



The Eyes of Texas

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Tower lights honor achievements

Victory lights brightened the Tower last week in tribute to the national achievements of the university's forensic championship team, and a team of national award-winning engineering students.

The lighting celebrated the success of the Individual Events Team that recently won the American Forensic Association National Individual Events Tournament at Bradley University in Peoria, Ill., for the second consecutive year. The competition involved 95 schools from throughout the country and students from the university won the honor for the fourth time in the last nine years.

The team also won honors for having the top overall speaker/performer in the nation. The winner, senior Bonny McDonald, became the first student in the history of the national tournament to advance to final rounds in all three areas, including public address, limited preparation and performance of literature.

The Tower lights also celebrate the creative minds of a team of engineering students whose patriotic 63-step contraption won this year's national Rube Goldberg Machine Contest.

The university's winning entry in the April 6 contest at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., was a machine that paid tribute to the heroes of Sept. 11, 2001.

Competing with regional winners from across the country, the university bested the three other national finalists in a contest to build the wackiest, most inefficient method to raise, secure and wave an American flag using at least 20 steps and within a time limit.

The University of Texas at Austin Theta Tau engineering fraternity, Psi Beta chapter team, devised the machine.

To contribute news items for use in this newsletter, contact Richard Bonnin at: richard@opa.vvwh.utexas.edu.

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Campus to honor diversity of cultures in program April 25

Students will celebrate diversity at the university on Thursday (April 25) with music, dance and other entertainment uniting the campus community through a program called "One World, One Night, One Celebration."

The outdoor festivities are scheduled for 6:30-8:30 p.m. on the East Mall. The rain site is the Texas Union ballroom. Entertainment groups will include Grupo Fantasma, Bavo Blakes and Silk Mango.

"Our goal is to unite all students of various backgrounds, groups, cultures and ethnicities for an entertaining night of celebrating and recognizing our differences," said Mamta Motwani, a graduate adviser with the Multicultural Information Center that has sponsored the event the past eight years.

For more information, call the Multicultural Information Center, (512) 232-2958.

Three professors win Guggenheim Fellowships

Three professors have been appointed Guggenheim Fellows on the basis of distinguished achievement and exceptional promise for future accomplishment.

The professors are John R. Clarke of the College of Fine Arts, Daniel S. Freed of the College of Natural Sciences and Michael Gagarin of the College of Liberal Arts. They are among 184 artists, scholars and scientists selected from more than 2,800 applicants for awards totaling \$6,750,000.

Clarke, the Annie Laurie Howard Regents professor, has taught in the Department of Art and Art History since 1980. His entry was titled "Humor, power and transgression in ancient Roman visual culture." Clark's 1998 book, *Looking at Lovemaking: Constructions of Sexuality in Roman Art, 100 B.C.-A.D. 250*, won the Dallas Museum of Art's Vasari award. His book on visual representation and non-elite Romans, *Art in the Lives of Ordinary Romans*, will be published by the University of California Press in 2003. As a Guggenheim Fellow, he will conduct research in Italy for a book titled *Looking at Laughter: Humor, Power and Transgression in Roman Visual Culture*.

Freed, a professor in the university's Department of Mathematics, submitted an entry titled "Applications of K-theory to geometry and physics." He has received National Science Foundation grants in geometric analysis and has been a recipient of the Presidential Young Investigator Award, the O'Donnell Foundation Grant, the Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship and other awards. He is a member of the American Mathematical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Gagarin, the James R. Dougherty Jr. Centennial professor of classics, has taught at the university since 1973. In addition to his classics courses, he teaches in the Plan II Honors Program and in the School of Law. He is an authority on ancient Greek civilization, in particular, Greek law and rhetoric. Among his books are *Early Greek Law* and *Antiphon the Athenian: Oratory, Law and Justice in the Age of the Sophists*, which has just been published by The University of Texas Press. During his Guggenheim Fellowship, he will write a book on *Writing and Orality in Ancient Greek Law*, based on a series of lectures he gave at the Sorbonne in Paris last May.

Center for Mexican American Studies presents 16th annual Paredes Lecture

Norma V. Cantú, visiting professor of law and education at the university and former Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education, will present the 16th annual Américo Paredes Distinguished Lecture, "Protecting Our Right to Read: Implications of the No Child Left Behind Act."

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will take place in the Bass Lecture Hall of the LBJ School of Public Affairs at 7 p.m., April 29. Free parking is available in the LBJ Library parking lot off Red River.

The lecture, which honors the eminent Mexican American scholar and longtime university professor Américo Paredes, was established by the Center for Mexican American Studies in 1987.

Texas Exes announce recipients of Distinguished Alumnus Award

The University of Texas at Austin's alumni association, the Texas Exes, has announced this year's recipients of the association's highest honor, the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

The six honorees are Laredo physician Joaquin Cigarroa, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans, geologist and philanthropist John Jackson, West Texas author Elmer Kelton, philanthropist and university Professor Curtis Meadows and Houston businessman Corbin Robertson. Recipients will be honored Sept. 20 in the Lyndon B. Johnson Library at The University of Texas at Austin.

The Texas Exes inaugurated the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1958 to recognize alumni whose achievements in their careers or life work, community and service to The University of Texas at Austin have been remarkable.

Pattillo to head national commission

Dr. Marilyn Pattillo, assistant professor of clinical nursing and a retired colonel in the Air Force Reserves, has been selected to chair a recently established National Commission on Veterans Affairs Nursing.

U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony Principi announced the membership of the commission to advise him on issues affecting nurses who work for the Department of Veterans Affairs. The commission will consider legislative and organizational changes to enhance the recruitment and retention of nurses and assess the future of the nursing profession within Veterans Affairs.

41st annual Staff Recognition Program and President's Reception to be held May 1 in Erwin Center

The 41st annual Staff Recognition Program and President's Reception will be held from 2 to 4 p.m., Wednesday, May 1, in the Frank C. Erwin Jr. Special Events Center.

Classified employees and administrative/professional employees with 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 years of staff service with the university will be honored.

Also recognized will be employees who are recipients of the President's Excellence Awards and Outstanding Supervisor Awards.

RecSports Poker Walk set for May 8

More than 1,200 faculty and staff are expected to participate in the 12th annual RecSports Poker Walk on May 8 to celebrate National Employee Health and Fitness Day.

The Poker Walk is a self-paced, one-mile stroll around campus with designated stops to collect playing cards. Participants are eligible for door prizes, and drawings will be held for team prizes. The top 3 poker hands will receive special prizes.

Participants who register by May 2 will receive an extra card free. Check-in time for the event is 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The check-in site is Gregory Gym Plaza (GRE), 21st street and Speedway.

For information or to register online, visit: <http://www.rs.utexas.edu/pokerwalk>.

University News Briefs....

School of Law captures national title in intellectual property competition

- Two University of Texas School of Law students won the national championship in a prestigious intellectual property moot court competition last week in Washington, D.C. Cyrus Bharucha and Owais Siddiqui defeated a team from the University of California at Berkeley to capture the national title at the 29th annual Giles Sutherland Rich Memorial Moot Court Competition, which was held April 10-12. The competition is sponsored by the American Intellectual Property Law Association. The two winning students each receive \$1,000.

CMAS offers videoconference course on 'Mexican Politics and Culture'

- The Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS) this semester will offer a special video-conference course titled "Mexican Politics and Culture." As part of The University of Texas System's efforts to expand cooperation and exchange between Texas and Mexico, CMAS has partnered with the Center for U.S.-Mexico Studies at the University of Texas at Dallas to offer the course here. The course, which will be an introductory analysis of the Mexican political system, will be a pilot for future CMAS collaborations of this kind. It will involve The University of Texas at Austin, the University of Texas at Dallas, other University of Texas System schools and Mexican universities. For more information, visit: www.utexas.edu/depts/emas.

School of Nursing sponsors inaugural lectureship in genetics

- "Pharmaceutical Innovation in the Post-Genome Era" will be the topic of the inaugural Cain Lectureship in Genetics from 2 to 3:30 p.m., April 26, in the Bass Lecture Hall, Sid Richardson Hall Unit 3, 2315 Red River. The lecture, which is sponsored by the School of Nursing, is free and open to the public. Presenting the lecture will be Dr. Arthur T. Sands, president and chief executive officer of Lexicon Genetics Inc. Sands founded the company, which works to pioneer genome-wide knockout technology to determine the functions of genes for drug discovery.

Annual Longhorn Jazz Festival set for April 27

- The annual Longhorn Jazz Festival presents the UT Jazz Orchestra, directed by Rick Lawn with Conrad Herwig, guest trombonist from the Mingus Big Band. On the program are compositions by Herwig, John Fedchock, Lawn, McCoy Tyner and new works by student composers Matt Russell and David Renter. The event takes place at 8 p.m., April 27, in Bates Recital Hall. Tickets are available for \$7 at the door. Call 471-7764 for more information.