

INTERCOM

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TAYLOR PROPOSES COUNCIL

by Melanie Mayeaux

COM President Dr. Fred Taylor has proposed a college-wide council comprised of faculty and staff.

The council, says Taylor, "would open up communication to all segments of the COM. It would provide a way for faculty and staff to participate in decision-making processes at the college."

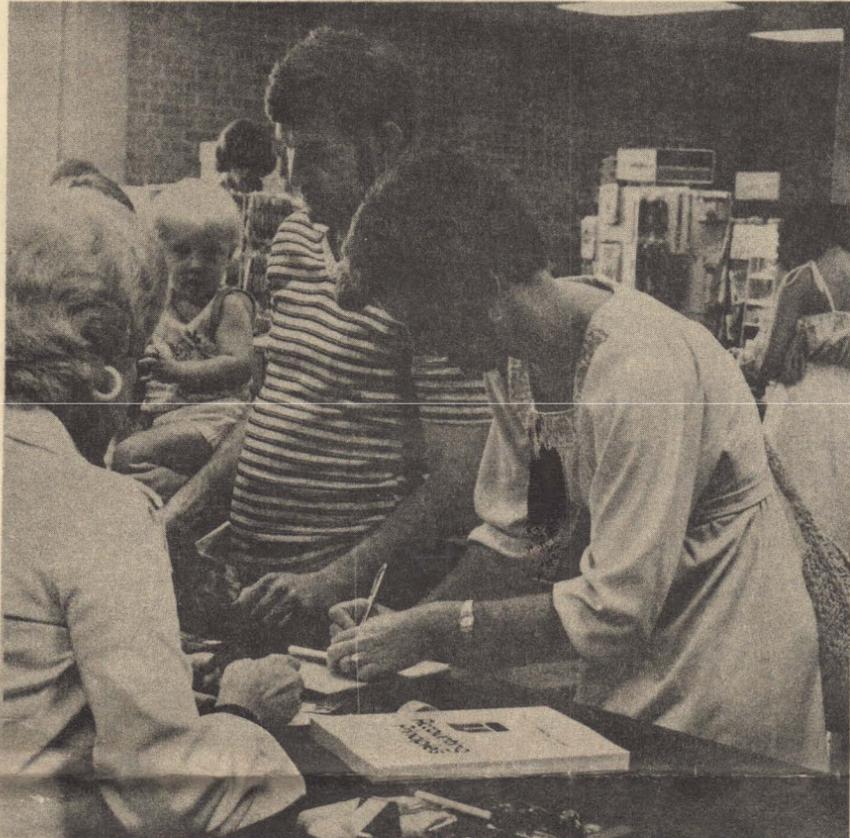
Dr. Taylor proposed the council in his comments at the opening faculty orientation session of the Fall 1978 semester.

Outlining who participants might likely be on the council, Taylor said, "That will prove the toughest decision. The council is now at an embryonic stage. It will evolve and change. The composition of the membership will be a matter worked out by those represented."

Dr. Taylor had a September 22 deadline for all comments and suggestions. This has been changed to an October 20 deadline. Sometime in November, Taylor hopes to come up with a working model of the council, to be presented to staff and faculty for further changes.

With additional feedback and final approval from these two groups, Taylor will prepare a final proposal for presentation to COM's Board of Trustees.

Dr. Taylor sees this council as "a means for faculty and staff to be more actively involved in issues of concern to all others. I'm interested in each and every member of COM giving me opinions about the council. Once the plan is complete, I'll ask the Board of Trustees to approve it and make it a part of COM policy."



Long bookstore lines reflect increase in enrollment.

Staff Photo by Melanie Mayeaux

Dean Reveals

Enrollment Increases 15%

COM's fall enrollment showed a dramatic 15% increase over last year, with 2,625 students enrolled in credit classes, reported Dr. Fern Ramirez, Dean of Student and College Services. Computer analysis of the enrollment figures show that females now account for 42%, according to Dr. Ramirez. The median age of all credit students remains at 24.5 years.

"The so-called 'new clientele' of housewives going back to school and adult job holders seeking to expand career options account in some part for COM's enrollment growth," she explained.

"Students are also enrolling for more courses than last year. Student contact hour totals show an increase of around 17%," she said. "The ethnic and racial mixture of our students follows the general make-up of the community, with 73% of the students Caucasian, 17% black, 7% Hispanic, 2% foreign, and 2% other (Asian and American Indian)."

Veteran enrollments also increased, with 100 new students coming into veterans' programs, according to Wallace Dommert, admissions counselor and coordinator of veterans' programs.

Another factor in enrollment increase is the growing tendency of many high school graduates to take the first two years of academic work at COM, then transfer to the new

campus of UH/CLC for a baccalaureate degree.

"With growing inflation, many people are deciding to complete their education locally at a fraction of the cost they would have to pay at an institution away from home," Ramirez noted.

COMSA President Sets Goals

by Melanie Mayeaux and Kathy Brooks

Though hampered by an incomplete staff, COM Student Association (COMSA) President Kurt Koopman has some definite goals for the coming year.

"The main thing I want to see changed," says Koopman, "is the image COMSA has as a social organization. Though we certainly will help in any way to organize social activities, we are mainly a liaison between the students and faculty."

"In order to be effective in this capacity, we must have student input," he points out. "I see the campus as one big circle—students, faculty, and administration. Only through open communication can each part operate for the betterment of all."

Koopman believes COMSA's role has diminished through the years, and he hopes this will change. This year, for the first time, the COMSA president will serve as a student advisor to the Board of Trustees.

"It is a great chance for students to be represented," Koopman says. "We now have a voice."

"I would also like to see us help the learning environment by sponsoring speakers, films, and lectures," he said.

Koopman felt sufficiently qualified to try for the COMSA presidency "because I have always been concerned with contributing as a member of

(See COMSA, page 2)

Complete calendar on Page 7.

NEWⁱⁿ'78

InterCOM is now being mailed to students.

National Conference On Work and College Set

A national conference on "Community Colleges and the Future of Work" will be held at COM October 19 in cooperation with the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, according to President Fred A. Taylor.

"National, state, and local representatives of industry, government, organized labor, and community colleges will explore the changing nature of work," Dr. Taylor said.

Topics to be discussed include "Flexible Work Lives and Education," "Education and Work in the Future," and "Predicting Future Jobs to Match-Up College Training." Projects offered will deal with the industry-occupation matrix, alternative futures in occupational education, tomorrow's careers, Delphi, creative uses of advisory committees, and graduate followup.

National coordinator for the conference is William Abbott, author of "Work in the Year 1001." Local coordinator is Joe Rubio, Associate Dean for Technical/Vocational Education at COM.

The aspect, Abbott says, is that tomorrow's typical worker could pursue from five to seven careers during a lifetime.

"The future of work is inextricably linked to community colleges, which are likely to provide the bulk of train-

(See Conference, page 2)

Taylor Proposes Council

(con't. from page 1)

my community. In a sense, COM is my community now. I spend about three-fourths of my time here. As a previous member of the COM Citizens' Advisory Council, I became involved at COM even before I was a student," he says.

"Being both a full-time student and a COM employee, I am on-campus a lot of time, and was last year. I think I'm aware of both the plusses and minuses at COM," he says.

Koopman outlined his major goals as president, saying, "In seeking this office of COMSA president, I didn't make any rash claims of being a miracle worker. I didn't take office with a lot of ready-made plans of my own. But I am willing to listen, and I'm open to suggestions from all students. I plan to work through proper channels to give students a chance to express wishes, desires, and opinions concerning COM," he said.

He's also open to suggestions from the administration and plans to "feed these comments back to the student body."

As president, Koopman is in charge of presiding over COMSA meetings and being liaison between staff and students.

"I want more open channels of communication on this campus," the president says. "All students are invited to COMSA meetings. We are merely the officers. It's the students who constitute the membership of COMSA. I don't know all the answers, but I'm willing to try to find them. We can only do this with the students' help."

A definite schedule of meetings will be posted pending election of the three remaining officers. The COMSA office is located on the second floor of the College Center (Ext. 408).

National Conference

(con't. from page 1)

ing for emerging occupations," Abbott adds.

"Community colleges are best equipped to guide the fast changes in work into positive channels in large part because of their non-traditional, innovative philosophy. The student of tomorrow must have the flexibility to shift occupations," he believes.

National speakers on the agenda include Abbott, Dr. Fred Best, National Commission for Manpower Policy and author of "The Future of Work;" Dr. Andrew Korim, President of the Council on Occupational Education and Provost of Community Colleges in West Virginia; Dr. Raymond Harry, Washington State Board for Community Colleges.

Also appearing on the program will be Harry L. Hubbard, President of the Texas AFL-CIO; Dr. Donald F. Mortvedt, Dean of Instruction, COM; Dr. James Reed, Director, Supply/Demand Services, Tarrant County Junior College District; and Toni Hall, Chief Consultant, Vocational Planning and Evaluation, Texas Education Agency.

Registration fee for delegates from outside the COM district is \$20 (\$10 for in-district delegates). The fee includes lunch, supper, and materials. Further information on the conference may be obtained from Associate Dean Rubio at 938-1211, Ext. 280 or 281.

The conference precedes by one day the World Future Society Conference on "Educational Futures" at the University of Houston Clear Lake.

DON'T MISS —
College of the Mainland Theatre's
The Oldest Living Graduate-
November 2-5 and 9-11

Grant Aids Future Arts Expansion

A move to expand and upgrade art, music and theatre programs at COM is now underway with support of a three-year, \$150,000 federal grant from the Office of Education.

The grant will allow COM to add new faculty members to the art and music staffs, provide new courses in brass and woodwind instruments, expand speech/theatre offerings (in close cooperation with Mainland Community Theatre), develop special summer activities, such as clinics, workshops and seminars.

Current activities such as the Lab Band and Compass Artists Subscription Series will be continued and expanded.

"Our entire Fine Arts faculty will be working with persons in the community, especially high school art faculties, to insure that our program development meets the needs of our College district," explained Larry Stanley, Chairman of Division of Arts and Humanities.

Stanley added that in the music area, emphasis will be placed on courses for non-music majors.

"We are tentatively planning a course for amateur songwriters, as well as a course on the history of popular music," he noted. "We will also develop other ensembles, such as brass and woodwind quintets."

Stanley emphasized that one of the thrusts of the music program will be on performances in the community.

The grant will finance development of more sophisticated speech and theatre courses as well as forensic-type activities, such as debates, readers' theatre, and extemporaneous speech activities.

"The credit speech/theatre program will be developed in close cooperation

Student ID Refund Deadline Extended To Nov. 1

by Betty Nolley

Deadline for collecting a refund of the student identification card fee has been extended to Nov. 1, according to Roland Smith of the Business Office.

Students who are registered and who paid the fee may collect a \$2 refund at the Fee Payment window of the Business Office in the Administration Building during office hours, 8 AM - 7 PM. COM paid-fee receipts are not required.

Cash refunds were previously scheduled to be paid through September 15. However, when only 24.6 percent of the 999 students eligible for refunds collected them, an extension was granted.

"We definitely want to get the \$2 back to everyone who is due a refund," said Smith.

The COM administration discontinued issuance of identification cards August 1 because no one used them, according to Dr. Robert Johnston, Director of Admissions. Only students who pre-registered in the spring, or registered in June or July, were charged the I.D. card fee.

A memo was sent to all instructors from the Office of Admissions on the first day of classes, requesting students collect I.D. fee refunds September 11

through September 14. This schedule was later extended to September 12 at 3 PM.

"Credit refunds of other fees have been mailed out by the cashier's office and should have already been received," said Donna Hunter, a cashier. Students expecting refunds who have not gotten them should go by the Fee Payment window.

COMSA VP's Settle Into Jobs

by Kathy Brooks

New COMSA vice-president of student college service is Darlene Ellis, who provides information about clubs and other college activities. If a student has a problem with class documents, Ellis will discuss it with proper faculty or administrative personnel.

Active in COM Singers, Ellis also works in the Personnel Office as student assistant to Barbara Stanford, Secretary to Director of Personnel Janice Floyd. She welcomes all students to attend COMSA meetings.

Benson Sharp, new vice-president of administrative services, sees his duties as more pertinent to students than the administration.

He hopes to make COM's administrators more responsible to the student body. Sharp also encourages students to let him know what special events they might like to see.

A Phi Beta Kappa, Sharp ran for his office because "he likes and enjoys meeting people."



\$50000*

STUDENT EDITORIAL CONTEST

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TOPIC:
A Federal Union: A New Architecture for a
Community of the Free

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES:
December 31, 1978

FOR INFORMATION:
Send a Postcard to —
1978 Student Editorial Contest
Patricia Chapman, Executive Director
Federal Union, Inc.
1875 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

* GRAND PRIZE



Faculty Association Formed on Campus

by Melanie Mayeaux

Over half of COM's full-time faculty indicated interest in forming a "faculty society," according to Dr. John Hubisz, of the physics department, an organizer of the group.

Currently named Faculty Association of COM (FACOM), the group's goals intend to promote the status of faculty; to identify and promote professional teaching practices and ethical behavior; and to improve communication between the faculty and the administration.

Also emphasized is the need "to establish means by which the faculty, as a group, will be able to adequately and constructively be heard on any and all COM issues which affect the teaching-learning process," said Hubisz.

As one of the main organizers of FACOM, Hubisz said, "We felt there was a need for such an organization because COM's Employee Association (COME) is much too broad-based to represent the teaching faculty as a unit."

FACOM membership, 28 members out of an eligible 50, is divided into two categories--member and associate. A member is defined as any COM employee who teaches fulltime and has no contractual administrative responsibilities.

Only FACOM members may vote and hold office.

An associate is any COM employee who works with students, has an annual contract, and does not supervise members or associates.

"The reason for these strict definitions of membership," said Hubisz, "is to make certain there are no conflicts of interest. Many part-time teachers have other interests besides COM."

FACOM is not yet an official or-

ganization. A committee prepared an official charter, by-laws, and regulations, a task expected to be finished October 5. After processing papers through regular COM channels, FACOM should be chartered by December 1978.

"The four purposes for formation of FACOM are designed mainly to improve the faculty and that's the way the group is going to stay," Hubisz said. "We are not looking for any conflicts. We mean to improve the faculty's intellectual goals, our relationships with students, and our communication with the administration."



Deanie Schneider (l) watches Wayne Webb (c) and Steve Edrozo (r) give "Rescusi Annie" Red Cross CPR training.

First Aid Station Moves to Gymnasium

by Betty Nolley

COM's First Aid Station has been moved to the gymnasium from its previous location in the Student Center.

Several employees in the gym reception area have already undergone training in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) by the Red Cross, says Manuel Perez of Health Education, who is in charge of the program. The remainder are now enrolled in a CPR course by the American Heart Association.

The CPR technique keeps blood circulating by cardiac compression and supplies oxygen by artificial ventilation. A person suffering cardiac arrest can be kept alive by CPR until he is transported to a hospital.

"The First Aid Station is expected to be operational by Oct. 1," said Perez. At least two student attendants will be on duty from 8 AM - 10 PM on weekdays. Saturday and Sunday the

station will be open from 1 - 4 PM.

Perez, a former medic with the U.S. Army, is now enrolled in a course to qualify as an Emergency Care Attendant. He also intends to obtain certification as an Emergency Medical Technician.

Currently, the First Aid Station is equipped with a stretcher, a rolling cot, bandages, blanket, air splints and other supplies from the old First Aid Station.

"We are trying to increase our capabilities and expand our scope as much as we can," he said. "At present, we can only handle emergency situations, such as severe bleeding, cardiac arrest requiring CPR, emergency splinting, and protecting the wound. If an accident on the campus is reported, I will check it out and give assistance."

The ABC Ambulance Company serves COM, according to Perez. Their

response time was very short on the one call they made to the campus so far, he said.

A trainer from Dickinson High School will train people on the athletic staff later in the year to treat athletic injuries.

Comedy Workshop Appears

Comedy Workshop, Houston's newest professional theatre, came to COM's Arena Theatre September 26 and October 3.

Paul and Sharon Menzel, founders of the Houston group, conducted workshops in the tradition of Chicago's "Second City" and San Francisco's "The Committee."

Before coming to COM, the Menzels stated, "We won't be on stage, the participants will." During the workshop, the participants improvised comedy and satire material.

10,000 Meter Run Draws Crowd

by Betty Nolley

A 10,000 meter run for women, sponsored by the Recreation Department of COM, was held October 7, beginning at 9 AM.

Contestants started at Weingarten's

parking lot in Dickinson, F.M. 517 and I-45, and finished at the COM campus. A 5,000 meter run was available as an alternate.

Runners from as far away as Bryan were entered in the race, which was

the third of its kind to be held in Texas.

Women competed in five age divisions: 14 and under, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, and over 40. All runners who finished a race received special T-shirts. The top ten in each category were awarded certificates. Registration fee was \$3.00. Contestants ages ranged from 8 years to 66.

"I believe this says a lot for women athletes," says Manuel Perez of HPE&R, "I am very proud of the women as a group. This is the first time I have been involved with a race where all contestants finished and none required medical attention. I hope next year will be even bigger and better."

Mary Ann McBayer, coordinator of the Bonnie Bell race in Houston last April, was helpful in setting up the run, Perez went on to say.



Women runners set the pace in COM's October Run Fest. Staff Photo by Melanie Mayeaux



Ruth Leimer, 66, of Galveston finishes the 5,000 meter run. Staff Photo by Melanie Mayeaux

COM Security Policy Outlined

by Karen Hoffman

First tickets received for parking violations on the COM campus are only warnings, as stated in the college handbook.

Payment of tickets should be made at the fee payment window in the Administration Building. The money goes into the general college fund. Failure to pay any ticket after the first one could result in a trip to the Texas City Justice of the Peace Court because in Texas, police departments have jurisdiction over public parking lots, according to state law.

The COM administration backs up college Security Department in this policy. COM Security guards have authority by department head Joe Rotramel to give tickets for parking violations on campus.

Anyone parking in a loading zone, fire zone or handicapped parking will be given a ticket. Handicapped people have parking permits. Designated parking areas are used only by physically handicapped and those with a parking permit.

COM has two police officers (brown uniforms) and four security guards (blue uniforms). All six are certified by the State of Texas. Their main function is to provide physical security for the COM campus. Security guards are on duty seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Students needing assistance between 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. should call the switchboard operator (dial 0), who will contact Security immediately.

Joe Rotramel says, "Because of department policy, Security will not help anyone with flat tires or car problems, but will aid anyone stranded."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

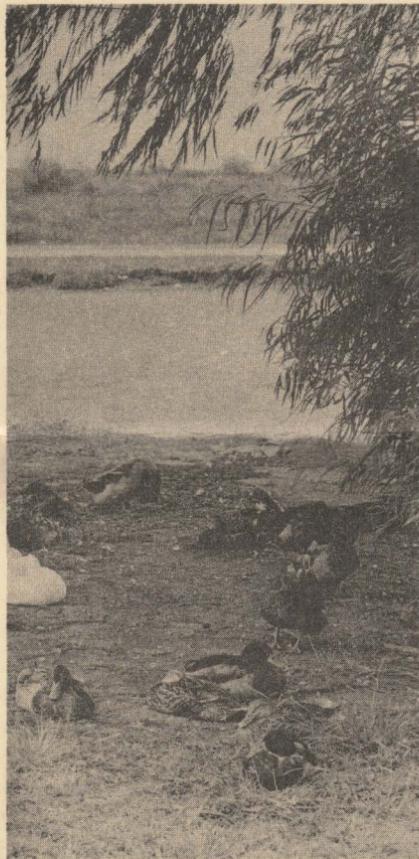
Dear Editor:

Many of the faculty and staff members at COM do not receive the credit due them. We feel that Richard Poth is one of these people.

Richard is a very good and very professional counselor. Some students may disagree with Richard's methods, but we bet they do admit that he has helped them. Sometimes he even goes beyond the call of duty.

He cares enough about people to be truly concerned about the paths they choose to follow in life. Also he cares enough about his students to tell them the truth and then help them accept the truth. We think he's a really "nice" guy.

- Two of Richard's Former Students



In addition to an ever-increasing number of students, College of the Mainland can also boast of an abundance of ducks making their permanent home in Lake Eckert.

Remember: COM library is now open until 10 PM Wednesdays and Thursdays.

COMSA and Phi Theta Kappa dance at COM College Center, October 28. All welcome. For further details and information, please call Ext. 214.

2nd ANNUAL Halloween House of Horrors
 October 28, 7:00 pm, Gym
 \$1.00 Admission Fee
 Costume Contest for all ages.

SOCCER

Learn to play soccer! All interested individuals are welcome. Practices are on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for your convenience.

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: 39th and Avenue U (near Gaido's), Galveston

Info: Contact COM HPR&R at 938-1211, ext. 466

We are members of the Houston Women's Soccer Association, and will start league play in October. We tied a division I team in a recent scrimmage in Houston. Please come and practice if you want to play and be a member of our Super Team.

Program Changes Lives

By P. C. Ingraham

When he was 16, he was in a car accident which left him paralyzed. He is now 32, and requires fulltime nursing care in a center.

She is 29 and has four children under the age of 10. She and her husband moved here from the East Coast, hoping to improve their chances at employment.

He is 18 and trying to get in the service.

She is 19 and has a one-year-old son. She just discovered she's pregnant, but her husband has been sent to prison on a marijuana conviction.

What do all these people have in common?

They have benefitted from COM's General Educational Development (GED) program, which offers a high school equivalency diploma. This program was designed to assist those who have dropped out of school. COM offers GED classes through the Adult Basic Education Department. During 1977, more than 1200 enrolled.

In the past 11 years, some 2,000 people have obtained a GED through COM's program. New credentials have enabled them to go on to better employment, higher education, and a greater sense of self-esteem. COM's

GCCFA Elects Board Members

Three new board members were elected in Gulf Coast Council on Foreign Affairs annual Board Elections.

Newly elected to the twenty-two member board were Mike (Kewpie) Gaido, Galveston; Marquerite Claghorn, Clear Lake City, and Richard Carroll, Galveston. Reelected for additional three-year terms were Janet Ward, La Marque; Pitman Buck, Jr., Texas City; Lenore Bradner, Galveston and John Clyburn, Galveston.

Chosen as corporate officers for one year were John Clyburn, Chairman; Admiral John Smith, First Vice President; Carmen Anderson, Second Vice President; Harry Levy, Jr., Treasurer; Doris Branch, Secretary.

Robert Handy, a founder and first Board chairman, resigned from the Board of Directors and subsequently accepted a position as the Council's Executive Director.

The Council grew from a first-year membership total of 92 to a mid-second year high of 291. Established similar councils in much larger cities average around 500 members.

GED program, the only free one in the area, is part of an adult education cooperative which serves all of Texas City, La Marque, Hitchcock, Dickinson, Santa Fe, League City, Kemah, Bacliff, and Friendswood.

Classes are scheduled at both COM and off-campus sites, and may be enrolled in anytime during the semester. The books and all testing are free for anyone living within the COM district. Those interested can call the Adult Basic Education Office at Ext. 294.

THEATRE REVIEW:

The Tingalary Bird

Review: by Beverly Stephens

COM's Community Theatre launched its new Children's Theatre with the production of Mary Nelwood's "The Tingalary Bird," presented September 23, 24, 30, and October 1, at 2:30 PM.

"The Tingalary Bird" is about a stingy old lady who "saves everything for a rainy day." A magic Tingalary Bird, her husband, and a sailor were other characters in this fantasy-with-a-moral.

The moral is "what we may think of as truth and beauty may not be what we really see and hear." This was brought home by the husband's kindness to the bird. The most beautiful part of the play was the husband's love and acceptance of the bird for what it was—a creature created by God.

Former COM student Cliff Mabry, presently a theatre major at UH/CLC, directed the show. Mabry also played the sailor, who narrates the story.

Florence Little, last seen in COM's "Second Floor Front," was very convincing as the mean old woman, at times terrifying audience members. As the old man, Adam Lerma, a UH/CLC graduate theatre major, seemed to keep the show moving smoothly. His old man had a very sensitive nature which captivated the audience.

The Tingalary Bird was portrayed by Linda Hall, a teacher at Levi Fry Middle School in Texas City. Hall's gestures as the bird were excellent. The few lines she spoke were unintelligible, however.

The lighting and special effects were exceptional. If anything, they may have been too realistic. Many audience members were tearful due to the play's very real storm effects.

As an introduction to the world of children's theatre, the production was a step in the right direction.

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Welcome to COM

Seven Added to Full-time Faculty

Seven new full-time instructors have joined the COM faculty this semester—Tom Arvidson, Kit van Cleave, Dr. Warren Dodson, Janice Smith, Roger Stallings, William Tapp, and Paul Williamson.

Tom Arvidson has joined the expanding music department at COM as a full-time instructor. Once a part-time faculty member, Arvidson teaches music theory as well as directing COM's fledgling stage band and improvisation ensemble.

"COM has some talented students with a real love for music," Arvidson declared. "In addition, music department equipment is outstanding.

"I believe a music major who goes through two years at COM and then transfers to a senior institution, could be ahead of a music major who began at that senior institution as a freshman," he added.

Arvidson received his B.M. and M.M. degrees in Music from the University of Houston, and his Ph.D. in Composition from Michigan State.

A professional musician who belongs to the American Federation of Musicians, he is also a composer, presently writing original compositions for the lab band. At UH, Arvidson wrote background music for a production of Shakespeare's *THE TEMPEST*, plus several brass pieces, *SINFONETTA* for wind ensemble, and numerous small works. At Michigan State, he wrote a complete opera based on a Japanese Noh play, and a song cycle, *INDIAN SUMMER*, with poems by Emily Dickinson.

He feels living in the 20th century is the best of all times for musicians because there is no mainstream of musical output.

"Composers of this era have done 'their own thing.' As a result, there's a constant influx of different musical experiences," he explained. "This can be an exciting period for a musician, if he takes advantage of it."

Kit van Cleave, COM's newly-appointed English/Journalism instructor, is author of a Gothic novel, to be published this fall or next spring by Warner Paperbacks. Her book of poetry, "Day of Love," published by Triton Press in 1977, has been chosen by American composer Thomas Pasatieri for two song cycles, the first to be premiered February 25 at New York's Lincoln Center and sung by the distinguished American mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade. Her second poetry book, "Amourette," will be published by the end of 1978.

Van Cleave has written free-lance articles for such magazines as *Ms.*, *Ebony*, *Forecast*, *Opera News*, *Opera Journal*, and many others.

She is a monthly columnist for *Houston Home & Gardens*, *Houston City*, *Scene Magazine*, and *Leisure Magazine*.

She writes on a widely-diverse number of subjects, including petroleum petrochemicals, opera, theatre, music, film, finance, ballet, economics, politics, and art.

Van Cleave entered the inner opera circle two years ago when she inter-

viewed five women opera singers for *Ms.* She currently is writing a novel based on Houston Grand Opera.

She looks forward to teaching on a full-time basis at COM after three years of part-time instruction in English and journalism.

"I'm interested in teaching not only reporting and writing skills, but also how to market one's writing, what the job market is like, plus what it's really like in the working world of publishing. Because COM teaches the pragmatic approach, not just the theoretical, all journalism students were able to publish last year in newspapers and magazines outside the college," she adds.

Van Cleave earned her B.A. in journalism from North Texas State University and her M.A. in English from the University of Houston (working her way through with free-lance writing assignments).

Dr. Warren Dodson, COM's newly-appointed Director of Counseling and Human Development, obtained his M. S. in guidance, counseling and educational psychology from the University of Southern Illinois at Carbondale, and a Doctorate in Counselor Education from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Named one of America's outstanding men for 1978 by U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, his graduate work was supported by a fellowship from the National Teacher Corps.

Dr. Dodson is anxious to begin the planning of counseling and special support services, which he feels are necessary to COM as an open-door institution.

"I'm impressed with the facilities resources available for educational programs, and the level of commitment to students exhibited by faculty and staff," he noted.

The American family is still strong and healthy, but changing, according to Janice Smith, COM's newly-appointed Child Development Program Coordinator.

Smith's responsibility is creating a training program for day-care personnel working in centers throughout the district.

"The fact that 50 percent of mothers with children under 18 are now working gives indication of the growth in this human-services field," Smith reported.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

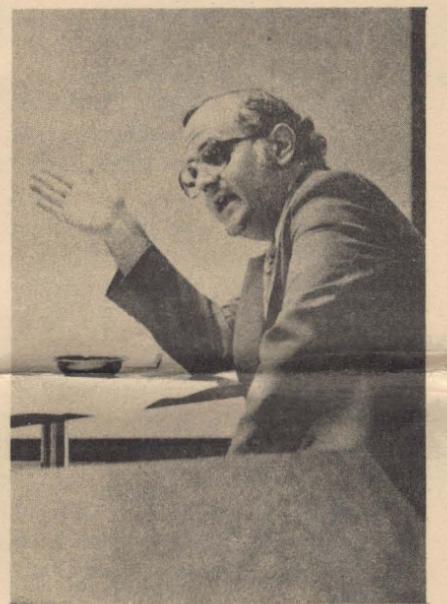


Motorcycle Safety Course Again Offered

COM will again offer the Motorcycle Safety Training Course beginning October 19 through October 23 according to Rick Poth, coordinator of the Traffic Safety Division.

The course is open to anyone 12 years of age or over. Those under 15, however, must have parental consent. Students enrolling for the course must be able to ride a bicycle and be able to reach the ground and all controls of the motorcycle comfortably. New motorcycles and helmets used for training will be furnished. Students will provide other protective clothing and boots.

Tuition for the course is \$15 and covers all books and materials. For more information and registration materials, contact Traffic Safety Coordinating Program 938-1211, Ext. 258.



Dr. Alan Ginsberg, COM Social Science professor, conducts the weekly seminar on the 1978 gubernatorial and congressional elections. Seminars will be held each Wednesday at 11 AM through Nov. 15 at COM. For further information, contact Dr. Ginsberg at 938-1211, ext. 216.

Staff Photo by Melanie Mayeaux

American Collegiate Poets Anthology

International Publications is sponsoring a

National College Poetry Contest

Fall Concours 1978 -

Open to all college and university students desiring to have their poetry anthologized. **CASH PRIZES** will go to the top five poems:

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|----------|---------------------------------|
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| 50.00 | Second Place |
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DEADLINE: OCTOBER 31

All entries must be postmarked not later than the above deadline and the registration fee, \$1.00 for the first entry and \$.50 for each additional entry, paid by cash, check, or money order to: **INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS, 4747 Fountain Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90029.**

NOVEMBER ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			MONA MARSHALL 1 Silk Screen & Etching Exhibit, Art Gallery Through Nov. 15 BALLROOM & Folkdance Workshop	2	3	FAYETTEVILLE 4 Bike Ride
			LIBRARY OPEN until 10:00 pm		CLUB FRIDAY, 7:30	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
"THE OLDEST LIVING GRADUATE"	Sign-up Deadline BADMINTON TOURNAMENT		LIBRARY OPEN until 10:00 pm		"THE OLDEST LIVING GRADUATE" - Arena Theatre, 8:00 pm	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
			DEADLINE for 15 accepting applications for Fall 1978 Graduation DISCO Workshop RACQUETBALL Workshop		Sign-up Deadline SKI TRIP	TEXAS TURKEY TROT
			LIBRARY OPEN until 10:00 pm			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
					HITCHCOCK Basketball Game	
			LIBRARY OPEN UNTIL 10 pm		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS, College Closed	
26	27	28	29	30	Dec. 1	
			Sign-up Deadline RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT			
			EARLY REGISTRATION FOR SPRING 1979 for currently enrolled or re-entering students			
			LIBRARY OPEN until 10:00 pm			

To get your organization's upcoming events on the Activity Calendar, notify Dwight Fullingim, News Bureau, COM Communication Services, ext. 434. Calendar events are compiled one month in advance so early notification is necessary.

Clip & Return to InterCOM

InterCOM is all new in 78!

We would like your comments and suggestions for future issues. Please fill out this questionnaire and place it in the InterCOM box located in the College Center.

Did you read InterCOM? Yes No What type stories and features would you like to see added? _____

Which stories, articles, and features did you like best? _____

least? _____

College of the Mainland organizations and clubs are urged to notify InterCOM of upcoming meetings and special events. Drop information in the InterCOM box located in the College Center as soon as scheduled events are finalized.

Theatre Tour Set For Nov. 22-26

COM's annual New York Theatre Tour is scheduled for November 22-26.

The tour price of \$385 includes: round-trip airfare to New York City, four nights at the Piccadilly Hotel, transfer to and from airport to hotel, baggage tips at hotel, tickets to three Broadway shows, and ample time for individual sightseeing and shopping. The tour price is per person, double-occupancy.

A special bus will meet the plane in New York to transfer tour members to the Piccadilly Hotel, situated in the theatre district just off Broadway.

Thursday, November 23, will feature Macy's famous Thanksgiving Day Parade. Participants will have free time during the day, and attend a Broadway show in the evening. November 24 is officially the first day of Christmas shopping along Fifth Avenue. Tour members may choose to go sightseeing (Central Park, the Empire State Building, the United Nations, Statue of Liberty) or see the show at Radio City Music Hall.

November 25 offers free time, with a Broadway show in the evening. November 26 includes a free morning, another Broadway show, checkout from the hotel and return by special bus to the airport for the flight home. For more information, contact COM Theatre at 938-1211, ext. 345.

InterCOM needs you.

PROFILE on PEOPLE

Richard Poth

by Beverly Stephens

"A fantasy is the projection of self into the future without the constraints of reality," says Richard Poth, COM Career Decision counselor.

Poth uses fantasies as a method to aid COM students and community citizens in identifying different career options. Before coming to COM in 1974, Poth had two years experience as a career co-ordinator at Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Poth says his major challenge is getting students to realize that career decision responsibility has to be shared between the counselor and the student. The Career Decision Center staff finds it difficult to work without close cooperation of students who come in for career counseling.

Poth received both his BA and his MS degrees from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. While at Miami University, Poth formed Alpha Delt Singers, a fraternity folk group which sang at college functions ranging from after the game parties to the commencement exercises.

After graduating from Miami University, Poth served as the Career Co-ordinator of Co-operative Education



Richard Poth, COM Career Decision counselor, consults with Karen Atkinson on new class schedules. Staff Photo by Melanie Mayeaux

and Placement at Cleveland State University's College of Engineering. After two years, he took a job at COM because, "I felt it offered a more personalized and provocative learning environment."

Poth's interests include jogging, tennis, basketball, and music. If he's out of his office, Poth may be found jogging around campus with one of the COM physical education instructors.

Theatre Opens 1978-79 Season

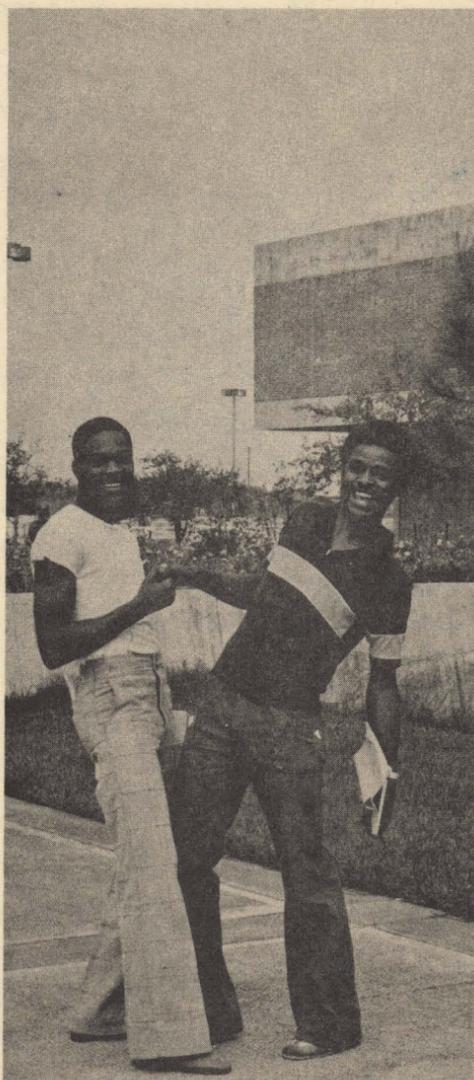
COM's Community Theatre is offering one of the most exciting packages ever assembled for their "Fanfare Season."

The season will open in October with "The Oldest Living Graduate," followed in February by "Macbeth," "The Fantasticks," the New Playwright Series III and "Hello Dolly."

Season tickets are still \$13.50 and a Guild membership is only \$18.50.

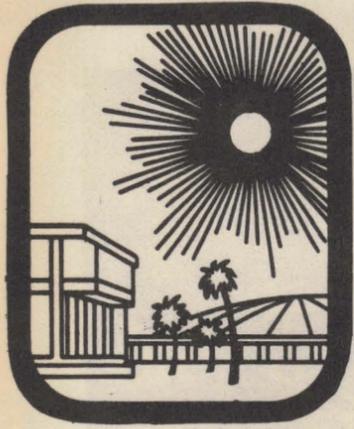
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INNER

VOL. 3, NO. 2
NOVEMBER, 1978



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County Health Inspectors Visit COM SnackBar

by Beverly A. Stephens and Karen B. Hoffman

An overall rating for the COM SnackBar was 68 on a scale of 100 when two Galveston County Health District officials inspected the snackbar at 2 PM, Wednesday, October 25, 1978.

Inspector Janet Greenwood said her inspections have an average score of "75-80." Inspector Greenwood and Terry Hensley found the snackbar had two infractions that demanded immediate action.

Greenwood said the most serious infraction concerned temperature controls in refrigerators and on the service line. The temperature in the refrigerated area was 50 degrees and should have been no higher than 45 degrees. The temperature on the service line was not high enough. Health District standards require the service line temperature should have been 140 degrees or higher.

According to Greenwood, this rule is necessary to keep bacteria from growing. Most bacteria remain active between the temperature ranges of 45 and 140 degrees.

The second infraction demanding immediate attention concerned hygienic practices in the snackbar

area, the health officer said. The rules concerned areas of employee hygiene and preparation of food.

Employees were breaking health ordinances by smoking, eating, and drinking in service, storage, and dishwashing areas.

Food items were also not properly labeled, in containers other than the original containers, and non-labeled containers. Foods in the refrigerator were not in proper order. Meats should be on bottom shelves so that blood cannot reach other foods.

Minor infractions in food contact service included a porcelain section on the meat slicer, Greenwood noted.

Greenwood and Hensley suggested chlorine test paper should be purchased for the dishwashing area and the bulk milk container on the service line be cleaned. They said dishwashing sink should be used only for dishwashing and the handwashing sink only for handwashing.

Also, the officials said snackbar employees must keep their personal belongings out of the service area and separate from single service items such as styrofoam cups.

One other suggestion was that the new electric stove be vented to the outside. Greenwood will notify the college after consulting Texas City building code.

Dave Rac, Director of Auxiliary Services, was present throughout the inspection and stated that measures would be taken to correct all infractions. Rac also took personal responsibility for the temperature of the refrigerator.

COM purchased a new refrigerator and the machine was freezing all canned drinks, so Rac turned the thermostat up.

After the infraction was brought to his attention, Rac turned the thermostat down again.

Greenwood and Hensley will return to the COM snackbar at a later date to assure that all infractions have been corrected.



Jean Jackson observes as Janet Greenwood inspects snackbar.

Photo by Dale Dixon

The deadline for refunding I.D. fees has been extended until July 1, 1979, according to Roland Smith of the COM Business Office. To date only about 35 percent of the total money collected for Identification Cards has been returned. To collect a refund, go by the Fee Payment Window in the Administration Building.

Snack Bar Expansion Delayed

by Melanie Mayeaux

Limited space, lack of funds, and a break-even economic structure have been stated as major setbacks in COM snack bar expansion, according to Edward Brown, Dean of Administrative Services.

"The primary design of the College Center snack bar was to provide students with cold sandwiches and snacks—not hot food. To expand menu variety would take more equipment and space. These changes are not economically feasible at this time.

"We operate the snack bar on a self-sustaining economic basis," continued Brown. "In 1976 and 1977, the snack bar operated with a \$4,600 deficit. In school year 1977-78, the deficit was cut to \$600." He attributed this to a 15 percent price increase and use of work-study employees.

Asked why the snack bar is not available for evening students, Brown replied, "We have tried to stay open until 9 PM in the past. Traffic was negligible and the cost was eating us up. That's why we have vending machines."

Snack bar hours are 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Thursday, and 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM Fridays. The grill closes approximately one hour earlier.

SURVEY: Alcohol on Campus

by Lisa E. Barnes and
Melanie Mayeaux

Approximately 69 percent of persons polled on the COM campus were in favor of allowing alcohol to be served on campus—ONLY for student and community functions.

Dr. Fred Taylor, COM President, stated his objections to alcohol on campus were the potential managerial, social, and legal problems. He said he saw no need for the "additional headache."

"There is no state law prohibiting alcohol on campus," said Ed Mabury, COM's attorney. "The liability problem is small but one to be considered. COM could be liable in cases involving motor vehicles and liquor after a driver left a COM-located function."

The issue of alcohol has remained an administrative decision. The issue has never been presented to the COM Board of Trustees for consideration, according to Dr. Taylor.

Info-Line

Confused about a classroom location? Looking for an instructor's office? Have a question about parking regulations, bookstore hours, where you go for a recreation pass—or any one of 101 questions you might have as a student at College of the Mainland?

There's help on the way. A new, campus-wide information system has been recently installed to help students, visitors and college personnel get answers quickly and accurately.

(See INFO-LINE, page 3)

Op Ed

COMSA

by Dee Grabow

Students who attend COM's Student Association (COMSA) meetings often find a lack of meaningful discussion and a general lack of purpose. Much of the reason for apparent non-direction lies in the nature of the relationship between COM and its traditional student government.

Article I (Rationale) of COMSA's constitution reads, "The community college student has little need for control; there is often enough of this in his existence at home and in the community...This situation then isolates one of the primary needs of the community college student, which is not presently capable of being met by traditional structures of student governance."

COMSA's function has been defined as "a catalyst for student participation in the community living development process." It is a "structure" under which students can exercise their rights and integrate their backgrounds into a wider scope of knowledge.

COMSA must have lost sight of its original purpose between the time the constitution was written and now. Announcements of meetings and a general attempt by COMSA officers to stimulate student interest in the organization has traditionally been lacking.

A very democratic way of handling the COM community development is at hand. The student body should make extra effort to participate and contribute any opinion, concerns, and interest at COMSA meetings.

Senior Alliance Active at COM

by Dee Grabow

The Alliance of Galveston County Adults, a senior citizens organization, is one of the most active groups on the COM campus.

Presently, AGCA members are participating in learning experiences on the student and faculty levels, distributing a monthly newsletter connecting 8,000 Galveston County citizens, and raising a memorial fund to build a senior citizens center on the COM campus.

Showing their initiative through involvement with COM, they are forming a committee to reach the administration in hope that COM will contact the government to support the project with a federal grant.

The benefit they expect from expanding is not just developing a senior citizens "social group," according to COM coordinator Sadie Poole, but to provide both communication and involvement. On the national level, 3,500,000 U.S. senior citizens have backed the 1971 child-care bill, lowering the voting age to 18, fought the war against poverty, and sought legal protection for consumers.

"We try to build relationships—to communicate and associate with each other, the young, and the administration of COM. We've got lots of life and usefulness left, and hope that people will call on us," says Louise Sutton, AGCA leader and member.

"We would like to break down segregation by age. Rather than adjust to an unjust society, we want to act as a change agent for people who wish to explore alternative ways to grow old in America today," said Larry Smith, Associate Dean, Continuing Education and Community Services.

Letters to the Editor

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

With the energy crisis going on COM should cut down on the air conditioning.

I'm sure I'm not the only one complaining about it being too cold in all the buildings.

Yours truly,
Marjan Morville

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I think COM would save money on their electricity bill if they would turn up the temperature.

A Student

COMSA Minutes

MINUTES; COMSA Meeting,
College Center, Room 212,
October 19, 1978.

Present: Officers Kurt Koopmann, Darlene Ellis, Paul LaValle, Beverly Stephens, Benson Sharp; Bob Smith, guest speaker.

Discussion of what the responsibilities are for each officer. Smith explained more fully what the jobs comprise, and how COMSA's financial system works. It was suggested that COMSA try to get on the monthly activity calendar, and contact Mary Danaczko about a COMSA newsletter. Discussion of October 28 PTK dance. Three COMSA officers would attend: Koopmann, Sharp, Ellis. Meetings will be held every other Thursday at 4 PM in CC 212. Meeting adjourned 5:45 PM.

EARLY
REGISTRATION
FOR SPRING, 1979

November 29, 30 & Dec. 1



Cindy Rook (right), Fall editor of FIREWHEEL, and Kit van Cleave of the Journalism Department proof copy for Fall edition of FIREWHEEL.

Photo by Melanie Mayeaux

Firewheel Prepares for Competition

by Beverly Stephens

FIREWHEEL goes on sale for \$1 on December 15 in LRC 223, Suite A.

FIREWHEEL is published by Journalism 211 students. This publication is about community people, and the history of Galveston County.

Alex Pratt, COM social science instructor and FIREWHEEL advisor, comments, "FIREWHEEL differs from other campus publications because it is entirely done by students who conduct their own interviews, complete their own graphics and layouts, and do their own printing.

"FIREWHEEL is the only interdisciplinary project on campus. Fac-

Questionnaire Results

by Marian J. Stein

Results of a questionnaire dealing with COM's Amburn Road and 1764 intersection showed some 127 people were polled—15 faculty members, eight staff members and 104 students. Of the available options, 71 people chose a traffic light, 64 chose an overpass, and six chose a policeman to direct traffic.

The majority of people polled chose to check more than one possible solution instead of a single one.

The questionnaires will be presented to officials who can make use of them in helping to solve the problem.

Women Meet

The Women's Center at COM had a meeting for area citizens and center personnel November 11.

An all-day series of seminars and lectures was designed to look at the problems of women in transition from homemaker to breadwinner, reported Wallace Dommert, temporary coordinator of the Women's Center.

The seminar series was set up to let participants choose topics such as "Property: His, Mine, or Ours?," and "Owning (and Expressing) My Own Feelings."

A special morning session on "Career Planning and Development for Women" gave participants a chance to look at strategies for making intelligent career choices suited to their interests, goals, and aptitudes.

For more information, please call 938-1211, Ext. 363 or 264.

ulty and students from three different divisions put FIREWHEEL together." The faculty advisors for FIREWHEEL are Pratt, Sandra Devall, Division of Industrial Education, and Kit van Cleave, Division of Humanities and Fine Arts.

This past spring FIREWHEEL won first place in the Webb Historical Society literary competition. According to Pratt, FIREWHEEL is getting ready for this spring's competition.

FIREWHEEL appears in the Library of Congress because "we were asked by the Library of Congress to send them copies and we do," stated Pratt.

Anyone wishing more information on FIREWHEEL should contact Pratt at extension 211.

INFO-LINE ANSWERS CAMPUS QUESTIONS

(Continued from page 1)

Called Info-line, the system involves a network of wall phones placed in strategic locations throughout the campus. Anyone with a campus-related question can pick up the phone, dial 227 and get an answer. At the other end of the Info-line phones is an Information Desk, located in the lobby of the Administration Building. The desk is staffed by knowledgeable and courteous college personnel from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The location of each of the red Info-line wall phones is as follows:

College Center

To the right of the
Bookstore entrance

Fine Arts Building

Left-hand wall before
entrance to theatre lobby

Learning Resources Center

Second floor

Outside Room 212

Math Science Building

Outside Main Office

Physical Education Complex

Lobby

So the next time you have a question, just dial 227 for an answer. Info-line phones are equipped to handle only inter-office calls and cannot be used to dial off-campus numbers.

MOVIE REVIEW

J. B. and Friends

by Cricket Ingraham

The ad said, "The whole country is waiting to see Jacqueline Bisset as you've never seen her before."

Even for a promise like that, I'm not one to spend a great deal of money, so I bought a twilight ticket to "Secrets," and settled in for a two-hour session of passive entertainment.

The movie opens with short shots of children's paintings accompanied by Janis-Joplin-style music. Pan to Jacqueline Bisset and her movie daughter going to a laundry. She is feeling badly because she and her husband had a fight. She decides to leave the washing to the daughter and go for a long walk.

She walks along a street bordering a park. A man driving a white Rolls Royce convertible spots JB. He picks up his car phone and tells his secretary to cancel his appointments, because he "has gone mad and had to be destroyed."

He parks his car and catches up to her, explaining that he thought she was someone he'd once known. She is incredulous at first. When he gives her his card and tells her to call, she

inevitably does. He tells her that she looks exactly like his dead wife. This gives her the motivation to dress up like his dead wife. The effect on him is profound, and they make love. He gives her a large portion of silk as a gift. She leaves.

Meanwhile, J.B.'s movie husband is going on an interview with a computer company. This job will mean the difference between his keeping his manhood or becoming a failure. He meets a beautiful blond at the interview. She takes too many pills because she is very tense. They make love. She gives him her little pill box as a gift. He leaves.

The abandoned daughter helps a young man do his laundry. They go to the place where he is a live-in gardener. She helps him work around the yard. He gives her a large potted azalea. She leaves.

The family all assembles at home. The wife gives the silk to her husband. The husband gives the pill box to the wife. The daughter gives her father the azalea. They all grew that day, they give away gifts, and they all keep their secrets.

It was not *too* offensive.

Artist Uses Natural Forms

by Dee Grabow

"My prints are often box or maze constructions set in a natural environment," says COM graphics professor Mona Marshall. "The entire process from first to final drawing allows room for exploration and change."

"I have tried, above all, not to disturb the reflective—almost ethereal—presence of forms," she says.

Marshall is integrating interesting and valid ideas about nature through her work as an artist. She says insects represent a kind of pure energy which

she depicted intensely at one stage of her career. Since then, she has integrated them into backgrounds as representations of different levels of thought and meaning.

Besides insects, she has used trees, women, and Arabic writing (which Marshall discovered while studying in Europe) in the same manner—to bring out pure qualities.

Marshall's skill and knowledge cannot be fully appreciated without considering her work's profound connections with the subconscious thought and growth process. Her themes in art celebrate individual growth and accomplishment.

Smeltzer Concert

Susan Smeltzer, COM artist-in-residence, performed Ravels' G Major Concerto with the Florida Symphony in Miami, Florida, recently under the baton of Maestro Brian Priestman.

The gala event was on the Pops Concert Series (all-Spanish evening) at Gusman Cultural Center. Pianist Smeltzer shared the program with world-famous flamenco guitarist, Carlos Montoya. Smeltzer was interviewed over the classical music station, WTMI, with Priestman hosting, on "Philharmonic Focus" shortly after her arrival in Miami.

Art Gallery

COM's Art Gallery has attracted more than 25,000 viewers in five years of operation, reported Carol Veth, Gallery Coordinator. The 54 exhibits in the Gallery have included all areas of art—photographs, pottery, painting, sculpture, prints, weaving, and rope sculpture.

"Beginning two years ago the COM-PASS—New Directions program started a new tradition of bringing the artist, as well as the exhibit, to the campus to meet with students and the community," Veth noted.

Harvey Bott, noted sculptor, will create a work to be installed by November 20 especially for the gallery space, according to Veth. "Our policy of showing only professional artists of the highest caliber make COM's Art Gallery the only place between Houston and Galveston where exhibitions of this quality can be seen," she said.

BEETHOVEN
BIRTHDAY FESTIVAL
December 17, 1978 — 3:00 p.m.
Fine Arts Building



Esprit in Theatre

by Lisa E. Barnes

"Something very good is going on right here at COM, something very productive. Not long ago, there were three major theatre productions in rehearsal at the same time in the Fine Arts Center," Roger Stallings exclaims.

Stallings, COM's newly appointed Theatre/Speech instructor, attributes this esprit to the amount of progress made in the Fine Arts program. "For example, the production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" was offered to COM students for credit in their Fine Arts classes," he pointed out.

After being the Drama director at Dickinson High School for three



The contagious enthusiasm of Roger Stallings, COM's new Theatre/Speech instructor, finds its way into his classroom.
Photo by Melanie Mayeaux

years and earning his MA from University of Houston at Clear Lake, Stallings was ready to grow with COM's Fine Arts program. He feels that teaching gives personal satisfaction.

"I want students at COM to understand that going to college can include self-expression as well as learning a vocation. Developing the self is a basic need. Art lets people express themselves," he explains.

Stallings has been most active as an actor, choreographer, and director in numerous community shows. He is the director-choreographer for "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." His most challenging role as an actor, Chuck Baxter, was in the production "Promises, Promises." Playing one of the most complex male leads in American theatre, Stallings was only off stage for ten minutes in a three-hour show. The part had impromptu interplay with the audience. "A good actor knows there are no small roles, just small actors. Unity and ensemble make good theatre," he says.

Stallings adds, "I would like the opportunity to act in one Broadway show before I die. If the chance arises, I would have a difficult decision. The

actor in me says go, while the husband in me says stay. I'm not nomadic. I like security and organization."

Currently Stallings is on the Board of Directors at Clear Creek Country Theatre and in the COM Theatre Guild.

Roger and his wife, Jan, are expecting their first production, a baby, in January, and he says, "What a hit that will be!"



MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM THE INTERCOM STAFF!!

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LARGE OUTDOOR WORKS
5 CAMPUS SITES
6 YR DoV^(®) SURVEY
20 SERIES EXAMPLES
LIBRARY MEZZANINE

NOV. 20 - JAN. 10
OPENING, NOV. 20
8-10 PM

"Fanfare Season" Opens at COM

COM's Community Theatre is offering one of the most exciting theatre packages ever assembled for the "Fanfare Season."

The 1978-79 season opened October 28 with "The Oldest Living Graduate," the third play in Preston Jones' Texas trilogy. The play was produced concurrently with "The Last Meeting of the Knights of the White Magnolia" at Clear Creek Country Theatre, and "Lu Anne Hampton Laverty Oberlander" at UH/CLC.

The second show of the season will be "Macbeth," February 8-24. "The Fantasticks," New York's longest running musical, will follow April 5-28. New Playwright Series III will run May 29-June 29. Closing the season will be "Hello, Dolly!" July 12-August 4.

Ticket prices for season tickets will remain at \$13.50. In addition, a COM Theatre Guild Membership is now available which includes all shows plus a special holiday production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," to run November 30 through December 10.

John Lozica of Dickinson will play

Charlie Brown, with Eric O'Neal of Dickinson as Schroeder and Andrea Miller of Clear Lake as Lucy. Snoopy will be played by Billy Nowell of Alvin, and Linus by "Chocs" Landgrebe of Channelview. Kathy Moore of League City and Randy McDonald of Texas City have been cast as Patty and Woodstock, respectively.

The character Pig Pen, famous for his lack of basic hygiene, will be performed by Doug Renquist of Houston. Debbie Osborne and Kathleen Curtis, both of Texas City, will play the parts of Margie and Sally. League City resident Laurie Swalin will play piano for the production. Michelle Robinson, Hitchcock, plays Violet.

"It is noteworthy that all cast members are also enrolled students at College of the Mainland—our first 100% student production," commented Roger Stallings, director of the show.

Theatre scholarship student Vanda Edwards will stage manage the production, with Kene Arnold of Texas City serving as music director.

For more information about guild membership or to make theatre reservations, call 938-1211, Ext. 345.



"You're A Good Man Charlie Brown" cast prepares for the November 30th opening at COM. Photo by Melanie Mayeaux

Theatre Guild

Community Theatre's drive for Theatre Guild members brought in an all-time high of 755 subscribers, reported Reggie Schwander, coordinator of the drive.

"The public realized what a bargain Theatre Guild memberships are," Schwander noted.

Members received reserved seat tickets to five plays, reserved seats at the Holiday Special performance of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," discounts on group theatre tours, free admission to all COM art events, workshops, special invitations to all Guild parties and receptions.

Theatre First for Bay Area

Preston Jones' Texas Trilogy

Review by Betty Nolley

"Texas Trilogy," a series of three plays by Preston Jones, opened with the Clear Creek Country Theatre (CCCT) production of "The Last Meeting of the Knights of the White Magnolia" October 26. "Lu Ann Hampton Laverty Oberlander" followed at UH/CLC October 27, and "The Oldest Living Graduate" opened at COM Community Theatre October 26. Overall, COM's theatre-in-the-round production was the most compelling.

"Trilogy" centers around the inter-related lives of 27 characters, residents of the small, fictional West Texas town of Bradleyville from 1953 to 1973.

Darwin Miller directed the CCCT

production, Robert G. Everding the UH/CLC play, and Jack Westin the COM Community Theatre show.

The seedy hotel meeting room of the Knights, designed by Miller, was a good background for their equally seedy organization. Lighting effects were outstanding. Jon Middent's sets for "Lu Ann" were also imaginative and expressed the mood of the different actors of the same role from one play to another gave increased depth and insight to the characterization.

For example, Col. J. C. Kincaid, mentor of the Knights, in "Last Meeting" is played by Frank Andrews, and in "The Oldest Living Graduate" by Harold Suggs.

The Colonel is the most memorable individual in the series, striving to preserve what he perceives as the traditions of his Texas heritage in spite of the encroachments of modernization and population growth. The main theme of the plays is the toll exacted by time on people and their dreams.

In "The Last Meeting of the Knights of the White Magnolia," the ineffectual, anachronistic Knights' lodge gets its first new initiate in five years, Lonnie Ray McNeil, played by Cliff Mabry and Spencer Trask.

Skip Hampton, Gene Ogle, and other members (played by Mike Fisher, Ervin F. Cox, Paul Hensley and Mike Wagle) are eager to proceed to the liquid refreshments,

furnished by saloon-keeper Jim Richards, which normally conclude their meetings. When Skip finally gets his drink, he downs it with a toast to Simcoe, who founded the Knights by splitting off from the Klan.

Kincaid's mind flickers on and off like the lodge's light-bulb cross and ranges from his exploits with Black Jack Pershing, pursuing Pancho Villa in Mexico, to the horrors of World War I battlefields. His most loyal supporter is a black janitor, played by Raymond Pierre.

The CCCT cast makes the most of many funny lines, particularly about alcoholic Skip. His character is developed more thoroughly in "Lu Ann Hampton Laverty Oberlander," in which he is played by Arthur Glen Hughes.

Exploring the marriages, careers and eventual maturity of Lu Ann, Marilyn Rogers, the second play has good laughs, but is basically more serious. Her relationship with her high school boyfriend, Jim Hackett, her two husbands, Dale and Corky (played by Steven Ford and Ricky Goodnight), her daughter, Lynette Perkins, her mother, Susan Meyers, and brother Skip confirm the essential dependency of family members on each other.

"The Oldest Living Graduate" continues this theme in its dissection of the Kincaid family. The Colonel's wheeler-dealer son Floyd, Jesse Loya, and his partner, played by Gus Babb,

maneuver to develop a sub-division on the last of the Kincaid land, which has sentimental value for the old man. Floyd's wife Maureen, Jodi St. Cyr, tries unsuccessfully to mediate their differences. Kaaren Beale is Babb's sarcastic wife.

The Mirabeau B. Lamar Military Academy plans to honor the Colonel, who is its oldest living graduate, with a huge celebration, attended by important people from all over the state. The Major, R. C. Anderson, and a cadet, James McDougle, come to insist on Kincaid's participation.

The humor of the Knights deepens into tragedy as these "bumble-dicking" characters drain the old man's physical strength and the conflicts strain his indomitable spirit.

A champagne opening was given on October 26 after the performance by CCCT, and a party featuring Lone Star beer and music by the Mavericks, a country-western group, concluded the UH/CLC opening October 27. On October 28, COM had a reception for the cast and audience, serving hot cider, cheese dip and cookies.

"Texas Trilogy" was first produced at the Dallas Theatre Center, where Jones, 42, is playwright-in-residence. It also was presented in Washington, D.C. and on Broadway in 1976. "The Last Meeting" was given by Alley Theatre, and the other plays have been staged in the Houston area. But the three plays have not been staged simultaneously here before. Jones could not attend the opening.

A HOLIDAY SPECIAL —
"You're a Good Man Charlie Brown"

ARENA THEATRE
COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND

Nov. 30	8:00 pm
Dec. 1	8:00 pm
Dec. 2	2:30 pm
	8:00 pm
Dec. 3	2:30 pm
Dec. 5	8:00 pm
Dec. 6	8:00 pm
Dec. 7	8:00 pm
Dec. 8	8:00 pm
Dec. 9	2:30 pm
	8:00 pm
Dec. 10	2:30 pm



Doyle Appointed to Scholarship Committee

Dan Doyle, COM Director of Financial Aid, has been selected as one of a five-member team to serve on the Moody Scholarship Committee.

The committee's responsibility, according to Doyle, will be to evaluate scholarship applications from Galveston County, and make selections based upon need and ability of applicants. "The Moody Educational Opportunities Program places great emphasis upon the value of a college education and desirability of assisting able, but needy, young people to obtain college training," he said.

Others serving on the committee are Dr. Alfred Neumann, Chancellor of the UHCLC; Dr. Andrew Johnston, Vice-President of Lamar University; Gloria Haywood, Supervisor of Special Services at UTMB; and Dr. Bob Bennett, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School at UTMB.

Doyle was selected to speak before the Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (TASFAA) meeting in Arlington October 5. He discussed proper funding and utilization of college work-study programs and desired legislative and administrative changes.

Doyle will also serve on a Panel of Experts which has been constituted to review and restructure documents and procedures in the financial aid offices of institutions which have experienced difficulties during federal audits.

Another reported development is COM's selection as the training site for Bay Area Counselors in operation of the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant program of the Federal Government. Attending will be the state trainer and high school counselors from the area.

Ramirez Speaks in Africa

Dr. Fern Ramirez, COM Dean of Student and College Services, left for the Sub-Saharan African countries of Chad and Ivory Coast November 12 to lecture and take part in seminars on educational reform.

The workshop, presented under the auspices of the International Communications Agency, is designed to help the people of Chad and Ivory Coast to modernize their educational systems. Dr. Ramirez will work in the areas of curriculum development, educational planning and administration with representatives of UNESCO and the SWISSAID mission sent from Switzerland.

COM Plans Ski Class, Trip

Can someone in Texas really learn to ski in just two lessons?

COM's Physical Education and Recreation Division has a course to prove it. Snow Skiing, a non-credit class, will hold its first session on campus November 30 from 7-10 PM. This class will be a lecture-discussion on skiing, equipment, and warm-up exercises. On the following two Saturdays, December 2 and 9, instruction will be given on an indoor ski trainer at Ski Houston in Pasadena. Students will be able to select one hour each day between 10AM-7PM for lessons.

The indoor trainer has proven to be a very successful method of instruction, simulating the experience of moving down a slope without involving the problems of having to go to a ski area.

"Considering the specialized equipment being used, I believe Gulf Coast residents who are interested in this sport will find the \$27 fee to be extremely reasonable," commented Dan Travaille, COM's Physical Education Director. "The alternative is a trip to Colorado, and \$27 will barely get you to the airport. Last year we had over 40 people in two classes, and consequently we felt the class was worth repeating this year."

After the class is finished Physical

Education and Recreation is offering two trips to the slopes. First comes a trip to Winter Park December 17 through December 21. One of the largest and most carefully groomed resorts in the Rockies, the Winter Park/Mary Jane Mountains make a superb family area. This trip was specially planned to allow participants to enjoy the special excitement of Christmas holiday skiing, yet be back in time to celebrate at home. Cost for the trip is just \$250 and reservations must be completed by November 15.

The second trip features Spring skiing at Keystone, a beautifully-designed resort patterned after contemporary European areas. Departure is March 19, returning March 23. The Keystone package is only \$265 with a reservation deadline of February 15, 1979.

Both trips include round trip airfare, four nights accommodations, lift tickets for three days, transportation between Denver and the ski area, daily shuttle service between the lodging and ski area and tour escort service. The only additional expenses for participants are meals and possibly equipment rental and/or lessons.

For reservations or further information contact Dan Travaille, 938-1211, Ext. 418.

L5 Society Reorganizes

COM's L-5 Society will hold its monthly meeting in the Physics Lab, S-148, on November 29 at 7 PM.

Current members are requested to respond if they are planning to

RECORDED FOLKLORE EXPRESSES CULTURE

"I wanted to capture the wit and wisdom of old Mexican sayings before it was too late," stated

Benjamin Lopez, author of *Dichos Folkloricos*, a collection of Mexican-American proverbs issued by Division of Continuing Education.

Lopez, born in 1901 in Piedras Negras, Mexico, immigrated to the United States in 1912. He has enjoyed writing poetry for many years, but did not start to collect and preserve the sayings he heard through the years until he was 60 years old.

"Folk sayings, like folk music and folk dancing, are direct expressions of the culture of a people, and Don Benjamin Lopez has given us an opportunity to read folk-sayings of the Mexican-American culture in either Spanish or English," commented Dr. Zelda Rick, Director of Special Programs in Community Education.

remain active in the chapter.

Non-members interested in space colonization and exploration, the future of our country, and personal needs should plan to attend.

The November meeting will include election of officers and a planning session. Future meetings and activities will include films, speakers, and special activities.



Benjamin Lopez, author of *Dichos Folkloricos*, a collection of Mexican-American proverbs issued by the Division of Continuing Education.

GCCFA Plans New Years Travel Package

COM and the Gulf Coast Council on Foreign Affairs have teamed up again to provide constituents a unique travel package.

On December 31, local residents may travel to Dallas via Southwest Airlines, check-in at the fabulous Statler Hilton where they will be treated to a two-hour New Year's Eve "Cocktail Initiator." Total trip cost is \$160.

The next day they will be transported by bus to the Cotton Bowl, then back to their hotel for a free evening.

On the 2nd they will be transported to the Dallas Museum for the opening of Pompeii 79 A.D., an exhibit which promises to surpass King Tut.

A full itinerary may be obtained by calling 938-1211, Ext. 225.

Fronczak Designs Trilogy Set

TEXAS CITY.....John Fronczak, an art instructor and exhibiting artist, considers the stage an extension of his canvas. He is currently putting his conviction into practice at COM where he designed the set for "The Oldest Living Graduate," one play in Preston Jones' Texas Trilogy, which opened in the Arena Theatre October 26 and ran through November 11.

He thinks there is nothing unusual in the broad artistic reach he has set for himself. "I handle set design the same way I do a painting," he explained. "I use colors, textures, sizes and proportions to create an effect."

There is a single difference between painting and set design, he hastens to add. "Rather than working at my canvas by myself, I must incorporate my ideas with those of two other minds—the director and technical director—and come up with a visual

form of what they are thinking."

Fronczak found "The Oldest Living Graduate" a fascinating challenge.

"The trick is to put together the pieces to create an authentic atmosphere. For example, the play is set in a home built in the early 1900's. The den, in which the action takes place, is a masculine room, but one can see that a woman is beginning to have her influence on the decor," he explained.

Despite the pull of the theatre, oils are Fronczak's favorite medium. He has had one-man shows at the Montalvo Center for the Arts in Saratoga, California; The University of Houston, Clear Lake City and the O-Edge Gallery in College Corners, Indiana. He has also exhibited at the University of Houston's Blaffer Gallery; COM; the Experimental Gallery at Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio; and in a

show sponsored by the Assistance League of Houston.

Fronczak received his bachelor's degree in art from California State College, Stanislaus, and his Master's of Fine Arts from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Before joining the staff of UH-CLC, he taught part-time at Wright State University and Miami University.

"The Oldest Living Graduate" is not Fronczak's first play. He has designed the set for "Enrico IV" at UH/CLC (during which he met his wife, Janice, an actress who is now with Houston's Comedy Workshop) and "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie," which his wife directed, at Clear Creek Country Theatre. His assignments have been concentrated in the realm of realism and he is now anxious to try fantasy or something off-beat, such as a contemporary interpretation of Shakespeare.

DEC. 1978

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			CLUB FRIDAY 1 2 HOLIDAY SPECIAL - "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" Arena Theatre, 8:00 pm Reservations - 938-1211, ext. 345		
RACQUETBALL Tournament			LIBRARY OPEN until 10:00 pm		
RACQUETBALL Tournament			CLUB FRIDAY TWO CHINA DEBATE 7:30 pm Teaching Aud.		
LIBRARY OPEN until 10:00 pm			CLUB FRIDAY Special Discussion: Pornography - Do We Want It In Our Town? 7:30 pm College Center		
DISCO Workshop			SEMESTER ENDS		
LIBRARY OPEN until 10:00 pm			HITCHCOCK Basketball		
WINTER PARK SKI TRIP → → → → → → → → → →					
HITCHCOCK Basketball			HITCHCOCK Basketball		
CHRISTMAS DAY			NEW YEAR'S DAY		
S M T W T F S JANUARY 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					

Happy Holidays



PROFILE on PEOPLE



Tom Herman

by Karen Hoffman

"We see people the way we create them. We are totally responsible for our own lives," says Tom Herman, counselor in the counseling division at COM.

Herman also teaches classes in psychology and upholstery, and gives a human potential seminar at COM. He has developed another human potential seminar for married and non-married couples, to be offered in the spring on Thursday nights from 5:45 to 8:35 PM.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Herman has lived in Indiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, and California. He spent five years in the U.S. Navy and worked as an upholsterer for 20 years before he quit because he "was ready for a change."

Herman attended Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene and U of T in Austin. He majored in psychology and counseling, with minors in sociology and sociological psychology. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and a masters degree in educational psychology.



Tom Herman creates an image for the photographer.

Photo by Dale Dixon

Married in Canada, Herman has two children—a boy, 12, and a girl, nine. When asked what his hobbies were, Herman replied, "I'm so busy enjoying life I don't have much time for hobbies. I see life as a game, and people play at games, so I play at life."

Regrettable Edibles

by Lori Cripe

Finding myself in semi-poverty one day, I shopped in the de-labeled, marked-down, God-only-knows-what section of the supermarket. I've not had a dull time since! I've grown used to the strange and bizarre characteristics of drastically-reduced groceries.

This morning I was awakened by the wafting aroma of perking coffee. I hadn't turned on the coffee pot, and I live alone. I stumbled into the kitchen to investigate, only to find Mrs. Olsen perking coffee from an unmarked can.

After canning Mrs. Olsen, I decided to make some toast for breakfast. I grabbed a loaf of Wonderbread and heard giggles. "Help! I've been reaped!" the bread shouted. I knew this was supposed to be *fresh* bread, but *tacky*?

When lunchtime rolled around, I took an unlabeled can from the pan-

try, and opened it. Out jumped a huge man with a football in one hand and a Tyler rose in the other, singing "Give me the Campbell life!" (This guy must've eaten a lot of vegetable-Beevo soup!)

I was starving by now. I had bought a can of biscuits but had not checked the expiration date. When I rapped the can against the counter, "*Wa-boom!*"—the Pillsbury Dough Boy came exploding out, spilling his guts all over me, the floor, the ceiling. I still shudder when I think of his last words, "You kneaded me, you kneaded me!" From now on, when someone asks me if I want a roll, I say "I'll just walk!"

I finally resigned myself to bargain peanut butter, when, shades of *Beach Blanket Bingo*, Annette Funny-jello informed me that Skippy Peanut Butter is made with fresh-roasted nuts and has no cholesterol. Frankly, Annette, I don't give a jam!

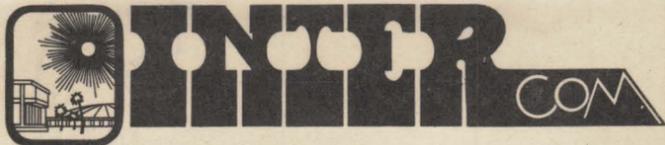
Have you ever felt lonely, been short on cash, and slightly hungry? If so, just open up a can of bargain beans, and see who pops up to "shoot the breeze." Never again will you be bored if you have mystery meals in your cupboard. You may even have a "Roast Encounter of the Absurd Kind."

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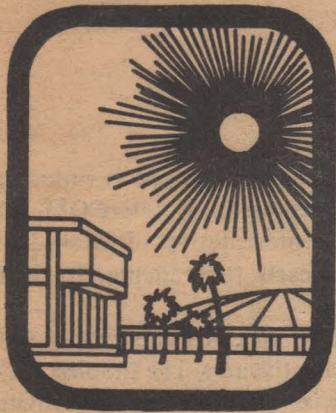


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Another typical day at COM—
Photo by Melanie Mayeaux





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VICE-PRESIDENT OF COMSA RESIGNS

by Melanie Mayeaux

Beverly Stephens, COM's Student Association (COMSA) vice-president of instruction, officially announced her resignation Wednesday, January 31.

Stephens stated her major reason for resigning was COMSA's ineffectiveness as an organization.

"I felt as if it was a waste of my time," said Stephens in a recent interview. "The organization wasn't doing anything effective for students.

"The common answer to COMSA's lack of activities is that COM is a commuter college, and therefore there is little student interest. I don't believe this to be the complete answer. I feel the bureaucracy of this college, by giving COMSA no encouragement or any real decisive power, makes the organization ineffective," she said.

"Until COMSA is ready to challenge the 'COM-students-really-don't-care' attitude, the organization will remain totally ineffective. Unfortunately, with the present structure, I don't see change as an immediate possibility."



Tom Herman, COM counselor, advises a student at registration. Due to increasing number of students, this phase of advisement is difficult to manage. Photo by Melanie Mayeaux

New Group Coordinates Advisement

by Lisa E. Barnes

Late in Fall Semester 1978 Robert Shinn, Associate Dean for Learning Resources, was selected to coordinate student advisement. Robert Johnston, Director of Admissions/Registrar, and Dr. Warren Dodson, Manager of Counseling and Human Development Studies, are acting together with Shinn to complete the program. The three men have met several times to coordinate specific goals and problems which overlap into their specialized areas.

"Because of a loosely-organized system," states Shinn, "folks haven't known who was actually responsible for the Student Advisement Program."

Shinn feels that one of the group's priorities is to assure that the Permit to Register (PTR) form is complete, providing all the necessary information.

"There are two problems connected with the PTR," Shinn says. "Many schools are slow in sending out a student's transcript, and the computer at COM is not always available for the Admissions Office use."

"I feel positive about the program at this point because in the near future—possibly Fall Semester of 1979—many inconsistencies will be eliminated," says Shinn.

Shinn also stated that another problem occurs during enrollment. During that time, advisement, scheduling, and testing are being held

at the same time.

"At early registration for Spring of 1979, approximately 1,100-1,200 students enrolled. It then becomes difficult to help the student on all phases," Shinn pointed out.

Taylor Claims Protests Unfounded

by Melanie Mayeaux
and Marian J. Stein

A classification and compensation system for COM non-faculty staff members, adopted by the COM Board of Trustees in spring 1978, has been appealed by 36 of 250 employees.

The new system was recommended by Hayes and Associates, a Chicago research firm.

COM President Dr. Fred Taylor, in a recent InterCOM interview, said he felt the protests of

disgruntled employees were "unfounded" because ample information had been given all employees prior to passage of the system.

The purpose of the study and new system, explained Taylor, was to provide an effective compensation program for non-faculty staff members.

"An institution of this size must have a method to determine proper compensation for duties performed," said Taylor. "With this system, we now have a way."

"When representatives of Hayes and Associates arrived on-campus, faculty and staff meetings were held to explain a Hayes developed classification system in detail. This system is now in use at more than 30 U.S. institutions of higher learning. The importance of the Position Description Questionnaire (used to determine classifications for salaries) was stressed. After Hayes and Associates representatives presented a recommended model, employees has a chance to appeal, update, or rework the questionnaire.

"Salary increases," said Taylor, "will be decided by the Board. If an increase is approved, the minimum and maximum salary levels will be raised throughout the entire system of COM compensation."

"Each employee has the option to appeal for reclassification," said Taylor. "The Board will review these requests once a year. The appeal can

New Structure For Counseling Center

by Kathleen Curtis

Dr. Warren Dodson has replaced Bob Smith as supervisor of COM's Counseling and Human Development.

After Smith resigned from COM's administrative staff in September 1978, the Counseling and Development, Career Decisions, and Student Life groups were combined. Under Dodson's supervision, the capabilities of these groups have been expanded to include a human development non-credit course, and incorporate the COM Women's Center.

Since becoming supervisor, Dodson has further developed the Total Learning Center (TLC) in the Learning Resources Center (LRC). This program combined reading and writing labs, and made a counselor available in the LRC Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. He also made a counselor available in the Career Decisions Center Monday through Thursday from 8 AM to 8 PM to "better serve students enrolled in evening classes."

The new mini-course added to the curriculum as part of the TLC is a human development non-credit course, directed by Tom Herman. The course is designed for couple interaction, and began January 1979.

The Woman's Center is located on the mezzanine of the LRC and headed by Barbara Crews. (See elsewhere in this issue for more details on the Women's Center. - ed.)

Present counselors are Herman, Chester Stout, Roy Walker, Leroy August, and Dodson in the Career Decisions Center. These staffers also rotate on a four hour basis in the LRC. Dr. Althea Choates is the technical-vocational counselor in the Tec-Voc building.

(continued on page 3)

(continued on page 3)

Op Ed

CON...

PRO

by Melanie Mayeaux

Intelligence is defined by Ayn Rand in *The New Left* as "The ability to deal with a broad range of abstractions." It separates humans from other life species.

The human power to reason in a logical or rational manner is one of our greatest assets; using this power for the betterment of oneself is our greatest achievement. How does anyone gain the knowledge necessary to fully develop mental and intellectual potential? The traditional way in America is through public and formal education.

Educational institutions in the U.S. are at least meant to be organized storehouses of knowledge. Their function is to provide those who approach them with information or training in both specific and general areas. The present system requires by law that American children attend public school until the age of 16. After that point, it is each student's voluntary choice as to whether or not he or she continues.

The main reason most people continue to study is to gain a more effective use of the power of intelligence. This power -- and this power alone -- gives people the singularly human ability to create wealth.

Strengthening any human's ability to produce a self-chosen, satisfactory work is a most positive aspect of education. Academic institutions should continue to update their programs to ever-more-fully develop each person's chosen goals and potential.

Unfortunately, the present U.S. education system generally does not promote creative or individual thought. Most instructors conduct an exercise in memorization; students often pattern what they think, instead of how. By restricting human individualism and self-actualization (inefficient qualities to those interested in controlling people), industrial and technological advancements are also restricted.

Our schools are outstanding in that they are still offering a variety of fields of study, through which people *choose* and gain competence in their academic specialties. They are lacking -- in their "factory" approach.

by Bobby Hanna

A widely accepted American idea is that college is essential to anyone determined to succeed in our highly-specialized and intergrated society.

Certainly, there are those who, through some combination of chance and financial planning, achieve a degree of success without advanced degrees. "Financial" is the buzzword, for the U.S. criterion for measuring every person's worth is economic success.

Americans may admire a poet or sympathize with a social crusader, but pay most homage to industrial giants. The name of a successful businessman may not be as familiar to the reader as that of Ralph Nader but it is not supposed to be; a more subtle technique of deference perpetuates his power.

Though not all college-educated people become industrial giants, the largest percentage of industrial giants are college-educated. The remainder of those with college degrees play a lesser role in the capitalist system. Colleges are instruments of a far-from-perfect society to sustain its own imperfections.

Popular rhetoric outlines the functions of our education institutions as for "higher learning." They are not so much concerned with "higher learning" as with "higher earning." Colleges produce the majority of those who become America's elite. In doing so, colleges profoundly shape the opinions and judgements of the elite. If the elitists dominating our society show little concern for the public (i.e., the "public be damned" attitude originating in the late 1800s), then our learning institutions have failed.

Colleges are often a laboratory for the development of ideas. Social change often has its organized beginnings on U.S. campuses, as evidenced by the antiwar and civil rights movements in the 1960s. Karl Marx developed many of his ideas at the University of Bonn. Social change does not originate on-campus, as many still believe. As Kautsky wrote, "The first impulse for all social change comes from economic conditions. "But the idea of change is developed to a large degree on campuses. If our colleges are but another means by which multinational corporations perpetuate themselves, then what stimulae exist for ideological variation and change?"

What we see is a veritable academic wasteland, where the original priorities and values of education have been altered to accomodate economic feasibility. Our learning institutions yearly produce countless accountants, teachers, and architects. Short of flooding the market with fresh elitist material, what do these people accomplish? They are little concerned with betterment of mankind.

The college's concern is continuance of institutions. Robert Kennedy observed that the future of a nation is "determined by the opinions of the young people under the age of 25." If these young people have few worthy ideas or opinions, what may one deduce about the future of America?

COUNSELING CENTER

(cont. from page 1)

The counselors' primary responsibility is to "meet the needs of the students," says Dodson. "They discharge this responsibility through human development courses, career orientation, and practical classroom experience."

"It is ironic how reluctant people can be to identify themselves," says Dodson. "We go to a doctor on a regular basis but we neglect our heads. We tend to forget that life is a growth experience. You can go through life and not grow at all. The decision is up to the individual."

Dodson holds a BA in biology and chemistry from University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, and an MA in guidance counseling and juvenile correction from Southern Illinois University. He secured his doctorate in counseling education from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Dodson has worked for the state of Illinois as a research scientist at the Institute of Social Policy and for the governor's office. In Arkansas, he was veteran counselor and Director of Veteran Affairs at West Ark Community College.

TAYLOR CLAIMS

(cont. from page 1)

come from the employee himself, or his immediate supervisor."

Information provided by a recent InterCOM poll of college employees showed that major criticism of the system was two-fold. Employees felt that only vague and inconclusive information was available about the system, and there was no resolution of what happens when the maximum salary range is reached.

The percentage of 36 of 250 employees (14.4 percent), according to Taylor, was an appeal level "well within the recommended effectiveness guidelines established by Hayes and Associates." He pointed out that some appealing employees, because of new information and increased job duties, will be eligible for possible reclassification when the COM Board reviews status of employees in 1979.

"Had Hayes and Associates not explained the system throughly, the criticisms would be founded," Taylor said.

"Whenever you deal with people's jobs, there will always be some dissatisfaction," he said. "I believe this system will prove productive to everyone, in the long run."

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PROFILE on PEOPLE



by Nancy Schultz

Kit van Cleave, COM instructor in English and Journalism, is librettist of a song cycle entitled "Day of Love," which will be performed February 25 at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, in New York City.

Fourteen poems from van Cleave's first poetry book, *Day of Love*, have been set to music by American composer Thomas Pasatieri. The song cycle will be interpreted by the distinguished U.S. mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade.

Two other cycles have also been set by Pasatieri from van Cleave's second book of poetry, *Amourette*, which was given initial publication in November 1978.

This is van Cleave's first year to be a full-time instructor at COM. She had previously taught part-time for three years at COM. After a long-time career in corporate public affairs, she began free-lance writing fulltime in 1976.

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COLLEGE CENTER

(For Info. contact Brenda Brown/JoAnn Pevoto at ext. 214.)

Communications Labs Meshed

by Betty Monych

COM's reading and writing labs were combined January 4 after six months of planning.

The labs were combined "to provide adequate services to the total college and to utilize our staff to the maximum capacity," said Total Learning Center sponsor Dorothy Crockett.

She and Brent Jarrett help 250-275 students per week with both reading and writing.

"The facilities are open to anyone who wants to improve reading and writing skills. People who come to us need assistance with writing skills - organization of paragraphs, grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Professionals come in to take speed-reading courses. High school students come who want to better prepare for college," said Crockett.

Students who come to the Total Learning Center are those sent by their English teachers, drop-ins who feel they need help with reading or writing skills, or those presently enrolled in reading and writing courses.

"The first time I became interested in journalism was when I was eight years old," van Cleave says. "My sister and I wrote a newspaper and printed it by hand. All about the gossip of our friends' parents. It really seemed a success, because all the kids bought the first issue to read the gossip about everybody's parents. Then the adults bought out the second issue to see what the gossip was. My parents prevented subsequent issues," she recalls. The paper sold for two cents.

Van Cleave did not become interested in a writing career until her sophomore year at North Texas State University in Denton. She went to college as a pre-med major, but changed her mind "after trying to cut up frogs."

She began publishing poetry that year in the *Avesta*, NTSU's literary magazine, which had published other NTSU students like Larry McMurtry. In addition to writing poetry, she has sold her first novel, and is currently writing a second about Houston Grand Opera. She continues to write monthly columns of American magazines, among them *Houston Home and Garden*.

She notes with a wistful grin that writing is a lonely profession and adds, "That's one reason I'm so thrilled to be at COM, with interesting and committed people who share my basic value system."

If she were not a writer, what profession would she like to pursue?

"I'd like to be a piano player in a dark bar," she says.

Biology Students

by Betty Nolley

Paul Williamson, COM biology teacher, reports he has taken two groups of 15 students each to Texas Heart Institute at St. Luke's Hospital to view open heart surgery.

He plans to take at least one more group this spring.

Since 80 percent of COM's biology students are in nursing or allied health fields, he explained, the opportunity to see real operations in progress gives the students a preview of the work they will actually be doing after graduation.

Students saw coronary by-pass surgery and several other operations from the viewing dome directly above three operating rooms in St. Luke's, Williamson said. The procedures were very efficient and the doctors highly specialized, he continued.

Williamson has discussed with officials of University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) at Galveston, about allowing COM students to view dissected cadavers and video tapes used in training UTMB students. A few of the tapes were seen at night by COM students, and Williamson plans to look at the entire collection this summer, in an effort to select those most useful in teaching anatomy and physiology.



van Cleave

Woman Official

by Betty Monych

COM physical education student Vikki Boullion has been selected as an associate member of the Southwest Basketball Official Association (SBOA), making her the second woman ever to be offered membership.

Boullion calls junior high games in La Marque, Santa Fe, Hitchcock, and Friendswood.

In her brief career of officiating games, Boullion once kicked a coach out of a game, and was verbally harrassed "by two old men in grey-vested suits." Boullion and the other game official ran into trouble when they threw out a seventh-grade coach after calling three technical fouls on him.

"In Friendswood, there were these two 65-70 year old men at opposite ends of the court who kept yelling and staring at me," she recalls. "One yelled in a squeaky voice, 'Come on honey, blow the whistle, get it going.' The other had a high-pitched voice and he kept saying, 'Come on, sweetie, get in the game. Why are you here, anyway?'"

"The game had slowed up, so I had to keep from laughing at them. They were so funny," she recalls.

Boullion called her first basketball game in Hitchcock against Santa Fe on December 3.

"I had butterflies in my stomach. The other official was late, so I almost had to call the game by

myself," she said. The game was delayed for fifteen minutes and the other official finally showed up.

Boullion said officials are paid the amount of the average of each quarter.

"If each quarter goes eight minutes, I get eight dollars per game. There are two games at each school, except in tournaments. A few schools, like Hitchcock, pay mileage also," she says.

In June she plans to put in for full SBOA membership. She presently calls junior high and high school games. If she remains an official, she will eventually call college and professional games.

Boullion, who has never played basketball, gained her officiating experience at COM.

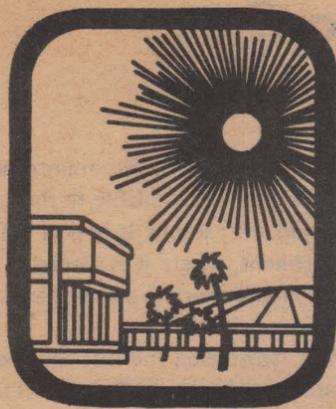
"I taught myself how to shoot. Right now, I'm working on my left handed shots. I plan to transfer to Sam Houston State University or UH central campus. After I get out of college, I would like to try out for the Houston Angels, a professional basketball team," she said.

Boullion encourages other women to become basketball officials.

"Women get along better in the girl's basketball games than men. To be an official, you have to know basketball, be willing to work, and be able to keep up."

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BLACK AMERICAN CELEBRATION AT COM



COM student Darlene Ellis models typical school attire at a fashion show during recent Black History Festivities. photo by Betty Monych

by Lucille McGaskey and Lisa E. Barnes

The Association of Women Students sponsored Black-American Festivities at COM Sunday, February 11, in conjunction with Black History Month.

Guest after-dinner speaker was newly-elected U.S. Congressman George "Mickey" Leland.

Guest Speaker Leland delivered a prepared speech on human and Black rights. Long active in community projects, Leland explained the battle for acceptance is not over for Blacks, but still has a "long road to travel."

Leland pointed out that discrimination and prejudice still happen to Blacks as well as other minorities.

"If the people band together, there is no obstacle we can't conquer together, because it's people who make things happen," he said.

Several church groups from the community and surrounding areas participated in the festival and spread an "old-time religion" feeling throughout the COM auditorium. The program included gospel singing, musical presentations reflective of the Black experience, films depicting historical moments in Black history, a dinner, and a fashion show.

Pastor George Singleton and church group members acted out a musical narrative of Black history. Singleton believes this type of program is very much needed.

"Blacks have contributed in the past and still are," he said, "and I'm happy to be here." He has worked with the General Baptist Convention and the Bicentennial Program.

The COM Student Center was turned into a gallery, walls lined with many varieties of Black art, including displays of African sculptures.

Fashion show entertainment was provided by Bonnie Cummings and models. "Southern down-home cooking" was provided by Sedalia Catering Service of Texas City. The menu included lima beans, black-eyed peas, okra and tomatoes, mustard greens, ham hocks, candied yams, chicken and dressing, meat loaf, cornbread, pound cake, and peach cobbler.

Alexander Pratt, COM Chairman of Social Sciences, and his wife held a reception at their home for Leland and other members of the community. Every facet of the day's program was conducted by people from the Texas City area Black community.

Illegal Grade Changes Impossible

by Lucille McGaskey

It's virtually impossible for students to illegally change their grades at COM, assures Dr. Robert Johnston, Director of Admission Records/Registrar.

Instructors follow standard procedures and forms in changing grades. The forms consist of three copies: a white copy for admissions, yellow for instructors, and pink for the student.

Grade changes were formerly done in COM's computer center, but are being reverted to Admissions for security purposes.

Until recently, heads of departments were the only ones to change grades. They were to personally report to the Admissions office and hand-change grades. Now instructors fill out grade change forms and return them to Admissions after students have completed course objectives.

Johnston replied, "Part-time instructors probably don't know procedures, and maybe some full-time instructors can't recall the procedures off-hand."

Most grade changes occur during the beginning of a semester. Admissions must give registration priority over grade changes, unless a student requests a transcript. Then the student must allow Admissions 24 hours to complete it.

In InterCOM Issue Vol. 3, No. 3, February 1979, the opening paragraph of "New Structure for Counseling Center" read "Dr. Warren Dodson has replaced Bob Smith as supervisor of COM's Counseling and Human Development." This information is incorrect. Bob Smith was Director of Student Life. When Smith resigned, Counseling, Human Development, Career Decisions, and Student Life were combined. Dodson took the position of Manager of Counseling and Human Development Studies.

---Kathleen Curtis

COM's Computer System Defended

Analysis by Betty Nolley

three in Tech-Voc, and the remainder in the computer center. Over half of the terminals are used for instruction, Armstrong explained.

The computer is equipped with four disc drives and two tape drives, he stated. The three separate disc units provide over 4,000 files for additional storage, he continued.

"It is an open-shop system," Armstrong explained, "open to students almost all the time. On nights and week-ends, instructors can dial in or use terminals in their offices."

"There is a lot more security of information in the system than is evident to students," Armstrong said. "Students do not help run grades or permits to register. Access to personal information and tests is restricted. Lists of students, with their addresses, are given out only on orders from the registrar."

Four computer languages can be

used on the H-P 3000: Fortran, Cobol, Basic, and RPG, according to Armstrong.

The down-time, he claims, has been "less than for most types of computer systems." Since January 1, he says, the computer has been down only for two full days, including one for maintenance.

For two additional days, computer service was limited to students because "the files couldn't be backed up," Armstrong said. The files could not be copied on tape, so changes made to them would be lost if the system went completely down, he explained.

On February 8, however, during the interview with Armstrong, the computer went down, due apparently to a change put in by a Hewlett-Packard technician. After about an hour of work, the computer was still not in operation.

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Op Ed

TO ALL COM STUDENTS

How many of you on this campus know the name of your Dean of Student and College services? How many of you know the name of your Dean of Instruction? Chances are most students on COM's campus do not know the answer to either of the above questions, and it is not your fault. They are respectively Fern Ramirez, and Donald Mortvedt, and the reason most of you don't know them is because the majority of the time they are behind closed doors. I am Kurt Koopman, your COMSA president, and you will often see me on campus, but chances are not know me due to my lack of knowledge in the field of public relations.

Students at College of the Mainland have gotten the shaft entirely too long. Last year alone, the major goal of over half the divisions on campus dealt with the computer system, not students. If by chance you inquire about this, you will be told it has all been done to help the students. Even if this is true, the benefits do not seem very rewarding. One faculty member on this campus told me (and I quote), "Little money is given to COM student activities because they are not looked upon as being important." I hope you feel the same as I do in believing that student activities are very important. Let the administrators know how you feel—that this is not only a community college, but also a college for credit students. Otherwise, we will continue to view COM as a junior college stepping stone on our way to a university.

Let the administration know if you are in favor of higher academic standards, let them know if you are in support of alcohol on campus. Just make sure whatever it is you favor, you voice your opinion. Students do have certain rights, regardless of the administration's feelings on the subject. I, for one, will support you all the way.

Kurt Koopmann
PRESIDENT
COM Student Association

Comparison Of Textbook Costs

by Beverly Stephens

With this semester came the usual number of complaints, "The UH bookstore charges less than the bookstore here."

One student told InterCOM that her brother bought Psychology (Morris) for less at UH.

By talking to Richard Tucker, UH bookstore employee, InterCOM found out that Psychology (Morris) is no longer a preferred text at UH and is no longer available at the bookstore.

Interested by the price "difference" at UH and COM, InterCOM did some comparative shopping.

Book	COM Price	UH Price
Biology	\$ 18.15	\$17.95
Organic Chemistry	23.50	22.95
Handbook of Current English	8.10	7.95
Workbook for above text	6.10	5.00

UH had very few other books used by COM. No political science books used at COM are sold at UH.

While the surface prices are cheaper at UH, other factors should be taken into consideration.

"UH buys books on annual or bi-annual basis," says Tucker—every six months or a year. In that time period, newer editions and updated editions often come out. Also, costs of publishing rise during that time.

Another factor contributing to the higher prices is that COM orders books only a few weeks in advance. The English 131 handbook and workbooks were ordered in November, according to the invoice Director of Auxiliary Services David Rac showed InterCOM.

Each bookstore has its own mark-up policy. "UH marks books up 20% from the unit price," stated Tucker.

"We add two percent to the suggested price for freight and shipping. This process began with higher shipping costs caused by the oil shortage of a few years ago," stated Rac.

"Any profits made by the bookstore are returned to the bookstore, in hopes that it will some day be self-supporting," added Rac.

Rac also mentioned a music scholarship the bookstore has helped fund.

On March 1, 1979, at 9:30 AM, during a phone interview about when UH ordered a certain book, Tucker stated, "I can't help you right now because I'm the only one here." Should a bookstore which serves a community as large as the UH community have only one employee on duty?

Taking into consideration the cost of gas, the availability of the books, and the time spent to go to UH, is it really cheaper to buy your books at UH?



Lois Fleck (l) and Jerry Deloney played leading roles in COM Community Theatre's *Macbeth*.

MACBETH Production Successful

REVIEW by Betty Nolley

COM's Community Theatre production of *Macbeth*, which opened February 8, was an ambitious and, on the whole, successful venture.

The greatest credit goes to percussionist Cliff Mabry. His excellent performance did most to create and sustain the mood of the drama. Additional sound effects (taped by COM singers and *Macbeth* cast members and played by Jane Watson), the three trumpeters, and the lighting (designed by Margaret Baier) were also highly effective.

Direction by Jack Westin and script preparation by Jim Glenn made the lines and action of the play clear and easy to follow. The staging was exciting. The climax generated considerable suspense, even though the audience knew how the play was going to turn out.

The witches (Bennie Nipper, Doris Shumaker and Kaaren Beale) gave outstanding performances. Jerry Delony, making his COM debut as Macbeth, and Reggie Schwander as Banquo were both good, particularly in the banquet scene, where Macbeth is unnerved by the appearance of Banquo's ghost.

Lois Fleck (Lady Macbeth) was fine for most of the play, but her mad

scene came across merely as a bad nightmare, not as descent into suicidal depression. The rest of the cast was adequate.

The set, designed by Reggie Schwander with concealed cauldrons and passageways, was both clever and functional. Costumes by Odette Rubin were original, yet evocative of the distant past.

Scenes flowing from one to another without a break (except for changes in lighting or sound effects) gave the impression of an Elizabethan production.

It is great to have access to live productions of masterworks such as *Macbeth*, although one misses the ringing British accents of the BBC. At any rate, British repertory companies need not lose sleep worrying about being supplanted as the leading interpreters of Shakespeare by COM's theatre group.

Curiously, William Shakespeare was not given credit as the play's author in the program. He may not mind, since he has been dead for more than 360 years. However, it still seems fitting that he should at least be mentioned.

ASSERTIVENESS TRAINING WORKSHOP

A Training Workshop is being scheduled for staff people the third week of April. Those who have signed up will be contacted. If others are interested, please call Women's Center. For info call ext. 363 or 365.

INTERESTED IN WOMEN'S ISSUES?

Attend a meeting scheduled for March 28, 1979, Noon, L247A. Such subjects as choosing a career, math fear and transportation will be discussed.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR WOMEN

Free seminars sponsored by Women's Center and Division of Business are scheduled for April 23, 1979, 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm in the College Center, Room 203B. Please register by April 18, 1979, ext. 363 or 365.

Letters to the Editor

Take the piano out of the College Center. I cannot study because of the noise. A Student

Q: Is it illegal to put a police radio monitor in my car? — S.S., San Marcos
A: A monitor no. . . a transmitter, yes. If you take a monitor along with you on a trip, be warned that it is illegal to have either transmitter or monitor in some states.

Q: How many DWI convictions are allowed before the state suspends your driver's license? — G.G., Dallas
A: All you need is one conviction of driving while intoxicated (DWI) to have your license suspended for a year. It's not automatic, but at the discretion of the judge.



Director Larry Stanley, accompanist Ken Arnold, and COM Singers rehearse for the Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Conference Choir Festival.
photo by Melanie Mayeaux

COM Singers To Attend Conference

by Kathleen Curtis

COM Singers will be attending the Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Conference (GCIC) on April 6 and 7 at Brazosport College. Ken Fulton, director of choral activities at Southwest Texas State University, will be presiding clinician.

"The purpose of the festival is to give students of GCIC (seven community colleges) an opportunity to sing with a large choral group, to bring to Brazosport a clinician who has musical insight to offer students, and to create a situation for students to get to know other students and campuses," states Larry Stanley, Chairman for the Division of Arts and Humanities. He also expressed that GCIC is a chance for a "really unique musical experience for the students."

The choir festival will contain about 100 singers from all colleges. The group will rehearse Friday eve-

ning and all day Saturday with a performance on Saturday evening. A series of 11 pieces will be performed, ranging in style from early 16th century music to contemporary. The program includes "Regina Coeli" by Mozart, "Deer Chase" by Norman Luboff, and "Gondoliers" by Gilbert and Sullivan.

COM Singers is a group of 27 students; about one-half are music majors. Future COM Singers concerts include a formal spring concert on campus April 25, a performance for Texas City High School choral groups April 30, a concert for Ball High School on May 2. The group is working out plans for a tour to New Orleans possibly in mid-May.

The class (COM Singers) is open to anyone and further information can be obtained by contacting Larry Stanley, 938-1211, ext. 347.

FANTASTICKS To Open Soon

by Kathleen Curtis

The Fantasticks, one of Broadway's most enduring musicals, opens in the COM Arena Theatre March 29.

The show runs through April 28 on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 P.M. Three Sunday matinees are at 2:30 P.M. April 1, 8 and 22.

Assistant Theatre Coordinator Reggie Schwander was originally selected to direct but due to his temporary illness, Roger Stallings, COM drama and speech instructor, has taken on the assignment.

"The musical is a story of living, loving, and learning," says Stallings. "A boy and girl grow idealistically into love at a time in their lives when love is nothing more than a poem or thing to do. The play symbolically takes us through the unrealistic dreams of moonlight lovers, and carries us into the scorching daylight realities of what it truly means to be in love.

"After a quarrel with Luisa, Matt leaves home to discover the world, and finds its brutal realities. The girl falls in love with El Gallo (who also serves as narrator) only to be deserted by him in an hour of need. Having grown a little, the boy becomes a man and the girl a woman. They learn to love amid realities and not dreams," says Stallings.

El Gallo will be played by Jeremy Laurents, Luisa by Kathy Huff, and Matt by Billy Nowell. Hucklebee (Gus Babb) is the boy's father and Bellomy (Darwin Miller) is Luisa's. They plot to get the children together by pretending to be enemies. An old actor named Henry will be played by Andy Anderson, and Martimer, his sidekick, by Bob Mitchell. A mute (Sis Browning) reminds the audience that this is "only a play," by pulling symbolic moonlight and sunlight out of a prop box. Browning "adds a type of maternal sensitivity to the part, since the play only deals with the fathers' point of view," says Stallings.

Jeremy H. Laurents has been on stage since he was thirteen. His extensive children's theatre experiences include acting in *The Wizard of Oz*, *Johnny Appleseed*, and *Winnie the Pooh*. He attended University of Texas at Austin where he had a leading role in *As You Like It* and *Our Town*. He made his debut on COM stage as Lancelot in *Camelot*. His most recent role at COM was the part of Bobby in *Company*.

Director Stallings, who received his BFA from Stephen F. Austin and his MA from UH/CLC, is in his first year of full-time teaching at COM. He has had many leads in area summer musicals, and most recently directed *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* for the COM stage.

Billy Nowell attended Lon Morris Jr. College where he played Jesus in *Godspell*. He later attended Stephen F. Austin and was protagonist in *Candles in the Wind*. He is remembered for his many appearances in summer musicals at Clear Creek Country Theatre and most recently as the mischievous fun-loving Snoopy in *Charlie Brown*.

Kathy Huff has been performing in the Houston area for the past 16 years. She received her BA in drama from UH main campus and is currently working on her MA in theatre arts at UH/CLC. She teaches speech and drama at La Marque Junior High, directed *Rumplestiltskin* at COM and portrayed Lady Macduff in *Macbeth*. She formerly played the role of Luisa at UH main campus.

Marvis Adams will direct the music, Yolanda Guillen stage manage, James Templer will design the set, and Jack Westin the lighting.

Tickets are \$3.50 for adults and \$2 for students and senior citizens. For reservations call 938-1211, ext. 345, Monday through Friday from 9-5. Theatre guild members should call early for best seats.

Computer System Continued

cont. from page 1

In addition to Armstrong, COM computer center director Bill Hackleman, and programmer Jan Henson, the college computer center has two full-time and two part-time employees. Armstrong maintains programs for credit courses, Henson for non-credit. The payroll and accounting systems are rented as a software package, for which Roland Smith of the Business Office is responsible.

Software has been developed for financial aid, including BEOG and Moody loans. Armstrong said. There may have been delays in aid for individual students because of the complexities involved in the system, he explained.

A student applies for aid during registration. Only after the application has been approved will the computer process the payment. Most delays, Armstrong claimed, are attributable to "delays in processing the applications before the payment request gets to the computer system." Financial aid for three hundred students is handled by the computer, he said. All financial aid not on the computer is conducted by the Business Office.

The computer system checks for inconsistencies in information given by students on registration and other forms, Armstrong explained. If a mistake has been made in a social security number, it must be checked out and corrected before the computer can process the student's records correctly, he continued. A recent check showed a large listing of social security numbers that were wrong. Name changes can also cause problems and delays, he added.

COM's new registration system, instituted toward the end of Spring 1979 semester registration period, provides each student's schedule and bill, computed and printed, in five minutes, Armstrong claimed. This is an improve-

ment over the previous 15-minute wait between batches, he said.

Only two times has the system gone completely down during registration, according to Armstrong. Once the computer was struck by lightning, but came back into operation in 15 minutes. They were able to complete late registration on three working terminals. Another time, during summer registration, the system went down for a day, Armstrong said, and student schedules had to be completed by hand. Four terminals were damaged in fall 1978 by faulty wiring, resulting in a \$6000 loss of equipment.

"Open shop adds to problems of computer operation," Armstrong said, "because students sometimes make errors which bring the system down." One student continually pressed the "read" button on a card rejected because of a character error, making the computer go down, Armstrong said. The result was an eventual modification to the system by Hewlett-Packard.

Several other colleges in the vicinity of Harris-Galveston counties have H-P 3000's like COM's, Armstrong stated. They include Alvin Community College, Wharton Junior College, Bay City College, and the University of Houston central and downtown campuses.

Our style computer was designed for the inter-active mode, he said, "and is sold predominantly to schools, so the company has developed lots of software. We up-graded our system to the new model in October, doubling its capacity." If the computer here were down for extensive repairs, COM's programs could be run on the Alvin system as a back-up, he explained, since they're compatible.

GED Testing Program Resumes

by Betty Nolley

General Education Development (GED) testing resumed at COM's College Center Counseling Office January 17, announced Roy Walker, chief examiner.

GED tests are now administered 8 AM - 7 PM, Monday through Thursday, and 8 AM - 2 PM Fridays, Walker said. He explained that a security leak caused the program to be suspended on October 20, 1978, when one of the test forms was discovered missing.

GED tests enable those who have not completed high school to obtain a high school equivalency certificate.

Students may begin the testing program either on a walk-in basis or may attend GED preparation classes at COM or another agency, such as Operation SER, Walker continued. He estimates that 70 to 75 percent of the students who seriously prepare for the examination pass it.

"If there is any doubt about passing the GED," Walker said, "the student should contact Bill Spillar and Nancy Smith in Suite C of the Learning Resources Center (LRC) about courses. They will refer the student to the Testing Center for diagnostic tests. These will show the student his weaknesses and strengths, allowing him to brush up."

The GED battery consists of five different tests, each requiring approximately two hours. Presently, Walker said, no time limit is imposed. COM will not administer more than two tests per day to a student, he explained, so the battery takes a minimum of three days to complete.

Applicants must provide proof of age, Texas residency, and picture identification, Walker said. A Texas driver's license is the usual

identification, he went on.

Applicants who are 17 years old must have been out of school one year and must have signed proof of official withdrawal from the last school attended, Walker said. Those who are 18 and have proof of withdrawal from school can be tested immediately, but their scores cannot be released for a year after their withdrawal or until their 19th birthdays, he continued. They can be issued a letter attesting that they passed, he stated. Applicants 19 years old or older do not need proof of withdrawal.

Applicants who reside in COM's district or who have attended COM GED classes are charged no fee for the tests. Other applicants are charged five dollars.

If a student fails to pass the test, a six-month waiting period is required by the state before he may repeat it, Walker said. However, he explained, a student who is taking GED preparation classes can bring in a letter from his instructor and will be readmitted for testing sooner.

Walker commented that COM has only two forms of the test, which are changed on a contract year basis. Since no student may take the same form twice, he explained, if a student fails each form the college has, he must wait until the following February, when new forms are issued, to repeat the test.

GED tests are offered by COM as a community service, Walker said. He estimates that the 5,000 students who have successfully completed the battery of tests since 1969, when the program was initiated, exceeds the number of graduating seniors in the local high schools for the same period. For more information, call 938-1222, Ext.277.

Urbina Goes to Washington



Urbina

Photo by Betty Monych

by Karen Behan and Jamie West

A recent series of discussions concerning international trade in Mexico, China, Nicaragua, and the U.S. was attended by Dr. Manuel Urbina, Instructor of History at COM.

Hosted by American ambassadors from these nations, the seminar ran January 15-19 and explored political and economic problems between Mexico, China, Nicaragua, and the U.S.

Among those attending were David Rockefeller, Cyrus Vance,

and Zbigniew Brezinski, President Carter's Chief of National Security. Trade agreements between U.S., China, and Mexico were discussed.

Other issues were oil and illegal aliens from Mexico, and trade affairs between the U.S. and China. Brezinski commented, "All assurances seem to indicate that China will not make any overtures to take Taiwan by force or aggression,"

Dr. Urbina said that some information presented at the meeting was top secret.

New Faculty

by Lucille McGaskey

Seven new staffers and faculty have joined COM for the spring 1979 semester.

Rebecca King, physical education, Elton Glaze, Jr., marine maintenance, John McIntuff, law enforcement, Barbara Crews, Women's Center counselor, Ruth Robbins, business division, and George Rodgers, division of industrial education, were hired in late 1978, according to Dwight Fullingim, Assistant Director, Communications Services.

King, instructor-coordinator for the PE division, is a graduate of West Virginia University (BA) and Indiana State (MA). Adept at all areas of physical education, she is currently taking skiing. Interested in what students want from COM courses, King is eager to get student input.

A new course, marine maintenance, is being taught by Glaze. Certified by Chrysler, the U.S. Marines, Mercury Outboard and Mercury Cruiser, Glaze has a marine products business in Bayou Vista. A lover of water, he lives on a cruiser with his family.

After some 12 years experience in his field, he has "never been an instructor, but I've had training as a supervisor. This course will be a great asset to COM, for it will give individuals the experience and technology to get into the marine field. Most individuals lack the background for this field and usually waste two years with a company before actually getting to work."

Glaze could be called the "father of marine education." He started his study at Clear Creek High School as a coop student.

"I was the only student in this field, which was created for me to study," he says today. Many companies in Galveston County will be glad to have trained graduates from such a course, he points out.

Area traffic engineer, John McInturff, will be a great asset to COM and the seven surrounding counties. Graduating from Texas A&M with (BA) and (MA), he has worked with the city of Austin Urban Transportation Department. He plans to be helped by the Division of Highway and Public Transportation, and Office of Traffic Safety. McInturff plans to start a cooperative education course, which is in the developing stages.

George Rodgers has been named Coordinator of Cooperative and Continuing Education. A graduate of the United States Naval Academy and a five-year officer in the Marine Corps, he holds a (MA) from the University of Southern California. He will set up a training program with business and industry to help make it easier to learn to work. The program will upgrade and improve skills in the area.

Ruth Robbins, new instructor coordinator for cooperative education programs, comes with a great deal of experience in the business field. She received her bachelor's degree from Texas Southern University and her (MA) from University of Houston and has attended Columbia University in New York. She has begun to place students with work related experience in local businesses and industry. By doing this she feels that the employer will benefit by having well trained employees with the experience needed.

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National Library Week April 1-7. During this week at COM library, bring any book or tape recording that is overdue and there will be no fine.

Crews To Head Women's Center

by Pat Farrell

The newly-appointed Coordinator/Counselor of COM's Women's Center, Barbara Crews, is already tackling the field of special problems women encounter on returning to school and, eventually, entering the job market.

Appointed by Dean Fern Ramirez, Crews started to work in the center (located on the mezzanine of the Learning Resources Center) January 4, 1979, after the resignation of previous director Rachel Goldstein.

Since Goldstein only held the position for a short time, Crews says she has established her own programs.

The grant by which the center is funded runs out in June 1979. The major program Crews hopes to accomplish in five months is increased enrollment by women in the technical-vocational areas.

"Technical-vocational jobs offer women good pay with short time investment in training," says Crews. "Guiding women toward non-traditional, blue-collar jobs provides the most immediate and rewarding benefits for them."

"Traditionally," Crews added, "women were not encouraged to get higher education, or to train for 'mens' jobs. Less than one half of one percent of electricians in America are women. Due to occupational segregation, women still earn only 58.9 percent of what men earn. Some 80 percent of working women are in low-paying jobs."

"We reach out to women in Texas City and the surrounding community through posters, newspaper articles, and contact with social service agencies. We will also contact the Battered Women's Center in Galveston to offer support and services for the women there," she says.

Crews sees the center as a place for women to gather on the COM campus for counseling and career guidance.

"Ask questions, and we'll try to give answers. This center should be a place to meet people's needs," Crews points out.

Crew's office hours are Monday through Friday from 8AM to 5PM. Her extension is 363, and her secretary, Pauline Johnson, has extension 365 mornings and 413 afternoons.

The Women's Center program is designed to "focus on the changing roles of women and help them make the transition into the working world as comfortably as possible," says new Counseling Center Supervisor Dr. Warren Dodson.

The present COM enrollment is 60 percent women.

Crews, a native-born Galvestonian, received a bachelor's degree in psychology at the University of Arizona, and a master's in sociology at California State University at San Jose. She has held several teaching positions. Crews returned to Galveston after teaching sociology for the last three years in Tucson, Arizona.



Crews

Photo by Melanie Mayeaux

Co-operative Education Program

by Sherman Cohen

COM recently applied for a U.S. Office of Education grant from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, to assist in the implementation of COM's Co-operative Education program.

The proposed \$27,251 grant matches \$68,825 of proposed funds designated for fiscal year 1978-1979. "Co-operative education at COM is designed to be a comprehensive and flexible strategy of applied learning incorporated into the curriculum," according to COM President Dr. Fred Taylor.

The co-operative education program began in 1973. Six other institutions participated in a consortium of two-year junior colleges in the Houston-Galveston area. Although COM no longer participates in the consortium, it has been able to expand the program with the assistance of additional grants during fiscal years 1974-1979.

Initial interest of developing the co-operative education program at COM can be attributed to Dr. Dorothy McNutt, chairperson of the Division of Business. The director of the program is Dr. Joe Rubio, Division of Business. Co-ordinators are William "Bill" Sowers, Business Division; Howard Katz, Law Enforcement; and George Rodgers, Industrial Division.

According to the 1978-79 college catalogue, Co-operative Education "enables the student to gain a broader awareness of life and career goals through assignments in business, government, social service of community-base projects; to apply theoretical education in realistic and related non-classroom situation; to recognize the opportunity for upward mobility; and to accumulate career and related experiences."

Students enrolled in the CE program receive full college credit (four hours per course) for participation in either the alternating program or the parallel or extended-day program.

Currently, 12 majors are offered in three divisions, business, industrial and public service.

The alternating plan provides students with the opportunity to spend a full term in school and the following term on the job. Two student hold one full-time work station in business, industry, or public service. While one student is in college, the other is working. This continuous year-round cycle allows each student to complete an Associate Degree in Applied Science or Arts in two or two and one-half years.

Businessmen and leading educators agree that CE programs are most effective for students and participating businesses alike when work periods are of lengthy duration.

The parallel plan or extended-day plan is organized so that students' work experience is parallel or concurrent with regular class enrollment. The student spends approximately one-half day on the job. Hours of work are scheduled for morning, afternoon, or evening and may vary from 15 to 40 hours per week. Class load varies accordingly. An employer can cover one full-time job with two half-time students, or employ part-time co-op students on a schedule that meets normal business needs.

Although many plans and combinations are possible, each plan contains one essential common element: educational coordination between on campus instruction and off-campus experience.

Spring Enrollment Drops Slightly

by Karen Hoffman

COM enrollment dropped 146 for Spring 1979 semester. Total enrollment is 2479, a decrease from Fall 1978 semester enrollment of 2625.

Male- 1065	Freshman-1946
Female- 1429	Sophomore-245
	Unclassified-303

White- 1847	In-District-1907
Black- 419	Out-of-District- 543
Hispanic- 174	Non-Resident-41
Asian-11	
Am. Indian- 18	

Alien/Foreign/National-25

In-district students are residents of Texas and school districts which are included in COM district (Texas City, LaMarque, Santa Fe, Hitchcock and Dickinson). Out-of-district students are residents of Texas and all other school districts not included in COM district. Non-residents are not resided in Texas for 12 months preceding date of registration.

There was a nine percent increase in enrollment for Spring 1979, compared with Spring 1978.

Snack Bar hours of operation are:
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1979 APRIL

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PROFILE on PEOPLE



STUDENT PROFILE:

Nina Stacey

by Pat Farrell

Nina Stacey, a 57-year-old Texas City woman, leads a double life.

During the day she is Mrs. Gene Stacey—wife, mother of six children, grandmother of two, and house person.

At night she is Nina Stacey, accounting major and Human Development student at COM.

Stacey, who graduated from Charles H. Milby high school in 1939, took a one-year secretarial course in 1940, then married Gene, her childhood sweetheart, at 19.

Although she worked at two or three jobs over the years between children, Stacey had no career outside the home.

"I toyed with the idea of going back to work in 1974, then thought it would be unfair to my younger children, so I stayed home.

"I went along, day by day, and there was a lot of fun, doing things with the children, taking them places. Sometimes though, there was real resentment, a hunger to talk with adults about adult topics. I think it's

sad that middle-aged women don't allow themselves time to be with other adults."

Stacey admits she's come a long way and thanks the Human Development course, Counselor Tom Herman, and the COM staff for their help in her development.

"COM is really a very positive place for me. I feel like a real person here. I'm me, Nina, not just 'Mrs. Gene Stacey,' or 'So-and-so's momma' all the time," says Stacey.

"My husband and children are all very proud of my new status, and very supportive. If I bring home an 'F' I guess that means I'm human, and I can fail, too," said Stacey.

Stacey does not see any major changes she would like to make in her life up to now.

"I just did what I had to do," she states emphatically. "When I started back to school it was to see if my brain had corroded. After all those years of disuse. I was pleasantly surprised to see that it hadn't," she laughed.

"I suppose I would have become a 'displaced homemaker,'" remarked Stacey, after some thought, "if I hadn't come back to school. Too many people seem to dry up, just shrivel, when their children start to leave home. It won't happen to me now. I'll be prepared to go into the business world and find a career!" says Stacey.

~~~~~  
**WHEN YOU REACH THE END OF YOUR ROPE, TIE A KNOT AND HANG ON.**  
~~~~~

COM-AMIGOS Attend Conference

by Betty Monych

The COM-Amigos attended the Texas Chicano Student Conference at the University of Texas campus in Austin, February 23-25.

The conference was held to provide a state-wide forum for issues affecting Chicano students.

In conference sessions, participants discussed such topics as cultural awareness, police brutality, "justice," bilingual education, and student rights on campus.

Page 8
Besides group sessions, students heard keynote speakers talk on topics concerning the Chicano students. Speakers were Jose Angel Gutierrez, Zavala County judge; Ruben Bonilla, LULAC state chairman; Inez Tovar, Texas A&I professor; Joaquin G. Avila, Maldef.

The COM-Amigos are currently involved in a project to raise money for scholarships for high school seniors. They have sold refreshments in concession stands on campus, raising over \$500.

They also sold T-shirts in Austin, giving resulting funds to the Texas Chicano Student Conference and the scholarship fund.

Faculty-Staff Massacre Students

by Beverly Stephens

Members of the student team were Vikki Boullion, Desiree Malone, George Osborne, Norman Burke, Jesse Moonen, Mike Hales, De Aun Van Over, Kristi Laughridge, and Lynn Holt.

The volleyball game evoked different emotions from each individual participating in the event.

"The game was a lot of fun, and builds fellowship between students and faculty," stated Osborne.

"The faculty-staff team has played a lot of good teams in our time, and this was NOT one of them," according to Travaille.

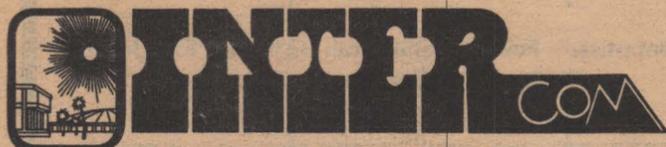
"The faculty-staff team can not wait for a re-match. We will really be ready then," stated Urick.

The Valentine's Day volleyball game between COM faculty, staff, and students ended with a massacre of the student team.

The faculty-staff team won the two-out-of-three match 15-10, 6-15, 15-7.

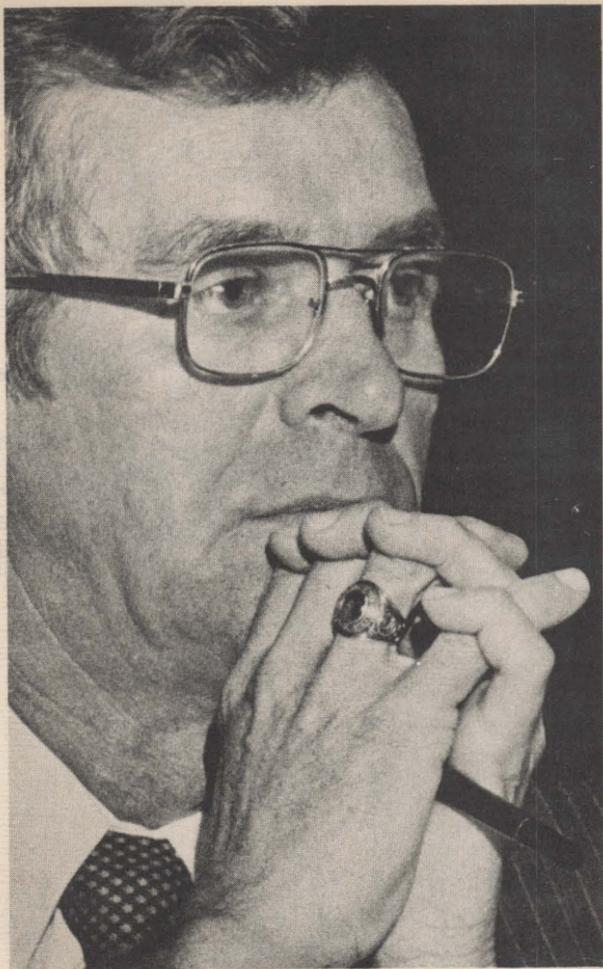
Faculty-staff team members were Duke Drewry, Non-Print Media; Bob Hodgins, Economics Instructor; Dr. Manual Urbina, History Instructor; Chester Stout, Testing Center; Maryann Urick and Dan Travaille, Physical Education and Recreation; Vicki Oliver, Student Assistant PE.

Remember: COM library is now open until 10 PM Wednesdays and Thursdays.



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TAYLOR RETAINS PRESIDENCY

APRIL 19, 1979

by Melanie Mayeaux, Marian J. Stein, and Beverly Stephens

In a specially called meeting of the COM Board of Trustees held April 19, the board reached a consensus to retain President Fred Taylor.

Taylor's resignation had been requested as one of 23 resolutions developed by an *ad hoc* committee of students. The other 22 resolutions concerned Taylor's administrative practices, and in conjunction with faculty-staff voting, produced a general expression of "no confidence" in Taylor's administration.

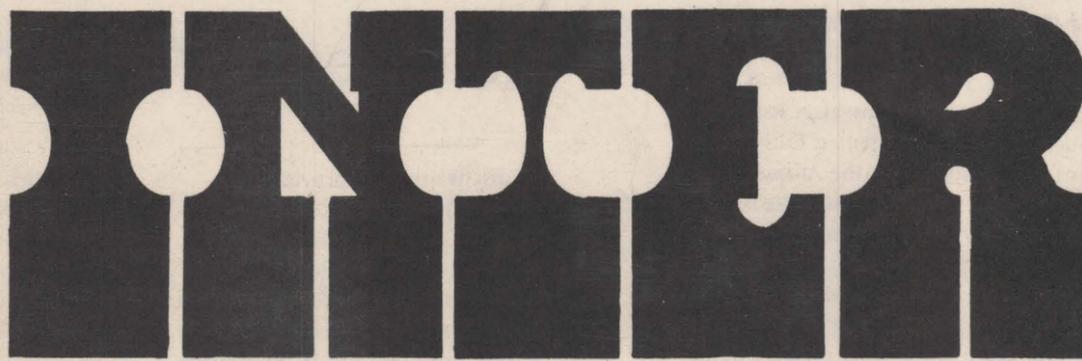
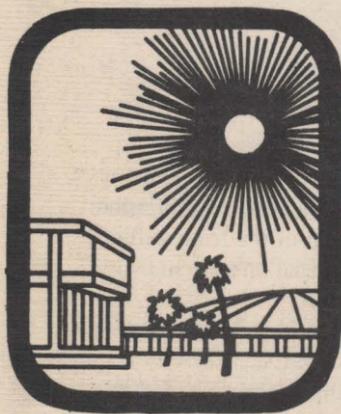
Board chairman James Simpson reported, after a two-hour consultation with Taylor:

- Reaffirmation of Taylor, as "there was not sufficient cause of a dismissal."
- There will be no elimination of faculty-staff positions for the 1979-80 academic year, except after board review and action.
- "There will be no recriminations" against COM employees who participated in evaluations or political meetings during assimilation of faculty-staff resolutions.
- The board will develop guidelines at an early date to assure that the professional staff is heard on any major issues.
- The board will take steps to direct Taylor in COM's administration.
- The college should "get back to" its regular schedules and functioning.

(Cont. on page 4)

(See related stories on page 1 and page 4)

Taylor



VOL. 3, NO. 5
APRIL-MAY 1979



• A STUDENT PUBLICATION • COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND • TEXAS CITY, TEXAS 77590 •

Reorganization Passes 4 - 3

COM Faces

Income Loss

MARCH 12, 1979

by Melanie Mayeaux

Due to a 3 percent reduction in tax assessment, a previously budgeted reduction in cash reserve (any monies left from previous budgets) by some \$350,000, and accounts payable left from 1977-78, a "short-fall" of approximately \$800,000 has occurred in the 1979-80 COM budget, according to Edward Brown, Dean of Administrative Services.

"In effect," said Brown, "we are using cash reserve to balance the budget. This is not really a deficit. We originally intended to use cash reserve for this purpose. Because of the tax reduction, the amount coming out of cash reserve is more than we had anticipated."

"To help reduce the figure coming out of cash reserve, each COM Dean has been asked to go over his/her budget, to gain savings wherever possible," continued Brown. "Our first look at the budget was to check any equipment not being used or not necessary. Some programs we hoped to institute have put on hold, but no existing programs are in jeopardy."

"The \$800,000 loss to cash reserve is being whittled down. The exact figure to come out of cash reserve will not be known until August, 1979, the end of the fiscal year," said Brown.

by Marian J. Stein

COM's Board of Trustees voted a close 4-3 accepting President Taylor's proposed administrative change including the creation of the office of Executive Dean to be occupied by George Miller, in a controversial and well-attended board meeting March 22 at the Administration Building.

The new structure changes COM's three dean structure to a two dean structure and eliminates the position of Assistant to the President, Director of Affirmative Action and Personnel, and Director of Staff Development. Dr. Fern Ramirez is now Dean of College and Financial Services. Dr. Donald Mortvedt is now Dean of Instruction and Student Development.

The position was created for efficiency in light of a substantial COM deficit, according to Taylor. In a memo to all COM employees dated March 23, he said, "In order to plan so that the next four years will reflect a balanced budget, we must develop a model that will cut projected expenses. It is my decision, endorsed by the Board of Trustees, that we should start by streamlining the Executive Administration."

At attempt was made to table the issue. Board members Carmen Anderson and John Cox were for, while Simpson, Ernest Deats, Robert Green, and Bill Flaniken voted against.

A discussion of the matter followed. Dr. John Hubisz of the Natural Science and Mathematics Department, on the Board (a non-voting position), stated,

MARCH 22, 1979

"This would create another barrier between the faculty and the COM President."

Cox, who headed a discussion against the proposal, asked "Can we function with two deans but without an executive dean?" Cox stated Miller's current position was a staff, not an administrative one.

Deats then asked Cox: "Do you object to the terminology of it?" Taylor then stated that Miller was serving without authority, and he felt Miller needed it. Simpson then stated, "We do need to move on to a vote." The issue passed with Deats, Green, Simpson and Flaniken in favor while Edward, Cox and Anderson opposed the issue.

After the meeting Miller said, "This is conceptually a move that will give COM an opportunity to address some very serious budget matters. We are looking to the future." He said the administration would formulate plans to deal with the major budget concerns of the college.

"What I want is a good sound five-year system, planning each and every year. I want to be able to get out of my office for three principal reasons-- 1) to spend more time with faculty and staff, 2) to get out in the local community, and 3) to travel state-wide and nationally," Taylor said.

Asked about the secrecy of the proposal, Taylor said, "Only the Executive Staff knew about it." The executive staff is composed of Deans

Fern Ramirez, Donald Mortvedt, Ed Brown, and Miller. The Executive Staff voted unanimously in support of Taylor's plan, according to Taylor.

Hubisz commented, "I don't particularly appreciate it. No time was spent talking the matter over with faculty and staff." Asked if he felt the structure would be a deterrent to COM in the future, Hubisz replied, "Yes, the secrecy of it just doesn't mesh with COM's motto of Humanhood through Brotherhood."

Why Are We Late ?

The March 1979 issue of InterCOM was delayed for 10 days due to an administrative edict that the paper could not go to the printer until the administration decided whether InterCOM would be printed on or off-campus. (The decision was that it *must* be printed by COM Press.) The April issue was delayed due to the staff's attempts to cover objectively the recent controversy between the administration, faculty, staff, and students concerning personnel cuts as the primary method of reducing COM's budget deficit.

Editorials

Humanhood Through Brotherhood ?

by Lisa E. Barnes

The COM motto reads, "Humanhood through brotherhood." That motto has never been so false as today.

The three major segments of COM (administration, faculty, students) are dissatisfied and confused, due to a number of problems.

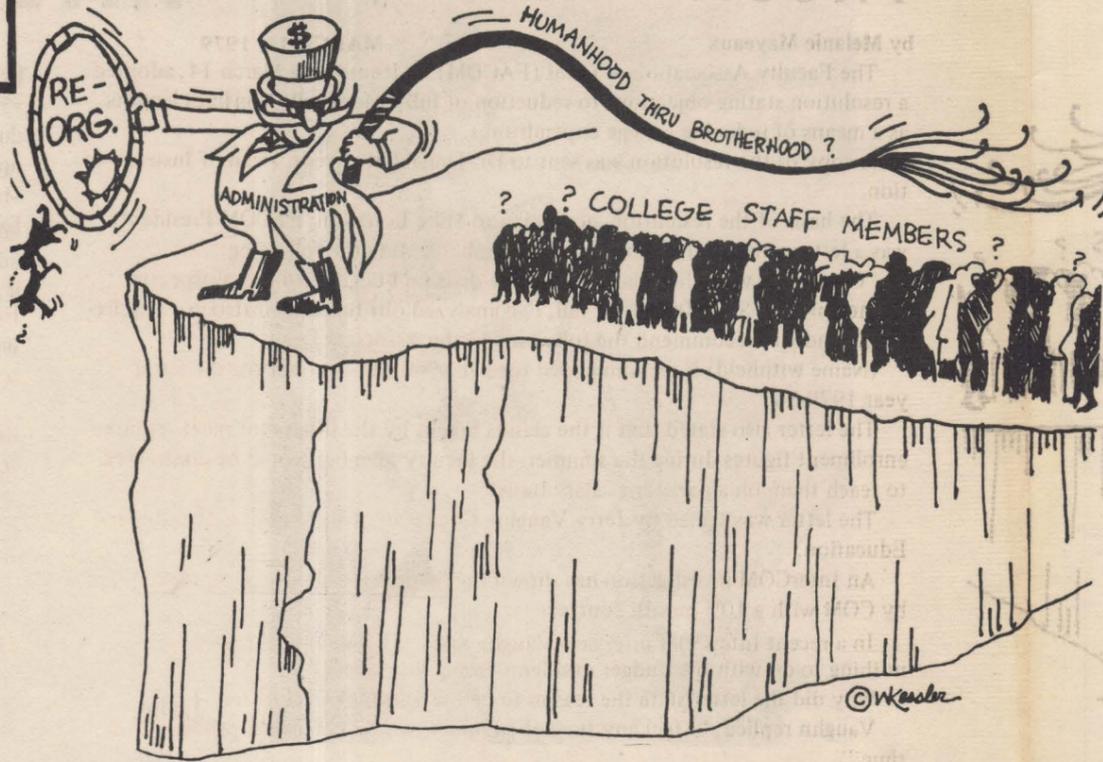
The Faculty Association of COM (FACOM) argues that the administration is more interested in hanging red phones than providing full-time faculty for the students. At present, FACOM has sent a resolution to Dr. Don Mortvedt, Dean of Instruction, and the COM community outlining its concerns for quality education.

Last fall, COM President, Dr. Fred Taylor, proposed an All College Council. "The membership of the Council will be comprised of representatives of every major component in the College (including students)," as stated in the second draft prepared by Taylor. The statement, (including students), has made many students feel as if they were an after thought. At a meeting on March 6, 1979, the Council started taking shape when Taylor determined how many representatives would be allowed from each area of COM. Faculty will have four representatives and students will have two representatives, but only after Kurt Koopman, COMSA President, argued that students weren't represented fairly. The students are receiving the same number of representatives as the Administrators and Mid-Managers. With all due respect to these two departments, this is not a numerically fair representation of the COM faculty or the student body.

Decision-making by the administration behind closed doors concerning faculty and students is creating gossip and rumor. How can fair decisions be made about the future of individuals in the COM community without representation by that area? Decisions have to be made, but not without clear understanding of the problems by all, and democratic resolution.

Is this college operated for educational purposes? Is its purpose to ensure quality education? To achieve any goals, all segments of COM must work together, and keep an open mind to all ideas presented. No decision is satisfactory to all. At least morale can be retained if everyone is aware of the problem and included in the discussion, and the solution.

It is efficient but not necessarily humane when people are considered in terms of statistics and numbers. If COM's leadership can not join all segments together, there can be no brotherhood. "Humanhood through brotherhood" is a noble motto, but COM's administrators need to evaluate whether or not it's just words or a living ideal.



Statement Of Purpose

by Betty Nolley

Many newspapers provide their readers with a statement of purpose. *The New York Times'* motto is "All the News that's Fit to Print."

The Chicago Daily News has characterized the newspaper as "an institution developed by modern civilization to present the news of the day, to foster commerce and industry by widely circulated advertisements, to lead and inform public opinion, and to furnish that check upon government which no constitution has ever been able to provide."

Benjamin C. Bradlee, executive editor of *The Washington Post*, writes (in *Deskbook on Style*, edited by Robert

A. Webb), "*The Washington Post* is pledged to an aggressive, responsible and fair pursuit of the truth without fear of any special interest and with favor to none..."

"We fully recognize that the power we have inherited...carries with it special responsibilities:

- to listen to the voiceless
- to avoid any and all acts of arrogance
- to face the public with politeness and candor."

By following these examples of professional journalism, *InterCOM* strives to achieve the goals of accuracy, fairness and responsibility in reporting COM news to students, faculty and staff.

Students Need Mechanic

by Karen Hoffman

In a poll of 200 COM students, 100% said they feel a maintenance or security employee should be provided to help fix flat tires and jump dead batteries, especially at night.

A memo from Joe Rotramel, head of COM security, to all faculty and staff, was published in the March 21, 1979 issue of the college bulletin. It stated, "We are not mechanics and cannot work on your car or jump your battery, but we can get you to a phone so that you can call for additional help."

Rotramel, when questioned about this new policy, stated, "This policy applies to the security department, not the maintenance department. It is the decision of the maintenance department as to whether or not maintenance employees will help persons having car trouble."

Joe Faulk, head of maintenance, said about the new policy, "It is not part of the maintenance department's policy to work on cars. We do not have the manpower or facilities. If a maintenance employee works on a car in the college parking lot, and something goes wrong, the department could be held liable. If a person is having car trouble or is stranded, a maintenance employee will not leave that person stranded."

The general attitude of COM students is that someone should be available specifically to help anyone having car trouble on campus. Students are not asking for car repairs but emergency assistance. A request for help should not be turned down. Hopefully, the administration will make someone available to help people having car trouble at COM.

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DON'T FORGET!

COM's Commencement Exercises
Thursday, May 17th
Gymnasium - 7:30 pm

The Bookstore will buy back used
textbooks
May1 through May 28th

FACOM Voices Objections

by Melanie Mayeaux

MARCH 14, 1979

The Faculty Association of COM (FACOM), at its meeting March 14, adopted a resolution stating objections to reduction of full-time faculty contract lengths as a means of reducing college expenditures.

A copy of the resolution was sent to Dr. Donald Mortvedt, Dean of Instruction.

The basis of the resolution, according to Mike Bordelon, FACOM President, was a letter sent to a full-time faculty member stating the following:

"Consistent with the need to bring the division budget into the prospectus of the college's \$800,000 short fall, I've analyzed our full-time instructor requirements and will recommend the following to the Associate Dean.

(Name withheld) is recommended for a nine month contract for the fiscal year 1979-80."

The letter also stated that if the classes taught by the instructor meet required enrollment figures during the summer, the faculty member would be contracted to teach them on a part-time salary basis.

The letter was signed by Jerry Vaughn, Chairman of the Division of Industrial Education.

An InterCOM investigation has shown the faculty member was originally hired by COM with a 10½ month contract.

In a recent InterCOM interview, Vaughn said, "The recommendation has nothing to do with the budget problems facing the college."

Why did the letter state the reason to be the \$800,000 "short fall"?

Vaughn replied, "I feel any further comment would be inappropriate at this time."

Asked to comment on the letter sent to the faculty member, and the FACOM resolution that followed, Dr. Donald Mortvedt, Dean of Instruction, replied, "First of all, no contracts have been issued to any employee. The FACOM resolution is a reaction to a recommendation from the Tech-Voc chairman.

"I will make no recommendations to cut contract lengths just to save money," said Mortvedt. "As in the past, we will examine instructional programs and make cut-backs in programs that are no longer viable."

Did the letter put the contract cut-back in terms of the budget "short fall"? Mortvedt replied, "All the facts are not known at this time. I can assure you that when the contracts are issued all reasons will be stated. This is only a recommendation."

According to enrollment figures, classes the faculty member at issue has been contracted to teach have met COM's enrollment requirements for fall, spring and summer sessions the past two years.

Webb Society Tours

San Antonio

by Lisa E. Barnes and Betty Monych

Approximately 30 students from the *Firewheel* staff and Alex Pratt's Texas history class made a historical tour of San Antonio and attended the Texas State Historical Association March 8-10.

Firewheel magazine is COM's oral history anthology, which Pratt sponsors.

The first day's tour by Gray Line, included the Alamo, the Spanish Governor's Palace, the San Jose Mission, the Aqueduct System, and the Sunken Gardens at Breckenridge Park.

The next morning, the classes visited the Institute of Texas Cultures. Featured are artifacts and films about some 26 cultures which, combined, make up the present Texas culture. Tour guides demonstrated on-going cultural activities such as Mexican women making tortillas.

On Friday afternoon, the classes attended a Webb Society meeting, over which Pratt presided. The Webb Society is a group of students interested in local and Texas history. Each member college gave a brief summary of its yearly project. COM's Webb Society's project is *Firewheel*, which was entered in the Webb Society Contest for student publications.

New FIREWHEEL Issue

by Betty Nolley

An unusual Galveston restaurant, a woman flyer of World War II, a strawberry festival, the 1900 Galveston storm and a gospel singer are among the offerings of *Firewheel*, Volume IV, COM's publication of regional history.

Articles by Lisa Barnes, Dixie Lackey, Teri Crook, Wayne Williams, and Vernard Williams are well written and informative, providing fascinating glimpses of this area's past and insight into its present. Local recipes and a poem by Archibald Henderson add variety.

Firewheel's editor is Cindy Rook. Alexander Pratt, Sandra Devall, and Kit van Cleave are the faculty sponsors. Artists Karen Behan and Randy McDonald, writer Paulette Bartbeau, and photographers David Schaper and Betty Monych also contributed to the issue. It costs \$1 and is available at the COM Bookstore.

Q: What's a good, average braking time for a family car?—O.V., San Antonio

A: The actual distance for braking the average car to stop on dry pavement at 55 mph is about 167 feet.

Performance Delightful

by Pat Farrell

The COM Children's Theatre production of *Rumplestiltskin*, which opened March 3 and played through March 11, was delightful and full of fun.

Seth Winnick, 12, made a thoroughly enchanting "little green magician." His stomping rages, sly trickery, and tearful longing to "just be needed by someone" was altogether engaging.

The story of the sweet miller's daughter, who is mistaken as the person who spins flax into gold thread, is taken to the king's palace by the greedy Prime Minister. Threatened with death if she fails to produce the gold thread, Annabelle is saved by a little green man, whose name she does not know. However, the price for the angry magician's service is high. Annabelle must promise to give the little man her first-born child, after she marries the king.

Annabelle does produce the golden thread; she does indeed marry the king; she has a son. All as the magician has predicted. And on the day of the baby's christening, the little man appears to collect his due...the infant son of Annabelle and the king!

The able direction of Kathy Huff and the props by Jane Buerger helped the 16 person cast overcome a problem—having to scramble about on a rocky Scottish landscape. (The scenery for COM Arena Theatre's production of *Macbeth* remains onstage for the duration of the Shakespeare play's extended engagement.)

Kathleen Curtis did an excellent job as the sugary-sweet miller's daughter, Annabelle. She was appropriately lovely in her pink Act II costume, as the new queen. Curtis' appearance in the shimmering, satin gown brought gasps of envy from several small, would-be princesses in the audience.

Unfortunately, the program failed to mention the name of the narrator, Kristine Florance, who explained the plot to the audience with sparkle and verve. She was clear in diction and lively in her manner of presentation.

Deserving of special mention were Robert Burnett as the bumbling servant Silas, Daryl Ewing as the slightly addle-pated king, and Jack Huff, the greedy prime minister. Vanda Edwards was funny as the Queen Mother. Scott Royce, however, was flat and wooden in his portrayal of the miller.

Sticker Contest

by Lucille McGasky

The co-op in the Division of Business Department at COM is having a contest to select a slogan to appear on bumper stickers.

A collecting box will be placed outside the door of room T-124 in the Division of Business.

Designs should be cut in the shape of an actual bumper sticker. Identify your work with your name, address, and telephone number.

If there are any questions, contact Ruth Robbins at ext. 338 or Bill Sowers at ext. 282.

Review: Edward Hill

by Karen Behan

Over 50 art students and visitors attended an art show in the Fine Arts Department to see Edward Hill's slide and lecture presentation at 7:30 pm on March 8.

A reception was held after the talk.

Hill, COM's visiting artist, has a BFA in painting from Rhode Island School of Design and a MFA in painting from Yale. He published *The Language of Drawing* in 1967. Another book, now underway, is *Interrogating the Ark*, a phenomenological study of life drawing.

Hill's work portrays the energy and magnetism of the human form. His gestural movements, expressive in gesture drawings, are defined with vigorous strokes, yet show the finesse and subtle agility of craftsmanship. The gallery in the Art Department displayed studies of human figures, completed over the last 10 years.

During Hill's lecture, he discussed the nature of drawing, stating, "The object is not projected onto paper like a picture is transformed. Rather, the artist is projected from his body and released into the energy of the object."

Hill is previously a professor of drawing, photography, and video at UH Main Campus. In May 1979, Hill exhibits at Houston's Museum of Fine Arts.

New Play Chosen

by Kathleen Curtis

The Line-Up, by Dave Spector and Blair Kaplan of Chicago, has been chosen for production by COM's New Playwright Series III in May.

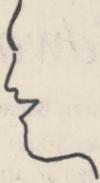
"*The Line-Up* was the best play submitted out of 1200 scripts," said Jack Westin, Community Theatre Coordinator. "It was the funniest, most interesting and original in concept of all scripts that were read, according to the theatre board."

"In the beginning it was tough to get good scripts, but now it's tough to read all the good scripts we get," says Westin. Following the final selection and announcement, the real work of production begins, Westin noted. A director and set designer will be chosen before auditions begin. "The scripts come in from all over the world," he gestures toward the pile of manuscripts. "For example, here's one from Paris." The script will dictate the kind of director needed to bring the production together for a World Premiere and ten public performances.

Westin hopes the new work chosen will surpass even the previous successes chalked up by the New Playwright Series. Doing a play that's never been done before really puts COM in the glare of public attention, he feels. "We've set a high mark for ourselves."

The Line-Up will complete a big theatre season for College of the Mainland's Community Theatre. All plays this year have played to big houses, according to Westin.

PROFILE on PEOPLE



BILLIE LAMBERT

by Kathleen Curtis

"One out of every 1,000 people knows how to breath properly," says COM Hatha Yoga instructor Billie Lambert. "Many of us take short, shallow breaths that are not conducive to life.

"Isn't life breath? At the heart of Yoga is breath control. Hatha Yoga reaches into every cell of the body and works for smooth and efficient bodily functions," declares Lambert.

"Yoga can help people improve circulation and physical coordination, increase vitality and health, eliminate daily tension and end-of-day exhaustion. You can lose weight, stop smoking, and produce a positive mental attitude toward life," says Lambert.

"The main difference between Yoga and any other exercise is that it is the only kind of exercise you can do any place in any position. You can be in any condition of health, at any age. You perform the exercises slowly and mindfully, and enjoy the graceful feeling that goes with your body movements as body and breath work together."

Lambert has taught Yoga to top professional models in the Houston area, including her daughter, who models all over the world. She has taught judges as well as grocery store clerks.

Lambert, the wife of Eddie Lambert, is a mother and grandmother, a fulltime office manager, and has been a part-time instructor at COM since 1973.

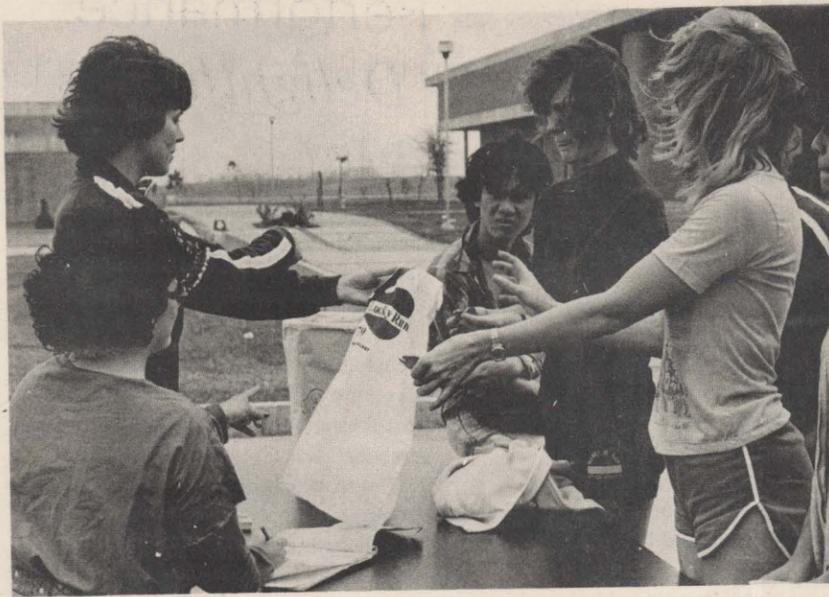
Weight Course Successful

by Karen Hoffman

COM's PE department is having success with a recently developed course called Weight Reduction and Maintenance.

The course was developed by Jerry Bryant during the summer of 1978, in conjunction with the Weight Control Clinic of Methodist Hospital in Houston. The goal of this course is to teach good nutrition, benefits of exercise, and how to maintain weight loss, according to Bryant.

The class meets twice a week for four months. During this time, students keep a food record, calorie and weight graph, and a physical activity record. Students are taught how emotions relate to eating, and how to cut down on quantity. Measurements are taken three times during the course, and a profile picture of each student is taken on the first last class days. Students also sign a weight contract with another person to lose a certain amount of weight in five weeks. Out-of-class motivation is stressed.



St. Patrick's Day Fun Run participants receive T-shirts after finishing their run.

Photo by Betty Monych

Faculty Whiffles Students

by Beverly Stephens

At 3:30 PM Thursday, March 15, 1979, a faculty-staff team again defeated a student team. This time the game was whiffle ball and the final score was 9-8.

Whiffle ball was played with a hollow plastic ball for one inning. The other eight innings were played with a plastic ball with holes. A large plastic bat was used in the place of the wooden bat.

Special rules applied for the game. Each team selected a pitcher who pitched to his own team. Each player was allowed three pitches to hit a fair ball. If the ball hit the gym ceiling it was a foul. No player could steal bases or bunt the ball. Any ball hit above the brick level of the gym was a home run.

The faculty team consisted of Gayle Faget, Communications, Karen Goodwin, Admissions, Larry Smith and Bill Spillar, Continuing Education, Emmeline Dodd and Paul Williamson, Biology, and Maryann Urick, Dan Travaille, Becky King, Eva Neinas, and Jerry Bryant, Physical Education.

The student team consisted of George Osborne, Wally Holmes, Vikki Boullion, David Quintanilla, Mark Schwalm, Desiree Malone, Greg Koesler, Cho Co Quan, Paula Rankin, and Norman Berke.

The original game was scheduled for five innings. At the end of the fifth, the score was 9-5 in the faculty's favor. To give everyone another chance, the game was extended to nine innings.

The addition of four extra innings did not help the faculty staff. They remained scoreless after the fifth. However, four extra innings did not give the students enough of a chance to rally. The final score was 9-8, faculty over students.

Bryant hit the game's only home run. "When I first contacted the ball, I didn't think it was going to go. But when I watched the center fielder stand and watch it go out, I knew I had it," commented Bryant.

The student team was good "and we were lucky," stated faculty first baseman Smith.

In April, another faculty staff game of baseball will be played. Anyone interested in participating should call extension 417 or 420.

Taylor

(Con't. from page one)

Before adjourning into Executive Session with Taylor, the board heard presentation and documentation of faculty-staff resolutions. These resolutions, voted on by 77 percent of COM employees, were read and discussed by faculty and staff members. Dan Travaille, Director of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, said in a concluding statement, "We are reasonable people with no love of disruption...We take no joy in doing this, but we are confused and no longer certain of Taylor's leadership abilities."

The board then asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak. Paul Teague, former chairman of the board, said, "I am concerned with the future of the board and the president...I'm not really sure if Dr. Taylor is capable of changing his management style."

Bill Fetter, president of Texas City Refining Company, spoke in support of Taylor, stating, "The easiest solution would be to fire the boss. But that is wrong 90 percent of the time."

Local attorney Roy Engelke said, "COM might have the high cost of (buying out the president's) contract, yet there might be even higher prices."

Other action taken by the board included a reaffirmation (by 6 to 1) of Taylor's proposed COM administrative restructuring, with the exception that the office of Executive Dean, apparently created for George Miller in violation of COM affirmative action policy, was abolished. Miller has been reappointed to his previously held office of Assistant to the President for Planning and Development, "a staff position, not an administrative one," according to Taylor.

March Fun Run

by Betty Monych

The COM Recreation Department sponsored a St. Patrick's Day Fun Run, Saturday, March 17.

Participants had the choice of running 1/2, 1, 3, or 6 miles.

All contestants received a T-shirt when they finished their run.

The 1/2-mile run, set up for youngsters, was won by COM student Jessie Monnen.

Vikki Boullion, COM PE major, said, "I ran for the fun of it, and the exercise."

Wally Homes, who finished fourth in the three-mile race said, "I wanted to see if I could run three miles under 20 minutes, and I did. Also, I ran to meet people."

Special awards were given to the best dressed contestants.

Julia Benson, daughter of COM student Beverly Benson, won four Cokes and a pizza from Pizza Inn. JoAnne Lord, COM student, won a gold brick for her costume.

Santa Fe coach Sonny Amaya brought 18 kids from the Santa Fe area to the Fun Run. Amaya placed first in the one-mile race.

COM student Randy McDonald said, "It might be a good idea to have competitive runs mixed with fun runs." He suggested that the Recreation Department alternate competitive and fun runs monthly.

ENERGY.
We can't afford
to waste it.



Q: Is a flashing red light at night the same as a 4-way stop on a regular stop sign? - N.B., Austin

A: Yes. A flashing red light, day or night, means that you must make a complete stop until it is safe to continue. Yield the right of way to vehicles on right.