

OPEN-AIR PERFORMANCES

Drama Triple-Header

by Stacy Payne

Despite the recent cancellation of "Play It Again, Sam," the WTC drama department marches on! "Electra," "The Rainmaker" and "Next," three student-directed one-act plays, will be presented in the courtyard the last week of April.

"Electra" is as haunting as the title suggests. Directed by sophomore Bill Carter, "Electra" is a Greek classic about a young girl (Julie Jones) who seeks revenge upon her mother Clytemnestra (Cindy Hanson), who killed Agamemnon, Electra's father.

Electra witnessed the murder from a tower where she had been kept prisoner since she was a young girl with her sister Chrysothemis (Stacy Payne).

Electra does not succeed in obtaining help from Chrysothemis, so instead is assisted by her brother, Orestes (Bill Martin), in killing her mother, he also kills Agasthuse, (Brian Nobles), Clytemnestra's husband. The play is 30-40 minutes.

"Next" will be directed by Julie Jones. A delightful comedy, the plot is about a 40-year-old man being drafted into the armed forces. Marion Cheever, your average neurotic (Joe

Woolsey), reluctantly goes for his physical and is even more shocked when he finds that the examining officer is a woman.

Sgt. Tech (Cindy Hanson) is a large, over-powering officer who cares not to discuss Marions' trivial problems, but becomes concerned when he will not undress for his physical.

After all, who drapes himself with the American Flag while trying to convince an officer that his allergies (drinking and "mumps") should keep him out of the armed services-NEXT!

Last, but by no means least, is the romantic and sensitive story of the "The Rainmaker," directed by Cindy Hanson. The setting is a small farmhouse filled with a family of truly loveable characters.

Drought has hit the area and the cattle are dying. But the biggest problem of all is that the only daughter, Lizzie (Stacy Payne), is reaching spinsterhood and is without an eligible bachelor.

Lizzie is strong, but ever so plain, as her brother Noah (Bill Martin), constantly reminds her. There is H.C. (Bill Carter), Lizzie's soft-spoken father who tries to make her think she is beautiful. And Jim (Joe Woolsey) is the younger brother

"who finds magic in hickory sticks."

Brian Nobles plays Starbuck, the rainmaker (so he says). Starbuck is a con-man who comes to this family to take their money by making them think he can bring rain, but instead ends up showing Lizzie she is indeed beautiful and is capable of being loved.

And guess what! "The rain came!"

No charge is set for these performances so we'll see you there! And bring a friend!

The Western Texan

OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION OF WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE

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Journalism Scholarships Available

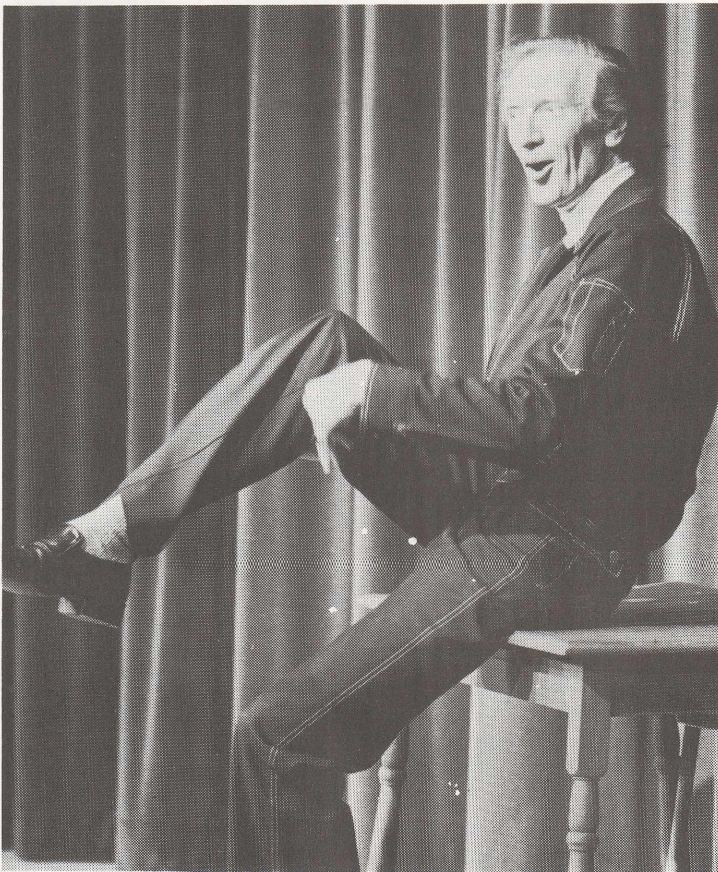
Applications are now being accepted for scholarships and staff positions in journalism for the 1976-77 academic year, according to Mike McBride, publications advisor.

"Any student interested in any phase of newspaper and magazine work, whether experienced or not, is welcome to apply," McBride said. "Only requirement to hold a scholarship is be enrolled in journalism and carry out a special responsibility in the publications department."

Scholarships for editors of WTC publications are approximately \$300-400. These positions may be filled either on a semester or academic year basis.

"Other awards may also be made for such special assignment areas, such as photography, advertising sales and management, beat and special assignment reporting, feature writing, exchange and circulation, and copyreading."

Also, students eligible for college work study interested in a journalism department assignment next year should contact McBride before May 1 in the Student Center.



RELIEF! — Richard Wordsworth rubs his legs while pantomiming a scene from Shakespeare's Hamlet.

News Briefs

S.O.S.

History 131 and English 131 will be offered by WTC in an intra-session, Spring Opportunity Session March 29-May 7.

Classes will meet for 80 minutes Monday through Friday.

Harry Krenek will be instructor for History 131, meeting from 1-2:20 p.m. and Dr. Sue Coffman will teach English 131 from 2:30 -3:50 p.m.

Students enrolled must pay fees of \$36 for one course or \$42 for both courses.

Students may enroll for S.O.S. if currently enrolled in less than 15 hours and in good standing at WTC. High school seniors with permission from school principal may enroll under early admissions program, and second quarter high school graduates who want to begin college work early.

Enrollment for the Spring Opportunity Session is planned for March 29 in the registrar's office in the administration building. For further information contact the office of the registrar.

TIPA

Journalism staffers will attend the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association convention at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, April 8-10.

Attending are Jeff Box, Paula Cornoyer, Paul Gilbert and Jill Groff. Mike McBride, publications adviser, will accompany the group.

Students are entered in numerous individual contests in newspaper, yearbook, magazine, and radio categories. Also, publications are entered in general excellence competition.

Confirmed speakers include Ed Hunter of the Houston Post, Jim Mangan of the Associated Press, Jack Tinsley of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Ken Johnson of the Dallas Times-Herald, Dr. Loyal Gould of Baylor University, Larry Weidman of KPRC-TV, Ken Carter of Texas State Network, and John Criswell of WFAA-TV.

WTC is competing against all other Texas junior colleges and universities up to 6,000 enrollment. An awards banquet will highlight the affair.

Five Day Plan

Do you smoke? If so, you probably wake up in the morning with a bad taste in your mouth and a hurting chest.

You probably spend \$15-\$40 a month on cigarettes that could be spent in a more useful (or pleasurable) way.

Do you have a favorite shirt, dress, or pair of pants ruined by a cigarette burn? Most smokers have more than one.

Likely you've thought about quitting but keep putting it off or telling yourself, "I can't do it by myself, so why try?"

WTC is sponsoring a "Five Day Plan" to stop smoking to be held in the fine arts theatre March 29 through April 2 at 7:30 p.m. Films, slide presentations, and discussions are scheduled.

All students, faculty, and the public are invited. The program will be conducted by Charles Smith of Colorado City.

No fee is charged, but participants are urged to donate for booklets.

RMCPA

Four publications students will attend the 52nd Annual Conference of the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Press Association at the Braniff Place Hotel in Tucson, Arizona April 20-23, and one will compete in a "Journalist of the Year" contest.

Paula Cornoyer, Paul Gilbert, Jill Groff, and Sally Smith will be accompanied by Mike McBride, publications adviser. Miss Groff, Western Texan editor, and Miss Smith, will enter on-the-spot contests in news, editorial, feature and headline writing.

WTC staffers are competing in overall and individual contests in yearbook, newspaper, magazine, and photography. Also, publications critiques will be provided.

Graffiti Contest

Graffiti Contest, sponsored by the Student Senate, begins March 29. According to Theresa Beal, chairperson of the Graffiti Contest committee, campus clubs will decorate individual windows competing for prizes.

Senate Proposes Resolution

During a called meeting of the Student Senate last week, members adopted the following resolution concerning the cancellation of the drama department's production of "Play It Again, Sam."

The resolution was presented to the college board of trustees. According to Bill Jones, president, a statement concerning the matter will be forth coming.

The resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED:

The Student Senate of Western Texas College recognizes the following petition. Acting in behalf of the student body of Western Texas College, the Student Senate feels that the student

opinion was not considered regarding the controversial issue of "Play It Again, Sam!" and asks that more consideration be given to the student body in the future.

WTC Favorites Voting, Spring Formal Slated

Voting for campus favorites will be held March 30 and 31 in the Student Center lobby, according to Mickey Baird, student activities director.

Students are asked to name five guys and gals they think are best all-around students. From these nominations the five boys and girls receiving the most votes will then be voted on April

6 and 7 to determine Mr. and Miss WTC.

Winners and favorites will be announced April 15 during the senate sponsored Spring Formal.

"Natural High", of Big Spring will perform for the occasion in the National Guard Armory from 8-12 p.m. All students and dates are urged to attend.

ULCERS BEWARE!

S'west Chili Cook-Off

Blow the dust off of your chili recipe, podner! 'Cause they've done scheduled the "Southwest Conference Chili Cook-off" March 27 on the University of Texas of the Permian Basin campus in Odessa.

This may be a complete shock to that "other" Southwest Conference, 'cause there is no connection. This SWC exists for the pure joy of concocting championship calibre chili (plus some secondary joys like a skydiver exhibition and contests in tobacco spitting, "whopper" telling, laughing, tug of war, and rabbit chase).

And it's not just tomfoolery, either. Winner in both divisions — Inter-collegiate and Open — will be certified to compete in the 1976 (bi-centennial year, ya' know) Terlingua World's Championship Chili Cook-off.

And a Showmanship trophy will be awarded also.

Entry forms and a list of rules as long as a short well-rope have been mailed to more than 30 colleges, plus another big batch to known hotbeds of chili mania over the state. Seven teams entered even before all got mailed out.

The big doings are under the bloodshot eyes of Campus Recreation Coordinator Woody Kupper and student David Brown, co-captain of the "UTPB Varsity Chili Squad" which placed fifth in the 1975 Terlingua madness.

Brown says the cataclysmic cook-off will be held near the "historic old Duck Pond" at UT Permian. Entry fee of \$7.50 must accompany applications and be received before 10 a.m.

March 27 (that's when the cooking starts).

Forms and rules may be obtained from David Brown, c/o Student Life Office, UT Permian Basin, Odessa, Texas 79762. Application forms and checks for the \$7.50 fee (payable to UTPB Student Life Office) should be sent to the same address.

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Child Abuse...

U S largest enemy...

ARE You Guilty?

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Oc-Tech...

Largest division on campus...

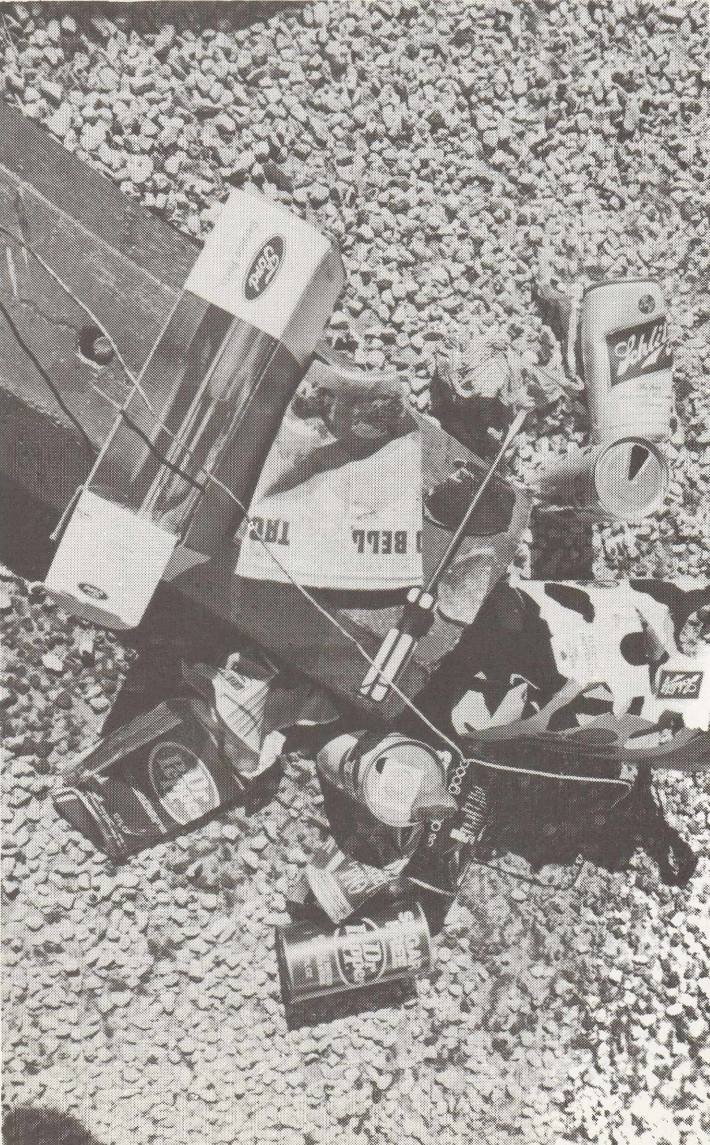
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editorially

Inspired Re-Creation

by Jill Groff

In — "prefix meaning...on, toward"
 Spire — "...the top part of...tapering object or structure..."
 -Ation — "the condition of being, the result of"
 MEANING? Toward the upward extension of the condition of being...INSPIRATION!
 Webster has provided us with many written definitions of words, prefixes and suffixes.
 I never realized how close, when broken apart, all these definitions are related (even when taken apart and listed separately).
 How many times each day do we use a 'conglomerate' word wrongly?
 Look at recreation — Webster says, "to create anew,...refreshment in body and mind..." Some of us only associate this word with play or spare time. It can also mean to recreate. This can be the starting of a new life, different life style, or mental stability.
 These two words, even though far apart in meaning, are closely related.
 Our inspiration transmitted to another may cause them to be re-created...either mentally or even to OUR BETTERMENT!
 Recreation can be construed several ways. As I just mentioned, it can mean a "good feeling of tired" or to make new again.
 The campus needs lots of the latter.
 Being a short person, I tend to notice the "lower" parts of our campus. If everyone did look down and around every once-in-a-while, I think things would change considerably!
 Earlier this week I took a short stroll through the dorm parking lot and around the dorm area. Within 100 feet of my parking place I found all sorts of GARBAGE.
 Paper and such is bad enough left just lying around but just think what broken glass, tin cans, and 'pop tops' can do to our tires!
 Who wants to spend at least \$20 to replace a cut tire just from driving through the parking lots? I sure don't!!!
 Sure we have maintenance men but they have enough to do without picking-up after us...after all...WE ARE SUPPOSED TO BE ADULTS!!!
 What would the founding fathers of this great nation of ours think if they were to come back and take a gander at what they started 200 years ago? Suppose Benjamin Franklin (alias Jeff Box) and John Hancock (alias Neely Landrum), and Thomas Jefferson, William Shakespeare and Charles Lamb (all alias Richard Wordsworth) — all visitors on campus this year — had seen what we "added" to the free, clean landscape that they all remember from their time on this 'green earth'. I imagine that they would be horrified at the litter...the air and water pollution is bad enough...
 WHY ADD INSULT TO INJURY?



GARBAGE — This armload of broken glass, tin cans, paper, wire and 'junk' was found within 100 feet of this spot in the dorm parking lot. ARE YOU GUILTY?

Letters To The Editor

To the editor,
 I wonder if the controversy over "Play It Again, Sam" will be still burning by the time this issue of the **Western Texan** comes out. I would like, in any case, to share a few thoughts with the readers.

Emotions are dangerous. When something lights the fuse, things start to explode. People who feel they must take a stand (and for a journalist, this is a true hazard), usually have a reputation as a walking, talking time bomb!

I am an avid fan of the WTC Drama team. I was excited about the production of "Play It Again, Sam," but did not see any rehearsals and did not plan to see this particular play. I wasn't totally familiar with the content, but I had understood that it was about a man who overcame some hangups, and that sounded like an agreeable theme.

I was distressed when the production was cancelled and censored and I did sign the petition. But finally, the material which was considered offensive was pinpointed to me, and I understood, at least, the indigna-

tion of those who were aroused to complain.

I respect and admire Rev. Andress for following his convictions and sticking it out gracefully through the small war which followed. Again, I do not totally agree with his attitude, but I love him for taking a stand for the Lord and doing his job as a minister. Also, I do not believe it is fair for so many WTC students to pinpoint him as the "bad guy."

My strongest conviction in this matter stems from my personal philosophy...the positive is stronger than the negative. It was a desperately negative thing for the folks to come down so hard on Mr. Holland and the drama team. Censorship of any kind is negative, though necessary in various cases.

Thinking positively, people (especially Christians or individuals with "high moral standards") instead of knocking down X-rated movies, raunchy magazines, and "Play It Again, Sam," could get off their tails and do some creative work of their own to compete!

Jesus offered the woman at the well some Living Water. Do

you people have something to offer to replace "Playboy," "Oh Calcutta!," "Laugh-In," etc...?

Satan's trained his people pretty well on how to sell Hell. Why don't we let Jesus show us how to give people a taste of Paradise?

Think about it...positively!
 Carolyn Davis

To the editor
 In the recent issue of the **WESTERN TEXAN**, campus newspaper, on page two the letter to the editor signed by the Baptist Student Union Executive Council was suppose to have read;

"The recent controversy on campus, has, to say the least, aroused many people. The Baptist Student Union does not condone the morality presented by "Play It Again, Sam."

Due to the fact that we submitted the letter in handwritten rather than type-written form, the word condone was misconstrued to be condemn.

Sincerely yours,
 The Baptist Student Union Executive Council

Good News

by Jeff Box

Helping one another — the thrill of it and the joy it brings. The happiness that's the by-product.

Too many times we avoid those in need and think only of ourselves. The attitude, 'I don't want to get involved' or 'I don't care' prevails all too often.

Christ talks about this very thing. "For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me."

"Then the righteous will answer Him saying, Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?"

"And when did we see You a stranger and invite You in, or naked and clothe You? And when did we see You sick, or in prison and come to You?"

"And the King will answer them saying, "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them you did it to Me." (Matthew 25:35-40).

What's being said is simply, 'If you extend a helping hand to others, you're helping Me.' The reasoning is simple. If you were in a jam and someone helped you out, your parents would appreciate it.

Being God's children, the Lord appreciates any help we give each other.

The size of our aid or 'helping hand' isn't important. It's like the old cliché, 'It's the thought that counts.'

(Answers To Last Puzzle)

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A	M	E	S	B	A	S	I	E	T	E	T	E				
R	I	N	A	R	T	E	M	I	S	S	S	R				
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M	E	S	S	E	R	S	Y	E	A	S	T					

One complaint about Christians is that too many show off their good deeds. They have the attitude, "I am going to do something nice for you...and I want the world to see me doing it!"

There's no denying that many have this attitude as their driving force. These folks are after the praise of the world, the slap on the back by the Joneses down the street, and the admiration of all. And that's what they get — worldly praise, a slap on the back from the Joneses and admiration from all...EXCEPT GOD.

Help should be given because

help is needed. The rewards within will be enough.

Coming to someone's aid doesn't always mean GIVING him or her exactly what is needed. At times it means giving the opportunity to earn or achieve.

From the UN helping Guatemala, to giving somebody a lift around town, it's all the same. It's helping one another.

If one human cannot turn to another for help, what's the world coming to?

The human race has tons of faults, but that's no excuse for creating still more. "Everybody acts that way" is no excuse.

Be different, and Praise The Lord!

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MORE WAYS THAN ONE

Child Abuse — Greatest Threat To Future

by Carolyn Davis

"Monday's child is fair of face, Tuesday's child is full of grace, Wednesday's child is full of woe..."

Approximately 300,000 cases of child abuse are reported each year in this country. According to experts, an even greater number of children suffer from parental abuse or neglect, yet no one reports these cases to authorities who could possibly help.

In 1973, an estimated 50,000 children died in the United States as a result of physical abuse.

According to the Department of Public Welfare in Austin, Texas, in this state, in 1974, 16,770 suspected cases of child neglect and abuse were reported. Of these, 4,388 cases were confirmed. In approximately ten percent of these confirmed cases, possibility of removing the child from the home existed. At least 104 deaths occurred in Texas in 1973 as a result of child abuse.

In February 1974, noted authorities conferred in Dallas to discuss the serious problem of child abuse. It was agreed that in this country parental child abuse, or the neglect and abuse of children by their legal guardians is among the leading causes of infant mortality.

Some experts would call the problem an even more serious threat to the lives and well-being of children than cancer, leukemia, auto accidents or any other well-publicized hazard.

In Texas statutes, failure to report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect is now a misdemeanor, punishable by six months in jail or a \$500 fine. The apathetic or cowardly observer of this crime against innocents stands guilty of the same crime if he fails to report it.

According to Karen Johnson in the Scurry County Child Welfare Unit, an average of 30 cases a month are reported. At this time, 105 children are receiving protective services provided by the Texas Public Welfare Department through the local unit.

At the Dallas Police Department, a child abuse case worker stated, in Dallas, the frequency of child abuse reports seemed to come in cycles. In other words, several cases may be reported one month, then the number of cases would decline for a period of time before rising again. Yet, the problem of child abuse is not limited to large cities and metropolitan areas.

Western Texas College Financial Aids Director Glenn Davis previously worked in the Scurry County Public Welfare Unit as a Protective Services Worker.

"It is just as prevalent here as it is anywhere else," Davis assures.

An example of the situations he observed while investigating suspected problem homes included children of preschool age, unsupervised by any responsible person, who usually had access to knives, cigarette lighters and other dangerous household items.

Also, he mentioned a case

where an infant was left alone for two days. In other cases, children were eating spoiled food, playing in a busy street, and, in various cases, children of school age were not being sent to school. These observations were made in Scurry County.

Davis, Karen Johnson and others who have worked and observed the problem locally, agree that cases of neglect outnumber cases of physical abuse, although abuse is not rare.

Fortunately, extreme cases of abuse where children are victimized by nightmarish and sick attacks by parents are rare. The problem of abuse is usually that of unreasonably painful and harsh punishment, with such examples as:

1. Beating a child by hand hard enough to cause bruises or internal injuries.
2. Beating a child with such objects as a chair, large board, and belt buckle.
3. Kicking or stomping the child.
4. Cutting the child with a sharp object.

Serious problems such as refusing to let a child receive proper medical care or refusing to let a child attend school are also considered abusive.

American law concerning the protection and care of children, according to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1971, states that "...In addition to the duty of support, a parent is required to shield his child from evil surroundings or influences. He may not injure or be cruel to the child; the parent may, however, use physical force to protect his child from danger and may, under proper circumstances, impose reasonable correction. The conduct of any adult which tends to deprave the morals of a child or to endanger his health or well-being is punishable as a criminal offense."

Child abuse is divided into three categories: physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse. Likewise, neglect is divided into two categories: physical neglect and emotional neglect.

Rarely, in cases of emotional neglect and abuse, can anything be done legally to help the child, since in court, in order to prosecute or even to have a child removed from the home, evidence must be produced. Nevertheless, through people who care, including grandparents, teachers and public welfare workers, children and parents may receive enough help to prevent irreparable damage to the child's emotional health.

In an article on child abuse by Ron Horswell in *Plain Truth Magazine*, October 18, 1975, he states, "Although most people think of child abuse in terms of broken bones, that is far from a complete picture. Reported cases of sexually molested children outnumber cases of physical abuse. Most child molesters are, surprisingly enough, not playground lurkers but rather parents of the children they molest."

"The most typical situation is that of a natural father (not a foster parent or step-father) sexually abusing his children with the mother's complicity. It seems to be common in middle- and upper-income families as well as among the poor." (Wayne Sage, *Human Behavior*, July, 1975)

"Says Jolly K. (i.e., who helped establish Mothers Anonymous in 1970, which became Parent Anonymous), 'sexual abuse is common — it's something around your neighborhood all the time. And there are more women involved in sexual abuse than we like to think.'"

Davis pointed out that newspapers aren't allowed to print cases of child abuse, except in the case of a child's murder, for the protection of those children.

"In talking to parents, we try to establish whether they have the potential to abuse their children," explained Karen Johnson, at the Scurry County Child Welfare Office, "Ordinarily the people who abuse their children were abused as children themselves."

"Usually," she continued, "the parents center out one child from among the others and abuse this one child. We try to determine the reason for this, and work with the parents to help them understand what they are doing. In the majority of cases, the children are left in the home and we work with the parents."

Child abusers are not necessarily mentally ill or psychotic. According to studies, less than 10 percent of the child abusers are psychotic.

Rather, they are characterized by immaturity and insecurity. Often, they are parents looking to their children for the love and support they should be giving.

Abused children range in age from infants to adolescents. Fifty percent are six years old or younger.

Due, in part, to better reporting, the incidence of reported child abuse increased over 500 percent between 1966 and 1970, according to the Horswell article.

Instead of condemning parents who fail to protect and care for their children, organizations have begun to reach out and offer counseling and guidance. The results are often successful.

The greatest majority of children, no matter how badly neglected and abused, still love their parents and are unwilling to be totally separated from them.

Such groups as the State Welfare Agency, Boy's Club and

Girl's Club, Big Brothers and Big Sisters and Parents Anonymous, as well as YMCA and YWCA are involved in helping solve the serious problems of abuse and neglect.

Not to be overlooked, of course, are the people in every community such as pastors, teachers and counselors who are often turned to for help in times of personal family crisis.

In times of emergency, to report a case of child abuse in Snyder, call the Child Welfare Department, 573-6501, or the police department. Also, a 24-hour-a-day child abuse Hotline to Austin is 800-292-5400 (toll free).

As a reminder, failure to report a case of suspected abuse or neglect is a criminal offense.

EDITORS NOTE: This is the first in a three-part series, dealing with child abuse, pre-natal care and the children themselves. Next issue will cover the importance of pre-natal care.



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Snyder, Texas

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

Occupational Technology Growin' Fast

by Trey Sheppard

Offered morning, afternoon, and evening, the Occupational Technology section of WTC is the fastest growing on campus. In the words of Oc-Tech Dean Dr. Gene McClurg, some departments are literally "going out the back door." For example Diesel Mechanics class enrollment has doubled since last year.

Auto Mechanics and Welding Technology are offered during the afternoon as vocational high school subjects to students from Gail, Post, Hermleigh, Ira, and Snyder. After two years in auto mechanics a student should be able to start work and perform competently in a shop or garage. Both auto and diesel mechanic labs are very well-equipped and plans are to expand the diesel facilities.

Sister programs, Petroleum Technology and Electromechanical Technology, strive to support the local petroleum industry. Quoting from the WTC catalog, "The student is taught the theory and operation through hands-on experience."

EMT, the most expensive of the oc-tech programs, uses computers, computer simulators and other oil field-related electromechanical instruments. Two full-time instructors are employed with the remaining eight part-time instructors be-

ing drawn from engineering staffs of local refineries.

Both classes are taught with large enrollments. Most student time is spent in the field in actual oil field experiences.

Projected to be the largest program is Farm and Ranch Management. After two years in this course one should be a "hand," that is — a farm or ranch hand, experienced in agricultural techniques, conservation and bookkeeping. With agriculture such a vital industry in West Texas, this course offers many opportunities to students.

The most unique program is Golf and Grounds Management because it is only offered by one other college in Texas. A great demand exists for experienced people in this profession with country clubs and golf courses crying for help. More jobs are available than instructors can graduate students to fill. These students are helping with preparation of the new WTC golf course, giving them actual on-the-green experience.

McClurg stresses that none of the courses would be what they were if not for the person in charge pushing that program.

Such a person is Ray Robbins, head of the Law Enforcement department. Robbins makes this program work as do other instructors. All instructors must either be experienced or educated in enforcement and

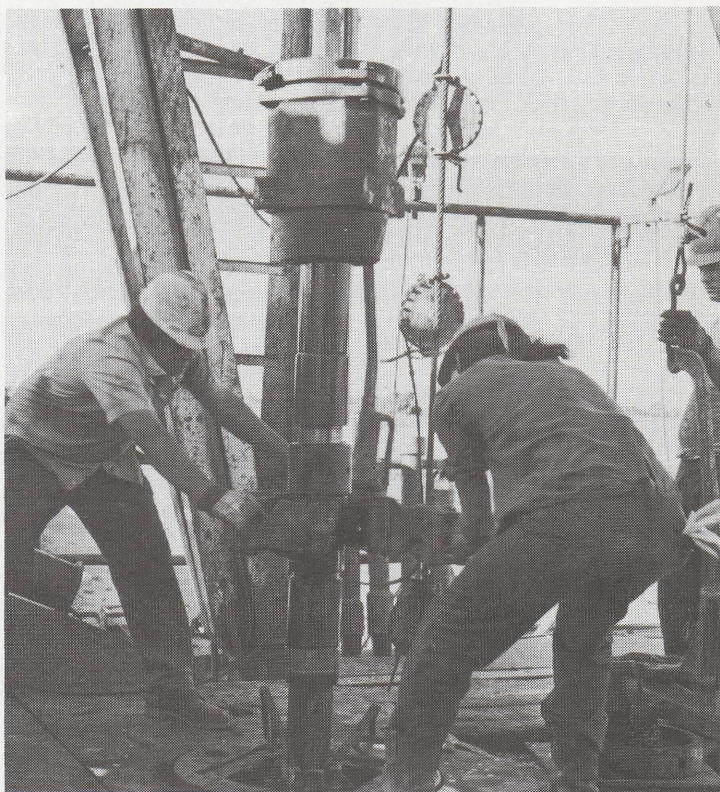
approved by the Texas Education Agency.

Another successful program is Mid-Management or "the art of selling yourself." This course prepares one to move into the middle echelons of business management.

Related to Mid-Management, in some respects, are the Office Occupations which include Legal Secretary, Medical Secretary, and General Business Secretary, involving a two-year degree and General Office Clerical and Stenographic Detailing either as a one or two-year degree. This course provides a potential office worker to move right into his specialized position.

Finally, the Vocational Nursing Education department (VNE), is composed of a special breed of people screened for aptitude. This program has a one-year certificate with time spent in the classroom and time in practical on-the-job experiences.

But what better way to learn than through practical experience?



DIG IT DEEP — Local, and not so local, oilfields seem impressed by the quality students WTC's Oc-Tech department turns out. The division is a shining star for the college.

Box Score

by Jeff Box

Well, they're over, two more basketball seasons. The history books record what happened, the coaches ponder their errors and players think, "if we'd only..."

Scuttlebutt has more than a few wondering if Coach Mitchell will be returning. Who can say? No one can blame him if he leaves. He certainly has proven himself as a top grade coach. Last year and this year alone show his skills.

Taking a freshman dominated team, having some pretty bad internal problems and ending up with a 26-6 tally is no small chore.

At one point in the season Mitchell said, "If someone had told me we'd be 21-4 and I'd have laughed at them."

But it was a dream on the verge of becoming true. The Regional tournament arrived. And though McLennan appeared to be the biggest obstacle, Hutchinson did look as distant as it once did.

Unfortunately the two big guns never fired a shot at each other. A sneaky Badger collapsed the Westerners hopes. Tears

were shed and the shout arose. "Wait till next year!"

What will 76-77 bring? Some predict an unstoppable Green Machine with four returning starters and a strong bench, what else can happen?

But will all the starters return? And what about Mitchell? Where will he be? Then of course, there's recruiting war, who will win it? A lot of questions, none of which will be completely answered until next year.

The Dusters put on an impressive display of fireworks. Unfortunately, a couple of buckets of water dampened the finale.

For the second consecutive year Weatherford downed the WT fems in the Regional finals. But hope arose for the Kansas City trip.

One eastern region was not sending a representative. Being an excellent team, the feeling ran high the WTC, or an Oklahoma team with a similar record, would be chosen. But it was not to be.

All regional runner-ups had their names placed in a hat. Fate was not with the Green, in fact, it appeared to be laughing

in the Dusters' face. The squad that was chosen, according to Coach Simpson's wife, was much shorter than our gals and couldn't play nearly as well.

There's no doubt that this year's team is multi-talented. But it is doubtful if all will be returning. Thus far Coach Simpson has been extremely fortunate in recruiting. Should fate stay with them and a good nucleus of girls return, then the Dusters will be dynamite next year. But there's a lot of 'ifs' there.

Coaching isn't easy. An ulcer with two legs and arms is how one coach described himself and his peers. Ethics aren't always followed, as A&M proved this year. But some of these athletic generals have principles and hold to them as Texas' Lyon Black showed.

I guess it first proves that there are good and bad coaches.

Continuing with the local scene, the golfers are really swinging (excuse the pun!).

Holding a slim conference lead. The linksters are hot as their spring schedule begins to get heavy.

Too bad about the Border Olympics. WTC trailed only the Longhorns of UT until the final day. Then they blew it and fell to fifth.

Better luck next time.

Final note on Coach Mitchell. Last November he made the comment, "Our conference is tough, we could lose four games and still win the title with a 14-4 record." Final Westerner loop mark, 14-4.

If he ever decides to quit the Coaching profession, he could become Jean Dixon's sidekick!

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LOSE THRILLER

Cinderella Cagers Close Competitors!

by Jeff Box

The Region V Tournament proved the old cliché, on any given day, anybody can beat anybody else, as only two games were decided by margins larger than six points. This year's Cinderella Westerners ended a beautifully surprising season falling to Amarillo 78-77 in a semi-final match.

It was the second thriller in a row for the Green Tide as they downed Frank Phillips 91-86 in an overtime fans' delight.

Lawrence Butler thrilled the crowd of the 1500 as he gunned in 45 points to set a new school single game record. Bob Miller, last year's sensation, held the old mark with 41.

"He was uncanny," commented Mitchell. Indeed he was, as one fan called him 'Machine Gun' Butler. The WT frosh hit 30 of his points in the first half.

Double, and at times, triple-teamed, Butler still managed 15 tallies in the second half.

The FPC tilt had Coach Mike Mitchell worried. "I don't like to play teams like them, they're unpredictable and inconsistent."

With two seconds remaining Allen Corder sank a jump shot to knot the battle at 77-77 and send the game into overtime.

Howard College and McLennon game proved how equally balanced the tourney was as top seeded McLennon downed eighth ranked Howard, 95-93, in closing seconds of play.

WTC faced Amarillo in a semi-final match up. The two squads met twice during the season with the Green taking both wins.

Until the final 60 seconds of play, it was all WT. At one time, the Green held a 13 point advantage.

The Badgers were determined not to make the same mistake as Frank Phillips and for a while they succeeded, holding Butler to nothing in the first eight minutes of play. Then 'Machine Gun' sent forth a burst and netted 14 points.

Amarillo proved to be stubborn and hard-headed as they never said die.

Mitchell commented the 13 point WTC lead may have done the Westerners more harm than good. "We lost our momentum and slacked off. The Amarillo squad would get fired up and we were cold."

Amarillo eventually lost to McLennon in the final game an overtime contest. McL went to the national meet and lost the first game to San Jacinto 91-90.

Howard's Marvin Johnson was the tourney's Most

Valuable Player. The remainder of the first string all tournament team are Lawrence Butler, Alonzo Campbell, Amarillo and John Derrick and Vinnie Johnson, both of McLennon.

Overall season statistics show three new records set. Butler is new single game scoring king. Larry Orton broke old field goal percentage of 56.5 by hitting 57.0.

Team's defense is the best thus far allowing only 65.9 points a tilt, compared with 67.5 mark.

Corder hit the highest percentage of free throws with an 85.5 showing. Only three players failed to hit above the 500 mark.

Orton led rebounding department totaling 324 nabs for a 10.1 average. Darryl Smith is close behind with 312 and a 9.8 average.

Corder took a devastating command in still another area as he was credited with 87 assists.

"Allen came on late and did a good job for us," said Mitchell. "He's an intelligent player and has probably improved as much from the first day to the last as anybody."

As the Green's enemies shot for the nets, Tyrone Clopton soared high 19 times to block the sphere. Clopton also managed to steal the roundball 73 times to follow top-dog Orton with 78 interceptions.

Needless to say, Butler led the Green scoring with a 25.3 average. Smith and Clopton follow with 13.3 and 12.3 respectively. Orton rounds out the double figure scoring with an 11.0 point average.

Over all, the team hit 48.9 per cent from the floor and 66.6 from the line. WT averaged 79.8 point per contest.

The Green Tide nabbed 1254 rebounds for a 39.2 average, blocked 52 shots and had 402 steals. The Westerners committed 516 fouls compared to their opponents' 703.

Few thought, last September, the Westerners had much of a chance. "I thought we'd have a 21-10 record," said Mitchell. "I thought we'd have to fight to barely make the regionals."

When did he change his mind? Right after Christmas, when we won the South Plains Tournament, SPC was leading the conference and we beat them."

"I am disappointed. Looking back, I think we should have won the tournament and be in Kansas."



ALL BUT ONE — Tyrone Clopton (L) aids Darryl Smith as he attempts to out-manuever two Plainsmen. Larry Orton (51) and Lawrence Butler (24) contemplate the scene.

Could the Westerners beat top seeded McLennon, ranked fourth nationally? "I think so," said Mitchell. "I feel we could've beaten them. But that's part of the ball game ...losing."

Recruiting begins in earnest now, as Mitchell attempts to add "three or four good freshmen" to next year's squad.

With four returning starters, the Green Tide should be nothing less than dy-no-mite. But time and another season will tell whether or not Hutchinson, Kansas will receive another visit from the Mighty Green Machine of WTC!

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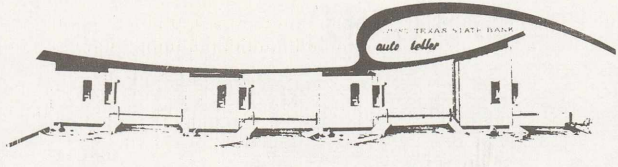
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BORDER OLYMPICS

Linksters Top Record

by James Hill
The wind, a wet course, and final-round drizzling hampered WTC linksters to a tie for fifth with Houston Baptist University in the 25th Annual Border Olympics.

WTC's score of 300 in the first round placed the Westerners in a tie for sixth place with Pan American University.

Returning to a gusty Friday, the Westerners shot second best score of 295 to move from 6th to

2nd place going into the final round.

Through rain, sun, and wind, WTC linksters will play but, wet course, intermittent showers and strong winds turned the putters with the weather beaten athletes scoring a 321 for a total of 916. The third round high score dropped the Westerners to 5th place, the best finish in the four years of competition on Laredo's par 72 course.

University of Texas garnered first place with a three-round total of 874.

WTC finished ahead of such four year colleges as Lamar University, West Texas State TCU, and McMurry.

Also competing were Howard College finishing 9th and New Mexico Junior College placing 13th.

Each college entered six players with 54-hole total score of the four lowest scoring players counted as team score.

Highlighting for WTC was freshman Donnie Loerwald with rounds 73-72-81 for a three-round total of 226. He tied for 9th place among 114 golfers.

Sophomore Jeff Richardson placed 13th with scores of 76-75-76.

Next action for the Westerners will be Galveston Inter-collegiate Tournament March 23 -26. Good Luck!

FOUR SPORTS

Intramurals Underway

It's intramurals time again! And Coach Lee Burke has scheduled several activities on the roster.

Tennis and basketball began Monday. Tennis play consists of men's and women's singles and mixed doubles.

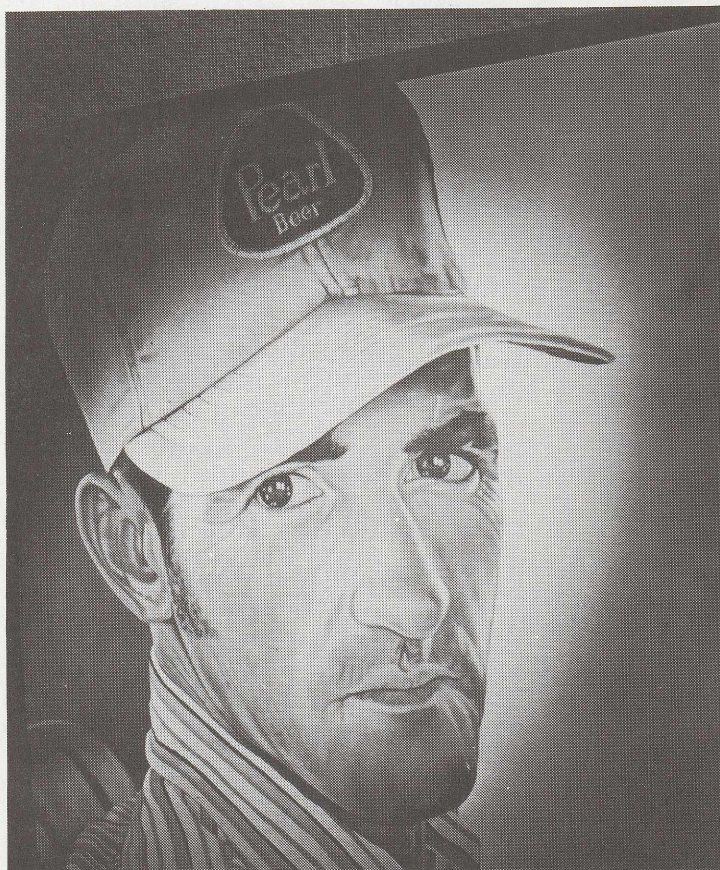
Seven teams are vying for the top spot in basketball action, including the Brown Berets, Bulldogs, Rodeo Club, Hot Dogs, Texas Rangers, and BSU I and II.

A two-mile stretch has been laid out for cross-country competition, a new event this year. A choice of how the course is run, either a four-member team with each having a half-mile leg, or individually with only one mile to run, is possible.

However, Burke is delaying this event until weather improves. Sign-up is still open, and to do so see Burke or Mickey Baird, student activities director.

Another new activity in in-

tramural play is a girl's volleyball team and a boy's basketball team, who will travel to Howard Payne University in Brownwood to compete in the Sting Olympics April 1-3. Only junior colleges have been invited to participate.



ART SHOW — This is just one of the many beautiful paintings now on exhibit in the lobby of the Fine Arts Theatre.

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