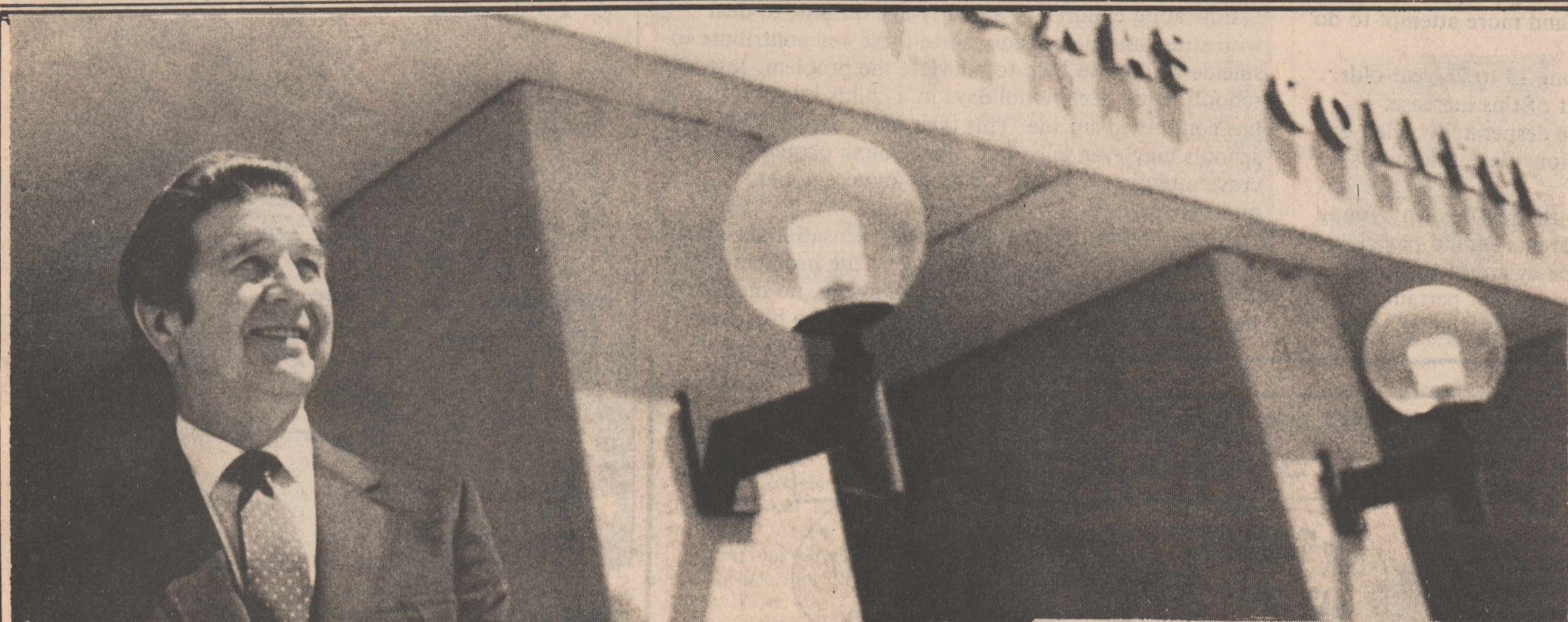


Congratulations Grads

The Western Texan

April 25, 1985 Western Texas College Snyder, Texas Volume 14, Issue 12



Dr. Ben Brock

'Best interests of college at heart'

Faculty comments on Brock's contributions

By Wendy Hodge

Western Texas College will be without the services of Executive Vice President Dr. Ben Brock. His resignation was announced April 9 to become effective Aug. 31. The position that Brock holds will be terminated at the end of the school year.

Brock has had a great influence on his colleagues at WTC, according to Drs. Duane and Mary Hood. The Hoods are also neighbors to Brock. Dr. Duane Hood said, "I have admired his ability to balance family, community affairs, career and personal life without any one seriously affecting his attitude or ability in the others."

As the first dean of the college,

Brock's duties were numerous. He built a new curriculum, wrote the first catalog and board policy book, recruited the first students, screened, interviewed and hired the first administrators and faculty. He established the first extension center, and even went so far as to assist in the furniture selections for the campus buildings.

Dr. Mary Hood said, "Dr. Brock is a fine man who has always had the best interests of the college at heart. The college would not be what it is today if it had not been for Dr. Brock's expertise and influence in the beginning."

Brock was an encouragement to many of the instructors also. He was a journalism instructor in

Sweetwater for several years.

"As a faculty member, I will always remember Dr. Brock for his sympathetic understanding of faculty points of view. He was unfailingly accessible and generous with his time," Richard Lancaster, English instructor, said. He taught English under Brock who was principal at Snyder High School for five years.

Dr. Franklin Pruitt has known Brock personally for over 20 years. "He is one of the finest men I know. He was an excellent high school principal. As a teacher I felt free to visit with him in his office at any time. He has been a real encouragement to me over the years," Pruitt said.

Lancaster is appreciative of

Brock: "As a teacher, I will always appreciate him for his part in encouraging the professional growth I associate with my experiences at WTC. I don't think I would be the teacher I believe I am if I had not benefited from the environment on this campus to which Dr. Brock has contributed so very much."

Dr. Duane Hood said, "He (Brock) and I have agreed, and disagreed, on many occasions over the past 14 years, but the working relationship and mutual respect have not varied. I will remember Dr. Brock as a Christian man, a scholar, a respected teacher and administrator, and a friend."

Dr. Mary Hood said she will

always remember Brock at Christmas time. When her daughters were young, Brock would call them at Christmas and tell them he was Santa Claus. She said, "I'm not sure who enjoyed the calls more — Dr. Brock or the girls." It's certainly not the average neighbor or colleague who would do such a thing.

Brock plans to announce his plans at a later date. The Haskell native received his B.S. degree from the University of Texas and his master's from Hardin-Simmons University. He received his doctor of education degree from Texas Tech University.

As the originator of practically everything that WTC stands for, Dr. Ben Brock will indeed be missed by colleagues and friends.

Campus Briefs

Elections

Student body elections are being held in the Student Center today and tomorrow. Six students have petitioned for the five office positions available.

Danny Schwertner of Lubbock is running for president. Darren Fletcher of Snyder is the candidate for vice president.

The position of secretary is the only contested race. Running position are Ollie Carroll of Snyder and Lydia DeLeon of Spur.

Snyderite Sherry Spells is the candidate for treasurer. Andrea Owens of Sweetwater is running for historian/reporter.

Correction

There was a mistake and omission in the summer session schedules for Rotan and Sweetwater in the April 11 issue of **The Western Texan**.

At Rotan the Course No. HE 231 should have been Course No. HE 233 for the basic clothing class to be taught by V. Forshee on Tuesday evenings from 6-10:10.

In Sweetwater the course, HIS 132, US His 1865- will be taught on Wednesday evenings 6-10:10, staff.

The staff regrets any inconvenience caused by the mistake and omission.

Drops due

The last day to drop a class or withdraw for the spring semester will be tomorrow. The request to drop or withdraw form must be in the Registrar's Office by the close of business, 4 p.m. tomorrow.

Extension center students must make a written request to the Registrar's Office to drop a class or withdraw.

SWT rep

Martha St. Clair, transfer admissions counselor for Southwest Texas State University, will be visiting the campus Monday. She will be located in the Student Center beginning at 9 a.m. to visit with students who are enrolled in senior college preparatory courses and are considering attending Southwest Texas State University for their junior and senior years of college.

She will have information regarding course equivalencies, degree plans, admission procedures and other general information about SWTSU.

Over 100 eligible candidates to receive associate degrees

Graduation candidates eligible to receive their associate degrees in arts, in applied science and in general education have been released. The list is only tentative as of this time and is subject to change.

Commencement speaker will be Dr. Joe B. Rushing.

Candidates for an associate in arts degree are Maria Magdalena Aguirre, Margaret Lydia Alvarez, Cyndra Lynn Banta, James Coleman Batjer, Regina Begay, Charles Forrest Bethel, Edna Bilberry, Patricia Mary Blakely, Nixie Nan Brewster, Belien Elizabeth Blythe, and Cathy Jo Caddell.

In addition Clara Ivalene Campbell, Chris Carpenter, Olive A. Casady, Canita Caye Cass, Billy J. Chambers, Jr., Jeffrey Glen Combs, Judy Kay Cox, Steven Cullen and James Byron Dennis.

Also, David Stinson Dutton, Celia Elliott, Connie LaNelle Essery, Renvy Annice Evans, Jack Daniel Fallin, Lyndy French, Kristy Diane Frizzell, Jeffery Christopher Gibson and Patricia L. Pior Green.

Others are Richard Harold Green, Roxane Marie Greer, Lanna Gail Haney, Ronald Keith Hatfield, Lydia Marie Hayes, Patricia Anne Hayes, Randall M. Martin, David O. Martinez, Mark Randall Mauldin, James Addison McCaleb, Perry Max McGuire, Lorena Mendoza, Loretta Gay Morris and F. Gregory Oliver.

Also, Rosario Morales Peralez, Thula R. Perry, Francoise Pointeau, Jeffrey David Reynolds, Linda Kay Roberts, Regina Altha Rodgers, Thomas Justice Rosson, Neal Paul Rutherford, Brent Stacy Simpson, Floyd G. Singleton, Anthony Earl Smith and Vicki Butler Soper.

In addition Victor Wade Spencer, Donna Laurel Springer, John Michael Stephens, Nona Gwen Sutton, Cynthia H. Trujillo, Mandy Lee Turnbo, Vincent Alan Turner, Toby Anthony Villa, Gwendolyn Dawn Waller, Debbie Lynn White, Xavier Lorand White, Judy Lynn Wiseman, Mark Wade Wuensche and Donald Patrick Yorks.

Students eligible to receive associate degrees in applied science are Mark Franklin Bailey, Michael E. Bartley, Melvin L. Boatman, Jr., Robert C. Bryan, Kenneth W. Bullard, Lori Lea Byrd, Matthew Tracy Child, James Brian Daniel, Joy L. Dennis, Larry Lafone Dickerson, Carol Suzanne Etheredge, Donald Hall Ferguson, Rosa Perez Gonzalez, Vernon Scott Groat, Ronnie Nelson Howington, Roger Lee Jones, Dale E. Keiner, Ernest Ebenezer Lambert, Jr., Jim C. League, Clement Lopez, Jr., Vera R. Lopez, Heidi Jean Matteson and Frank Calzada Moreno.

Others are Tina Gail Morris, Jason Phillips, Reed Galen Powell, Jana Ann Ragsdale, James Gregory Rhodes, Susan

Fay Schwartz, Russel Loyd Smith, Q.R. Stangby, Jr., Charles Mark Staton, Regina Leigh Stewart, Mark Dean

Strickland, Ronnie Jay Thomas, Omega J. Vargas, Charles Kevin Walker, Jack Warren, Eddie Wendlick, and Joe Withers.

Students eligible for associate degrees in general education are Margaret Ann Bolding and A. Lanell Joplin.

Final Exam Schedule Spring 1985 Day Classes

Class Meeting Time

8:30-9:20 MWF
9:25-10:15 MWF
10:20-11:10 MWF
11:15-12:05 MWF
12:10-1:00 MWF
8:35-9:50 TTH
9:55-11:10 TTH
11:55-1:10 TTH

Monday Evening
Tuesday Evening
Wednesday Evening
Thursday Evening

Examination Time

8:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 8
10 a.m., Tuesday, May 7
Noon, Monday, May 6
10 a.m., Wednesday, May 8
10 a.m., Monday, May 6
Noon, Tuesday, May 7
8 a.m., Monday, May 6
8 a.m., Tuesday, May 7

Evening Classes

May 6, 6:30 p.m.
May 7, 6:30 p.m.
May 8, 6:30 p.m.
May 2, 6:30 p.m.

Perspectives

Teenage suicide rate rises

Teenage suicide has become an epidemic that many people are trying to deny. Something needs to be done about it.

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, about five thousand young people commit suicide each year and 500 thousand more attempt to do so.

Deaths have skyrocketed among 15 to 24-year-olds. Suicide accounts for 136 percent of this increase.

Many people in this world are desperately crying out for help. This has become a serious issue that needs requires public attention.

People need to be exposed to the reasons why young adults are killing themselves. Parents should pay closer attention to their children and be aware of their signs of crying out for help. These signs may not pertain to all suicidal victims, but it does to some. It's better to be

alert and overreact than ignore the possibility.

Many times a victim will consult a close friend he trusts. Friends may think they are doing the victim a favor by keeping silent. They often fail to realize what the victim is doing is crying out for help.

Educating children at an early age on how to deal with stress and depression, since these can contribute to suicide could also help to alleviate the problem. Instead, schools often declare holidays in a child's honor, after he has committed suicide. This type of recognition by schools may even encourage other young people who crave attention to view suicide as an acceptable alternative.

Also, often the media and schools sensationalize or romanticize the issue, only adding to the problem.

Next time a friend gives a warning sign, no matter how subtle, don't ignore it. Action needs to be taken

Westy's Wit



Letters to the editor...

Hood compliments faculty, students

- To the student body and faculty:
 Thanks for a great year...
 ...for athletes and ropes who also studied;
 ... for faculty dedicated to students;
 ... for support of Phi Theta Kappa;
 ... for improved dormitory operations and clean lines;
 ... for strong student leaders;
 ... for co-workers with great attitudes (and skills);
 ... for strong support from the Board of Trustees;
 ... for improved food service and a more delightful dining area;
 ... for an improved newspaper format;
 ... for support of intramurals;
 ... for a beautifully-kept campus;
 ... for pleasant memories of those who are leaving;
 and... for your friendship.

Best wishes to all
 Duane Hood



Speculation

Wendy Hodge

'Anything you can think of is better than studying, except maybe pulling weeds.'

More spring fever...

Homework shoved to back of mind

All this studying is for the birds. Who says college kids have it easy? Whoever it is, they're wrong, especially if you're a college kid trying to get yourself established in the so-called "real world."

We get extremely busy trying to handle all of our irons in the fire and most of us end up getting burned! Of course, anything you can think of is more exciting than studying, except maybe pulling weeds. I usually even go ahead and make the sacrifice — I pull the weeds rather than study. Now, that's getting pretty bad.

Right now especially there are a lot of things going on. I hate to harp on spring fever, but we've

all got it **BAD!** Some folks have even started skipping afternoon laboratories in order to lay out in the sun, or take advantage of a calm day and go play tennis.

Better yet, we don't feel a bit guilty about skipping homework; we just put it off until the weekend. We enjoy the week and plan on having Sunday night free to do our homework. Maybe we can get to it Saturday since we haven't made any plans yet.

Friday afternoon, while we're enjoying one of those fun-in-the-sun days, our roommate decides she wants to go home for the weekend and guess who her companion will be? Absolutely right, I get the honors. We get in late

Friday night. It's just the right time for one of those "catching up" visits.

As usual, we stay up until three o'clock in the morning doing all of the catching up. When we wake up Saturday, it's lunch time and my roomie's mom has lunch ready for us. It's not easy eating chicken-fried steak right after you wake up? It's not the easiest thing to do, but a houseguest must be polite.

Remember the Saturday I imagined: no plans so I'd do homework? Well, the plans have changed. We have to go re-acquaint ourselves with all of my roomie's old friends; we compare college life around the state. Of course, everybody thinks their's

is the best.

Saturday night we go out on the town. We have to relive the good ole days. We forget that the good ole days only ended a year ago.

Sunday morning, we're early to rise for breakfast and Sunday school, then we have lunch. Sunday afternoon we say our good-byes. Boy, are they long ones!

Monday morning at 1 a.m., we find ourselves back at the dorms. We crash out, not remembering the homework until classtime. Then when we don't have our homework ready, we're tempted to skip class. Luckily, we only have a few more weeks to worry about studying. Thank goodness!



Reflections

Cyndi Trujillo

Editor says thank you for memories, guidance

The semester's end is right around the corner. For some reason it just doesn't seem real. This whole semester has gone by so fast, maybe even too fast.

I look back now on my previous semesters and think of all the things I've done. I'd had so many good times and bad as well.

It's going to be sad leaving WTC. I'll never forget Olympic Days, my favorite of all activities. But what bugs me the most is looking back at all the things I had a chance to do, but never got around to doing them. Some things I'll have a chance to do again, but the majority are gone forever.

I'll be leaving behind me many friends I've made and grown close to, especially my staff. I want to thank each and every one for all the long hours, hard work and patience they've had. I, for one, know how hard I am to get along with at times.

Lucy Herrera and Diane Arnold, my journalism advisers, have also helped a great deal. They've taught me many things that I will use later on in life, but most importantly, they've taught me how to be responsible. My actions may not reveal it, but I have learned. Thanks to both of you. I don't know how far I would have made it without you.

The faculty and staff at WTC will always remain a part of my memories, even though they may not remember me too distinctly. After all, I often fail to attend my classes regularly. I admire every one of them because they've put up with not only myself, but many other students.

Last, but definitely not least, I'd like to thank my family for all their love and support. I would have never made it this far without their encouragement to keep going.

May God bless each and every one of you!

The Western Texan

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

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

PAPER ERRORS:

Any errors of fact will be corrected upon request. Editorial statements are the opinion of the signed staff individual(s) and are not necessarily that of the entire staff, faculty, administration, and/or Board of Trustees of Western Texas College.

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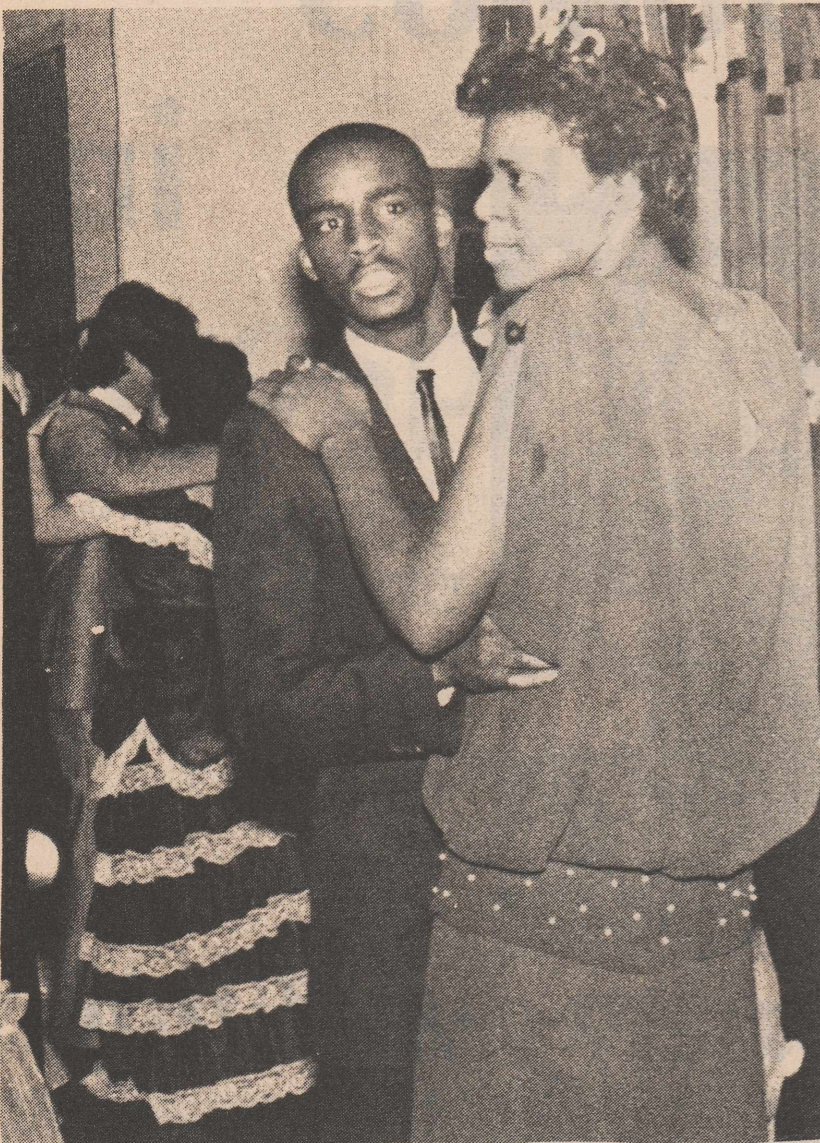
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The Western Texan

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- Editor.....Cyndi Trujillo
 Associate Editor.....Wendy Hodge
 Co-Photo Editors.....Jerry Snelling, Lawrence McCown
 Page Editors.....David Stewart, Frank Casas
 Advertising Manager.....Steve Cullen
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 Photographer.....Kathy Stout
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On Campus



SPOTLIGHT — Mr. and Miss WTC recipients, Clara Campbell of Dallas and Floyd Singleton of Detroit, Mich., are dancing to the spotlight song. — Photo by Jerry Snelling

Dead snake strikes!

By Britt Canada

Every once in a while, you come across a human interest story that illustrates the dedication of a person to his profession. This is such a story.

Assistant Professor Mike Otto is chairman of the WTC science division. As such, he has spent many hours in the field collecting specimens. Earlier this year, he took his geology students to Fluvanna to collect fossils.

On April 18, Otto ran over a large rattlesnake. When asked about the size, he said, "It was large enough to hit with my

truck."

His collecting instincts took over and he decided to extract the rattles from the dead rattler.

As he was performing the amputation, the snake, in a reflex action, bit the professor on the index finger. Well, that finished the snake off for sure. Otto decided to mosey into town and spend the night in the hospital.

The professor recovered and said that he will do his collecting with a shotgun from now on. So in the future if you see some fossils with shotgun pellets in them, you will know who collected them.

Campbell and Singleton honored by students

Mr. and Miss WTC were announced at the spring formal April 16. Recipients are Floyd Singleton from Detroit, Mich., and Clara Campbell of Dallas.

Runners-up were Tina Gordon of Lubbock and Tobin Tate of Clovis, N. M.

Other nominees who are Cam-

pus Favorites are Loretta Morris, Colorado City; Cathy Caddell, Sundown; Vickie and Vera Lopez, Snyder; Ed Teal, Abernathy; Mark Wuensche, Wilson; Jeff Gibson, Dallas; and Chris Carpenter, Charlotte N.C.

Last year's recipients were Caddell and Danny Hunter of Roscoe.

Rushing to deliver commencement address

Joe B. Rushing will be speaking at the commencement exercises.

Graduation is scheduled for Friday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the main courtyard.

Rushing grew up in Brown and Comanche Counties of Texas. He has attended Texas schools and universities, earning his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Howard Payne University, East Texas State University and the University of Texas, respectively.

Rushing served as a public school teacher and principal from 1946-50. After two years of full-time doctoral study at UT at Austin, he entered college administration. He has been in this field since 1952. Most of the intervening years he served as chief executive officer of higher education institutions.

After holding administrative posts at Wharton County Junior College and Howard Payne University, Rushing was named founding president of Broward Community College, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in 1960. He served there until he was named founding president of Tarrant County Junior College District in 1965. Currently, Rushing is chancellor of this system, which includes three campuses and a college credit enrollment of more than 20,000 students per semester.

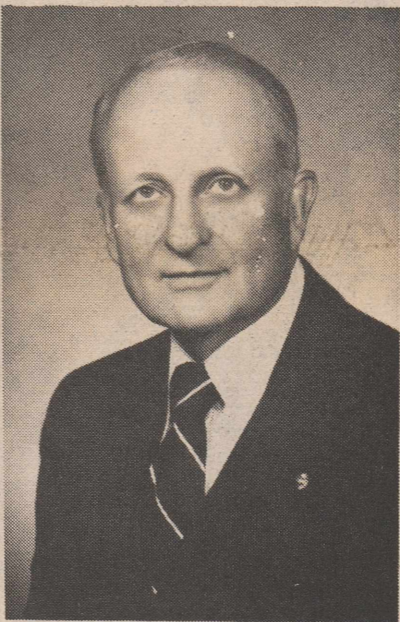
Rushing is active in community activities and professional affairs at the national, regional, state and local levels. He has also served on boards of numerous organizations.

In the education field, he has been president of the Association of Texas Colleges and Universities and of the Southern Association of Community and Junior Colleges. He also holds posts with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the American Association of Community/Junior Colleges.

Rushing's Rotary Club colleagues of Fort Worth cited him as a "Paul Harris Fellow," which is the organization's highest honor.

He is a past president of his club and a past district governor of Rotary International.

A writer and speaker, he has contributed to numerous professional journals. Many of his articles, speeches and monographs have been published.



Dr. Joe B. Rushing

Faculty recognizes students

By Cyndi Trujillo

Awards Day, held annually to honor outstanding students on campus, is scheduled for April 30, in the FAT, 10:45 a.m.

Elise Anderson, math instructor and chairman of the Awards Day committee, said, "The faculty feels students need encouragement in the academics and vocational fields. We have a number of outstanding students on campus and we would like to

recognize them."

Award certificates from different subjects and departments will be presented to those the faculty considers outstanding. The faculty members pick students they have actually taught.

According to Anderson, generally students who have been at WTC for more than one semester are picked, but occasionally exceptions arise.

Also recognized during the

ceremonies are the Who's Who Among American Junior/Community College recipients. This is done so the students can be recognized throughout the campus.

Finally, faculty members will vote for outstanding male and female students. Considered for this honor are grades and other activities the students participated in. The recipients will be announced at the end of the ceremonies.

Classes will be cut short on this day. They will run from 9:55-10:40 then from 12:25-1:10. After the ceremonies, a reception for the students, their parents and friends will be held in the Student Center from 11:30-12:15.

What do YOU think?

What do you think is the most important thing you've learned at WTC?

— By Kathy Stout



"You have to learn to get along with others at such a small school. You have to really concentrate at this school."

Tony Garza
San Antonio, Texas



"I've learned more about life and to be more responsible. I've decided more on what I want to do with my life, career-wise."

Judy Wiseman
Sudan, Texas



"Living in the dormitories you learn not to cause trouble because it comes back to haunt you when you pay fines."

Eddie Wendlick
Clyde, Texas



"I learned how different people are and how to live campus life. I've learned lots through my friends I've met here."

Kelly Pledger
Kermit, Texas



"I learned to adjust to new people and new situations because coming from Dallas, it really turns you around."

Clara Campbell
Dallas, Texas



"Self-discipline and how to live with others when you have authority."

Scott Murray
Spur, Texas

Congratulations and Best Wishes Graduates!

The Western Texan staff



Robin McDonald
Emily Phillips
Lucy Herrera
Mandy Abbott
Kathy Stout
David Hunt

Grant Hess
Diane Arnold

Jerry Snelling
Lawrence McCown

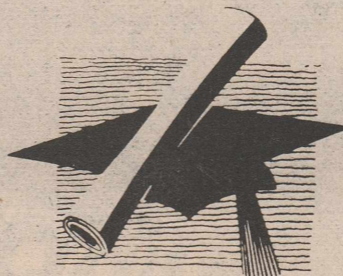
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Good Luck Grads



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In the beginning... ...there was registration

1984-85

in



PATIENCE — Students wait in line to go through the fall registration process. Fall registrants encountered backed up lines caused by computer problems.

Followed by moments of merrymaking,



LOOKING BACK — (Above left) Ollie Carroll and Richard Green battle in the Pantyhose Polo event, part of the Olympic Days fun. (While above right) Sam Johnson and Mickey Baird enjoy a good laugh (you had to be there!). (Below right) Mark Vuenshe from Wilson and Tina Gordon of Lubbock fight off a stomach ache as they attack another bowl of jello in a contest sponsored by American Food Management.



ures

Retrospect

Photos
by
Jerry Snelling



music, and mischief...



MEMORIES PAST — (Above) Nancy Scudder and Kelley Pledger of Kermit dress up like Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls for the Halloween dance. The costumes won them the Judge's Favorite Award. (Left) The Philistines concert provided exciting entertainment for rock fans in the Student Center.

...that ended with a big splash!!



TIDALWAVE — Members of the Westerners basketball team send David Harr, dorm director, sailing into the pool during a get together dorm and apartment students had April 23.

News

Fundraiser brings in \$\$

Phi Theta Kappa held its final fundraiser for the year, and the turnout was excellent.

The most unique item, and the one bringing in the most money, was donated by Mike Thornton. The amethyst necklace was purchased by Dr. Don Newbury for \$30.50.

Ben Reynolds received a guaranteed scholarship for next fall, donated by Dr. Jim Tulley. Reynolds' paid \$45 for it, and it will be worth \$90.

Billy Bolin paid \$41 to have his parking tickets cancelled. The cancellation was donated by

Registrar Dan Dever.

On a more practical note, Glenn Jordan paid \$9 for tutoring for Dr. Forshee's government final. The tutoring was donated by Forshee himself.

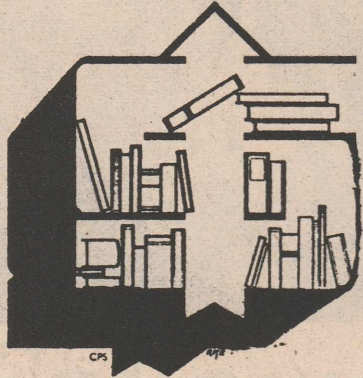
From practical to bizarre: Jan Halbert will be tucking Chris Carpenter into bed after a bedtime story some night soon. Carpenter paid \$5 for the service.

Scott Arthur purchased some love poems donated by Jim Rambo for \$4. Carpenter also purchased a resume donated by Lucy Herrera.

In addition there were several meals auctioned off.



ONE DOLLAR! — Victor Spencer from Lamesa places his bid at the Faculty Auction, Tuesday during activity period. The event was a fundraiser sponsored by PTK. — Photo by Jerry Snelling



Tuition rates rise; overdue expenses under consideration

Washington, D.C. (CPS) — Students will pay more to go to college next fall as tuition rates rise faster than the inflation rate once again, colleges around the nation report.

Student costs will go up even though campuses in general are getting more money from state legislatures, invested endowment funds and corporate contributors.

"States that are doing well are funding higher education at a higher rate," said Richard Novak of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU).

But the colleges themselves are using the money "to make up for lost ground," he added.

The schools must give faculty overdue salary hikes and start paying for campus maintenance put off during the late seventies and early eighties, new construction and research and high-tech equipment expenses, explained Bill McNamara of the National

Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU).

Many schools — especially private colleges — are using their own funds to replace federal student financial aid cuts, he added.

Moreover, many states want students to pay a greater percentage — this year up to 35 percent in some places — of what it actually costs to educate them, said David Kite, Eastern Tennessee State's comptroller.

In those lights, McNamara believes "the tuition increases are probably reasonable. The rate of increase is still ahead of inflation, but it's been going down the last few years."

"Things are better this year, especially in the Great Lakes states and in the far West," AASCU's Novak agreed. "The Southeast and Northeast will have tight, hold-the-line budgets with only inflationary increases."

In Tennessee, that means a nine percent more tuition at ETSU and a 15 percent hike at

the University of Tennessee, largely because of a state Higher Education Commission requirement that students pay \$1 of education costs for every \$2 the state pays, ETSU's Kite explained.

Nine percent "is about the average" tuition increase for resident students at state schools, NAICU's McNamara estimates.

Private college students in general may fare a little better, paying an average of 7.5 percent more "based on reports we've had from our member schools," McNamara said.

But tuition in North Dakota is going up 10 percent, while New Mexico students could face a 16 percent hike.

Harvard Yale, MIT and Brown all will jump tuition up by about seven percent while Southwestern Missouri and Kentucky plan increases around 10 percent.

Community colleges, too, are raising their prices next fall. Oregon's Chemeketa Com-

munity College is going up five percent, but tuition at Washington's Big Bend Community College is rising some 23 percent over the next two years.

At Rochester and Miami, the increases could reach 12 percent.

Nebraska will raise tuition because the legislature wants to raise students' share of education costs from 25 percent to 35 percent.

At Georgia, where the legislature now wants students to pay 25 percent of their education costs, tuition is going up 12.5 percent.

"We've reached the level that we feel is proper for the student to pay for his education," university spokesman Jacob Wamsley said.

But West Georgia State is hiking tuition 10.5 percent after a 15 percent raise last year, officially because of "an oversight in the calculation of teacher retirement benefits."

"What they want to do is

balance the budget on the students' backs," said University of Texas student Catherine Mauzy.

Most colleges, however, cite other reasons for the hikes.

They need the money to pay some overdue bills, administrators say.

"Faculty salaries lost 20 percent of buying power in the last admitted, but university administrators met with students to explain the budget."

"The hyperinflation of the late seventies and early eighties is catching up to colleges," he said.

"We want to maintain the quality of our faculty through salary increases and additional funds for faculty research and development," said Miami spokesman John Ross. "We're vitally concerned with the quality of our research programs."

There are more schools, though, that are freezing tuition in 1985-86.

Creighton, Worcester Polytechnic, the State University of New York System, Pima Community College and Ferris State College all announced they'll hold tuition to this year's levels.

Connecticut's Saint Joseph College even guarantees incoming freshmen tuition will stay at \$6,000 for four years if they don't drop for more than two consecutive semesters.

US Army targets community college graduates

Ft. Sheridan, IL (CPS) — The U.S. Army is going after community college students for the first time ever this year.

Armed with a benefits package specifically targeted at graduates of two-year schools, Army recruiters say they are determined to sign up more college students

for tours of duty.

The armed forces usually concentrate on recruiting high school students, not collegians.

"This breaks new ground for Army recruiting," said Lt. Col. John Cullen, public affairs director for the U.S. Army Recruiting Command at Ft. Sheridan.

Last fall, the Army unveiled its first benefits package tailored for junior college students.

And earlier this month, the American Association of Junior

and Community Colleges (AAJCC) announced its \$84,000 Pentagon contract to improve the Army's recruiting efforts in the nation's 1,200-plus two-year schools.

"This contract is designed to help the Army open doors that had been shut, or hard to push open," association spokeswoman Sue Friedman said.

The award marks the first time the Army has contracted with a higher education association for

recruiting assistance.

It's also the first time the national junior college association has established a formal relationship with any prospective employer of college students, private or public sector.

Given lingering skepticism about the military's relationship with the higher education community, some observers see the potential for trouble.

"It represents a more far-reaching partnership between higher education and the military," said Brown University professor Edward Ahearn, who is among those who successfully opposed a plan to establish a ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) program at Brown in 1983.

Ahearn calls the Army contract "a real cause for concern."

"Educational institutions need

to be one of the major forces scrutinizing what the government does, and this kind of relationship undermines that," he said.

Friedman said AAJCC officials don't agree. "Our career services are paramount to our success as institutions," she said.

"We're here to serve our students any way we can. When we assist the Army in learning how to approach our students, we're assisting ourselves and our students as much as we are the Army."

The eight-month contract calls on the association to draft a recruiting manual for use by Army recruiters, to provide a list of administrative and student contacts for a mailing list, and to write letters of introduction to college officials.

The eight-month contract calls on the association to draft a recruiting manual for use by Army recruiters, to provide a list of administrative and student contacts for a mailing list, and to write letters of introduction to college officials.

package of benefits for students with 60 college credits.

The original package, unveiled last fall, offered students \$20,100 in education benefits and two years of college ROTC credit in return for a minimum two-year enlistment and a contribution or down-payment of \$2,400.

The new package, which became available to recruits on Jan. 1, offers students \$21,000 in benefits and two years of ROTC credits for a down payment of \$1,200.

"This gives us an entry into the college market," Col. Cullen said.

To date, about 500 students have enlisted under the junior college plan. Another 400 are expected to enlist before the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30.

That is a minuscule portion of the army's 140,000 recruits, but the junior college figure is substantially more than last year's figure, Army officials say.

Cullen says the more attractive junior college package became possible with congressional approval of a new GI bill last October.

It was designed well before the Reagan administration unveiled its recommendations to slash federal student financial aid, he said.

The Army is turning to the college market out of necessity. The number of high school students has been declining since 1978, and is projected to continue to decline until about 1992.

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Sports

HUSTLE — The polished doubles combination of Eric Hargrove (right) and Tony Roden (below), both of Sweetwater rolled over their opponents to capture the intramural Doubles Championship. Continuing their winning streak, Roden placed first in singles and Hargrove was second.

— Photo by Jerry Snelling



Superstars event closes intramural competition

By Frank Casas

Intramural Superstars "Fun Event of the Year" will begin Monday to top off the intramural competition for the year.

Intramural tennis opened April 15. In the women's singles elimination tournament, Cherie Loveless defeated Tina Gordon, Laura Preston beat Rhonda Chisum, Charlotte Carter advanced by defeating Kristi Holt and Janet Lee passed by Twilah Alexander. Julie Wells, Dawn Brown, Rhonda Hoelting and Mitzi Hallmark all received byes in their first round of the tourney.

In the second round Loveless captured a victory over Hallmark. Wells and Brown didn't show for their second round, so Loveless advanced to the championship bracket. Hoelting defeated Preston and went on to face Lee who had defeated Carter.

Hoelting beat Lee in the semi-finals and advanced to the championship, defeating Loveless.

The men's singles elimination tournament opened April 16 with Alvin Hicks defeating Aaron Knight. Jeff Gibson lost to Barry Boyett, Victor Spencer beat Marshall Grizzle and Yardy Powell fell to Eric Hargrove's sting. Others in action were Toby Villa beating Robin Land, Tony Roden defeating Dennis Rivera, Floyd Singleton losing to Mark Cypert and David Stewart defeated Jay Claxton. Eddie

Wendlick forfeited to David Pruitt, who advanced a bracket and Todd Turner beat Norman Malone to wrap up the first round action.

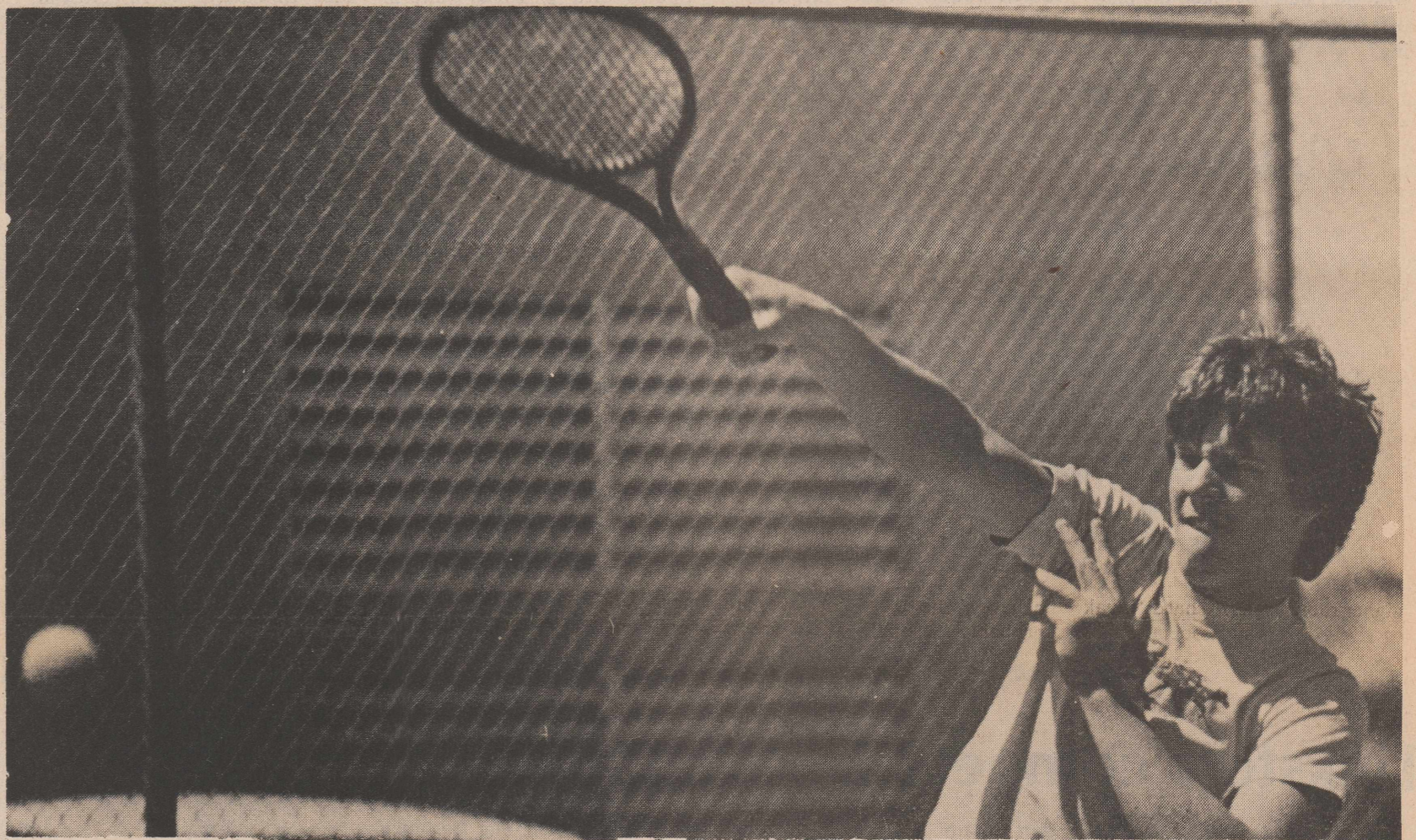
In the second round, Hicks beat Boyett, Spencer lost to Hargrove, Roden defeated Villa, Stewart fell victim to Cypert, Pruitt beat Turner and Cypert defeated Pruitt.

In the semi-finals, Hargrove defeated Hicks and Roden beat Cypert to advance to the finals. Roden captured the men's singles championship.

In the doubles elimination tournament, the team of Singleton-Spencer defeated Boyett-Hoelting. Grizzle-Key lost to Chris Johnston-Jack Fallin; Keith Bryant-Hicks advanced by defeating the Jenkins-Land team. Last year's champs, Villa-Pruitt beat Kent Meadows and Chris Doles. Gibson and Belien Blythe fell victims to the team of Roden and Hargrove. The team of Cypert-Turner defeated Carter and Renee Raemakers, Ron Nedry and Charlie Cline lost to the team of Stewart-Claxton.

Fred Fleming and Tommy Trammel were beaten by Wendlick and Greg Murdoch and the Powell-Rivera team received a bye in the first round.

In the second bracket of the tournament, Singleton-Spencer defeated Johnson-Fallin, Bryant-Hicks lost to the Villa-Pruitt



team, and Cypert-Turner were eliminated by the Hargrove-Roden combination. Hargrove and Roden also eliminated the Stewart-Claxton team. Preston and Terry Hunter lost to Wendlick-Murdoch.

In the quarter-finals, Villa-Pruitt eliminated Singleton-Spencer and Roden-Hargrove defeated Powell-Rivera.

In the semi-finals, ex-champs Villa-Pruitt were dethroned by the team of Roden-Hargrove.

Intramural volleyball finals were held April 16 when WTC Mixed defeated the Lakers 21-8.

Coach Kent Williams said, "We had a good turnout this year. The kids were great, fan attendance was up, and we had a lot of fun."

He added, "Look's like we have some potential players for the 2,044 Olympic volleyball team. Hopefully, these Olympics will be held at WTC."

The players named to the All-Intramural volleyball team were: first team, Magdalena Aguirre, Eddie Bolden, Floyd Singleton, David Pruitt, Robin Huntsman and Cari Walker. Second team players were Mark Wuensche,

Tracy Fortune, Jeff Gibson, Frank Williams, Billy Chambers and Shannon Mitchell.

The unanimous choices for Most Valuable Players were Bolden and Aguirre. Honorable Mention were Eddie Wendlick, Steve Cullen, Victor Spencer,

Toby Villa, Mark Cano, Tomica Randall and Mark Derryberry.

Individual honors went to Aguirre for Best Setter and Bolden, Singleton and Pruitt were all named Best Spiker. Aguirre and Bolden were named Best All-Around players.

Three Dusters sign to play ball at NTSU

Western Texas College sophomore Clara Campbell scored 17 points to lead the Region 5 women to a 70-60 victory over the Region 14 women in an all-star, junior-college basketball contest at McLennan Community College in Waco, April 19.

Campbell, a 6-2 player from Dallas, averaged 17.4 points and 10.3 rebounds per game for the Dusters last season. She also led WTC in blocked shots with 62.

Campbell, along with two other members of last season's Duster squad have signed to play

basketball at North Texas State University.

Joining Campbell are Lyndy French and Patti Hayes. French is a 5-11 guard from Big Spring. She led WTC in assists with 97, and averaged 9.5 points and 3.6 rebounds per game. Hayes, 6-0 from Florida, averaged 11.5 points and 6.2 rebounds per game last season.

Campbell was all-conference and all-region this season, and was an all-Regional Tournament

selection. French made second team all-conference and honorable mention all-region. Hayes was honorable mention all-conference.

The Duster trio led WTC to a school-record 31-6 season and a trip to the finals of the Region V Tournament

Three other sophomores who have not signed with any other school are Renvy Evans of Midland, Judy Wiseman from Sudan, and Rhonda Hoelting of Nazareth.

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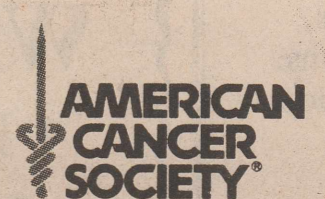
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Sports

Sports spotlight

Dave Stewart

Variety of sports on tap

It's play-off time again for the NBA. Sixteen teams are in the hunt for the championship.

While the play-offs make headlines, the seven teams that didn't make the play-offs are generating bigger waves. One lucky team will win the lottery and draft Georgetown's Patrick Ewing. Ewing is a player that has the ability to turn a franchise around. No matter who gets him, the team will be improved, ticket sales will skyrocket and Ewing will be a rich man. I wonder if the weaker teams in the play-offs wish they had not made the play-offs and could have a shot at Ewing?

The major league baseball season is underway, a sure sign that summer is here. Baseball has a rich history and part of the fun of watching baseball is seeing the new stars emerge. Who will be the Dwight Gooden of this year? The National pastime never fails to provide exciting memories each season.

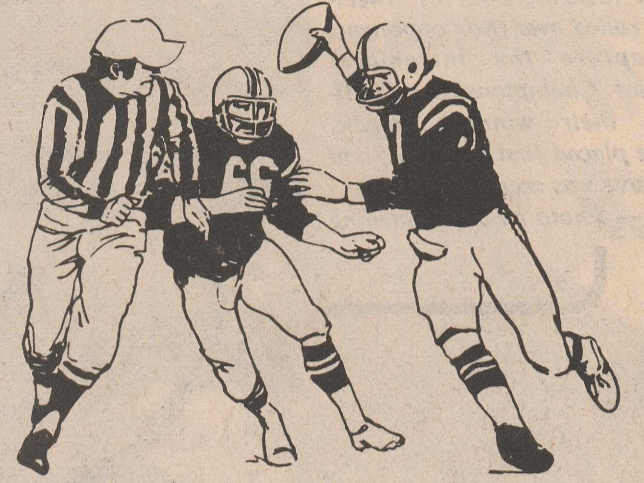
Marvin Hagler's victory over Thomas Hearns will go down as one of the greatest fights ever. All the hype that seemed like it would never end was for a fight that lasted only eight minutes. However, those eight minutes were some of the best boxing seen

in a long time. Hagler has proven again and again that he is the greatest fighter of his time. Check out his new pizza commercial. It will go down as a classic.

Have you noticed how much professional wrestling has been in the news lately? The Wrestlingmania event featuring Hulk Hogan and Mr. T was seen by more people than most major sporting events. Wrestling's popularity has soared, thanks mainly to cable television. Wrestling has been featured on "Sportsworld", "20/20" and in major magazines. The argument over wrestling being real or fake

doesn't seem to matter. The fans enjoy wrestling and most do not care whether it is real or not. They just enjoy watching the continuing battle of good vs evil. Wrestling may not always be classified as a sport, but these wrestlers are real athletes.

The United States Football League has reached the halfway mark. The Birmingham Stallions have the league's best mark at 7-2. The Houston Gamblers are still playing well and should battle for the championship. Texas fans will have to watch Houston, because the San Antonio Gun-slingers have not been impressive.



Men win at NMMI

Rodeo team travels to Abilene, Stephenville

The Western Texas College rodeo team will be competing this weekend at Hardin Simmons University and at Tarleton State University, May 2-5.

Last weekend the WTC men totalled 365 points to win the New Mexico Junior College NIRA rodeo.

Led by Donnie Yorks, Glenn Jordan, and Gary Rowe the Westerners racked up 135 points in the steer wrestling. WTC added 105 points in both the saddle bronc and the bulls. Bliss Mayhan and Van Hale led the way in saddle bronc, while Hale, Tobin Tate, and Gregg Rhodes

collected valuable points in the bull riding. Mayhan also totalled 20 points for the Westerners in the bareback event.

Other WTC men, who were not on the designated six man team, but put together solid performances were Don Eddleman and Mike Carillo.

Sul Ross State University finished second with 225 points, Tarleton was third with 215.

The WTC women scored 30 points in the breakaway roping. Canita Cass clocked a 3.1 to take third place in the finals. She was fourth in the average.

Sul Ross won the women's

division with 300 points, Tarleton scored 205 to take second, and Vernon Regional Junior College was third with 160 points.

Scurry County Coliseum was the site April 11-14 as powerful Sul Ross won both the men and women's division of the WTC NIRA rodeo.

A highlight of the event was the selection of the rodeo queen. The honor went to Patti Green of Lubbock.

WTC's Van Hale won all around honors in the bull riding to lead the Westerners to a third place finish.

Bliss Mayhan of WTC placed

fourth in the saddle bronc and tied for fourth in the bull riding. Don Eddleman placed fourth in all around in the calf roping, while Cody Foster of Western and Raymond Garcia of Howard combined for third place.

Mark Mauldin and David Jones of WTC went into the finals of the team roping tied for second place, but struggled and slipped to sixth in the all around.

For the WTC women, Tina Morris finished sixth all around in the barrel race. Niki Moist took a no-time in the finals of the barrels when her horse broke the pattern.

Linksters compete in Weatherford

The Western Texas College golf team began playing in the Regional Golf Tournament yesterday at Weatherford on the Square Creek Country Club golf course.

Golf Coach, Dave Foster said, "Anyone has a chance to win this tournament, we still have to get one or two scores a shot or two lower. We have a good chance at Regionals if we can get four consistent rounds in." The Regional golf team consists of sophomore Criss Johnston and four freshmen, Pat Fitzpatrick, Bo Kay, Ryan Heller, and Barry Fletcher.

The 1984-85 All-Conference

golf team are New Mexico Military Institute's Mike Krantz, Odessa's Mike Ketchem, New Mexico Junior College's Don Yrene, Midlands Randy Winn, South Plains College's Brad Boynton, WTC's Ryan Heller, Odessa's Bill Bell, Midlands David Pritchett, SPC's C.R. Leonard, NMMI's Mitchell Young, Midland's Chris Gomez and WTC's Bo Kay.

The last conference tournament was played at Odessa on the par 72, Odessa Country Club, April 18-19.

Team scores were Odessa with 283, Odessa captured the conference championship at this tournament. WTC came in second with a 291 score, (3)Midland, 292; (4)NMMI, 293; (5)SPC, 294; and (6)NMJC with a 295.

Medalist was Mike Ketchum of Odessa with a 69, on the first extra hole in a playoff, over Midlands Randy Winn with a 69 also. Five players tied for third place, two WTC golfers were involved, Heller and Kay both with low scores of 70.

The rest of the WTC golfers were Fitzpatrick with 75, Johnston, 76; Fletcher, 77; and Bob Stangby with 80. Foster said, "Odessa played well under very

windy conditions. The freshmen played very well again, the last two tournaments we have improved and are starting to play more consistent."

The linksters played their fifth tournament at Hobbs, N.M. on the Hobbs Country Club, April 11-12 and came home with a fourth place finish along with NMMI.

Team results were (1)Odessa, 284; (2)NMJC, 285; SPC, 287; tie between WTC and NMMI with scores of 288 each and (6) Midland with 289. Medalist went to Odessa's Ketcham and Andrew Debusk with 69, second was SPC's C.R. Leonard with 70 and third was brought in by WTC's Kay and Fitzpatrick each with scores of 71.

Foster said, "The course was good and so was the weather. The team played a very good round except for a couple of bogies on the last couple of holes. 288 normally wins anywhere, but the conference is so strong, you can tell by the scores shot here today." He added, "Again the freshmen, Fitzpatrick, Heller, Kay, and Fletcher are playing very steady, we just need two more players to move their scores one or two shots and we will move up."



TAKING AIM — Ryan Heller of Abilene works on his shot while Pat Fitzpatrick observes his form. — Photo by Kathy Stout

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Wedding Day plans...

Task of preparing must begin early

By Cyndi Trujillo

No matter what type of wedding a couple chooses, whether or informal, small or large, some necessary basic steps in preparing for the big day are similar.

Preparations should begin no later than six months prior to the wedding date. In some cases, such as in large cities, wedding preparations may need to begin up to a year in advance, depending on the anticipated size of the wedding.

Buying a wedding planner is the first step in an organized wedding. It will prevent forgotten details.

Discussing the wedding budget with the bride, her parents, and the fiance and his parents if they share the expenses, should also be done as early as possible. By doing so, the wedding and reception sites and number of guests they can accom-

modate can be decided.

The bride-to-be and fiance can also discuss and plan the color scheme, choose attendants, make reservations, plan the wedding and reception, and begin their guest lists.

Also, they may visit with their clergyman, begin shopping for their new living quarters and consult a travel agent for honeymoon information.

The bride-to-be should choose and order her wedding dress and accessories as well as select and register her china and silver preferences.

From three to five months before the wedding, couples should complete their guest lists and order their invitations. Because of the expense of a wedding, some names on the guest list may have to be eliminated.

Both families should be willing to negotiate, especially if the groom's parents are

helping with expenses. The guest list should contain the number of names that the budget allows for.

Couples should remember to include their clergyman, his spouse, their bridal party members and their spouses on the guest list.

As soon as the invitations come in, addressing them should begin to avoid last-minute rushing.

A portrait photographer, if desired, honeymoon reservations and detailed plans for the ceremony should be discussed.

In discussing the ceremony, the couple should consult their clergyman first to find out if there are any rules which would prevent non-religious song selections being played or sung during the ceremony. Some denominations ask that brides and grooms stay with traditional hymns and religious pieces.

The clergyman may suggest asking someone who is accustomed to singing or playing at weddings to perform.

The reception music should also be discussed by both families. For small receptions, a piano player or accordionist might be ideal.

A big reception followed by a dance may require having a small band or orchestra.

Consulting a caterer and discussing the details can also be done.

In addition, dates for ordering attendants' dresses, ordering flowers and shopping for the trousseau should begin.

Approximately a month before the wedding the final fitting of attire should be done in case anything needs altering.

Gifts for the atten-

dants and wedding rings should also be chosen.

Lodging should be prepared for any out-of-town guests. In addition, rehearsal dinner plans should be made.

Two weeks before the wedding, invitations and newspaper announcements go out. Transportation for attendants to the church should be arranged as well as an appointment with the hairdresser.

Most importantly the couple should get their marriage license and confirm their honeymoon reservations.

The final week before the ceremony, a final number of estimated guests should be given to the caterer. A rehearsal should also be scheduled.

In addition, details with the photographer, florist and musicians should be checked.

Honeymoon packing should also be underway.

Professional photos capture memories

By Wendy Hodge

Memories. Every bride and groom wants to hold memories of their wedding day close to their heart forever, but what's left to remind them of the beautiful day 25 years later. Hopefully, the couple will have had the foresight to record their wedding in album pages. Quality photography is a very important part of a successful wedding.

Local photographer Harley Bynum has photographed over 100 weddings, and he feels that photographs are very important to a bride and groom on their wedding day and for years following. "Quality photography is the only thing left after a wedding... cake is gone, gown is boxed and tuxes are returned. The memories are all in the album," he said.

Normally, studio photography is done before the ceremony, but Bynum stresses that the photography can be adapted to the bride's needs. "Ideally, we would like to tell the story from start to finish, including

the car," Bynum said. Photographers are willing to photograph whatever the bride wishes. The normal procedure for Bynum is to take several time exposures during the ceremony, with absolutely no flashes to distract the wedding. Then at the reception, he photographs whatever the bride wants photographed.

Of course the cost of the photography is not mealy, but a wedding is not a mealy event. According to Bynum, in deciding the price of wedding photography, one must consider album covers, sizes, quality of photography, time spent at the wedding, and many other factors. A range of prices could vary from \$250 to \$500, but these are the most precious memories you and your spouse will ever share.

Having photographed so many weddings, Bynum has seen several interesting things happen. Once, the ring bearer threw his pillow at the flower girl and hit her on the head



MEMORIES — Photographs are one sure way to capture memories of one's wedding. Misty Merritt, bride-to-be, poses for a photograph, an addition to her photo album.

— Photo by Kathy Stout

See PHOTO, page 6

Financing first home involves mortgage options

Before buying a home, newlyweds need to consider several things. Two of the most important considerations are the total cost of a home and its affordability, including the operating cost.

Couples should start shopping for a home several months in advance. They should consider the size of their dwelling, keeping in mind the size of family they may choose to have in the future.

The first major expense will be the down payment. It will vary, depending on the amount of money the couple has available and the type of financing. Usually, the down payment is 10 percent of the total price.

Before a couple makes a final decision, they should

shop around and get several different price ranges on various homes.

When making their final decision, they should seek financing options as well as affordability.

When the couple decides to buy, the next step will be to shop for a mortgage. This will be the first ongoing cost as owners.

There are two main types of mortgages, the conventional fixed rate and adjustable rate mortgage.

With the conventional fixed rate mortgage, set payments are made monthly. The interest rate does not change and it usually takes 20 to 30 years to complete payments.

With an adjustable rate mortgage, the interest rate

may be lower at first, but the rate will be reviewed at set time intervals. It can be raised or lowered to current market rates. These mortgages are available with reviews and different interest hikes. Usually, the adjustable rate mortgage has a limit on how high the interest rate can go.

A bank may require several things before mortgaging a home. It may require payments and maintenance fees not to exceed 30 percent of the monthly gross income. Proof of income from past tax returns may also be required. The couples credit history and any outstanding loans they may have will also be checked.

So, before a couples gets a mortgage, they should consider the cost of maintenance fees and how much they will rise in the future. Also, they

should consider repairs that may need to be done in the near future.

Another expense is the homeowners insurance cost. This is necessary in order for the couple to protect their investment.

Once these expenses have been cited, the couple should make up a monthly budget. This should include mortgage payments, maintenance fees, utility bills, insurance and property taxes. The total should be divided by 12 for a monthly amount.

Also, non-housing expenses should be added separately, such as food, clothing and entertainment. The totals should be compared with the monthly income available to see if the investment is affordable.

Next comes the closing, the final meeting of the couple, a bank representative, the seller and attorney. All the legal documents will be signed. Afterwards, the down payment is made and financing is finalized. The home will then be transferred into the couples name and becomes their responsibility to make regular payments.

The closing may also include attorney fees, processing fees for the loan application, recording of the deed and the credit check the bank did. These fees can often add up to a few thousand dollars.

Buying a home does not have to be complicated if the couple has taken time to think their buying decisions through carefully.

Appreciation: Attendants receive wide range of gifts

A well-chosen gift for the bride's attendants is a gracious way of expressing appreciation for attendants' having added so much to your wedding. These gifts will naturally be the best you can afford, and they are often articles of lasting value. However, the range is wide, from elaborate and costly gifts to practical and inexpensive ones. You may choose some article of silver, have it engraved with the attendants' initials and the date of the wedding, or your gift

may be a pin, clips, earrings, necklace, bracelet, compact, cosmetic case, evening bag, etc.

Gifts are usually presented at the bridesmaids' luncheon. If not, they are presented at the rehearsal

dinner, trousseau tea or at home before leaving for the wedding.

Gifts given the flower girl

and ringbearer may either be articles to delight a child or be cherished in the future.

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Early engagement rings stood for mutual fidelity

By Frank Casas

The engagement ring has been a tradition before a marriage for many years, but not many people know how or where the tradition began.

Early Christian writings state that the engagement ring was presented for a sign of mutual fidelity or as a symbol of joining hearts by such a pledge.

Terullian writings dating back to the end of second century A.D. say, "Among our women the time-honored rules of their ancestors, which enjoy modesty and sobriety, have died out. In former times women knew nothing of gold except the simple betrothal ring, which was placed on one of their fingers by the fiance." This information is written proof that the tradition was established long ago.

The wedding ring appears to be of Roman origin and was usually given at the betrothal as a pledge of the engagement. The oldest rings were made of iron, but gold was later discovered and replaced the iron bands.

The custom of wearing the engagement ring on the fourth finger next to the index finger was derived from the Roman origin. The Romans believed that a special nerve or vein ran directly from that finger to the heart.

The first record of the use of diamonds in the 15th century shows a letter written to Dr. Moroltinger to the future Emperor Maximilian just before his betrothal to Mary of Burgundy. The letter read: "At the betrothal your Grace must have a ring set with a diamond and also a gold

ring. Moreover, in the morning your Grace must bestow upon the bride some costly jewels." This proves that the crystal clear gem known as the diamond was preferred by people long ago.

The Kohinoor is perhaps the most famous diamond in the world and has the longest known pedigree. Today, it is in the crown of England's Queen Mother Elizabeth. The oblong Shah, bearing the inscription of three early rulers on its partly polished sides, was sacrificed by Persia to the last Czar of Russia to prevent a war.

Today, the tradition of wearing a ring still exists. There are few weddings without that precious band signifying proof of love and commitment between two people.



Wedding ceremony entrenched with symbolic traditions

By Wendy Hodge

Traditionally, thoughts of a wedding begin with a formal engagement. The diamond engagement ring is a long-standing tradition which began during the reign of Maximilian of Austria. The emperor gave Mary of Burgundy a gold ring set with diamonds.

Bridal showers take the bride-to-be's mind of the hard work of planning the wedding, and allows for a little fun. The bride is "showered" with gifts from her friends. Usually, the gifts are things for the house, unless of course it's a lingerie shower. In that case, the bride receives strictly lingerie, and she has the task of choosing which set she'll wear on her wedding night.

Men enjoy the counterpart of bridal showers, the bachelor party. The groom's buddies take him out for one last night on the town as a single man. From bunnies jumping out of cakes to mass consumptions of alcohol, the groom is promised a night he'll never forget.

Then, for the enjoyment

of all involved in the wedding, the rehearsal is followed by the rehearsal dinner. Usually given by the groom's parents, those involved in the wedding ceremony are invited to the rehearsal dinner.

On the day of the wedding, the groom is not supposed to see the bride, especially in her dress. Usually the bride spends all day getting ready for her spectacular day. In the midst of her preparation, the anxious groom is looming around to sneak a peak.

Finally, an hour before the ceremony, the bride and groom are at the church, ready for a photography session. The entire family, on both sides, are included in at least one picture, so the whole gang is already there for the wedding.

After this session, the bride is whisked away to a secluded room where she is "touched up" by her mother and attendants. The groom is also preparing. His mother is on hand to make sure everything is perfect for her son.

At the last moment before the ceremony, the bride and groom share sentimental

thoughts with their parents. The parents say good-bye to their "little girl" and "little boy" who only yesterday were learning to walk.

The groom and his attendants enter first in the ceremony. Then the bridesmaids enter. The maid or matron of honor follow. Next, the children, if any, enter the scene. The flower girl and ring bearer break the tension, as they twirl hats, spill the flower basket, and even sometimes go far as to stand on their heads.

Joyous feelings fill the air as guests realize the bride is about to make her traditional walk down the aisle to the sound of the wedding march. Traditionally, the father of the bride escorts her down the aisle, but in some cases, other close relatives take on the responsibility and honor.

On her way down the aisle, the bride usually stops to present her mother with a rose. She also sometimes carries the same Bible carried by her mother in her wedding.

Other traditions of the bride begin with her shoes. She sometimes chooses to

wear an English sixpence in one shoe for good luck. An alternative is to wear pennies minted in the years that the bride and groom were born in each of her shoes.

Up a little, on the bride's leg, she wears a blue garter. Garters are usually blue to fulfill the tradition of wearing something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue.

The bride's dress is usually new, but on occasion, it is one worn by her mother or sister in their wedding, therefore fulfilling the something old.

Something borrowed might be pearls or some type of jewelry, although there is no rule saying what can be borrowed.

If the dress is old, the something new is often a gift from the groom. Many times, it's diamond or pearl earrings, but again there is no set rule. Another option: if the wedding gown is something new, something old may be the previously mentioned Bible that another family member carried in her

wedding.

Now the ceremony begins. The couple speak their vows and place the wedding rings on each other's fingers. The wedding ring is round to signify an everlasting love, a love that never ends, and a continual marriage. Finally, the groom kisses the bride, and the celebration begins.

The bride, groom, parents and the wedding party form the receiving line at the beginning of the reception. The cutting of the cake is next. The bride and groom feed each other, then the guests enjoy the refreshments. More and more, we notice delicatessen-type buffets at receptions. This way, people enjoy more or less a dinner, then they top it off with the luscious wedding cake.

Rice bags are nonchalantly passed out while guests finish their eating, and while the bride and groom disappear to change into traveling clothes. After changing the bride tosses the bouquet and supposedly the one who catches it is the next in line to be married. The groom throws

the garter to the men in attendance. If he's adventurous, he may choose to treat the garter as a slingshot and shoot it at the men. The one who catches the garter is also supposed to be next in line for a wedding. It's interesting to see if the ones who catch the garter and bouquet get together and become the next bride and groom.

Then the guests, armed with their rice bags, try to shower the honored couple while they try to get away. Usually, their car is decorated up with cans hooked on the rear bumper and shoe polish covers all the windows. The familiar slogan, "Just Married" appears on the back window.

Now they're off — the newlyweds are ready to journey on their honeymoon where the sky is the limit. They can do whatever they please without interruptions. Pure ecstasy!

The couple has years of hard work ahead of them now, but as long as they share love, the little troubles in life will be worked out.

Watermelon under wheels...

Car decorations wreak havoc

By Frank Casas,
Dave Stewart

Decorating the newlyweds' car is a fun way to wreak havoc on their new lives.

There are various, interesting ways to go about this, ranging from the minor safe details to the more evil, mischievous ways more people prefer.

The traditional painting of the car, hanging tin cans and long colored streamers are only the beginning of a creative art.

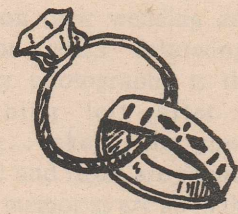
Examples of other creative options that can be performed on the getaway vehicle are pouring oil on the manifold and watching it smoke when the engine heats up. Shoving a potato, tomato or any other handy item into the exhaust pipe is an explosive thing to do. Jacking up the

rear end of the car just far enough to be undetected can bring about a few laughs. Rocks in the hubcaps can be a clattering experience. The old watermelon under the wheels trick is always a squishy mess. Disconnecting some of the spark plug wires will slow down the couple in a hurry to get on their way. And disconnecting the headlights is a darkening experience. Finally the chaining of the getaway car to another car parked behind it is hilarious (or disastrous).

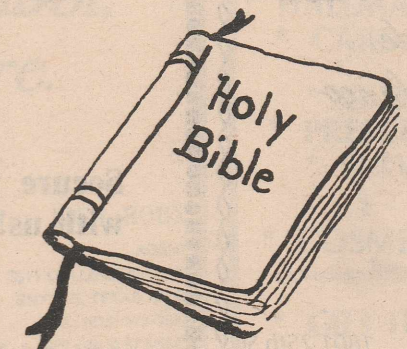
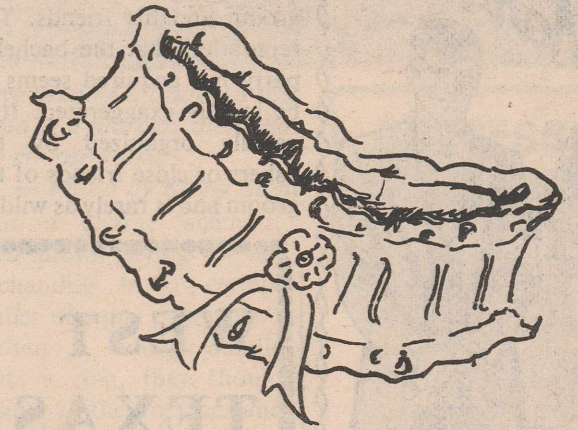
The fun doesn't have to stop with the getaway car. The more subdued forms of making this a more memorable day include taking all the bride's and groom's clothes out of their luggage. Sneak a small child (usually the bride's or

groom's brother or sister if available) into the back seat of the getaway car is almost always an effective way of scaring the dickens out of the couple. And for when they return from their blissful honeymoon (if they actually managed to get on their way) to remind them that you're still around, put cracker crumbs between the sheets of their bed.

No matter how you go about decorating a car or pulling pranks on the newlyweds, it can be lots of fun for everyone involved. The better the decorations or tricks, the more memories there are for the couple to cherish forever. This mischievous fun will really make a lasting impression on the bride and groom and they won't forget their "friends."



Art by Amy Crosson



PHOTO, from page 2

during the ceremony; the girl immediately picked it up and threw it back. The little boy's mother told him not to throw the pillow again in a resounding voice. The boy said, "OK, mom," then proceeded to kick the pillow into the audience like a football. Not every wedding has such incidents, but if yours does, you'd certainly want a photographer there to capture the tension-breaking ex-

perience (on film).

In hiring a photographer for your wedding, it's always best to find someone that you are compatible with. Bynum said, "Hire a photographer that you feel comfortable with. Conducting oneself as a professional, dressing neatly, and being courteous to guests are all a part of the total wedding package. It's not just a few photographs taken with no thought in mind."

Pre-nuptial parties

Family, friends take part in celebration

By Dave Stewart

For many, parties are an important part of the wedding tradition. Whether it is a bachelor party, a shower or a rehearsal dinner, parties have their places at wedding time.

When one mentions a bachelor party, the first thought is of a wild, boisterous party for the

legend has it. The bachelor party is a good way for the groom to get over his nervousness and spend one last

time for the groom and his friends.

Showers, which traditionally are women-only af-

and guests are encouraged to bring gifts accordingly. Themes range from traditionally lingerie, linen, kitchen, grocery showers to plant or bath showers.

A rehearsal dinner is nice, but not absolutely necessary. The dinner is usually sponsored by the groom's family. It is held the night before the wedding and attended by all members of the wedding party.

Another optional party is the bridesmaids' luncheon. Given by the bride, it is a convenient time for the bride to give her bridesmaids their gifts, which express her gratitude to them for participating in her wedding.

No wedding would be complete without the various parties that go along with it. This is a special time in the couple's lives and the parties provide memories that can last a lifetime.

'The reputation that the bachelor party has acquired seems to be greatly exaggerated.'

groom and his friends. The reputation that the bachelor party has acquired seems to be greatly exaggerated. It is usually organized by the ushers or close friends of the groom and is rarely as wild as

night as a single man.

No individual gifts are given, though the groom's friends may all chip in for one gift. The bachelor party can be wild or just a quiet affair, but it is always a happy

affairs, are changing to those that honor both the bride and her groom. Showers are expressions of friendship and love between the bride and her bridesmaids. It's up to the maid of honor to give one, if no one volunteers. Showers shouldn't be given by a member of the couple's immediate families, unless a sister of the bride or groom is maid of honor. A shower can be given by a group, such as the bridesmaids or a group of the bride's close friends, to save on expenses. Showers can be surprise parties.

Showers often have themes

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Gift-giving suggestions

Gifts the groom selects for his ushers and best man should be useful articles. He may choose a cigarette case, lighter, wallet, cuff links, etc. Gifts are often monogrammed. The best man's gift is usually more elaborate.

There may be others who have been particularly helpful to whom the couple will want to give gifts. If the budget permits, it is always thoughtful for the bride to give a present to her mother, in appreciation for all her loving help, and to her father, who has given her away.

If the groom can afford it, he gives his bride some special personal gift, such as jewelry, to commemorate their wedding.

The bride wears the gift on her wedding day, if it is in keeping with her gown.

The bride's gift to the groom may be a pair of handsome cuff links, or any lasting article for his personal use.

Embassy Publishing Co. — Wedding Embassy Yearbook

Mutual bond... Variety makes choice of ring selection difficult for couple

By Frank Casas

The selection of a wedding ring is important in a marriage; it is the mutual bond between two people who care for one another.

Selecting the right wedding ring can be a difficult task for any bride and groom to accomplish because of all the varieties, shapes, and sizes.

Ronnie Cox, owner of Cox's Jewelry in Snyder and Sweetwater, said, "A bride should choose her wedding ring and make her bridal selections from an established and reputable jeweler who has a reputation of integrity, fair prices and offers professional service on what he sells."

He added, "It is a good idea to shop a number of jewelry stores in order to know that you are familiar with the merchandise and are therefore happy with the selections you make."

When selecting a ring, the bride and groom should consider the quality of the gold, the workmanship of the ring and the quality of the ring. In years past, Platinum and white gold were more popular than yellow gold. Today, however, yellow gold is far more popular than white metals. Trends today are less conservative and there are more nugget and free-form designs on the market.

The workmanship of a ring is important for both its beauty and a person's security. A well-balanced, interesting design and a

smooth polish and finish characterize the well-made item. Stones should be properly set with prongs that are secure but small and uniform in size.

The most popular stones today are the round, marquise, pear, oval and emerald cut. The value of a diamond is measured by four factors jewelers call the "4Cs." The diamond should have clarity (the degree to which a stone is free of interior or exterior blemish). The color should be crystal-clear to make the stone of the finest quality. The cut should be accurate to prevent any loss in the gem's appearance, value, and beauty. The last, and least important factor is the carat weight, which is mainly a concern for the owner to determine value of a ring.

The most popular wedding ring today is a wedding set consisting of an engagement ring and wedding band in 14K yellow gold and having one or more diamonds. The wedding set is much more popular than single wedding bands.

Cubic Zirconia is a diamond substitute that some people buy for their wedding rings. Cox said, "I believe that a bride should choose a real diamond if she can afford it. The cubic zirconia is a diamond substitute whose properties will not give the long-range wear and satisfaction that a diamond will. The value of a zirconia is little more than the cost of cutting the stone. A diamond has a



TRADITIONS — Wedding rings have become a tradition that was started many years ago. Displayed is a marquise diamond. Many different styles are available to choose from.

— Photo by Kathy Stout

lasting beauty and value that is nowhere equaled by the cubic zirconia."

Some people have certain preferences about what type ring that would appeal to them. When ordering the custom ring, the purchasers should allow two weeks to a month to make the ring and to size it.

Several jewelry stores offer any person with established

credit a charge account, which allows paying for the merchandise in a certain number of equal payments.

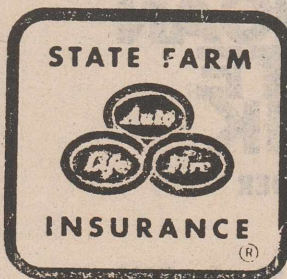
When a young couple selects a ring, they should consider all their options and the various characteristics of the ring. When the bride and groom make the final decision on a ring, it is a symbol that unifies love between two people.

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Honeymoon plans involve mutual decision

By Dave Stewart

Most newlyweds want to take a traditional honeymoon, a special vacation where a couple can spend some time alone together, away from family and friends, get to know each other and adjust to their new roles.

Planning that special trip is not always easy. There are a lot of decisions that have to be made. They involve the place to spend the honeymoon and how much money the couple wishes to spend.

The amount of money that is available for spending will help narrow down the options. The best way to consider all the options and expenses is to consult a travel agent. An agent's services are free. He makes his money on commissions paid by the

places where he books reservations for clients. The agent can help newlyweds get the most for their money. Reservations should be made in advance for a couple to be sure they get exactly what they want.

Selecting the place is the most important consideration of the honeymoon. Island paradises seem to be the most popular selections. Couples should be honest with each other and choose a place that will offer both of them the most enjoyment and appeal to both their interests.

There are many choices available for the newlywed couple to consider. A splashy island resort, a rustic retreat, a country inn, an exciting city, or an exotic foreign country are just a few of the op-

tions. Decisions need to be made. Does the couple want to honeymoon at a place where they will be attended (breakfast in bed, etc.) or would they, instead, like to have a cabin with a kitchenette where they may practice their new "housekeeping" roles? Do their interests lean toward swimming, sailing, horseback riding and basking in the sun, or would they rather go shopping, take in some live concerts or visit some well-known landmarks? The main consideration is to find a place, within their budget, where the couple feels the most comfortable.

Some of the most popular honeymoon locations are Cancun, Mexico, Jamaica, the Bahamas and Hawaii, according to Snyder Travel

representative Jim Brown.

These trips can be purchased in all inclusive packages. Included in the package is the round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations, meals, drinks and activities. Many couples choose inclusive packages because of their reasonable prices as well as the convenience.

The cost of three nights in Jamaica starts at about \$450 per person and one week is \$700 per person. The Grand Bahama trip would run about \$400 per person for three nights and \$679 per person for one week. Four nights at the Sheraton in Cancun, Mexico is \$379 per person.

Cruises are also very popular. According to Brown, couples prefer to take cruises. The most

popular destinations are to the Caribbean, Mexico and Hawaii.

Brochures are available at travel agencies concerning cruises and different locations that a newlywed couple might be interested in.

A romantic honeymoon does not necessarily have to be the trip of your dreams. A couple may not be able to go on a big trip right away. It is still a good idea to spend some intimate time away together, even if it is nearby. Finding a place where the newlyweds can be together away from the hustle and bustle of the world assures the couple of an opportunity to unwind after the hectic period leading up to the wedding and spend some romantic time together.

Degrees of wedding formality explored

You may be married formally, semiformally or informally whether in church, at home, in a hotel or club. The wedding costume you choose

to wear and the attire worn by the men are the main determining facts in establishing the degree of formality.

Over the years there has been little change in the accepted routine to be followed in planning a formal wedding. Implicit in the word formal is a greater degree of

elaborateness, though paradoxically, the formal wedding may be simple in the extreme. The formal wedding is invariably followed by a reception, large or small.

There are many degrees of formality ranging from the ultraformal wedding undertaken by those whose way of

life it reflects, to the semiformal, preferred by some brides because it often poses the least problem concerning the attire the men will wear.

The informal wedding can embody great dignity and charm, and affords tremendous latitude in choice of time, place, wedding costume and ceremonial detail. The "dressed" up informal white or pastel wedding can be impressively beautiful, and is ideal for the bride who doesn't want all the fanfare but still wants a real wedding. It costs very little more than a strictly informal wedding and can be followed by a little luncheon, supper or a small celebration

at which only punch, sandwiches and wedding cake are served.

The informal wedding, while never as costly as the formal nor as rigidly cast into a set pattern, must still be just as perfect in concept and smooth in performance. No detail is of so little importance that the bride can afford to be casual about it, even though her wedding may be informal in the extreme. There is one problem which the informal wedding almost always creates if ushers are required, and that is, the young men seldom own appropriate matching business suits.

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