The Gander

College of the Mainland's student newspaper

Vol. 1, No 1 *October, 1985*

Enrollment up at COM

By Judy Hall

Enrollment is up this fall, and COM President Larry Stanley says it may be due to tuition increases at four year colleges.

COM Registrar Bob Johnston has also noted an increase in student contact hours.

A random survey of COM students revealed that some students have increased their course load because of the climbing tuition rates. In fact, one student commented that if the rates progressed more rapidly, he would take even more classes to avoid the higher cost.

The bill, according to Dr. Alan Ginsberg, COM political science professor, was a result of the drop in oil prices.

Essentials of Texas Politics (Kraemer, West Publishing Company) points out that "The most important business taxes in Texas are the severance taxed levied on natural resources.... Production taxes on oil and gas were expected to provide 29.6 percent of the state's local tax revenue in 1982 and 1983."

The new law, which went into effect this semester, was to apply to four year colleges only.

San Jacinto College, Alvin Community College, and Galveston College doubled their per credit hour tuition rate while COM remained the same. Interestingly enough, San Jacinto had no substantial change in enrollment, Alvin Community had an increase, but Galveston College had a 10½ percent decrease.

An overview of the bill released by COM Public Relations indicates that academic and medical tuition for Texas residents will triple. "The bill also triples academic tuition and quadruples medical tuition for nonresidents, and establishes, for the first time, separate tuition rates for dental, veterinary and law schools."

An increased course load is only one of many options. Larry Stanley suggests the "students in four year degree programs could save one year by attending summer classes at COM and that translates to substantial savings."

Theater offers smash season

By Connie Ross

College of the Mainland's "Biggest Li'l Theatre in Texas" promises an exciting 1985-86 season for its estimated 17,000 play enthusiasts.

Ted Tally's two-act play, "Terra Nova,"leads off the theater's 14th season on opening night, Oct. 3.

"Terra Nova," Norweigian for "new earth," is based on the real-life saga of the 1911-1912 race to the South Pole, by Roald Amundsen's five-member Norweigian Pole team and Robert Falcon Scott's British Pole team. The play captures the courage of the Englishmen, whose zest for adventure becomes the setting for a life-or-death struggle.

The cast of the play include Nelson Heggen as Robert Scott; Glen Walker as Scott's nemisis Roald Amundsen; Marilyn Rogers as Scott's strong-willed wife; Richard Kremer as the doomed Evans; Bryan Myers as Dr. Bill Wilson; and Cliff Mabry as Titus Oates. All members of the cast have held leading roles in previous COM productions.

To highlight the holiday season, Rogers and Hammerstein's "Cinderella" will entertain the entire family

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from Dec. 5-22, and again Jan. 9-26.

One Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, two comedies and one musical are scheduled to complete the season. "To Kill a Mockingbird" can be viewed Feb. 20-March 16. Neil Simon's "Chapter Two" will bring laughs April 10 - May 4, as will "Greater Tuna" May 22-June 15. The Broadway musical "Oklahoma" will end the 1986 season July 10-Aug. 10.

The community theater, directed by Jack Westin, has been producing plays for the last ten years. Also on staff are Reggie Schwander, associate director; Toppy Swaim, box office manager; and Jim Glenn, technical director.

In addition to staff members, during the course of a season the theatre is aided by approximately 350 volunteers.

Open auditions are held for each show. Students and individuals from the community may audition for upcoming plays on the following dates:

"Cinderella"
Oct. 6 - 2:30 p.m.
Oct. 7 - 7:00 p.m.

"To Kill a Mockingbird"
Dec. 15 - 2:30 p.m.
Dec. 16 - 7:00 p.m.

"Chapter Two"
Feb. 9 - 2:30 p.m.
Feb. 10 - 7:00 p.m.

"Greater Tuna"
March 23 - 2:30 p.m.
March 24 - 7:00 p.m.

"Oklahoma"
April 20- 2:30 p.m.
April 21- 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are now on sell at the theatre box office for "Terra Nova". For information on season tickets, call 938-1211, ext. 371, or drop by the theatre office anytime between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Nelson Heggen

October activities

Oct. 15 - Robert Starling, singer, songwriter, guitarist and pianoist. (Tues).
Oct. 15 - Blood Drive & Computer Portraits (Tues).
Oct. 22 - Jim Ritchey & Be Jea Fleming, musical duo playing the guitar. (Tues).
Oct. 31 - Halloween Magic Show by Paul Driscoll (Thurs).
Oct. 17 Blood Drive & Free Computer Portraits, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. computer pictures will be made of all blood donors between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the Student Center.
Oct. 26 Halloween House of Horrors, 4:30-9 p.m., $1/person, Student and student clubs are asked to participate in the development and showing of the haunted house for the community. Please sign up to help by Oct. 1 in the P.E. building.
Oct. 28 Foot Reflexology Workshop, 6:45-8:45 p.m, $4/per person, PE 112.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Oct. 8 Weight Training, 7-9 p.m, $4/per person. Sign up by Oct. 3.
Oct. 11 & 12 Racquetball Doubles Tournament, $5/per person. Sign up by Oct. 7.

Student board elected

By Dana Gibson

On Sept. 18th and 19th 398 students turned out to vote for the Student Activity Board. The results were the election of Richard Monte Harris, Gloria Kovamees, James Richard Moore, Carol Caldwell, Pauline Williamson, James Allen Lee, Kevin Robinson, Charlotte Lindsey, Frank Martone and Cony Schweikert. Individual offices will be decided upon at the next Student Board meeting.

The main purposes of the Student Activity Board is to plan, develop and conduct educational, recreational, social, cultural and entertainment programs for students; and to allocate funds to various clubs and organizations for their campus activities.

Keeping the peace

Chief Joe Rotramel and company patrol campus

By Dana Gibson

Is College of the Mainland a safe place to learn? You bet! With Chief of security Joe Rotramel and his staff of patrolmen (and 1 woman) thieves should think twice.

With one watchman it was impossible to cover the entire campus and as a result several incidents took place. At one time there were suspects walking into classrooms and taking college property and vandelizing the campus. Now; with an established department of security and staff of well trained policemen, the theft is down to a minimum and vadalisms is nonexistence. "We will always have a fight between hot tempered athletes or petty theft...", adds Chief Rotramel.

When asked about major incidents (such as car theft or assault upon a person) the chief feels that if he and his force are visible, it will discourage if not prevent such an incident from taking place.

The first two to five weeks of each semester are the hardest part of the job for Chief Rotramel and his staff. After the first part of the semester the patrolmen become aware of which students are at a certain part of the campus at different times of the day and they can "pick out the people who are not supposed to be there".

Chief Rotramel has a set schedule so that there are police and or security guards here around the clock.

To be an officer on Chief Rotramel's staff the policeman has to be "people oriented". Another requirement from Chief Rotramel is that the policeman be able to deal with people on a one to one basis "with a great deal of finess and tact".

"I feel that if I can not work with the students that the college should get rid of me and my department" said Chief Rotramel. When he was first hired there was a hostile atmosphere between the students and the policemen. But now after proving "that we ment no harm", the students got used to having us around. The patrolmen work on foot to promote a feeling of closeness to the students.

After retiring from the Marines in 1970 Rotramel went to work for a security agency and from there went on to become a cooperate security supervisor of the Tenaco building in Houston. Rotramel's next promotion with American National Insurance where he was head of security. He then moved on to the sheriff's department. While working for the sheriff's department, he applied to start a security department at COM in 1974.

At the time of his hire there was only one night watchman here on campus. Since then Rotramel has taken on the duties of locksmith, security guard, and patrolman. On October 30th of 1980 he became director of security. The number of security personnel has also increased to four policemen, and one policewoman, and two security guards.

Campus watchmen

Security Chief Joe Rotramel, left, and his patrolmen secure the COM campus 24 hours a day.

Insights

Writing an important job skill

By Judy Hall

The inability to write clearly and concisely is a roadblock to success for many of today's professionals.

The medical professional who is unable to effectively communicate on a patient's chart not only increases the probability of a lawsuit but literally risks the patient's life.

The scientist who vaguely represents findings may lead others to wrong conclusions which may result in problems for society.

The business executive who is unable to clearly express ideas is in a very vulnerable position since management directives are customarily issued in a memo. The competitiveness within an organization makes business a cold, cruel world. Memos provide protection.

"The major and most frequent complaint by area businesses is that people, especially managers, cannot write.

Because of this problem, employers encourage these people to go back to school," says COM counselor Leroy August.

"When I advise students trying to develop skills for promotion or after promotion, I recommend they take technical writing, computer science and speech."

After 24 years of data processing experience, Maury Brinkman, DP director for Lockheed, says that "failure to accurately specify requirements (of a program) is the main source of conflict between the user (of the program) and the data processing professional (who designs and codes the program)."

In spite of technological advancements, he believes that good writing skills are still extremely important.

In fact, the computer science student should not rely on future employers

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Newspaper introduced

Open Letter to COM Students from Bill Spillar, chairperson, Division of Arts and Humanities.

This year our student publication is being sponsored by Ms. Kathy Thomas-Hargis, a local professional journalist. Thomas-Hargis' charge is to offer guidance to the student-journalists as they produce a publication for COM students.

The paper will contain articles by students for students.

Our student-journalists' names can be found in the staff box of this paper. If there are issues which you would like to see explored, please contact these students in Room T-55 of the Technical Vocational Building or leave the information in the Division of Arts and Humanities office.

If we slip from our intent to publish news of interest to you, the students, please let us know. There will be no censorship of content by the administration.

Also - there is still room for student contributions to the paper. If you are interested, see Thomas-Hargis or one of the student-journalists.

The Gander Staff

Writers Judy Hall
Dana Gibson
Mathew Gerry
Thoco Quan
Connie Ross
Jacqueline Cole

Student Advisor

Kathy Thomas-Hargis

"The Gander" is a monthly student newspaper produced by students in College of the Mainland's Journalism 131 class. Submit comments or student letters to the Division of Arts and Humanities.

Insights

Working students have long day

By Matthew Gerry

Many COM students work as well as attend college. Their jobs range from to instructing working in every industry in the area.

The working student's day might start with getting up at 4:00 a.m. and not end until the next morning.

Working and going to college are a lot like juggling. From 4:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. I have to keep my studies up in the air while I concentrate on my work.

Half the time this work is demeaning and unpleasant but it pays the bills and is just temporary while I go to college. In a few years this early morning job will end as I move down the road toward a real career.

At 12:30 p.m. all on the job business is forgotten as I concern myself with my afternoon classes.

After a morning of non stop running I sit down in class and realize just how tired these early mornings are making me. The only solution is to take a lot of notes and try my best.

Other working students have much more rigid schedules than mine. I know of one student who works midnight to 8:00 a.m. and then attends afternoon and evening classes.

Some working students support entire families while attending COM. I work to support myself and save toward the future.

In a few years I will finish up at COM and be on my way to a 4-year university. Working part time helps me pay the way toward this goal.

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furnishing a technical writer. Mr. Brinkman has encountered only a few companies that do.

Can this mean that a computer science students who omit writing courses from their curriculums can look forward to careers that begin and end with coding?

English 236, Technical Writing, provides the basics of clear and concise written communication for business and science students.

Business Communications 231 teaches effective communication skills useful to secretarial and other office occupations.

Increase employment opportunities by learning to write well. Start now. Go by the library and pick up a copy of the article, "How to Write Clearly," by Edward T. Thompson, editor-in-chief, Reader's Digest.

Remember, it is the student's responsibility to acquire appropriate education for their chosen field.

News staff

Gander staff members from left, Dana Gibson, Judy Hall, Connie Ross, Jackie Cole and Mathew Gerry. The journalism students will produce three newspapers this semester.

COM counselor juggles jobs

By Connie Ross

College of the Mainland's softspoken Barbara Crews is the voice of campus students, students-to-be, and the citizens of Galveston. Crews is a career counselor at COM and a newly elected city councilwoman for Galveston.

She finds juggling both careers very challenging, yet each rewarding and similar in nature.

Whether it is counseling with a student, or tackling a City Council decision, both tasks require a "people oriented" person; a person who recognizes the needs of the individual and is responsive to those needs. Crews is that kind of person.

Barbara Crews

As a career counselor in charge of "undecided majors," Crews assists students in making career choices. In addition to giving academic advise, she negotiates class scheduling, provides students with community support groups for help with child care, financial aide and family counseling, and reassures students they can accomplish their goals.

According to Crews, students usually find college to be overwhelming. "When students come to me, they don't know who to talk to, what to study, what training is required for a particular job or what financial assistance is available.

Married students with families are uncertain as to how they can balance classwork with managing family needs," said Crews. "I try to pull those things together for them," she added.

Crews has been at COM since 1979. Her counseling work has evolved from a grant funded "women's center" to a professional curriculum of the college.

The majority of students counseled are referred by the college admissions office, college instructors or from two outside agencies, the Department of Human Resources and Vocational Rehabilitation.

She was elected to City Council May 9, 1985, after being encouraged by friends to enter the political race.

She has served on Galveston's Planning Commission for several years, and feels her M.A. degree in sociology has helped in terms of knowing how to negotiate the system. "I like to encourage people to participate in the political process," Crews said. "The people of Galveston need a voice."

How does she juggle both jobs simultaneously? "I try to keep a balance between my college work, City Council, and family life. I am occupied with City Council every Thursday, so I counsel with students at the college on Thursday evenings from 5-8 p.m."

Featured clubs

College of the Mainland Amigos - Manuel Urbine & Robert Rodriguez. To establish a link between the Mexican-American community. Call ext. 307 or 202 for more information.

COM Art Association - Stella Dobbins. Educational programs, gallery discussions, visiting artists and workshops, and annual Arts Festival on campus and raising funds for Fine Arts Scholarships. Call ext. 418 for more information.

COM Chapter Texas Student Educational Association-Janith Stepheson. To develop an understanding of the teaching profession through professional association. Call ext. 322, 218, or 328 for more information.

Women in Support-Barbara Crews. The Woman's Group of College of the Mainland provides an opportunity for educational and informational exchange and a support for students.

Gander staff featured

The following are introductions to some of the "The Gander" staff members written by Brett Jarrett and his Creative Writing students.

Dana Gibson

By Rachel Bowdoir

This year the COM newspaper is proud to have Dana Gibson on its editorial staff. Gibson is in her first year at COM. She plans to stay here for two years with a major in journalism.

Dana has been writing mostly poetry and short stories since she was nine years old. In spite of her planned career as a reporter her main interest remains creative writing. She hopes to turn the experiences she has in reporting into a bestselling novel.

In fact, she says we can expect to see her book at the top of the best-seller list in four years. (And can we quote you on that Gibson?)

Dana has definite opinions in the matters of literature and journalism. She does not want to report on the weather or sporting events. Instead, the world of international intrigue draws her.

Dana's favorite author is Stephen King. Her goal is to knock him off the charts with her own spine-tingling novels.

Eventually, she wants to write famous Broadway musicals. There is only one hitch in that goal, however. Dana told us that she knows nothing about music. So, anyone out there interested in collaborating on a famous Broadway musical please contact Dana.

With people like Dana Gibson on staff how can this newspaper be anything other than progressive, informative, entertaining and yes ---FAMOUS.

Judy Hall

By Timothy P. O'Krinsky

Judy Hall is a young, pleasant member of this year's Journalism class. Judy, a bright and cheerful young lady, was raised in Jasper, Texas and attended high school there. After she graduated from high school, she moved to Houston to work.

Judy has decided to get a B.A. in marketing. She has attended College of the Mainland since Spring, 1985. This semester she is attempting a 16 hour credit load. When she completes the associate degree program at COM, she would like to attend the University of Houston to complete her final two years.

But this is not where her heart lies; writing is her dream. Judy has had 6 poems published. She says that it's a natural high to see her work published for others to read and enjoy. She would like to write editorials for the school newspaper. She state, "I find editorials are more entertaining to write than hard news."

In the future, Judy would like to write romance novels. She realizes that, at first, she could not support herself with a writing career. That is why she is obtaining a B.A. in marketing before she pursues her dream.

I would like to welcome her to the school newspaper and wish her luck in future endeavors.

Connie Ross

By Nuccia Pignataro

Connie Ross is an interesting person.

She is one of the journalist COM will have on its monthly paper. Connie is a community relations director at Danforth hospital.

She works on the hospital newsletter.

Connie has helped in community projects such as the Heart Run. She is a professional person.

Connie will bring us some interesting news stories and editorials.

She will be doing some feature stories on College of the Mainland Community Theater.

Connie will be also doing an interview with the popular Career Counselor Barbara Crews.

We will be hearing a lot from Connie from the paper.

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Board approves tax hike

By Connie Ross

An eight percent increase in property taxes was approved recently by COM's board of trustees during a regularly scheduled meeting.

Five of the seven trustees were in favor of the half a cent increase over the present tax rate of 11.395 cents. Opposing the increase were Trustees James Edwards and Mary Doyle.

A public hearing was set for 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 7, to present the proposed rate of 12.306 cents. The board will meet on Oct. 11 for official adoption of the tax increase.

Also on the meeting agenda was the recommendation of new college appointments. The appointments of Humanities Instructor Judy Blossman, Nursing Instructor Mary Lou Hernandez, Electrician Instructor Mark Walker, and Hearing Impaired Project Director Linda Carver were approved.

Other board business included a grant approval for an Industrial Skills Training Program at COM. Purpose of the program is to raise the unemployment rate by training individuals for skilled jobs. Students acquiring jobs after completion of the program are expected to earn an average salary of $12.50 an hour.

Bids to pave the parking lot of the technical-vocation area were heard. A motion was made by the board for administration to study the bids, and take appropriate action.

Board of Trustee President Roy Engelke presented former board member Bill Flaniken a plaque for 18 years of service.

COM President Larry Stanley reported a Fall enrollment increase of 7.3% over last year, one of the few college experienceing an increase this year.

Kathy Thomas-Hargis

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By Brett Jarrett

Kathy Thomas-Hargis, assistant city editor for the Galveston Daily News, teaches Journalism 131.01 this semester at College of the Mainland.

The sentence above is the top level of an inverted pyramid, a name describing the kind of writing practiced by newspaper reporters; the idea being that all critical information occurs within the opening paragraphs, and other data

like her ear rings
her quiet voice
her kind of sculpted
careful posture her
steely eyes her
poise her aggressive
"you said that, I didn't
say that" way of talking
during
interviews

trickles to the bottom so that anyone who loses interest will at least retain the heart of what he's read. Newspaper writing is sort of like putting the wrapper inside the candy bar.

"The newspaper we produce will achieve two things," Kathy says: "It will familiarize journalism students with the process of getting a paper out, and it will serve the whole student body as a source of information."

--Why do you want to take time off from a full-time job to teach journalism, Kathy?
--To make a little money and to make a little newspaper.

--How little?
--I guess we'll put out about 500 copies.
--What do you do at your full-time job?

--Fill in for reporters, edit copy, help in layout....
--How many papers?
--About 30,000
--I guess that qualifies you to run a little publication like ours, right?
--Right.

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Kids learn in COM day care

By Dana Gibson

Science, math, P.E. and drama; sound like to much to learn in one day? Not for COM's youngest students. These "students" are actually children, who attend the child development day care center.

To the average man on the street a day care center means exactly that "day care". Jan Smith, director of COM's Child Development Department, has a different opinion. She feels that "one of the main purposes of early childhood education is to build a foundation for all human learning".

In the Child Development Lab, the child starts learning no matter what age, from the time he enters the building.

Every part of the Child Development Lab is designed for learning. The floor has yellow, blue, red and green stripes to help guide the child to his room. After two weeks even 18 and 20 month olds can find their room "and that builds independence," says Smith.

Babies are cared for in the rainbow room. It is staffed with two "baby teachers".

Ann Roberts is one of those teachers, she has a masters degree in early childhood development.

Assisting Roberts are several "care givers," who each have one year of training in childhood development.

Adjacent to the rainbow room is a changing room. In this room the changing table is blocked in on three sides for the protection of the child. Above the table is a poster of blocks it not only gives the baby something to look at, it keeps him learning as well.

In the red room the 24 - to 30-month-olds are taught. There is an over abundance of toys, but not children. At full capacity six to eight children occupy the room with one staff member and one student.

Here the children are not just looked after or babysat, they learn. Life Science is taught through Midnight, the local guinea pig.

The children are taught responsibility as well. A chart on the wall displays the children's names accompanied with pictures of napkins, cups, and plates. Not only responsibility is learned but the basic foundation of math as well one to one correspondence.

At first sight COM's Child Development play ground looks like any other play ground, but take a closer look. There's so much more.....

There is a hill for climbing, swings for

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COM's day care center "village."

Map your future

Make education choices now for career planning

By Judy Hall

"Now is the time to map your future," COM counselor Leroy August advises.

"To be prepared, plan your education. Know where you're going and how you're going to get there."

COM business instructor Donna Kantak suggests that students make a five-year plan to maximize success. Why not! It works for businesses.

Sometime during childhood contemplations began on "What do I want to be when I grow up?" Various games were devised to carry out ideas on what the roles would be like. Ideas were formulated through social interaction.

Now, as an adult, worry sets in on "What kind of job can I get that will meet my financial needs?"

Grab a pen and paper. Sit down and brainstorm for specific job position possibilities. Write them all down and do not stop to analyze until you have at least a page of them.

During analysis mentally create the child's game of role playing. If you do not have enough facts about the position, contact a COM counselor. Remember, it is the student's responsibility to seek out information.

Once a rapport is established with a counselor, to insure consistency stay with that counselor.

According to Leroy August, "The student shouldn't assume that the program in the catalog is what they need." Short-term and long-term goals need to be considered.

If short-term needs mandate job preparation and long-term goals aim for a four-year degree, the Associate in Arts Degree may be the appropriate stepping stone. The AA provides the basics for transfer to a four-year degree.

Additionally, the 36 to 40 hours of AA electives can be used for job preparatory courses. However, the Associate in Business Administration Degree or the Associate in Science Degree may be more suitable for you. A counselor can help you decide.

If employment is a priority and a four-year degree is not sought, then a vocational program may meet your objectives. The Associate in Applied Science Degree offers two-year programs in business, industrial education, health, natural science and social sciences. One-year diploma programs are also offered in these areas.

COM counselor Barbara Crews says that "not all classes transfer (to other degree programs). I would encourage people to come (see a counselor) if they have any questions at all about what they want to do; changes they want to make in their career; whether or not they are in the right degree program; what courses to take; what the job market is like. We're a resource here. Just come with all your questions."

COM students Tammie Harness and Jeff Leschber have their computer poster made at the student blood drive.

Insights

When relationships are over

By Judy Hall

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column will regularly appear in The Gander on the Insights page. Future columns will define the realities, fantasies and value of romance. Drop the name and address of your favorite romantic spot in our area in The Gander's box located in the Student Center. I'll check it out and report the best findings back to you to keep your heart smiling.

When it's over, feel relief in knowing that you have emotionally grown and are one step closer to finding love.

If love was only a temporary part of the relationship, there's no need to part in anger. No one can change the fact that they are not in love.

Accept the fact that all relationships are not meant to last. Consider this time spent as a period of emotional growth, a stepping stone to the person you can share an equal relationship with.

It's best for all concerned to love enough to let go. This is undoubtedly a painful process but is truly an act of unselfish love. No one has the right to possess another human being no matter what kind of relationship exists.

In time, yesterday may seem to be only a dream. But tomorrow is forever. Never let what has happened in yesterday's relationship inhibit the relationships of tomorrow.

The grief process following the break-up with a significant person is comparable to the grief process following a death.

Sociologist and COM instructor Marty Caylor believes that in order to understand what happens when people break-up, we have to first look at why they date. She has provided the following information and grief recovery guidelines.

Sociological research reveals that we date for some of the following reasons:

--We are expected to. If you don't date then people assume that something is wrong;
--The dating process familiarizes a human being with the opposite sex;
--We practice roles. We're learning how to interact;
--We learn about that person as well as ourselves;
--We find out "who is good for me;"
--We discover "what are my needs with the opposite sex;"
--Dating provides recreation and companionship.

Romance in the Bay Area

After a relationship break-up occurs - DO realize that you're going through something normal. Your body needs time to rest and think. Get emotional feelings out through activity. Listen to music, sleep or whatever relaxes you. Realize that your ability to concentrate is affected, and reading may end in frustration. Find someone trustworthy who cares about you to talk with to get thoughts and feelings out. Deal on the feeling level. If the person was a significant other, the pain will be devastating. A counselor at Family Services Association of America can help you recover.

After a relationship break-up occurs - DON'T get carried away with fantasies of what might have been if only I had .... DON'T escape with drinking or drugs. The problem will still be there until you deal with it. DON'T deny that the break-up bothers you. DON'T repress emotions and push them into your subconscious.

Bolster your self esteem to mend damage done to your self concept. Work from strength, do the things that you're good at, things that excite you. Don't do something because someone else thinks you should. Satisfy you.

Accentuate the positive.

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Insights

Nonsmokers have rights too

By Dana Gibson

Why is it that no one thinks of the rights of nonsmokers? It could be that there are by far more smokers that nonsmokers.

Nonsmokers have the same rights as smokers. Up till now the emphasis has been put on the right to smoke (in certain public places). In America fortunately we have been blessed with the freedom of choice. If a person chooses to smoke, that choice should not be forced upon the person next to him who chooses not to smoke.

In many cases the smoker consiously enfringes his choice upon another. One good example is in an elevator. When a person "lights up" the confined space gives the nonsmoker no choice, but to breath the smoke.

Why do nonsmokers find smoking offensive? Odor is the main reason. The odor from cigarette smoke not only clashes with every type of cologne known to modern man, but gets on clothes and in hair. Many smokers see this type of complaint as over exaggerated. To them it is.

Smokers having the habit for 20 days or 20 years are used to the smoke and can not smell it.

Another complaint that many nonsmokers have is that they get nausious when smelling cigarettes while eating. Contact wearers can also testify to the problem with cigarette smoke.

If there are any smokers reading this paper (and I'm sure there are) just remember that the person sitting next to you has just as much right to not breath the smoke as you do to light up.

The Gander Staff

Writers: Judy Hall
Dana Gibson
Mathew Gerry
Connie Ross
Jacqueline Cole

Student Advisor:
Kathy Thomas-Hargis

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Thanksgivings past

By Matt Gerry

Thanksgiving is a special time of year for me. It always reminds me of my childhood experiences of studying the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving.

It also reminds me of my mother cooking all week before and the house fragrant with the smell of turkey and pies baking in the oven. There were always friends and relatives invited for the dinner, it was fun.

We still hold it every year either at my sister's house or my parents.

Thanksgiving is more than this, I never forget to give thanks for my

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Be around people who are significant others (family, close friends).

Compliment yourself on the positive things you have accomplished.

If you've let yourself down or feel responsible for the break-up, forgive yourself.

Life isn't a fairy tale. There is reality. Don't expect a dating relationship to end in "happily ever after."

Dating is the time to find out who you can live with and establish a relationship. Discover what you are not and what others are not.

People need to be honest with themselves. Find out what in life is needed for growth.

Have the guts to break off a relationship that isn't working. It's best for it to end before marriage.

Case of the missing ashtrays

By Judy Hall

INFORMANT: There's a rumor that a small group of antismokers are taking ashtrays in the Student Center.
JUDY: Have any idea who they are?
INFORMANT: No. But if they feel that strongly about it, they should try to get part of the Student Center designated as a non-smoking area. With ashtrays so scarce, a smoker sitting at a table with a ashtray becomes popular with other smokers because they share a common problem. Some people bring their own ashtrays and others use cups from the trash can.
JUDY: I've noticed the cups. It really makes the place look trashy.
INFORMANT: Not only trashy, look at all the burns in the carpet and on the tables.
JUDY: Sure is a lot of them.
INFORMANT: There's a lot of anger among smokers. They feel that they are paying for lunch in the Student Center, paying student fees and should be provided adequate ashtrays.
JUDY: Something has to be done.

INFORMANT: Back in Summer II when the new wing opened, the break room over there had plenty of tables, chairs and ashtrays. Now there is only one ashtray and a couple of canisters.
JUDY: I'll see what I can do to help.

* * * * * * *

JUDY: Do you have a minute to talk about the ashtray shortage?
HAROLD PARHAM: Sure.
JUDY: Do you think the ashtrays may have been taken by non-smokers trying to make a statement?
HAROLD: I don't know. Could be.
JUDY: How do you feel about designating smoking and non-smoking sections in the Student Center?
HAROLD: That would infringe on people's right to smoke, which parallels to prohibition or segregation. Puritans find it easier to pick on smokers, the small guy, rather than factories, the real cause, to satisfy their self esteem with positive reinforcement. Cowards pick on the weak instead of standing up to the powerful. Taking ashtrays causes negative behavior, resentment and rebellion.

* * * * * * *

JUDY: What do you think about having a non-smoking section in the Student Center?
DANA GIBSON: That would be good. I get physically sick if someone is smoking while I'm eating.

* * * * * * *

JUDY: Do you have any information on the disappearance of ashtrays in the Student Center? Does COM plan to replace them?
DAVID RAC (COM's Manager of Accounting): I'll see that funds will be made available for the purchase of around 24 dozen ashtrays. Since the cafeteria and bookstore operate for profit, I'll see if I can take the funds from the maintenance budget. That way, the expense of replacing the ashtrays won't effect the cost of books or food.
JUDY: Do you have any idea about what happened to the ashtrays?
RAC: Some were found in other campus buildings by COM custodians. But many remain missing.

* * * * * * *

Interestingly, a large number of non-smoking students I surveyed were indifferent to the ashtray problem and smoking and non-smoking sections. However, Houston radio station KLOL polled their audience Oct. 22 on the question of whether or not smokers should be segregated. Results indicated that 68 percent said yes to segregation and 32 percent voted no.

The ashtray shortage in the Student Center should be resolved by the time of this publication.

What's on your mind ?

Write to The Gander and tell us what you think.

Look for this semester's final issue in December.

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swinging, slides for sliding and lots of open space for running. Learning can be fun, when it's (more) Life Science taught in the garden or Physics taught in the sand box.

Creativeness is encouraged in the children with the help of a miniature village. This village consists of a general store, complete with a road around it and portable stops signs.

Again responsibility is emphasized. There are miniature garages for the tricycles. Each tricycle has it's own place and "order is learned", adds Smith.

What do children do on a rainy day? Play in the green room, of course. The green room contains all kinds of toys that develop the motor coordination of the children and provide them with a place to release their energies when not able to go outside.

Every day the children are given a routine "health check." The check is a simple one: feel forehead to see if there is a fever check nose and eyes to see if runny and look at throat to see if it is red. This two-minute check keeps all of the children healthy. It is against the law to accept a sick child.

In the Child Development center there are rules for the behavior of the children. If one of the rules is broken the child is not shamed or hit, but rather asked why he did what he did.

"We believe that all behavior has a motivation", said Smith. "The word discipline means to teach not to punish".

Smith is assisted by Katie Butler, who has a doctors degree in early childhood. Bulter is responsible for the supply of materials, health of the children and assisting the teachers with their plans.

Parents play a role in the day care center as well. There are parent meetings, newsletters and parent-teacher conferences. Even a copy of the menu is given to the parents.

Fun at COM picnic

By Jacqueline Cole

On Sunday, Oct. 6, College of the Mainland gave a picnic for students and employees at Carbide Park. We arrived about 3:30 p.m.

As we drove across the bridge I noticed people were enjoying themselves in a number of ways. From 200-400 people were there. Children were running around all over the park. Babies were having fun swinging on swings. Some were playing horse shoes. There were two games of volleyball, men and women both. People were playing frisbee. My boyfriend and I were amused to see the line was longer for the beer than for the food. Later, we decided to try some of the hotdogs and chips. They tasted good.

After eating we played a few games of bingo, not winning a game. People with better luck at bingo won different prizes.

As we drove off people were still having fun. It was a nice day for a picnic.

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blessings. There is truth behind the traditions.

There was a first Thanksgiving in 1621 at Plymouth colony. The Pilgrims held prayer and feasted for three days to give thanks for a bountifull harvest and also to give thanks for surviving the Massachusetts winter.

The second Thanksgiving was proclaimed by George Washington in 1789 on November 26th to commemorate the first Thanksgiving.

The first annual holiday as we know it was declared in 1863 by Abraham Lincoln that every fourth Thursday in November be Thanksgiving.

If the Pilgrims had not survived, maybe no one else would have come over to start the colonies. For this we owe the Pilgrims a debt of thanks.

In my opinion we also owe a debt of thanks to American Indians who taught the Pilgrims agricultural techniques and other information useful to survival in early America.

This country has progressed far in the 364 years since the first Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims would be proud.

The Gander

College of the Mainland's student newspaper

Vol. 1, No 3 December, 1985

Students comment on AIDS

By Cindy Engel

AIDS! What is it? Who does it affect? Could I get it? These are some of the questions students at College of the Mainland are asking.

When asked if AIDS had changed their dating and sexual activity Jeff Leschber said "It hasn't affected my sexual activity, you can't worry about the world ending."

On another note, Hiroko McCarty said "When I date someone we have an agreement that the other person will not date anyone else. I also have a teenage daughter I warn about AIDS."

Carolyn Conwell said she would have to trust her intuition and also that she is much more cautious now.

Barbara Augestine realizes that anyoune can contract AIDS and would like to see more information and become better educated, while Dennis Bailey say "AIDS doesn't bother me a bit and it hasn't changed my sexual activity."

The students at College of the Mainland do not feel they are educated on the AIDS subject and would like to see more information on AIDS.

What is AIDS? AIDS stands for Aquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. AIDS is a failure of the immune system, consequently patients with AIDS are very vulnerable to one or more infections or cancers that would not normally pose a

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Physics students launch COM 'shuttle'

By Dana Gibson

Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one chants the "recovery team." And ..... nothing.

"The first try was a misfire," said drafting major Ed Shores.

Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one .... no response.

Shores, with the help of Kevin Wilcox also a drafting major and aerodynamics major Alice Caldwell examined the operation underway. Student in Dr. Hubisz's physics class were attempting to launch a

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Physics students, from left, Alicia Caldwell, Kevin Wilcox and Ed Shores

Zappa opens pro-rock hotline

By Judy Hall

Frank Zappa has set up a telephone hotline (818-PUMPKIN) so pro-rockers can start a letter writing campaign.

Zappa's hotline is in response to the call for lyrical censorship by the Parents Music Resource Center (PMRC) or, as Zappa calls them, "The Wives of Big Brother."

Artistic expression in rock music gained national attention because of actions taken by Susan Baker, wife of Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III, and Tipper Gore, wife of Tennessee Senator Albert Gore, to censor rock's language.

COM students reacted negatively to PMRC.

Kelly Smith believes that, "They should have gone after all music and

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rocket recently in back of the COM science building.

after discussing the problem, the team decided that a boost would be needed for the battery. "The test of the ignition drained the battery," explained Shores.

A COM campus gold cart was brought to the scene and used to revive the battery.

Suddenly the rocket - "The Freshman I" leaped into the air and made a short, but powerful zoom across the sky .... and landed with a thud.

"The Freshman I" is the three-week-old product of freshman, Shore, Wilcox and Caldwell.

The group said that they would like to study with the shuttle instead of lab equipment. They are encouraged by technical advisor and professor Dr. Hubisz who told the group not to be afraid of using their imagination.

"The Freshman I" is made of homemade stuff," explains Shores. Boddy pins, coffee scoops, cardboard, drinking straws and shis-ka-bob sticks all held together with Elmers Glue and apoxi.

"We could have used a kit," explained Shores," but our object is to see if the shuttle will separate from the booster."

The shuttle did separate from the booster, but it happened on the ground. Caldwell who designed the booster was glad that at least her part of the experiment worked.

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problem to the healthy person whose immune system is working properly.

There is no known cure for AIDS yet but researchers are working to find a cure for AIDS. AIDS has been termed "The disease of the century" but most scientists with the Center of Disease Control predicting 12,000 new cases in 1986.

According to a new report by the New York State Department of Health, approximately 95% of AIDS cases have occurred nationally in the following groups. Approximately 73% are sexually active bisexual and homosexual men with more than one partner. Approximately 17% are from past of present drug abusers using dirty needles and IV's. Approximately 3% are hemophiliacs who have received blood transfusions or blood products to prevent clooting which are presumed to be contaminated. Approximately 1% are heterosexual contacts of people with AIDS or contaminated by AIDS, and another 1% from children who contracted the disease from their mothers infected at birth. The other 5% of AIDS cases do not fall in to any of these groups, but it is presumed that the transmission occurred in ways like these.

AIDS is not contagious by merely being around someone with AIDS. It is not transmitted through eating or drinking from utensils of an AIDS victim as well as coughing, sneezing or casual body contact of an AIDS victim. AIDS also cannot be contracted from kissing, Studies have shown that HTLV-III virus found in AIDS victims, is present in saliva but no cases of AIDS have been traces to kissing.

According to Dr. Mary Ann Cohen of New York, the student who is sexually active, male of female, heterosexual or homosexual should limit the number of sexual partners and avoid sex with someone whose background you are unsure of. Also avoiding promiscuous sexual encounters will help to protext you from AIDS. IV drugs abusers should also be aware of the dangers of using needles used by another person.

Computer lab opens to students

By Matt Gerry

The Multi-Disciplinary Computer Lab opened at COM this fall and is offering many computer learning services that are useful to students in all fields of study.

The MCL is open to all students from 8 am to 9 pm, Monday through Thursday, and from 8 am to 5 pm on Fridays.

Sarah Garrett, supervisor of the MCL, explained, "Micro Computers are small complete computing systems commonly used in business. COM outfitted the lab with IBM, Apple IIe, Hewlett-Packard 150's and Radio Shack micro computers and along with a library of hardware and software computer programs. There are instructors in the MCL to explain how to use the computers."

"There are students in the MCL using word processing and other computer skills in the MCL," Sarah Garrett explained.

The MCL serves as the word processing center for the entire college as well as offering computer-related learning services to students.

The COM student newspaper is printed at the MCL and this article was revised in the MCL using one of the Radio Shack Computers.

In the MCL students can learn to revise and correct term papers in about an hour using the computers. This is just one of the computer learning services available.

The Multi-Disciplinary Computer Lab is located in the Technical Vocational Building, Room T-320.

J. H. Faulk speaks at COM

By Dana Gibson

"Each succeeding generation must capture the courage to stand up for their rights," said Texas author and humorist John Henery Faulk.

Faulk spoke to a packed auditorium on Nov. 5 on the subject of people's rights.

He explained how his own rights were taken away, how he fought back, and won $3.5 million.

Faulk told of how in the 1950's America was caught up in the Red Scare.

Faulk said that he soon learned that Senator McCarthy was using the exploration of communists for his campaign.

Faulk said that, "Senator McCarthy was using fear to run his campaign."

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not just rock and roll bands."

Luat Dang says, "People got the right to listen to what they want to. I don't think it's right. I know what they're trying to do but that's not how you do it."

According to Bryan Looper, "Rock and roll should live forever." Guy S. Cook III added, "It ain't no good."

One Supreme Court justice points out that, "... one man's vulgarity is another's lyric." (Basics of American Politics, Gary Wasserman).

The war continues.

The music industry is organizing their efforts in rock's defense.

The Musical Majority, formed by record company executives, is fighting to preserve artistic expression and freedom of speech.

Some of the addresses given by Zappa's hotline are:

The Federal Communications Commission, Ms. Edythe Wise, Chief of Complaints, Mass Media Bureau of FCC, 1919 M St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20554.

The National Association of Broadcasters, Eddie Fritts, President and Chief Executive Officer, 1771 North St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

The Recording Industry Association of America, Stanley Gortikov, President, 888 7th Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, NY 10106.

The National Cable Television Association, Jim Mooney, Executive Director, 1724 Mass. Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

MTV, David Horowitz, President, 1133 Avenue of the Americans, New York, NY 10036.

Additional information is offered by the hotline and may be obtained by sending a self-addressed #10 legal size envelope with 56¢ postage to Z-PAC, P.O. Box 5265, North Hollywoood, CA 91616.

Insights

Day in the life of a student-mom

By Judy Hall

"Hey mom, got any clean socks for me?"

Oh, no! I forgot again. Those socks had been in the washer soaking in bleach for two days.

Another day begins.

Up at six to leave by 7:30 a.m. to drop my 10-year-old son and his bike at school and get to COM by eight for my first class.

On the way to school I remember that I forgot to make sure the dog had water. Did I feed the fish last night?

Images of my novel-in-progress flash through my head. I try to hold the ideas until the next red light. If the light is miles away, I jot it down while driving.

Incidently, I haven't wrecked doing this yet. But if you see me looking down while driving, consider that you've been warned.

At two o'clock, I leave COM for work.

A cold drizzle sets in while I make a mad dash for Sixth Street and Tenth Avenue deep in the heart of Texas City.

I begin to calculate how I could get out of the office so I could be in League City at 3:15 so my son wouldn't have to ride his bike home; how I was going to maintain my scheduled work; and all the while, the plot of my novel-in-progress was surfacing.

Stuck in a meeting in Texas City, my heart sank lower than a snake's belly. But the meeting went on and on.

How could anybody expect me to keep my mind on business when my baby was riding his bike home in the rain?

Everybody had been telling me that I had to let go of him, and if I didn't, he couldn't grow up to be a man was wrong.

This was plain old meaness!

The meeting was finally over at ten till five, and I rushed out to hit the road home.

Tormented with guilt, I made my way through the rain. Mechanically shifting the gear patterns of one through four, I weaved through traffic.

At last at home, I ran in apoligizing and threw my arms around him.

The poor little guy tried to comfort me and free me of my guilt. But I was a hopeless case.

The guilt has been so bad that I spend every day conniving to get away from the office around 3:15 so I can pick him up from school.

I sit down in the kitchen to have my daily glass of Ovaltine.

My son walks in, grins and says, "I'm going to do a report on Sir Francis Drake because Drake sounds like Dracula, and I like Dracula." And with this he happily skipped out of the room.

A friend calls, "Judy, we've got to talk. So much has been happening. Will you have any free time tomorrow?"

As the evening progresses, I make my way to the shower. My 13-year-old daughter trails after me. I shut the bedroom door behind me.

"Mom ! I've got to talk to you."

"Not now. It can wait."

"But it's about school."

"My shower is my time. I'll come by your room when I'm done."

Come to find out, she'd gotten a bus slip. But she felt her actions were justified. An ugly boy kept touching her, so she had to move to another seat.

You'd think this would be enough for one day. But not for me.

As the household quiets down, the studying begins. But just then those right words come to mind.

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"The Gander" is a monthly student newspaper produced by students in College of the Mainland's Journalism 131 class. Submit comments or student letters to the Division of Arts and Humanities.

Insights

Be yourself in love relationships

By Judy Hall

I'm me. Is the real you?

The increasing divorce rate in the last 15 years indicates that people are no longer afraid to walk away from a relationship that's not working and continue the search for happiness.

So why do some still hide behind the mask of pretension to gain acceptance?

In 1966 John Lennon and Paul McCartney recognized this problem.

"Eleanor Rigby picks up the rice in the church where a wedding has been.

Lives in a dream.

Waits at the window, wearing the face that she keeps in a jar by the door.

Who is it for?"

In the phychic state known as love, chemical explosions cloud reasoning.

One person's evaluation will decide whether the ecstacy will continue.

In an attempt to control the relationship, temptation overcomes honesty.

Illusions and impressions are constructed to increase the probability of a continued relationship.

But someday the mask will clip off. The fictitious love affair will end.

And who will be left with you: The real you.

Attractions come and go like elevators. If you miss one, another will be along soon.

Wait for the one that is a friend. Wait for the one who loves the real you.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column appears monthly to keep your heart smiling.

Romance in the Bay Area

OEA helps needy families

By Jacqueline B. Cole

The head of Office Education Association is Joyce White. There are nine members in the club. There names are President, Cecelia Kusek; Vice President, Charlene Brown; Secretary, Bridgette Clack; Treasure, Brenda Erick; Reporter, Sammy Murray; Parliamentarian, Darryl Gonzales; Historian, Lori Kane; Recruitment Committee, Jackie Green and Rhonda Crowford.

OEA Care Project is to collect enough food to feed several families for the Thanksgiving Holidays. This will include a turkey and the whole meal. Please donate can goods for a needed family.

There will be a State Leadership Conference will be held in Harlingen Texas. The College of the Mainland is in its third year in operation. Those who are placed the top three will go on to the National Competition.

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A welcome interruption: the interpretation of the moment when the character interaction of my novel-in-progress brings them beyond intrigue and into love.

Sometimes one day doesn't end for me, another one just begins.

When everybody gangs up and gives me lots of tests and papers to write, impromptu naps are apt to occur.

One day I took a nap at the kitchen table over a cup of coffee and missed my eight o'clock class.

I've even been known to take naps in doctor's waiting rooms. But never standing up in a staff photo.

Why do I do this to myself

My id tells me to run away and party. But my superego argues that I asked for it; and I have to act like a big girl and stick it out.

A 20-hour course load, freelance writing, and 20 plus hours at work sounds like a lot. But I'm in a hurry.

The faster I get through school, the closer I am to reaching longterm goals. And believe me, I'm ready for that.

Student holiday traditions vary

By Ruth Jarratt

Christmas is ... absurd advertising, crass commercialism, crushing crowds, garish gift wrap, tangled traffic jams, tinseled trees, and trendy toys.... or is it?

Not according to student here at COM. To them Christmas is going home, giving gifts, Baby Jesus in a manger, green trees, fun, food and song.

Most of the students interviewed mentioned the tradition of the nativity display. This custom is believed to have begun with a Giotto painting of St. Francis of Assisi, depicting an outdoor Christmas mass that St. Francis celebrated using live animals in the year 1224.

Holding with this tradition, COM student Nuccia Pingnatarro tells of her family's yearly nativity display in her parents restaurant in Clear Lake. Nuccia is quite proud to say the display has attracted the attention of hundreds of people each year, including press coverage last year.

The family of Larry LaBove, a student from La Marque, chooses the day after Thanksgiving to set up the nativity with reverent ceremony. Each piece is set out in certain order except for the infant Jesus. This piece remains put away until Christmas Eve when he is ceremoniously unwrapped and gently placed in the waiting manger.

Display of the Christmas tree, another tradition, had its origin a fewer number of years ago in

Europe. Alsace and the Black Forest region are considered the birthplace of this traditional tree, usually at that time, a small spruce. This occurred in the early 1800's, but by 1841 it was considered an all-German tradition when Prince Albert presented the royal tree to Queen Victoria.

Priscilla Hargraves, a student from Kemah, decorated her tree with only handmade, unbreakable ornaments. This custom began, she feels, when her children were very small. Her most treasured decorations, she says, are those her children have made each year in school.

Priscilla and her family also celebrate this season with an Advent wreath. On the first Sunday following November 26th the first of four candles is lit on a wreath of pine or fir greens, the second and third on the following Sundays. The last candle is lit on Christmas Eve, symbolizing the Light of the World born that night two thousand years ago.

Mary O'Rourke, a student from Santa Fe, recalls her favorite tradition is that of Christmas stockings bursting with gifts, candy and surprises left by none other than the red-suited old gentlemen himself.

Mary also enjoys making fudge and candy to be devoured on Christmas Eve as the family gathers for Game Night, when all the old board games are brought out and dusted off for this annual yule custom.

Having grown up in rural Tennessee, Alice Hakola remembers the good old-fashioned kind of Christmas on her grandparent's farm. The tree was brought in from their own acerage as she and her grandmother prepared the Christmas feast. All the food was supplied from their own garden and the poultry they had raised.

Student Deb Oliver and her family share this custom: no gifts may be opened before dinner. As a result, they have two dinners on Christmas day, because the children (and a few adults) are to excited to eat the first one.

The exchange of gifts among the aunts, uncles, and cousins in Holly Jarratt's family became too costly a few years ago. Now, instead, when the clan gathers at her mother's home in Kemah, each person brings a tree ornament imprinted with that year's date. These are wrapped as gifts and distributed, each person receiving an ornament from someone else. Holly says she treasures this tradition because it is an exchange of memories that last from year to year.

Merry Christmas World

Students offer serious, funny Christmas wishes

By Dana Gibson

In a recent survey at COM, students were asked "If you could give a Christmas present to the world what would it be?: Here are the serious, funny and wacky answers that you gave:

Pat Hughes - No more war.

Ted Williams - American Express Gold Card

Lori Wagner - A Porsche in every driveway.

Anne Mills - Love of mankind.

Rose Wilcox - No more hangovers.

Larry LaBove - No more hunger.

Terence Martinez - Money

Del Robinson - Motley Crue in Russia.

Tammie Smythe - Freedom

Jackie Rickerman - Christianity

Christopher Van - Freedom

Chip Starman - Intelligence

Angela Leago - Education

Kat Rice - Brotherhood

Patty Taylor - More Love

Charlotte Wisnewski - Jesus Christ

Maxine Vance - A chicken in every pot.

Stephen Sierra - Less war.

Sara Shepard - Salvation

Rebecca Gates - No hunger

Kelly Hannagan - A cure for all diseases.

Tammy Marcuso - Freedom for every country.

Jeri Hardung - World peace

Jeannette Stewart - A cure for cancer.

Karina Carvajal - For every person in the world to get a one month vacation in Hawaii free!!

Stephen McNeill - A world wide party with free "party favors" for every one.

Angelia and Alice - a six pack in every mailbox.

Cinderella opens at COM theater

By Ruth Jarratt

In 1957 actress Julie Andrews became the first Cinderella on Broadway. Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein had again combined talents to create the role principally for Miss Andrews.

COM Community Theatre is currently staging this adaption of a timeless story, and Reggie Schwander, director, says he has looked forward to directing this play for several reasons.

"This version of Cinderella has high family appeal with very real characters. It is genuinely funny and appealing in a modern sense," Schwander explains.

Shirely Sarabia, as Cinderella, and David Elder, as Prince Charming, head a cast of thirty players. The technical crew includes scenery design by Randy Ruhlman, costuming by Michael Quinn, Merele Wurth as choreographer, Kelly Babb as lighting director and Eric Burnhart on sound production.

The Rodgers and Hammerstein score, directed by Joey Bernsen, includes the familiar tunes, "Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful?" and "Ten Minutes Ago."

Much of the technical assistance and other backstage work is being done by COM students.

The play will run throughout the holiday season from Dec. 5 through Jan. 26. Tickets are available at the theatre box office or by calling (409) 938-1211, ext. 345, or (713) 486-8272.

Student writers needed for Gander

Students whoop it up at rodeo

By Judy Hall

As the keg went down, the crowd came to life at the Pre-Holiday Country/Western Dance and Mock Rodeo held November 16 at the Nessler Center.

COM students, friends and faculty partied as the Mesa band twanged the sounds of progressive country. The ratio of males to females was two-to-one.

Around 10 p.m. everyone had an opportunity to be a kid just having fun at the mock rodeo. It consisted of three events: high races, the chuck wagon rave and horse races.

Rene' Tracy, Lynwood Weiss, Gloria Kovamees and R. Hugh Evans were the team mates that won first place.

The 20 prizes available included belt buckles, country ties, chocolates, deep sea fishing and Bonanza tickets.

Six teams of four people stepped up at the beginning of the mock rodeo. Ten teams of four people were participating at the end.

As contestant enthusiasm mounted, Minh Nguyen said, "Hey man, we're going to win."

In the high races the calvery ran across the dance floor to save the victim by dragging them back to safety on a blanket.

On the way back to the safety zone, the victim grabbed a ring along the way.

A few rings were dropped as the victims held tightly to the blankets.

When in the safety zone, using one hand the victim tied a knot around the ring with a rope before another victim could be saved.

Little red wagons carrying students wheeled around an obstacle course on the dance floor in the chuck wagon race. Student passengers held oranges under their chins as another student hot rodded them toward the finish line.

One little red wagon overturned but had no casualties.

At the end of the run, the wagon's passenger had to transfer the orange to the next passenger without using hands.

Chin to neck and neck to chin the orange was moved from one to the other.

Little stick poines provided entertainment for the horse races. Contestants hopped around the obstacle course keeping the little stick poines between their legs without using hands.

Some contestants fell down, a lot of horses were dropped and a few horses ended up with no heads.

By midnight Masa was playing "Cocaine." The lights were turned on and it was time to go home.

The winning Mock rodeo teams, left to right: first place Gloria Kovamees, Lynwood Weiss, Rene Tracy and Hugh Evans; second place Kelly Lynch, Mike Lynch, Jody Clafferty, Hank Clafferty. The first place team chose a free bay fishing trip, and second place winners received belt buckles.

The Gander

College of the Mainland's student newspaper

Vol. 2, No. 1 February, 1986

UCAM raising funds for trip

By Matt Gerry

The United Campuses against Nuclear War Club at College of the Mainland is trying to raise money to send student representatives to Washington D.C. in mid April for UCAM student lobby day in the United States Congress.

New plans for UCAM day include student representatives lobbying with Senator Phil Gramm and the representative from the local area to present to them the views of their UCAM constituency.

There are several events being planned to raise money for travel expense and hotel accommodations for the student representatives in Washington. Look for flyers and pamphlets displayed prominently around the campus that will keep you up to date on UCAM activities such as the planned fun raisers. For more information about pending legislation regarding the nuclear arms race or to find out the times of club activities call uthe UCAM Hotline at 948-2264.

In an interview club spokesman bill Fuqua explained, "The UCAM club supports an absolute free of the nuclear arms race, a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty, unilateral reduction and an end to the super powers' arms race."

Another club member Kazel Honea said, Fran Bartosh, a humanities night student, is president of the UCAM club this year. Mona Marshall is the faculty member responsible for organizing the UCAM club, she, along with other faculty members, serves as a sponsor of the club and handling club financial matters.

Honea said, "The UCAM club is planning presentations to history, political science, psychology and other interested classes to illustrate how serious the situation is and to spur interest in class-related research groups being planned.

This issue is the most important issue facing our generation and we feel tht if people don't take responsibility to turn things around then the next generation might not make it."

OEA club celebrates anniversary

By: Jacqueline B. Cole

Office Education Association will be selling hotdogs and popcorn. They will be discussing the benefits of being in the association. There will be a guest speaker from chambers of commerce. OEA week will be Feb. 10-16.

This will be the OEA 20th Anniversy. So we're having an open house to celebrate. Dr. Bass will issue a proclamation at 9:20 a.m. February 10th.

To tell you a little more on what OEA is about. We go to two competitions a year. When we go to our competition we win plaques and certificates.

It's very educational and you get to meet other students. Office Education Association is open for all majors.

Leticia Martinez receives a $25 Sear Gift certificate from Hudson and Herrigan at the Student Center Jan. 16.

Insights

Cupid strikes some lovers

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a continuing column designed to keep your heart smiling.

A special thanks is owed to sociology Professor Marty Caylor for her guidance on the subject and to former COM student Susan Peeples for her limerence research.

"Why is it that I can never get through the first day of classes without needing additional supplies?" she silently mumbled.

Making her way through the crowded bookstore, she looked up to be captivated by the eyes of a stranger.

Silently transported by limerence, her blood became noticeably warm and liquid as it rushed through her veins. A smile, a "Hello," and then it was over.

Left with the echoing of an affair, she snapped back to reality.

What happened to the poor girl? She was afflicted by a condition called limerence, the legendary product of Cupid's arrow.

Symptoms of limerence found by psychologist Dorothy Tennov include:

- Lost control of emotions.
- Obession with an attraction.
- A perpetual state of anticipation.
- Sleeplessness caused by thoughts of your limerent object.
- Inability to accept the end of a relationship.
- Extreme depression about a love affair.
- Compulsive need to be near your limerent object.
- A tendency to see only the positive characteristics of your limerent object.
- Lack of a logical reason why you would choose a mate.
- Both males and females can be afflicted.
- In a fully developed limerence, a feeling of protectiveness and a sense of being completely attuned to each other.
- Limerence often results in marriage.

Dr. Tennov concluded in her 14 years of research that not everyone experiences limerence. Nonlimerents experience affection and without compulsive preoccupation.

Limerence can happen suddenly or gradually.

Dr. Tennov estimated the average limerent duration to be two years.

The condition can range from a few weeks to a lifetime.

Romance in the Bay Area

"I was like one who sees in a dream, and when the dream is gone the passion stamped by it remains, and the other comes not to mind; even so my vision has almost entirely disappeared, but the sweetness born of it distills still in my heart." (Dante. "Recollection of the Way")

What about the U.S, Libya?

The following are a few of COM'S students thoughts on Libya, Khadafy, and the trade sanctions proposed by the U.S.,etc.

Floyd Kidd
elementary education

"I don't like terrorism, but I feel we brought a lot of that stuff upon ourselves by closing our ears to Arab problems."

Hilda Mathis
nursing

"I believe Khadafy is trying to scare the world! He's a blow-hard and thinks that we're not going to retaliate, but he may be surprised, especially if Reagan's in office, and he'll get what he deserves!"

Del Robinson
English

"You couldn't print what I've got to say!"

Tim Pickett
graphic arts

"Mr. Reagans opinion seems to fit the "flake" perfectly. Personally, I feel the "Big Flake's"main priority is power, no matter what the risk!"

Deidre Thurmond, nursing

"I think Khadafy is a crazy man, because he thinks that if any country makes a military move he can and will start war. I believe the U.S. should take action!"

Bill Benoit, physical education

"I think they should listen more to the United Nations rather than listen to Khadafy and Reagan blow of hot air."

Alice M. Tryals
computer

I feel that something should and can be done. If they could and would try to set a day and work hand in hand with one another. And not try to over rule each other.

Clement Walter
computer science

I feel that Libya should be handled by all the neutral countries. What I mean is that those countries should all embargo on Libya.

Betty A. Nelson
banking

I believe that the two heads of those countries should get together on neutral ground and discuss the situation. Make peace not war.

Pat Blystone-Wallace/electronics

"Definitely should go to war to make more jobs so I can make some money."

Don Trahan/undecided

"Without U.S. intervention of some sort, the problem will escalate to a major conflict between Libya and Arab States against the Israelis."

Insights

Radio hosts disappointing

By Matt Gerry

Radio personalities Hudson and Herrigan left a lot to be desired in the way of humor Jan. 16 at the Student Center. The Student Activities Board advertised an hour of humor, but these two characters spent all of ten or fifteen minutes running through a short tired comedy routine about school that they could have presented to sixth graders. At one point they made a Korean War joke that was so low-key that you had to have been there to understand.

After ten or fifteen minutes Hudson and Herrigan drew the winning names from those who entered the door prize drawing sponsored by the Student Activities Board, Leticia Martinez won a $25 gift certificate from Sears, and Jim Higgins won a $25 gift certificate to Beall's both in the Galvez Mall.

Hudson and Herrigan then walked to the side of the stage and started talking quietly with some people, leaving me very disappointed with Hudson and Herrigan's brand of humor. They were on and off in a flash like they had better things to do than entertain a crowd of college students.

Prior to the show College of the Mainland President Larry Stanley announced that "all classes would be cancelled Jan. 21st in honor of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King." Dean of Instruction Ron Bass also requested that "any student should feel free to come to his office and discuss with him any difficulty with course curriculum in any course being offered."

It is my opinion that we were lucky Hudson and Herrigan were so brief in their comedy act America survived Rowan and Martin's *Laugh-In* in the sixties so Houston will probably survive through Hudson and Herrigan's radio free idiocy.

Four SAB replacements sought

Four Student Activity Board replacements are needed to plan and implement activities student for the remainder of the September 1985 to August 1986 term

Those accepting positions with the SAB will receive $100 per semester with a maximum of $200 per year.

Interested individuals "who care about student life at COM, and don't mind hard work can have the chance to get programs they want while getting experience using organizational and develop mental skills, "coordinator Maryann Urick said.

An average of three hours per week should be allocated for board activities, according to Urick.

Members elected last fall continuing on the board are Monte Harris, Kevin Robinson, Gloria Kovamees and Bunny Bennett.

Monte Harris, Kevin Robinson, Gloria Kovamees and Bunny Bennett.

Jean Felter and Maryann Bennett joined the board in December.

"Time conflicts, overcommitments, relocation and students leaving school created these vacancies," Urick said.

For more information contact Urick at ext. 418 or Eva Neinas at ext. 417.

Attention All Students!

Here's a chance to express your opinion.

The Citizens Advisory Council of College of the Mainland is sponsoring three annual awards for persons who have best promoted and represented the College motto "Humanhood Through Brotherhood.

The awards are:

For a Faculty Member	For a Student	For a Staff Member
H. K. "Griz" Eckert Award	The President's Award	Citizens Advisory Council Award

Be sure to pick up a ballot at the Information Desk (Administration Building), the Library checkout counter or the Division of Business foyer.

Deadline: March 14

Find the typos & win a prize!

Whoever finds the most typos wins a prize. Cirle the typos in this issue of The Gander, turn them in to Kathy Thomas, Department of Humanities, Suite B.

Students earn honors

THE following students were named to the dean's highest honors list for the Fall 1985-86 semester:

Donna Baker ..... LEAGUE CITY	Jeannette Mahaney ..... TEXAS CITY
Kevin Colston ..... ALTA LOMA	Awasom Nsoh ..... HOUSTON
Thomas Curl ..... LAMARQUE	Jesus Ramos ..... GALVESTON
Charles Delgado ..... TEXAS CITY	Julie Regis ..... HITCHCOCK
Bonnie Dewindt ..... SANTA FE	DeeDee Roberts ..... LAMARQUE
Richard Eisenhour ..... GALVESTON	Bert Schroeder ..... DICKINSON
Alice Hakdla ..... LEAGUE CITY	Brenda Seelbach ..... TEXAS CITY
Judy Hall ..... LEAGUE CITY	Georgia Strain ..... GALVESTON
Lillie Henderson ..... TEXAS CITY	Tina Wheeler ..... TEXAS CITY
Clint Hildebrand ..... GALVESTON	Robert Williams ..... DICKINSON
Peggy Johannes ..... DICKINSON	Chia-hsun Wu ..... LEAGUE CITY
Robert King ..... TEXAS CITY	Leona Wurzlow ..... LAMARQUE
	Gregory Zak ..... DICKINSON

The Gander staff

Judy Hall
Dana Gibson
Matt Gerry
Jacqueline B. Cole
Berta Bragg
Roby Otto

Kathy Thomas
Student advisor

THE GANDER is published by journalism students for COM students through the Department of Arts and Humanities. Please send comments and suggestions to the Humanities Department Suite B, attention Kathy Thomas.

College specials, events, sports

By Ruby J. Otto

From 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays & Thursdays, there are no classes! Come out to the Student Center and enjoy the following performers and special events. For more information, contact Maryann Urick at 938-1211 ext. 418.

Dates	Activity
Tues., Feb. 4	Hot Shandy, zany duo playing accoustic music
Wed., Feb. 5	"Living Safe In Dangerous World,"presented by Citizens Against Crime 7:30-8:30 p.m., Sc-120, Free
Sat., Feb. 8	Trip To Burke Baker Planetarium, presentation on "The Year of the Great Comet," Noon-4 p.m. $7/adults
Tues., Feb. 11	Candy Green Quartet, jazz, blues & contemporay
Sat., Feb. 14	Robin Hood, Free Movie Series, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (G)
Sat., Feb. 15	Robin Hood, Free Movie Series, 1:30-3:00 p.m. (G)
Fri., Sat., Sun.	Valentine's racquetball tourn.,$9/person
Tues., Feb. 18	Brian Huskey, solo guitarist & singer
Wed., Feb. 19	Introduction to training workshop, 7:00-9:00 p.m. $4/per.
Sat., Feb. 22	Run/Walk for Your Heart, 9 a.m., 1/4 mi. & 1 mi. $7, 3 & 6 mi. $ 9
Tues., Feb. 22	Regency, five-piece accapella musical group
Wed., Feb. 26	GCIC Bowling Sports Day, at Brazosport College, free bowling. Open to 12 credit students, 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Tues., Mar.4	Ken Whitener, hypnotist preview at 12:30 Student Center, full show 7:30-9:00 p.m. L-131, free
Tues., Mar. 11	Al Garza, Karate demonstration
Wed., Mar. 12	Image Projection for Success, hair care, skin care looking good, 7:00-8:30 p.m. $2/per. P-112
Fri., Sat.,Mar. 14,15	Romancing the Stone, Free Movie Series, 7:30-9:15 p.m. (PG)
Sun., Mar. 16	Student/employee picnic, 1 p.m. til, dark, Carbide Park (north side), free food, beverages lots of fun. There will be volleyball, softball and bingo.
Tues., Mar. 18	Soul Brothers, musical group
Mar., 22-27	Lake Tahoe's Heavenly Valley, Spring break ski trip, deadline to sign up June 21, $486,
Mar., 22-29	$547 (two choices)

The Gander

College of the Mainland's student Newspaper

Vol.2, No.2 *March, 1986*

Sickness plagues COM ducks

By Dana Gibson

Sickness and death plague the ducks in College of the Mainland's pond. Many of the victims were left to decay in the spot where they fell last winter. Local authorities have differing opinions on the causes.

Dr Roy Rhame, COM biology professor for 12 years, said COM ducks have been sick because of poor diet and over population.

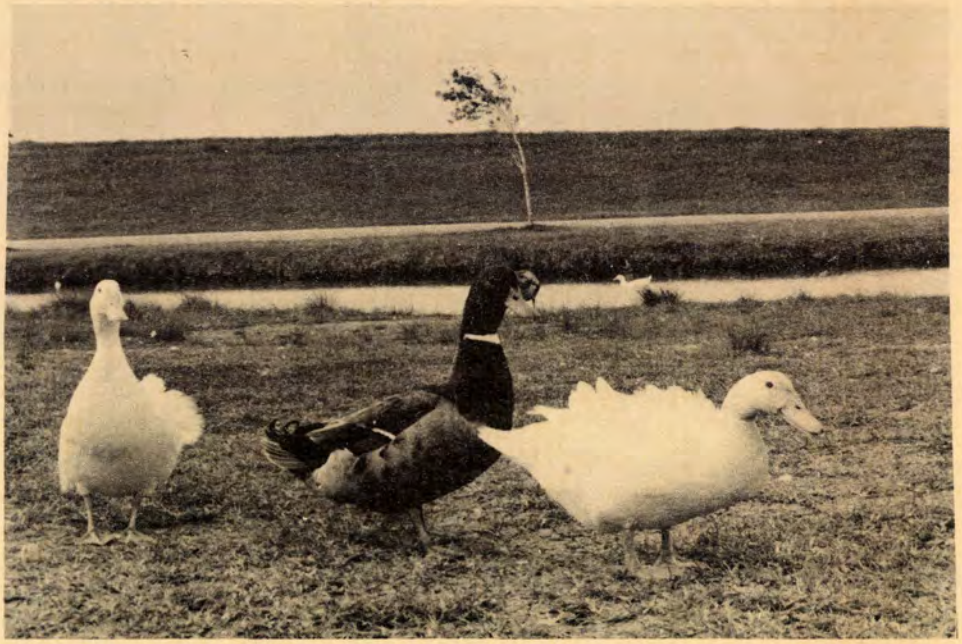
"Healthy animals are like healthy people, when they are not healthy they are susceptible to diseases," said Dr. Rhame. He explained that the duck's diet consists of bread. Bread alone, he said, does not have enough protein to keep the ducks healthy. It is true, he said that some people from the community feed them grain, but it is still not enough. "At last count there were 72 ducks and geese on the grounds."

Texas City veterinarian Bruce Austin has another theory. He thinks that the ducks have botulism.

Botulism, Dr. Austin said, is a part of the ecosystem.

"It happens during the late summer and early fall," Dr. Austin said.

Botulism, he explained is caused by bacteria on the bottom of the pond. The ducks that eat from the bottom eat the bacteria and catch the disease, he added.



Ducks beside COM pond

Dr. Austin went on to say that the only way to keep the disease from spreading to the other ducks is to remove the carcasses. The reason why several of the ducks died, said Dr. Austin, is because when a duck dies, the others will peck the maggots off of it and catch the disease.

Many students were concerned that the disease could be caught by humans. When asked about this Dr. Austin said that the only way for a human to catch the disease is for them to eat the same thing that the ducks eat. He also said that people could not carry the disease home to their pets.

Dr. Rhame said that he disagrees with Dr. Austin's theory. "The only way to confirm the fact that the ducks have botulism is to take a fresh body and do an autopsy on it.

Teacher stands up for beliefs

By Judy Fullen-Hall

History instructor Larry Smith went to jail to dramatize the plight of the Texas City unemployed workers.

Smith and 88 other protesters were arrested in a non-violent demonstration Feb. 13 on misdemeanor charges of obstructing a passageway.

They blocked the gate of Carbide-HNG/InterNorth co-eneration facility construction site because the project contractor, Century Contractors West Inc. of Houston, does not plan to hire union workers, Smith said.

According to Smith, the campaign also will protect utility consumers from possibly having to pay higher rates. The companies involved with the co-generation plant have a secret contract that Smith said he believes may be hiding windfall profits. He believes the contract should be made public.

"Texas City was built by unions. These companies are putting corporate greed above human need," Smith said.

Continued on Page 2

Student seeks drafting career

By Judy Fullen-Hall

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a continuing column to help the undecided student by informing them on how others have made career choices.

Playing with his stepfather's electrical draftsman tools at age seven was Dan Huckabees's first experience with drafting. "I decided I liked drafting, playing with the tools," said 34-year-old Huckabee.

After 20 years of blue collar work, he enrolled at COM this spring to implement his plans to get an A.A.S. in computer aided drafting at COM by 1990.

Huckabee built offshore oil rigs from blueprints for 10 years. He often thought of "this draftsman sitting in an air conditioned office, sending these (blueprints) down to me" while he worked out in the weather.

At 15 he quit school and started supporting himself to help his then divorced mother.

Huckabee enlisted in the Marines at age 17. During the seven and a half years in the Marines, he got his GED, fought in Vietnam for 18 months, and ended up in field supply administration.

He attributes his final decison to go ahead and get his education in drafting to his recent divorce. "When I was married it wasn't feasible to go back (to school). I had to support a wife and children." Huckabee has two boys, ages 11 and 13.

Primarily interested in architectural drafting, he would "like to get into designing buildings and houses."

Huckabee loves working with wood, fishing, bowling, speed boating, archery, rock music, and drafting.

Photo by Judy Fullen-Hall

Student Dan Huckabee at drafting table

Continued from Page 1

He feels that we are all indirectly affected and should support the cause.

Smith said hte protest stems from a long tradition of American history — "people trying to get justice."

He considers the protest "a good educational experience."

"The best way to educate people is to be a role model and offer alternatives. You can't separate learning from living," Smith said.

He said that he encourages his students to stand up for what they believe, and the protest wass his way of practicing what he preaches.

Please send comments to the Gander to LRC Suite B, attention Kathy Thomas.

Beware of parking tickets

By Dana Gibson

At the first of each semester many students receive parking tickets.

"We normally do not take action on the first ticket. We are basically telling you that we are writing tickets for that offense and for the other offenses on the ticket," said Chief Joe Rotramel.

Fines concerning the tickets are two dollars for the first, three for the second and five for every ticket after that.

Rules for the parking lot are:

Do not park a car backwards;
Do not park in a fire zone;
Do not park in a handicap space without a permit;
Do not drive on the sidewalk without permission;
Do not block an exit or driveway;
Do not speed in the parking lot;

"All we ask is that you show the same respect to other drivers that you would want them to show you," said Rotramel.

Tickets written will not go on a student's driving record, unless it becomes a problem. If the offense is carried out repeatedly then the ticket will be turned in to the LaMarque or Texas City police department.

Reasons for the parking lot rules are to protect the students and the campus. If there was a fire and someone was blocking the driveway it would be difficult for the fire department or an ambulance to get to the problem, Rotramel said.

Rotramel said "a lot" of tickets are written each semester but declined to say exactly how many.

Students build parade float

By Berta O. Bragg

Two COM students created and built the Yellow Rose of Texas float that was in the Cotton Bowl Parade in Dallas last June.

Kennedy Columbo was inspired while at a previous Cotton bowl Parade with some friends.

He and his friend Paul Sims wrote to the Cotton Bowl Council in Dallas for the rules for their entry. When they read the rules they decided they could do it and wrote again to be entered.

The next step was to get a sponsor. Although someone may have the finances, they must still represent a civic club or organization in order to enter.

In this case the LaMarque Chamber of Commerce agreed to help raise the funds needed. bussinesses that were members of the organization donated some materials, a trailer, and about $1300 to cover some of the other expenses and materials.

Kennedy sent in his drawing of the float for the parade council's approval.

The framework building assistants included seven or eight other friends. It took three weeks to build the float —all day, everyday, except for Christmas day, which they took off.

The float's framework, on it's trailer, was towed to Dallas five days before the parade.

The floats are all taken to a huge warehouse on the Dallas fair grounds. The inspectors roamed around to spot any flimsy or unsafe workmanship while the builders finished their projects.

Floral sheeting was stapled to the framework and also covered the Jeep that would be pulling the float, then 700 to 800 yellow silk roses were attached. Three-foot-tall artificial rose bush trees were placed on the seven flower pedestals, and a green fringe-like material was attached to the entire float as a skirting.

Three young ladies, wearing yellow satin gowns and matching wide brimmed hats, also adorned the float on the day of the parade.

When asked how he felt seeing his float in the parade, Kennedy responded, "Relieved! There was a lot of work involved."

"Yellow Rose" float designed by students

Young ladies adorn parade float

Asked if he thought he might become a professional float builder, "A definite no!" was his reply. He said he really enjoyed the designing but preferred to just supervise all that work if he did it again.

After the parade the float was destroyed, and Kennedy said he took great pleasure in tearing down one flower pedestal in particular because it had given them so much trouble until the very last minute before the parade.

Kennedy and Paul are English students at COM and are studying architecture at the University of Houston.

Insight

COM ducks need special care

By Dana Gibson

With winter coming to an end, everyone and everything breaths a sigh of relief, espeially COM ducks. COM's unofficial mascots have been left to fend for themselves for food and shelter this winter.

While it is true that wild ducks are able to take care of themselves the ducks at COM can not. They are domestic.

The ducks at COM are mainly Easter presents to children who have been brought here after their newness wears off, said Dr. Roy Rhame, a biology professor at COM for 12 years.

Their diet is made up of bread given to them by snackbar workers and students and whatever they can find on the bottom of the pond. All of this may seem an adequate diet, but when spread between about 70 ducks and geese, food is scarce.

Shelter is a problem in winter. A small space underneath the student center provides little escape from the wind and rain. More shelter is needed for laying and hatching eggs.

President Larry Stanley said that he did not know of anyone who is assigned to take care of the ducks. He assured The Gander that if someone was not in charge of the ducks he would assign someone to do so.

COM's unoffical mascot must have shelter and a food supply that will keep them healthy or become once again the weak and dying animals that they were this winter.

Green jazz quartet was great fun

By Matt Gerry

If you missed the Candy Green Jazz Quartet's performance Feb. 10 at College of the Mainland, you missed an afternoon of great jazz entertainment.

The quartet is composed of Candy Green, pianist and lead singer; Darryl Taylor, base drums; Sylvester LeBlanc on saxiphone and flute; and G.T. Hogan on drums.

Candy Green is also house pianist at the Wentletrap Restaurant in Galveston, and Sylvester LeBlance is the director of the Cashmere Stage Jazz Band and the Marching Band of Houston.

The jazz concert got a fast start with "Things Ain't What They Used to Be" and "Let the Good Times Roll."

There were memorable performances on drums by Hogan, but my favorite was the performance on jazz saxiphone by LeBlanc who did equally well with the flute on songs such as "I Remember April."

Seemingly familiar songs were done in a completely original style which is the Candy Green Quartet's style alone. Each member of the group had the musical talent to be entertaining alone but the combined talent of the four musicians together was awsome.

The Student Activities Board brought top of the line entertainment to C.O.M. and it was an enjoyable afternoon of jazz.

Base player Darryl Taylor said, "The quartet enjoyed performing at C.O.M. and hope to be back soon."

Which movie should win?

What movie do you think should be picked as the Academy Award best movie of the year and why?

Christine Camp/Real Estate

"**Color Purple.** Really did a good job depicting that segment of time."

Scott McClung/Business Management

"**Color Purple.** Fantastic. Wasn't so true to life that it was boring but true to life."

David Polinard/Undecided

"**Emerald Forest.** I like it. Had a lot of excitement."

Jackie Price/Alvin transfer

"*I like the story in the* **Color Purple**. It tells the way things were, not the way it should have been."

Sam Kendon/Electronics major

"I think that the movie **Iron Eagle** should be nominated. It has lots of great action scenes in it."

Mary Gendend/computer science

"The movie "**Down and out in Beverly Hills"** is the funniest movie I have every seen. I feel it should win because it has a good story line."

The Gander staff

Judy Hall
Dana Gibson
Matt Gerry
Jacqueline B. Cole
Berta Bragg
Ruby Otto

Kathy Thomas
Student advisor

Typesetting by
Detra Levige

Art club offers exhibits, sale

By Matt Gerry

The Art Associatin at College of the Mainland is holding an Art Festival May 1, to sell student artworks, handmade sculpture and pottery, will be open to the public.

Barbra Guthrie, president of C.O.M. Arts Association explained, "there are plans for designing a new sign outside the gallery to bring more public attention to the gallery during the student art sale."

Guthrie said the main purpose of the Arts Association is to offer art scholarships and to coordinate student activities in the fine arts department. There was an exhibition of student art on display in the C.O.M. art gallery until February 14.

Stella Dobbins, director of the C.O.M. art gallery, said that "Gay Block, Houston photographer, gave an opening lecture and show slides on her work February 20th. The exhibition of her recent photographs in the C.O.M. art gallery will be exhibited through March 23. This exhibition is in conjuction with the Houston Photo-fest and is of international reputation. These photo images of women and most recently the color-dyptich portrait pieces that give into the personal and professional lives of people, Dobbins said.

Guthrie also said "the Arts Association is planting seven trees in honor of the astronauts who died in the space shuttle tragedy. There will be a dedication ceremony May 1. For more information on any of these activities contact the Fine Arts Department.

Dobbins said "an exhibit entitled College of the Mainland Faculty Selects" will open April 4. The exhibit will open at 7 p.m. with a lecture from David Brauer. This exhibit is in honor of the Texas Sesquicentennial. Exhibited will be works of 12 Texas artists, each selected by a different faculty member. On display will be artworks by Paul McCoy, John Alexander, Peter Brown, Michael Collins, Karl Umlauf and Betty Polifka. The Artworks of this large show will be on display at the C.O.M. gallery April-May 16.

The closing of the faculty selected art show on May 16th will be marked by a panel discussinon moderated by visiting artist John Alexander.

Guthrie said the Arts Associaton has been at C.O.M. since 1980 and has about 15 active members. This year new classes are being offered through the Fine Arts Department on Raku, a new method of firing to create beautifull glazes on ceramic artwork.

The Art Association offers full and part time scholarships to students interested in the arts. For more information contact the Fine Arts Department.

Student tax deductions

By Judy Fullen-Hall

A tax deduction for education expenses is allowable for working students taking job related courses.

Unreimbursed education expenses are deductible if the education "(1) maintains or improves a skill required by the individual in his employment or other trade or business, or (2) meets the express requirements of the law or regulations, imposed as a condition to the retention by the individual of an established employment relationship, status, or rate of compensation. This is true even for education which leads to a degree (Reg. 1. 162-5)." (*1986 U.S. Master Tax Guide*, paragraph 1149).

Transportation expenses are deductible for the number of miles driven from the job to the school and reported on Form 2106, Employee Business Expenses. The total of Form 2106 is entered on Line 25, Form 1040 to reduce the adjusted gross income.

"A simplified method for computing deductions for automobile expenses may be used for an automobile owned by the taxpayer. Under this optional method, the taxpayer may use a standard mileage rate of 21 cents a mile for the first 15,000 miles of business use of an automobile that is not fully depreciated." (*1986 U.S. Master Tax Guide*, paragraph 1029).

Costs of tuition, fees, and books are deducted on Schedule A of Form 1040. Many students may find they do not have enough expenses to enter on Schedule A to qualify for this deduction.

For more information, get Publication 508, Educational Expenses, free from the IRS by calling 713-965-0440. To order the publication by mail, send a request to IRS, "Forms Distribution Center", P.O. Box 2924, Austin, TX. 78769.

The IRS offers recorded tax information on education expenses at 713-850-8801, tape number 238.

Win cash in essay contest

Get your pen and paper out. Here's a chance to win some cash!

United Campuses to Prevent Nuclear War (UCAM), in conjunction with the Student Activitives Board, is sponsoring an essay contest with a $50 first prize, and a $25 second prize for the best essays on any aspect of the nuclear arms race.

There is no specified length and the essay can deal with anything from the effects of a nuclear war to "Star Wars."

You must be a full or part-time student at College of the Mainland to enter.

Entries should be turned in to Brett Jarrett in Suite B on or before April 15. Entries should include name, address and phone number.

The winning essays will be printed in campus newspapers, and the winners will be announced at the next UCAM meeting, May 6, at 12:30 p.m. in Room A148 of the administration building.

If you have questions, call Brett Jarrett at 938-1211, ext. 313.

Student activities calendar

By Ruby J. Otto

From 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, there are no classes! Come out to the Student Center and enjoy the performers and special events or if weather permits they will be held outside. For more information, contact Maryann Urick at 938-1211 ext. 418.

College Hour Specials, Events and Sports

Dates	Activity
Tuesday, March 4	Ken Whitener, hypnotist preview at 12:30, S.C., full show 7:30-9:00 p.m., L-131, free
Wednesday, March 5	Outdoor Club Metting, 7 p.m., S.C.-120
Thursday, March 6	TSEA, display of talent show that is going to the convention, 12:30-12:40, L-131
Friday, Saturday, Sunday March 7, 8, 9	Brazos Bend State Park Trip, outdoor club trip
Tuesday, March 11	Al Garza, karate demonstration, 12:30, S.C.
Wednesday, March 12	Image Projection for Success, haircare, skincare and looking good, 7:00-8:30 p.m., P-112. $2/person
Friday, Saturday March 14, 15	Romancing the Stone, free Movie Series, 7:30-9:15 p.m., L.R.C. Audit., free,(PG)
Sunday, March 16	Student/employee picinc, 1 p.m. till dark, Carbide Park (north side), free food, beverages and lots of fun! There will be volleyball, softball and bingo!
Tuesday, March 18	Soul Brothers, musical group, 12:20-1:20 p.m., S. C.
March 22-29	$547 (two choices)
Tuesday, April 1	Sparky Koerner, jazz trumpet music, 12:30-1:30 p.m., S.C.
Wednesday, April 2	Outdoor Club Meeting, 7 p.m., S.C.-120
Friday, Saturday, Sunday, April 4, 5, 6	Enchanted Rock Trip, outdoor club trip
Tuesday, April 8	Scott Jones, comedian, 12:30-1:30, S.C.
Thursday, April 10	GCIC Sports Day AT COM, volleyball, softball, tennis and other sports
Tuesday, April 15	Rockdales, rhythm & blues, 12:30-1:30 p.m., S.C.
Wednesday, April 16	Learn To Canoe Clinic, 6-8 p.m., sign up by April 14, P.E., $2/person
Friday, Saturday, April 18,19	Tron, Movie Series, Friday 7:30-9:15 p.m., Saturday 1:30-3:15 p.m., L.R.C. Audit., free, (PG)
Saturday, April 19	Trip to Burke Baker Planetarium, presentation on "The Legacy of Edmund Halley," 4 p.m., sign up by April 15, $7/Adults
Tuesday, April 22	Frances Moore Lappe', author of "Diet for a Small Planet, " guest speaker on the topic world hunger, 7:30 p.m., L-131
Wednesday, April 23	Frisbee Golf Tournament, 6 p.m., $3/person
Friday, Saturday Sunday, April 25, 26, 27	Atchafalaya Canoe Trip, outdoor club trip
Tuesday, April 29	Rogue, Oaf & Fool, juggling, knife-throwing, comedy, 12:30-1:30 p.m., S.C.

The Gander

College of the Mainland's student Newspaper

Vol. 2, No. 3 May, 1986

Students to receive awards

By Dana Gibson

Students, faculty and employees all have an equal chance to win an award at the end of this school year. Student and faculty awards, Prisident's Award and H.K."Griz" Eckert Award, at graduation May 9 at the Nessler Center.

An employee's recreational dinner was April 11 at the Nessler Center to present the Citizens Advisory Council Award.

Last year's winners were: Jeanette Bynum, President's Award; Dr. Manuel Urbina, H. K. "Griz" Eckert Award; and Mary Ann Urick, Citizens Advisory Council Award.

A person is nominated because he sets an example of the college motto "Humanhood Through Brotherhood", said Jim Higgins.

"It is not a popularity contest," he said. He explained that it is not the number of votes that wins the awards, but the reasons written on them.

Nominees are picked by a citizens advisory committe made up of people from outside of the college, said Higgins. Each month the committe meets with the president, he added. "The committe provides communication between the college and the community.

Student seeks degree in the stars

By Judy Fullen-Hall

EDITOR' NOTE: This is a continuing feature to help undecided students by informing them on how others have made career choices.

"When I read about it, I realized that astronomy is the universe," Russell Bly said as a glimmer of excitement reached his thoughtful blue eyes.

In the eighth grade he made his career decision while going through some old books about a science program at his home.

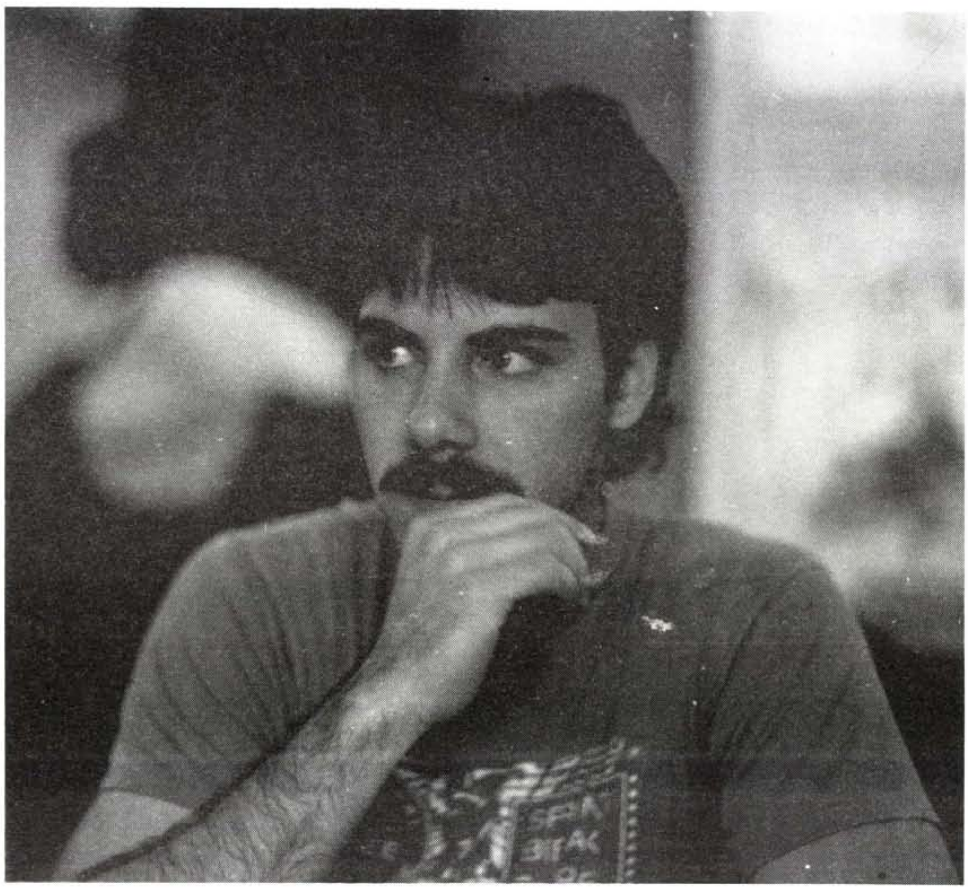
Now 20-year-old Bly is well into pursuing his goal of having his phd. in physics-astronomy by 1999.

Before his move to Texas City and COM, the native New Yorker accumulated 36 hours at Genesee Community College in Batavia, N.Y.

What gives him the drive to keep on studying?

"I just want to learn more about astronomy."

So, after a hard day of studying and work as a COM physics and math lab assistant, what does this single guy do when it's time to party? Well, he's been seen frequently at Gerry's Club in Texas City.



COM student Russell Bly wants astronomy career

Amigos club promotes culture

By Matt Gerry

For 12 years a Hispanic cultural club has existed at College of the Mainland. Its purpose is "to support, promote and share in endeavors which reflect the cultural heritage and interest of a segment of COM students as well as a sector of the community at large within the college district."

College of the Mainland Amigos invite all interested individuals to get involved. The only requirement is an interest in hispanic cultural activities. Meetings are held in room 230 B of the student center on the first Tuesday of every month. Two major projects were planned by the Amigos, the first was a state wide program to raise money through the public schools to assist earthquake victims in Mexico and build healthcare facilities to treat the victims. A small amount of money was donated last year by the Amigos and they hoped that you would all assist with the funding. The second project was a Cinco de Mayo celebration held on May first in the student center from twelve to two p.m.. Mariachis entertained along with folklore in traditional attire, a buffet of traditional foods, pinnata breaking contests, tortilla making contests, guests from the community as well as members of L.U.L.A.C. along with boothes and many other events.

Presentations were made to show the public the effects of Spanish missions and settlers from Mexico on early Texas culture. Two or three boothes were set up on campus that day to register voters because the Amigos felt that students are not involved enough in local politics.

City Commissioner Carlos Garza spoke to the club on March 18 about pertaining to the community and the importance of the student and Hispanic voters exercising their power on community issues. He suggested deputizing members of the club so they could register voters.

Constable Robert Cooksley also spoke to the club on the 18th about the importance of the student and Hispanic vote and the need to promote a better relationship between the Hispanic community and law enforcement. He feels that law enforcement was lax prior to the present administration. He is also involved in helping troubled members of the community and feels that jail is a last resort. He feels that there are many other ways to help an individual.

Displays were planned at the Texas City Public Library to show the important roll played by Hispanic pioneers in the settlement of Texas City. Another little known fact is that the first vice-president of the republic of Texas was Hispanic.

This year's president of COM Amigos is James Compian and the vice president is David Moreno. There are nine other active student members along with Dr. Manuel Urbina, Dr. Robert Rodriguez and Dr. Mary-Lou Hernandez who act as sponsors for the club. Community leaders and members of L.U.L.A.C. are also involved in club activities.

For more information about club activities contact Dr. Hernandez at ext. 307, Dr. Rodriguez at ext. 202 or Dr. Hernandez at ext. 426. David Moreno can be contacted at he non-print media department in the COM library on Thursdays after 4 p.m.

Class gets real life experience

By Judy Fullen-Hall

A marketing research project for Hous-Tex Fence Company of Houston gave 17 marketing students a taste of reality.

Instructor Donna Kantak tries "to get the student as close as possible to a real life situation."

Presentations were given to Hous-Tex company representative Bill Moseley on Feb. 27 on additional product possibilities for his company.

The class was divided into four groups which choose products and decide whether a demand existed for their products. The group project approach was used to simulate what happens in the business environment.

Ideas presented included planters, boardwalks, gazebos, and prepackaged do-it-yourself projects.

Moseley was receptive to all ideas and will return April 29 for presentations on the promotional aspects of each group's project.

The class will receive a payoff of a dinner furnished by Hous-Tex and experience to add to their resumes, in addition to their grade.

Nursing students play game to learn about birth defects

By Ruby J. Otto

A Jeopardy game was held by half of the nursing students on Feb. 25, at 1:30-3:20 p.m., in Room NU 242. The topic was "Congenetal Anomalies in the Neonate," or birth defects.

There was group participation with two teams. Team One was led by Carole Labby and their practical clinical experience was practiced at Humana Clear Lake Hospital. Team Two was led by Maxine Vance and their practical clinical experience comes from Saint Joesph Hospital. Group One won by one point making the score 4-3.

Questions in the Jeopardy game were designed by Labby. "Students enjoy these games," Labby said. "It helps them with unit tests and state board exams too."

Cadets have tough course

By Matt Gerry

College of the Mainland law enforcement academy graduation is April 10. Director of Training Bob Williamson said, "Upon the completion of each academy session prospective peace officers must take a licensing examination that they must pass to become a licensed police officer in this state."

Eighty-six topic subjects are mandated by state law to be covered during a rigorous 13-week training session along with being able to handle extreme levels of pressure and develop the ability to communicate with others.

Cadets must learn penal codes, civil law, traffic law, family code-liquor, laws, criminal law, first aid, ambulance and emergency vehicle operation, uses of force, weapons training, crowd control and code of ethics along with a multitude of other topics.

This is crammed into an intensive 13-week training period with an option of three semesters at night. One quarter to one half of all cadets enrolled drop out before graduation. Some feel that they are not right for law enforcement, others are dropped for scholastic, disciplinary or personal reasons, Williamson said. "Last fall out of 35 cadets, 15 graduated."

Formal graduation consists of graduation formation, final roll call, final inspection and ceremonies in the auditorium where graduates will hear from guest speakers, law enforcement professors, and COM President Larry Stanley. The deans and the class officers will present awards and graduation certificates, followed by a reception. An honor guard of cadets will accompany the graduates throughout the ceremonies.

All instructors at the academy with the exception of four are licensed and praticing police officers, including chiefs of police, captains, a lieutenant, sergeants and patrolmen, along with judges.

"Collectivly their law enforcement experience adds up to 300 years," Williamson said. Academy graduation is open to the pubic. For more information contact the law enforcement department in the Technical Vocational Building.

Sculptor undaunted by art's abuse

By Matt Gerry

Sculptor and College of the Mainland art sutdent Mark Muhich is undaunted by the physical and verbal abuse his artwork has received from the public.

Mark was contracted by the Jack Johnson Historical Foundation of Galveston to build a sculpture commemorating the 1906 black heavyweight boxing champion who was born in Galveston.

"This controversial sculpture was shot with a gun by criminal elements in Galveston," Mark said he repaired it and he feels that there is mostly positive feedback from the public about the modernistic black steel sculpture in Menard Park.

"Most people appreciate the Johnson sculpture for what it is, and it was awarded as the best new sculpture in the area by Houston City Magazine.

"Mark researched Johnson's life and works and incorporated strong persevering aspects of Johnson's personality into the sculpture.

Mark did another sculpture for the Rosenberg Library in Galveston. He intended this one to be "soothing, fostering and imaginative." He is planning several new sculptures for the Houston-Galveston area, large abstract color pieces involving shape and volume.

COM student and sculptor Mark Muhich

Mark has a bachelor of arts degree from Michigan State University. He got into sculpting in New York in 1980 and has also been painting since 1973. Mark is attending art classes at COM, working with clay and new experimental glazes known as "Raku." Mark is attracted to clay because it is more fun than sculpting steel or bronze. He is also assisting director Stella Dobbins in the COM art gallery.

Mark discussed briefly the cultural blight of America's inner city as businesses move to suburban shopping malls. He feels that there is a need to bring art or sculpture to give new life to the inner city. "A collaboration of merchants in this area could bring in artworks to improve and give new life to the downtown area of Texas City and Galveston."

Insight

Illusions better than reality

By Judy Fullen-Hall

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a continuing column to keep your heart smiling.

To exist. To dream of better days. To wake up today to go to bed tonight to wake up tomorrow, and nothing's changed. Like a bird in a cage, one day to die of sameness.

Romance begins with illusions and reality is never as good as the illusions.

But what happens when illusions are replaced by reality? Does the romance have to be over?

The illusion began with a glance that created a feeling of excitement. An initial judgment was made which determined future behavior.

Interaction sequences provided responses which identified the relationship.

The romantic vision eventually became a person with faults and problems. The pedestal disappeared: the excitement was gone.

Romance in the Bay Area

Why is the best part at the beginning and why does it have to end?

Why is the best part the best part?

Excitement.

Excitement only ends when you let it.

Let yourself have fun again. Quit worrying so much about what you should do and concentrate on what you want to do.

Your needs change. Don't neglect your own development. If you stand still, you die.

Release suppressed emotions.

Become more outgoing, more responsive to people. Let you human connections become more honest and spontaneous.

Be honest with your feelings and don't be afraid to express them.

Look for a life where you're in harmony with the people around you.

Look for ways to live your life that give you more laughter. Create excitement. Live life with abandon. ". . . the experience of falling in love disappears and love takes its place. . . the extraordinary experience must somehow continue in everyday life, must be realized as an extraordinary journey through existence which the lovers make together. . . seek not what is reassuring or what has already been noted, but what is challenging, beautiful, creative- . . . Then we fall in love again and again with the same person." (sociologist Francesco Alberoni, *Falling in Love*)

What makes a good teacher?

What qualities do you think make a good teacher?

Dee Ellis, psychology/business

"Availability, clarity, understanding, patience. I'd like to say to be the student's friend instead of they have the higher position - equality."

Dave Hall, computer science/hardware

"Patience, understanding of the student's environment, pride in being a teacher and helping the student understand, and a willingness to offer guidance to the student."

Russell Bly, phyics and astronomy

"The qualities that make a good teacher are expressing concepts clearly and giving examples without assuming the, 'You should already know that!' style of explaining the example. Also, the teacher's personality should remain human and not so professional. This gives a more comfortable atmosphere to relax and learn within."

Cynthia Maurer, civil engineering

"I feel that a good teacher should explain their topic thoroughly, giving many examples. I also feel that the teacher should be willing to help their student by answering any questions that he or she may have. This creates a better student-teacher relationship. Therefore, it creates a better learning environment."

Daniel Pennirgtan, civil engineering

"There are many characteristics that make a good teacher. Two of the most important qualities are patience and understanding. A teacher should take the time to explain the material fully and to the comprehension of the student. If

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The Gander staff

Judy Hall
Dana Gibson
Matt Gerry
Berta Bragg
Ruby Otto
Kathy Thomas
Student advisor

THE GANDER is published by journalism students for COM students through the Department of Arts and Humanities. Please send comments and suggestions to the Humanities Department Suite B, attention Kathy Thomas.

Place in tournament

Eight COM students participated in the G.C.I.C. Bowling Tournament at Brazosport College in February. The men's team took third place, while the women's team won second place. Pictured left to right, front, Clay Burton, Albert Tolden, Jeaneane Scales and Randy Pirkle; rear, Jack Lamance, Cony Schweikert, P.J. Collins and Darryl Santell.

Continued from Page 4

the student and instructor can come together on this level, there is no way they won't both benefit from each other."

Chris Woods, graphic arts major

"A good teacher will take time out to help individuals who need more help because they are weak in the subject, and a good teacher doesn't dicuss the individual's problem in public."

Michael Morelock, electronics major

"A good teacher can keep your attention span in class, no one is going to listen if the teacher is boring. If the teacher can keep you interested even though the material is boring or repitious then I would consider them a good teacher."

Cynthia Hamilton, certified public accounting major

"A good teacher has the ability to communicate on a level that the student can understand, is open minded and presents both sides of an issue."

Frank Baez, engineering

"How well the teacher expresses their knowledge and how well the teacher inspires or encourages the student to learn what he's teaching."

Ray Tacquard, business

"How much I've learned at the end of the semester."

Debbie McRhee, open

"One that just really gets up there and teaches."

Paul Wheeler, business

"I like a teacher who will answer your question without making you feel stupid."

Roy Monsny, undecided

"My favorite kind of a teacher is one who can make a boring subject fun."

Kevin Gaffney, art

"Patience."

Students observe Halleys Comet

By Matt Gerry

Dr. John Hubisz, College of the Mainland science professor, and students in his classes have been observing Halleys Comet since last October. Dr. Hubisz has been lecturing about the comet to public school students from kindergarden to college level.

A geology professor and some students went to Uvalde on April 4,5 and 6 to observe the comet through a telescope because the fog on the coast interferes with the view. People have had some luck observing the comet from Galveston after the fog lifted.

Dr. Hubisz said, "The view is very poor this time, the worst in 2,000 years. COM students have been very interested, some photographs have been taken and another group of students went to Garner State Park where, because of the new moon, the comet was be visible around 4 a.m. Around the 17th of April the comet was be visible through a telescope at 9 p.m. but the view got dimmer because thecomet is moving away from the earth."

"Halleys Comet will continue to be seen about every 75 years from the earth for another 225,000 years but each time it circles the sun it looses billions of tons of materials." Approximately 15 comets pass by every year, and generally can be seen with binoculars. Comets rotate around the earth in cycles of five to seven years." Halleys Comet was the first proven to return every 74 to 79 years which is why it is so famous."

"People used to be afraid that the sun, moon and other planets would collide with the earth until astronomers proved around 1400 B.C. that planets orbit counter clockwise around the sun. Halley proved in the 17th century that the comet orbits clockwise around the sun and would not come near the earth."

The 1910-1911 visit of Halleys Comet was the best understood, and scientists discovered poisonous gases in the tail. People were very upset when they heard the earth would pass through the tail. What they did not realize is that rarified gas from the tails of comets pass through the earth every year and are burnt up in the earths atmosphere.

In 1910 and 1911 people panicked. People sold anti-gas comet pills. They were encouraged to stay indoors and seal up the doors and windows. The 1985-1986 viewing is the worst in 2,000 years because the tail was observable at a time when the earth was on the opposite side of the sun.

Fortunatly we have pictures from a satellite that orbits around Venus. Computer pictures have been sent back from this satellite. 2061 will be the next good year for observing the comet. The comet will be observable in thge evening sky around April 17 of this year.

Transferring classes not so easy

By Dana Gibson

Transfering classes to another college may not be as easy as it sounds if a student does not have help from a counselor.

"It is unfortunate that a lot of people think that transferring from a community college is an easy thing to do," said Waren Dodson, COM counselor. "The counselors, faculty and department heads are here to help guide the students," added Dobson.

When you enroll into a community college, if you know that you are going to go to a four-year degree, take courses that apply to your degree, said Dobson. It is not often that a student looses time by taking courses that will not transfer, he added. When this happens it is because the student did not work with a counselor and did not read the catalog, he said.

Dobson recommends, a visit to the counselor's office to review your transcript of transfering credits.

If a student does not already have a college in mind, Dobson suggested choosing the one that will offer the best environment to meet your needs and accomplish your educational objectivies.

"You may want to attend a particular institution because of its athletic program or its national reputation for graduates from a particular program," he said.

Dobson suggested selecting your colleges about a year before transfering. Write to them and request catalogs and applications.

Students should make sure that they can meet the entrance requirements (SAT/ACT scores, advanced placement testing).

Students who have thirty semester hours or an associate degree, do not have to submit SAT or ACT scores or take a placement test. When sending in applications and fees, Dobson suggested also sending in dorm deposits, to ensure that you will have a room.

Picnic tables provided

By Berta O. Bragg

The lack of outdoor seating on campus has been solved by the addition of three picnic tables.

The picnic tables, which have seating on all four sides, are located on the campus grounds between the LRC Building and the Administration Building. The tables were puchased by the Student Activities Board with funds raised by student registration payments. The costs were $248 for the tables, $85 for the umbrellaswhich will be put out when appropriate, $15 for galvanizing the metal parts and shipping costs.

Language no barrier in class

By Berta O. Bragg

Language differences are no barrier between the students in COM's English to Speakers of Other Languages class.

The students who have attended these classes have included people from Taiwan, Korea, Vietnam, Mainland China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Brazil, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Jordan, Salvador, the Dominican Republic and Spain.

"They're a very close group and the students serve as support for each other because they realize that they all have similar needs," says ESOL teacher Marylou Morrow.

Marylou believes that the cultures the students bring with them are very helpful in their socialization and learning the way of doing things here.

"You see many cross-national friendships develop; such as the man from Mexico teaching a man from Poland how to fish.

"These students are in class together for as much as 15 hours a week."

Marylou speaks only English and some students who know more than one language help by translating for new students when needed.

The nationalities and ages of participating students vary from one semester to another, according to Marylou.

Students' ages have ranged from 16 to 67 years. The students' ages seem to have a strong effect on their ability to learn another language well. If the student hasn't begun to learn a second language by age 12, "they will never be able to speak a second language without an accent, because by that time most have developed a physical habit of making a certain sound pattern."

"When people have learned a second language, early in life they have broken the pattern enough to make it easier to pick up a third of fourth language, without an accent, later on in life" . . .

Marylou said that when a student is not literate in his oun language, the difficulty in learning a second language is greatly increased. The more educated the student is in his own language the faster he's going to learn English.

In this class the students will learn four skills-listening, speaking, reading and writing in English in that order.

This non-credit class is free to students and is funded by TAEA, Texas Adult Education Association.

The classroom has a console and individual stations set up where the students listen to a tape on headsets when they're practicing word association, listening skills and grammer. The students can then respond and listen to the tapes of both their own response and the master and compare the difference between them. The student is able to zero in on any mispronunciation and work to correct it.

The class has a continuing program in which the students are required to use a dictionary to look up words to be sure of the meanings. Students then use these words in sentences.

Marylou sometimes urges the students to watch television and read anything they can away from school to continue exposure and practice of English usage.

When asked how she chose this profession, Marylou said, "kind of by chance, after having reached a time in my life when I knew I wanted to teach. I followed through and was certified to teach up to sixth grade, but decided that wasn't for me."

She talked to her friends and other people at Clear Lake and came to the conclusion that she wanted to be in adult education and it just happened that there was an opening at COM. That was four years ago, so what does she think now?

"There's no other job I'd rather have had. It's very rewarding. You're getting warm fuzzies every day because you're helping somebody to do something that they really want to do. One of the marvelous things about this class is that there's nobody here who doesn't want to be here! These students are all eager to learn and help each other out."

The class also has a "food day, which is fun for all of us." The students each contribute a food from their native countries. Marylou adds, "We're a neat group!"

Army offers 2-year plan

The Army's special two-year enlistment program may prove to be an outstanding offer to young men and women still undecided about their future plans.

The two-year enlistment could also prove to be a viable alternative for those already in a two-or four-year college program who need a break before continuing on toward a degree.

"The two-year enlistment enables a bright, young person to take time off to earn money for college and get his act togather," points out Sgt. 1st Class Steven C. Doud, a local recruiter in Texas City.

In that short period, young people can accumulate up to $17,000 toward college under The GI Bill Plus the Army College Fund. Funding a college education, a problem that can put many graduates into heavy debt, is on the minds of prospective students around the nation.

During those two years of Army life, many young men and women pick up a new outlook on life and gain mental and physical maturity they never had before.

Enlistees can choose from as many as 60 special skills, as far reaching as communication, mechanics and food services, where they will be trained by proven experts. Education in the Army is far more than books and classrooms; it is also hands-on experience where "pupils" learn by actually performing rewarding tasks.

The Army encourages two-year enlistees to continue their education while in the Army. There are Army Education Centers at most Army installations with a choice of college-accredited courses.

The Army benefits include travel, medical and dental plan, 30 days earned vacation each year and a good starting salary. It is a salary that goes far, considering expenses such as food and housing are paid by the Army.

Photographer explores life

By Judy Fullen—Hall

"Photography proved to be a vehicle to explore life around me," Gay Block said, smiling at her audience of students and faculty during a lecture on February 20 in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

Photography is a learning experience for her-"What I don't understand. What I believe."

Block spends a lot of time with the people she photographs even though they are very different from her. For her, it's the sessions not the photographs that are the most meaningful.

The 43-year-old Jewish woman from Houston began her photographic studies in 1973. Her first professional work was portaits, and then and then she moved on to street photography.

Block has spent a lot of time photographing affluent Jews and senior citizens.

In her slide show, she shows photos of Miami and Los Angeles senior citizens. Block also presented a video of the Miami people so we could "hear how they talked."

Block returns year after year to the same people in Miami and Los Angeles to take pictures.

"I really love old people. I really love being with them," Block said.

Block's photos of supermarket employees were on display in the COM Art Gallery through March 23.

She was commissioned to photograph these people by the supermarket's owner. Block said that the owner felt the photos would help his headquarter's staff view the market employees as human beings.

She felt that the biggest part of her job was to make a connection with these people.

Block believes that in photographing people "they should be in the place where they live, they belong."

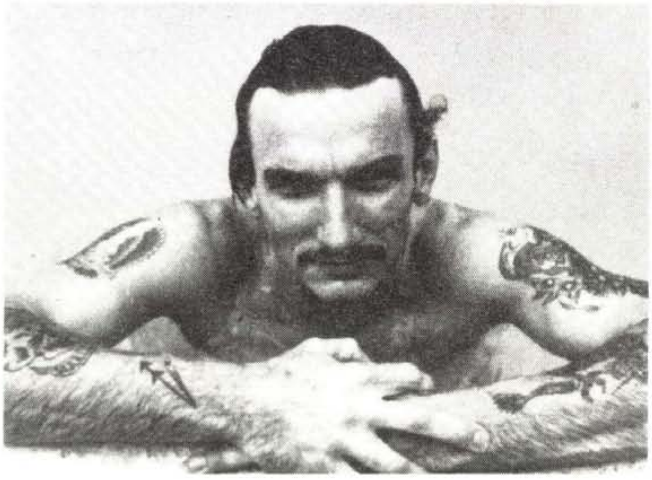
The supermarket employeees were photographed at their jobs and in their homes.

Her decision on angle and placement of people was based on intuition.

Block has been presenting one-person exhibitions since 1977 in Houston, Clear Lake, New York, Monroe, La., and Portland, Maine.

She has had seven public collections, six publications and 18 selected group exhibitions since 1975 covering a broad geographical area of the United States.

Block has received three grants and has taught sporadically at the University of Houston from 1979 to 1983.



Gay Block photos — "Lynn Appleyard, Austin, Tx., 1985"

Have a great summer!