

InterCOM

A STUDENT PUBLICATION AT COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND

OCTOBER 1986

Watriss shows war photos

By Anna Z. Bichta

Opening night outside the College of the Mainland Gallery, hand-scribbled posters screamed to stop the war in Central America.

Inside the statement continued. Quietly, but just as

dramatically, the photos of Wendy Watriss revealed the war-torn countries of El Salvador and Nicaragua.

The renowned photographer opened her gallery showing with a slide lecture on Sept. 11. The showing will run until Oct. 22.

Houston-based Wendy Watriss is an accomplished photo-journalist whose photos have been published in

Village Voice, *Newsweek*, *Life* and others. Her essays have won several awards and honors, including the Interpress Photo Silver Medal in 1983 for "The Aftermath of War."

Opening the slide show, Watriss expressed her appreciation to places such as COM, which are willing to bring her Central America photos to the public, while the national magazines often refuse to acknowledge the issue.

The lecture included photos not shown in the gallery. Some essays were close-to-home, the circuit of black rodeos in East Texas and German communities of Fredrikson. Others showed Watriss' concern with political issues: Czechoslovakia; the tragic effects of Agent Orange on the Vietnam veterans and their families; and the main theme - the war in Central America.

During 1984-86 Watriss traveled extensively in the peaceful regions of El Salvador where the effects of war are clearly seen. She visited several farm cooperatives and a unique country clinic, mostly supported by U.S. organizations, which employs one woman doctor volunteer.

Watriss also had a chance to take pictures of El Salvador President Ortega and his family at their mansion.

The most interesting photos were taken shortly before and during the national elections in Managua, Nicaragua. Watriss' camera captured dancing and laughing people who soon were to be fighting.

Watriss hopes to soon visit the war zones in Central America and take more pictures there.

The photo essay displayed in the gallery is touching, but its main purpose is to remind us of the U.S. involvement in Central America. As the photographer put it, "We have managed that war."



Photojournalist Wendy Watriss (left) prepares to hang her exhibit with the help of gallery director Stella Dobbins. (Photo courtesy of Jim Higgins)

Stanley welcomes students

By Jim Richard

Even after facing state-wide budget cuts and the effects of an obvious weak economy, College of the Mainland packed just over 3,330 students through its doors this fall semester - which became an all-time record for the college, according to COM President Larry Stanley.

In order to get acquainted with the overwhelming number of eager-to-learn pupils, as well as brief them on special school functions, the college gave an orientation welcome Sept. 10, which included a speech by Stanley.

"The whole idea of this get-together, other than to help students get acquainted with the staff, is to try and get them to participate in the many student activities that COM has to offer," Stanley said at the welcome. According to Stanley, the activities held at COM are made possible by a 50-cent charge on each student enrolled at the college.

"It's the students' money, and this is why we're

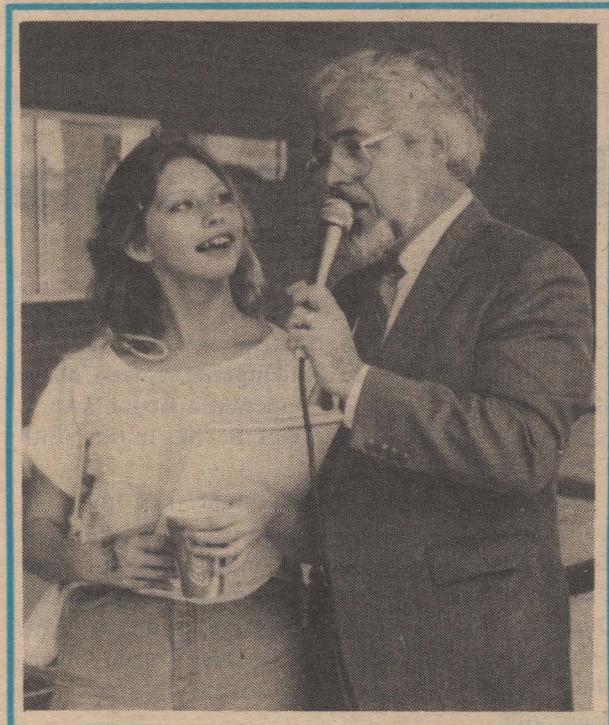
trying to bring the activities we have to offer to their attention," Stanley said. "We're here to provide the best education and atmosphere possible for the students, because it will make learning a lot easier," he said.

A few of the programs offered include a trip to the Texas Renaissance Festival on Oct. 11; a fall student/employee picnic held Sept. 21; live band performances; a variety of sports activities; and free movie showings on Fridays and Saturdays.

The movies that we show are not rejects from the box office, they are very popular and highly rated ones and we wish everyone would give them a try," said Monty Harris, Student Activity Board member.

Some of the orientation attractions included free soft drinks and a drawing for a free ride on a hot air balloon, won by COM student Kathy Geraldon, 17, of Texas City.

Students who would like to be on the Student Activities Board are urged to contact Maryann Urick or Eva Neinas at 938-1211 ext. 417 or at 486-8272.



COM President Larry Stanley congratulates COM student Kathy Geraldon on winning the hot air balloon ride at the student orientation welcome held in September. (Photo by Jim Richard)

Shakespeare's *Tempest* plays COM

By Christian McDonald



Stephano, Caliban and Trinculo spend most of William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* in a drunken daze trying to find their way around a magical island that seems to be conspiring against them. George Parks of Dickinson, Frank Green of Texas City and D. Lanier Young of Alvin portrayed the roles in COM's theatre production last month. (Photo courtesy of Jim Higgins)

College of the Mainland's "Biggest Li'l Theatre in Texas" ran William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* Sept. 4 through Sept. 28. *The Tempest*, written in 1611, was Shakespeare's last play. It is a comedy set on an enchanted island during the time of Renaissance Italy.

The Tempest was directed by Reggie Schwander and featured young, local actors and actresses as well as more well-known figures such as Eoghan Ryan of the University of St. Thomas and the Houston Shakespeare Society. Ryan played the lead, Prospero.

The excellent stage and costume design is accredited to internationally known theatrical designer J. Newton White of New York. The stage was an exciting combination of ramps, trap doors, ladders and water effects.

The show had a lively beginning with the staged rain, lightning and thunder.

The story of *The Tempest* is that of Prospero and his daughter Miranda, played by Samara Paysse, who are struggling to regain the Dukedom of Milan. Prospero accomplishes this by creating a tempest, with the help of Ariel (played by Tony Hancock), a spirit of the air, to bring the flagship and the scattering of the crew, several subplots emerge to create an exciting comedy, in which the pieces all come together at the end.

The meeting of Stephano (George Parks) and Trinculo (D. Lanier Young) with Prospero's half-man, half-fish slave named Caliban brought the most humor to the play. Caliban was played expertly by Frank Green. Green's enthusiastic portrayal of Caliban made the character come alive. Stefano, Trinculo and Caliban team together with a few bottles of the king's best to attempt to kill Prospero.

On another part of the island the king is wandering with his brother, Antonio (Cliff Mabry), a trusted friend, Gonzalo (Michael Wonio) and the brother of Prospero, Sebastian (Roger Stallings). Sebastian and Antonio team up together in an attempt to kill the king, and the plot thickens.

Meanwhile, Prospero gets Ariel to bring together his daughter Miranda and the king's son Ferdinand (Richard James).

Unknown to other characters, Ariel, with the help of his spirits, is manipulating them all for the fulfillment of Prospero's ultimate plan to regain his proper title.

The play moved well and the audience seemed to enjoy it. There were no noticeable slips and all seemed to fit well with exception of a futuristic dance scene put on for Miranda and Ferdinand. This did not seem to take away from the play, for the young lovers were supposed to be seeing something new and magical. Maybe just a little too modern.

COM Theater will present six more shows this season. *Breakfast with les and bes* begins Oct. 16. If the next shows match up to *The Tempest*, then they should be well worth seeing.

SAB changes format this fall

By Regina Brown

This year at College of the Mainland the Student Activities Board will be run by volunteers instead of elected officials.

At a meeting held Sept. 10, the board's advisors, Maryann Urick and Eva Neinas, explained why this new format was chosen. Urick said that electing officials at the end of each spring term for the next year was unsuccessful because, "Over the summer people's plans change, and unexpected things may happen and cause problems for members."

Also, at the meeting, Dean of Instruction Don Bass, gave a pep talk about what the Student Activities

Board should be and what will be expected of each member. Dr. Bass urged students "to get involved and create a board of enthusiastic students who want to help their school progress."

Approximately 25 students attended the meeting. Neinas and Urick said they hope more students will join in on the fun of helping to make important decisions for the school.

Most of all, we want everyone to have a good experience and learn to be a responsible group, Neinas and Urick said.

If you would like to get involved in S A B, call 938-1211, extension 417 or 418, or come by one of the meetings which are held on Wednesdays at 4 in the Student Center.

Duperier campaigns at COM

By Anna Bichta

As a part of her political campaign and in response to an Alan Ginsberg's political science students, Congressional candidate Lisa Duperier visited College of the Mainland Sept. 24. Duperier, a Republican, is running against Democrat Jack Brooks in the Ninth Congressional District.

Duperier, a native of Beaumont, has financial, managerial and political experience. She studied at Georgetown University under Jean Kirkpatrick, former U.N. ambassador. Prior to running for U.S. Congress, Duperier worked for the U.S. Immigration Department, Congressman Phil Gram and President Ronald Regan. She is still very active in the business circle in Beaumont.

Duperier believes that Brooks is "out of step with the rest of the Texas delegation" in the U.S. Congress and too often votes with Congressmen from other parts of the country who cannot identify with Texas

problems.

The candidate said, the "Congressman can be a salesman for his state" and that there is a need of a new approach to many issues from the person who represents the Ninth Congressional District.

Asked about balancing the budget, Duperier said that while working in Washington, she has seen a waste of money and some unnecessary jobs.

Although she is more concerned with national issues, Duperier commented on the possible legalized gambling in Texas. She said it might be "a quick fix that would help everyone," but she questions how money would be needed to get the pari-mutuel betting started.

Duperier pointed out the interesting fact that Sen. Brooks has been a Congress man since before her birth.

Republican Brooks is also scheduled to visit COM Oct. 20.

InterCOM

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InterCOM is produced by and for the students of College of the Mainland, 8001 Palmer Highway, (409)938-1211 or (713)486-8272.

Soul Brothers play at COM

By Jim Richard

SOUL: The dictionary defines this simple word as: The principle of life, feelings, thought, and action in a man (or woman), regarding to the spiritual part as distinct from the physical.

To a rhythm and blues musician, this definition fits right in with his way of expressing life with the musical instrument.

The "Soul Brothers" is a rhythm and blues band that could make Webster alter his meaning of "soul" if only he were able to hear them.

Recently the Houston-based group visited College of the Mainland and put on an outdoor campus show that was one of the best ever at COM. The large crowd that witnessed their playing clapped their enthusiastic approval of the group.

Many bands today may be lucky if they have been together for at least three years. A sincere music enthusiast can tell whether the band is a new one or not. This group has been at it for 15 years and it shows in their playing.

The Soul Brothers include: bass player and vocalist George Brown; guitarist and vocalist Jim Fulson; saxophone, flute and vocals Henry Boatwright; drummer Larry McCall; and keyboardist Charles Greenwood.

"I really think it's a great thing that the school is doing this for the students. I can't wait to come back here again," Brown said. "We really enjoyed the

reaction we received from the crowd, which makes our playing flow real well," he said.

Most musicians as well as other performers in the business of entertainment started out in their professions at the bottom, usually idolizing a popular performer in their field.

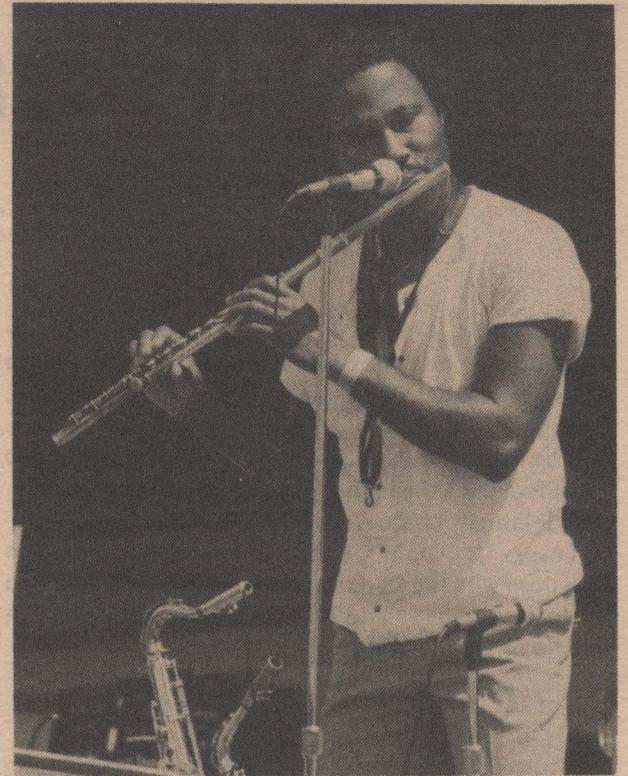
The Soul Brothers are no exception to this practice.

"I've been playing the sax since the late 50s, back in the beginning of the rock and roll era," Boatwright said. "Because of the popular sound of the saxophone during this period and how it was the answer to today's fancy guitars, I basically just fell for it, with musicians like Little Richard giving me someone to look up to as I progressed," he said.

Larry McCall claims that he "really didn't have much of a choice back then" in his preference of music. "I began playing the blues at first, but I have played just about every kind of music except Chinese," he said.

Many musicians begin practicing on an instrument that appeals to them because of the "beauty" behind that instrument. However, they sometimes find themselves unable to comprehend it, and a second choice of instruments takes place.

"I started out on the guitar back in the late 50s to early 60s but I found myself having a hard time at understanding it so I gave the keyboards a try," Greenwood said.



Henry Boatwright of the Soul Brother plays for COM students gathered at a recent College Hour Special. This was the band's second visit to the school. (Photo by Jim Richard)

Fulson has been with the band for only a year and a half. "I enjoy playing with these guys. It's like a family to me," he said.

COM choirs, bands plan for successful season

By Olga Escobedo

The College of the Mainland choirs and bands will have a busy fall performing on campus as well as in festivals. For music lovers it is a chance to see and hear a variety of music ranging from gospel, pop and jazz.

The choir director this fall is Hope Shiver. Shiver, a hard-working enthusiastic director, has directed the choirs for five years. Under her direction they will perform "Ray's Rock House," "That's What Friends are For," "Sound the Trumpet" and "Jesus Christ is the Way" this fall.

The COM Singers offer a variety of music. This year they will perform at the Texas Junior College Choral

Festival in Dallas Oct. 22-24. During December they also will perform various compositions.

The Studio Singers sing a variety of pop and jazz songs. They will perform a noon-time concert in the Student Center in November. During December the Studio Singers will also perform with the COM Jazz Ensemble in Room F-117 in the Fine Arts Building.

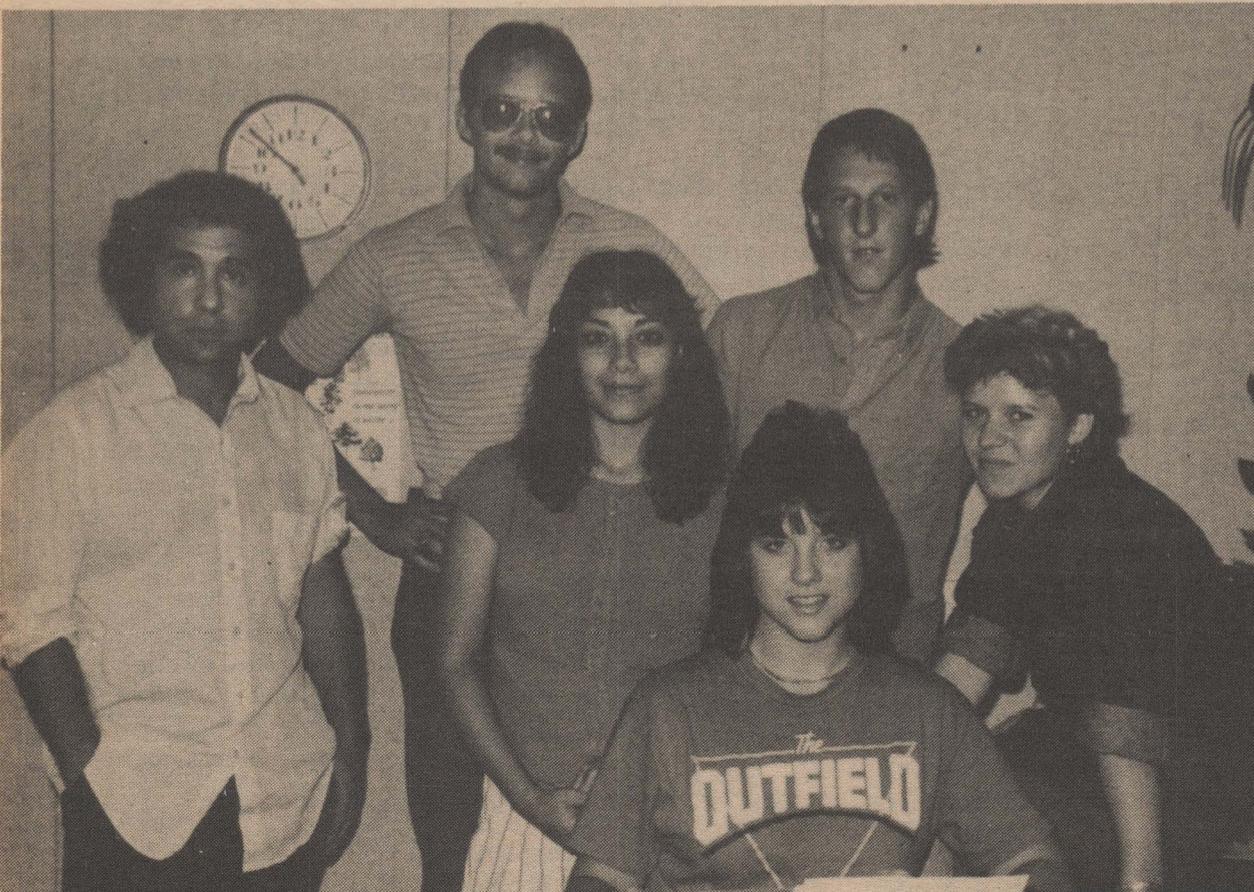
Another choral, the Mainland Choral, a group that only meets on Sundays, will perform "The Messiah" by G. F. Handel in December.

This fall the band director is Sparky Koerner. Koerner, an inspiring director, has also been at COM five years. The COM Jazz Ensemble and the Brass

Ensemble are under his direction.

The COM Jazz Ensemble consist of five trumpets, five trombones, five saxophones, piano, guitar, bass and drums. The Jazz Ensemble will perform a wide variety of jazz literature from Early Swing of Count Basie to Modern Charts of Thad Jones. Jazz listeners can see this group perform on Nov. 4 in the Fine Arts Building Room F-117. They will also perform as part of the Galveston Island Jazz Festival at old Galveston Square on Nov. 15. Their final fall concert will be Dec. 16 in the Fine Arts Building Room F-117.

Koerner and Shiver both anticipate a successful school year.



InterCOM staff members for Fall '86 are from left, Matt Gerry, Jim Richard, Olga Escobedo, Regina Brown (seated at typewriter), Christian McDonald and Anna Z. Bichta. (Not pictured Dana Gibson and Jan Cannaday Wilson.) (Photo by Astrid H. Lowery)

Picnic washes out

By Regina Brown

Although the weather didn't cooperate Sunday, Sept. 21, College of the Mainland's seventh bi-annual Employee-Student Picnic still had a moderate turnout.

Those who did decide to go out to Carbide Park seemed to have a good time. Many students and a few faculty and staff members participated in games such as bingo and volleyball.

When asked why the picnic was not cancelled after all the rain, Student Activities Board Faculty Advisor Maryann Urick said, "Well, there's a lot of people who are bogged down with school and work that were looking forward to some outdoor activities, and we still had the covered benches where bingo is held."

Employee Duke Drewry showed up as he does every year ready for the softball game. Instructor Ken Sheffield was busy helping some younger picnic-goers with their kite flying.

Food and beverages, such as hot dogs, chips, chili, and soft drinks were plentiful, and lots of students and employees came back for seconds and thirds. With Monte Harris cooking the hot dogs, and Eva Neinas helping to serve, things went pretty smoothly.

So, despite bad weather, COM's fall picnic was still somewhat a success--hopefully, the next one will be a drier one!

What's happening

COM Amigos

The COM Amigos attended a special video presentation on the Mexican Revolution at the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Gallery on the University of Houston, University Park campus Sept. 21.

The video featured Captain Leo Reynosos who rode with Pancho Villa in the Mexican Revolution of 1910. Dr. Manuel Urbina (one of the three faculty co-sponsors of COM (Amigos) interviewed Captain Reynoso with the video camera assistance and direction of Jerry Anderson and Phil Johnson of the non-print media of COM.

Computer users

College of the Mainland Computer Users Group and Marvin Rogers invite everyone interested to attend meetings which take place every fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in Room T-318.

The meetings include group discussions and guest speakers on social and educational issues.

Newspaper recycling

Newspaper recycling has begun on a monthly basis to provide insulation for the future home for the Handicapped and Retarded Association (HRA).

A truck will be parked near the duck pond at College of the Mainland for a three-day collection. The outcome of the last paper drive has yet to be determined by the 'Trash Power' advisory board. For further information call Bebe Lising, (409) 948-4403.

SAB, Blood Center sponsor blood drive

By Christian McDonald

The Student Activities Board and the Blood Center of Houston will sponsor a blood drive Tuesday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the College of the Mainland Student Center.

Students, faculty and staff, between ages 18 to 66 are urged to either call extension 417 or 418 to make an appointment, or to drop by the Student Center between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. A free T-shirt will be given to each person who donates blood.

The last COM blood drive held Feb. 28 was the best ever with 98 donors, according to Maryann Urlick. The Student Activities Board hopes to better that mark this semester.

Most people are able to donate blood but a few restrictions do apply. People on certain medication like high blood pressure medicine cannot donate blood. If you are now taking medication or have recently, tell the screening nurse at the donating center. People who have cancer, cardiovascular problems, hepatitis, diabetes or a history of diabetes should not donate blood.

A few temporary restrictions apply also. Pregnant women should not donate until six weeks after delivery. Anyone who has had major surgery or a blood transfusion should not donate blood for one year. And anyone recently in a country where malaria is present, must wait three years to donate blood. Since your body must make up for the lost blood, it must be at least eight weeks since the last donation.

Most people can and should donate blood. Since a sterile needle is used for each patient, there is no chance of a blood-oriented disease by donating blood.

Recycling is also part of the Governor's Community Achievement Awards to win \$60,000 in Highway landscaping awards. The new turnoff construction in front of COM at Interstate 45 and FM 1764 will be the primary landscaping site.

COM Gallery exhibits

The College of the Mainland Gallery is showing the documentary photo essay on Central America by Wendy Watriss. The exhibit runs through Oct. 22.

Other exhibits for the 1986-87 include, "Emerging Realists: East Meets South" on Nov. 1 - Dec. 15 and "Greg Reuter Ceramic Sculpture."

The COM Fine Arts also plans to put its annual Student Exhibition. It will include drawings, paintings, photographs, ceramics, prints, etc. The exhibit will be shown from April 1 through May 15, 1987 along with the Arts Festival on May 1.

For more information, call 938-1211 or (713) 486-8272, ext. 354.

Women help women

Women interested in support group sessions and self-help discussions should take note of the hour-long programs held on Thursdays in the Student Center, Room 217, at 12:30 p.m.

Over a brown-bag lunch, Ann Brestrup, M.S.W., will lead these discussions on how women may cope with everyday problems such as stress, handling work, school and family, and health tips for women.

Starting Sept. 4 and continuing through April 23 (every Thursday), and including two special night sessions on Oct. 23 and Jan. 22, one or all of these discussions may help you.

If you would like more information, please call Barbara Crews at 938-1211 or 486-8272, extension 470. This program is sponsored by Women in Support.

Student activities calendar

By Matt Gerry

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 if weather permits they will be held outside. For more information, contact Maryann Urlick at 938-1211 ext. 418.

College Hour Specials, Events and Sports

Dates	Activity
Tuesday, Oct. 7	Touch of Class, five piece band, plays top 40, funk music, 12:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 10	Country Western Dance Workshop 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Sign-up by Oct. 8, \$3 a person P. 112.
Friday - Saturday, Oct. 10, 11	Student Activity Board movie series, <i>Cocoon</i> , in the Student Center.
Saturday, Oct. 11, (rain date Oct. 12)	Trip to Texas Renaissance Festival 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. \$16 per adult, \$10 children (5 to 12 years old), \$6 under 5 years occupying a seat on the bus.
Tuesday, Oct. 14	Blood Drive, give blood and receive a free T-shirt.
Monday, Oct. 20	Introduction to Karate, 7 - 9 p.m. Sign-up by Oct. 16, \$3 per person. Gym.
Tuesday, Oct. 21	Jim Fingers, a juggler, fire-eater, magician and balloon sculptor will perform at 12:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 25	Halloween House of Horrors, 4:30 - 9 p.m., 6:30 p.m. costume contest. Cost is \$1.50 per person. Student organizations are invited to set up food or game booths.
Tuesday, Oct. 28	Halloween Face Decorating Contest 12:30 p.m. Enter a team of four to six people. One person from each team will have his / her face decorated by other members of the team
Tuesday, Nov. 4	Zone, four - piece rock band, plays top 40 rock, at 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 11	COM President Stanley's informal visit with students at 12:30 p.m.

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NOVEMBER 1986

COM credit refunds timely

By Jim Richard

A little cash can come in handy once in a while, especially if you really do need it. But don't expect to get reimbursed immediately for any of the "greenbacks" you may be waiting on from a class that had to be dropped for one reason or another after registration.

Many students at College of the Mainland have encountered this sort of incident in the past and there are a few good reasons for such a delay in refunds due to the dropping of classes after paying for them.

For starters, all drops and adds must take place before any action can be taken as far as the initial paperwork for the refunds.

According to David Rac, COM manager of accounting, the paperwork can range anywhere from the processing of all deposits into the tuition revenue account which can take up to three weeks, to the record keeping of dropped courses for the state which gives funding to the credited classes.

Checks pose one of the largest problems overall, due to the numerous bad checks that are written.

"If students paid for their courses in cash, we could have their refunds much quicker, but because of the fact that some will occasionally write bad ones, we have to go through the process of waiting for their (the checks) clearance which can take up to three weeks," Rac said.

"If COM didn't do this and someone signed up on the day of registration by paying their tuition with a bad check and the next day came in and asked for a refund in cash, COM would be out of the money," he

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And he is our manager of accounting?



David Rac (left), COM manager of accounting, chooses among a set of different restaurant envelopes as his first place prize after winning this year's COM Face Decorating Contest. Also pictured are contest judges, Tony Pfeiffer (right) and Brigdet Lubojasky Ferrel (center). (Photo by Jim Richard)

Democratic politician visits COM

By Christian McDonald

U.S. Rep. Jack Brooks of the 9th Congressional District spoke at College of the Mainland Oct. 20.

Democrat Brooks' visit, along with that of Republican Lisa Duperier, was the result of a request made by Alan Ginsberg's political science class for the two to



Dan Parker, a political science student at COM, talks with Congressman Jack Brooks during his visit to Dr. Alan Ginsberg's class.

speak at the college.

Brooks made a short speech on the freedoms that America offers, stressing the voting age, which is 18. Brooks stated that while he was in the state Legislature in 1946, he tried to introduce a bill that would have lowered the voting age from 21 to 18. This was considered a radical movement at the time, but Brooks was quick to remind his audience that 24 years later he was on the U.S. House Judiciary Committee when the 26th Amendment was passed in which the voting age was lowered to 18 for all elections.

When asked about his views on the Wallisville Dam project, Brooks said that he "has been for it all along." He stated that 10 million dollars of the taxpayers' money was washed down stream when the project was stopped the first time for ecological reasons. Brooks said that the dam has been lowered and that in the future there should no longer be an ecological problems with the dam.

In response to a question about his efforts to strengthen the Texas economy, Brooks stressed his efforts to keep the Space Station project in the Johnson Space Center. Brooks also believes his opposition to the recent tax bill was appropriate because he believes the bill helps destroy small business. Business he thinks is important to the country.

Brooks believes that part of the economic and unemployment problems of the nation are the result of the "exporting of 144 billion dollars worth of jobs, profits and opportunities The fact that we import 40 percent of our energy (oil) into this country jeopardizes the national security of our nation."

In response to questions about the accusations made by Duperier in September that Brooks consistently votes against the rest of the Texas delegation, Brooks stated that Duperier must not know his voting record very well, and that he gets along fine with the rest of the delegation.

Brooks received a degree in journalism from the University of Texas. He entered the United States Marines in 1942 and served 23½ months overseas. He is a United States Marine Reserve colonel.

Brooks was elected to the state House of Representatives in 1946 for the Jefferson County district and was elected to the United States House of Representatives in the 2nd Congressional District in 1948. Brooks was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, from the 9th Congressional District in 1966 and has served there ever since.

Brooks is the dean of the Texas delegation.

Campus News



COM photography student Janet Proctor took the above photo at the recent airshow held at Ellington Air Force Base. Proctor, a competitor in the Photographers Forum National Competition for two years, will exhibit her work in the COM library Dec. 15-20. (Photo by Janet Proctor)

Fornos speaks out on overpopulation

By Anna Z. Bichta

Werner Fornos, president of The Population Institute, spoke at College of the Mainland on Oct. 22.

The Population Institute is a non-profit organization which specializes in global population, its problems, causes and effects. The institute helps the willing foreign countries, especially those of the Third World, in family planning by spreading information and distributing birth control devices.

The organization is sponsored and endorsed by many U.S. congressmen, writers, scientists and entertainment celebrities.

According to Fornos, the world population has just reached five billion people and will reach six billion before the year 2000. "With that kind of population mass on the world, we're very seriously straining the carrying capacity of the world," Fornos said.

The institute's president shared his experiences from some Third World countries he has visited. He saw first hand the terrible effects of overpopulation, such as mass starvation, and the high mortality rate among the infants and mothers. Economic problems which affect all countries around the world are also caused by overpopulation.

Fornos told of a woman who was once chosen Columbia's Mother of the Year. She had 31 children. According to a poll, most women around the world want only four.

Many governments now, such as the Chinese, put restrictions on their people to have only one or two children. Still, there is a need to inform all women of the choices they have when it comes to family planning, Fornos said.

The institute needs help and volunteers. Anyone interested should write to: The Population Institute, 110 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

Blood drive soars

By Anna Z. Bichta

The Oct. 14 blood drive at the College of the Mainland proved to be quite a success. One hundred and twenty-eight people donated blood, a record number in the blood drive history at COM.

In comparison, the first blood drive at the COM, which took place in 1979, had only 28 donors. Last month's drive broke the record of 98 donors in February 1986.

Maryann Urick, head of the Student Activity Board, said she is very happy about the success. She added that the fact that every donor received a free T-shirt might have attributed to the record donor turnout.

See Blood drive Page 7

ANC member calls for sanctions

By Anna Z. Bichta

"We are prepared to fight until every centimeter of South Africa will be free," said Susan Mnumzana to the College of the Mainland students Oct. 22. Mnumzana, a representative of International Bureau of Africa National Congress, gave a series of speeches in the Houston area recently.

Mnumzana has just been allowed to come to the United States and join her husband who has been living here for two years.

In her speech, Mnumzana described the hard life of South Africa blacks who are solely restricted to living in black townships. The townships are usually inhabited by women, children and the elderly because all able males have to find jobs in far away regions of the country. The men are not allowed to bring their families with them or to visit them except for two weeks out of the year. Their wages are so low that most of them are unable to save any money to send to their needy families.

Women also have to leave their families behind in order to find jobs. The only work available to them is domestic service which is like "being a slave, completely owned by a white employer," said Mnumzana. Again, family visitations are prohibited because the servants' husbands can be arrested upon an employer's request. When arrested, a black receives a criminal record which limits his already small possibilities to find a job.

South Africa blacks became totally disfranchised through the several laws passed by British colonials and the present government. Only 13 percent of South Africa land is reserved for them, and they are not allowed to own any property. Mortality rate among black infants is extremely high — 450 out of 1,000 children die.

The country is going through some hard economic times right now. Unemployment is very high among both whites and blacks. According to Mnumzana, South Africa is rich enough to feed all its people, but the government regime doesn't intend to do so.

Mnumzana said that all blacks want the economic

sanctions. She was pleased to see the recent pullout of such American companies as General Motors and IBM. Our people have suffered enough already and they're willing to sacrifice even more, she said.

Mnumzana also spoke about the history of the African National Congress. From 1912 to 1960, it had been a peaceful organization whose rallies and demonstrations against racism were brutally broken up by the government. In 1961 The People Army was created with Nelson Mandela as its chief. Mandela has been imprisoned for his anti-apartheid beliefs for over 20 years. ANC is not a terrorist organization, said Mnumzana, because "no terrorist methods can be used against the terrorists."

The reason for not allowing the press into South Africa is not because "the government is embarrassed about killing children," Mnumzana said, but because the government doesn't want its people to know that white policemen are being killed, and it doesn't want foreign nations to know that it is losing its power.

Mnumzana pointed out that even though the U.S. governments does not want to help the South African blacks, the blacks know that the American people want to help them.

Asked about the future of their country, Mnumzana said that all blacks want South Africa to be non-racial, with no separate townships and the land and wealth shared equally among all people. The future South Africa will be different from other African countries, which have gained independence, and it will not accept any involvement from other countries. Only we know what we really want, said Mnumzana.

Mnumzana also said that the American people can help by pulling companies out of the country and by closely watching what the U.S. government is doing in South Africa.

Interested persons can also help by volunteering to teach, providing medical help and donating school supplies to the Tanzania which is organized by ANC. If you want to help, please contact:

Solomon Mahlangu, Freedom College, Private Bag Mazimbu, Morogoru, Tanzania.

InterCOM

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InterCOM is produced by and for the students of College of the Mainland, 8001 Palmer Highway, (409)938-1211 or (713)486-8272.

Student Center - time to relax



College of the Mainland Student Center is one place that students of the college can gather. The center is also one of the locations where College Hour specials, sponsored by the Student Activities Board, are held. A commissary is available with a scheduled lunch every day as well as a short order menu. The college counseling Center is located on the second floor.

Veterans Day

Past and present celebrated

By Matt Gerry

Veterans Day is traditionally observed on Nov. 11. It was enacted in 1919, at the end of World War I, by order of President Woodrow Wilson as Armistice Day to remind Americans of the tragedies of war.

Great Britain and France celebrate Armistice Day each year to commemorate the end of World War I. Canada holds Remembrance Day on Nov. 11 to commemorate those Canadians who died in the service of their country.

Traditional Veterans Day ceremonies in the United States include parades, speeches and special ceremonies held at Arlington National Cemetery at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Without the Armed Forces in one capacity or another, America would not be here today. There were many brave Americans who died fighting so that all people would be free from oppression and tyranny.

America was born as a result of the colonists fighting the oppression and tyrannical rule of England. Honors go to the veterans who served under Gen. George Washington to make this country free. Since 1776 Americans have fought and died in the service of this country whenever and where ever people are oppressed by tyrannical rule.

We all owe veterans a debt of gratitude for protecting our right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Central America

Farenthold delivers emotion-packed speech

By Jan Cannaday Wilson

We all leaned forward in our seats, straining to catch the low gentle voice of Francis "Sissy" Farenthold. Smiling, she shared that this day, Oct. 2, was her birthday. She could think of no better way of celebrating than being on our campus talking with students hungry for truth and understanding.

Farenthold spoke at College of the Mainland at the invitation of the Student Activities Board in conjunction with the Wendy Watriss Central America photo documentary display in the COM Art Gallery.

Necks craned and chairs scuffed into positions more favorable for viewing the source of the melodious voice. I last saw Farenthold in Austin, where she was campaigning for governor. Her hair, once dark brown and shoulder length, was now close cropped and very gray. Her mode of dress was still more comfortable and practical than stylish. Her gray-blue eyes vividly reflected her every emotion as she moved into her discourse on "Central America: Region of Conflict."

If you came expecting the boisterous boastful prattle of the stereotypical politician, you were shocked to hear an unpretentious soft-spoken woman who could easily be mistaken for one of our mothers. To witness a national figure possessing her list of credentials and accomplishments embodied in so humble a demeanor was refreshing indeed.

Farenthold's list of credits include serving in the Texas House of Representatives, candidate for governor of Texas and Democratic candidate for the vice-presidency of the United States. Boasting, obviously, was not her style as she never mentioned her accomplishments. Instead, she cited excerpts from a prophetic speech delivered by Dr. Martin Luther King during the height of the Vietnam War. The name Vietnam she said could so easily be interchanged with that of Central America, so as to send a chill to the center of our beings.

At this point, I glanced around the room to evaluate the attention level of her audience. Half-eaten cheeseburgers were pushed aside, and forgotten french fries grew cold in oil-soaked containers as the thoughts of my fellow students were swept southward into the tumultuous plight of a people beleaguered by war.

Farenthold wanted us to know where and who the Central Americans are. She compared the five tiny nations; Nicaragua, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras to the fingers on a hand. Their combined land area is slightly less than that of Texas with El Salvador fitting inside a triangle drawn from Houston to Austin to Dallas.

The people are mostly mestizo farmers, descendants of the great Mayan civilizations, many of whom live on less than \$81 per year per person. Illiteracy is extremely high, hovering at 60 percent in several of the countries.

The United States is pumping millions of dollars in aid to the Contras for use in fighting the Sandinistas in what Farenthold explains is a civil war. She is extremely concerned with the depersonalization our government is promoting by its use of euphemisms. We need to understand that "aid" means military hardware, and that "hardware" means guns and bombs and death, she said.

She paused often, immersed in long silences. Her gray head bowed in sadness as she recounted the deaths, the torturings, the mutilations and the psychological scarrings that are being meted out on a daily basis not far from our southern borders. Her grief was apparent as she described the on-going blood bath, kept so carefully from the public's awareness.

I fully expected tears to roll down her cheeks at any moment. Her small shoulders sagged as though bearing an incredible weight. Yet her composure never deserted her. She was truly committed to bringing her insight of the Central American condition into the consciousness of her listeners. She spoke of the incredible bravery she

witnessed in her association and travels with the dauntless Mothers of the Disappeared-- a group of peasant women who will not flag in their efforts to find their missing sons. Laura Pito, one of group's members, was imprisoned and tortured by El Salvador President Jose Napoleon Duarte's forces for her petitions. Farenthold wrote the government expressing her concern for her friend and Pito was released.

Farenthold's message was infused with hope for our southern neighbors. It is her sincere hope that we will put an end to the "aid" the United States is sending to Central America; that we will let them have their revolution, as we were able to have ours against the British in our struggle for freedom. As she concluded, it became apparent to me that Francis "Sissy" Farenthold would not rest in her efforts until the Central American issue is brought to a peaceful resolve.

We are arrogant in our contention that we have some sacred mission to protect people from totalitarian rule, while we make little use of our power to end the evils of South Africa and Rhodesia, and while we are in fact supporting dictatorships with guns and money under the guise of fighting Communism.

Dr. Martin Luther King

UCAM calendar

A peacemaking seminar, The Arms Race, will be held Saturday, Nov. 15, at the Presbyterian Center in Houston.

John Stockwell will speak at the Houston Peace and Justice Fair in the Education Bldg. at U of H on Saturday, Nov. 22. For information call (409) 948-4403.

Campus Features

I gave, it didn't hurt - well, not much

By Christian McDonald

Needles — Arrgh! I have a distinct fear of needles, and the thought of giving blood makes me queasy. So when I found out I had to do an article on giving blood, I thought I was going to die. I made the appointment and lived in fear of that dreadful hour.

As I walked in, I saw many people giving or getting ready to give their pint. My heart started racing and my arm was already beginning to ache.

I answered the questionnaire and sat down to be tested. They took my blood pressure and a sample from my finger to make sure that my blood would not kill anybody. This was the hardest part of the whole ordeal. First they prick your finger with a needle, and then they have the nerve to ask you to read a card and pull of a certain label that applies to you. As you fumble around, getting blood everywhere the nurse is taking your blood pressure.

I was finally finished and waited for someone to quit draining. The male nurse raised his voice and said: "Next victim please. I need all the practice I can get. I get paid for this tomorrow if I do well today." Plastic sacks of blood shook furiously as the "victims" laughed wholeheartedly.

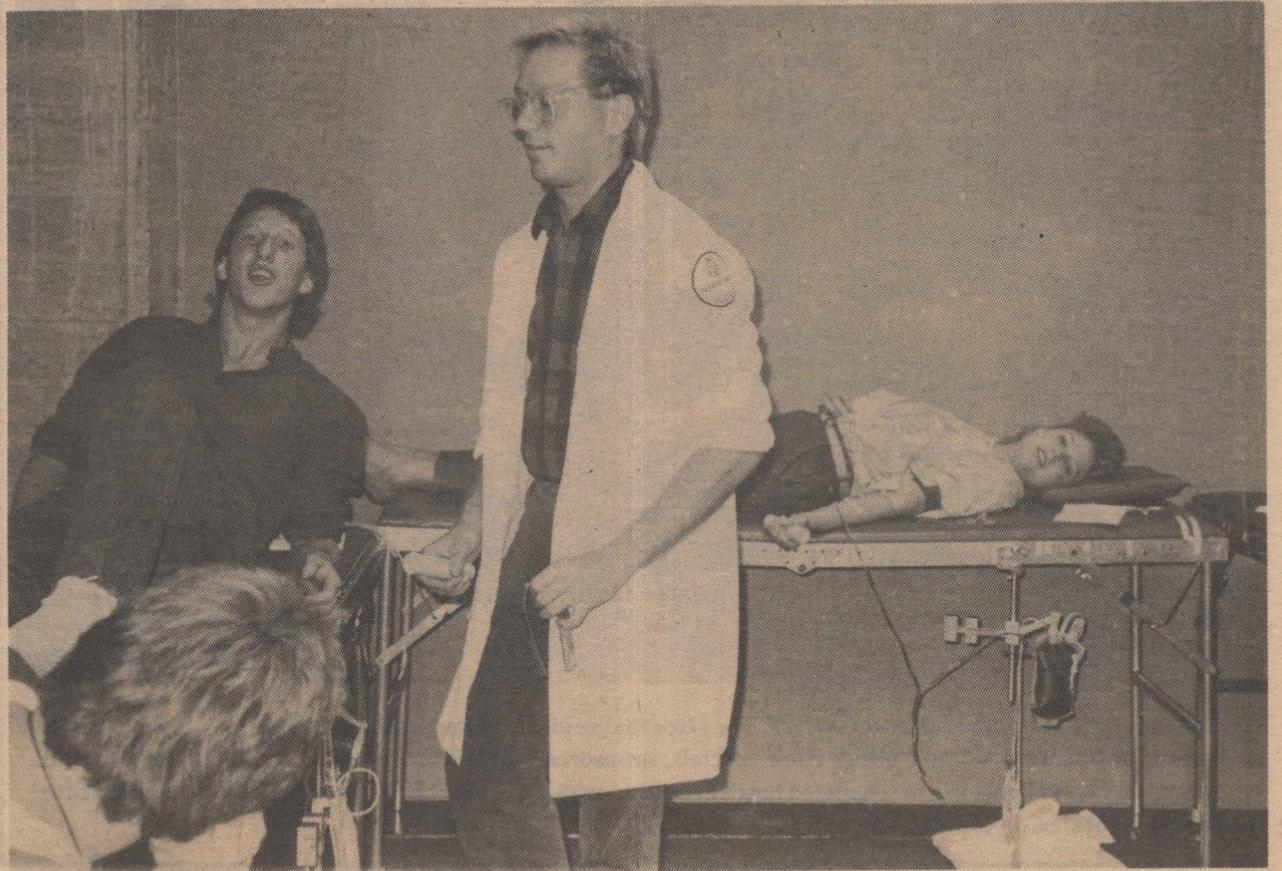
I thought, these people are having a good time. How can you have a good time when someone is shoving a needle in your arm?

I sat down and felt paralyzed. Girls laughed as the nurse said, "All that part about minimal pain, disregard that." Great, these guys really know how to curb someones fear.

The nurse saw the look on my face: "First time huh? Well don't worry, you won't do it again."

I laid down and the nurse placed a piece of PVC pipe in my hand as he shoved a needle in my vein. No pain — well almost. More like throb that was hardly noticeable. I was just beginning to feel a little at ease when the guy next to me passed out. But by the time I was finished he was OK.

As I was lying there, I was trying to figure out how long it takes to drip a pint of precious from my body. The girl across from me had started before me and had



COM Christian McDonald (left) gets ready to give blood as COM student Linda Marquer (right) watches from her gurney. In center is one of the nurses from the Blood Center of Houston who helped with the Oct. 14 Blood Drive sponsored by the SAB. (Photo courtesy of Maryann Urick)

half a bag to go when I started, but I finished before her. Was this because I was extremely nervous or because I have a strong heart? Either way, my body was about to renege on me.

I sat up and felt OK — not completely normal — but OK. I walked over to get some refreshments and really started "rushing." I sat down as the nurse asked how I felt. I said, "A little dizzy, but I'll be OK." She told me to put my head between my knees if it got too bad. What? I'm not going to look like a sissy.

This train of thought lasted about 30 seconds as the room really began to spin. I begged for comfort. They got me to a table and shoved a cold pack under my neck as the sweat poured down my face.

I lay there for about 15 minutes and listened to all the donors enjoying themselves as they pumped away. Soon, I was laughing at their remarks. When I got up later, I felt fine and have since led a normal life. So not only did I help someone in need, but I also got a free T-shirt and hopefully an "A" on this article.



Kay Bernsen as Bess and J. David Moeller as Les, read "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Astrodome."

'les and bes' brings laughter

By Anna Z. Bichta

"Good morning, darling," "Good morning, dear," begins the radio talk show in Lee Kalcheim's play *breakfast with les and bes*. The play's final performance at the College of the Mainland was Nov. 9.

The comedy is set in New York City in 1961 and depicts three crazy days in the life of a family of two talk show hosts, Les Dischinger (played by J. David Moeller) and his wife Bes (Kay Bernsen). They have two kids, David (Tony Hancock), who likes to impress girls by driving his dad's car into the Central Park lake, and Shelby (Roxanne Lynn), who marries a total stranger. The Dischingers' other problems, as if they didn't have enough already, are caused by the radio show and boredom in their long marriage.

Les is the first one who sees drastic change as the solution to their troubled marriage. He wants to leave everything behind, with exception of Bes, and move to Houston to work as a baseball commentator. Bes, however, doesn't even want to hear about leaving her beloved talk show, her column, her great parties....

This comedy offers something for everyone, romance, drama, and best of all, realism spiced with great one-liners. Probably, the best humor was found in Les' amazement over the fact that Houston has a professional baseball team (remember this took place in 1961). The

fresh-from-the-National League-championship audience really enjoyed that joke.

The actors did a really great job, especially in these demanding comic-tragic roles. They had no problems with creating the specific atmosphere of the play. I especially liked Tony Hancock as the witty brat David.

This is the second play that I have seen at the COM Theatre. I am very impressed with the quality of plays the theatre offers and the talented actors that it is able to bring in.

Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa's monthly Brown Bag Social will be held Nov. 20 at 12:30 p.m. in Room SC-217. A general meeting is planned for 10:30 on Dec. 6. The meeting will include a guest speaker and will be followed by a Christmas party. The last Brown Bag Social of this semester will be Dec. 18 at 12:30 p.m. in Room SC-212. The convention dates have been set: state convention — Feb. 12, 13, 14, 1987, Fort Worth, Texas; and national convention — April 2, 3, 4 1987, Dallas, Texas.



Touch of Class, a funk rock band, performed for students, faculty and staff at a recent College Hour special held in the Student Center.

Touch of Class

Rock-funk band plays COM

By Dana D. Gibson

Sound filled the College of the Mainland Student Center as funk band "Touch of Class" roared up their rhythmic noise for an Oct. 7 performance.

Top 40 music was the main stream of their concert. Jazzed up versions of songs such as "Purple Rain," "Rumors," and "You Should Be Mine" prompted audience response.

The five-piece band consisted of a lead singer, drummer, lead guitarist and key board player all in extremely modern attire.

As the show progressed the band seemed to warm up. After completing the third song, the band solicited audience participation.

COM student Alice Stewart said: "I thought they were good. I have heard worse."

Another student Patricia Anderson said: "That band was terrible. My little brother could have done better and he's only 3 years old."

Others in the audience seemed to enjoy the performance as they clapped their hands to the beat.

Overall the band's performance had a professional quality. The unique costumes and the dance steps of the band members gave them a polished look. But, looks are not everything.

SAB advisor talks

By Olga Escobedo

Her desk in her office faces a wall decorated with several photographs of adventurous backpacking, skiing and canoeing trips taken in recent years. Some of the pictures were given to her by friends and others are her own. The wall of photographs reveals what Maryann Urick is all about, the outdoors.

Urick, coordinator of recreation at College of the Mainland, has made trips to a variety of states and countries.

This year's vacation took Urick and her friends on a backpacking trip to California to climb Mount Whitney, which is one of the highest mountains in the continental United States. The previous year she canoed the boundary waters on the border of Minnesota and Canada. Every Thanksgiving, Urick who is also advisor to the Student Activities Board and the Outdoor Club, takes a trip to Big Bend.

Urick has also traveled abroad twice to two countries. In 1972, she along with her mother and grandparents traveled to Czechoslovakia, where she still has relatives. The other country Urick visited and was entranced with is Yugoslavia. There she visited the site of the Winter Olympics.

Urick moved from her home state, Illinois, to Texas nine years ago. She attended Illinois State University and Southern Illinois University, but before graduating served as an exchange student at the University of Hawaii. She returned to Southern Illinois University and received her bachelor's degree in recreation and leisure studies. Soon after graduation she ran the City Youth Program for junior and high school students in Highland Park, a suburb of Chicago.

Urick is now the coordinator of the Outdoor Club but the club is not Urick's sole responsibility. The COM Recreation Program is also under her direction as well as the Student Activity Board in which she is assisted by Eva Neinas, senior secretary of HPER, Social Science.

The Recreation Program sponsors basketball, volleyball and running leagues. The program also coordinates tennis and racketball tournaments and outdoor trips. The Students Activity Board sponsors special events such as free movies, fun runs, speakers and musicians like James Hersch and the Rhythm Rats.



Rosalie Trapani (left), Maryann Urick (center) and John Glowczwski pause during a recent visit to the 12th Annual Renaissance Festival. COM's Student Activities Board sponsored a bus trip to the festival Oct. 11. (Photo by Christian McDonald)

Renaissance revives old England

By Christian McDonald

From jousting knights to plays and games the Twelfth Annual Renaissance Festival is a fun place to spend a fall weekend. Open on Saturdays and Sundays from the beginning of October through the first week in November, the festival has continued to expand and excite its patrons for the past 12 years.

I found my opportunity to visit the festival on Oct. 11. The weather did not look good as I started on the long journey to Plantersville, but I was eased by the thought that the festival goes on "rain or shine." I arrived around 12:30 p.m. when the weather was just beginning to clear up and enjoyed a beautiful day.

I saw a variety of things on this trip — horse races, Gypsies, elephants and chainmailed maidens. The food was excellent. Large turkey legs and German sausages to go along with the King's Brew. This festival is filled with wonderful things to feel, touch, taste and purchase.

The Renaissance Festival is like a large play that is filled with actors at every turn. There are juggling and sword swallowing acts, and other feats of skill every-

where you look. To hear the sound of renaissance music played by the band, Celtic Stone, as mailed fighters march to their next battle, really makes the festival seem like a 16th century village.

Five stages with continuous entertainment are provided. The Rouge, Oaf and Fool, a group that came to College of the Mainland last year, put on a good show at the Castle Theatre. There were also reenactments of the debates between Aristotle and Galileo, with a little added humor. A play about Robin Hood and a battle demonstration, put on by the Society for Creative Anachronisms, were also offered.

The whole day could have been spent walking around checking out the arts and craft booths that line the streets — the muddy streets. Straw paths led the way for the weekend warriors, but the mud could not be avoided. It added a true atmosphere to the time when concrete roads were just a dream.

It would take as long to tell about the Renaissance Festival as it does to visit it because there is so much to see. If anybody is interested in medieval or renaissance time periods, the festival would be a fun-filled learning experience.

Meet '86 InterCOM staff members

Anna Z. Bichta

By Christian McDonald

When I met Anna Bichta in my journalism class the first thing I noticed was her accent.

Bichta is from Warsaw, Poland, a town bigger than Galveston but smaller than Houston. Learning that she is from behind the Iron Curtain, I asked her what she thinks of communism and socialism. "It stinks," was her reply.

Bichta left Poland four years ago with her family. Being interested in European countries I asked about the armed forces in Poland, and how they differ from those in the United States. She said that all the boys are drafted at 18 unless they are sick or going to college, but the boys may have to join after they get out of college.

When asked what kind of music she likes Bichta said she likes classic rock such as Bob Dylan and Jimi Hendrix and thinks the new Stevie Winwood hit is very good. "Most bands are the same in Poland as in the United States, but there are not many of the American bands in Poland," Bichta said. She has subscriptions to three magazines: *Rolling Stone*, *Time* and *Readers Digest*.

Bichta likes to read and was involved in an English class at Ball High School, Galveston, that read 25 books in a single year.

When asked her first impression of College of the Mainland she replied, it is "different, I have to watch my watch since there are no bells."

Regina Brown

By Olga Escobedo

Regina Brown is 19 years old. She was born in Louisiana but has made her home in Texas City. She has also lived and attended schools in surrounding areas such as La Marque and Santa Fe.

At the age of 16 she received her GED from College of the Mainland and by the time she was 17 she was enrolled at COM. This year, her second year at COM, she is working at the physical education building and is enrolled for 14 hours.

Some of Brown's interests and hobbies, besides writing for the *InterCOM*, are playing volleyball with friends, swimming, reading, dancing and being sociable.

Brown also loves music. The groups she listens to the majority of the time are Led Zeppelin, Motley Crue, ZZ Top and Aerosmith. Hank Williams Jr., Thomas Connelly and B.J. Thomas are Brown's favorite country and western entertainers.

Her future plans include earning a four-year degree in computer technology and thereafter, perhaps, pursuing a career in the Air Force.

Olga Escobedo

By Regina Brown

Olga Escobedo, a new addition to College of the Mainland as well as to the *InterCOM* staff, is a very interesting lady.

A journalism major, Olga decided that working on the paper would afford her some valuable experience as well as give her a chance to get involved in her new school. She's also in COM Singers and Studio Singers and a member of the Student Activities Board. Busy lady!

Originally, she is from Fort Stockton and has attended Blinn College in Bryan, Midland College in Midland and San Jacinto College in Pasadena. Needless to say, she has moved around quite a bit. Right now

Escobedo is living in Dickinson and working for her sister in League City.

Some of Escobedo's interests include bike-riding, dancing and listening to a variety of music, including Ozzy and Pat Benatar. But Olga is not strictly rock-n-roll; she also appreciates good country music.

So, if you think you can catch her in between activities, welcome this new student and *InterCOM* reporter to College of the Mainland.

Matt Gerry

By Anna Z. Bichta

"I love to write," says Matt Gerry, journalism student at the College of the Mainland. This statement certainly shows in his extended writing for the *Com* paper. After contributing several articles to *The Gander* last year, Gerry came back to widen his journalistic knowledge by writing for *InterCOM*.

As a journalism major, Gerry plans to receive his degree from the University of Houston at Clear Lake. Later, he would like to work for a technical magazine as a specialist writer.

Asked about his other interests, Gerry listed music and travel. He enjoys R&B, 60s and 70s rock, and contemporary jazz. Gerry's interest in travel derives from his childhood sightseeing around the United States. He still enjoys visiting parts of the West Texas during the summer.

Dana Gibson

By Matt Gerry

Dana Gibson is a journalism major in her second year at College of the Mainland.

She has been interested in writing for as long as she can remember and enjoys writing human interest stories. Spare time is spent at her typewriter or reading. She is also interested in photography and is taking a beginning photography course this fall.

Gibson's musical tastes tend toward contemporary musicians such as Phil Collins and Lionel Richie.

Gibson plans to go to an upper-level university to complete her second two years. At the moment she is seeking a media related job in Galveston.

Jan Cannaday Wilson

By Dana Gibson

InterCOM writing staff member Jan Cannaday Wilson is an aspiring author.

Wilson plans someday to write children's books while motoring around the Florida Keys and the Caribbean on a Hatteras boat.

"Journalism is something I've thought about doing since junior high school," Wilson said. "I have been wanting to go to school for the past 20 years." Why such a delay? Wilson spent two years at UT getting her P.H.T. — Putting Hubby Through (college). As a single parent she has had a variety of jobs which gives her a wide background from which to write. One of her favorite jobs was working for the Houston Zoo as a zoo docent. She worked in the children's zoo and helped take care of the gorilla habitat. For the past three years Wilson has been painting names on boats. She has worked at the Galveston Yacht Basin, Southshore Harbor and Watergate.

This semester, however, she is getting her fill of school with a full course load — photography, biology, political science and journalism.

In her spare time Wilson enjoys meditation, metaphysics and deep sea fishing.

Jim Richard

By Christian McDonald

Jim Richard has been working for the *Texas City Sun* since the beginning of the Fall '86 semester. He works as a photojournalist and enjoys his job.

Richard graduated from La Marque High School in 1983. From there he went into the United States Navy for two years and achieved the rank of Petty Officer third class. Richard believes that the Navy taught him a lot about growing up. "The Navy brought me maturity, I think everyone should join one of the Armed Forces for a couple of years," said Richard.

Richard was a photographer for the Navy and just finished a seven and a half month tour of the Pacific in March. Aboard the USS Ajax, Richard made stops in Hawaii, Guam, the Philippines, Diego Garcia, Thailand and Singapore.

Richard is currently taking journalism at College of the Mainland and plans to major in the journalism field. He is a member of the InterCOM staff.

Christian McDonald

By Jim Richard

Among this semester's journalism students is Christian McDonald, a 1984 Clear Creek High School graduate and a College of the Mainland student for two years.

McDonald says he is happy to be out of high school. Upon graduation, he was still uncertain about a career, so he decided to enroll at COM and maybe pursue a journalism major.

"To me, high school was just there. I wasn't that active except for swimming. I really just existed," McDonald said.

Currently, McDonald is working at a local restaurant and attending COM full time.

For now however, he has particular views on life and how to live. "I enjoy life. I do what I want to do, try to have fun and not get too serious about anything while I am still young," he said.

Pamela Murray

By Jan Cannaday Wilson

Pamela Murray peers intently at a blue-green screen. There are easily decipherable letters surrounded by hieroglyphics that could be straight from the planet Vulcan. No, we're not aboard the Starship Enterprise — we're in the Graphic Arts Department here at College of the Mainland and Murray is doing what she loves to do, operating a typesetter.

The writing staff of InterCOM is keeping her busy, as she prepares newspaper stories for their final printing. This is easy stuff for Murray, a native of Texas City who's in her last semester here. What she really enjoys doing with her typesetting skills is magazine layouts. There is so much creativity involved, she explains, the final product can almost sing!

Speaking of singing, Murray spends her spare time (if a mother of a 14-month-old son has any) listening to her favorite singers Cameo and Sade. Not just soul, she flashes a smile, but all good music, including gospel.

Murray is eager, too, to get out into the world and put her masterful typesetting skills to work. She's already interviewing with promising prospective employers.

The telephone rings — there are some changes to be made (again!) in the article she's preparing. She just smiles, her fingers fly and the hieroglyphics begin to dance across the screen.

Jim Finger mystifies crowd

By Jim Richard

Call him fascinating; call him fantastic; call him "Finger" - that's right, the one and only Jim Finger, a 22-year-old Houston magician, juggler, fire-eater and balloon sculptor who recently performed at College of the Mainland.

A man with only the desire to entertain, Finger started his profession during his early years of junior high school in 1977 doing simple magic tricks in classes.

"Actually I started out as a professional clown. I was real young back then and nobody could tell because of all the make-up I had to wear with my outfit," Finger said. "But as time passed, I realized that clowning wasn't going to get me anywhere, so it was then that magic and juggling appeared to be my future." After deciding to become such a performer, Finger set a goal to be tops in entertaining.

"I learned magic by reading books and I put my performances together by watching other magicians and jugglers, as well as comedians, to get the comical part of my routine," he said. "I still continue this practice because it really does work. You pick up a little bit of ideas here and there from these people and before you know it, you have one of the best shows around," he added.

The COM performance went without a hitch, except when a dove, which he produced out of a series of neckerchiefs, decided to break out of bondage and head for freedom.

Flying out of the student center, through what might have appeared to be a very large escape route, the 'jailed' bird was foiled by invisible glass walls.

Entertaining has been Finger's profession for eight years. He usually performs on the weekends, but occasionally gives a show during the week. Finger's audiences range from corporation conventions, to business parties, to colleges.

"Doing the line of work that I do is not just a career; it's not just a job to bring in the money; it's my lively hood," he said. "I make my living this way because it's all I ever wanted to be."

Finger doesn't work with an assistant. He says he is more like a comedian. Most comics do best when they perform by themselves, he said. "I would rather get my assistant from the audience because my act involves them so much. This also prevents a 'wall' from occurring between the audience and myself," he added.

As for the favorite part in his act, it is "at the end of my shows because I usually will get to meet a lot of the people I perform for. It makes me feel good, too, when they appear to be pleased," he said.

Finger feels by the year 2000, "this area of Galveston County will become sort of an entertainment capital mainly because the people around here appreciate it (magic shows) more than those in Houston. Up there, they can go out any night and find a good routine going on close to home, but down here, it's much harder to find," he said.

As for the future, Finger hopes to get into acts with



Jim Finger, a Houston magician and juggler, who recently toured College of the Mainland, gets a final approval from the audience before slamming down on a carrot chopper containing Maryann Urick's hand and a few carrots. Urick's hand came out unscratched. (Photo by Jim Richard)

"much larger illusions, sort of like the ones Paul Driscoll uses, like the sawing of the woman trick," he said.

Choir members sing in festival

By Olga Escobedo

College of the Mainland Singers competed against each other during October to be selected to sing at the Texas Junior College Choral Festival held at Farmers Branch, near Dallas, Oct. 24. Several other junior colleges were represented at the festival.

COM students chosen to attend the four-day event were: sopranos, Pam Turner, Misty Beaton, Glenda Mouton, Marylyn Green; altos, Michelle Bell, Ellen Densen and Mary Peterson; tenors, David Price and Sam Antly; and basses, Richard James and Clay Gilmer.

The choir was under the direction of Weston Noble, director of Music Activities at Luther College, Decorah,

Iowa. Noble, has served as guest director in several states to include Alaska and Hawaii, and in Canada. Noble not only directs choirs, but has also been asked to conduct all-state groups for bands and orchestras.

Choir members left Oct. 22 and returned Oct. 25. Prior to the Oct. 24 concert, they had five rehearsals. Some of the songs performed were: "All that Hath Life and Breath" by Clausen; "Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis" by Herbert Howells; and "O Whistle and I'll Come to Ye" by Wilberg.

Choir members spent one day at the Texas State Fair in Dallas. The group enjoyed the trip to Dallas and the fair. According to choir member Misty Beaton, "It was fun; I really enjoyed it." She hopes to attend next year.



At COM's student vs. employees softball game, fewer faculty and staff members showed up than expected. With help from a few student employees, the faculty and staff team won. No score was recorded for the Sept. 29 game. Thirty-five players participated. The students have now challenged the faculty and staff to a volleyball game on Nov. 13 during College Hour. (Photo by Maryann Urick)



Jill Mardis, full-time art student at COM and student in Mona Marshall's advanced photography course, will exhibit the above picture, taken at the Renaissance Festival, in the COM Library from Dec. 8-13. Mardis lives in League City. Several other students in Marshall's photography classes will exhibit photographs in the library. They are: Otis Harp, Texas City, Dec. 1-6; Janet Proctor, League City, Dec. 15-20; and Barbara Yeamans, Santa Fe, Jan. 12-24. (Photo by Jill Mardis)

Blood drive

Continued from Page 2

Urick said SAB plans another blood drive in February or March 1987. The next blood drive may be two days long in order to more easily accommodate the donors.

What's happening

Disabled services

Need a Handicapped Parking Permit? These are available at the Campus Police office in the Administration Building, phone, 938-1211 ext. 403.

If you have difficulty opening doors due to a disability, you may obtain a door opener to operate electric doors on College of the Mainland campus. Contact the Maintenance Department, phone ext. 404.

If you have difficulty writing, tape recorders can be checked out from the library.

Limited transportation across campus by motorized cart is available by arrangement when needed for severe immobility. Contact Dr. Marcella Derrick at

(409) 938-1211, ext. 295 Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Marine life cruises

The Nature Cruises sponsored by The American Cetacean Society take place aboard a 65-foot crew boat and trained guides will inform you about the marine life along the Gulf Coast.

Cruises will be conducted every weekend throughout October and November. Departures times are 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays and 1 p.m. on Sundays.

*Admission is \$20 per person.

For Reservations Call or Write:

Bunny Bennett
6608 Stewart Rd. #382

Galveston, TX 77551
(409) 935-4484

*Group Rates Available.

Computer users

College of the Mainland Computer Users Group and Marvin Rogers invite everyone interested to attend meetings, which take place every fourth Wednesday of each month, at 7:30 p.m., in Room T-318.

The meetings include group discussions and guest speakers on social and educational issues.

American Realism

College of the Mainland Art Gallery will feature an exhibition of paintings on American Realism from Nov. 1 through Dec. 15.

Titled *Emerging Realist: East Meets South*, the works of six artists from New York will be merged with six artist from the Houston-Galveston area. Representing New York are Jeanne Duval, Les Reker, Jeanne Rovegno, William M. Sullivan, Dana Van Horn and Amy Weiskopf. Featured from the Houston-Galveston area are Lydia Bodnar-Balahutrak, Stella Dobbins, Mona Marshall, Robert McCoy, James Templer and Jean Wetta.

Ariel Perkinson, assistant director of the Sherry French Gallery in New York, presented a lecture about American Realism on Nov. 1 in the Fine Arts Building. A reception for the artists followed.

Student activities calendar

By Matt Gerry

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, Nov. 11, 12:30 p.m.	President Larry Stanley's informal visit with the students.
Nov. 1 - Dec. 15	Emerging Realists: East Meets South, in collaboration with Sherry French Gallery, New York.
Tuesday, Nov. 18, 12:30 p.m.	Rhythm Rats, trio from Austin playing old-time Rock and Roll. The trio plays at night clubs and fairs throughout the state.
Saturday, Nov. 22	10th Annual Texas Turkey Trot Fun Run: 8:45 a.m. (1/4-mile and 1-mile) \$5 per person; and 9 a.m. (three and six mile) \$7 person. Sign-up by Nov. 14.
Tuesday, Nov. 25, 12:30 p.m.	Carl Finney and the Texas Blend, six piece country western show. Group is a member of the Colorado Country Music Hall of Fame.
Thursday, Nov. 27 - 30	College of the Mainland closed for Thanksgiving.
Monday, Dec. 1 - 2	Return to classes. Early registration begins. Students must have met admissions requirements by Nov. 4.
Tuesday, Dec. 2, 12:30 p.m.	Victor Alvarez and the Latin American Express will play Mexican Salsa and Latin music on trumpet, trombone and sax. The group performed at Astroworld summer of '86.
Thursday, Dec. 11, 6 p.m.	Three on three Volleyball Tournament. Sign-up by Dec. 5. Cost, \$3 person.
Monday, Dec. 15 - 20	Finals week.
Dec. 21 - Jan. 4, 1987	College closed for the holidays.
Monday, Jan. 5	College resumes for Spring Semester 1987.
Tuesday, Jan. 6	Credit registration
Thursday, Jan. 8	Late credit registration
Friday, Jan. 9	Continuing Education registration
Monday, Jan. 12	Classes begin

Jazz Ensemble jams

By Olga Escobedo

College of the Mainland Jazz Ensemble played some jazzy tunes at the Fine Arts Building Oct. 28. This was the first concert the COM Jazz Ensemble gave this fall. The ensemble consisted of a woodwind, a rhythm, and a brass section. Instruments making their debut were the piano, electric guitar, trumpet, trombones and saxophones. Some of the songs performed by the group were: "Hill Where the Lord Hides" by Chuck Magione and "Spain" by Chick Corea.

COM students making their debut as soloist include: Gary Lively, alto and soprano saxophone; Steve Williams, tenor saxophone; Ron Bocek, baritone saxophone; Andrew Boardman, trombone; Ken Kirk, trumpet; Mike Manering, trumpet; Ted William, fluglehorn; Peter McWhorter, piano; and Leroy Broussard, guitar.

According to COM student Hector Garza, who attended the evening concert, the concert was "a great performance". The Jazz Ensemble will perform at the old Galveston Square during November. The ensemble will give a final concert in December.

Director of the Jazz Ensemble is Sparky Koerner.

Refunds timely

Continued from Page 1

said. "I don't know how to say that any nicer, but we do get a lot of bad checks."

Refunds in cash for dropped classes for the fall semester could have been picked up on either Oct. 8 or 9. Checks were mailed out on Oct. 24.

The delay of sending out refund checks after the Oct. 8 and 9 pickup was made possible because of COM payroll checks that had to be written, which can be a timely process.

InterCOM

A STUDENT PUBLICATION AT COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND

DECEMBER 1986

President's informal visit

Stanley outlines college improvements

By Christian McDonald

On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, College of the Mainland President Larry Stanley held an informal visit with students and faculty in the Student Center during college hour.

The students had a chance to ask questions, give opinions and make suggestions about improvements for the college as they talked with President Stanley.

Despite a slow start the question and answer session turned out to be a very informative meeting.

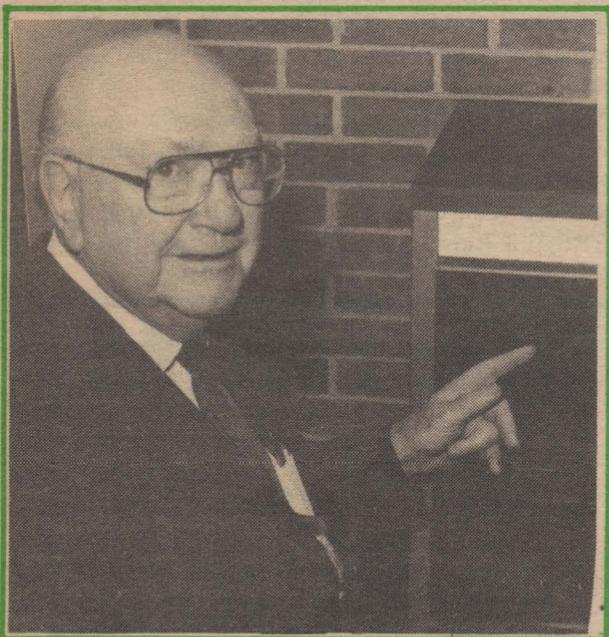
One of the more important issues brought up is the fact that COM is one of three colleges in the state that still charges only \$4 per hour for tuition. With all the cutbacks being made, students are wondering how long this will last. President Stanley assured them that tuition will not be raised unless it is absolutely necessary to keep the quality of education at its present level. The college is trying its best to keep costs to students at a minimum, he said.

The bookstore lowered its prices and gave up its profit so that students could save money. In addition a proposition has been formulated for the food service operation to be handed over to a private vendor in order to save the \$50,000 a year the college now spends on the present system, President Stanley said.

Another issue raised concerned handicap access around the college. President Stanley has given high priority to this issue and anyone with suggestions should contact him.

According to President Stanley, an estimate was made two years ago on an elevator system for the Learning Resource Center. It was found that such a system would be very costly, so two grants were instituted in order to fund such an operation, but unfortunately these grants failed to produce the needed funds.

President Stanley did inform the students of plans to repave the parking lot behind the Technical-



Sherman Warner, who donated the Westminster Carillon Chimes to College of the Mainland, points to the mechanical heart of the system. The chimes play Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.



COM President Larry Stanley answers questions from the audience during his informal visit with students and faculty Nov. 11.

Vocational Building by the spring semester. President Stanley said he is also aware of the need to repave the east entrance to the Fine Arts parking lot and the need to restripe the main lots.

One student asked if she could participate in commencement exercises in the spring even though she would lack one credit toward her associate of arts

degree. President Stanley said that this is no longer done because students would participate in the exercises, but not return to finish their degree.

President Stanley informed students of what to do if they had questions about grades, or a problem with

See Stanley Page 8

Chimes add musical touch

By Olga Escobedo

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

II Chronicles 7:14

Are you familiar with the sound that is ringing through campus? No, it's not Santa's reindeer making an early trip to College of the Mainland, but an hourly chime and maybe even a start of a tradition for COM.

If you don't have the slightest idea about what I'm hinting, you're not alone. One more hint, they ring from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. each weekday. If you still don't know what I'm talking about, read further.

The melody that bounces softly up on the walls of COM's buildings and echoes through the cool air is automatically controlled. These are the Westminster Carillon Chimes which were donated by Sherman Warner in September.

Warner, a retired educator, lives in Texas City. He has taught in surrounding public schools. At a COM Board of Trustees meeting in September Warner presented a plaque to the trustees, accepted by President Larry Stanley, which explain the meaning behind the chimes. The inscription on the plaque reads: This carillon voice is gladly given to our College of the Mainland to praise the power, love and guidance of God, by Sherman Loraine Warner, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Psalm 127:1, 7:21, Mark 11:24.

Other Bible verses have also been an inspiration to Warner. When asked why he donated the chimes Warner replied, "There should be an atmosphere more conducive to glorify God."

In his presentation statement in September he explained, "I wish to bring to this campus by way of the Westminster Carillon Chimes a consciousness of the spiritual values of a complete education." He added that "College of the Mainland offers excellent mental and physical training. But we must not forget

See Chimes Page 8

Campus chorales entertain students

By Olga Escobedo

College of the Mainland Singers and the Studio Singers performed at a noon concert on Nov. 20. The concert was held in the student center for all students, faculty and staff personnel.

The performance was the debut of both groups. The singers performed a variety of music such as: "All That Have Life and Breath," "Occapella" and "Ray's Rock House." Soloists making their debut included: Glenda Mouton, Michelle Bell, Barbara Green, Marylyn Green, Pam Turner, Mary Peterson, David Price, Sam Antley, Leroy Edwards and Rodney Fowler.

Other concerts will be held by the two groups including the Mainland Chorale. Concerts scheduled for December are on the following dates: Dec. 9, Mainland Chorale—"The Messiah" in the student center; Dec. 11, COM Singers at Baybrook Mall; Dec. 15, COM Singers with Mainland Chorale at Ashton Villa; and Dec. 16, Studio Singers with COM Jazz band in Room F-117 Recital Hall.



College of the Mainland Singers perform in the Student Center with songs such as "All That Have Life and Breath" and "Ray's Rockhouse" under the direction of Hope Shiver.

COM maintenance plans campus change

By Dana D. Gibson

"The pigeons are destroying the structure of the building," said Henry A. Wilmore, director of Physical Planning at College of the Mainland. Wilmore said that his department is sealing off the area where the pigeons roost. "You can see at the other end where we have not started," he said.

His department plans to change the lighting system that hangs from the roof outside of the Student Center and seal it off. Next, Wilmore said the area will be redecked and benches will be added. "Students will have access to it during the summer for study," The upper section will be closed in with glass and the lower section will be screened in, Wilmore said.

Other changes planned around campus include a new elevator system. Currently, the system requires a

key and is difficult for disabled students to use. "The elevator project is of top priority," Wilmore said.

Improvements made on campus, thus far, are the installing of electronic door openers and signs concerning the feeding of the ducks. "Electronic door openers are in operation," Wilmore said. "The controls can be picked up at the Maintenance Department Office."

Signs reading "Do not feed the ducks around buildings" have recently been added around campus. This measure was taken in the interest of sanitation, Wilmore said.

"Lots of preventive maintenance projects are planned for next semester," Wilmore continued. Renovations in and around the Science and Fine Arts buildings are among the beginning projects. An update in the science offices is planned along with the renovation of

the greenhouse." Wilmore added, "All of the doors have already been repaired in the Science Building.

"All renovations and improvements are a must," Wilmore said when asked about the budget cut. "Without air conditioning, repairs, etc. the college would be dead."

A study on preventing the fume problems in the Technical-Vocational Building is the latest project," Wilmore said. "Fumes are escaping from the welding and auto shops and filtering into the halls through air ducts. We are receiving complaints from students and faculty who use the building."

Wilmore and his staff are responsible for the maintenance of the swimming pool, air system, buildings and campus.

Finley wants students to think

By Christian McDonald

College of the Mainland's motto is Humanhood Through Brotherhood. This motto falls close to the heart of political science teacher Jim Finley and was a deciding factor in his decision to teach at COM.

Since his arrival in 1971, Finley has encouraged his students to think critically about the world they live in and the values they have been taught.

"At first I didn't have many ideas, so I talked exclusively about 'what supposedly is.' In other words, I was an appendage to some textbook. Now, I expect folks to read the textbooks and I spend more time talking about what is possibly wrong with 'what supposedly is,' and about the great and silent potential of 'what could be.'

Finley believes that America has not done much to improve itself in the past. He believes that the real problems of society, such as poverty and unemployment, can not and will not be solved under a capitalist system where the "few" have so much that the "many" are lacking.

"Why are we spending more than 30 million an hour on the death industry, while cutting back funds for the life industry?" These are the kind of questions Finley proposes to his students.

"People don't usually doze off when I say things like that," Finley states. "I try to get folks to understand that politics is not only walking into a voting booth or

writing a letter to a representative, but it's something we live every day; it's the power of human relationship, it's how we define ourselves individually and collectively as moral and intellectual creatures."

According to Finley, Baltimore Morning Herald reporter and author H.L. Mencken said that school was the only thing that got in the way of his education. After Finley attended Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Mississippi State, Washington State and Texas A and M, he believes that Mencken was at least three-fourths correct.

"The instructors would lecture, assign to read certain chapters in the book. It would come time for the test, and I was asked to barf all of it up. And the proximity of the contents of the barf, and what was said in the book, and what the teacher said, came into play. I went through all of school without being asked to think, without being asked to reflect. It was just memorizing things. If you memorize something and barf it back up, you walk away from it and two weeks later you forget a big percentage of it, over half of it. Two months later you are lucky to remember 10 percent of it."

So that his students do not receive the same "barf it up" education that he did, all of Finley's tests are essay tests. Finley's students are not only asked to think, but to formulate ideas and to give their own opinion, in hope of learning something in the process.



Jim Finley lectures his students.

Finley received his bachelor's degree at Mississippi State. He has taught at Mississippi State and S.W. Louisiana as well as at COM. Finley has two daughters 'doing time' at LaMarque High School. His wife is from South Louisiana.

Campus Features

Therapist gives tips to deal with holiday stress

By Jan Cannaday Wilson

Have you looked at your calendar lately? Can you believe it? Just when you think it's OK to come up for a breath of fresh air you find yourself surrounded by tinsel, evergreens, fat bearded men in funny red suits and silver bells. Good grief! It's Christmas! When did it happen?

We really don't have time to answer our own questions. After all, there are all those term papers that have to be completed, make-up work that has to be turned in, and finals right around the corner. Now we're supposed to jump into the holiday whirl - that means planning, and gift shopping, and baking, and traveling, and stress. It sort of creeps up on us unannounced. I don't remember asking stress to have a salad with me today at McDonald's, but there it sat staring me in the face. Not that stress is all bad, some amount of stress is actually good for us, keeps us alert, vital and stimulated, but it just seems to intensify with the approach of the holidays.

Don't despair! There are ways to deal with the "Grinch" who'll try to steal Christmas. If you were able to attend the last gathering of Women in Support, you heard Ann Bestrup's dissertation on Handling Holiday Stress, and maybe picked up some good pointers. If you didn't get to go, I've got some good news for you. Although Bestrup has moved to Alaska, Jeanne M. Roy, M.A., therapist at family Service Center has agreed to continue the series. I talked with Roy in her office at Appomattox Square and she passed on these helpful guidelines for dealing with holiday stress.

The first thing Roy wants us to remember, is that the stress we're experiencing is temporary. The holidays

will pass and things will return to normal. Christmas holidays, she adds, are the most stressful time of the year, causing our emotions to skyrocket and our perceptions to magnify in their intensity. We're fed so much media hype portraying the "perfect" family gathering around the "perfect" dinner, receiving the "perfect" gift while wearing the "perfect" dress, that we're likely to forget that reality is not always "perfect." It's only when our expectations are not fulfilled that we experience our serenity level plummeting. The holiday blues set in, especially if we are at the center of the holiday planning.

Let's look at our expectations. Are they realistic? When the family gets together, are we expecting little brother to behave like an angel when he's been a terror his entire life? Why expect him to act any differently? As a matter of fact, he'll probably be worse, since his emotions are heightened too. The key, Roy explains, is to be conscious of how we perceive the reality of these situations. If we can lower our expectations of others and ourselves, we will be less disappointed if they don't materialize.

Roy gave me a list of stress reducers. She suggests clipping them out, putting them on the refrigerator door and reading them.

- 1) **Take time to relax** - walk, read a book, exercise. Make a list of things that you like to do that you can refer to when feeling stressed out. Be good to yourself.
- 2) **Be flexible** - let the holidays flow. If your acceptance level is good, your family will respond likewise.
- 3) **Know your expectations** - are they realistic? If not make a plan for dealing with the disappoint-

ments. Have options.

4) **Talk to your family** - don't wait until Christmas Eve to tell them that things will be different this year because there isn't time or money to do the usual affair. If they know ahead of time, they can contribute ideas and plans for alternative activities.

5) **Manage your time wisely** - start planning and shopping now. Don't wait until the last week to do everything. Pick up gifts between classes or as you shop for groceries.

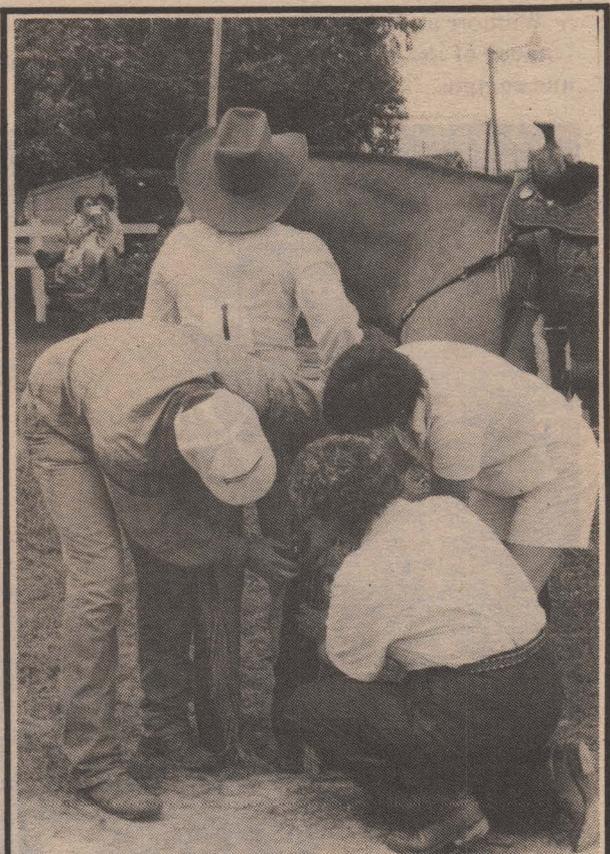
6) **Delegate, delegate, delegate** - don't take all the responsibility. Get your family or friends involved in the preparations so that you can enjoy yourself.

7) **Plan companionship** - if you're going to be alone, start telling your friends, church group, etc. that you need a group to spend the time with. That's right - ask.

8) **Call someone you connect with** - if you find yourself getting stressed-out or lonely, call a friend or relative that you feel close to. They're probably thinking of you too, and they'll have options and solutions to offer that you haven't thought of.

9) **Share the pain of your losses** - the holidays are often a time of painful remembrances of lost loved ones. Begin your day of celebration by dedicating a few moments to them. Light a candle, talk about them, cry, let the pain out and let it go. Holding back or feigning joy when feeling sad will only intensify the feelings of loss.

10) **Let your loved ones know** - they can't read your mind if your feeling overwhelmed. You have to let them know your feelings.



A Sargarland Horse Show contestant gets help with suiting up from his family. Barbara Yeaman, a COM advanced photography student in Mona Marshall's class, took this picture last August. Yeaman's photographs will be on exhibit in the COM Library Jan. 12-24. Marshall's student, Otis Harp, had his photographs exhibited Dec. 1-6. Janet Proctor's photographs will be on exhibit Dec. 15-20.

Hannukkah celebrates miracle

By Matt Gerry

Hannukkah or the Feast of Lights is observed for eight nights by the members of the Jewish religion every year at a variable time from late November through December.

During Hannukkah many traditions are observed. The most important is the passing on of the story of how in 538 B.C. 10 tribes of Israel returned from imprisonment in Babylon to find their homeland had been invaded and conquered by the Greek Army under the leadership of Alexander the Great.

During this time Antiochus the fourth ascended the Syrian throne and led Syrian armies in war against Egypt conquering a large part of the Middle East in partnership with the Greeks. Antiochus and the Greeks attempted to "Hellenize" or convert the Jews to Greek culture and beliefs, but found that the Jews would not convert, so they began to slaughter them.

A priest named Mattathias, who did not agree with this conversion, led his sons in a guerilla band to wage war on the Greek and Syrian occupation forces. After many years of fighting this guerilla war, Mattathias passed on leadership of the guerilla band to one of his sons named Judah.

Briefly, Judah and the Maccabees (which means hammers) had success in repelling the Greek and Syrian invaders, although this holiday does not commemorate military victories.

When Judah and the Maccabees recaptured the Temple they purified it. Only one vessel of holy oil,

which was used to kindle the everlasting light, could be found. This light represents the covenant between God and the Children of Israel and was never supposed to be extinguished. Miraculously this one-day supply of oil burned for eight days and nights in a sign from God that even though the flame had been extinguished, the covenant between God and the Jewish people burns on.

Hannukkah or the Feast of Lights commemorates that miracle and freedom from oppression and tyranny for all men.

The holiday also has many other traditions never to be forgotten. As a child, it was my favorite time of year due to all the good food and most important, new toys.

The Feast of Lights continues for eight days and at sundown on the first night, my mother lit a small brightly colored candle in the menorah, a special candle holder. Each succeeding night when all the candles are lit. Each lighting is accompanied by prayer.

The lighting ceremony is followed each night for eight nights by elaborate banquets complete with special holiday delicacies, singing of holiday songs and exchanging of gifts. There is also a special game involving the dreidle, a four sided top with a Hebrew letter on each side, involving bets on walnuts or pennies or other treats like chocolate coins.

Hannukkah always meant good times with friends and relatives, good things to eat and new toys to me as a child. Now as an adult it has assumed new meaning, perhaps as a reminder of the age-old story retold each year as well as a reminder of childhood memories.

End of semester draws near Holiday shopping ideas for students

By Dana D. Gibson

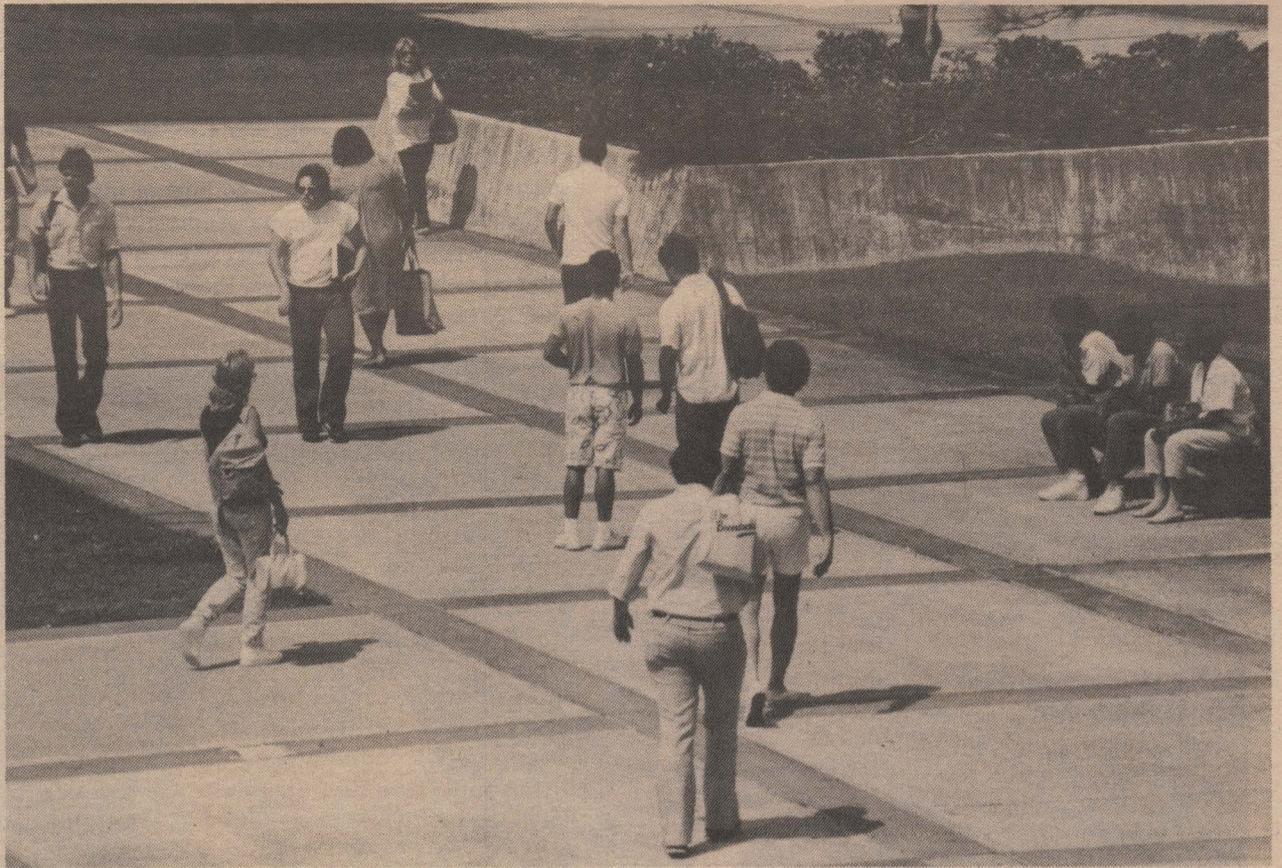
'Tis the season to study. La, la, la. That's about the way things look around good ol' College of the Mainland. While most people are preparing for the holidays, college students are studying until their brains are oatmeal. We do not have time or money to frolic and make merry with the rest of the world.

When I started college, the holidays assumed a whole new meaning. In the past I dreaded chopping ingredients for the festive meals, now I dread research papers and exams. I would rather chop five pounds of onions than do a 25-page research paper.

Last year I started my paper a little late, three days before it was due. I was up for three days and two nights. I did turn it in on time and received a B. A word to the wise — unless you want a date with No-Doz and hot tea, don't try it. It was not a pretty sight.

Aside from the grind of classes we, the college students of America, face another dilemma, buying presents. How can we buy gifts for our loved ones when we can't even afford to pay for the newspaper that you're reading right now? If your last name is not Rockefeller it's tough.

I've come up with some tips for Christmas shopping. Hit the thrift shops. Whom do you know that could not use a seashell ashtray? Garage sales provide a variety of gift ideas for the creative consumer. Trench coats, for example, are in this year. You could buy one at a garage sale for about \$3 dollars. Who cares if it says U.S. Navy on the back. It's the thought that



counts (and the money you save).

If you have someone on your list who is a real stickler for authenticity (snob) there are many ways of pulling the wool over his/her eyes. Let's say that Mom wants Giorgio perfume. An ounce of Giorgio goes for \$150, an amount that would cover books for a whole semester. One way to get around that is to go to the department store and grab as many samples of Giorgio as is legally possible. Next get a gallon of distilled water and the most gaudy atomizer that you can find. Mix them together and you have genuine imitation Giorgio. Mom will love you and you will have spent

about \$5. If that does not work cut the Halston III labels out of dresses and sew them on to K-Mart Blue-light Specials and take them to Foley's to be gift wrapped.

If garage sales and thrift shops don't float your boat, go ahead and spend your hard-earned grant money. As for myself, Christmas presents will consist of homemade gifts that will confuse relatives for years to come.

I hope that I have enlightened your holidays and lightened your pocketbook. Merry Christmas and good luck with your finals!

Need college funds? Seek financial aid

By Jan Cannaday Wilson

"A mind is a terrible thing to waste..." How many times had I watched the young man in the commercial fade into nothingness because he couldn't afford a college education? How sad, I thought. Poor fellow ... then the lightning bolt struck — that's me.

Once again the film rolled in my mind's eye. There I sat, outline waning, features disappearing until tragically, I was gone. Why hadn't it dawned on me sooner? I didn't have to be male, or black, or 19 years old like the guy in the commercial to disintegrate mentally.

For years I had assumed that I had missed my chance, that college was beyond my financial reach. After all, the rent was due, I needed new tires on "The Green Bean," and I had just spent half the month's gasoline budget on Nike hightops for my daughter. College? Dream on, I was doomed to fade away.

Then the reprieve came in the form of some friends. We were drinking coffee when one of them said, "Anyone who really wants to go to school can. I was able to qualify for financial aid."

I spilled coffee all over myself. What? Financial aid? Anyone can apply? Where? How? My half-disappeared mind was whirling. Dreams that had begun to ice over years ago suddenly felt a ray of heat. While mopping the coffee off my lap, I begged for more information. "Just go to the college's financial aid office and talk to someone," he advised.

The following day found me in Dan Doyle's office talking with Eileen Tepera. "Yes, of course you can apply," she smiled. "Take this form with you, fill it out, and we'll talk when you return it to us." That was the beginning of the beginning for me, and it might possibly be your beginning too.

Doyle, head of the Financial Aid Office at College of the Mainland for the past 18 years, gave me information on the basic structure, as well as some

interesting statistics, concerning financial aid.

The aid budget for 1984-85 at COM was \$175,000. Of the 1,965 eligible students (those taking six hours or more) 723 (36 percent) qualified for and received some form of financial aid.

Doyle explained that aid is awarded based on the student's need. "Need" is the difference between the cost of your education (books, tuition, fees, etc.) and the amount you or your family can be expected to contribute. If there is anything left over, you are considered to have a financial need.

All applications, which cost COM \$7 each to process, are mailed to a national service that computes and determines if or what a student's need is. Doyle and his assistants, Tepera and Terrilynn Rotramel then coordinate the many different source programs and distribute the money as proscribed. The single most important factor in making application, Doyle stressed, is properly filling out and completing the application form. Computers can't read blanks and any uncompleted question will affect your results adversely.

Doyle listed the types of aid available at COM:

Pell Grants — entitlements which provide a foundation of financial aid to which other federal and non-federal sources may be added. It is a grant, there is no repayment.

Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants — government allocations that add half the amount of total assistance to the original award for students with exceptional financial need. No repayment required.

State Student Incentive Grants — awards allocated by the state of Texas and matched by the college. No repayment required.

Texax Public Education Grant Program — a state allocation that adds 25 cents per credit hour to grants. No repayment required.

COM Scholarships — donations from generous

local organizations and citizens. No repayment required.

Moody Loan Fund — interest free loans established by the Moody Foundation for COM students in 1970. Repayment required.

Texas Guaranteed Student Loans — loans arranged with lending institutions such as banks, credit unions, etc. whose repayment is guaranteed by the state of Texas. Repayment required.

College Work Study Program — jobs available on campus providing up to 15 hours per week.

Off-Campus Employment — a list of available jobs and employers kept to help students find part-time work off-campus.

Doyle emphasized the fact that students cannot expect to be able to quit their jobs and be supported by financial aid. It's just not possible, he said. But it is possible, if you qualify, to get some help in the right direction. And the right direction, Doyle insisted, is to hang in there and get that degree.

Thank you, SAB

Working for a college newspaper isn't just fun and games. It often calls for much work after hours to complete the numerous stories that are published in the paper, not to mention laying out the paper itself.

The College of the Mainland Student Activities Board has realized this and recently awarded the COM journalism students with something that can be worth more than gold ... a pizza!

The InterCOM staff would like to express their gratitude to SAB for their kind gesture. It was a great pizza by the way.

Russian pianist loves teaching music

By Anna Z. Bichta

"I love to teach because teaching requires a special talent," says Sophia Gilmsen, a music teacher at the College of the Mainland. Gilmsen, a native Russian, has been teaching at COM since 1980.

Being one of her students, I agree that Gilmsen certainly possesses that great teaching talent. She has a special gift for passing on the love of music to everyone, even a non-music major like myself. With her outgoing personality and great sense of humor, Gilmsen makes her classes, Music Literature in my case, a real treat to take.

Gilmsen began to play piano at the age of 6 in her native Leningrad in the Soviet Union. She says she has liked piano since the beginning and at age 14 she decided to become a professional pianist. She later graduated from the Leningrad Conservatory and was a recipient of many international honors and awards.

Asked about her performing influences, Gilmsen listed the famous Russian pianist Emil Giles as her influence "in a broad sense." She first saw Giles when she was only 8 years old and never missed a performance by him in Leningrad until her move to the West. Gilmsen, whose favorite composer is Johann Sebastian Bach, is also impressed by the unique performing style of the late Canadian pianist Glen Gould who specialized in Bach's music. Of course, Gilmsen's music teacher V. Margulis was her very important influence as well.

Gilmsen moved to the United States 10 years ago. It was a big risk for a Russian to even apply for an exit visa, but she believes this was "the wisest step she ever made in her life." She now lives in Houston with her husband Vladimir Rizov and son Vadim.

As a music teacher, Gilmsen sees a tremendous difference between music education in the Soviet Union and the United States. Unfortunately, only the very talented and chosen few of the Soviet children can receive music education; however, they receive the best training possible. The great majority of the American children have a better chance to study music, but they have to look for a right teacher.

Gilmsen is also one of the busiest people I have ever known. In addition to her teaching at the COM, she has a private teaching studio in Houston where she trains talented pianists of all ages. Gilmsen also has recently given a series of recitals in the Houston area and recorded for the public radio station.

I asked Gilmsen whether she prefers to teach or perform. She told me that she enjoys both equally, but would like to have fewer teaching hours.

Gilmsen told me about her recent movie debut. For the 50th anniversary of the Jewish Federation, she taped an eight-minute piano performance. For the occasion, she played Brahms's Intermezzo Opus 117, No.2 in B Flat Minor. The movie will be shown Dec. 11.

Gilmsen plans to continue her teaching and performing solo, with large orchestras and with chamber groups.

Jazz ensemble plays Strand

By Olga Escobedo

The week was cold and rainy and the sun shone only bleakly, but if you were on the Strand in Galveston Saturday, Nov. 15, perfection was the word.

College of the Mainland's Jazz Ensemble, directed by Sparky Koerner, performed at noon followed by other college bands. Featured were: the University of Houston small Jazz Combo; Lee College Jazz Ensemble from Baytown; the University of Houston's big Jazz Ensemble; and the North Harris Jazz Ensemble.

COM Jazz Ensemble played a combination of upbeat to mellow jazz tunes. One song featured was "Tanga," which was recently recorded by the group Canada. The series of concerts continued into the evening making a beautiful day into a perfect day for jazz music.

The COM Jazz Ensemble entertained people as they walked by, or sat on the curb, or stood across the street.



Sophia Gilmsen, a native Russian, is an accomplished pianist and music teacher.

COM blood donors recognized

The Student Activities Board would like to thank everyone who gave from the heart on Tuesday, Oct. 14, at the October Blood Drive. We had a record-breaking number of donors — 128. Everyone should be recognized for their generous donations. Thank you!

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
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| Benno Anderson | Ellen Denson | Devon Jones | Tony Pfeiffer |
| Brian Anderson | Monica Dickens | Joanna Jones | Karrie Pierce |
| Sam Antley | Larry Dodson | Suzan Jones | Randy Pirkle |
| Eloy Anzaldua | Warren Dodson | Donna Kantak | Monica Ramsey |
| Tammy Austin | Teresa Dorsett | Robert Klockmann | Cheryl Regan |
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Musician becomes president

By Jim Richard

How our lives turn out career-wise doesn't usually happen the way we plan it. Sometimes it does, but for most people, who aren't doing what they originally set a goal for, fate has decided their future.

This was the scenario of today's College of the Mainland president, who in his earlier years wanted nothing more than to be involved in the field of music.

Larry Stanley, president of COM since 1983, has found that fate can be a very unpredictable phenomenon.

Born in 1939 in Wichita, Kan., President Stanley's first touch with music was with the piano. But making music his occupation was not the idea he had in mind at the time.

"Boy I hated that piano. I took lessons at an early age for about two years and tried almost anything to get out of them," Stanley said. "Then one day my piano teacher died which was my 'out' from it," he said jokingly. "I didn't pick it back up until college."

Growing up in a middle class neighborhood in Wichita with four brothers, the president claims he was just like the other kids he grew up with. "I had the same interests as everyone else. I tried to play on a baseball team but I wasn't very good.

"I was a pretty good swimmer while in high school though. In my senior year, our swimming team won the state championship," President Stanley said.

Before high school graduation in 1957, he decided to study architecture after years of watching his father, who worked in construction as a glazier.

"Architecture work is very interesting to me. In high school, I drew up plans for houses that were actually built," President Stanley said. "I was pretty good in math which helped out a lot too."

But architecture was not to be his college major, as fate stepped in during the summer before registration. He became highly interested in music after getting involved with a church choir, and decided to change his major to music.

He attended Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla. for a year then transferred to Baylor University in Waco where he finished his music degree.

After graduation, Stanley attended Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, completing his master of arts degree and received a major in music and a minor in English.

"During graduate school, I became very interested in music composition. I also met my wife Sandra there in 1962," President Stanley said.

After finishing graduate school, President Stanley became music director of a church in Canton. He also entered the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

In 1964, the president's brother John, who also taught music, gave him a tip about a choir directing job at the junior college in Wharton County. President Stanley applied for the job and was hired. This was his first experience as a college instructor.

President Stanley's first two children were born in Wharton County. Eric, now 25 and Brad, now 23, are currently residents of La Marque.

After three years in Wharton, Stanley received yet another job referral for choir director from his brother John at Howard County Junior College in Big Spring.

The Stanleys' third child Greg, now 20, was born in Big Spring. President Stanley described Big Spring as a city "away from it all."

"After two years there,... we were ready to get a little closer to civilization, so-to-speak," he said. So he put in an application for choir director at COM.

"When I applied for COM, they were still building it. Herbert Stallworth was president at the time and he thought it would be a good thing to hire a choir director which I applied for," he explained. "I was very fortunate to get the job.

He spent the first few years developing a choir. The Fine Arts Building opened in 1973 and President Stan-

ley was soon named Division Humanities chairman in 1974, serving until 1983.

"I consider those days of my experience here as my contribution to the growth of the college. I hired almost all of those who are now in the Fine Arts program," he claimed.

President Stanley became highly involved in the school's theater and musical programs during this period.

Then the opportunity to become COM president came up in 1983. "I didn't really decide this (becoming president)," Stanley said. "The college was going through some troubled times. There were differences of opinion on and off campus," he explained.

"Without going into detail, the school board asked me to become president. After a great deal of thought and talking it over with my wife, and that they (the board) had so much confidence in me, I thought I would give it a shot," he said.

The president noted that his "career steps would not seem to lead to becoming president of a junior college — it was just an opportunity that came along," he claimed.

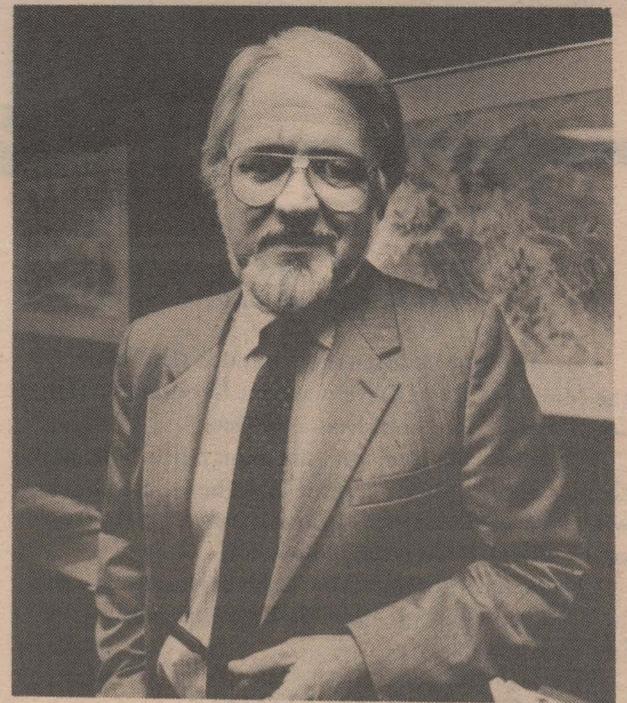
President Stanley said the first two years of being president were very dramatic for him and the school.

"My basic training of college administration was done while chairman of Arts and Humanities and the way colleges are run while chairman of the Steering Committee in 1973," he said.

He is the fourth president since COM's opening.

"Our (his family's) moving around the country came to a screeching halt at that point," he noted.

President Stanley has gone through many experiences in his position since 1983. His most recent and most important has been the funding issue for COM from the state. "We've been trying to learn how to effectively lobby in Austin to keep the funding equal as it has been in the past," he said.



President Larry Stanley (Photo by Jim Richard)

"It has been a very intense year with trying to set adequate funding for COM and all of the education as well. It's so crucial to our society," he said.

President Stanley said he is just as concerned with the economics in the community. "It's very difficult to keep the faculty's salaries competitive. This is what attracts the quality ones that we have," he said.

Another concern of the president is the "large number of students that don't go to any college after high school. The community college is really the only second chance to the high school dropouts," he explained.

The president's outlook for the college includes growth without any major changes, to be responsive and serve the community as well as provide new programs and maintain academic freedom "which is what really makes a school a college," he said.



Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Conference Bowling Sports Day was held at North Harris County College Oct. 29. COM students who participated are; (first row from left) Pat Harris, Patti Collier, Michelle Beaman, Sam Mitchiner; (second row) Greg Dolfi, Thelma Hernandez, Jack LaMance, Erica Bette, Darryl Santell; (top row) Gene Seibel, Anh Hoang, Kathy Geraldson, Glenda Cauley and Tanya Lane. In mixed doubles, Santell and Hernandez took first place. COM came in third in the mixed Team Event with Santell, Hernandez, LaMance and Cauley.

What's happening

Book Fair

Parents of the children that attended the College of the Mainland Child Development Laboratory sponsored a book fair from Dec. 2 to Dec. 4.

The funds collected from the book fair will be used to buy children's books for the lab. The ordered books will be available for pick-up about Dec. 19 in the front office at the child development lab.

Cash or local checks with a Texas drivers license will be accepted. Receipt must be presented when picking up the books.

SAB news

So far this fall, College of the Mainland's Student Activities Board has sponsored a blood drive, a free movie, a picnic and other special events for COM faculty, staff and students.

The SAB consists of "more dedicated individuals," explained Maryann Urick, coordinator of the board. One reason board members have a more dedicated and positive attitude is because students choose the activity

they want to participate in rather than being assigned to a particular event, she said. Also, despite the dissimilarity in ages, and diverse interests of board members, the SAB has been working together and building a reputation for itself.

An average of 20 people attend the meetings on Wednesday afternoons compared to the elected board of eight last year, Urick explained.

During the upcoming spring semester, SAB members will decide on new programs for COM. New events will be considered by the members.

Volleyball game

During the Nov. 13 College Hour, the College of the Mainland Student Activities Board organized the student-faculty volleyball game, a follow-up to the recent softball game.

The competition, which was won by the students, consisted of three games between the six teams, three student and three faculty teams.

Fifty people participated in the game thanks to COM student Patrice Fortenberry, the main organizer,

and other students who helped in recruiting the players.

According to SAB Advisor Maryann Urick, the main idea of the student-faculty game is to get as many people as possible to participate and to provide everyone with a fun activity.

Urick also mentioned the possibility of a student-faculty basketball game sometime in spring.

Art Sale

Get your Christmas shopping done right on campus at the COMAA Student Art Sale on Dec. 9 and 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Student Center, Room 120. Original drawings and paintings, hand crafted pottery and ceramic sculpture make wonderful gifts at the right price!

Letters to the editor

To keep in touch with our readers, we would like to hear from you. If you have any ideas, comments, or questions about the paper, please contact Astrid H. Lowery, InterCOM advisor, Suite B in the Learning Center, Humanities Division, 938-1211, ext. 214.

InterCOM Staff

Student activities calendar

By Matt Gerry

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
Dec. 4 - 21	COM Theatre presents "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat," performances 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 2:30 and 7 p.m. Sunday
Tuesday, Dec. 9, 6 p.m.	Three on three Volley Ball Tournament \$3 person, enter by Dec. 5.
Tuesday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m.	Mainland Chorale presentation of Handel's "The Messiah," COM Student Center. Kene Arnold will accompany on keyboard, admission is free.
Friday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m. (Saturday Dec. 13, 1:30 p.m.)	"101 Dalmations," classic Disney animated animal feature about two dalmations, their owners and how they try to keep a family of puppies out of the clutches of Cruella D'evil, will be presented in the Student Center.
Monday, Dec. 15 - 20	Finals week.
Dec. 21 - Jan. 4, 1987	College closed for the holidays.
Monday, Jan. 5	College opens for Spring Semester 1987.
Tuesday, Jan. 6	Credit registration
Thursday, Jan. 8	Late credit registration
Friday, Jan. 9	Continuing Education registration
Monday, Jan. 12	Classes begin
Jan. 22 - Feb. 15	COM Theatre presentation of "Streetcar Named Desire." Performances 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 2:30 and 7 p.m. Sunday.

Stanley

Continued from Page 1

their instructors. He said that if a talk with the instructor did not yield results, then the student should talk to the corresponding department head. If this also brought no results, then the student should contact Dean of Instruction Dr. Don Bass. Dr. Bass is very cooperative with students and is happy to help anyone in need, President Stanley said.

Other issues raised were construction on the Student Center and the air conditioning/heating systems throughout the college. Suggestions were made for more lighting in the Quadrangle and on the track. Discussion also centered on the recreation facilities and the noise in the Student Center. Noise was a problem during the president's question and answer session.

If anyone has a problem or a suggestion for the improvement of the college, they are encouraged to drop a line to President Stanley or Dr. Bass.

Chimes

Continued from Page 1

to praise the power and love and guidance of God in all affairs of man." In closing Warner said "I believe our students, families and nation would have fewer problems if all gave God the respect He deserves.

The carillon chimes are located in the administration building by the police office. The carillon is capable of being programmed to play a variety of tapes, which range from classical music to Christmas carols. Presently, the carillon is programmed to play chimes only. However, other tapes will be considered, college administration said.

Recently, I asked some friends their opinions of the carillon chimes. Mary Peterson stated, "To me it symbolizes life and makes me appreciate each day I'm living because I could be dead." Barbara Green's reply was different in that she said the chimes reminded her "the day is going by, there's not much time."

The chimes remind Marylyn Green that "time stands still for no one. Hearing the sound of the chimes ringing through out the campus seems to bring me to reality, death can very well be around the corner." She added thoughtfully that the chimes also remind her "to thank God above for seeing me through another day."

InterCOM

A STUDENT PUBLICATION AT COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND

FEBRUARY 1987

Artist Reutor sets up art gallery exhibit

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

"This will be the first such installation in our gallery," said Stella Dobbins, director of the College of the Mainland Art Gallery, as we unpacked the artworks for the next exhibit. The works are part of the

new exhibit which showcases the multi-faceted talent of Greg Reutor.

Reutor, born and educated in California, is the associate professor of art at Corpus Christi State University. His works have been shown throughout

Texas, New York and Hawaii. At the request of the COM gallery, Reutor agreed to install his works there. The show runs from Feb. 5 through March 19.

Along with Dobbins and other art students, I had the opportunity to help with the setup of the exhibit. Reutor, an imaginative but precise person, brought more than 15 of his clay head sculptures of various sizes and facial expressions. The metallic look of the special glaze, along with the expressions "without hope," made quite an impression on all of us. As we progressed with setting up, I was fortunate to see what a difference the lighting (designed by Reutor) and the placement of an artwork make in its appearance and meaning.

Reutor told me that the heads, which he calls a rock garden, were influenced by two artists, Robert Arneson and Aristotle Maillol. He admires their "commitment to craftsmanship and sensitivity of form." Reutor sees the sculptures as the "messages to people in the future to what it was like in the past." As the extension of the rock garden, Reutor also included the photographs of his beach projects to emphasize the theme.

The artist has done special installations before. However, Reutor has worked with larger and different (often outside) spaces. In the case of the COM gallery, he is creating an environment by putting in objects.

The second part of the exhibit, made especially for COM gallery, includes images influenced by the religious traditions of Mexico and Japan. In these works, Reutor wants to stress, not religion in its dogmatic sense, but its spiritual meaning by combining a mural of the Mexican Our Lady of Guadalupe and a Japanese

See Artist Page 7



Artist Greg Reutor shows the clay planter he made for his exhibit to InterCOM reporter Anna Z. Bichta.

(Photo by Stella Dobbins)

I've got the sophomore blues

Planning ahead for graduation

By TAMMIE HARNESS

Were you one of those people who spent numerous, tiresome hours in line at registration trying to work out a schedule that would satisfy both your graduation and transfer requirements? If you had no troubles please read. You, too, may find yourself with the same problems that I, and other College of the Mainland students, faced this semester.

I thought that registration was going to be easy since I knew exactly what classes I needed in order to fulfill my graduation requirements at COM. To my surprise, and others alike, I found out that the simple chore of registering can turn into a mindboggling, dreadful experience.

I found out that many classes are only offered certain semesters. You should consider this when signing up for classes. Do not take it for granted that all of your classes will be offered when it is convenient for you. The problem of limited classes not only causes a problem for students seeking their associate's degree at COM, but it also raises a problem for those students who plan to transfer to a university.

Transfer students need to make sure that the classes

they take for their associates degree at COM not only transfer to their university but will be counted towards their bachelor's degree.

Because it can be very confusing trying to decide what classes to take, COM provides students with many counselors. They can help you find out exactly what you should take in order to fulfill all your requirements. Talk to several counselors in order to make sure that no mistakes on class scheduling have been made.

If you will be transferring, you should talk to counselors from COM as well as counselors from the school you will transfer to. When speaking to counselors from other universities, be sure to take an updated COM catalog, so that the counselors can tell you which classes are transferable or equivalent to their classes.

When I found out that the language class I signed up for was no longer being offered, I ran in distress to Dr. Bill Spillar for advice. Dr. Spillar, chairman of Arts and Humanities, suggested that I take journalism, a class that had never crossed my mind. Journalism, which I find exciting, fulfills both my graduation and transfer requirements.



Folksinger and songwriter Charlie King performs during student hour, Jan. 12, the first day of classes this semester. (Photo courtesy of COM Public Information Office)

Campus News/Editorials

COM choir members plan tour of South

By TAMMIE HARNESS

College of the Mainland has three choral groups which are under the direction of Hope E. Shiver. Shiver has been the choral director at COM since the fall of 1981.

The choral groups consist of the Studio Singers (blues, jazz, pop), the COM Singers (sacred music from 1400 to present) and the Mainland Choral (community group).

COM Studio Singers performed at the Albert Thomas Convention Center in Houston Feb. 1 for the celebration of the Vietnamese people. The COM Singers performed in the Student Center at COM for the Black history program.

Upcoming performances according to Shiver are a jazz festival at San Jacinto College Central March 28, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. The Studio Singers and possibly the COM Singers will perform.

All the choirs will participate in the Gulf Coast Inter-collegiate Conference Choral Festival April 10-11 at North Harris County College. Guest choral director, William Hall, will teach the choirs various types of music.

The Mainland Choral will perform *Mozart's Requiem Mass* in April.

All the choirs will sing at COM's graduation ceremony May 8, 7:30 p.m. Shiver is planning something special since this is COM's 20th anniversary.

Members of all three choirs will tour the South during the second week of May. They will visit cities such as New Orleans, La., Mobile, and Montgomery, Ala., and will perform at various colleges during their tour.



Members of COM Singers, one of COM's choral groups under the direction of Hope Shiver, ham it up during a recent rehearsal. (Photo courtesy of COM Public Information Office)

Carter speaks out

Teacher recalls school's past

By DANA D. GIBSON

In the beginning there was a need. A need for higher education in Galveston County. The founding fathers of College of the Mainland realized that need, and established COM in the spring of 1967.

In 1968, the second year of COM's existence, Thomas Carter was there to see this dream of the community come true.

Carter was born in Nacogdoches and attended high school there. He earned a bachelor's degree in English from Texas College in Tyler and a master's degree in English from Texas Southern University in Houston. He served in the Army after World War II as a corporal.

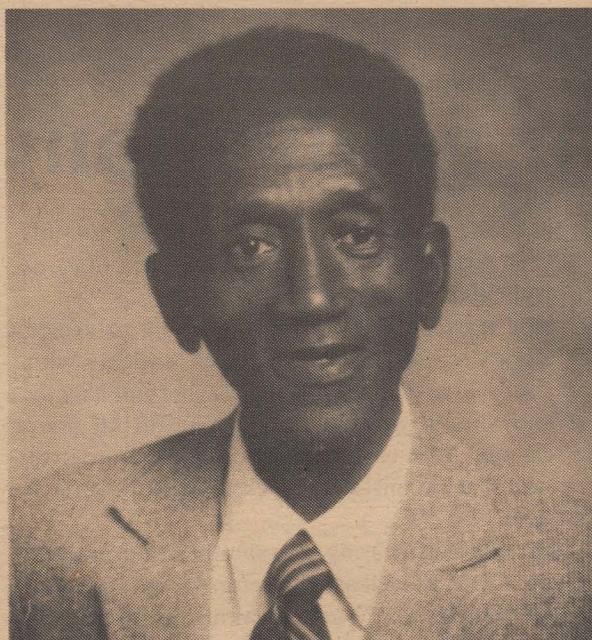
When Carter began teaching at COM in 1968, materials and equipment were scarce. The campus was located at the former Booker T. Washington High School in Texas City on the east side.

"The changes over the years have been tremendous in facility and in staff and all of the other parameters that make for a college environment," Carter said. "In the old facility we were cramped for space, even with just 400 students."

Although the old campus was located in a neighborhood that was exclusively black, no problems arose because the students were serious about their studies, Carter said.

In the early days of the college, a basic curriculum was offered along with limited business courses such as typing and shorthand. No vocational programs existed at that time, Carter explained.

"One of the proudest moments in the lives of



Thomas F. Carter

those of us who were employed at that time was to be able to move to this facility (present campus), because it was such a modern and up-to-date facility," Carter said. "It was a facility that engendered in the students a great amount of pride . . . Students began to feel more a part of the college."

"There never have been any segregated facilities on this campus or on the old one. The college was founded on the principles of brotherhood," Carter added emphatically.

Auditions set

GALVESTON—Auditions for the 1987 summer outdoor musical season at Galveston's Mary Moody Northen Amphitheater are scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 15.

More than 100 cast and crew members are needed for the professional productions of *The Lone Star and Hello, Dolly!*

The Galveston auditions will be at The Amphitheater, Stewart Road and 13 Mile Road. Actors, singers and musicians will audition from noon to 4 p.m., dancers at 3:30 p.m.

More information about auditions or The Amphitheater may be obtained by telephoning (409) 737-1744 or (713) 486-8052.

InterCOM

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Dana C. Gibson -- April issue	Jan Cannaday Wilson --Photography

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Astrid H. Lowery

InterCOM is produced by and for the students of College of the Mainland, 8001 Palmer Highway, Texas City, Texas 77591, (409) 938-1211 or (713) 280-3991.

InterCOM staff solicits response



Anna Z.
Bichta

As the editor in chief of the February issue of the InterCOM newspaper, I was given the opportunity to write an editorial, in other words, to express my opinion on a chosen subject.

I could have commented on a political issue, pertaining either to state or nation, but I chose to touch on something closer to me and other members of the InterCOM staff.

As most of you know, the purpose of this publication is to serve and inform College of the Mainland's students, faculty and staff. We have been trying to do our best, but we still need the help and support of everyone. We really do need to know what our reader's interests are and what they would like to see printed. We would also like to see more of you actually reading the newspaper because we produce it especially for you.

Please take a moment of your time and let us know what you think of InterCOM and if what you are reading serves your needs. Direct all your opinions, letters and articles to Astrid Lowery, InterCOM advisor, Suite B in the Learning Center, Humanities Division, 938-1211, ext. 214. Please include your full name, address and phone number to verify the authenticity of your contribution.

Letter to editor

Reader riled by blatant parking lot violations

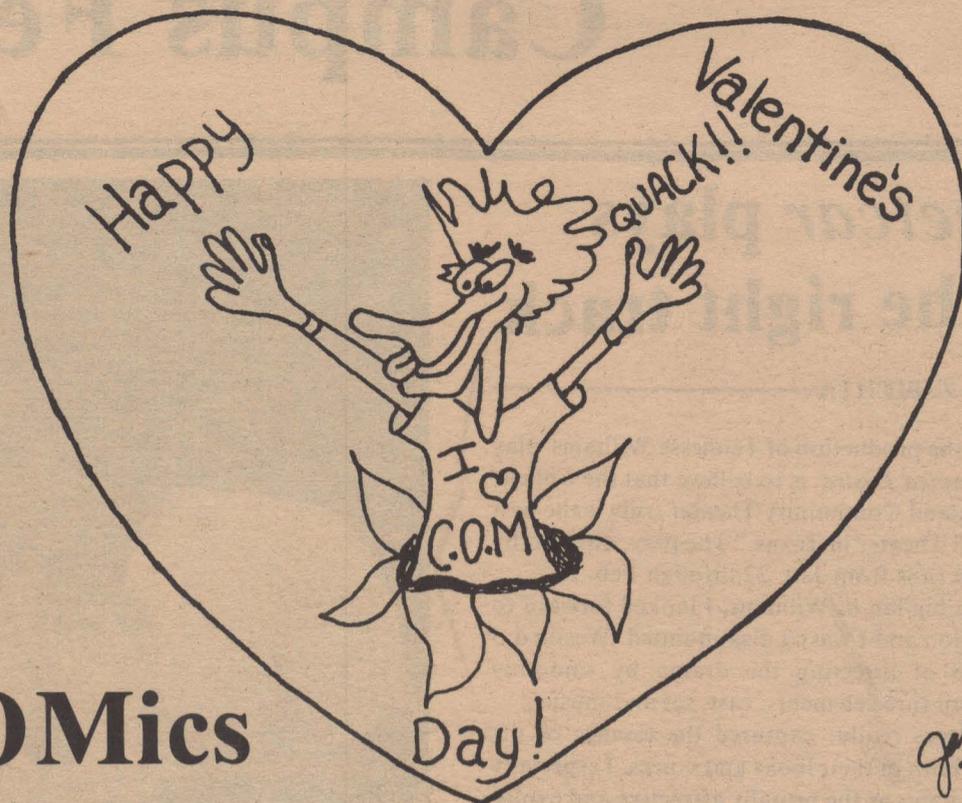
Dear Editor,

The law enforcement division is a black-eye to the College of the Mainland Campus Community. The cadets and students speed on Amburn Road and on the campus, drive the wrong way in the parking lots, and park illegally (sometimes where there is no parking place marked). When classes are out, the parking lot resembles the Indianapolis 500. One instructor even sets an example by habitually parking where there is no parking place indicated. Even our new governor is ticketed for illegally parking on a college campus. Are our cadets and instructors above this? I sometimes shudder to think that the security and well-being of the Galveston County Community will someday be in the hands of these people who cannot even abide by the very laws that they take a solemn oath to uphold.

Monte Harris

Editor's note: Monte Harris, a handicapped student at College of the Mainland, received the Griz Eckert Award at the May '86 graduation ceremony. The award is given to an outstanding student or faculty member.

COMics



Beheading leads to Valentine's Day

By DANA D. GIBSON

In a fast-paced society such as ours, we often find the need to relax and enjoy life. Holidays fulfill that need. We have holidays for every type of celebration -birthdays, historical events and anything else we can think of.

St. Valentine's Day, like many other holidays, began as a religious celebration.

According to *Butler's Lives of the Saints*, St. Valentine was a physician and priest in Rome. He was beheaded by Roman Emperor Claudis II of Goth on Feb. 14 A.D. 269. Some historians believe that another priest named Valentine lived in a village outside of Rome. Both Valentines were said to be executed on the same day.

Whether there were one or two men, their only crime was refusing to give up their faith. Roman Catholics honor the men with one celebration during the festival of St. Gregory each year.

St. Valentine of Rome was rewarded for his faith in A.D. 350 when Pope Julius I had a church built in his

honor.

Our modern day celebration of sending cards and/or tokens of love can be found in literary references as early as the time of Chaucer. It was believed at that time that on Feb. 14 birds chose their mates and paired off together for life, just as the souls of the two men whose names were St. Valentine were joined in heaven for eternity.

Soon young men and maidens began to draw names and pair off for the day, as an additional festivity. Out of that practice came the idea of sending letters to express love to one's Valentine.

My first experience with St. Valentine's Day was the standard grade school party. We were required to buy cards for everyone and deliver them in class. Afterwards my mother would read the cards with me and try to guess which schoolmate liked me. As the years progressed I began to look at boys in a romantic, instead of an icky way. Now I find myself looking forward to the holiday which celebrates love and commitment.



Lunchtime crowd enjoys COM Student Center.

(Photo by Jan Cannaday Wilson)

Campus Features

Streetcar plays on the right track

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

To see the production of Tennessee Williams' play *Streetcar Named Desire*, is to believe that the College of the Mainland Community Theater truly is the best "Biggest Li'l Theater in Texas." The play, directed by Jack Westin runs from Jan. 22 through Feb. 22.

Being a big fan of Williams, I looked forward to the production and I wasn't disappointed. Westin did a great job of directing the drama by smoothly combining all three elements: cast, set and music.

The actors really captured the essence of the characters, both in their looks and voices. I especially liked Luis Lemus as the brutally attractive and explosive Stanley; Kay Ogden as Blanche, the comical, aging seductress; and Amy Gilman as the slightly innocent but stubborn Stella. This well-matched cast shone with talent.

Once again, the theater hired J. Newton White to create the set; this one accurately portrayed the vulgar romanticism of the French Quarter of New Orleans. The set was beautifully complex—three levels of period furniture and authentic details wrapped in mysterious lighting designed by Kelly Babb.

The original music was provided by Sparky Koerner. His danceful jazz compositions drew irony to the tragic flaw of the characters.

However, there was one small change from the original script that bothered me. In the rape scene, instead of a broken wine bottle, Blanche uses a chair to



Stanley (Luis Lemus) and Stella (Amy Gilman) argue about Stella's sister in Tennessee Williams' play *Streetcar Named Desire*. The show runs at the COM theater on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Feb. 22. (Photo courtesy of COM theater)

defend herself against Stanley. I realize that the small size of the theater doesn't allow for broken glass to fly about, but I missed that detail. The sound of breaking glass adds more drama. Unfortunately, the scene also was too short for its memory to stay with us to the next

scene.

The production has been the best that I have seen at COM, but I would recommend that only people with a strong heart and nerves see it. As one of my friends put it, "It was emotionally exhausting."

Martin Luther King Jr., man with a dream

By CHRISTIAN McDONALD

"I have a dream today ..." Those famous words erupted from the mouth of Martin Luther King Jr. into the hearts of some 250,000 people crammed under the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial. That speech, given Aug. 28, 1963, has remained one of the most emotional speeches ever to be spoken.

The speech showed America what King stood for: Justice for all. He felt that the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence were a "promisory note" to the American people, promising to all men life,

liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But King felt that as far as the Negro was concerned, the check had come back marked "insufficient funds," and he had pledged his life to achieve equality for all.

Because King was a religious man, he believed the use of violence was not the answer for achieving his goal. He did not stoop to the level of his oppressors with the use of physical force, but instead used "soul force." - the force made up of people standing together for their own rights.

King learned from Mahatma Gandhi and Henry David Thoreau the tactics of passive resistance. He used this active nonviolence in the Montgomery bus boycott of 1955, which led to a Supreme Court decision declaring Alabama laws requiring segregation on buses unconstitutional.

King managed to get almost 100 percent of the black community to refuse to ride the bus. He set up car pools and low-fare taxis to get his people to their jobs. He fought on the legal side too, and went to jail for it. But he believed that he came out a better man inside. His life and the lives of his family were threatened and his house was bombed, but still he persevered. He did try to love and serve humanity, to feed the hungry, and to clothe the naked. He was a true "Drum major for justice."

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self evident - that all men are created equal' ... With this faith we will be able to work together, pray together, struggle together, go to jail together, knowing that we will be free one day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning, 'My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing, land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountain side let freedom ring.'

M.L.K.

King was the major force behind the black movement in the South until his assassination on April 4, 1968. So now we celebrate his birth in January and remember what he has done for justice and the American people.



COM student Nsoh Awasom (right) explains the photographs in the black history exhibit to David Chow (left). The exhibit was shown in the COM library during January. (Photo by Christian McDonald)

Black history

What's it all about?

By MELL E. LEWIS

The observance of Black History Month was started in 1926 by the father of Negro history, Carter G. Woodson. February was chosen to recognize black accomplishments because the president whose proclamation freed the slaves, Abraham Lincoln, was born in that month.

At first only one week was set aside in February for the celebration. But since 1976 the entire month has been used to honor blacks such as Woodson, and to take note of Afro-American history, black heritage and black expression.

Woodson, who was born in 1875 and died in 1950, devoted his life to bringing the achievements of his race to the world's attention. In 1915, he founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Under his direction, this organization started the Negro History Movement.

Woodson was born in New Canton, Va., and received his doctoral degree in history from Harvard University in 1912. He firmly believed that "the achievements of the Negro, properly set forth, will crown him as a factor in early human progress and a maker of modern civilization."

Carver created over 300 products from peanuts

George Washington Carver (1859-1943) was another renowned black. He was a scientist, teacher, administrator and humanitarian, and won international fame for his research in agriculture. He developed products from such crops as peanuts, sweet potatoes and pecans.

Carver created over 300 products from peanuts, including instant coffee, bleach, soap and ink. He made 118 from the sweet potato, including flour, black shoe paint and candy.

Carver earned his way through college by cooking and working as a janitor. He graduated from Iowa State College in 1894. There he accepted an appointment as an assistant botanist, and remained there until 1896 when he got an invitation from Booker T. Washington to the staff at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Booker T. Washington founded Tuskegee Institute

Booker Taliaferro Washington (1856-1915) organized Tuskegee Institute, a school for Negroes, and served as its president from 1881 to 1915. He was one of the greatest Negro educational leaders, and worked throughout his life to improve the life of the Negro. Washington believed that the Negro could advance himself by being an efficient worker and by educating himself. Therefore, Tuskegee Institute offered a number of trade courses as well as academic subjects. Washington also organized a National Negro Business League.

Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. were martyred

In addition to Woodson, Carver and Washinton, many other blacks achieved progress for their race. Mary McLeod Bethune was a White House advisor. Jan Ernst Matzelinger was an inventor and businessman. Harriet Tubman, known as the "black Moses of her race," helped many slaves to freedom. The militant Malcom X became a martyr when he was murdered in New York City in 1965. Likewise the non-violent crusader for minorities, Martin Luther King Jr. whose birthday in January has become a national holiday, became a martyr when he was murdered in Memphis, Tenn., in 1968.

Throughout history blacks have made contributions through inventions, discoveries and teaching, as well as in many other areas. Now during Black History Month, those individuals are finally beginning to receive the recognition they deserve for their part in American history.



Soul Brothers jam in the COM Student Center during student hour Jan. 27.

Soul Brothers entertain COM

By LYNELLE WARD

As I walked toward the Student Center at College of the Mainland I noticed something was different. Daily around noon a crowd is usually gathered at student hour, but on Jan. 27 the crowd was larger than usual. Then I remembered that the Student Activities Board had planned a concert.

The Soul Brothers. I pondered over the name a while and decided to check it out. Even if it wasn't to my taste, it might be educational I thought. I strive to expand my views on different types of music.

I wasn't quite sure of what type of band this really was, but I assumed it was a soul band because of the name. As I entered the Student Center, I chose a secluded spot where I could sit back and observe.

The group was beginning to set up, so I decided to get some opinions from other students who had heard the band at COM before. The consensus was that the band was good. I thought to myself this might be OK after all.

The group consists of bass player and vocalist George Brown; guitarist and vocalist Jim Fulson; vocalist Henry Boatright, who also plays saxophone and flute; drummer Larry McCall; and keyboardist Charles Greenwood.

They introduced themselves as the Soul Brothers a rhythm and blues band. When they began to play, I was overwhelmed by how good they really are. I am a fan of rhythm and blues, so I appreciated the talent of this group. They've been playing for over 10 years and it really showed. The group has a mystique about it. They had a mellowing effect on me. Each song had an idle flow like good rhythm and blues should.

As I looked around, I noticed that the audience was also taken by this group. I heard comments that the group was surprisingly good. Those who had seen them before, found them just as entertaining the second time.

In my opinion, this Houston-based group is exceptional. In the future I hope to see more of the Soul Brothers.

Anthem adopted for celebration

By MELL E. LEWIS

February has been designated as Black History Month. Throughout the month black Americans recall where they came from and what achievements have been accomplished by their race.

James Weldon Johnson is remembered for composing what is now know as the Black National Anthem. In February 1900, Johnson wrote the lyrics and his brother, J. Rosamond Johnson an accomplished musician, wrote the music to "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing." The song was originally written in celebration of Abraham Lincon's birthday. Its popularity spread quickly. The song was adopted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and later became known as the Black National Anthem.

Born to James and Helen Louise Johnson June 17, 1871, Weldon was the first black to be admitted to the Florida bar. He also was the first black executive

secretary of the NAACP. Not only was he a leader in the civil rights movement, but his poetry, historical writings and his position as professor of creative literature at Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., made him one of the primary contributors to the Harlem Renaissance.

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

*Lift every voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring'
Ring with harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listing skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark
past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present
has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun'
Let us march on till victory is won.*

Exhausted arms beg for book storage space

By JAN CANNADAY WILSON

My arms ache. My purse has slipped off my shoulder. I have three classes today and I'm carrying a mountain of supplies.

Picture this, I've got 10 textbooks, several notebooks stacked on top, and my camera bag is cutting into my shoulder. My jacket is slung across my arm and my car keys are clutched in my fist.

I'm ready for the day. I pray I make it across the parking lot, and the puddles, and into the Student Center. Triple the affliction if it's raining—an umbrella requires a free hand.

If I make it inside without a calamity, I count my blessings. I stop at the pop machine to grab a cool one. As I begin to grope for my change, my camera bag slips off my shoulder and hits my arm. The resulting jolt is

disasterous. Books and notebooks end in an avalanche on the floor. Can you relate?

Tomorrow is another day. But it doesn't get any better. Only the names of the textbooks change, not their number, and not their weight. I've considered a suitcase — one of those with little wheels that you can pull along. I just can't figure out how to get it up and down the stairs in the Learning Center without a freight elevator.

Last week I tried leaving everything in the car. I dashed back and forth across the parking lot between classes, leaving those, taking these. I was late to every class. And three of the five days it rained — **hard**. I give up! How did I ever make it through high school?

Do you remember? We had lockers. Remember how great they were? I may have outgrown my need for

milk, but Lord, not my need for a locker. How I long for that metallic clanging between classes.

Lockers were so much more than storage bins. Mine had an 11 X 14 of my latest flame smiling that mysterious smile each time I opened the door. Add my Snoopy mirror, a can of hairspray and a poster of the 'Stones. In the bottom was a half-eaten Hershey bar (with almonds), a jacket, notebooks, and of course, textbooks. There you have my home away from home. Oh, I miss it!

I wonder why our wonderful facilities here at College of the Mainland don't include lockers? We've got plenty of blank walls. I think a lot of us would happily pay a rental fee for the convenience of having one. Would you? I'll make some inquiries. In the meantime, I'll just keep stacking.

Rats rock COM

By CHRISTIAN McDONALD

The Austin-based Rhythm Rats returned to College of the Mainland for the College Hour opener Jan. 20 in the Student Center.

Playing more of their zany tunes from their album "The Rhythm Rats," the Rats again entertained with comedy and finesse. Replaying songs performed last semester, such as "Cartrouble," "Jailbait" and the somewhat patriotic "Target Lybia," they also added some previously unplayed tunes from their album.

Bass player Loose Reed tortured a string to its audible death near the beginning of the set, but still managed to show off his musical ability on the remaining three strings.

The Rats brought a guest along to play harmonica with them. John Indian, hailing from New York City is the brother of Will Indian, the master of the Stratocaster guitar.

Rusty Trapps again proved that you don't need all sorts of fancy electronic drums and extended microphone systems to keep a good blues beat. His modest five-piece set plus cymbals had plenty of boom to shake the Student Center.

The Rats will be playing locally Feb. 20 and 21 at Tubby's Ice House in La Marque, but if you happen to make it to the Austin area, check out their usual hangouts, the Hole in the Wall and Joe's Generic Bar on Sixth Street.



Rat and roll

Rhythm Rats Will Indian (left), Rusty Trapps (middle) and Loose Reed (right) play during COM College Hour in the Student Center Jan. 20. The Austin-based Rhythm Rats will play their zany rhythm and blues at Tubby's Ice House in La Marque Feb. 20 and 21. (Photo by Christian McDonald)

New Year's resolution - accepting yourself as you are in 1987

By JAN CANNADAY WILSON

Drat! Just what I didn't want to hear when I didn't want to hear it. Yep, another listless, boring, ho-hum seminar on dieting. This one was offered by Jeanne M. Roy and sponsored by Women in Support Jan. 15 at the College of the Mainland Student Center.

I didn't walk in with this attitude mind you, I just walked out with it. I was hoping for so much more from a session entitled "Taking Care of Ourselves/ New Year's Resolutions." There are so many aspects involved in taking care of ourselves. I was appalled that the majority of the time was used hashing over the woes of dieting.

Of course nutrition is important, but let's face it, most of us have had it up to our Hostess Twinkies with diets.

How many diet books have been bought, then trashed? How many of the diets were workable? And why are we so obsessed and discontented with our bodies? Could it be due to media hype? Do we really want to look like the hollow-cheeked, flat-chested and emaciated Vogue's mannequins? Or is there a happy medium?

This year I made a commitment to myself to take better care of *me*. An obvious way is to stop smoking, which for me is life threatening.

I was hoping this seminar would also cover the more

subtle aspects of caring for ourselves. Aspects that lead to mental, emotional and spiritual well-being. We must learn to rely on ourselves for the nurturing we need.

This year I am committed to learning to love myself, just the way I am.

Dieting makes me angry and negative because I don't do it well. If I choose to dwell on the fact that I'm 10 pounds over my ideal weight, I'm miserable. Instead, I choose to accept my body as it is today. No, it isn't magazine material, but it's definitely, uniquely mine.

Physical fitness can become an obsession. I know, I managed a women's health spa for three years. I worked out several times a day and the owners used me in their ads. Trust me, this perfect body syndrome will not bring complete happiness. There is so much more to being an attractive woman than the physical body.

Go ahead, resolve to lose weight this year if you feel you want to, but let's put our female vanity on the shelf and look at other ways to be good to ourselves. Dieting can change our outer appearance, but what about our insides? What about our thinking, feeling inner selves? How do we care for the woman inside?

It seems that our culture has cast the woman in the role of the nurturing family member, who puts everyone's needs before her own. We wait patiently for our families to recognize our needs and fulfill them,

but time after time these needs are not met. This is so, not because we're not loved and appreciated, but because everyone is involved in their own pursuits. Therefore, we must learn to give to ourselves, because if we don't love ourselves, how can we expect anyone else to?

There are so many small, uplifting things that I can do for me. I begin my day by looking into the bathroom mirror and telling myself that I'm a loving, worthwhile, valuable person, and that I love *me*. Sound ridiculous? It works! I've also started buying little luxuries for myself occasionally, even if it's only a tube of lipstick, a pair of earrings, or a rose. It's important that I treat myself as a special friend.

Over the holidays, I took an afternoon, and went to the Galleria. I tried on furs and all the prettiest clothes, and only spent \$4 for lunch. But I treated myself like I was royalty and I had a wonderful time.

Buying myself lunch at a favorite restaurant is a way of taking special care of me. So is a long hot soak in the tub with lots of bath oil, candles and soft music. The choices can be endless. Just take enough time to sit and write out a list of things you would like to do. They don't have to cost a lot, but they can be worth a million to your psyche.

The year is still new. You've got plenty of time to resolve to take good care of yourself. The rewards are well worth the effort.

InterCOM adds 5 new reporters

Tammie Harness

By LYNELLE WARD

"Though I had planned to attend Stephen F. Austin State University, I chose to attend The College of the Mainland, which is closer to home, when my younger sister faced life-threatening surgery," said Tammie Harness, a secondary education major at COM and new member of the InterCOM staff.

Harness is from Seabrook, where she has lived for 12 years. She graduated from Clear Lake High School and while in school she was involved in the band as well as other clubs and activities.

After graduation, Harness attended San Jacinto College for one semester. From there she transferred to COM and is in her fourth semester.

Harness' hobbies include dancing, music, and group activities such as sports. She also teaches handicapped children in the summer, which she has done for the past three summers.

Harness plans to be a special education teacher with concentration in mathematics.

Roberta H. Levine

By BEBE LISING

Roberta H. Levine is considering using her graphic arts experience from College of the Mainland to do layout design and typesetting for a printshop, newspaper, or magazine. As a member of the InterCOM staff, Levine is doing the majority of the typesetting for the college newspaper.

Levine became seriously interested in graphic arts last March while visiting *InBetween Magazine* during deadline rush. For a full day and night she was introduced to newspaper production.

In Fall '86 Levine enrolled for beginning typesetting, offset press and camera. This semester she is taking advanced typesetting, platemaking and layout design. All of these skills are used in producing InterCOM.

Levine also is talented in calligraphy and has an art background. Some of her leisure time is spent listening to jazz and blues and performing with the Galveston International Folk Dancers.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Levine grew up in the Washington D.C. area. Seven years ago she moved to the Houston area, where she met her husband, and worked as a technical illustrator for Litton Resources Systems. They enjoy taking long walks with their dog and camping when time allows.

Mell E. Lewis

By DANA D. GIBSON

InterCOM welcomes a new member to its staff, Mell E. Lewis, a journalism major who has versatile skills in photography, graphic arts, telecommunications, and teaching.

Lewis is a returning student to College of the



Spring 1987 InterCOM staff: (from left, front row) Mell E. Lewis; Dana D. Gibson, April editor; Christian McDonald, March editor; Anna Z. Bichta, February editor; Jan Cannaday Wilson, photography editor; (back row, from left) Roberta H. Levine, typesetter; Bebe Lising; Lynelle Ward; and Tammie Harness.

(Photo by Astrid H. Lowery)

Mainland after spending a year at Texas Southern University. She has 50 plus credits hours from both institutions.

Lewis has been a substitute teacher for the Hitchcock Independent School District.

In her spare time she enjoys working with electronics and photography. "I have liked photography since the seventh grade," said Lewis. She keeps a darkroom at her house to keep her hobby going.

Although her career goal is undecided, she likes the media field and is hoping that her skills will aid her in a choice. She is also a member of Sigma Delta Chi, the society of professional journalists. At present she is employed by the Corps of Engineers as a clerk and typist.

Bebe Lising

By LYNELLE WARD

"In my opinion, long-term economic development and non-polluting sources of energy hold the key to world peace," says Bebe Lising, InterCOM staff member.

Lising is active in conservation and world peace and is involved in many clubs and activities like the Sierra Club, L5 Society (promoting space development), the Center for Science in the Public Interest and the Environmental Committee here at College of the Mainland.

Lising also is Clean City Committee coordinator with the Texas City-La Marque Chamber of Commerce.

In March she will receive training at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston to conduct a health study in Texas City with a grant from the MOTT Foundation.

Lising has two children, Nikki, 9 and Coree, 6. She was born in St. Louis, Mo. where she attended Meramec Community College. She also attended the University of Missouri.

Lynelle Ward

By TAMMIE HARNESS

Lynelle Ward, 18, is one of the new members on the InterCOM journalism staff.

Ward recently graduated from La Marque High School where she participated in several school activities. She thoroughly enjoyed being a trainer for the football team. She also participated in the student government, speech and journalism.

This is Ward's first semester at College of the Mainland. Her classes include English, history and journalism.

Some of Ward's interests and hobbies include a variety of sports and journalistic writing. She enjoys spending her spare time at the beach.

In the future she plans on earning a degree in television and news broadcasting.

Artist sets up

Continued from Page 1

prayer garden. As the artist said, people don't need a church building to be spiritual. All of the parts of the patio, except the bricks, were made by Reutor.

The audience may be surprised by the lack of color in the exhibit. Liz Juza, who accompanied the artist, explained that Reutor wants the environment — the shrine — to appear more serene. Reutor added that the neutral colors and the metallic glaze of all clay pieces were used so that neither the color, nor the media overpowers the works and their meaning.

"This should prove to be the most exciting and interesting exhibit at the Gallery this year because of the viewer's participation", Reutor said. The artist wants his audience to actually become a part of the environment by using the patio as the spiritual area of the gallery.

HRA fund-raiser set

The Handicapped and Retarded Association (HRA) is looking for crafts to be donated to the annual fund-raising Bar-B-Q on April 25. Tickets are available for \$5. Call 948-3769 or 948-9231 for more information.

SAB to sponsor two-day blood drive

By LYNELLE WARD

The Student Activities Board and the Blood Center of Houston will sponsor a two-day blood drive Feb. 24 and 25, in the College of the Mainland Student Center from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Everyone between the ages of 18 and 66 is urged to donate. Each donor will receive a free T-shirt.

According to Maryann Urick, head of the Student Activities Board, the blood drive held Oct. 14, 1986 pulled in a record number of donors. One hundred and twenty-eight people donated blood, a sizable difference from the first blood drive in 1979 which had only

28 donors.

The February Blood Drive is extended to two days so that donors can be more easily accommodated.

Not everyone can donate. Each donor should check to see if he or she can donate blood. People on certain medication, such as for high blood pressure, are not eligible to donate. People with cancer, cardiovascular problems, hepatitis, or diabetes should not donate blood.

Donors need not worry about possible risks, because sterile needles are used and the risk of a blood-oriented disease is almost nonexistent.

What's happening

Student activities calendar

By BEBE LISING

There are no classes from 12:30-1:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Come to the Student Center and

College Hour Specials, Events and Sports

enjoy the performers and special events. Weather permitting, activities will be held outside. For more information call Maryann Urick at 938-1211 ext. 418.

Dates	Activities
Friday, Feb. 13	Valentine Party — 8 p.m.-1 a.m. at the San Luis Hotel, Galveston; 'Dr. Toons,' D.J. will be playing a variety of music; hor d'oeuvres will be served beginning at 9 p.m.; cash bar (I.D. check); tickets are available through the Student Activities Board for \$3 a person.
Friday-Sunday, Feb. 13-15	Valentine's Raquetball Tourney—cost is \$9 per person.
Friday—Monday, Feb. 13-16	Newspaper recycling—a truck will be parked by the duck pond for collection. The paper is processed into insulation for use in the future group home of the Handicapped and Retarded Association. Call 948-4403 for Clean City Committee information.
Tuesday, Feb. 17	Beat Box Rock — R.M.G. (RAP) — There are no instruments, just two guys telling a story and making music with their mouths.
Friday, Feb. 20	Country/Western Dance Workshop is set for 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$3 per person.
Saturday, Feb. 21	Run/Walk for your Heart Fun Run — 1/4-, 1-, 3-, or 6-mile course. Run starts at 9 a.m. The American Heart Association will benefit.
Monday, Feb. 23	Introduction to Jazz Dance will be \$3 a person in Room P-112 from 6-7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 24	AIDS: We need to know about it: Making Ourselves Safe. 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the LRC-131. Lecture presented by the Community Support for Aids and the Galveston County Public Health District.
Tuesday & Wednesday, Feb. 24-25	Two-Day Blood Drive - 8 a.m.- 3 p.m. on both days in the Student Center. Give blood and help save a life. All donors will receive a free T-shirt. Call ext. 417 or 418 to schedule your donation time.
Thursday, Feb. 26	Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Competition Bowling Sports Day will be conducted by Galveston College. Six male and six female credit students are needed. Lunch and bowling free.
Friday, Feb. 27	The Environmental Committee will meet at 2 p.m. in Room A-148. New members are welcome to discuss issues of concern. Call 948-4403.
Tuesday, March 3	Addictions: A family systems approach to recovery. The program is free in LRC-131 at 7 p.m.
Tuesday, March 3	President Larry Stanley will hold an informal visit with students. Here's your opportunity to have your questions addressed by the president.
Thursday, March 5	The Students vs. Employees Basketball Game is set for 12:30 p.m. in the gym.
March 7-14 or 8-15	Two spring break ski trips to Breckenridge, Colo. Cost is \$495 per person. Pay as soon as possible.
March 9-13	Spring break for students and faculty.
Tuesday, March 17	Kier is a solo singer and keyboard player doing vocal impressions and original music.

PTK winners

Sigma Delta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa held a drawing Dec. 11 to determine the winners of their Gasoline Giveaway. The drawing was conducted by Dr. Don Bass, dean of Instruction and Student Development. The winners were: Lurie Boson of La Marque (100 gallons of gasoline); Linda Sliter of Santa Fe (50 gallons of gasoline); and Kathy Ballinger of Dickinson (oil and filter change).

Phi Theta Kappa congratulates the winners and thanks all who participated in this successful fund raiser.

Officers installed

Texas Nursing Students Association, College of the Mainland chapter, inducted its new officers Jan. 20. The new officers are: David P. Field, president; James Price, first vice president; Debra Mutch, second vice president; Patti Zimmerman, treasurer; Natalie Myrick, recording secretary; Carol Schumann, corresponding secretary; and Michael Weir, historian. The sponsors of the chapter are Crolé Labby and Connie O'Kane.

PTK activities

Phi Theta Kappa will hold a general meeting Feb. 21, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in Room T-09. There will be a guest speaker.

The PTK State Convention is set for Feb. 26 - Feb. 28 in Fort Worth. College of the Mainland's Sigma Delta Chapter will campaign for the state president's office.

Newspaper Recycling

The community newspaper drive will be held on the second weekend every other month. St. Valentine's weekend is the next scheduled collection time. A truck will be parked near the duck pond at the College of the Mainland from Friday, Feb. 13 to Monday, Feb. 16. Additional drop-off points will be the Lowry Center at Fifth Avenue and 21st Street on Friday and Safeway Dispose-All dumpster, Palmer and Sixth Street, on Saturday.

The future group home for the Handicapped and Retarded Association will receive the insulation which is made from the newspapers.

For more information contact Trash Power (409) 948-4403 or the TC/LM Chamber of Commerce (409) 935-1408.

Recycling is part of the effort to win \$60,000 in the Governor's Community Achievement Awards which is to be used by Texas City for highway landscaping.

Air Force

HOUSTON — Some former Air Force personnel are being offered their old rank back according to Senior Master Sergeant Dan Beamer, the 3546 USAF Recruiting Squadron Superintendent, 9720 Beechnut, Houston.

Prior service men and women who were discharged from the Air Force after Nov. 1, 1982 are eligible to reenlist without the loss of rank, if their former skill is on the Air Force's needed list. Prior Air Force members who have joined the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard and have been promoted may be eligible to reenlist one grade higher than held at discharge. Some of the skills needed are electronics, aircraft maintenance, personnel and medical.

Prior service men and women are urged to contact Sgt. Beamer at 9720 Beechnut, Suite 306, Houston, TX or call (713) 954-6806.

InterCOM

A STUDENT PUBLICATION AT COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND

MARCH 1987



Short story writer Miles Richardson relates his fascination with people as text in one of two lectures he presented at College of the Mainland. (Photo by Jim Higgins)

Author defines writing process

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

On March 4, College of the Mainland hosted Dr. Miles Richardson who gave several lectures on anthropology and literature. The speaker was invited by COM's literary magazine *Sidewinder* and the Division of Arts and Humanities.

Dr. Richardson is a professor and acting chairman of the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. He has published numerous books and articles on anthropology. As stated in his resume, Dr. Richardson is especially 'intrigued by our (individuals') capacities to construct multiple realities.'

Besides being an anthropologist, Dr. Richardson is the author of several short stories. One of them, "Hank Williams, You Wrote My Life," was published by *Sidewinder* in spring 1986 and another, "The Duck That Didn't Go Pretty," is to be published in the next issue of the magazine.

The guest spoke during College Hour and in the evening in the COM Student Center. At the first lecture, he introduced his short story, "The Man-Eater." This story shows that Dr. Richardson is a man with an unusual sense of humor. Dr. Richardson said my message is that we are in a hell of a mess because we are flesh and blood creatures who also speak. He introduced the interesting concept that people communi-

See Author Page 12

TNSA president seeks changes in nursing

By LYNELLE WARD

"Give me any person and I could take their interest and fit them into a nursing career because of its diversity," says David P. Field.

Field, president of the Texas Nursing Students Association at College of the Mainland believes, "anyone can find a part of nursing that they would be happy with." He is the first male elected to TNSA at COM.

Field is a graduate of the COM paramedics program and became interested in nursing while working as a paramedic in a local hospital. He also was attracted to nursing due to the shortage of nurses, but good job availability throughout the world.

According to Field nursing does not pay a lot, but it does have a wide range of job specialization. A nurse is still a nurse whether a psychiatric, obstetrical, or pediatric nurse. This is another attraction for Field.

He finds nursing just right for his outspokenness. "The other students in class say I carry a soapbox in my back pocket." Field uses every chance he can to express his point of view. He feels that in a female-dominated field being an oddity helps to get others to take notice. Therefore he feels he has the combination of qualities to bring about changes in the nursing field.

Field would like to see a change in a variety of areas such as in the doctor/nurse relationships. A poor relationship between the nurse and the doctor results

in a deterioration in patient care, Field says.

He wants also to change how nurses are viewed today. In the past they were known as nursemaids and had a Florence Nightingale image, but through the years their job role has changed in scope and difficulty.

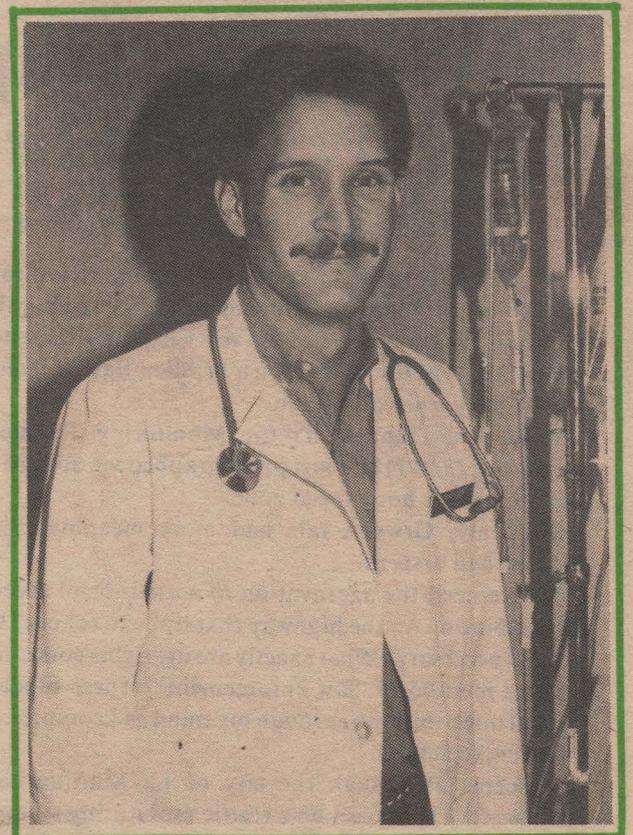
The nursing profession is a difficult occupation, with much stress and responsibility. "There is a lot of burnout and little appreciation." Drug abuse and alcoholism have become major problems for nurses, Field says. Hotlines have been developed to help nurses cope with their day-to-day problems. Field believes the hotlines are major breakthrough for nurses. Nurses throughout the world need to organize and the first step towards that goal is the establishment of hotlines.

Nurses have little political power and without that power they cannot change legislation regulating their profession or get the much-wanted pay increases. Field plans to work for such changes.

According to Field the American Nursing Association has an estimated 200,000 members, though there are more than 2 million registered nurses. With a larger member involvement the association will become politically more powerful and able to achieve its goals.

The political side of nursing interests Field and is one of the reasons he ran for president. During his January 1987-1988 term he plans to educate pre-nursing students more thoroughly about what to

See TNSA president Page 12



Nursing student David P. Field is the first male president of the Texas Nursing Student Association at College of the Mainland. (Photo by Jim Higgins)

Campus Editorials

Students fight raising food prices at COM

By TAMMIE HARNESS

As I walked through the Student Center during College Hour on March 5, I was drawn toward a crowd of screaming, obnoxious and rude people. This angry mob consisted of students, the cafeteria sponsors, curious passers-by and much later the vending machine owners.

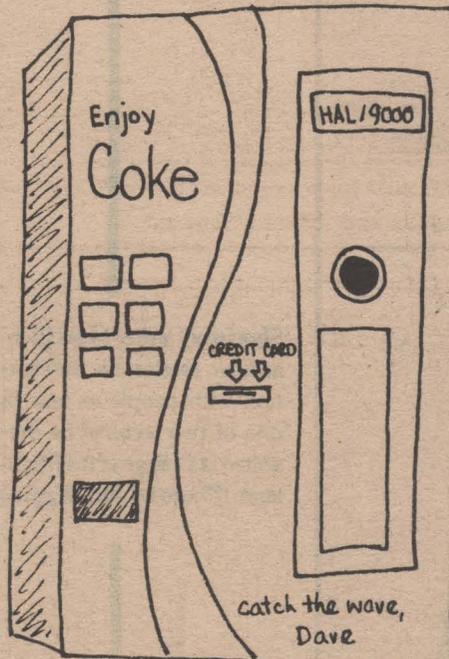
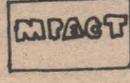
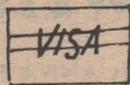
What was supposed to be an organized meeting did nothing but make a lot of people angry. Instead of students suggesting solutions for the inflated prices, it turned out to be nothing more than a yelling match. Some students argued for the "better" vending machines and higher-quality cafeteria food. Other students were against having the electronic machines and against the higher food prices despite better quality.

The meeting was so unorganized that for about 30 minutes the students screamed complaints at the cafeteria vendor, not realizing he isn't the owner of the electronic machines. How did students expect to accomplish anything when they weren't even directing their questions to the proper people?

I think it is a good idea for students to unite to fight against what they believe is unfair, but come on, get it together. Organize yourselves the next time so that something can be accomplished.

COMics

We Accept:



St. Patrick's Day more than wearing green

By MICHAEL MURPHY

As another St. Patrick's Day approaches, many of us make plans to party on a truly bacchanalian scale. It is a holiday rich in tradition, but not in the sense of wearing green clothing and quaffing huge amounts of green beer. Like so many other holidays we observe, there is a deeper meaning to St. Patrick's Day than is superficially apparent.

St. Patrick's Day began in Ireland to commemorate the death of Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. Patrick devoted his life to teach the word of God to the Irish, no small task since the natives were largely pagan Druids. Patrick was humble and not very well educated, but he had an incredible gift of leadership that allowed him to convert the Emerald Isle to Catholicism.

In Ireland, St. Patrick's Day is a Holy Day of Obligation, one of the most sacred holidays observed. The church played a large part in these observances. However, as the Irish immigrated to the United States, St. Patrick's Day eventually became a day to show patriotism and reaffirm pride in the Irish heritage.

Following the custom practiced in the homeland, many American Irish gathered in pubs, which led to a moral dilemma. March 17 falls in the midst of Lent (the Catholic period of fasting and abstinence), which severely handicapped any attempt to celebrate. The Irish were, however, granted a special dispensation to suspend the observance of Lent for the day.

With this dispensation, the celebrants tended to cram as much food and drink into one day as possible, which apparently is one of the few traditions that still exists.

TMT speed trap creates conflict

Look out, Big Brother is watching you!

By MICHAEL MURPHY

A typical day (or so I thought) in the life of a typical College of the Mainland student. I was struggling to maintain my concentration on my Cliffnotes cassette of George Orwell's *1984* when a brilliant flash of light caught the corner of my eye.

I had been zapped. Traffic Monitoring Technologies, Inc. (TMT) had just photographed me doing 61 in a 55 mile an hour speed zone.

Suddenly, Orwell's tale had more meaning. Big Brother had arrived.

Do we need the aggravation of a quasi-legal speed trap operating on the highway that leads to school? Is it really necessary? What exactly are my rights concerning this method of "law enforcement"? These fundamental questions ran through my mind as I completed my drive to school.

It seems as though the city of La Marque has contracted TMT to set up a traffic monitoring system for Precinct 8. TMT uses a truck equipped with a radar system, a computer, and a camera to catch speeding violations as they occur. TMT then mails a notice of

violation to the vehicle's registered owner, who is then supposed to mail in the fine or arrange for a court date.

But there are problems. The first problem, according to my legal sources, is that the system is not enforceable. Without signing a "Promise to Appear," as you would if you were stopped by an officer, there is no way a warrant can be legally issued.

Secondly, the manpower costs are mounting, because an officer has to be present in the truck to oversee the operation of the system. If an officer has to be present anyway, why is this system being implemented? Why not just have the officer stationed in his patrol car in the traditional method of law enforcement?

But even if it was enforceable and economically sound, where's the subjectivity? There is something inherently abhorrent about a faceless machine enforcing the laws we make to govern ourselves. Where does it stop? The laws are for the people and by the people, so let's enforce them with people. One basic premise of our judicial system is the right to face our accusers. Apparently, the La Marque City Council feels otherwise.

All hail Oceania!

InterCOM

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Christian McDonald --March issue

Dana D. Gibson -- April issue
Jan Cannaday Wilson --Photography

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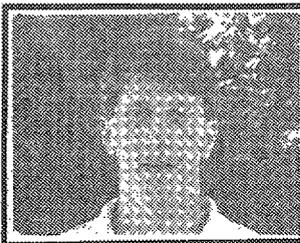
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Editor terms St. Valentine's dance a success



**Christian
McDonald**

As I write this editorial more than one subject comes to mind.

First, I would like to thank those who have sent in letters to the editor. These letters give us an insight and direction as to what we should publish in InterCOM. Keep up the good work.

Next, I would like to say something about the Valentine's dance sponsored by the Students Activities Board. It was nice to see students and teachers collaborating for the good of... well, just say good fun. We (students and teachers alike) need a release every once in a while. I think the dance was a success, and I hope to see more such activities.

Finally, last semester President Larry Stanley said that the management of the cafeteria would be given to a private vendor in order to save the college money. This has happened, but I don't know about the saving part, especially for the students.

The quality of the food may have risen slightly but so have the costs. The question is, is the change worth it? I don't think so.

The greater variety of food is nice, and the (slightly) better service is OK, but all in all the prices just don't fit the quality. What do you think?

Who is that armadillo?



A mysterious critter appears on the lawn near the College of the Mainland Science Building. To learn the varmint's true identity, turn to Page 5.

(Photo by Jan Cannaday Wilson)



COM students pose for a lunchtime picture. From left, Terry Balzertt, Magdaleno Jaramillo, Tracy Hilton, Robert Compean and Roland Gaytan.
(Photo by Maryann Urick)

Readers rebut parking lot letter

Editor's note: The following letters are in response to a letter to the editor by Monte Harris, published in the February issue of InterCOM. The letter criticized the COM Law Enforcement Division's inability to enforce parking lot rules.

Dear Editor,

For shame, Monte Harris in his letter to the editor, InterCOM, Feb. 17, 1987, commits a cardinal journalistic sin. The letter opens, "The law enforcement division is a black-eye to the College of the Mainland Campus Community." Now this is a blanket indictment if I ever read one and, reading further, an unsubstantiated one at that. It turns out Mr. Harris is upset because some cops and cops-to-be drive like hell and our own campus cops are letting them get away with it. From that observation one could regret, as Mr. Harris does, that these scofflaws may become tomorrow's law enforcers. Or, to wax sociological and somewhat cynical, one could comment on the close — in this case apparently intimate — association between law breakers and law upholders. Mr. Harris goes too far, however, in suggesting that COM's whole program is rotten. Far from being a blight, the program has consistently reflected well on the campus and, in fact, has been used as a model for law enforcement training throughout the state. If Mr. Harris had gone directly to Bob Williamson, director of the Regional Law Enforcement Training Center here at COM with his complaint and had been specific in identifying the offenders, he would have been surprised at how firmly police police themselves. In choosing the indirect way, combined with angry over generalization, I suggest he has done the program and, for that matter, himself a disservice. It's not too late Monte. Go to the source.

Sincerely,
Tony Pfeiffer
Continuing Education Coordinator
Ext. 363

Dear Editor,

Normally, I do not dignify assinine or vitriolic letters with a response. However, in this case I am making an exception because many of my students have urged me to respond to Monte Harris' rabble-rousing blanket indictment of COM's police cadets, and law

enforcement students, and their instructors.

Mr. Harris complained, and rightfully so, about cadets speeding in and driving the wrong way through the parking lots, and parking where there is no parking place. He also stated that one of the instructors had parked illegally. Each of these violations is indefensible. If Mr. Harris had confined himself to complaining about one instructor and only those cadets with immature driving habits, I would have no bone to pick with him. But that is not what he did. Mr. Harris attacked all of the cadets, law enforcement students, and law enforcement instructors, and that includes the innocent as well as the guilty.

There are about 80 law enforcement students enrolled in our Criminal Justice degree program. Half of these students are not interested in becoming police officers — they are studying to become attorneys or probation and parole officers. These students deeply resent being lumped together with the transgressors Mr. Harris complained about. And I am sure that those cadets who do not speed, drive the wrong way, or park illegally, do not appreciate the stereotyping practiced by Mr. Harris.

Rarely has a day gone by in the past 16 years, that I have not seen students commit the violations Mr. Harris complained about. And I am talking about students who are neither cadets nor law enforcement students. Why did Mr. Harris single out the cadets and law enforcement students? Does he have a myopic vision problem which only allows him to notice violations committed by those in uniform?

Instead of broad-brushing all of us in the college's law enforcement programs, Mr. Harris could have made the Police Academy director aware of these violations. He could have gone to the chief of Campus Police with his complaints. But what he did was to smear all of us in the InterCOM.

I firmly believe that those cadets who are responsible for Mr. Harris' complaints, have dishonored and discredited law enforcement. I also believe that Mr. Harris' diatribe has dishonored and discredited the Griz Eckert Award.

Howie Katz
College of the Mainland
Criminal Justice Instructor

Campus News

Outdoor Club needs publicity

By TAMMIE HARNESS

Are you tired from the crowded cities? Is your homelife or job driving you crazy? Now is your chance to get away from it all! Enjoy the refreshing experiences and simplicity of the outdoors on a College of the Mainland Outdoor Club trip.

The club enjoys trips such as camping, canoeing, backpacking, climbing, rappelling, spelunking and bird watching.

No experience is needed. Through group togetherness you will learn the skills it takes.

The COM Outdoor Club was formed in 1978 as an outgrowth of Maryann Urick's canoeing and camping class. The students enjoyed the trips so much that they asked Urick, student activities advisor, if they could continue the trips even though the class had ended. Under the leadership of Urick, George Osborne and Mike Hales, the Outdoor Club was brought into being.

Urick says that "the main goal of the club is to get outdoors and not to spend much time in meetings."

Two main themes of the club are outdoor awareness and group cooperation. The group's activities promote an appreciation of the natural world and the need to conserve it so that others also may enjoy it.

The only requirement of the club is that members be 18. The club is open to students as well as members of the community. Although you don't have to be a member to participate in the activities, a membership



Texas City/La Marque community members participate in "Run/Walk for Your Heart" on Feb. 21, 1987. (Photo courtesy of Maryann Urick)

fee of \$10 is required if you would like to receive a monthly newsletter and a club T-shirt. The membership fee is due each September.

The meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday each month in the COM Student Center. Meetings include guest speakers and discussion of upcoming trips. The sign up for each trip is held at the monthly meeting prior to the semester. The sign up for the fall semester trips is in August, spring trips in December and summer trips in May.

The club does have some equipment for loan on club

trips and there is no charge.

An old Indian song sums up the club's philosophy.

*I think over again my small adventures,
my fears,*

Those small ones that seem so big.

*For all the vital things I had to get and
to reach*

And yet there is only one great thing

The only thing

To live to see the great day that dawns

And the light that fills the world.

Black History Month concludes with festival

By LYNELLE WARD

"On a whole, the festival was successful considering it was the first time," said Deryl Clark, a member of the Black History Committee at College of the Mainland.

The committee held a Black History Festival Sunday, Feb. 22, to conclude the observance of Black History Month.

The 15 booths, set up for the day-long festival, sold food and beverages, handmade jewelry, and black-oriented books. The Sickle-cell Foundation and a local bloodbank also had booths. The highlight of the festival was a performance of modern jazz by the Prairie View A&M University dancers. A clown also entertained festival goers.

The committee organized black history lectures, a Gospel show and dinner, a black film festival, a men's fashion show, fashion fair cosmetics makeover, and blood pressure screenings.

The committee also held a Black History Essay Contest with divisions for high school and college entries.

The high school division winner was Robin A. Ellis. Winners in the college division were Wakili S. Yarima, first place; Terrell Simpson, second place; and Wendi Perry, third place.

The committee believes that this year's festival was a success and hopes for an even better celebration next year.



Members of the Black History Month Committee sing the Black National Anthem.

Committee members included Leroy August, Cynthia Budwine, Deana Clark, Deryl Clark, Andrew Daniels, Warren Dodson, Sherrill Ellison, Wendell Ferguson, Patrice Fortenberry, Cynthia Hicks, La Donna Jones, Jo Ann Jones, Patrice Lemons, Gerald

W. Morgan, Gwen Moses, Pamela Neal, Johnny Pickney, Robert Roughley, Terrell Simpson, Shelia Taylor, Wakili S. Yarima, Maxine Vance, Beverly Douglas, Tillie Henson, Sheila Clark and Pamela Turner.

Memorial fund aids students financially

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

In 1984, College of the Mainland created the Memorial Fund which preserves the names of the deceased friends of the college and provides financial help to the needy students who want to continue their education.

A fund can be established by donating \$500 or more to the school. The money is then put in the permanent endowment and invested in a high interest investment. The accumulated interest is given to needy students in the form of scholarship. A special board determines student's eligibility based on need and grades.

The fund is made in the name of a deceased person and put on a plaque located permanently in the COM Administration Building. The fund and the plaque will exist as long as the college does.

COM has received four such funds, the last one given by the Texas City Woodmen of the World, a life insurance organization. The group honored deceased member L.E. "Mac" McCaghren. COM President Larry Stanley accepted the fund in February 1987.

As Dan Doyle, the director of Financial Aid, said the fund is a nice way of remembering one's loved ones and helping the school and the community.

Free classes offered

By DANA D. GIBSON

"Students who failed in school often have bad feelings about themselves," said Jola Hubisz, instructor of Adult Basic Education at College of the Mainland. In our classrooms they have only to compete with themselves, she explained.

"Our classroom has an informal atmosphere. We always have a pot of coffee and hot chocolate ready," Hubisz said.

ABE classes are free of charge and all of the materials also are free, she explained. "We are open to all students who do not make high enough scores for credit classes, and others who just want to brush up on their basic skills," Hubisz said.

Our program started 16 years ago with three full-time teachers. We were free to develop our own material, supplemented by a large fund that is supplied by the Texas Education Agency, she added.

Although in the beginning we were committed to older adults and the undereducated, our program has grown to include a General Education Diploma Class, Hubisz said.

She went on to explain that some of her former students are real "success stories." Many go on to obtain a drivers license, attend credit classes (at COM or elsewhere), and even earn a degree. One of Hubisz' prize success stories just graduated from Trinity University in San Antonio on a scholarship.

"Our classes are also a good way for education majors to get practical experience with students on a one-on-one basis," she said.



President Larry Stanley fills out a questionnaire prior to donating blood during the two-day blood drive held on Feb. 24 and 25. College of the Mainland set a record with 147 people donating blood. During the blood drive held Oct. 14, 1986, 128 people donated. Pictured with President Stanley from left are Rosalie Trapani, Monte Harris, Pat Harris, Thelma Hernandez. (Photo by Maryann Urick)

Who was that armadillo?

By JAN CANNADAY WILSON

The sleek silver armadillo sashayed up to the bar. "I'll have a frozen margarita," it announced.

My ears perked... that voice was familiar. I strained to identify the face that the long lamé snout obscured. Black beady eyes stared glassy and unblinking between the short glistening ears. No clue...

I salted the rim of the glass, heaped it with frothy green potion, and slid it across the bar.

"Thanks!" the creature grinned.

Click! Aha, the varmint's identity became obvious.

"Hello, fancy seeing you here?" I laughed, feeling proud at having solved the mystery.

"You didn't see me here—I'm at school, teaching. And you didn't see me drinking this margarita either!" she laughed as she recognized me.

"Right!" I agreed. "You didn't see me here bartending either—I'm in class!"

The armadillo nodded approval to our conspiracy, turned, and leaned easily against the bar. The costume was perfect—right down to the gleaming ribbed back and the long tail.

It was "Go Texan Day" at NASA. The grand ballroom was crammed with folks decked out in varying degrees of western duds. Mexican and Texan memorabilia crowded the walls. Sleek fashion models glittered and twirled to and fro on the long runway, vying for attention. Lights flashed and music pulsated simultaneously as the crowd roared their approval from every dimly lit inch of floor space.

The armadillo hummed, danced a little shuffle, then ambled off into the crowd. Probably satisfied that its presence would be forgotten by the observant bartender.

But, alas! There's one thing an armadillo should never do, and that's trust a College of the Mainland InterCOM staffer to keep a secret. Sorry, Ms. Dodd!

Men's spring fashion show held at COM

By MELL E. LEWIS

A men's fashion show was held in the College of the Mainland Student Center Feb. 26 during College Hour.

The show, sponsored by the Black History Planning Committee, was held to involve more students in college activities. Committee members included: Deryll Clark, Research and Development; Dena Campbell, secretary to dean of Instructor; Hope Shiver, music instructor; Maxine Vance, nursing instructor; Tillie Henson, COM Library; Leroy August, counselor; and Beverly Douglas, driving program.

Models for the show were volunteers from COM's faculty and student body. Faculty models included Dodson, Alex Pratt, Jerry Bryant, Bob Shinn, Tony Pfeiffer and August. Student models were Wendell Ferguson, Sherill Ellison, W.S. Yarima, Cedric

Haynes, Stanley Smith, Charles Anderson and Andrew Daniels.

Faculty escorts for the men were Bridget Ferrell, Carolyn Phipps and Beverly Douglas. Student escorts were Sheila Clark, Gwen Mosses and Patrice Fortenberry.

Clothing was furnished by Mens's Warehouse, Gulf Freeway at Monroe, and Webster's Men's Wear at Baybrook Mall. The show consisted of casual wear and dress wear.

Fashion coordinator Debbie Weldon added a touch of professionalism to the show.

Leroy August and Beverly Douglas were the hosts for the program. Weldon, a former professional model, now is a member of COM's staff. She works for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

The grand finale showed the men in swimwear for 1987.

Best teacher award

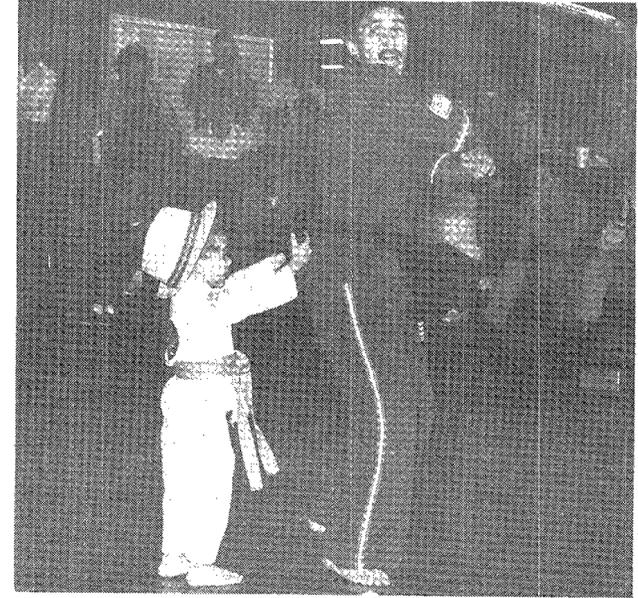
The College of the Mainland Student Advisory Council is sponsoring the Outstanding Teacher Award for 1986-1987.

All COM students, teachers and staff members are invited to vote between March 23 and 28. Each person is allowed one vote and has to include his/her signature and phone number on the ballot. Ballot boxes are located in each building on campus.

Instructors who have won in the past three years are not to be nominated this year. The past winners are: Dr. Kervin Sellers ('84), Dr. Renate True ('85) and Emmeline Dodd ('86). The winner will be announced at the annual employee appreciation dinner on April 25.



... dabbling



... donating

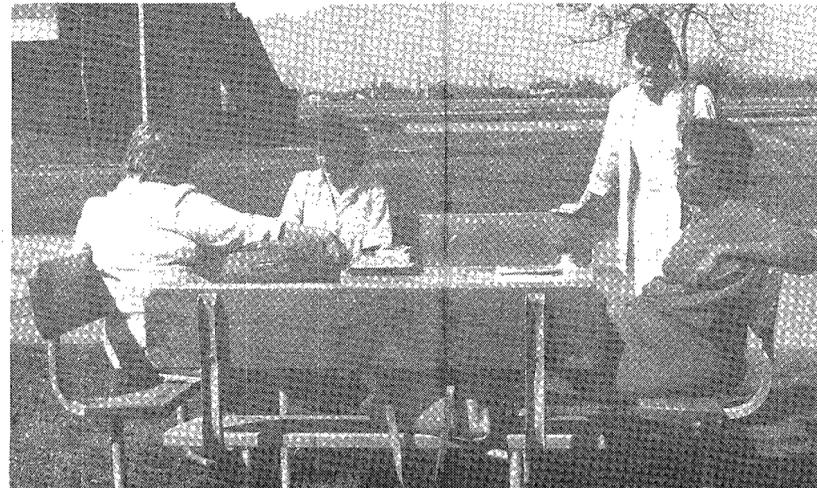
COM folks in action . . .



... dancing



... don't tell my wife



... dominoing

Photos by
Jim Higgins
Maryann Urick
Jan Cannaday Wilson

Campus Interviews

Believes it should contain "aliveness"

Existentialist Brown gives views on education



English instructor Brenda Brown has enlightened COM students with her existentialist views for 18 years. (Photo by Jim Higgins)

By CHRISTIAN McDONALD

When you walk into Brenda Brown's office, you immediately notice that she is a 'nonlinear' person—all her pictures are crooked. "If it's done by the book or in a straight line, then I guess that I'm not the one to do it," she explains.

Brown teaches English, but not like most teachers. She says that to teach good writing and reading is all well and good, but she also tries to inspire her students to understand. Brown, who has taught at College of the Mainland since September, 1969, believes in what the Japanese call *satori*—sudden illumination or understanding. More precisely, *satori* means suddenly understanding something that before was only thought to be understood. Brown does not expect everyone to experience this feeling of *satori*, but she hopes that a student will experience it at least once.

Brown believes that the educational process should contain "aliveness." She explains, "It's like looking through a prism . . . it's not enough to see just one color, but to see the whole rainbow! That's what I want my students to see." Which is why she wants her students to go to her class, because if they don't, they may miss something they would regret missing.

Brown has studied existentialist philosophy for more than 20 years. If you do not understand the term existentialism, you can go look it up in the dictionary. But wait, let me save you some time. The definition is

about 70 words long and would take longer to understand than if you attended Brown's class for a whole semester. It's less painful to take the class.

Brown thinks that we live in a futile world where we have to live with the fact that there may be no tomorrow. A world in which "someone will push the red button, or pick up the red telephone before we ever recognize ourselves." She quotes her good friend, COM political science instructor Jim Finley, as saying that we live "six miles on the other side of despair."

Brown is not happy with her thoughts of futility. She is just trying to make it through like the rest of us.

Brown attended the University of Alabama "forever" where she received a bachelor's and a master's degree in English and history. She taught at Louisiana Polytechnic University, Ruston, La., where, yes, she taught Joe Namath, Kenny Stabler and Terry Bradshaw. They are "all retired now, so that should tell you something," Brown said.

Brown is a fiction editor for *Sidewinder*, a COM international literary publication. *Sidewinder* sponsored Dr. Miles Richardson's speech at COM March 3.

Willie Nelson, Lukenbauch, Texas, and armadillos are some of Brown's favorite things, along with the comic strips *Doonesbury*, *Bloom County* and *Ziggy*.

Brown received the Griz Eckert award in 1981 for outstanding faculty member. She has four children, two who have attended COM.

Art teacher Stella Dobbins finds pleasure in teaching

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

"If you keep working hard, challenging yourself and making an effort to communicate with other people, it is possible to become successful," Stella Dobbins said.

Dobbins is both a part-time art teacher and Fine Arts Gallery director at College of the Mainland, but, above all, she is an artist.

I was invited to Dobbins' house in Galveston which she said reflects who she is as a person. The rooms are filled with art pieces done both by Dobbins and her artist friends. Being around my friends who are also artists creates a supportive atmosphere, said Dobbins.

She finds other sources of inspiration in frequent visits to art museums in Houston and New York City, and in reading various books. Some of her favorites include: *The Art Spirit* by Robert Henri; *I Ching*, *The Chinese Book of Changes*; and Anne Truitt's artist daybook.

As we sat in her living room, I noticed the simple but beautiful Asian furniture. Dobbins told me of her travels to Malaysia, India, Middle East and Europe. The artist especially liked Malaysia because of its "rich texture of life." She explained that life in that region is very different, full of unexpected things and ideas—each day is more colorful.

The influence of Malaysian tapestry certainly shows in Dobbins' work. The artist does mostly still-life paintings richly colored and detailed Malaysian artifacts and fabrics. In her small but cozy home studio, I saw one of Dobbins' tapestry paintings half-finished.

Dobbins also has been interested in various aspects of Malaysian life, especially in Asian spiritualism and religion. She not only has read on the subject, but also has included it in her work. For example, some of her still lifes include a composition of circle which in Asian religion means eternity.

Asked how she first became interested in art, Dobbins said that she has been drawing since childhood. She later excelled in art in school. The interest was always there, she said, and has been growing. Art is Dobbins way to communicate with others, to explain her feelings, mood, and emotion her painting.

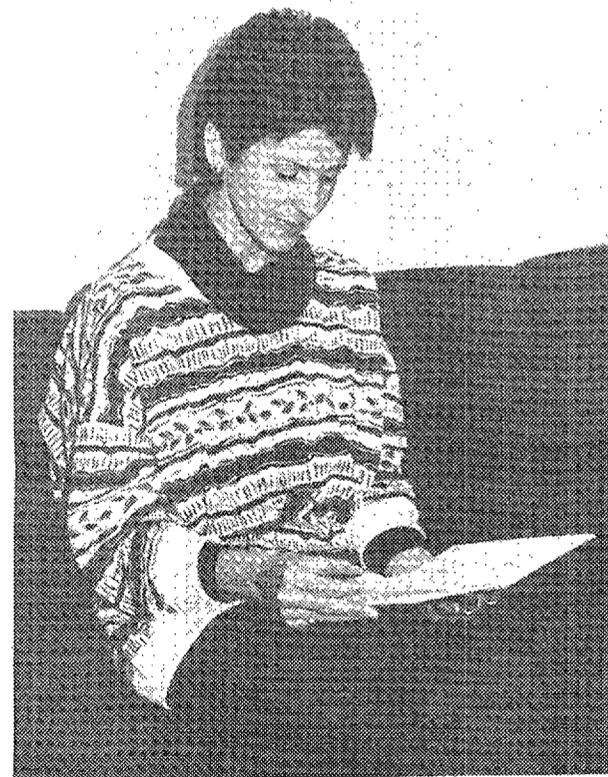
A native of Rockford, Ill., Dobbins received her bachelor of arts degree at University of Illinois and her master of arts degree at University of Houston at Clear Lake. She also attended the Malaysian Institute of Art.

I also asked Dobbins about her favorite artists. She mentioned Georgia O'Keeffe, Henri Matisse, and Oriental painter and philosopher M'u Ch'i. Her contemporary favorites are Morris Graves whose watercolors are "spiritual and enchanting," and sculpture Anne Truitt who "gets to an essence of an idea."

Although Dobbins enjoys creating art the most, she also find pleasure in teaching. She teaches an Introduction to Fine Arts course in area high schools and at COM (she came to COM in 1982). Dobbins likes to teach because she can pass her ideas and philosophy on to others. She also told me that she gets new energy from her students fresh ideas.

Her fame may not be wide-spread, but Dobbins' art is increasingly appreciated by various people. She has recently received a grant from Pollock-Krasner Foundation in New York City, and is a recipient of Grand Prize Award at the 1984 Dimension Houston show. Dobbins thinks such awards are very encouraging to all artists.

Now that Dobbins has become successful, she would like to help other young and struggling artists. She enjoys being a member of several art boards, such as Galveston Artists Guild, and judging art shows in Houston and Galveston.



Stella Dobbins' "Foreign Resonances" painting has been selected for the Texas Art Celebration '87 competition sponsored by Assistance League of Houston. The participating art works were selected by juror John Caldwell of the Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Above all, Dobbins is a person and an artist who wants to push the limits—to explore new ideas and cultures. She likes the adventure and new discoveries in life and art.



Sparky Koerner

Sparkey Koerner, talented jazz musician

He's not just a trumpet player

By MELL E. LEWIS

Harry Koerner, better known as "Sparky," has worked full time in College of the Mainland's Music Department since the fall of 1982. He took over the position formerly held by Tom Arvidson.

Koerner first came to COM in 1981 as a student, working part time doing his internship. Prior to his arrival at COM, he taught in Veracruz, Mexico.

He is very musically inclined. He plays a number of instruments ranging from the flute to guitar to keyboards, but his specialty is the trumpet and the French horn.

Not only does Koerner instruct at COM, he also plays with the Galveston Symphony and the Jazz Quartet. He performs on Sundays four to six times out of the year, with the Galveston Symphony, however the Jazz Quartet plays every Friday and Saturday on *The Colonel*, a dinner paddlewheeler.

Koerner also likes to direct and perform. Since he has been at COM, he has directed the music for *West Side Story* and most recently the music for *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

At the present, Koerner is trying to organize a day-

time combo group. The combo will consist of eight members. Two positions are still open, bass guitarist and drummer.

The Jazz Ensemble, which he directs at COM, performed at a non-competition show at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville Feb. 21.

Koerner's first exposure to music was in the fourth grade. His first influences were Louis Armstrong and Dizzy Gillespie. Now artists such as Miles Davis and Doc Severinson are his idols along with many others.

He studied music at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, La., where he received a bachelor's degree and at North Texas State in Denton, where he obtained a master's degree.

Koerner is originally from Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the Air Force which gave him a chance to travel to the southern states. The mild weather in the South is one of the reasons he has stayed in this area. He is married and has three children.

He is not the only musician in the family, his wife also plays the guitar.

Most people unwind with music, but what does a person who is around music all the time to relax? Well, Koerner says he turns to light jazz.

Schwander to direct upcoming play

By CHRISTIAN McDONALD

Since 1977 Reggie Schwander has been associate director of College of the Mainland's Community Theater, which is a part of COM's Continuing Education Program.

As associate director, Schwander casts a vote for the plays which will be seen each season. Directing two or three plays a year, he has such plays as *Mame*, *Hello Dolly!* and *The Tempest* to his credit. Schwander will direct upcoming *Life With Father*.

Schwander takes a personal interest in the season ticket growth of our COM's theater. "The biggest Li'l Theater in Texas" currently ranks about fourth among Texas community theaters in the number of season ticket holders, approximately 1,500. "Probably first, if you consider our size," said Schwander.

The COM theater seats 168 people compared to the 1,500-seat Midland Community Theater, the largest in Texas with 5,000 ticket holders.

Schwander enjoys working on brochures sent out for the theater. These brochures account for the majority of the season tickets sold.

"In the theater, goals must be personal or nothing

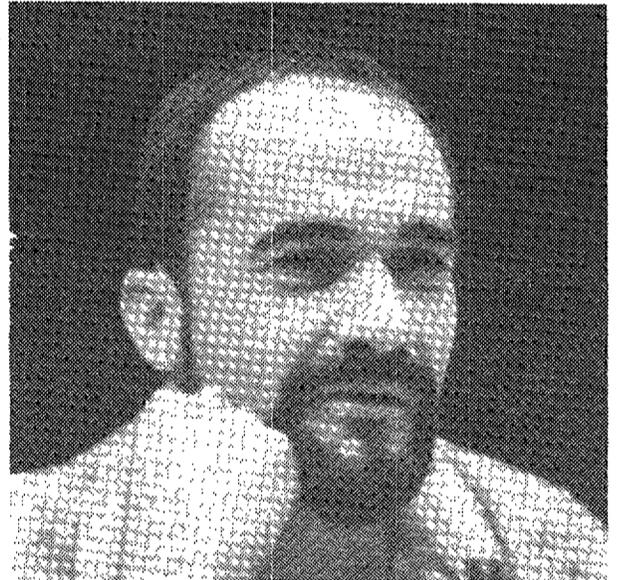
happens. I'm sure *Babes in Toyland* would have never played if I hadn't brought it up year after year," Schwander said.

Sometimes, however, those personal goals are not clearly understood. Schwander's conception of the magical dance of the fairies in *The Tempest* is an example. "They (the dancers) weren't supposed to look like punk rockers," Schwander said. "They were supposed to be something from out of this world."

Schwander has high hopes for the upcoming *Life With Father*, which was at one time the longest running play in New York. *Chorus Line*, scratched from this season but to be seen next season, is currently the longest running play according to Schwander.

When asked how a nobody (someone without acting credits), could be in a production, Schwander suggested that the hopeful read ahead on the plays that are to be seen in each season. He suggests picking a play in which the person would have a good chance of getting a part. *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* was a good example since 12 brothers needed to be cast.

Another way to get into a production, Schwander said is to work from the inside. Drop in at the rehearsal



Reggie Schwander

sals and offer to help. Show initiative and responsibility and someday....

Auditions for *Life With Father* are March 22 at 1:30 p.m. and March 23 at 7 p.m. with rehearsals starting a couple of weeks after. Opening night is May 21 and the play runs through April 14.

InterCOM typesetter Richard L. Quach

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

One of the typesetters working with the *InterCOM* newspaper is Richard Long Quach.

Quach is a Vietnamese immigrant who has been in the United States for seven years. This is his fourth semester at the College of the Mainland where he is taking courses related to drafting, architecture and typesetting.

Quach has already attended architecture classes at the University of Houston but had to move to COM because of financial difficulties.

As a part of his co-op program at COM, Quach has designed a radar wind system for NASA. He is now working on a special advertising package for COM. Quach is designing an application package which includes a folder, letterhead, envelopes, benefit announcements, etc. for possible COM employees.

In his spare time, Quach enjoys making designs and painting high tech architecture. He would like to go back to U of H to receive a BA in architecture.



InterCOM welcomes two new staff members, Richard L. Quach, typesetter, and Michael Murphy, reporter.
(Photo by Jan Cannaday Wilson)

InterCOM reporter Michael Murphy

By TAMMIE HARNESS

InterCOM welcomes a new member to its staff, Michael Murphy, a journalism major.

After graduating from high school in 1976, Murphy entered the Navy and graduated from the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Engineering School in Orlando, Fla. Upon his discharge, he moved to Texas.

Murphy worked as an illustrator for Exxon and McDonnell Douglas. When he became unemployed as a result of the declining oil and aerospace industries, he decided to return to school. This is his first semester at College of the Mainland.

Murphy travelled all over the country while growing up. He lived in such places as California, Alabama, Hawaii and New Mexico.

Murphy is carrying 21 hours and is concentrating on a journalism career. Later, he says he "plans on transferring to a four-year college."

In his spare time he enjoys playing basketball, playing his guitars and listening to blues music.

Exotic animal breeder shows birds to students

By DANA D. GIBSON

Have you ever wondered how an animal on the endangered species list survives? The sad truth is that most of society does not care. Well, Glen and Mike Ridlen do. The father and son raise exotic animals on the family's 20-acre breeding ground in Santa Fe.

Mike, a pre-veterinary major at College of the Mainland, brought a few of his animals Jan. 20 for a show and tell lecture.

His "guests" included an emu (a relative of the ostrich), a sulfur-crested cockateel and an Amazon parrot.

The sulfur-crested cockateel named Love, is a potty-trained pet at the Ridlen house. "He will go to the bathroom when you tell him to. And that's a pretty handy thing to know when he's sitting on your shoulder," said Mike. He demonstrated how tame Love is by laying him upside down in the palm of his hand and stroking Love's breast. "Now what other bird do you know that will do that?" Mike asked.

Sulfur-crested cockateels come from Australia or the surrounding islands, Mike explained. Before they can enter the United States they must pass through quarantine, which lasts 90 days. If the birds have any major diseases they will die during this time. They are fed and given water that contains tetracycline to help fight any diseases, Mike said.

Birds often come out of quarantine in ragged shape. Because officials have so many birds to take care of, the birds are not given the individual care and attention they need, Mike explained.

Cockateels are delicate animals and if they are kept in a drafty room they will often catch cold and die overnight. Despite the rough conditions of quarantine and the cockateels' sensitive nature, they can live from 80 to 100 years with good care and good feed, Mike said. A healthy cockateel will sell for \$3,000.

One of the problems with breeding is that the more domesticated they become, the less likely they are to mate. A prime example of this is Love, who despite being paired with a female for five years, the usual mating time, has had no offspring. "They are just friends," said Mike when asked about Love and his partner.

Cockateels dig out a rotten tree for a nest in which the female lays five eggs. The eggs hatch in 21 to 22 days. The Ridlens simulate a nesting place with a wooden breeding box. Similar to a bird feeder, the box has a hole in front for easy entry and a perch. A

Beat box and rap

Students beat hasty retreat before rapping

By LYNELLE WARD

I don't know about you, but waiting 45 minutes to see two guys with a story to tell — beat box and rap — is not what I call an ideal way to spend my student hour.

The rap performance sponsored by the Student Activities Board, was held in the Student Center at College of the Mainland Feb. 17.

At first I was eager to see this performance, but after 30 minutes of watching the clock and trying to keep my hunger under control, I began to think I was wasting my time.

As I was about to give up, they arrived. Most of the crowd was not as patient as I, so the Student Center was cleared of the crowd.

The scheduled performance was a mini demonstration of beat box and rap. Squeaky G. is the beat box, and R.M. is the rapper.

The two gave a short demonstration. Because they were so late, they had only 15 minutes to perform. The



Mike Redlin hefts his emu while Jim Clawson and Kim Sandberg look on.

(Photo by Jim Higgins)

slide-out bottom gives easy access to the eggs, and allows for cleaning and taking care of any problems that may arise.

Cockateels do not bring much profit, in spite of their high reproducing success rate. They cost too much to feed and require too much attention to make raising them profitable. When cockateels first became popular, pet stores were selling them for \$60, but Mike was selling them for only \$35. "Now that everybody and their uncle has one, the pet stores sell them for \$35 and we sell them for \$15," he said.

Another guest was a young emu. Emus belong to the ostrich family, but are smaller. We, however, do not raise ostriches because they have a powerful kick and it can be lethal, Mike said. When asked about ostriches burying their heads in the sand, Mike replied, "It is a myth."

Someone from the audience asked if emus are as

dumb as chickens. "They are pretty dang dumb," Mike said.

He explained that when mature emus will have a blue neck. "It will look like the Loch Ness Monster with a feather rug draped over it," Mike said. A mature emu is capable of running 35 - 40 miles an hour.

An emu egg is dark green with a thick shell to ensure survival. Emus lay eggs every three days. A female will lay her eggs in a circle. The inside ones are fertile and the outside ones are infertile. The female will sit only on the ones in the middle, the fertile ones.

Along with their vast knowledge of the animals they raise, the Ridlens must maintain a healthy environment. A county health inspector makes regular visits, Mike said. We are subject to inspections and licensing fees and fines just as anyone else might be.

The Ridlens sell their animals to individuals as well as to zoos.

Art activities planned

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

College of the Mainland Art Gallery under the direction of Stella Dobbins, is preparing its annual Art Show. The show, which will consist of the multi-media works done by the COM art students, can be seen from April 2 through May 15.

Dobbins also plans a special reception for COM students and faculty in conjunction with the Art Festival which opens the same day. The reception will provide refreshments as well as musical entertainment from 4 to 6 p.m.

The fifth annual Art Festival is a one-day activity sponsored by the COM chapter of the Art Association. Art works by members of the association will be on sale. A percentage of the sales will go to the association.

Both Dobbins and Art Association President Fred Hults would like to see more student participation in the art projects. Dobbins said the Art Festival "is an opportunity to purchase good art for reasonable prices and support the college."



two began with a series of rap songs all of which were their originals. They ended the performance with a little raegae type rap.

I was a bit disappointed by their routine. It was not worth the wait. Due to the lack of time, their performance seemed rushed and a bit ad-libbed. Maybe with more time and practice, they might be better the next time around.

Strange Love**Band's performance expresses love for music**

By DANA D. GIBSON

Strange Love, a band that did not slaughter songs like others have done, played the College of the Mainland Student Center Feb. 10. To my surprise their harmony and professionalism won the audience over.

"Strange Love describes the love between a musician and his art. It is hard to pay dues when the course is unsure," said Morgan Bouldin, manager and lead singer of Strange Love. Bouldin also said that the band celebrated its first anniversary the day they played at COM.

How did the band achieve such a polished look in such a short time? "We used to be backup singers for the Temptations," said Bouldin. As if that is not impressive enough, I also learned that the band has toured Singapore, Japan and Europe. And to top it all off, "I Can't Wait Another Minute," was released from TSOT records at the end of February.

Members of the audience were impressed with Strange Love's performance and showed their enthusiasm by clapping after each and every song. COM student Rebecca Bruey said they are one of the better bands I have heard in the Student Center this year.

And I agree!

Band members Lance Clemons, base; Gary Owens, drums; Paul Chevavlier, lead guitar; Patrice Julivert,

vocal; and James Chaney, background vocals; add their talents to Bouldin's singing to complete the group.

Like many other bands, Strange Love got its start

locally. The band began playing the club circuit at the Front Door Club in La Marque.

When Strange Love is not on tour, the band can be found at the Blue Ice Club in Houston every Sunday.



Strange Love performs Top 40 hits during College Hour Feb. 10.

(Photo by Jim Higgins)

Jubilant parades highlight 'fat' Tuesday**Mardi Gras provides week of festivities and fun**

By TAMMIE HARNESS

From the elaborate balls and royal coronations to the jubilant parades filled with colorful beads and coins, Mardi Gras offers everyone a week of festivities and uncensored fun. What does all the celebration mean?

According to the *Word Book Encyclopedia*, Mardi Gras is a custom in many Roman Catholic countries and other communities which is celebrated with parades and other festivities.

This celebration is known as Carnival, meaning "to remove meat." The celebration is a culmination of New Orleans, and other southern cities' social season which begins on Jan. 6, or Twelfth Night, and ends on Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent. Mardi Gras takes place at the end of this long Carnival season.

The words "Mardi Gras" comes from the French term meaning fat Tuesday. This term came from the custom of parading a fat ox through the streets of Paris on Shrove Tuesday.

The Twelfth Night, or Epiphany, commemorates the manifestation of Christ to the Magi. The Magi were the wisemen of the Medes and Persians who traveled far to find their newborn King, following the star of Bethlehem. They traveled by night and slept by day since their guide was the star. Because it was such a long trip, they didn't get there until the 12th night after the baby (Jesus Christ) was born. The church celebrates Twelfth Night with fasting and prayer.

From Twelfth Night through Shrove Tuesday, people celebrate with feasts, parties and parades. The next night, Ash Wednesday, a period of fasting begins which lasts until Easter.

French colonists introduced Mardi Gras into America in 1776, but it wasn't until 1867 that the celebration took place in Galveston. Since then, Galveston's celebration of Mardi Gras has stopped and started several times.

The Twelfth Night' Revelers are one of the most exclusive Carnival organizations, according to *New Orleans Holiday* by Eleanor Early. They choose their Queen in a ceremony that goes back to an Epiphany Eve in 1870 when the "Bean King" cut a frosted cake at the ball and distributed slices to the ladies. In several of the slices there were silver beans and in one slice there was a golden bean. The King said that the girl who had the gold bean should be Queen of the ball, and those who had silver beans should be their Maids.

Societies known as Krews organize and pay for the parades and other festivities. The best know Krews are Comus and Rex. Comus is the God of Joy and Mirth. Rex is the King of the Carnival and is the Lord of Misrule. Rex is the only one who parades unmasked.

Mardi Gras celebration goes back to an ancient Roman custom of merrymaking, before a period of fast. In England it is referred to as Pancake Day.



Float rider throws beads to crowd at Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans, La. (Photo by Christian McDonald)

What's happening

Fine arts course

College of the Mainland's Division of Arts and Humanities is offering an Introduction to Fine Arts course which includes professional art performances open to public. The program is taught by the COM Art Gallery Director Stella Dobbins and for the past seven years has been funded by the Thetrull Foundation.

The performances take place every Thursday at 6 p.m. in Room F-117 in the Fine Arts Building. Future

guests include Sophia Gilmson, pianist; poet Brett Jarrett; and ceramist Judy Blossman.

Computer lab

The Multidisciplinary Computer Laboratory offers a free, short word processing course on the IBM and the Apple IIe personal computers using Bank Street Writer software.

After the course you will be able to create and revise your own text. All you need is a disk that can be purchased at the bookstore.

You may walk in or make a reservation up to 48 hours in advance.

The MCL is located in Room T-320 of the Technical-Vocational Building.

MCL hours are Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Paper Drive

The collection truck for newspapers to insulate the needy will be parked by the duck pond at College of the Mainland from Friday to Monday, April 10-13.

Author

Continued from Page 1
municate "sole-to-sole" instead of by words because "words can turn on you."

At the evening meeting, Dr. Richardson introduced ideas of narrative writing and narrative selves. The story comes before reality with the text actually creating reality, he said. An important aspect of writing, which Dr. Richardson has found, is that the narrator doesn't have a narrative without a reader. I am not writing for some internal reasons, Dr. Richardson explained, I am writing the stories to be read by others.

Asked when he began to write fiction, Dr. Richardson responded that his fiction writing began in college. COM faculty responded with laughter to Dr. Richardson's comment, "All you write in college is fiction."

Dr. Richardson also visited three English classes where he discussed his short stories. The students were especially interested to find out if the plots and the characters in his stories are real. The speaker responded that a story is reality because each story exists on its own. As a writer you are dedicated to the reality of the story, Dr. Richardson said, but other people want to reshape the story.

The guest also said that writing is a magical process. The action and characters take shape as the story progresses, but finishing the product takes a lot longer than one night. Dr. Richardson begins to write by creating a short fragment of a plot in his mind. He then starts researching people and other available sources and collecting ideas.

In his stories, Dr. Richardson deals with the relationships between different races and cultures, things that he deals with in his anthropology studies. "I am very serious about my fiction," concluded Dr. Richardson.

TNSA

Continued from Page 1
expect from the nursing profession. He also wants more information about nursing distributed at the high school level.

In the past COM nursing students have been segregated from the rest of the college. Field wants to change that by getting nursing students more involved in school activities.

As part of his presidential duties, Field attended a two-week convention in Dallas. He expressed his opinions on needed changes for nursing students and found out what others in Texas are thinking.

Field believes nurses should continue their education because the medical field changes everyday. For himself Field sees continuing education as a must. He also sees himself as a pioneer in male nursing and eventually wants to write a book.

This summer Field has an orientation planned for pre-nursing students which he hopes will give the students as idea of what to expect.

Student activities calendar

By **BEBE LISING**

There are no classes from 12:30-1:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Come to the Student Center and

enjoy the performers and special events. Weather permitting, activities will be held outside. For more information contact Maryann Urick at 938-1211 ext. 418.

College Hour Specials, Events and Sports

Dates	Activity
Thursday, March 26	Women in Support will discuss 'Single Parenting' at 12:30 in SC-217.
Friday, March 27	The Environmental Committee will meet at 2 p.m. in Room A-148 to discuss the Navy Homeporting Federal Environmental Impact Statement and hear a presentation about the hazardous waste incinerator proposal. The meeting is open to everyone. Please contact Bebe Lising, 409-948-4403, or Renate True (sponsor) ext.331 for more information.
Monday, March 30	The first session of the Foot Reflexology Workshop will be 7-8:30 p.m. in Room P-112. The cost is \$8 a person.
Tuesday, March 31	Hypnotist Ken Whitener will give a preview at 12:30 p.m. of his evening performance at 7:30 p.m. in the L-131 auditorium.
Tuesday, March 31	The Basketball Shootout will begin at 6 p.m. in the gym. Cost is \$3 a person.
Thursday, April 2	The Students vs. Employees Softball Game starts at 12:30 p.m. Interested players meet on the field.
Tuesday, April 7	Middle East Peace: A Jewish Perspective will be presented by Rabbi Martin Levy in the L-131 auditorium from 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Wednesday April 8	The Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Competition Sports Day at North Harris County College includes softball, tennis, volleyball and more.
Tuesday, April 14	The Lip Sync Contest can be entered by persons or groups who imitate someone famous. Prizes will be awarded.
Tuesday, April 21	The Spring Anything Goes Fest features fun games for teams of four people to play.
Friday, April 24	The Environmental Committee will meet at 2 p.m. in Room A-148 to discuss the Environmental Coalition General Assembly report on the Future of the Galveston Bay. Everyone is welcome to attend.
Sunday, April 26	COM Spring Musical—a fund-raising dinner—will be held at 3 p.m. in the Student Center.
Monday, April 27	The Frisbee Golf Tourney will begin at 6 p.m. for \$3 a person.
Tuesday, April 28	Variety in Motion consists of a male and female couple juggling, unicycling, fire-eating and who knows what else.

InterCOM

A STUDENT PUBLICATION AT COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND

APRIL 1987

20th anniversary

Teacher, student recall COM's history

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the existence of the College of the Mainland. The official celebration is yet to come, but we may begin to reflect upon the history and the unique character of this school.

The college first opened in September 1967 with Dr. Herbert F. Stalworth as president. The facilities were poor; COM actually started out in the former Booker T. Washington Elementary School building with the permanent facilities yet to be completed. But the spirit and goals of the institution were high and ambitious.

As President Stalworth wrote in *The News Citizen* newspaper in 1967, "The College of the Mainland aims to be one of the very best public junior colleges in the country."

There were many other goals, those closer to the community's needs and interests. COM not only offered good education, but offered it to everyone — young and old, black and white. The students had a choice of academic courses as well as vocational and adult education.

To find out more about the school's beginnings, I talked with two people — a teacher and a former student — who have been at COM since 1967.

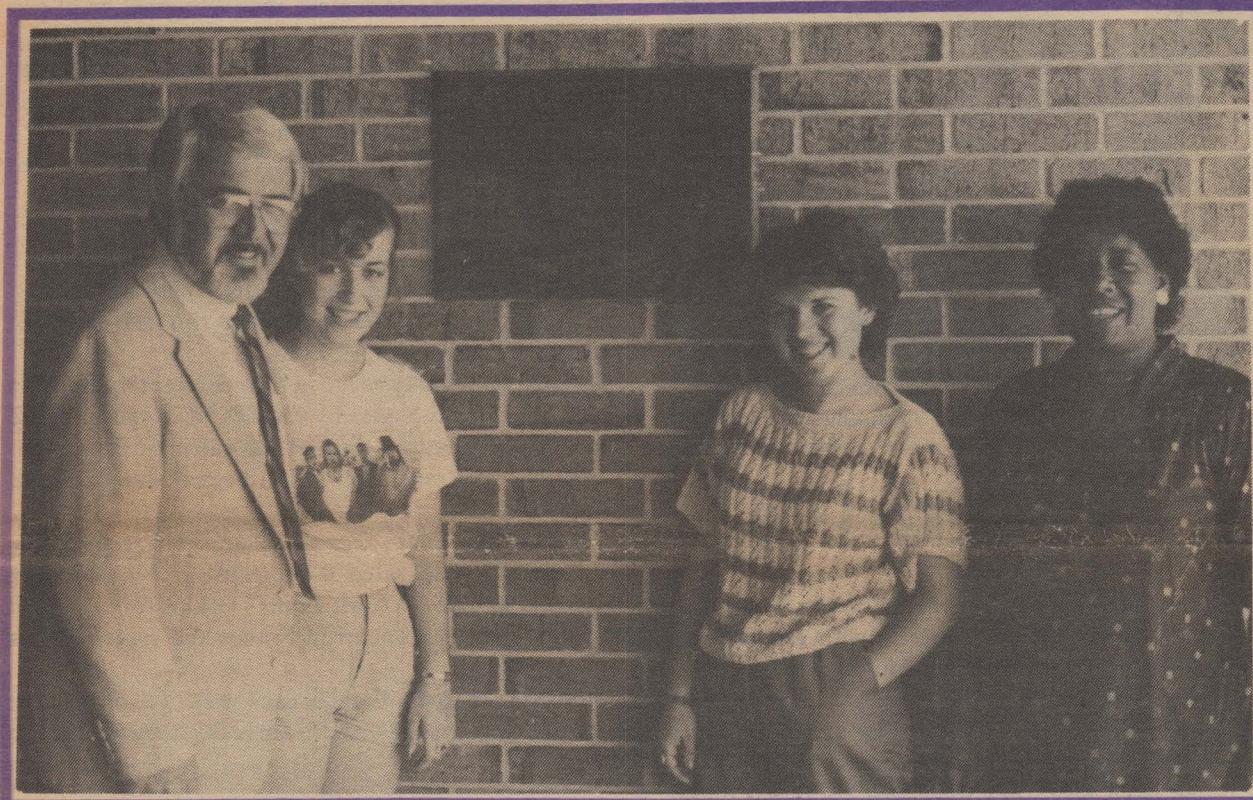
Larry Smith has been a history teacher at the college for 20 years. He remembers COM's beginnings as exciting times, the '60's — times of freedom of education, social progress and bold questioning of established things.

Smith said he remembers the COM staff as very small, but young, idealistic and enthusiastic. The community shared that enthusiasm. Black leadership, for example, put a great effort to open the school as a "comfortable place for everyone." President Stalworth and the board of trustees also were helpful and encouraged the COM faculty to be innovative and different in their educational approach.

"We had a keen awareness to be a progressive force in the community."

One of Smith's outstanding memories of the first year at COM is memorial service held for Martin Luther King Jr. after he was shot in April 1968. That was a great emotional moment for everyone present. The school has tried to not only provide the commun-

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The COM Administration Building's memorial plaque becomes the center of attention for President Larry Stanley, InterCOM editors Dana D. Gibson and Anna Z. Bichta, and parent Laverne Dudley.

(Photo by Jan Cannaday Wilson)

Rabbi speaks on Middle East

By LYNELLE WARD

The Middle East for as long as I can remember has been the focus of much turmoil. Terrorism, guerrilla warfare and bombings have continued through the centuries. Most leaders of the world have striven to achieve peace on earth.

College of the Mainland recently hosted a speaker from the Jewish Chatauqua Society which has its headquarters in New York City. It is an educational organization which provides lectures on a wide range of topics. The organization sent Rabbi Martin W. Levy to speak on the Jewish perspective of Middle East peace.

Rabbi Levy came from Amarillo two years ago to serve Temple B'nai Israel in Galveston. He was ordained in New York City and received his bachelor of arts degree from Amherst College in Massachusetts. He also attended Hebrew Union College in Teaneck, N.J.

Rabbi Levy has received many awards such as the Jacob Rubin Prize, the Benjamin Borowitz Memorial Award in Jewish Religious Thought and many scholarships.

Rabbi Levy's perspective on the Middle East differs from the views of Texans. He believes their views of the Middle East are "tainted" as compared to the rest of the United States. "Tilting and propaganda in the

news has been great (in Texas) since 1982," he says.

Rabbi Levy also believes there are pragmatists and fatalists. He sees himself as a pragmatist in the search of eventual world peace.

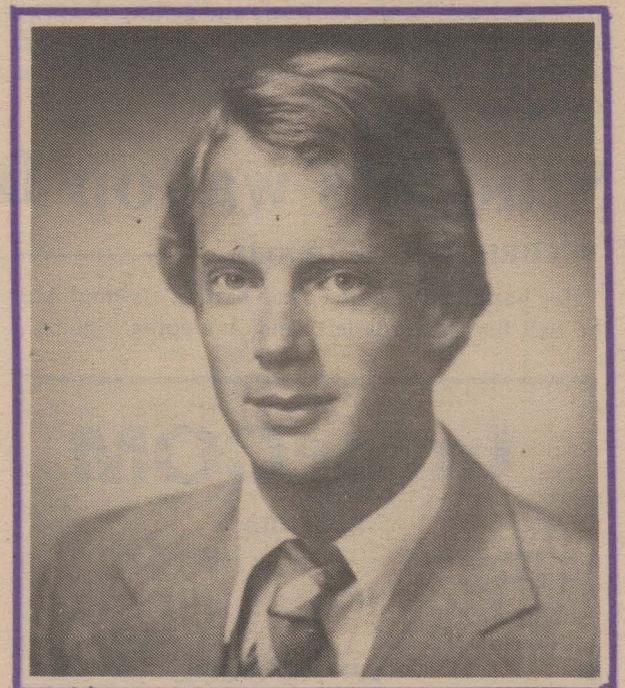
He believes the world powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, should work for peace now, because during 1988 the U.S. president and the rest of the nation will be too busy with the presidential election.

Rabbi Levy believes there is no reason to worry about a world war. He says that because of the internal problems the countries are now experiencing, they have no time nor do they want a world war.

Middle East countries, according to Rabbi Levy, are having internal wars and invasions and therefore their economic conditions won't allow for participation in a world war.

Syria has been fighting a war in Beirut and as a result is suffering a great economic crisis. Israel is also having problems because in 1982 they sent troops into Lebanon to fight the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and suffered great losses. Syria will not attempt to get involved with Israel because of their economic status, Rabbi Levy says.

Other countries, such as Iran and Iraq, are also having their problems. They have been at war for the past seven years. The Soviet Union does not get



Rabbi Martin W. Levy

involved in these wars because destroying a country could hurt their spread of communism.

Rabbi Levy stated that the United States has a good ally in Israel. He stated the Israelis have given us much help in our economy by helping us improve our agricultural products and by developing advanced war

See Rabbi Page 8

Campus News/Editorials



Bright sunny skies draw out students and smiles during College Hour as spring ushers in the final days of the semester. (Photo by Jan Cannaday Wilson)

Reporter turns into April fool

By LYNELLE WARD

It was a bright, early morning and I was on my way to school with a few friends. As usual, I was talking and trying to read last night's lesson at the same time. About a mile from the school the driver slowed down and the engine began to make all sorts of funny noises.

"Oh no, not again!" the driver cried. We all looked at one another and figured that we would be at this spot for a while.

My friend then asked me to get out to see if I could find something wrong under the hood. I got out and raised the hood and peered at the engine. Suddenly I heard everyone chuckling. Then someone yelled "April Fool!"

Each year this happens. You've probably fallen prey to such jokes, or maybe you've been the doer of such deeds. Men, women and children play absurd but usually harmless jokes on others this day, and the victim is called an April Fool.

April Fool's Day began in France after the adoption of a reformed calendar by Charles IX in 1564. France was the first nation to adopt this calendar. Up to that time the new year celebration began March 21 and ended April 1.

When New Year's Day was changed to Jan. 1, some people still celebrated it on April 1. These people became known as April Fools. The custom of April fooling became popular in France and spread across the world.

So thanks to the French, each year I fall prey to the pranks of my friends, or, if I am lucky, they fall prey to mine.

VICA winners

COM students will compete nationally

By DORRAINE THUMANN
Special Correspondent

Three of seven College of the Mainland students who competed in VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) state competition in Waco, April 10 and 11, will compete at the National VICA Competition. Mike Nelson, Dorraine Thumann and Sheryl Andreason will travel to Wichita, Kan. for the competition set for June 21-27.

Nelson of Hitchcock won first place in both Machine Drafting Skills Test and the Machine Drafting Technical Information Test. This is the fourth consecutive year that Nelson has earned this title.

Thumann of Santa Fe won first place in both Architectural Drafting Technical Information Tests and Job Interview Leadership Skills Test. Thumann is vice president of the local VICA chapter at COM.

Andreason of Texas City won first place in the Industrial Electronics Skills Test and second place in the Industrial Electronics Technical Information Test. This is the first year that COM electronics students participated in VICA competition.

The other students who competed at the state competition were Ramon Jaramillo and Scott Tanner in Industrial Electronics, Cheryl Caldwell in Machine Drafting, and Doug Mitchell in Welding Technology.

'Garbage Pail Kids' offensive

By Bebe Lising

Those disgusting 'Garbage Pail Kids' may be useful in teaching our children, with a few major changes. The cards illustrating a cartoon character bleeding from the back after sticking a sword down his throat, or the baby hanging upside down on a meat hook with some ham hocks and other such garbage really ought to be trashed. We have enough problems with suicide in our young people. Their education is very delicate.

If the manufacturer had some cartoons of GPK's digging a track for their toy cars and getting all cut up with broken glass being in the soil, that, to me, makes sense. I have actually had that experience, only I was planting seeds, not a race track.

Or, the American Lung Association would approve of a GPK card showing someone with grungied up teeth and black lungs from smoking cigarettes.

Even an illustration of kids swimming in water with all kinds of contamination floating around is more true to life than most of those perverse cards.

If you have never seen these little gems, ask about them in the store. When you get the manufacturer's address, write them with a few examples of your own to teach kids about some of the real garbage we need to correct. As long as the cards are on the market, we might as well use them to counter, for example, increased spending by the tobacco industry on advertising targeted at young people.

Students wallop faculty softball team

By CHRISTIAN McDONALD

Hey batta, batta, batta... heh batta... ssswing! And the ball flies towards left field. It's going... going...

going, it's outta there! Home run!

Softball, such a wonderful sport. The crack of the ball against the bat, the thrill of sliding into home plate for the winning run. Ahhh.

But it was good that we were playing for fun at the Student vs. Employee/Faculty softball game on April 2. The student turnout was great for this event. Too bad it wasn't the same for the faculty.

Since there were too many students to play just one game, we were split into four teams to play two games. One game consisted of the Sports Day (student) team against a faculty/student mix, and the other was just mixed.

I had the pleasure of playing on the faculty team against the Sports Day team. Since I was first to bat, first to score (barely) and the rest of our team looked pretty hot, I didn't think we would have a problem with this Sports Day team.

But you see, I was first to make an error too, but not the last.

At least I'm happy to say (I think) that our Sports Day team is pretty good. They walloped us 9 to 2. But that's OK. It was all in good fun. Right?

InterCOM

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InterCOM is produced by and for the students of college of the Mainland, 8001 Palmer Highway, Texas City, Texas 77591, (409) 938-1211 or (713) 280-3991.

Editor's COM years happy



**Dana D.
Gibson**

I admit, as I look back on my senior year in high school and the need to select a college, that I did not want to come to College of the Mainland.

Like most students I had the impression that COM was just another small-town college. I felt that COM was just not the college for me. Because I had been told that COM did not have a good academic reputation I did not want to waste my time or money there. I really wanted to go to a university. The idea of living at home while going to college made me even more resistant to COM.

But after comparing the costs of going to a university for my first two years or going to COM for two years, I decided to give it a try, because I did not have adequate funds.

My first semester at COM was a culture shock. Even though COM consists of only five buildings, this seemed enormous compared to my one-building high school. But it was not only the size of the campus that bothered me, it was the lack of regulations which had enabled me to make it through the day in high school.

After spending 12 years in a public school system, I was used to asking permission for my every move. I found it odd that I could walk out of class for whatever reason and return without penalty. I kept waiting for a bell to tell me when to change classes. I also found it odd that students could wear shorts or sandals to class without criticism. All of these rules were missing from my school day, but I found that I loved the freedom.

Another surprise was the faculty at COM. I could tell that they liked their jobs. Both faculty and staff were helpful and courteous — I was amazed. I could ask a professor a question and he would take time to fully explain it until I understood it. It was astounding.

In my high school teachers did not have this attitude. The most common answer I received to my questions was "It's in the book."

Now two years later my opinion of COM has changed radically. If there is such a thing as an ivy league of junior colleges, I would place College of the Mainland at the top.

I am proud to be editor for the April issue of *InterCOM* and hope the paper will continue to grow and contribute to the favorable image of COM.

Foreigner looks at American Holidays

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

How do I know that another holiday approaches? Well, I know because my mailbox is being trashed by holiday sales flyers full of specials on Easter outfits and my favorite soap opera is being interrupted by rabbits jumping around chocolate eggs. All this makes me wonder, why is America so obsessed with the commercialization of its holidays whether religious or secular? Actually all holidays have become secular in nature.

I realize that the media and merchants are responsible for the holiday hype, but why do we have to follow them? We seem to approve of the commercialization by buying as many Christmas tree decorations and dyed little chicks as our credit card limit allows.

I truly believe that people need to abandon the superficial ideas that the media have fed into our society and look at holidays from a different perspective. Because I grew up in a foreign country, I am



Student artist Melody Cornwell describes her exhibited painting to admirer Anna Z. Bichta in the fine arts gallery. (Photo by Jan Cannaday Wilson)

COMments

Student upset by vending machine price hike

Editor's note: The following letter is a reaction to President Larry Stanley's informal talk to students on March 3. President Stanley's response to the letter, after having it read to him over the phone, was: "If the students feel as strongly as this young man, they may form a petition and boycott the vending machines. This action would have a stronger impact than anything I could do. We have a contract with the vendors that allows them to run the vending operations on campus. All I can do is make suggestions to them. I will protect their right to protest within the law."

Dear Editor,

College of the Mainland has the highest-priced vending machines in the county. President Larry Stanley has not and will not do a thing about the vending machine prices. The coke price is now 60 cents. College of the Mainland gets 18 percent of the gross from the machines. I agree that it is good for the college, yet if the price was lowered to 50 or 55 cents, more drinks would be sold. And in return the college would receive more money. Yes, they are all new machines, but they still break down and take your money or don't deliver your food. We, the students of the College of the Mainland, feel we are victims of the money-hungry vending company. The college staff has refrigerators in the working areas in different departments on campus. I feel like College of the Mainland is looking out for themselves and don't care about our welfare. President Stanley will not and has not done anything about this matter. I have not gone to the

board for I feel it would not do any good. The college has allowed this company to come on "our campus" and raise the prices as high as they like. We the students, are the reason this college exists. We spend our money to come to this school. I feel it is a shame that the college would allow this to happen. What is a college president or board of trustees for if not for their students. The economy is bad enough without taking our money this way. I think as much should be done as possible to minimize the prices of the vending machines. At the Circle K one block away from campus we can buy a soft drink for 49 cents. The vending company is aware that we the students attend school between six and 20 hours weekly, and we will purchase at times the food or drink. I purpose (*sic*) that each individual boycott the high prices of these machines. If you do buy from the vending machines try to decrease your spending in half. That way the company will lose money, not gain. If you the student feel personally the prices of the machines are too high, I encourage you to help me boycott the company. Yes, we can still organize and accomplish getting the company to lower its prices. I hope you will join me in the fight. I think it is a good idea for us the students to unite against what we believe is unfair, but come on, let's get ourselves organized at the next meeting so something will be accomplished.

Sincerely,
Robert Beers
(Graphic Arts Student)

aware of the fact that the United States is the only country that associates holidays with gifts and new wardrobes. American Christians are caught up in the commercialization of holidays.

As if we didn't have enough holidays, greeting card companies and the floral industry are now coming up with such celebrations as "Secretary's Day," "Boss'

Day" and "Mother-in-law Day." They are trying to feed their pockets even more by taking advantage of our weakness for holidays.

Even though Easter is now over, next year, before you buy a basket full of chocolate candy for your child, stop yourself and explain to that 5-year-old what the holiday is really about.

Campus Features

Sidewinder bitten by lack of support

By ANNA Z. BICHTA

By now, most College of the Mainland students know about the *InterCOM* newspaper. Few people, however, realize that COM has another publication called *Sidewinder*.

Sidewinder, a literary magazine published twice a year, includes both fictional prose and poetry. The magazine is published by the Department of Arts and Humanities.

COM first began to publish a literary magazine in the late 1970's, when according to Thomas Carter, one of *Sidewinder's* editors, "a small press phenomenon" developed. The first issue, known as *Poetry, Texas* included poetry by some well-known writers which resulted in great publicity and circulation. The magazine was followed by another publication called *Fiction, Texas*.

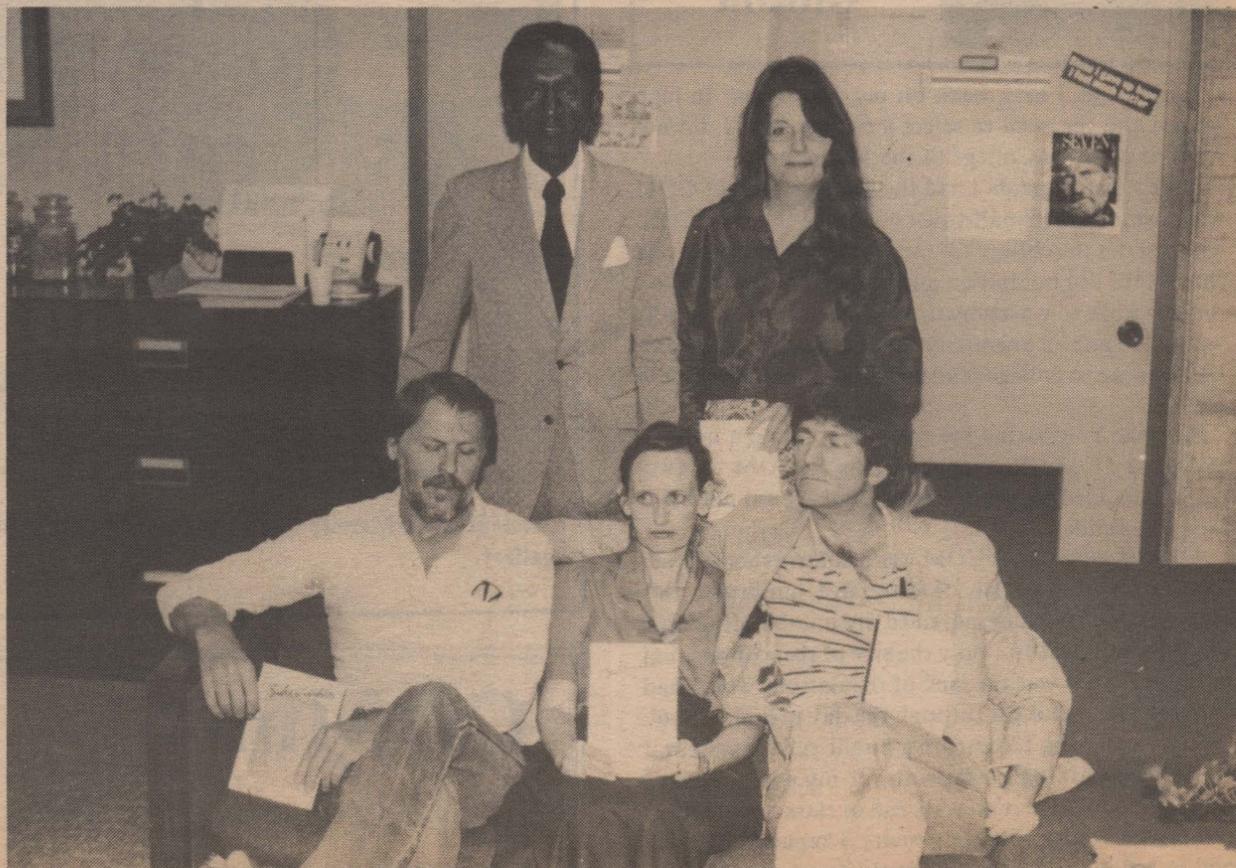
In 1982, COM published the first issue of *Sidewinder*, a combination of the previous magazines. So far, *Sidewinder* hasn't gained the popularity of *Poetry, Texas*, but, according to Brent Jarrett, the editor in chief, "It's not our interest to be well-known." Jarrett explained that the magazine is very time consuming and is managed exclusively by five full-time COM professors. Because of their other commitments, it sometimes is difficult to publish the magazine on time.

Lack of publicity is another problem. Jarrett said that the only way the magazine solicits material is through "word of mouth" which then hopefully is followed by a chain reaction of response. Even though *Sidewinder* has received fiction from foreign countries, it is hard sometimes to accumulate enough quality material.

Jarrett came up with the name *Sidewinder* because it represents the imagery of Texas. A sidewinder according to the *New World Dictionary*, is a small desert rattlesnake of the southwest United States that moves over shifting sand by looping its body sideways.

According to Jarrett, the magazine is primarily looking for works related to Texas and the Southwest. We are looking for high-quality works from and about everywhere, but "our ears are more sensitive" to Southern writing.

Poetry editor Jo Ann Pevoto, however, is interested in poetry with symbolism, message and imagery in which all elements work well together. To her the theme is not as important. "Poems should be," Pevoto



COM *Sidewinder* editors, seated from left, are Jim Finley, Jo Ann Pevoto and Brent Jarrett. Standing, Thomas Carter and Brenda Brown. (Photo by Jan Cannaday Wilson)

said. While Jarrett prefers the works of professionals, Pevoto would like to publish some poems written by COM students.

Both Jarrett and Pevoto stressed that all five editors work closely together in choosing the stories and poems. They meet on Fridays and read the submitted works to each other and discuss them.

The other editors are Brenda R. Brown and Jim Finley, the only editor who is not an English teacher (he teaches political science at COM). Finley said he became interested in the magazine after taking Jarrett's creative writing class. "I am in love with words and the rhythm of words."

The future of the magazine, however, is not very bright. *Sidewinder* has not only lost its office, but is also in the process of running out of money. Although the magazine received a grant from the National

Endowment for the Arts last year, the remainder of the money will be used up by the next issue. Brown, one of the fiction editors hopes the magazine will get another grant soon. "We have to push this thing or lose it," she said.

Sidewinder achieved quite a success lately with the series of lectures given by Dr. Miles Richardson. Two of Richardson's short fiction stories were published in *Sidewinder*, and the publication was able to invite him to lecture at COM in March. Brown hopes to invite more famous writers after the good turn-out at Richardson's lectures.

All the editors agree that the magazine needs more publicity to stay alive. The more publicity it gets, the more quality literary works *Sidewinder* will receive, thereby enabling it to remain the high-quality literary magazine it has been.

Dentist may have answer to your aches, pains

By TAMMIE HARNESS

Are you one of those unlucky people who suffers from one or more of the following: migraine headaches; neck, shoulder and backaches; popping or grinding jaw joints; sinus-like face aches; ringing of the ears; dizziness and light headedness; or numbness of the fingers? If you have any of these discomforts, you may have symptoms of Temporal Mandibular Joint Syndrome (TMJ).

For over a year I was living a life full of migraine-type headaches. I was always tired because I couldn't even sleep at night because of the headaches. (This can cause troubles if you are trying to carry on a relationship, work, or socialize!)

Thinking at first my headaches were caused by sinus troubles, I went to my family physician. Just as I had suspected, the doctor said that it was either stress or sinus that was causing my headaches. He merely told me to take aspirin, but I already knew that aspirin

didn't work. He charged \$40 just to tell me to take aspirin.

I'd been having the headaches for about eight months when I finally found out what was causing the pain. During my regular dental checkup, my dentist asked me if I was having any of those previously mentioned symptoms. Of course my answer was yes. He ran some simple tests and found out that I have TMJ Syndrome.

The temporal-mandibular joints are the pair of joints that connect the lower jaw to the skull. These joints are just in front of the ears and separated from the brain and the internal ear by only a thin layer of bone.

It is estimated that 38 percent of all impulses that go to the brain pass near this joint area. It's not so surprising that when something is wrong with this joint it can cause numerous discomforts throughout the body.

The treatment for this syndrome is simple if it is treated at an early stage. Luckily I was diagnosed early. At night I have to wear a night guard that is much like an orthodontic retainer.

If treatment is not started while the sufferer is still young, surgery may be necessary. These joints become worn through talking and eating because the joints rub together.

Most people are diagnosed with this syndrome between the ages of 20 to 50. It is estimated that 65 million Americans suffer from this syndrome. Unfortunately, since it is a fairly new discovery, many dentists are unfamiliar with TMJ.

Now that I wear the retainer at night, I am glad to say that my headaches are gone. It's great to be living again without pain.

If you or someone you know suffers from any of these symptoms, alert your dentist to the possibility of TMJ syndrome.

CLEP offers academic credits for students

By MICHAEL MURPHY

So you're sitting in class, your mind wandering because you already know what the teacher is talking about. At some time in your life, you've already covered everything in this class. You scribble in your book, your eyelids droop, or you stare into space. Your classmates think you have the IQ of a handball. Sound familiar? That was me in my freshman English class here at College of the Mainland. Finally, my instructor, Mrs. Jo Ann Pevoto, came to my rescue. "Why don't you CLEP out of this course, Michael?" she asked. "You seem to know this material, so why waste your time?"

I took the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests and saved myself a semester of excru-

ciating boredom and tedium. By passing the CLEP test, I was allowed to enter a sophomore level English literature class, which is infinitely more challenging and interesting.

What exactly are the CLEP tests?

The program was originally developed to aid the GI's returning from World War II who had their educations interrupted by the war. The tests allowed them to ease back into the academic mainstream, and gave them credit for things they learned in the military.

There are five general areas of study covered by the CLEP tests. They are social sciences and history, natural science, math, humanities, and English. A student can earn college credit from more than 2,000 colleges and universities, with certain predetermined scores, called cut scores, being designated to represent

A's, B's and C's. These are recommended scores, with each school using them to establish their own cut scores, which may vary slightly from school to school.

"The CLEP tests are important because they save the student time and money, but also because they reward the student for his or her previous study experience," explained Roy Walker, chief examiner and counselor at Mainland Counseling and Appraisal Center. "Many students benefit from the academic boost they receive, even more so than from the time and financial considerations. It keeps them excited and interested in school."

I, for one, would have to agree. If you are interested in finding out more about the CLEP tests, contact the Counseling and Appraisal Center at ext. 324. It's worth the effort.

Technical difficulties create problems for band

By CHRISTIAN McDONALD

"Due to technical difficulty..." seemed to be the phrase of the day at the March 24 Student Hour special.

New wave band The Keep, consisting of Roland Rojas, David K. and College of the Mainland student Kevin Anthony, desperately tried to entertain the decent-sized outside crowd, but the only thing that seemed to cooperate was the weather.

First the group started late. Then the sound was not mixed right. Then the keyboards went out. Then the guitars went out of tune. Then... the only thing that did not seem to go wrong was the programmed drums on tape. It was a shame that this otherwise good band had so many problems.

Obviously irritated, lead singer Anthony kept his composure well and proved his musical ability by playing improv on guitar when the keyboards went out. One of the things I liked most about this band is its versatility. Band members exchanged instruments, a feature that adds a flavor of difference to the band. I also liked the fact that all members of the band sing, but I'm glad that Anthony did most of the singing.

The Keep played cover songs from The Psychedelic



The Keep, from left, Kevin Anthony, Roland Rojas and David K.

Furs, INXS, The Cult and two songs from the movie soundtrack, *Some Kind of Wonderful*. The rest of the gig consisted of surprisingly good originals, such as "Inspiration," "Take a Look," and "Time to Begin." I hope to see these titles on vinyl some day.

The Keep, who are based in Galveston, have played

at the Club Mardi Gras in Santa Fe and will be the opening act for the King Pins in Santa Cruz, Calif.

The Keep's original tunes really impressed me. They were intricate enough to sound professional. I think this band shows promise and I hope to see them again when all the bugs are worked out.

Therapist suggests alternative to drug, alcohol abuse

By JAN CANNADAY WILSON

Are you aware that two-thirds of today's women use alcohol? Or that one-fourth of all deaths among women are related to smoking? Or this shocker, two-thirds of the legal mind-altering drugs prescribed are for women?

Therapist Jeanne M. Roy of the Family Service Center in Texas City recently disclosed some of these alarming statistics. Roy's disclosures are thought provoking indeed.

Roy cited drugs, alcohol and tobacco as the top offenders to women's physical well-being.

As women move into the roles of breadwinners, single parents, or supplemental-income earners, they become prey to the stress that once was male-dominated. To find relief, women often turn to the wrong sources. As they sweat over next month's rent, or cram for that final exam, they find it more and more difficult not to reach for a Valium or two. A good stiff drink sounds wonderful, and the ashtray is already overflowing.

Nicotine is the most addictive substance on earth—10 times that of cocaine. Its gruesome rewards include lung cancer, emphysema, high blood pressure and heart disease. A woman who is on the pill multiplies her risk for heart disease 10 times. If she's pregnant, expect a smaller, less healthy baby who also is addicted.

Alcohol, more socially acceptable, is no less subtle.

Every ounce consumed destroys one million brain cells. None grow back to take their place—they are gone. Men who become addicted to alcohol can often drink 25 to 30 years before becoming severely debilitated. The addicted woman can become severely debilitated after only five short years. Because of the stigma society attaches to a woman who "over-consumes," women hide their problem. Many resort to suicide rather than risk exposure.

The use of prescription drugs can become a nightmare when it becomes an addiction. Valium, a popular tranquilizer, can result in addiction in only four months if used regularly. Mood elevators, such as Elavil and Trilavil, commonly prescribed for depression, are also dispensed widely.

There are ways to reduce the risks incurred by the use of tobacco, drugs and alcohol.

If you feel you must smoke, choose a cigarette brand that contains low amounts of tar and nicotine. Cut down on the number you smoke per day. Try to give your lungs a rest as often as you're able.

If your doctor prescribes a medication that you're not sure about, ask for an information leaflet that lists the drug's ingredients and possible side effects. If it contains undesirable or addictive substances, ask for a non-addictive substitute.

If no leaflet is available, look the drug up in the Prescription Drug Reference (PDR) available at your pharmacy or any library. Ask your physician how long

you are going to be on the drug. Be sure you know what side effects to expect if you plan to use alcohol while on the drug. Some combinations are deadly.

If alcohol is your drug of choice, use caution. Its effects can be diminished somewhat by drinking milk first. Milk contains lactose (the same stuff used to make Elmer's glue) that will coat your stomach and digestive tract. The alcohol will not be absorbed so rapidly.

If you feel that your drinking has become a problem for you, help is available through Alcoholics Anonymous. Women's meetings are available throughout this area. Call Intergroup at (713) 772-7214 for times and locations.

It is possible to relieve stress by means other than drugs and alcohol. Bodies can produce their own chemicals for a "natural high." These chemicals, called endorphins, are manufactured in the brain and released during exercise. Runner's high is the result of endorphin release.

Not only runners experience this natural sense of well-being, any form of exercise will suffice. Practicing yoga, meditation, swimming, walking, biking or doing aerobics for 20 minutes a day, three days a week, will produce the same results. All body functions are strengthened and enhanced by exercise. Not only will you feel good, your entire body will benefit tremendously. The oppression of stress will begin to lose its power.

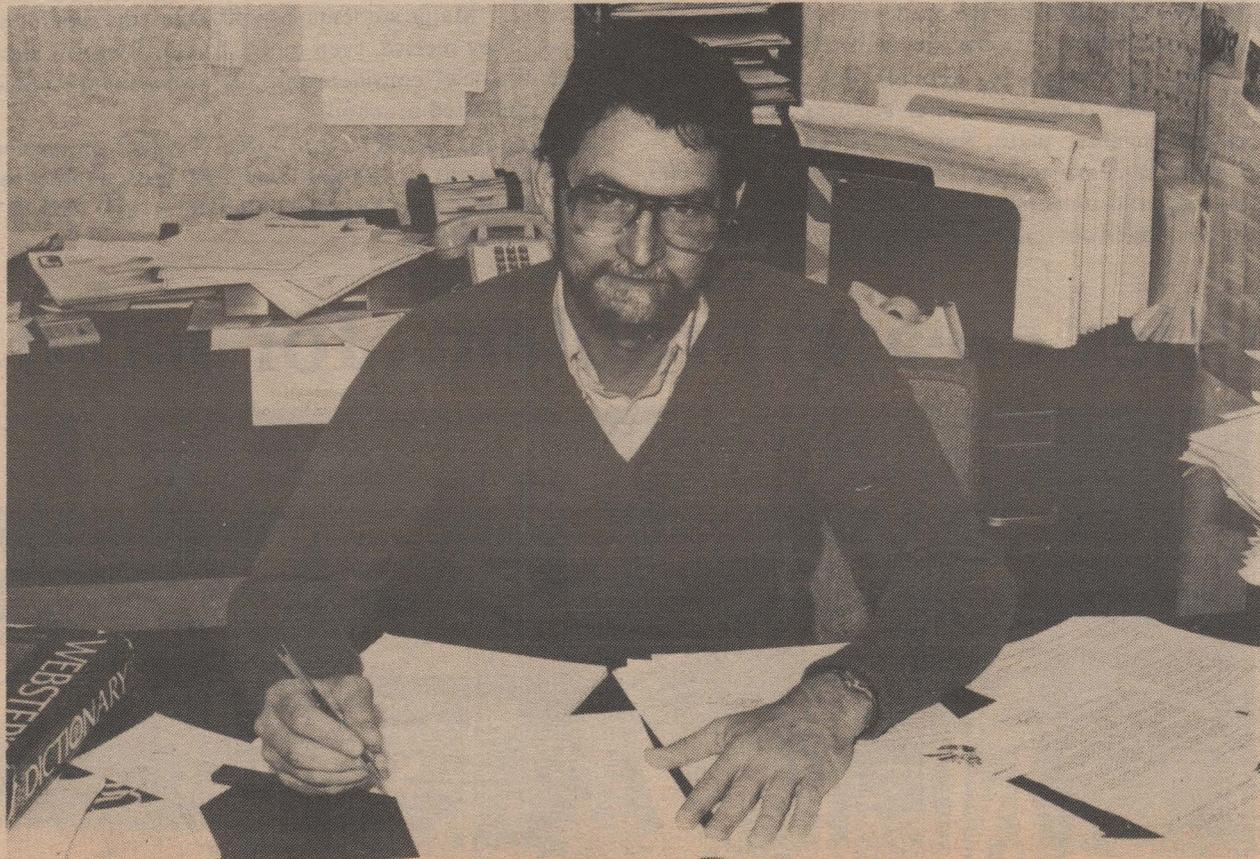
Dr. Spillar sympathizes with students' plight

By TAMMIE HARNESS

"I feel especially able to relate to College of the Mainland students," said Dr. Bill Spillar, chairman of Arts and Humanities.

Spillar, like many COM students, found himself

attending a nearby college because he had little money. Although Spillar had part-time jobs throughout college, he explained that most of his school expenses were paid through "hustling golf." No, he wasn't dancing on the golf course, but rather betting on who would win each golf game. He knew how to bet!



Dr. Bill Spillar is always willing to interrupt his work to help a student.

Jarrett instructs with an open mind ...

By DANA D. GIBSON

"The very fact that it's possible to go by the book can turn someone into a bad teacher," Brent Jarrett said. Jarrett, who has been teaching English at College of the Mainland since 1978, believes that it is the responsibility of the instructor, not the book, to teach the class.

"When I use books I just kind of pick around in them," he said. "In my lectures I try to speak out of my heart and my own mind, instead of out of the book. A teacher ought to use the book as a reference not as a method," Jarrett explained. Anyone who has ever attended one of Jarrett's classes knows that he practices what he preaches.

Jarrett defines his method of teaching as free-lance. "I try to give a rough outline to my students," he said. "On certain days we will hear from certain students in the class and on other days, we deal with lecture material." Jarrett tries to avoid "being strictly scheduled so that we cannot make room for whatever inspires us at the moment.

"In class I try to talk about things that I do not understand. One reason is after teaching for many years I begin sounding like a parrot to myself," he said. "Another reason, I feel that there are things that I ought to know more about."

Jarrett wants his students to leave his class knowing the difference between "knowledge that does something and knowledge that is something. The things that I know most about won't fix a car or make money and probably won't even make a better person out of you. Yet, for all of those things it won't do, it seems valuable to me," he said.

"A lot of people don't like my method of teaching," he said. "They like to know exactly where they are and exactly where they're going.

I think it's a good idea for any kind of university or

college to have a bunch of different people who do one thing in a variety of different ways so that people can study that one thing under whomever they wish. Personalities have a lot to do with how much you learn. Some people you just don't get on with," he said.

Sometimes Jarrett is criticized, "but with good reason," he said. "If you don't teach by the book or in some other organized way, when someone tries to take your place, you leave that person (substitute teacher) in a state of chaos that would not be there otherwise if you were a book person."

Students also criticize Jarrett from time to time. "It's easier to study from the book than to study free-lance. If they like a more orderly structure, then they ought to try someone else," he said.

Jarrett received his bachelor's and master's degrees in English from Western Washington State College in Bellingham, Wash. He "bumped into work" at Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge and remained there from 1974 to 1978. In 1978 Jarrett ventured to Houston, which was then a "boom town," but soon decided that he did not want to live there. He now lives in Galveston.

Getting all his formal education in Texas, Spillar received his bachelor's degree in social science at La Mar University. Spillar continued his education at North Texas State University in Denton where he received his master's degree in counseling, and finished up with his doctorate in interdisciplinary education at Texas A & M University in Bryan.

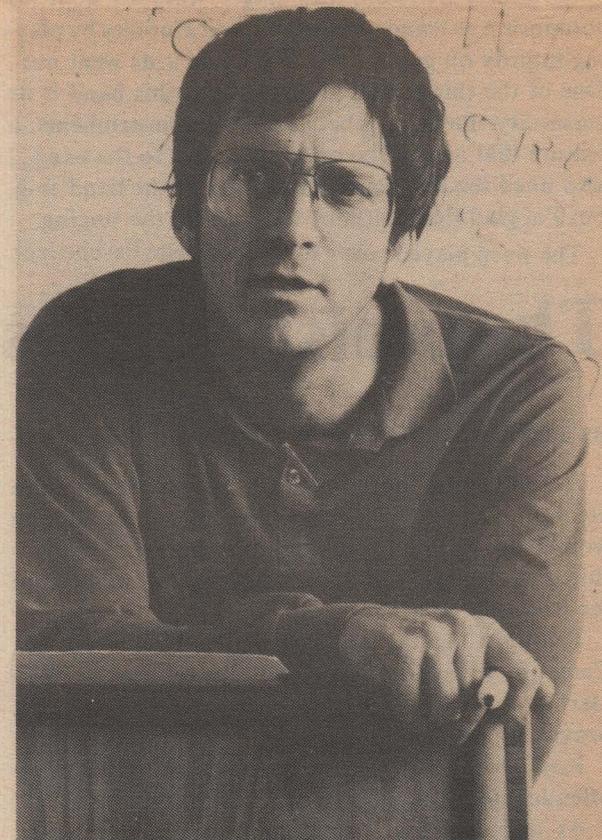
In 1970 Spillar was hired by COM as a counselor/coordinator in the Adult Basic Education Program. When offered the job of chairman of Arts and Humanities, Spillar jumped at the chance. "I wanted a position that would get me involved with more aspects of the college," he said.

Being chairman keeps Spillar extremely busy. His job provides him with many areas of responsibility in the academic division. He oversees English, foreign language, philosophy, fine arts and journalism. And if that isn't enough, he also gives his extra time to a community services program in which senior citizens volunteer their time doing such things as secretarial jobs, counseling and various other activities.

Spillar is the father of three. His twin girls, Kelley and Karen are seniors at La Marque High School. They also are taking a ceramics course and a fine arts course at COM. Tom, his oldest, is a full-time student at COM, and works in the post office on campus. Spillar believes that at COM his children can receive the same, if not a better education than at a major university.

If you need to talk to someone about problems you may have with one of his departments, or you just need to talk to a good counselor, he would be glad to help you.

Although it may take some tracking to find this busy man, his charming personality and warm sense of understanding make the hunt all the more worthwhile.



Brent Jarrett believes in a loosely structured English program.

Black Student Union is open to all races

By DANA D. GIBSON

"The purpose of the Black Student Union (BSU) is to promote a positive image of blacks," Patrice Fortenberry, president of Black Student Union, said.

We hope to achieve this by practicing the theme of College of the Mainland — "Humanhood through Brotherhood," she said.

We want to bring about a better understanding for those who don't understand black history and black

culture. "A lot of times it is easier for someone to criticize than to try and understand," she added.

Fortenberry, stresses the fact that BSU is not just for blacks. "Anyone can join," she said, "All they have to do is to come to our meetings." The meetings are held every Thursday at 12:30 in Room A-119.

"We are not just a social club. We are planning a trip to see a musical and a tour of Texas Southern University in Houston," she said.

Kessler appreciates atmosphere at COM

By MICHAEL MURPHY

"Disney characters were all I drew when I was growing up," remarked Walter Kessler, the graphic artist at College of the Mainland. "I liked the ease and the way he drew his characters. I tried to emulate his style, but it was so difficult to get the depth he achieved."

Kessler was discussing some of his earliest artistic influences. His large, physically imposing stature is offset by a quick smile and a dry sense of humor. He is perched before a canvas, meticulously fleshing out a poster advertising the upcoming play, *Little Shop of Horrors*, which will be running at the College of the Mainland Community Theater in the near future. We discussed his career as he painted.

After his graduation from Ball High School in Galveston, Kessler chanced into a job at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, where he worked for two years under the tutelage of Joe Padereski. "He was a genius, a master. He taught me everything I know about art. Padereski was a prosthesis sculptor under the direction of Dr. Truman Blocker, former UTMB president.

While at UTMB, Kessler worked with prosthetic devices, sculpting ears, noses and eyes for burn victims, and those with congenital deformities. "The work was interesting. I learned a lot." The job, however, did have its drawbacks. "I had to work with cadavers, making molds for anatomical models. I didn't like that part of the job much. I just wasn't used to seeing and doing things like that," he commented.

Kessler briefly attended Trinity University in San Antonio before coming to COM. "I was trying to get

an education, but I never did finish. It was too expensive and the hours kind of got to me." He learned of the job opportunity at COM and decided to apply. "They wanted somebody who could step in immediately. They weren't looking for degrees necessarily, but I did have the experience, so that's how I got the job here.

"I was at the right place at the right time. I was lucky," he remarked. "I've been here since 1969, so I'm on my 18th year." Kessler likes the small-town atmosphere that permeates COM, and hopes it remains that way. "I went to Trinity, and you were just a number there ... the classrooms were like mausoleums. I didn't like it. We're small here, but we're a serious college."

Kessler is satisfied with his position at COM, but he does have one minor complaint; the lack of computerized equipment to facilitate his work. "I'm the forms manager, which means I design all the forms for the campus. I really need a computer to eliminate all the manual aspects of production. I could kick out a form in 20 minutes, as opposed to four hours if done by hand," he said. A computer wouldn't solve everything, though. "The only thing a computer can't do is put the human touch on things. That's where the artist in me takes over."

Kessler leans back and surveys the state of orderly confusion that seems to perpetually exist in his office. His eyes briefly come to rest on a drawing of Mickey Mouse hanging on the wall, arms outstretched in welcome. "One thing I like about being here is that they appreciate you here. They don't necessarily tell you every day, but they do appreciate what you do. That's important, I guess ... appreciation."



Walter Kessler is graphic artist at COM

Hypnotist returns to mesmerize audience

By CHRISTIAN McDONALD

This guy actually stood on top of a girl stretched out between two chairs. It was amazing!

Is it magic? In a sense, yes. It's the magic of the power of the mind. Your mind, my mind, everybody's mind.

Ken Whitener, hypnotist, performed at two free shows on March 31. The first show, held in the Student Center at 12:30, was just a teaser for the real show later that evening.

I jumped at the opportunity to be a volunteer during the College Hour show. I had seen Whitener perform last year and was ready to be the star of the show.

If only it worked that way.

All day people asked me if I was really hypnotized, and all I could say was "I don't think so." I felt really relaxed during the induction (the actual hypnotizing procedure), but when I was awake, I felt normal. When Whitener said, "At the count of three, the girl next to you (Lori Gamblin) will smell incredibly bad," I didn't smell anything out of the ordinary.

I thought to myself, either I'm not hypnotizable, or this guy doesn't know what he is doing. He soon proved that the latter was not true.

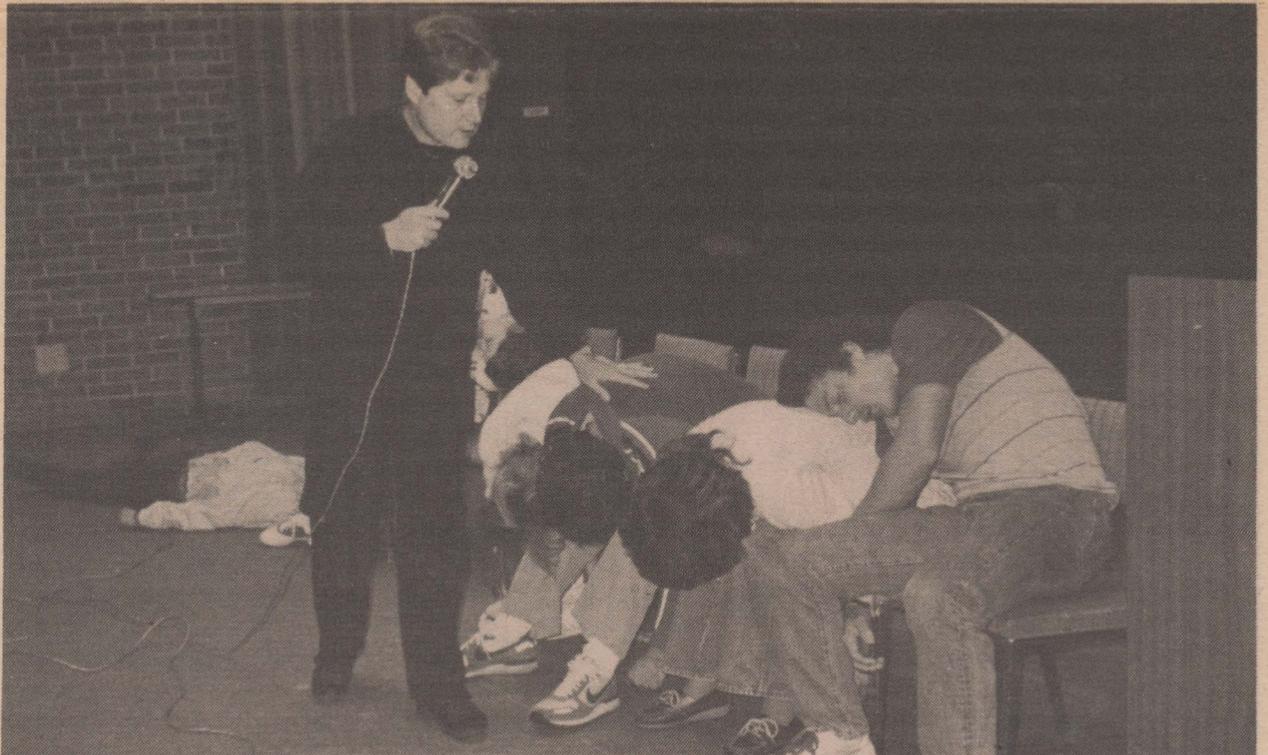
Whitener put Gamblin in a deep trance and made her body go rigid. Then he placed her between two chairs, shoulders on one and feet on the other. Then he stood on top of her. Incredible!

I later asked Gamblin what she remembered of the show. She told me that she remembered everything except when Whitener stood on top of her.

I saw it, and I will remember it for a long time.

Before the evening show I talked to Whitener about the 12:30 show and the fact that I was not hypnotized. He explained that I had probably tried too hard and that I needed to relax and loosen up. Whitener said that there are 10 different measurable levels of hypnosis, and that memory loss doesn't occur until after the fifth level. He said that others at the 12:30 show, except for Gamblin, had only gotten to the third to fifth level.

Whitener's second show was more like a seminar in that he explained more about how hypnotism works



Ken Whitener hypnotizes COM students at recent show.

(Photo by Maryann Urick)

and how it is used. This portion of the show was both interesting and informative, but the majority of the audience was waiting for the "show."

Whitener explained that as a stage hypnotist he is like a musician, and his subjects become his instruments. He said his show varies like the same symphony performed by different musicians. The score, like his material is the same, but the sound is just a little different.

The hypnotist finally asked for volunteers and chose the best six after a few "imagination tests." Of these six, only two succumbed to his power, Melody Birdwell and David Cook. Whitener also chose David Moreno, one of the stars of last year's show, to be a volunteer.

Whitener made his "sucker-subjects" laugh at invisible cartoons, cry over dead rabbits, and hide or

flaunt their imagined nudity. The show was very entertaining and kept the crowd laughing almost the entire time. The subjects seemed aware of their embarrassing actions, but apparently were having too much fun to care. Moreno even said, "I'm going to get you," to Whitener when he made Moreno's foot stick to the floor.

When asked what she remembered of the show, Birdwell said she remembered little. She remembered the cartoons and crying over the rabbit, but could not remember much of the last part of the show. I asked her if she felt embarrassed by any of her actions and she replied: "Why? Did I do anything embarrassing?"

Melody, I hope you get a chance to view your performance on tape, you might learn a few crazy things about yourself!

What's happening

Spring graduation

The College of the Mainland Spring 1987 graduation ceremony will be held Friday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the gym. All students, faculty and staff are urged to attend.

Nursing ceremony

College of the Mainland's Nursing Department will hold their annual pinning and striping ceremony Saturday, May 9, in the gym. Graduating nurses will be honored as well as students who will be entering their second year.

Among the 600 guests expected to attend will be President Larry Stanley and Annie M. Wilson, director of Nursing, as well as COM board members.

Twenty-six graduating nurses will receive a school pin to mark their achievement, and 26 second year

students will receive a stripe to designate the beginning of their second year.

A reception will be held following the ceremony in the lounge area of the Technical-Vocational Building.

PTK giveaway

The first of the three winners drawn in Phi Theta Kappa's (PTK) fund-raiser giveaway, April 30, will have his/her choice of three fund-raiser gifts.

If your name is drawn, you will have your choice of an autographed Dallas Cowboys football, a \$100 gift certificate to be used at the COM bookstore, or several free dinners for two at a local restaurant.

Donations for tickets are 50 cents each or three for \$1. They can be purchased from any member of PTK before April 29. The drawing will be held during the College Hour, Thursday, April 30.

Art festival

College of the Mainland Art Association will sponsor the fifth Annual Art Festival in the courtyard of the Fine Arts Building on April 29 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. All art students are eligible to submit their original art works, ceramic sculpture and pottery for sale. Profits will go toward scholarships and workshops for art students.

PTK officers

The College of the Mainland chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) held an election for its 1987-88 officers March 28. The new officers were sworn into office following the initiation of new PTK members at the Dean's Honors Awards ceremony held April 12. The new officers to be installed July 1 are: state president, Richard (Monte) Harris; chapter president, Linda Birdwell; vice president, Mike Ridlen; secretary, Rosalyn Jackson; treasurer, Jody Clafferty; historian, Hiroko McCarty; and reporter, Celia Full.

Teacher — Continued from Page 1

ity with education but culture and political activities as well, said Smith.

Smith has seen a lot of struggles that the school has gone through — controversies, loss of spirit, ups and downs. But he appreciates the students' and community's support during the hard times and the censorship some faculty member endured because of their political beliefs.

Margaret Searles also has seen a lot of changes. "We used to be one big family, says Searles, and all of us united as we tried to become established in the community. This unity and spirit has disappeared through the years. However, Searles believes, the school is now more important than ever to the community because of the economic difficulties and rising unemployment in the area. Because of COM, people have a chance to train for new jobs and/or to send their children to college at a good price.

COM is more appealing to the people now than 20 years ago, said Searles, because it offers more courses and programs to more people. "Your choices are far greater now."

So far the school has lived up to its high and ambitious goals. It is widely known throughout Texas as a very progressive and unique college with high academic standards and excellent teachers.

Congratulations on your anniversary, College of the Mainland.

Rabbi — Continued from Page 1

equipment. Israel has also captured millions of dollars of Soviet armaments and sent them to the United States.

Concerning travel in the Middle East, Rabbi Levy believes it is just as safe to travel to the Middle East as to travel to other places in the world. "You would be safer in Israel than on New York streets." He believes this because Israel has superb anti-terrorist intelligence.

On the whole Rabbi Levy thinks the situation in the Middle East is relatively calm because the countries in the area are troubled with their own problems. Rabbi Levy believes one can sum up the entire Middle East situation from a line in a Hank Williams song. "This ain't Dallas, this ain't Dynasty, this is the real world two-job working family."

Rabbi Levy summed up his speech with, "The world is not like Dallas or Dynasty but made up of tragedies and hardship. But it takes countries working hard together for anything to happen."

Student activities calendar

By BEBE LISING

There are no classes from 12:30-1:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Come to the Student Center and

enjoy the performances and special events. Weather permitting, activities will be held outside. For more information contact Maryann Urick at 938-1211 ext. 418.

College Hour Specials, Events and Sports

Dates	Activity
Saturday, May 2	A Dance for the Heart for the American Heart Association will be held in the gym from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, May 2, 3	The Tennis Tourney will cost \$6 per event.
Monday, May 4	Final exams are scheduled.
Tuesday, May 5	The Cinco de Mayo Festival will feature a Mariachi Band, folklore dancing and an actual news reel of Pancho Villa. Captain Leo Reynoso, who rode with Pancho Villa, will be the guest of honor for the occasion which is sponsored by the COM Amigos and the Student Activities Board. The event will be held from noon to 2 p.m. in the Student Center.
Thursday, May 7	Grades are due in the Admissions and Records Office by 4 p.m. for graduating students.
Saturday, May 9	Students in the Nursing Associate Degree program will receive their pins and stripes during the ceremony at 2:30 in the gym.
Saturday, May 9	Spring semester ends.
Monday, May 11	Grades are due in the Admissions and Records Office by 4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 20	Admissions requirements must be met by this date in order to be eligible for credit registration on May 27.
Wednesday, May 20	Applications for short-term loans must be filed by this date to insure processing for registration.
Wednesday, May 27	Credit registration
Friday, May 29	Continuing Education registration
Monday, June 1	Classes begin
Monday, Tuesday, June 1, 2	Final days to make credit schedule changes and to register late.