TBA/ All Day
11/09/07	TBA (LSC Tournament)	TBA/ All Day
11/10/07	TBA (LSC Tournament)	TBA/ All Day

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## ON THE PROWL

### Lion alum gets first head coaching job

The Cooper Bulldogs will have a new head coach when the football seasons kicks off in August, as Ronnie Green takes over the program.

It will be the first head coaching assignment for Green, 35, a 1996 Texas A&M University-Commerce and a 1990 Cooper graduate, who played running back and linebacker for the Bulldogs.

Green was defensive coordinator under Chris Boyd last season and the Cooper ISD school board named him athletic director and head football coach during a Tuesday board meeting.

"I'm very excited about it and I look forward to the challenge," said Green, who has spent the last six seasons as an assistant coach his high school alma mater. "This is one of the most exciting times, probably the most exciting time in my career."

—By Van Hilburn  
The Paris News

### Ex-Lions catch on with intense football

Darvin Peterson, the most valuable defensive player of the year for the Lions football squad last season, along with former Lion running back Demetrius Rector, have really caught on with the Katy Ruff Riders.

The Ruff Riders are part of the Intense Football League, also known as the IFL played on a 50-yard field, similar to that of the Arena Football League.

On April 14, the Ruff Riders opened their season with a 70-54 loss to Corpus Christi, starting the season 0-1.

Both players played on the defensive side of the ball with Rector totaling seven tackles, while Peterson had three.

There are 13 games remaining for the Ruff Riders with the next coming on Saturday, April 28 at CenTex scheduled for 7 p.m.

—By Brent Lyday

### The Fantasy Update ...

While football season may be the most popular time for fantasy sports (sounds dreamy, huh?), baseball season is underway and it's fantasy season has begun.

Believe it or not, Yankee third baseman and fan least-favorite Alex Rodriguez is out to a fast start. As of presstime, A-Rod leads the league in homeruns with 14, which is one away from the record for an opening month.

If you are lucky enough to have him on your team, his league leading .400 batting average, 14 homeruns and 34 runs batted in most likely has your team in first place.

On a side note, trade him before the playoffs start.

Mark Teixeira and Gary Matthews Jr. are off to a very slow month. They both happen to be on my team, which is off to an 0-1 record, by the way.

Tex is batting .224, has 3 runs batted in, with 0 homeruns, 0 homeruns and even better, 0 homeruns.

Matthews, on the other hand, is taking me down with a .257 average, 1 homerun and 5 runs batted in. When one of the best players on my team is a Texas Ranger, that tells you my odds of winning the league (not very good).

Speaking of steroids, Barry Bonds is off to a decent start as well. The old slugger is hitting .340 with 6 homeruns and 12 runs batted in. At this rate, Bonds is on pace to average .347, 57 homers, 114 runs batted in and 114 runs or slow jogs.

So there you have it, don't draft like me and get the least liked players around if you want to succeed.

—By Brent Lyday

E-mail sporting news at theeasttexan.com

# Larry, the 'able' guy

By Danial Dreiling  
Staff Writer



DANNY KAMBEL/SID

Senior Larry Gilbert launches the shot put in a recent meet at UNT. Gilbert also throws the discus for the Lions in which he provisionally qualified for the NCAA National Championship in North Carolina with a throw of 164'11", which is the second best throw in the LSC.

Larry Gilbert, a Bryan native, has played football and thrown for the men's track & field team during his college career here at Texas A&M University - Commerce.

Gilbert not only excelled on the gridiron, recording 123 tackles in his A&M-Commerce career, also excels in the throwing track events for the Lions.

For the second spring in a row, he provisionally qualified for the NCAA National Championship meet.

Gilbert not only takes classes and practices during the week for the Lions, he also works 40 hours a week.

It is Gilbert's work ethic and determination that have impressed both Football Head Coach Scotty Conley and Track & Field Head Coach Rich Lawrence.

"Larry is a young man with strong personal values. He has succeeded because he has stayed committed to his academic success and the pursuit of his athletic progress. His accountability has always impressed me," said Conley.

Lawrence echoed Conley's thoughts about Gilbert's overall personality, "Larry is mature, talented and accountable. Even though Larry works full-time, he still gets to practice. I think that his hard work is impressive to not

only me, but also his teammates. He is successful because he works at it."

When Gilbert was asked about his work ethic, he attributed it to his playing days in high school, at Bryan High School.

"It's always been there, I came from a hard high school. We practiced hard at everything. We went to state in track, and in football we made it to the playoffs, every year but one - we normally had a pretty good program at Bryan High School. So, I just carried my work ethic from there over to here."

Gilbert has shown steady improvement every year, in both football and track and field.

Lawrence has also been impressed with not only Gilberts consistency, but also his competitive nature.

"He has been extremely consistent in his throws this season. He loves to compete. He will prepare himself to compete as hard as anyone else on the team. That allows him to have the opportunity to compete and place very high. One thing I love about Larry is that he loves to compete, and he prepares in his own way," Lawrence said.

Looking back on his career at A&M-Commerce, Gilbert reflected on the differences he has noticed between high school and college, both academically and athletically.

"There is a big difference, the transition is faster. Sports wise

and classroom wise, because you are dealing with a lot more stuff, you have to be accountable here for more stuff than in high school. There are certain times we have to be somewhere and certain workouts we have to do every week. The game speed was much faster and I had to pick up my game speed. My tempo in track had to go up, because I was throwing a heavier implement and heavier discus. So I had to concentrate a little bit more," Gilbert said.

Gilbert and the Lions have a week off, as they prepare to host the Lone Star Conference Championship meet at Memorial Stadium, on May 4-6.

Gilbert's outlook on the remainder of the season is impressive, and exemplifies what both Conley and Lawrence said about Gilbert's work ethic and determination.

"I want to win shot put and discus, I want to qualify in shot put and I am going to work hard in practice, and try to get my technique down."

Referring to his outlook after the LSC meet, and towards the National meet, Gilbert said, "I just try to improve every year and make myself better, and practice harder than everybody else. I knew I was capable of qualifying, I went to Nationals last year, I plan to go this year and make a statement. Hopefully, I get there and at least finish in the top three."

## More season bests for Lion tracksters

By Danial Dreiling  
Staff Writer

Larry Gilbert led the A&M-Commerce track & field teams when they participated at the TCU Invitational in Ft. Worth on April 21.

Gilbert threw 50.27 meters (164'11") in the discus event, provisionally qualified to compete at the NCAA National Championship Meet in Charlotte, N. C., May 24.

Also on the men's side, were new season bests by Leonard Jackson in the 200-meter dash (22.17 seconds), Robert Reed in the 1500-meter run (4:07.91) and Ge-

rardo Delafuente in the 5000-meter run (17:07.94).

Gilbert recorded a season-best throw in the discus, as well as Darron Shepard throwing a season-best 14.06 meters (46'1.5") in the shot put event. In the javelin event, Justin Holcomb threw a season-best 44.92 meters (147'4").

The men's 4x100-meter relay team, comprised of Eddie Moss, Leonard Jackson, Anthony Valle and Kyle Thompson, ran a team-best time of 42.79 seconds in the event. In the 4x400-meter relay, the A&M-Commerce team, comprised of Jackson, Thompson, Greg Strickland and Jacob Almond, also ran a team-best time

by finishing the event in 3:21.67.

Moss ran in the 100-meter dash (11.16 seconds) and was joined by Valle (11.36 seconds), Keith Davis (11.69 seconds) and Chris Cooper (11.76 seconds).

The women's team showed strong performances in the running events, as well as the javelin event.

Ebony Lewis ran a season-best time of 12.82 seconds, while Tiffany Baldwin ran the event for the first time this spring, and finished in 13.71 seconds.

Sabrina Hadnot recorded a season-best time of 1:05.18 in the 400-meter dash.

Niki Williams and Andra Bickel both recorded season-best times in the 1500-

meter run, with times of 4:56.31 and 5:18.07, respectively.

Williams also ran in the 5000-meter run for the first time this spring, and recorded a season-best time of 19:10.66.

The women's 4x100-meter relay team, comprised of Sonoma Gordon, Hadnot, Lewis and Katie Barthold, ran a team-best time of 49.91 seconds.

The 4x400-meter relay team, comprised of Barthold, Gordon, Hadnot and Kara Bickel ran a team-best time of 4:14.94, improving the previous team-best time 4:18.63. Haley Wright threw a season-best throw of 27.73 meters (91'0") in the javelin event.

## Banquet honors and recognizes athletes

By Danial Dreiling  
Staff Writer

Texas A&M University-Commerce held their annual Athletic Awards Banquet on Thursday, April 19 to honor the top student-athletes and this year's seniors.

The awards banquet went in order starting with Men's golf that recognized the seniors on their team, Andy Carter and Ryan Jaco, and also presented the Boley Crawford Award for most outstanding male golfer to Blake Worden. Worden was named to the 1st Team All-Lone Star Conference and LSC All-Tournament teams.

Women's golf recognized the only senior on their team, Adi Attaway-Bryant, who was presented the Dr. Margo Harbison Award for most outstanding female golfer. Attaway-Bryant was also named to the 1st Team All-Lone Star Conference for the second consecutive year.

Men's cross country was a young team in the fall, and did not have any seniors on the squad. Alfredo Soto was named most outstanding student-athlete, as he was the top team finisher in all five meets that the Lions participated in during the fall.

Men's track & field recognized the seniors on the team: Larry Gilbert, Ryan Graves and Lance Smith. In addition, Kyle Thompson was named most outstanding student-athlete.

Women's cross country recognized their seniors, Niki Williams and twin sisters Kara and Andra Bickel, who completed their collegiate careers in the fall. Williams was presented the most outstanding student-athlete for women's cross country. She was named to the All-Lone Star Conference team, for her 6th place finish at the LSC meet, as well as receiving the LSC Runner of the Week honor in October. Williams and the Bickel sisters were also named to the LSC Commissioners Honor Roll in the fall.

Women's track recognized their seniors - Williams, Kara Bickel, Brittany King and Keri Taylor. Andra Bickel,

who finished her collegiate cross country season in the fall along side twin sister Kara, was not recognized as a senior, due to her one year of eligibility she has remaining in track & field. Williams was presented the Track and Field Carolyn Burt Award, which is presented to the most outstanding track & field student-athlete.

Soccer recognized their seniors - Amber Ramoz, Tia Rew and Celia Cross, and presented the most outstanding student-athlete award to Ramoz, who was the Lions goalkeeper during her four-year career at A&M-Commerce. In her four seasons at A&M-Commerce, Ramoz played in 69 games, notched 319 saves, 24 shutouts, and an overall record of 37 wins, 20 losses and 8 tied games. The team finished its season with an overall record of 12-8-3.

Volleyball recognized its seniors - Jane Latu and Brandi Small, in addition to presenting Most Outstanding Student-Athlete to Colleen Favaro. Favaro led the Lone Star Conference in kills per game, points per game and was named to the 1st Team All-Lone Star Conference team.

Freshman libero Lauren Flynn was second in the LSC in digs per game, and was also named to the Daktronics Division II All-Southwest Region Second Team. Flynn received honorable mention LSC All-Conference honors, where she was joined by junior middle blocker Wannie Neal.

Sophomore Brittany Williams and junior Jackie Orr joined Latu when all three were named to the LSC Commissioners Honor Roll.

Football recognized its 22 seniors that helped the Lions finish the season with 5 wins, 5 losses, and led the LSC in scoring defense and total defense.

There were numerous individual honors presented to the Lions during the fall season, including Goodall, Davis, Garnet Smith, Young and Searcy being named to the LSC First Team, while Satchel and Criss were named to the LSC Second Team, and Cobbin was named as an

Honorable Mention All-Conference Performer.

McKinney shared the Co-Defensive Lineman of the Year honors in the LSC North Division, while being named to the 1st Team LSC, and was a 3rd Team All-Southwest Region selection, alongside teammate Cliff Edwards.

Edwards was named to the 3rd Team All-Southwest Region, named the co-offensive back of the year in the LSC North Division, as well as being named to the LSC North Division First Team.

In addition, Edwards was presented the Ernest Hawkins Award, which is presented to the most valuable offensive player on the team.

Peterson received many awards during the season, including being named to the 1st Team All-Southwest Region, 1st Team LSC North Division, LSC North Division Defensive Back of the year, as well as receiving two All-American honors, including First Team AFCA All-American honors, as well as being named to second team All-America by *Don Hansen's Football Gazette*. At the banquet, Peterson was presented the Bobby Fox Award, for most valuable defensive player.

Lipsey was presented two awards at the banquet, the first being the J.V. Sikes award, which is presented to the player who exhibits the leadership, attitude, scholarship, loyalty, achievement and desire necessary to build a champion.

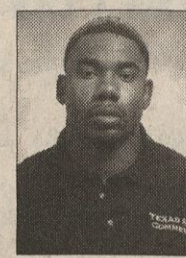
In addition, Lipsey was presented with the Dr. Jesse Hawthorne Award, which goes to the most outstanding male athlete. Dr. Hawthorne was present to give the award to Lipsey.

Men's basketball recognized its seniors: Martel Jones, Bobby Joshua, Lamar Searight and Alvin Thomas. Joshua was named the recipient of the Terry Allen Award, for most outstanding men's basketball student-athlete. The Lions finished their season at a 14-14 mark.

Searight was named to the First Team All-LSC North Division team, while Joshua, Kevin Widemond and Champ Sylvester received honorable mention.



A. Ramoz  
Lion Soccer



C. Edwards  
Lion Football