



# Highland Herald

'Landers and 'Lassies  
Sign Up for the Big  
Times

Fortinbras: The  
Shakespherian  
Kool-Aid Acid Test

Phi Theta Kappa  
Forecasts  
Sprinkles



Historic Pulitzer  
Prize Winner Speaks

# This Time Around

**3 Sophomores sign on:** Six of the sophomore 'Landers and Lassies sign on to four-year universities on April 11 in the Highlands Gym.

**4 Theatre Dept. Presents "Fortinbras":** Most people would agree that a sequel to William Shakespeare's "Hamlet" is impossible. After all, the main characters are dead and Denmark is left in a bloody mess. But, what if it could somehow be funny?

**4 Phi Theta Kappa Sprinkles Lecture Hall with Motivation:** Jonathan Sprinkles, a motivational speaker, was the guest speaker for the forum who spoke at two and four.

**6 Pulitzer Prize-Winner Speaks at Lecture Hall:** David Oshinsky, professor at the University of Texas, Austin, presented "Mississippi Burning: Final Justice for Three Murdered Civil Rights Workers in the 1960s," in the Lecture Hall at 6 p.m.



On the Cover: How long before it lands?

Digital Image by Toby McElroy

Inset: Professor David Oshinsky with Dr. Montemayor at the Lecture Hall on April 25.

Digital Image by Christina Taylor

## Final Exam Schedule

<u>CLASSES</u>	<u>EXAM DAY</u>	<u>EXAM TIME</u>
<b>MWF classes</b>		
6:55 - 7:50 a.m.	Mon. May 1 Wed. May 3 *(total exam time of 120 min.)	*6:50 - 7:50 a.m.
8 - 8:55 a.m.	Mon. May 1	8 - 10 a.m.
9:10 - 10:05 a.m.	Wed. May 3	8 - 10 a.m.
10:20 - 11:15 a.m.	Wed. May 3	10:20 - 12:20 p.m.
11:30 - 12:25 a.m.	Mon. May 1	11:30 - 1:30 p.m.
12:40 - 2 p.m.	Wed. May 3	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
2:15 - 3:35 p.m.	Mon. May 1	2:15 - 4:15 p.m.
3:50 - 5:10 p.m.	Wed. May 3	3:50 - 5:50 p.m.
<b>TTH classes</b>		
8 - 9:20 a.m.	Thurs. May 4	8 - 10 a.m.
9:35 - 10:55 a.m.	Tues. May 2	9:35 - 11:35 a.m.
11:10 - 12:30 p.m.	Thurs. May 4	11:10 - 1:10 p.m.
12:45 - 2:05 p.m.	Tues. May 2	12:45 - 2:45 p.m.
2:20 - 3:40 p.m.	Thurs. May 4	2:20 - 4:20 p.m.
3:55 - 5:15 p.m.	Tues. May 2	3:55 - 5:55 p.m.

For evening schedule and further information, visit <http://www.mclennan.edu/schedule/spring.html>



## Highland Herald

### Staff

Editor in Chief  
Brent Losak  
Managing Editor  
Allen Fisher  
Senior Editors  
Kitty Clark (Entertainment)  
Daniel Defoe (News/Feature)  
Kelly Patterson (Page/Layout)  
Clay Turner (Sports)  
Allecia Lacy (Assistant Sports)  
Maria Villagomez (Photo)  
Assistant Editor  
Jonmichael Swetnam  
Ad Manager  
Christina Taylor  
Staff Writers and Photographers  
Lance Allen  
Cuyler Ayers  
Katrina Blake  
Nikki Birdwell  
Matthew Clark  
Jason Ellis  
Zach Klowell  
Lauren McCutcheon  
Toby McElroy  
Neil Watson  
Dominik Young

The *Highland Herald*, a student-run publication, is a laboratory product of the students in the MCC Communications Department. It is published on Fridays, every two weeks. All opinions are the sole views of the specific author only, and not necessarily any of the faculty, staff or administration of MCC.

### Letters to the Editor

The *Highland Herald* welcomes letters from the students, faculty and staff of McLennan Community College. Please keep letters brief.

All letters become the property of the *Highland Herald*, and the staff reserves the right to edit letters for content, taste, grammar and spelling. The staff reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

### Guest Contributions

The *Highland Herald* also welcomes guest news contributions, photos, opinions and comic strips. The same policy applies to guest contributions as applies to letters to the editor.

### Contact

Phone: (254) 299-8524

Fax: (254) 299-8747

E-mail: [highland@students.mclennan.edu](mailto:highland@students.mclennan.edu)

Advertising rates are available upon request.

# Sophomores Moving Along

Alicia Lacy  
Assistant Sports Editor

Six of the sophomore 'Landers and Lassies sign on to four-year universities on April 11 in the Highlands Gym.

Guards Kaylon Hodge, Brandi Crouch and Tiara Perkins were the three Lassies signers; and guards Marvin Gentry and Allen Coleman and forward Jawan Bailey are three out of the five 'Landers sophomores to sign letters of intent.

Hodge, who was named co-defensive player of the year and to the Women's All-Conference Team, will play at Midwestern State University in the fall.

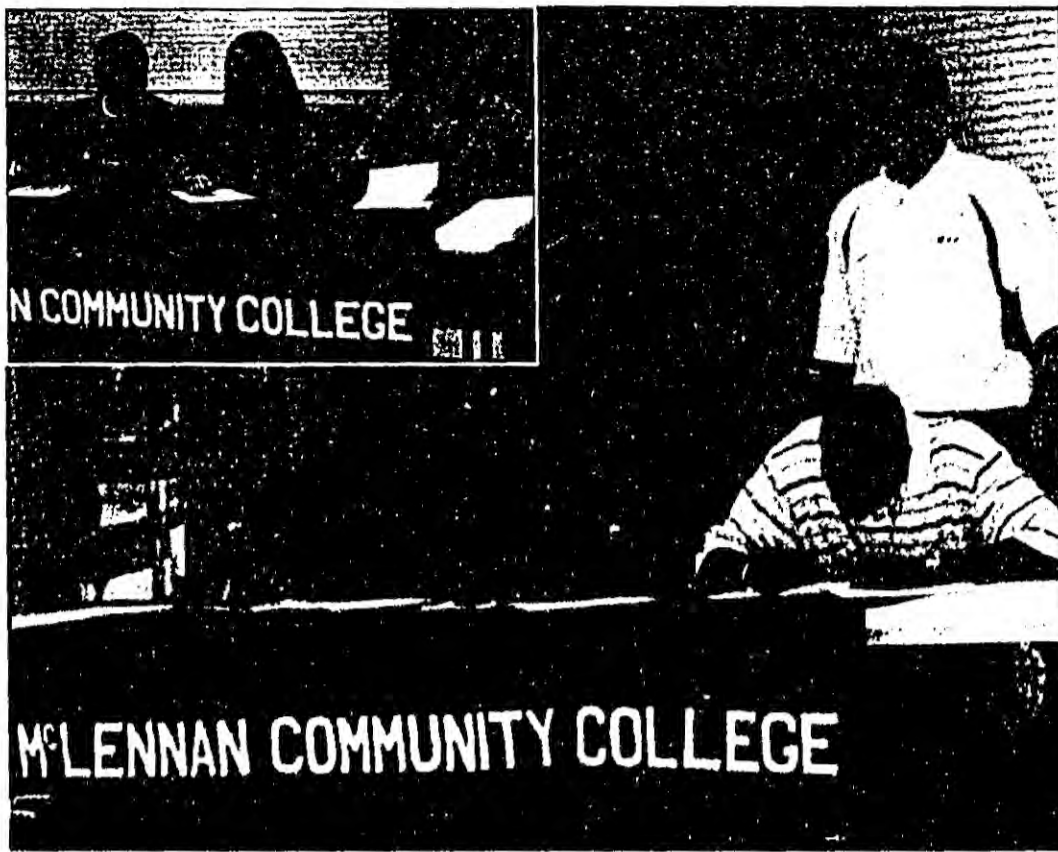
"It gives me confidence, but it doesn't make me too cocky," Hodge said.

Also named to the Women's All-Conference Team, Brandi Crouch, signed on to play for Texas Women's University.

"It gives you a lot of confidence because it's sometimes hard to believe that you can go to the next level of play because it's a lot different from juco and there's that much better players there at that level and it's a whole lot different," Crouch said.

"It's a lot closer to home, because I live like three hours from here, and plus I'm going into a physical therapy program and the have they best in the nation...it just all happened to fall into place, I love the girls the campus and everything," Crouch said.

Perkins, who too was named to the Women's All-



MCC players sign to four-year colleges.

Digital Image by Alicia Lacy

Conference Team, will also transfer to TWU in the fall.

Conference Player of the Year and named to the Men's All-Conference Team, Gentry, who previously committed to playing at Texas Christian University, will play for the University of Cincinnati.

"Cincinnati has always been a dream school of mine... to get out and see different parts of the world is something I've always wanted to do. It would've been nice to play at home, but a chance to get away is only once in a lifetime," Gentry said.

"Coach Gill and Coach Silver, they prepared me so I think I can come in and make an impact right away," Gentry said.

"I don't think I could've been at a better place, [it's] the best junior college that I've been to compared to the teams that we've played," Gentry added.

Receiving second team honors in conference Coleman will play this fall at St. Mary's University.

"It's close to home, I'll get more playing

"It gives you a lot of confidence because it's sometimes hard to believe that you can go to the next level of play because it's a lot different from juco and there's that much better players there at that level and it's a whole lot different,"

-- Brandi Crouch

time, and they gave me a full scholarship," Coleman said.

"Coming from here they play a different

style of basketball than over there, so I feel I going to be more experienced to what their style of play is," Coleman said.

Jawan Bailey will be joining Coleman this fall at St. Mary's University.

As of April 26, sophomore forwards Jackie Ranson and Mark Moore decided on the college they would further their basketball careers. Ranson committed to play for Paul Quinn College in Dallas, TX and Moore for Prairie View A&M University in Prairie View, TX.

**Make a difference in the lives of girls  
Meet new people, Make lifelong friends  
Build your resume with quality work experience**

**JOIN OUR SUMMER CAMP STAFF**

**NOW HIRING: Health Supervisor**

LVN, RN, Nurse Practitioner, Physician's Assistant, or EMT. Salary up to \$325 per week, depending on license. Room and board provided.

Camp Kachina is a 245 acre Resident Camp for girls ages 7-17. The camp is located on Lake Belton, about 1 hour from Waco and Austin. Activities include swimming, horseback riding, boating, archery, crafts, and more.

Live on site, dine off daily & on weekends. Staff needed Jun 12-Jul 23. (Some staff report one week earlier). You may work all or part of the camp season.

**OTHER POSITIONS AVAILABLE:** Camp Counselors, Waterfront Staff, (Lifeguard), Food Service Staff, Programs Director, Archery Instructor, (will train and certify at our expense). These positions start at \$180 per week. Room and board provided.

Need to take a summer class? Computer lab available for on line classes. Will also work with internships.

Visit our website at [www.bluchonnet.org](http://www.bluchonnet.org). Click on "about us" for an application and job descriptions. Click on "camps" for more information about Camp Kachina. EOE.

Questions? Email [schaflin@bluchonnet.org](mailto:schaflin@bluchonnet.org)

Girl Scouts - Highlands of Texas, Inc.  
3700 W. Waco Drive  
Waco, Texas 76790



WIN PRIZES

**LUCKY**

SELL YOUR BOOKS • TRY YOUR LUCK • DOUBLE YOUR CASH

**DRAW**

IF YOU RECEIVED A CARD ◀ 2 WAYS TO PLAY ▶ IF YOU'RE EMPTY HANDED

BRING IT IN, SELL YOUR BOOKS, GET A CHANCE TO DOUBLE YOUR CASH BACK

STOP BY, SELL YOUR BOOKS, GET A CARD FOR A CHANCE TO WIN FREE T-SHIRTS AND FOOD

**WE BUY BACK EVERY BOOK GUARANTEED!**

1806 LAKESHORE DRIVE 364-766-2114  
WWW.HIGHLANDERBOOKSTORE.COM

HIGHLANDER BOOKSTORE

# Theatre Dept. Pushes Boundaries at the BPAC with Hamlet Sequel

Matthew Clark  
Staff Writer

Most people would agree that a sequel to William Shakespeare's "Hamlet" is impossible. After all, the main characters are dead and Denmark is left in a bloody mess. But, what if it could somehow be funny?

McLennan Theatre's current production turns the bard's masterpiece on its head by showing what happened after Hamlet dies.

Picking up the quill right where Shakespeare left off, Lee Blessing's comedy "Fortinbras" begins when the throne of Denmark is left to the titular character and there are lots of dead bodies to clean up.

But don't expect a dramatic "how-do-we-fix-this" type of show.

"It's very satirical," said director of Fortinbras and MCC Theatre professor, Jim Rambo.

"Fortinbras" switches between traditional Shakespearean language and modern speech and also brings back all of the main characters from "Hamlet" in ghost form.

"At the opening of the show, the characters are in period costumes, but then Fortinbras enters in modern

clothes," Rambo said.

The play, written in 1991, added to the early 1990s trend to put a comedic spin on William Shakespeare's classics.

Shows like "I Hate Hamlet" and "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)" debuted to mass appeal, taking the five-act plays audiences were familiar with, condensing them and adding ridiculous elements and witty writing for humor.

Rambo is using Blessing's "Fortinbras" and sticking in what he refers to as "2006 sensibilities" to play off of the lives of modern 18-20 year olds.

For example, there is a scene where blogging will be a source for humor.

"It's interesting how someone can say something on the internet and next day act like nothing happened," Rambo said. "It's the concept of taking responsibility: Is (a blog) true or not?"

Other elements of technology are being tested in rehearsals, utilizing computers and projectors to add to the satire.

"The first time we see Hamlet is in a TV screen," Rambo said.

One difficulty the show has had, according to

Rambo, is that he has had to be cautionary in taking the edgy material to an adults-only level, not wanting to scare away season ticket holders or damage the theatre department's reputation.

"The play is an attack on religion, sexuality and presidents," he said. "Some issues can come up with the nature of this show."

"The character Osric was written very feminine in Shakespeare's "Hamlet." We take that somewhere in our show," Rambo said.

A gender switch was inserted for the MCC production that is not in Blessing's original script, changing Horatio into Horatia.

Sophomore Jamy Gillespie takes on the role. "She's playing it like a woman, not a man," Rambo said. "And it's great to see her up there, talking back to (Fortinbras), telling him to "Be a man!"

At the end of the night, the audience should be left thinking as well as laughing.

"We establish points of view and opposite points of view," he said. "But in the end, we learn a moral from these immoral people."

"Fortinbras" ran April 20-22 at the Ball Performing Arts Center.

## Phi Theta Kappa Motivates with Sprinkles

Motivational Speaker Jonathan Sprinkles  
Discusses Leadership in the Lecture Hall

Daniel Defoe  
News Editor

On April 11, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. the Phi Chi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa hosted a Leadership Forum at the Lecture Hall.

Jonathan Sprinkles, a motivational speaker, was the guest speaker for the forum who spoke at two and four. At three, Fred Hills gave an exercise in teamwork called "Survivor on the Moon."

Jonathan Sprinkles, a student of the University of Texas at Austin, was named APCA speaker of the year for the promotion of campus activities, Alesha Vurdeman, Phi Chi chapter Advisor, said.

In the first half of his discussion Sprinkles gave his definition of what makes a leader, "L+I+V+E."

"The 'L' stands for leadership, which according to Jonathan Maxwell's second law of Leadership is defined

by Influence. A leader without the hearts of the people is an image without substance," Sprinkles said.

**'A visionary can see the end result in his mind--speak what is not as though it were until it is.'**

**--Jonathan Sprinkles, Motivational Speaker**

"Influence is measured by trust. The question you need to ask yourself is 'how can I get people to feel the same way about me, the same way I feel about the people who influence me?'" Sprinkles said.

The 'I' stands for Integrity, which Sprinkles defined as "consistency through and through."

The 'V' stands for Vision. Vision is a disclosure of an unseen reality," Sprinkles said.

"If you can't see it (with your mind) before you can

see it (with your eyes) than you will never see it."

The "E" stands for excellence which Sprinkles described as being the best that you that you can be.

At three students took on the role of stranded astronauts on the moon in a leadership exercise "Survivors on the Moon" hosted by Fred Hills, Phi Chi chapter advisor. The objective was to list the salvageable gear from 1 to 15 in order of necessity. First the students did the exercise individually and then formed into teams.

In the second part of his discussion Sprinkles briefly recapped part one and divided leaders into three types, the visionary, manager, and technician.

"A visionary can see the end result in his mind--speak what is not as though it were until it is," Sprinkles said.

"A manager assigns tasks and plans. "A visionary without a manager is an idea that will not come to pass," Sprinkles said.

"A technician concentrates on getting the job done, but isn't necessarily involved in the vision or planning."

*Mastercraft Jewelry*  
now featuring



University of Texas at Arlington  
**Seal Rings**

- Great selection
- Three year warranty
- Competitive prices

1254 752-6789 • 2921 W. Waco Drive



**CHINA SPRING FITNESS CENTER**

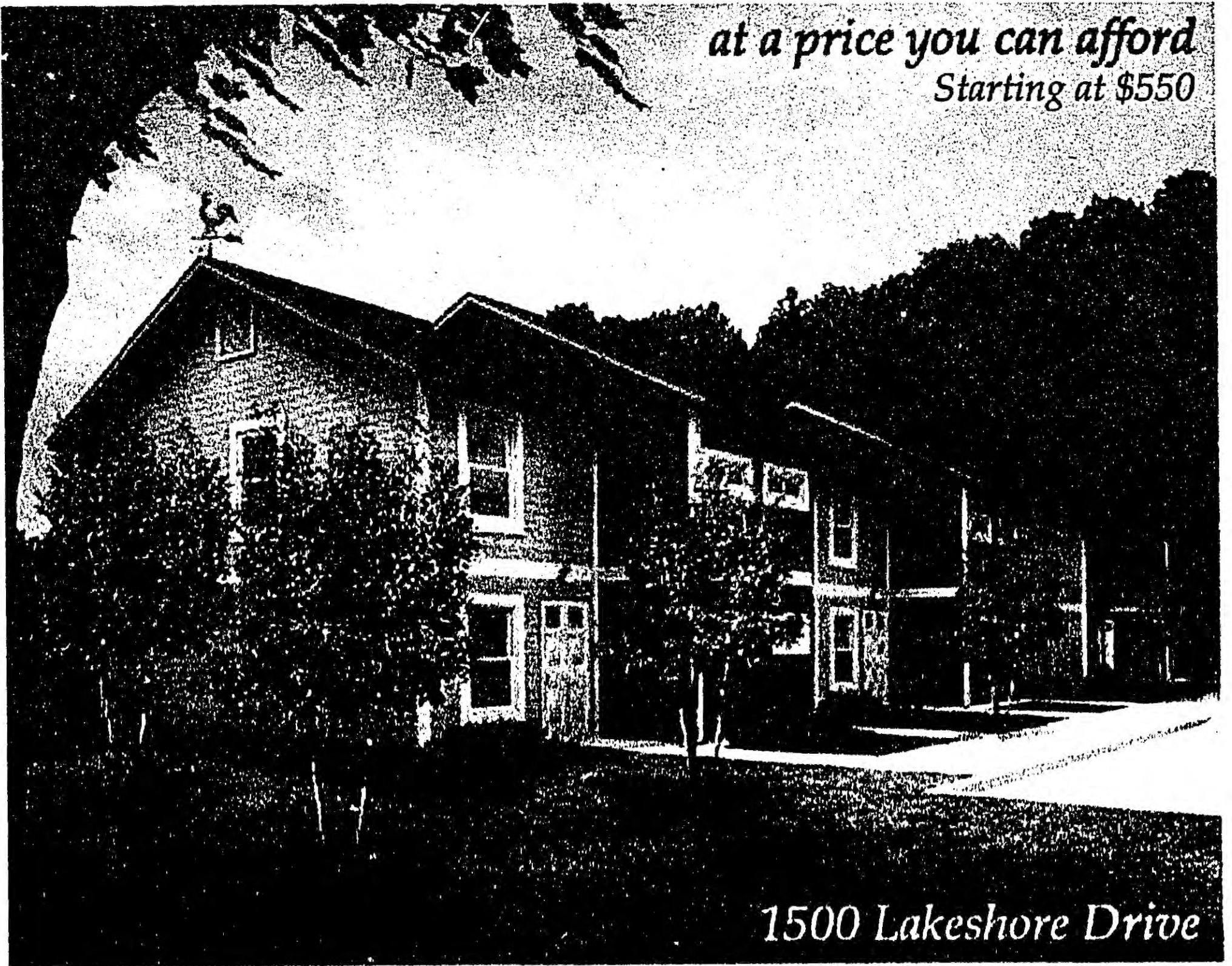
- 24-Hour Fitness For Members
- Unlimited Tanning
- Personal Trainers & Therapeutic Massage Therapist

**FREE PASS**  
1 Free Workout Visit  
During Office Hours

9022 China Spring Rd. • Waco, TX 76708  
254-752-1500

BEAUTY, COMFORT AND SECURITY

*at a price you can afford*  
*Starting at \$550*



*1500 Lakeshore Drive*

# 1500 WHY NOT MOVE UP TO A BETTER NEIGHBORHOOD? CONDOMINIUMS

1, 2 or 3 bedrooms  
Sitting on 4 acres  
Gated Community  
Pool  
Ceramic Tile Floors  
Berber Carpet  
Patio/Deck

Professionally Managed By

**TRILIJ I**

G R O U P

1400 Speight . Waco, TX

254.755.7255

**Contact Information:**

**Erika, 254.214.3407**

**[erika@trilijigroup.com](mailto:erika@trilijigroup.com)**

Pulitzer-Winning Author  
Shines a Light into the  
'Darkest Corner  
of the South'

Richard Colangelo (left), Sales Consultant for Thomson Learning, and David O'Hinsky (right) before the presentation.

Pr. 2000 David O'Hinsky before the presentation, "Mississippi Born and Bred: A Story of a Man Who Fought for Civil Rights in the 1960s" in the Lecture Hall on 2/10/00.

Mississippi Born and Bred: A Story of a Man Who Fought for Civil Rights in the 1960s

Mississippi Born and Bred: A Story of a Man Who Fought for Civil Rights in the 1960s

# UT Professor Discusses History and Justice at the Lecture Hall

Brent Losak  
Editor in Chief

Although Bob Dylan recorded "The Times They Are A-Changin'" in New York, he, like the rest of the country, was focused on the South.

It was in the South that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. met his most vehement opposition, in Birmingham where he penned his famous letter from the city jail, and in Alabama where he was eventually killed.

David Oshinsky, professor at the University of Texas, Austin, presented "Mississippi Burning: Final Justice for Three Murdered Civil Rights Workers in the 1960s," in the Lecture Hall at 6 p.m.

Oshinsky is the Littlefield Historian at UT, Austin, and the recipient of the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for History for his latest book, "Polio: An American Story."

Dr. Gilbert Montemayor, Director of Social/Behavioral Science, introduced Oshinsky, and recognized Richard Colangelo, Sales Consultant for Thomson Learning/Wadsworth Publishers, for being "very instrumental" in helping to set up the event.

Colangelo has been involved in facilitating previous events as part of MCC's Distinguished Lecture Series.

Though this event was not part of that series, Montemayor thanked Colangelo for all the speakers he has helped to bring to MCC.

"We get the benefit of having great scholars come and speak to us," Montemayor said.

Oshinsky began by setting the background for "one of the times I actually ... had an impact on history."

In the "Freedom Summer" of 1964, in Mississippi, the "darkest corner of the South," three civil rights workers were murdered, he said.

Michael Schwerner, James Chaney and Andrew Goodman had gone to Philadelphia, Mississippi in Neshoba County to investigate the burning of a black church by the Ku Klux Klan.

On the way, they were stopped by the police, and arrested for the "trumped up charge" of speeding, Oshinsky said.

The deputy held them in jail and contacted Edgar Ray Killen, a local Baptist preacher and the leader of the Klan in the area, to give Killen a chance to "assemble his posse" and do "whatever they wanted" with the workers upon their release.

On June 21, 1964, KKK members chased the three down as they left, caught them, beat them, and killed them.

"Suddenly, the fact that two white civil rights workers were missing became front-page news," Oshinsky said.

Black civil rights workers had been killed before, but because Schwerner and Goodman were white, the Northern press swarmed to Mississippi, he said.

The media frenzy influenced President Lyndon B. Johnson to tell FBI director J. Edgar Hoover to "get to the bottom of it," Oshinsky said.

"The FBI used tactics that we today would find deplorable," Oshinsky said, such as "slapping them around" and extended "interrogation" sessions.

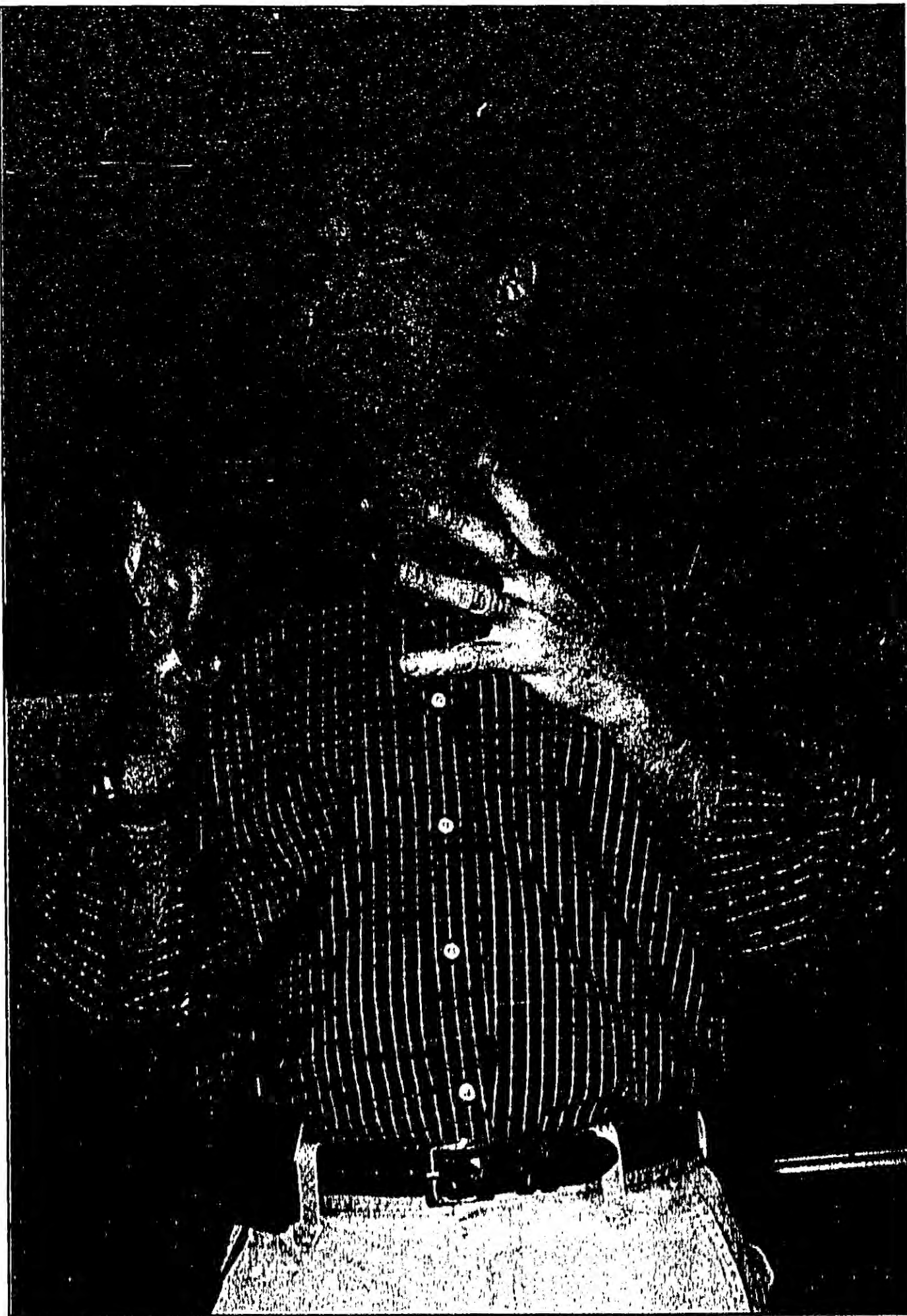
Eventually the FBI paid someone \$35,000 to reveal the location of the burials, which led to the indictment and trial of eighteen people, not for murder, but for "violating the civil rights of the dead workers," he said.

One of those put on trial was Edgar Ray Killen, who went free on an 11-1 hung jury, with one juror saying that she couldn't send a preacher to jail, Oshinsky said.

Oshinsky got involved in reopening the case of the murdered workers when he began researching the files of the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission (MSC), a "huge informant system," where people were paid off to spy on civil rights workers, he said.

"The role of this commission was basically to make sure that civil rights never occurred in the state of Mississippi," Oshinsky said.

His review of the files eventually led Oshinsky to the house of none other than Killen, who he described as the "lynch-pin in all this," to interview him for a NY



Littlefield Historian of the University of Texas, Austin, Professor David Oshinsky illustrates a point at his lecture "Mississippi Burning: Final Justice for Three Murdered Civil Rights Workers in the 1960s."

Digital Image By Christina Taylor

Times piece.

Oshinsky and his son, who tagged along, met the preacher at the general store in town, and Killen invited him back to his house for dinner.

At dinner, after some time, the preacher and his wife launched into a conversation containing streams of racial epithets, Oshinsky said, adding although Killen never admitted to the murder of the workers, it could be inferred, particularly from one disturbing comment by the preacher.

Killen said he could take them up to the road where the boys were killed and do to them just what happened to "those boys," Oshinsky said.

The article that Oshinsky penned caused a renewed interest in the case from the local media, especially the Jackson Clarion-Ledger.

Last year Killen was put on trial and sentenced to

three consecutive 30-year terms in prison for manslaughter.

Oshinsky managed to keep the audience laughing throughout with funny anecdotes along the way, despite the dark subject matter, a case of the sniffles, and the tinny timbre of the sound system.

He recalled that during dinner, Killen had asked him "What religion are you?" and knowing that to reveal his Jewish identity would be the end of the interview, said he was "in a state of flux."

That apparently wasn't good enough for the preacher, so Oshinsky reconsidered and said "Methodist."

Then the preacher turned the same question to Oshinsky's son, who replied "I'm with him."

Oshinsky closed by joking "I'm no longer a journalist, and I'm no longer a Methodist."

WIN PRIZES

1  
LUCKY

SELL YOUR BOOKS \* TRY YOUR LUCK \* DOUBLE YOUR CASH

2  
DRAW

IF YOU RECEIVED A CARD ◀ 2 WAYS TO PLAY ▶ IF YOU'RE EMPTY HANDED

BRING IT IN, SELL YOUR BOOKS, GET A CHANCE TO DOUBLE YOUR CASH BACK

\*  
\*  
\*

STOP BY, SELL YOUR BOOKS, GET A CARD FOR A CHANCE TO WIN FREE T-SHIRTS AND FOOD

© 2007 HIGHLANDER BOOKSTORE. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THE INFORMATION IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

**WE BUY BACK EVERY BOOK GUARANTEED!**

1845 LAKESHORE DRIVE 254-756-2114

WWW.HIGHLANDERBOOKSTORE.COM

**HIGHLANDER  
BOOKSTORE**



# 'Fortinbras' Takes No Prisoners

*Playwright exposes contemporary culture through satire*

## Theater Review

Dominik Young  
Staff Writer

"Fortinbras" is a Shakespearean acid-trip written by playwright Lee Blessing that successfully satirizes the spin-filled world we live in today.

The 1991 theatrical production centers on the title character who bends the truth to justify his so-called ascension to the Danish throne. Director Jim Rambo selected it based on how modern-day culture is portrayed.

"I really feel that this particular play has a sensibility which is very contemporary for us... the aspect of our political leaders not telling the truth. The influence to me was that everything in this piece was more for people your age... young, hip, alert, much more willing to accept different lifestyles. Edgier than people my age."

Rebecca Tafline who portrayed Hamlet's incestuous mother Gertrude was responsible for the musical selection.

"She had an understanding of the satire," Rambo said.

Songs heard were Marvin Gaye's "Let's Get It On", "The Benny Hill Show" and "Sex and the City" opening themes.

British humor, slapstick, and sexual innuendo gave the play its "take no prisoners" attitude. Rambo explains how the predominately young audience could connect to each of these distinct comedic styles.

"Everybody gets slammed in the piece just like

David Letterman... he let's nobody off the hook. The slamming is pretty universally across the board and you guys (the youth) accept that and we (the adults) get offended."

The diverse fashion the characters worn ranged from Shakespearean to metrosexual, BDSM, and punk-rock. Some of the audience responded well to Polonius (Justin Kolar) looking "playa made" in an all-white suit.

Heavy dosage of sexuality presented made some audience members close their legs in gleeful shame. This was commentary on how people especially undergraduates openly embrace their sexuality.

The cast and crew had much support from their classmates, those who do not attend MCC, and amazingly the Baptist Student Ministry. Laughter increased as each scenario in the play got more outrageous than the next.

**"I really feel that this particular play has a sensibility which is very contemporary for us... the aspect of our political leaders not telling the truth,**

**--Jim Rambo, Director**

Fortinbras played by Martin Morenos was characterized with enough arrogance and pansexuality that made "Laertes looked cultured" as said by archetypal straight woman Horatia (Jamy Gillespie) who tries to tell the truth.

Doug Gassaway as the flamboyantly-gay Osric had the audience laughing each time he tried to make a move on Fortinbras while Amy Harvey as Hamlet's wife Ophelia broke natural law with her overt sexuality.

These characters exposed the audience to different lifestyles that may be taboo for some.

"I always say that true open-mindedness isn't just being open to alternative/sexual lifestyles, but being open to an evangelical Christian praising the Lord. It allows both of them to exist and express their strong feelings. This play kind of done that for us," Rambo said.

The paparazzi (Cody Beseca, Aaron T. McFarland) used cameras to show the audience that they're watching themselves watching the play. This allowed for the questioning of existence and reflection on the world.

The Benny Hill opening theme playing during the climatic battle between Hamlet (Bobby Dale Sands) and Laertes (Tim Clark) shows the outrageousness of "Fortinbras", a hilarious love scene involving Hamlet with Gertrude takes the Oedipus complex to another level and the sword/knife fight between Horatia and Fortinbras brings irony to the phrase "fight like a man."

The McLennan Theatre Department deserves nothing but respect for their versatility in "Fortinbras". One should be amazed how they can perform in a flapper-era musical such as "No, No, Nanette" to this "literary comic u-turn".

There is one word to describe the McLennan Theatre Department's handling of "Fortinbras": schizophrenic and that's a good thing.

**Make a difference in the lives of girls  
Meet new people, Make lifelong friends  
Build your resumé with quality work experience!**

## JOIN OUR SUMMER STAFF AT CAMP KACHINA

### Girl Scout resident camp for girls ages 7-17

Activities: swimming, horseback riding, canoeing, sailing, archery, crafts, and more - all with this summer's Renaissance theme! Located on 265 wooded acres overlooking Lake Belton, about 1 hour from Austin and Waco.

**We need: Counselors, Program Director/Archery Instructor (will train), Kitchen Staff, Waterfront Staff, and Health Supervisor (EMT, Nurse Practitioner, RN, LVN, or PA).**

Live in resident camp, time off daily and on weekends.

Staff needed for June 12-July 21. (Some staff report 1 week earlier)

Need to take a summer class! Computer lab available for on-line classes!

Will also work with relationships.

For more information or to apply, visit our website at [www.bluebonnetgsc.org](http://www.bluebonnetgsc.org)

Click on "Camps" for more information on Camp Kachina

Click on "About Us" for an application and to see descriptions of each position



Girl Scouts  
More Girls Grow Strong

Bluebonnet Council  
3700 W. Waco Drive  
Waco, TX 76710  
[schaffin@bluebonnetgsc.org](mailto:schaffin@bluebonnetgsc.org)  
EOE



## Leave Your Cowboy Boots in the Past

Clay Turner  
Sports Editor

Country Music isn't dead; but it ain't healthy.

The state of country music today is for the most part, nonexistent. It is so intertwined with a pop sound, look and package that it is no longer even worth defining the genre.

In the 50's we had Hank Williams and Webb Pierce. The 60's brought on Merle Haggard and George Jones. The 70's spurred the Outlaw movement with Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson at its head.

However, even though the 80's and 90's produced great singers like Johnny Lee, Garth Brooks and George Strait the music started to lean more towards pop. Now we have people like Keith Urban, Russell Platts and SHEDAISSY flooding the country market. One might say that not all country singers sound, or at least attempt to, like Keith Urban on country radio today. Those people are wrong.

There are good and bad singers in "country" music like in every other genre and that is unavoidable, however one should know that half the music in the country aisle is not

traditional country and should not be titled as such. Country music is about mommas, prison, trucks, dogs, twang, steel guitar, somebody-done-somebody-wrong songs and getting drunk, and you can find almost none of that in today's music.

**"The state of country music today is so intertwined with a pop sound, look and package that it is no longer even worth defining the genre,"**

That's not to say all music in the country section currently sounds like Cher with a pedal steel. There is the Red Dirt movement from Texas and Oklahoma, along with a resurgence of the traditional, "real country" sound.

Leading the Red Dirt craze are two popular favorites, Cross Canadian Ragweed and Jason Boland, who both put on great shows and write some really great music. The traditional, stripped down sound is now coming back into style, spearheading the movement nowadays is such artists as Dale Watson.

However, do you know where Dale Watson is in the country aisle? On the side of it, in the "alt-country" section. Keith Urban is walking on the fighting side of me.

# Gays and Lesbians Speak Out for Freedom of Speech with a Day of Shutting Up

## Column

Allen D. Fisher  
Managing Editor

If ignorance is bliss, then some people are as happy as oil tycoons when they found out we were going to war with Iraq, again.

Last Wednesday, April 26, over 500,000 students and 4,000 schools took part in a protest against the silence forced on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people on a daily basis. People protesting are speaking out with a Day of Silence.

This is the largest turn-out of these protest since the program began.

But now there is a new protest, an anti-protest protest. Christian groups are protesting the right to speak against gays and lesbians, with a plan called Speak Out with Truth. Colleges are now being sued for the right not to tolerate policies.

Ruth Malhotra sued the Georgia Institute of Technology last month for the right to be intolerant. Malhotra says her Christian faith compels her to speak out against homosexuality, but Georgia Institute, where she's a senior, bans speech that puts down others because of their sexual orientation.

With her lawsuit, the 22-year-old student joins a growing campaign to force public schools, state colleges and private workplaces to eliminate policies protecting gays and lesbians from harassment. The religious right aims to overturn a broad range of common tolerance programs: diversity training that promotes acceptance of gays and lesbians, speech codes that ban harsh words against homosexuality, anti-discrimination policies that require college clubs to open their membership to all.

If Christians want to go by the Bible then how about "Judge not, lest you be judged" Matthew 7:1?

I concede that not allowing people to say harsh things about people may lead to First Amendment rights but so is screaming "FIRE! FIRE!" in a crowded theater. In *Schenk vs. United States* the courts decided that freedom of speech is not worthy of protection when it presents a clear and present danger.

Harsh words to a select group such as gays and lesbians presents a clear a present danger. Look at the Civil Rights Movement between 1955 and 1968, the result of calling someone by a racial slur, "Sticks and stones my break my bones but words will never hurt me," is a lie; words do hurt.

Do these people realize that this has to be a two-way road? They can call homosexuality immoral, fine. But do homosexuals get to call them ignorant, hate-filled, closed-minded, bullying, weak-willed and delusional.

Tolerance is not some legalized concept like Miranda Rights or Jury Trial. No one has to be tolerant or open minded, but some one who is not is an arrogant ass.

President Bush referred to oppressed people throughout the world in his inaugural speech, assuring them, "When you stand for your liberty, we will stand with you." But does he mean gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders too? He is a Christian and does not condone homosexuality, as he said many times in his campaign speeches.

George W. Bush hired Karl Rove as his public relations man he made Bush look good in 2000, oh and he's accused of being bi-sexual.

Protests, anti-protests protesting the protests, making peoples' heads spin.

Voltaire said "I may disagree with what you have to say, but I shall defend, to the death, your right to say it."

Shout out what you believe in, even if it's with a Day of Silence.

## New Digital Art Course Finishes First Semester

Domlnk Young  
Staff Writer

Greg Land, comic-book artist, combines photo referencing and digital manipulation to make his work look realistic; stop motion animation and claymation help give Adult Swim's "Robot Chicken" it's zany appeal; and film-makers used a popular visual effect called bullet time in "The Matrix" to challenge viewers' perceptions.

Computers have become an integral part for multimedia in recent years. This resulted in creation of the Digital Art class for the 2006 spring semester.

The course is co-taught by two instructors from the Performing and Visual Arts Division. Glenn Downing teaches students digital movie-making while Gabriel Koleavova handles the digital photography aspect.

Students learn how to fuse traditional art with digital media. Downing explains the cultural relevance of this new course.

"Well I think that this new class really relates to the real world. If you look at our society we're very media-oriented. We're in a digital age right now...everything is going digital."

The iMac G5, a computer with built in programs such as Photoshop, Garage Band, and Final Cut Pro, is used by students. It has become a multimedia standard in the entertainment industry.

"There are certain people in the world that are PC people or MAC, but what a lot of people don't understand is MAC in the arts, music, and movies is used by at least 99% because they're made for visual," Downing said.

At first, only ten students were allowed to register for the class due to equipment. However, the response for the class was generally good according to Downing.

"We didn't want too many people and not enough

equipment to do stuff, but because we had some coming and begging to be in the class, we allowed more people. I'm happy with the attendance and people we have in there."

A student taking the Digital Art class explains why he joined due to two reasons.

"One Mr. Downing is a great teacher and probably the biggest is that it was something that sounded interesting to do. I've always want to see what I can do," Kris Burgett said.

Digital photography, stop-motion animation, and animation projects were assigned to students. Students exceeded one project's requirements that astonished both instructors.

"I was really surprised. When we gave that animation project, we knew how hard it was going to be and told students to make something in five or ten seconds. All of a sudden we had people working six or seven hours. Really going way past beyond," Downing said.

The Annual MCC Student Art Competition featured some digital artwork. Toby McElroy, had his work "Blueprint to Success" displayed.

This semester the Digital Art class was scheduled for the nighttime on Monday and Wednesday at 6 p.m. In the fall semester, class will be available on the same days from 1:40 to 4:30 p.m.

Roberto Limon, another Digital Art class student, recommends this course to students curious about Digital Art.

"Well, if you're interested in going out of the box, this will be a great class to join."

Downing wants to make a collection of all the best works from this semester and have an exhibition next year.

"We want to show people what we've been doing in this class. I think they're going to be surprised."

## Everything Entertainment

Ian O'Mallan  
Guest Contributor

I have a math question for every self-proclaimed movie aficionado out there.

What happens when you take a critically acclaimed action director, two of Hollywood's most promising actor's, and throw them in a love story.

You get to be the proverbial "butt" of every gay joke for the next year and a half.

Don't fret though, that's my only "Brokeback" joke.

A lot has happened entertainment wise since my break from writing.

Celebrities got; "Hooked up", "Broken up", and "Knocked up".

While the media has been preoccupied with how celebrities are acting off camera they over looked a very important detail.

This is that they are not acting very well in front of the camera either.

The worst part is we suffer for it.

We get movies like "The Dukes of Hazzard", "The Benchwarmers", "Larry the Cable Guy, Health Inspector", and more pointless sequels and bad remakes then I can say no to.

Don't worry though there are some actual good movies still out there.

I highly recommend the "Inside Job", starring Denzel Washington and Jodi Foster.

The movie is about a highly organized bank robbery and Denzel playing a hostage negotiator trying to free the hostages.

Denzel Washington proved a very important thing to us all with "Inside Man", and that is he does not make bad movies period.

I have two new additions to my guilty pleasure list of movies.

Both are extremely good and you should actually watch them.

First is "Curious George" featuring the voices of Will Ferrell and Drew Barrymore.

Both did a splendid job of bringing the story of everyone's favorite mischievous monkey to life.

Not to mention an amazing soundtrack by Jack Johnson, this really helped to make the movie.

Next I admit is a hard sell for me, but ever since the release of "8 Mile" and "Get Rich or Die Tryin'", I find the need to watch rappers turned actors, whose movies don't go straight to video.

I'm talking about "ATL" starring T.I.

It also featured the acting debut of Big Boi from Outkast.

The film is about two brothers growing up in Atlanta, and the moral choices that the must make as how to make a better life for themselves.

It was a good movie but it's not really a must see though.

Jumping forums to local happenings, a little band by the name of Drowning Pool came to town.

They rocked out and brought the house down playing in front of a capacity crowd at Club Alazon.

New Front man Ryan McCombs proved that yes he could pick up the torch and run with it.

He recently became the new front man for the band after the tragic loss of Dave Williams, the original lead singer of the band who passed away in 2001.

While I'm on the subject of local entertainment, if you have not been to an MCC theater production, you need to go!

I have been at MCC off and on for a couple of years now, and I can honestly say that I have never been disappointed with the theater department.

The cast has changed over the years but the production value has always been amazing.

"Portinbras" is evidence enough.

This is a continuation of events that take place

See ENTERTAINMENT, Page 11

# Mixed Martial Arts Stock Rising

Column

Clay Turner  
Sports Editor

Ultimate Fighting, Or Mixed Martial Arts, has been heralded as one of the many new "extreme" sports that are said to be the, "fastest growing sport in the world." One thing that separates MMA from the rest is that moniker just might be well deserved. Combining boxing, wrestling, muay thai and jui-jitsu, opponents battle it out in a safe, well-regulated and officiated ring or octagon.

The two biggest MMA organizations are Pride Fighting, from Japan, and the Ultimate Fighting Championship, or UFC, in America.

The UFC is featured Thursday nights on Spike TV, including live events, replays of classic fights and their popular reality show, "The Ultimate Fighter."

While these organizations are the biggest and most popular, they aren't the only ones and you can see the International Freestyle Fighting organization, or IFF, at the Will Rogers Coliseum in Fort Worth on May 6.

The event will feature fighters such as Cole Miller, along with well-known UFC veterans Gerald Strebendt, Pete Spratt, and Travis Lutter.

# Theatre Ensemble Spotlights Two Broadway Shows

Kitty Clark  
Entertainment Editor  
Christina Taylor  
Ad Manager

The MCC Theatre Department staged a Spotlight Ensemble performance to wind down the semester on April 25, in the Ball Performing Arts Center.

The cast performed two Broadway productions: "Carousel", and "Avenue Q"

"Carousel" was the second Collaboration by Rogers and Hammerstein, made into a film in 1956, and is a story about the rocky relationship of a carnival worker who marries a small-town girl that ends in tragedy.



Digital Image  
by Christina  
Taylor

Taffline and Aaron McFarland in "Avenue Q."

"Avenue Q" hit Broadway in 2004 and was the first show written by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx. The play uses hand puppets as principal characters and but doesn't cater to young people because of its adult content.

"I think the audience really enjoyed "Avenue Q" ...it's contemporary," Regan Haddock, Spotlight performer, said.

Both performances demonstrated the trials of young people finding their way in the world, and was performed by graduating students of the Theatre Department.

"I'll miss the stage time, at a four-year I won't get the stage time I have here," Rebecca Taffline, a graduating actress said.

# ENTERTAINMENT, From Page 10

after William Shakespeare's "Hamlet", with a comedic twist.

Rambo's direction on Lee Blessing's 1991 play challenges the audience to seek the truth in a world where people mislead each other and interpersonal communication is dead.

Characters such as effeminate Osric (Doug Gassaway), overly sexual Ophelia (Amy Harvey), straight-laced Horatia (Jamy Gillepsie), and pompous, clueless Fortinbras (Martin Moreno) are the play's shining stars.

Audiences were exposed to different alternative/sexual lifestyles that are still taboo subjects in a conservative nation.

The MCC Theatre Department's stunning performance of "Fortinbras" happened from April 20 - April 22.



**disc daddy**  
New! Used! Cds • Posters • All music!

1005 S. UNIVERSITY PARK DR. SUITE 100 OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73106

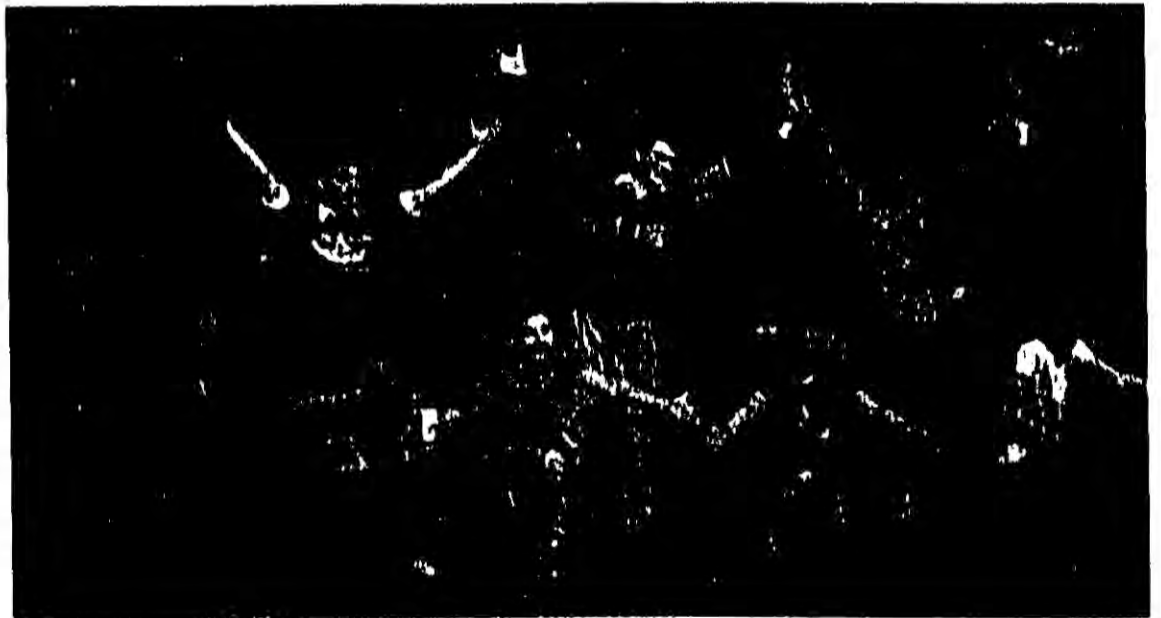
**BUY  
SELL  
TRADE**





# Wild Art

The newspaper jargon "wild art" refers to photos without stories, visually interesting shots, usually with no particular news value. They are just intriguing or curiosity arousing. These photos, while not all "wild" in the strictest sense, were selected by the photo editors to display some of this month's best work of the Highland Herald staff photographers. Clockwise, from upper left, a bored election worker was captured by Katrina Blake at the CSC polling place during the recent low-turnout runoff election. Toby McElroy shot volleyball players vie for bragging rights at the Highland Games, Christina Taylor found a dramatic moment during "Spotlight Performance," Neil Watson stalked one of the campus roadrunners during a baseball assignment and McElroy scored again at the Games' dunking booth.



*Digital images by Christina Taylor,  
Katrina Blake, Toby McElroy and  
Neil Watson*

