




Anime Society



Wombats!
Dr. Kendall
Part Two



Ghastly
Reading



Faculty
Poetry
Review

Deadline: Downtown

Oct. 17 - Oct. 31, 2006

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S T U D E N T - R U N

Haunted Hot Spot

Serving spirits since 1930

Z

By Monica Maza
Assistant Editor

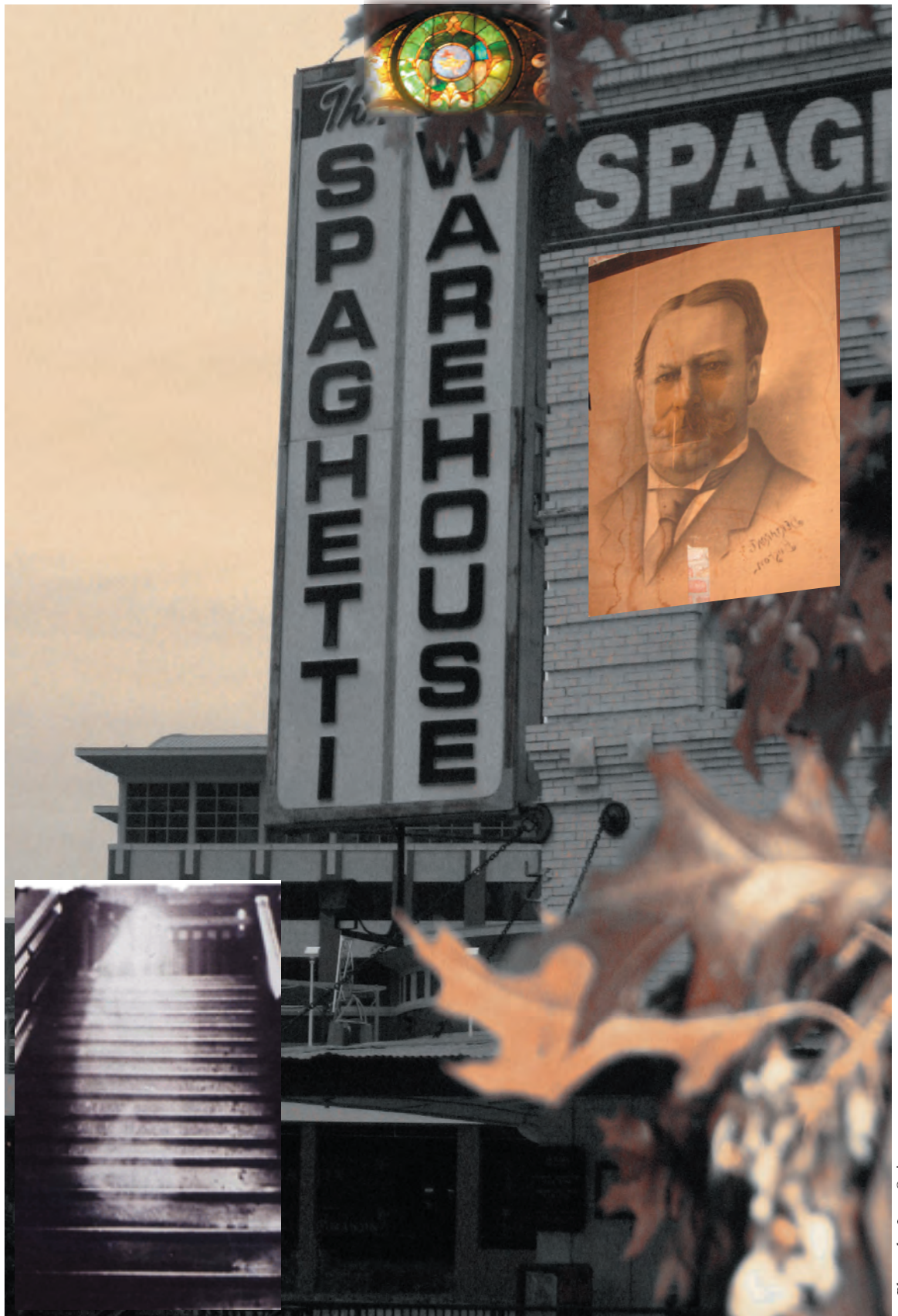
Do you know the most haunted place in Houston? According to Joshua Hinsdale's list of "Top Haunted Spots" on houston.citysearch.com, it is the building located on 901 Commerce Street, which many of us pass by everyday when we walk to and from the Commerce Building. This haunted spot is known as The Spaghetti Warehouse. Unfortunately, since this is a list, there are only two sentences that explain why the building is haunted. The first explanation CitySearch gives is that in 1930, the former owner died after falling down an elevator shaft. The second sentence teases us by stating that the ghostly activity that has been reported there includes an eerie, levitating "lady in white" and utensils moving on their own.

My interest was definitely peaked because I personally do not recall ever seeing an elevator during my visits to The Spaghetti Warehouse, and I actually had heard the rumor of the lady in white. In fact, whenever I take friends to eat there and I know that they have never been inside I have always said, "Did you know this place is haunted? Supposedly, people have seen the ghost of a lady in white." So, I did some more research and discovered that the lady in white is only the beginning.

Going to The Spaghetti Warehouse's website did not produce any information about the building's haunted history so I had to conduct a general online search. On whatwasthen.com, an article by Clayton Stapleton states: "Lone Star Spirit paranormal researchers report on their website that they have conducted several investigations in the Spaghetti Warehouse building that was once a cotton storage facility and a pharmaceutical warehouse. Most of the paranormal activity is limited to the second floor. Busboys, waiters, and dishwashers have reported table arrangements changing spontaneously, dishes and silverware flying off of the racks in the kitchen, and a lady-in-white apparition. Late night crews sometimes feel that they are being watched from the second floor." The article also adds the speculation that "the ghost of the former owner during the pharmaceutical period has been spotted near the elevator where his body was found" and that "the lady in white is his widow." The phrase "Lone Star Spirit" was a hyperlink in this article, so I decided to follow this breadcrumb in the next step of my research.

Lone Star Spirits Paranormal Investigations is located here in Houston and their website contains

See HAUNTED page 8



Photos by Juan Ortiz

The Benefits of Dual Citizenship

By Peter Lovie II
Staff Writer

Dual citizenship is when a person has citizenship in more than one country at a time. This type of status can happen a variety of different ways. Sometimes it is automatic, such as when a person is born in one nation to parents of different nationalities. In this case, even triple nationality is hypothetically possible for one born to parents where each parent is of a different citizenship, while the person is born in a nation not of that citizenship. However, dual nationality is more common.

Dual citizenship can be a product of marriage; can be from being born to a parent of a

different nationality, or in some cases a grandparent of a different nationality. The constitution does not mention multiple citizenships. The United States does not necessarily require naturalized citizens to give up their old citizenships. Common countries the U.S. allows dual nationality with are Great Britain, Israel, Canada, and Mexico to name a few.

The United States tolerates, but does not encourage, dual citizenship among its citizens. There are ways an American with dual nationality may lose his or her U.S. citizenship. This includes accepting a policy-level position with the government of your other nationality or serving in the armed forces of that nation. However, serving in the civilian branches of that military or

working in a non-policy position within the government (such as a consulate) will not result in the loss of U.S. citizenship.

When traveling, dual nationals must be mindful of special considerations. When leaving or entering America, one must do so on an American passport. When entering or leaving the country of one's other nationality, one must do so on the passport of the other nation. Dual nationals are limited in the assistance they can receive from the consulate of their other country when residing in the nation of their second citizenship. This is one reason why America does not encourage the practice of dual nationality.

Dual citizens have all the rights and responsibilities of both countries where they hold their citizenship. Citizenship in one country does not protect the dual national from obligations imposed by the other. A good

See DUAL page 10

Medical Opportunities abound in Army

By Peter Lovie II
Staff Writer

Students who want to go into medicine now have a golden opportunity. This opportunity is offered through the Army's Health Professionals Scholarship Program. The program provides many benefits for the student while in school, as well as after graduation and naturally, the benefits provided are contingent upon making a multiple-year commitment to the United States Army. Benefits include paid tuition, books, non-expendable equipment, and many other academic items. Each scholarship recipient receives a stipend of \$1300 a month for 10 and a half months with amounts adjusted

in July according to living costs. Housing costs are covered at roughly \$1700 a month. Additional benefits include dental care, life insurance, and retirement after twenty years of active service. This is on top of the Army's well known 30 days a year paid vacation.

Six weeks of the program are devoted to getting hands on experience in the military in your specific field. During training, participants receive officers pay at the grade of a second lieutenant. There are over 90 health care paths offered from veterinarians to dietitians to physicians and many more. Program participants will have access to top-notch technologies as they work with more than 73,000 active duty soldiers and professionals while interacting with over 200,000 patients per day. The Army boasts the largest diversity in health care of any military branch.

There are six primary divisions in the Army health team: the dental corps, medical corps,

medical specialist corps, medical service corps, the nurse corps and the veterinary corps. All of these branches provide excellent hands-on experience in their fields with many opportunities and benefits. These combine for a well rounded opportunity to serve and reach one's fullest potential.

Financial incentives alone provide excellent encouragement for enlisting in one of the branches of the Army's health care team. Sign on bonuses are offered up to \$30,000 just for enlisting. There are also various kinds of "specialty" payments offered. These depend on enlistment lengths and specialties in one's field. The pay ranges from \$1200 annually to \$40,000 depending on which core one enlists with as well as which type of specialty pay.

The requirements for participation in the six corps programs follow some basic guidelines. One must be a U.S. citizen aged 21-46. One must

See MEDICAL page 10

The New 2006 Gator Card

By Allen Guillory
Guest Writer

Have you heard the news about the 2006 Gator Cards? That's right, UHD is currently in the process of sending the new GCs (Gator Cards) to your mailbox sometime around late October or early November. Throw those old GCs away in the recycle bin and embrace the new Gator Debit Master Cards. The new 2006 Gator Cards are almost identical to the Cougar One Cards, taking away the once exclusive bragging rights from U of H Central.

Mr. Ed Apodaca, Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment Management, deserves the credit for the new GCs by proposing UHD collaborate with Higher One, Inc., a financial services company that specializes in higher education. The GCs will be the new official UHD ID also, but the '06 GCs should not be perceived as just an "ordinary" identification card. The new GCs will serve multiple functions: for financial aid, tuition refunds, library services, student social events, the fitness center, health services, and computer lab access.

Higher One recently established a B4 program for prospective students interested in being one of the first students to own a new GC. The program is an opportunity for the first 100 student applicants to experiment with the new GC prior to its official release. If you are eager

to get your hands on a GC you should quickly log on to www.B-4.biz and apply before time runs out. The new GCs should arrive in your mailbox, provided you supplied a valid home address- so you are encouraged to take another handsome picture if you don't like your current UHD ID picture. The previous picture that you have on file with the Office of Student Activities and Events will be used for your new Gator Card. If you would like further information about the GCs visit <https://www.uhdgatorcard.com>.

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Shout Out: Student Organization

UHD Anime Club

Discover Japanese animation with like-minded individuals

By Jimmy G. Mai
President
UHD Anime Society

With countless anime fans roaming the halls at UHD, a club was finally formed that allowed people to come together and share their interests in Japanese animation. At the beginning of the semester, the UHD Anime Society was founded by Diana Esquivel (treasurer) with the help of her fellow friends and officers Jimmy Mai (president), Victoria Morillon (vice president), Chris Brady (secretary), and Wendy Callejas (historian).

For those unfamiliar with anime, Japanese animation is a popular form of art that takes traditional styles of animation from Japan and presents them in fantastical stories otherwise unseen here in the U.S. It is currently aired on cable television on the Cartoon Network's "Adult Swim" programming block, which airs from nine each weeknight into the early hours of the morning, as well

as on Saturday and Sunday nights. This form of animation is highly popular amongst, but not limited to, young people typically in high school and college.

The UHD Anime Society was formed by Esquivel and Co. for one specific purpose; create a place where anime lovers can meet and share their interests with one another in an environment free from outside criticism. With this being said, everyone who shares an interest in anime at UHD (and who has a GPA of 2.5 or higher) can get together and share what they know with one another in regards to anime.

Many of the club activities include discussion panels where members can meet and discuss what is new and popular in the world of anime and share any obscure anime that is not necessarily mainstream. Some future club activities will include workshops in the areas of Cosplay (dressing up as anime characters), learning to draw anime, attending anime conventions, and other

workshops that deal with Japanese culture and animation. One major going-on that will take place in the near future will be open screenings of Japanese animated movies and television shows. These screenings will be open to club members and all students at UHD.

This semester, members of the UHD Anime Society will be attending Oni-Con, an anime convention being held at the George R. Brown convention center on October 20th through the 22nd. The convention will hold a series of events that include but are not limited to, an opening ceremony welcoming the attendees, a banquet, concert, art show/gallery and auction, Cosplay competition, dance, karaoke, and various panels discussing different aspects of the anime industry. Also among the various activities and events there will be a dealer's area which sells hard to find anime merchandise to the general public.

Joining the UHD Anime Society is relatively easy as members need only have an open mind towards Japanese animation and have a standing 2.5 GPA. If anyone wishes to join or learn more about current and future meetings and activities they may contact the club president at Uhdanimesociety@yahoo.com or visit the organization's web site at myspace.com/uhdanimesociety. ☺

The Bayou Review

UHD's literary and artistic journal

Submit TODAY for the Fall 2006 Edition of the Bayou Review.

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The Ghosts of Wikipedia

WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

en.wikipedia.org

By Timika Simmons
Staff Writer

Wikipedia has been dropped from the United States Patent & Trademark Office list of sources for determining patent application validity in August because of its public editing policy.

Over the past year, Wikipedia has been a hot topic of

debate regarding controversial editions and posted articles on the site. An early account was featured in a Nov. 29th op-ed piece in a USA Today article by the former administrative assistant to Robert Kennedy, John Seigenthaler, who wrote about a Wikipedia article that suggested he may have been involved in the assassinations of both Robert F. Kennedy and John F. Kennedy. Although Jimmy Wales, the founder of Wikipedia stated in a C-SPAN interview that "his web site is accountable and that his community of thousands of volunteer editors corrects mistakes within minutes," Seigenthaler wrote "My experience refutes that... For four months, Wikipedia depicted me as a suspected assassin."

This accusation from Seigenthaler and others sparked

much discussion about the validity of Wikipedia as a whole. NEWS.com.au (Australia) reported more recently that only minutes after the September 4th death of the Crocodile Hunter, Steve Irwin, an anonymous editor posted to Irwin's biography "Steve Irwin's dead! LOLLOLOLOL!" Wikipedia quickly removed the message from Irwin's entry and closed it off to anonymous users. Not to mention my personal edit to the United States Constitution Preamble, "Wow, how cool!" which remained on the site a full week.

So what took the U.S. Patent and Trademark office so long to ban the site as a source or, better yet, what provoked them to use it anyway? It's hard to believe that over the past several years, the office decisions to grant or deny patents that could be worth millions of dollars on

everything from car parts to microchip designs have been partially based on Wikipedia articles. This is according to BusinessWeek's September 4th issue, Kicking Wiki Out of the Patent Office.

After all, Wikipedia does not cover up its public editing policy. Wikipedia openly displays on its search link that it is a "community-built encyclopedia" and when you get to the home page, you are greeted with the statement "Welcome to Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit." Patents Commissioner John Doll said in the BusinessWeek September 4th issue, Kicking Wiki Out of the Patent Office article, "the agency used Wikipedia entries as background and not as a basis for accepting or rejecting an application."

Critics do agree that it can

serve as a good source to build research on but not to base it. The thing about Wikipedia that makes it so controversial can also be viewed as what makes it so useful. Unlike the millions of other web based information pages – you can change it! Not only that, a public record is kept of the changes and the Wikipedians (editors) are constantly policing entries to make sure they are valid. I admit I was a little hurt when they removed my statement of how cool I thought the Preamble was. In Wikipedia's favor, I find it to be impressive that regardless of how nice or erroneous an entry may seem, there are guidelines posted for the public to see at Wikipedia's website, put in place to stress neutrality and accuracy. Nothing is perfect, especially the web, but does Wikipedia really need to be buried? ☺

Lady Luck's LSAT Prep Travelogue

By **Monica Maza**
Assistant Editor
Part 2 of 2

Arriving at SMU

I arrived at Love Field, picked up my luggage, and hailed my first taxi to SMU. Driving to SMU, we passed through Highland Park, a residential area that the driver called a "nice area," meaning a rich one. I was surprised, because by Houston standards this neighborhood's houses looked more upper-middle class to me. The ride to SMU was not long, so the fare was only \$13, but as soon as I got

out of the taxi I realized that I had a big problem. I was looking at a huge campus with multiple buildings and I did not know which building was Florence Hall. I had forgotten to look at a map of SMU before I left Houston so I did not have a printed one with me. You can imagine how brilliant I was feeling at that moment. All I could do was walk around in the 90-degree heat until I could find a student to ask for directions.

First, I found a girl sitting alone on a bench and asked her which building was Florence Hall. She pointed to the next building, so I walked there, went up to a door, and of course it was locked. I tried another and

it was locked, too, so obviously that was not the right building. At that moment another girl was walking towards me and I asked her the same question. She said, "I've never heard of that building." I was shocked, so I repeated the name of it and then she replied, "Oh, I thought you said Lawrence Hall." This new girl pointed me to the back of the campus and assured me that the hall was there. Well, I walked to the back of the campus only to find out that the building wasn't the right one. By this time, it's exactly 10am and I'm thinking 'oh great, I've been here 45 minutes but since I can't find the building-I'm going to be late anyway.' Class was scheduled to begin at 10am, but I'm sure you saw that coming.

Finding Florence Hall

Drenched in sweat and feeling absolutely stupid for not researching the campus before leaving Houston, I see a

gorgeous man in a suit walking toward me (this could be my future husband and I look like hell), so I asked him where Florence Hall was located. Finally, I got the right directions and found my classroom. Ironically, or because of my luck, the Florence Hall building was only one block from where the taxi had dropped me off. When I get to the building I see some people hanging around a door in the hallway so I assume that's the LSAT class. It's 10:15am and the teacher is there waiting with the other students, because the door is locked. After a while the campus police arrive to open the door and we all file in.

The appearance of the classroom's interior was very disappointing for me. I did not expect it to be old with cracked wooden chairs and peeling paint. This is the most expensive law school that I'm applying to in the state of Texas, so where is the \$31,000 per semester going? The outside

of the building was beautiful. There are lots of walkways, trees, flower gardens, Roman columns, water fountains, and other relaxing landscapes. Some of the other buildings I saw had elegant architecture and I couldn't help but wonder if I would find the same aged look inside of the rest of them. Ignoring the décor, I settled myself near the front and class began.

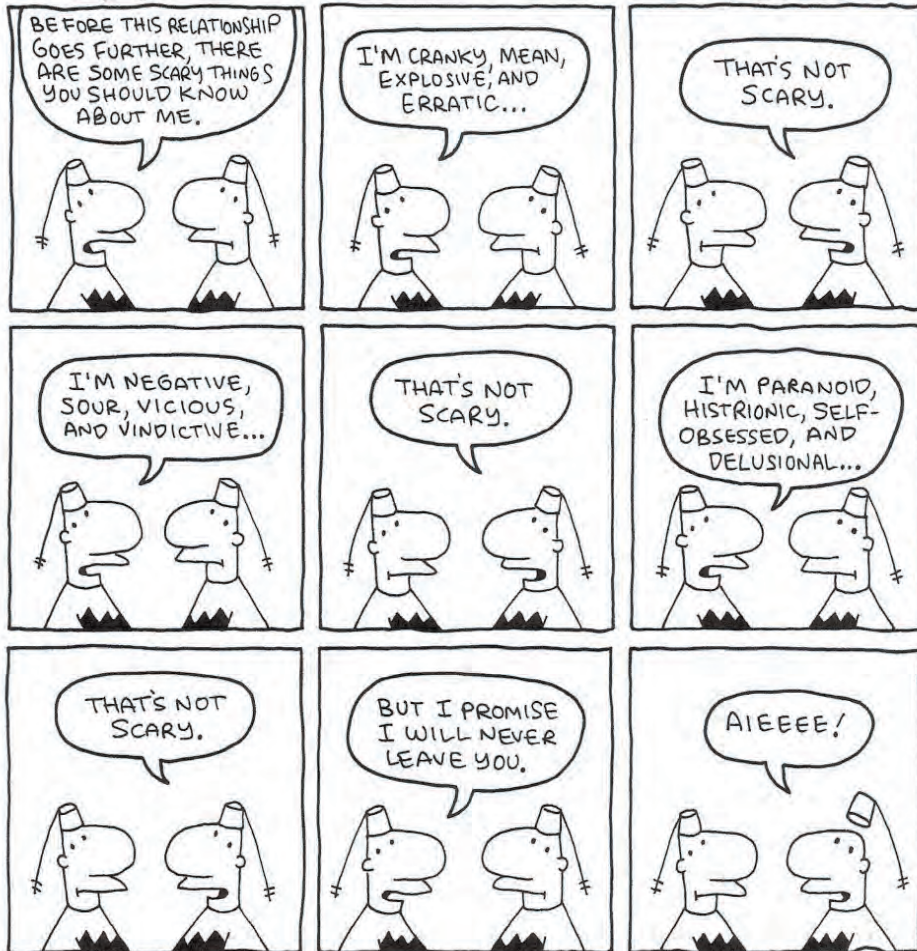
Checking in to the hotel

When class adjourned at 5:30pm, I hailed another taxi to go to my hotel and I told the driver the address of the La Quinta. He asked me how to get there and I had to stop from laughing out loud. Shouldn't a taxi driver know the city they drive in like the back of their hand? After heading in the wrong direction and making a U-turn, I was dropped off at La Quinta Cityplace and paid \$10 for all those wrong turns. I

See **LADY LUCK** page 10

LIFE IN HELL

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Wine and 'Roos in the Blues

By Dr. Yvonne Kendall
Guest Writer

At the Sydney airport we grabbed my bags, jumped in the car, and headed to the Blue Mountains. In addition to a house in a Sydney suburb, Jenny and Tim have a house on a big parcel of land. They tend to spend most weekends there.

As we drove due west leaving the city behind, I noticed the soft swelling of mountains obscured by a strange bluish haze. Now, I was born in Kentucky, home of soothing blue grass; spent a summer in Colorado among brilliant blue skies; and lived in California beside the deep blue sea- but I was fascinated and a bit taken aback by the idea of gentle blue air. As it turns out there is an oily mist that comes from the ubiquitous eucalyptus plants and reflects blue in the fading sunlight.

Just as I was adjusting to this phenomenon, I looked from the sky to the ground and saw a

tubby log-shaped creature slowly waddling along the road shoulder. Jenny and Tim were surprised at a nocturnal creature appearing in daylight. I was surprised at my first sighting of a wombat. This was the beginning of an adventure seeing plants and animals unlike those found anywhere else. There was a special one I hoped to see that was my secret reason for coming Down Under, but the wombat was a good start.

For those new to Australia's wild kingdom, a wombat is a marsupial. According to my trusty travel guide *Lonely Planet: AUSTRALIA*, it is the largest burrowing herbivore in the world. When they go underground, they can turn down their biological activity so that they seem to be dead. They can stay that way for nearly a week, surviving on 30% of the food needed by animals of comparable size.

We pulled off the road climbing up a scraggly hill, around rocky corners until we got to a minor peak where I could see a beautiful wooden structure with stone patios. There was a



Postcard from the edge. Can you find the 'roo?

widow's walk on the second floor where an octagonal room was surrounded by windows. From this eyrie, which became my favorite part of the house, you could see out over the hills in every direction. For the few days we were in the mountains I played my flute up there every day, looking out over the gorgeous landscape.

Meanwhile, they had asked me what I wanted to do in Australia and, apart from my secret quest; I said "wine tasting."

Australia is the new California. It is producing wonderful vintages in the same type of boutique settings as the Napa Valley. In fact, the mountainous ambiance is quite similar- rather scrubby hills with animals running free and beautifully designed homes gracing solitary hillsides.

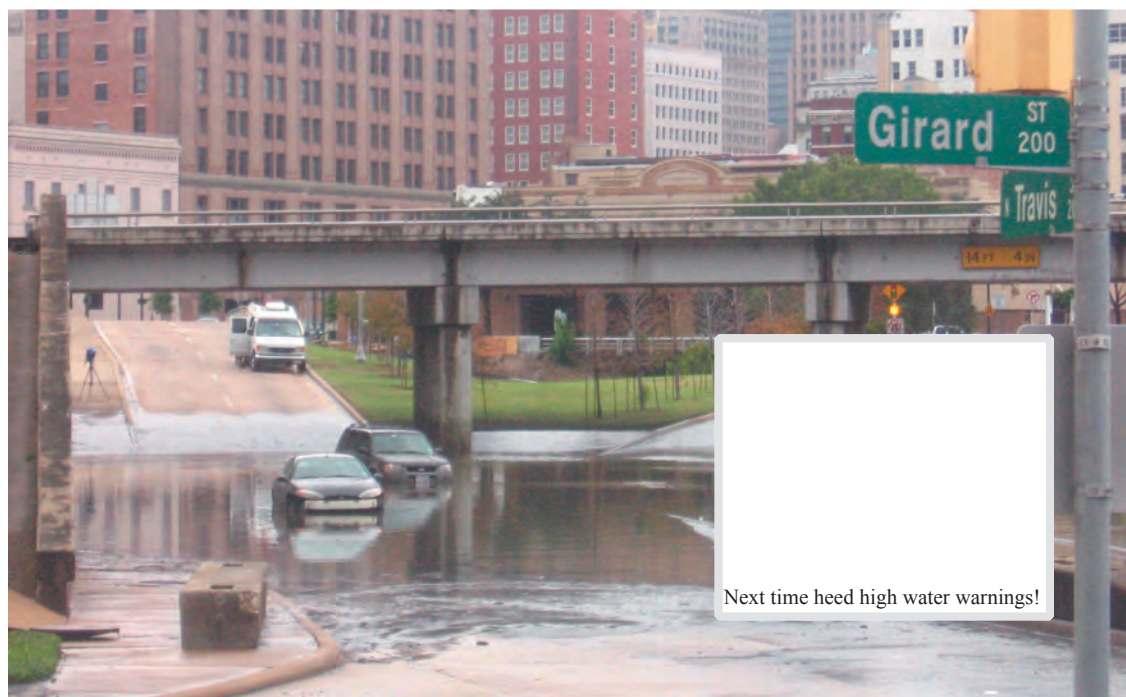
Walking out in the woods at twilight, I noticed strange movements in the sparse wooded expanse. Good heavens! Kangaroos in the wild! I could not believe it. Seeing an animal

in the zoo (which I've always disliked) is one thing. Seeing it only a few yards away minding its own business with its young is something else all together. Sipping an elegant Australian Sauvignon Blanc while watching the shadows of kangaroos and joeys hopping calmly along will always be one of my favorite mental images of Australia.

Next time: Chilly nights, strange bedfellow, and Marvelous Melbourne! 🇺🇸

Did you get the word?

An image of the flooding that led to the cancellations on Monday, Oct. 16th.



Photos by Juan Ortiz

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Events Around Town

Haunted Houses

“The Castle of Doom”

part Halloween attraction, part museum of “medieval” terror

“The Haunted Woods”

tour the same forest the victims disappeared from

“The Sanitarium”

Be thrown into an asylum where patient’s cells are left open and orderlies have the night off

“The Texas Chainsaw Maze”

Get lost in a maze where a lunatic with a chainsaw has escaped from the sanitarium

Dia de los Muertos

“Calacas”

ArtCar Museum
macabre art

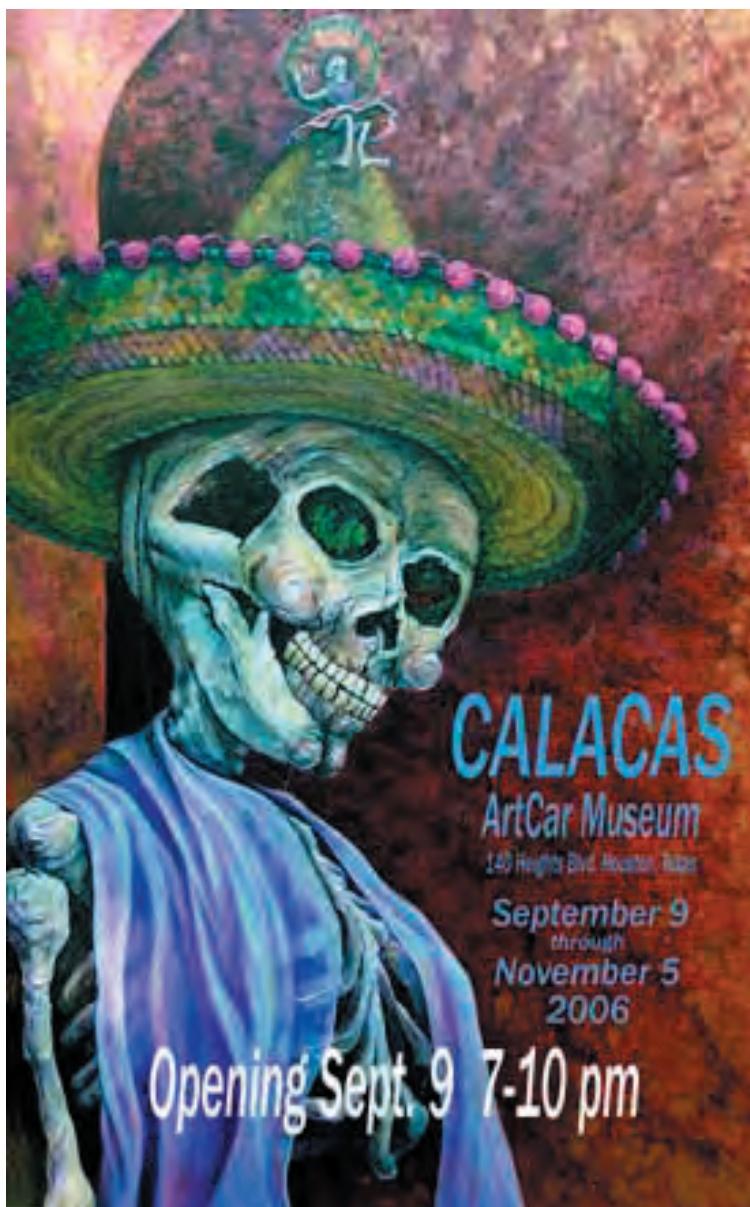
“Dia de los Muertos”

Houston Museum of Natural Science
cultural art celebrating the Day of the Dead

For the kids

“Zoo Boo”

Houston Zoo
safe trick or treating and a kid friendly haunted house designed for children 10 yrs and under



Homer's take on Leatherface.

New ‘Massacre’ not worth the wait

By Brock Herrington
Daily Mississippian
(U-WIRE)

The purpose of most prequels is to provide an explanation as to why events took place in a previous movie. This stands true for “The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning.” However, I found myself getting bored watching the history of Thomas Hewitt

(more commonly known as Leatherface) unfold.

At the beginning we see the horrible birth of baby Leatherface and his abandonment in a garbage dumpster. The scene was unnecessary and quite shoddy; the special effects used to make the deformed baby look realistic failed miserably.

We are bombarded by a number of other facts that explain various things from the previous movie: Why Uncle Monty is legless, why Sheriff Hoyt is missing teeth and why the town is deserted. As I gained all this knowledge, I should have been interested; however, I was not in the least. The movie tried to explain too much -- it dwelled on things that the audience did not really care to have explained anyway.

The storyline has two brothers named Dean and Eric driving across Texas to be

shipped off to Vietnam for the war with their girlfriends, Chrissie and Bailey, for company. They have a wreck in an attempt to outrun a biker, who is trying to rob them. Sheriff Hoyt then picks up the characters and takes them to their bloody ends.

And, that is exactly what the remainder of the movie is: Bloody. Some form of gore is in every other scene. In one horrific scene, Leatherface scrapes the skin from one character’s arm until he reaches the bone. As a fan of horror movies myself, I realize that gore is necessary in these movies, but it seemed very forced in this one. Although most of the actors were relatively unknown, they did superb acting jobs. I actually believed the characters were terrified of the events happening to and around them. The one thing that inhibited their

performances a bit was the cheesy one-liners. It is hard to believe that someone is truly afraid if they are aware enough to think up something quirky to say to the bad guy.

In my opinion the producers made a mistake in letting Jessica Biel’s character cut off one of Leatherface’s arms in the 2003 movie. This wound destroyed any possibility of a sequel being made because a one-armed man cannot crank a chainsaw, leaving a prequel as the only option. The movie was about average as far as horror films go; I just think all of the history was a little boring and took away from the macabre and terror of the movie.

For all the horror movie fans looking for a good scare near Halloween, I would wait for “Saw 3” or go rent the 2003 version with Jessica Biel. ☹

Seasons Change

By Lindsay Haygood
Guest Writer

Sugar addicts, you're in luck. It is the time of year we are haunted by ghosts, goblins and most importantly, enough chewy candy to make an honest dentist cringe. We are officially nearing Halloween. Last weekend I was reminded of this as I strolled down the aisles of Walgreen's. Looking at the impressive display of costumes and candy I came to the harsh realization that I have grown up. As I glanced over at a beautiful princess costume, I wondered if I will ever recapture that childhood creativity, where the line between real and make believe is often blurred.

Anyone ever exposed to children knows that there is only one day of the year capable of competing with the excitement of Christmas. This day is Halloween. A child often spends months planning their costume ... they may be a pirate, Superman, Cinderella or perhaps a ballerina. The list of possibilities is endless. Oh, to be someone else for one night! In our early years we have the luxury of spending our days contemplating great issues such as what Halloween costume we will wear on that ever-so-important night. There is also the thrilling expectation of a bulging pillow case spilling over with candy. As adults, we are warned that too many sweets can lead to diabetes and obesity. But as children we eat candy as if it was as crucial to life as water, and we certainly do not feel guilty about it.

I will never forget the Halloween in which I decided to be a rock star. It took months of planning. My babysitter, Brandy, played the important role of stylist. We meticulously planned my make-up regimen and as far as I was concerned, I was on my way to launching

a world tour. Blondie (a.k.a. Deborah Harry) had nothing on me. Blue eye shadow and red lipstick were going to be an essential part of my transformation as was pink wash out hairspray. My hair was to be crimped and I obtained neon green lace leggings along with hot pink Reeboks and scrunch socks. To top it all off I wore a fabulous lacy t-shirt and a metallic silver jacket that even Madonna would envy. For one night, I was truly going to be a star.

When I look back at childhood photos from Halloween, I am reminded of a time when joy was found in the small stuff. There was no thinking "I will be happy when _____" (fill in the blank). Despite temporary disturbances children eventually lose themselves in a world of fun and imagination. They have yet to be effected by grown-up realities. When you are not concerned about paying your electric bill or washing a week's worth of dirty dishes, you have time to play! But whether kids are dressing up for Halloween or playing in the sandbox, at the end of the day, they are okay with being themselves. In this way, they are far better off than grown-ups.

So Halloween reminds us of our younger years. For better or worse, almost every adult day feels like a masquerade. We walk around in our societal masks, not really in touch with our authentic selves. These masks disguise and work as shields to protect us from the hurt life can bring. And although some of us still dress up for parties or visit haunted houses, Halloween will never be like it was when we were children. But let this night be a reminder of our inner-child that still lives within. To touch that child-like spirit for even one moment is awe-inspiring and a cue that life is too short to be taken too seriously. This Halloween I am going to have fun. Yet I will not forget the person beyond my mask- for when the night is over I will pack my costume away and be what I've always wanted to be: myself. ☺

Elvira's Halloween: Boys will be Girls

By Juan Ortiz
Staff Writer

The homosocial routine between straight guys heightens around Halloween as they conjure up costume ideas, it is not unusual for one of your buddies to consider personifying a female they see in everyday life. Webster's dictionary defines the homosocial as "of, relating to, or involving social relationships between persons of the same sex and especially between men." The word holds no sexual connotations.

For example, your friend might say, "I want to dress up as a girl this year." You might say with some disillusionment, "Um, why man?" He then says, "Because it's cool, yo." Once in full drag, all you can hear him say in full stupor is, "I am as pretty as a little girl," and later find him passed out in the gutter, trashed out.

While I personally believe good-looking guys should expose as much skin as possible leaving nothing to the imagination, there is something tantalizing about

a straight guy exploring his female side in outlandish attire. This is a fetish and a lifestyle I do not intend to offend and completely respect.

Imagine a muscular, hairy body as it is adjusting the goods in unnatural clothing for all his friends to admire or laugh at amongst his daring appearance. It takes a lot balls (that one often must tuck or flaunt) to put on panty hoses or make-up to ultimately make an outfit work.

Women are constantly looking for compliments from others and the same goes for the guy seeking approval for his new found freedom. Men discover what it feels like for a girl, and how maintenance is very important to the upkeep of appearance. Some people may look at this boy in a dress and not approve. Some may "hate on" his choice of costume by saying that it's gay. While other women would never allow their boyfriend to cross that fine line of what defines masculinity,



photo by Juan Ortiz

Boys want to be her, Girls want to be him!

a respectable feeling not intended to be undermined by this article's intent. However, once a guy makes the distinction in his head that dressing up as girl might be something he may try out, send him my way and I will show him the ropes or at least M.A.C.'s cosmetics line of shimmering tones.

No matter which way you view boys dressed as girls, I have some suggestions if you plan to be more than a girly boy in a dress. Some gender-bending costume suggestions of mine for this year include Ugly Betty, Beyoncé, a "Woman of the Night," Hooters Girls, and a French Maid (or just a "tore-up" version of your mother). Remember it is not so much how you look, but how much fun you have this Halloween. ☺

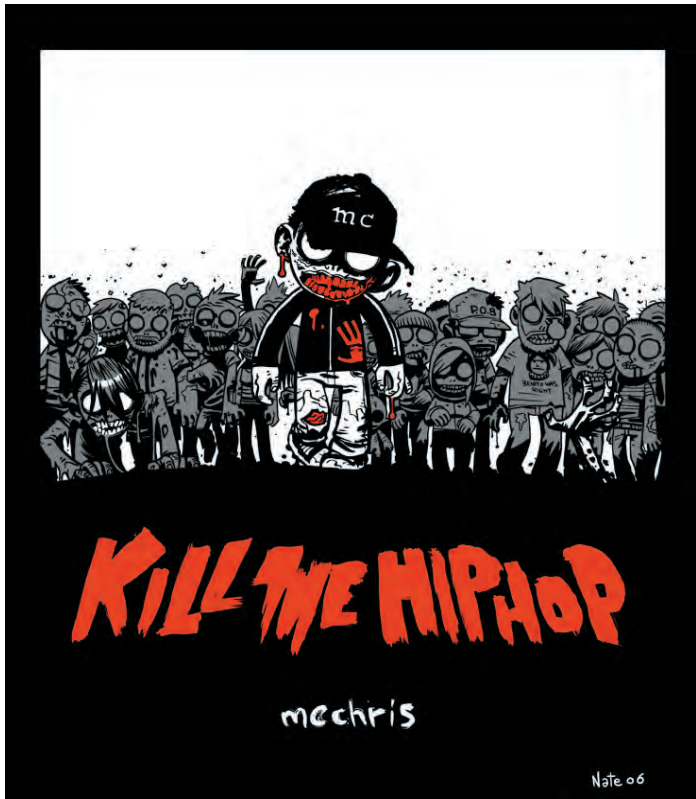
First Annual UHD Fall Family Festival
 Saturday, Oct 21 * 11am-3pm * South Deck

Bring your family to UHD and join us for a day full of fun!
 Free & Open to Everyone!
 TV & Rockets tickets Raffle!

Costume & Pumpkin Contest, Ring Toss, Duck Pond, Hot Dog Eating Contest & More!

For more information, please contact the Office of Student Activities & Events at 713-221-8573

Artist Spotlight



Geekin' out with mc chris

By Woodie Stephenson
Staff Writer

Nerdcore rap—yeah, it sounds pretty ridiculous but that's just what it is. For mc chris, an Illinois rapper and the torchbearer of nerdcore, the style is all about humor and pop culture reference. After all, where else could you find songs were a mc discusses comic book characters, Star Wars references, and riding in the Batmobile?

Mc chris (no capitalization needed) has found a niche audience of fellow nerds by self-promoting and marketing his brand of nasally humorous rap online since 2000. Not only is he known for his rhymes but mc chris has been involved with Adult Swim since it aired Sealab2020 where he contributed voices and cleaned up ancient Hanna Barbara stills of scuba divers for the show's unique animation. Since joining the Adult Swim staff, mc chris has been involved with the Brak Show and Aqua Teen Hunger Force before resigning to focus on his emerging music career.

Having found rising success online for his debut record, *Life's a Bitch and I'm her Pimp*, mc chris located to New York. In 2005 the independent mc was signed to DC Flag by pop-punkers Good Charlotte who unexpectedly were huge fans of his geek rap. A surprising success to many, mc chris released his next project *Eating Isn't Cheating* to warm reviews and has been touring constantly since. Fans of mc chris can expect a well-rounded show as the high-pitched lyricist blazes through a growing catalogue of 5 records including this year's release, *Dungeon Master of Ceremonies*. However, for many the true jewel of a mc chris performance are insanely weird onstage freestyle sessions. During live shows mc chris will tackle nearly any unimaginable audience topic request in order to create a unique experience during every show. Just imagine the crowd screaming for mc chris to freestyle a track about being eaten by Jabba the Hutt while blasting Mega Man's arm cannon at a room full of flying ninjas. It could happen.

To hear tracks from mc chris' new album visit www.myspace.com/mcchris. ☺

HAUNTED

continued from page 1

photos and reports of real hauntings. Case #16 of their investigations is about the Spaghetti Warehouse and includes a chilling, unexplained occurrence that Stapleton's article chose to omit. "Employees there also report that chairs will be stacked on top of the tables nearly all the way up to the ceiling." In this case study, the team documented their findings during three investigations of The Spaghetti Warehouse. During the first one they only captured one photograph of a strange mist in the elevator. Nine months later, the second investigation provided them with an unexplained electromagnetic field (EMF) spike (change in electrical energy is an indication of paranormal activity) in the middle of a small 2nd floor dining room and a picture taken at that moment came back showing a vortex. According to Scott Arthur, the co-founder of High Spirits Tours, a vortex is an unusual flash of colored light that appears in pictures. During this same investigation, a second spike occurred in the main dining area on the second floor, which yielded another photo with a vortex appearing.

On Halloween night of 2003, the Lone Star Spirits team along with DJs from 93 Q-Country spent the night in The Spaghetti Warehouse to conduct their third investigation. Unfortunately, this visit did not reveal any new findings. The report states: "one of our psychics could feel several presence's at different times of the evening on the second floor. One of our techs escorted two of 93-Q's DJs all over the building, including the roof. By the end of the tour, they were sure, that something was there watching them." At the end of The Spaghetti Warehouse report there are four pictures that the team captured of the various mists and orbs that they caught on camera. There was nothing else on this website, so I followed my next search result that read, "Is it a ghost? Scary photo from Houston, Texas."

This link took me to a website owned by Fiona Broome named hollowhill.com. The homepage says it contains real ghost pictures and stories from all over the world. This website mentions

The Spaghetti Warehouse in a short article titled, "What's Wrong with this Picture?" Apparently there is a huge portrait of a man displayed on the second floor of the restaurant that is very odd looking. The article by Broome and her staff says, "A few of us have been trying to analyze the picture, and cannot figure out why this portrait is so troubling. As you can see, we've tweaked the contrast and colors, and nothing clearly presents itself to us." The portrait is included in the article in its original color and as four enhanced images of various degrees. I personally felt something very eerie looking at this picture. I can see something in the man's face that makes me think there is something wrong with the portrait. The Hollow Hill article also includes this sentence, "If you can see anything especially odd in this photo, or explain why it's giving some of our researchers nightmares, please let us know." Next time I'm in The Spaghetti Warehouse, I have definitely got to see this portrait, but, in the mean time, if any of you want to see it the URL is <http://www.hollowhill.com/tx/mrcreepy1.htm>.

There were two results that had short articles; one was 2theadvocate.com and the other was needcoffee.com. 2theadvocate.com is another travel website that had an article called, "Turn a Houston Haunt into a spooky big city getaway." Cynthia Campbell reported that "members of the wait staff sometimes hear their names being called even though no one is nearby." She also states that "Sandra McMasters, Spaghetti Warehouse's manager, reports that when closing the restaurant one night, she saw four translucent spirits float by in front of her and since then, no one has worked alone in the building." [Needcoffee.com](http://needcoffee.com) had an excerpt for the advertisement of the book on amazon.com titled "The World's Most Haunted Places" by Jeff Belanger. This book contains "twenty-nine chapters of places that include The Tower of London, the Queen Mary, the White House, and a Spaghetti Warehouse in Houston."

I couldn't believe what my next search result read- "AAA Texas-Travel-Day Trip: Haunted Houston." AAA as in the American Automobile Association had an article that advertises coming to Houston in order to see the ghosts! Not surprisingly, the article

mentioned The Spaghetti Warehouse but unlike the others, it included some details about the ghost tour I had heard about. This article by Sandy S. Brown documents the events that occur on one of these tours. A group of people meet upstairs in The Spaghetti Warehouse on a Saturday night and "learn the ABC's of catching a spirit's image with high speed film or a digital camera" from Scott Arthur, the co-founder of High Spirits Tours, the company that conducts these ghost tours. Before the tour begins he tells the group, "Cameras may malfunction and batteries might go dead. [...] Remember that ghosts are energy." Tour members have handheld EMF meters as they walk around the room.

After The Spaghetti Warehouse, the tour group gets on a chartered bus and visits four more haunted sites in Houston: Founders Cemetery on 1217 West Dallas is the oldest in the city and includes soldiers who fought in the Battle of San Jacinto. The Brewery Tap at 717 Franklin is where a patron saw the bathroom taps turn on by themselves and the jukebox is known to turn on and off by itself. The Julia Ideson Building of the Houston Public Library on 500 McKinney has the old oak tree "Cramer" named after the maintenance man who now haunts it. Many people have captured orbs in its branches with their camera. The last stop used to be the most disturbing: Jefferson Davis Hospital on 1101 Elder Street. Arthur would tell the group that "this abandoned place used to be a trauma center and insane asylum, but it is built on top of the old City Cemetery." At this point in time the Jefferson Davis Hospital is no longer standing. According to the Houston Business Journal, it was renovated and reopened on May 17, 2006 as the Elder Street Artist Lofts. I feel sorry for whoever decided to move into that building. AAA's article ends with the information on the High Spirits Tours that begin at The Spaghetti Warehouse. The tour is available most Friday and Saturday evenings, is three hours long, the cost is \$35 per person, and reservations must be made in advance.

For more information on the ghost tour call 713-224-2868 or go to the website at www.highspiritstours.com. But remember you've been warned. ☹

UHD Faculty Book Review



Professor Andre de Korvin

Dreaming Indigo Time

**Mathematics
professor
ponders time in
new poetry work**

**By Woodie Stephenson
Staff Writer**

A world-renowned mathematician by trade and a poet by nature, Andre de Korvin offers an intriguing and refreshing look at the concept of time in his recent collection of poetry *Dreaming Indigo Time*. Born in Berlin, Germany to Russian parents and raised in Paris, France where he studied mathematics, de Korvin now calls UHD home as a faculty member in the Department of Mathematical and Computer Sciences. De Korvin is no stranger to the process of publication, with over 170 publications to his credit in the fields of math and artificial intelligence, but the UHD professor is extremely proud to release his newest collection of poetry.

Partially inspired by a conference de Korvin had attended many years ago, *Dreaming Indigo Time* wrestles with the age-old enigma of time and its plague upon man's

mortality. The conference that served as a muse for de Korvin's book of poems posed the seemingly simple question: what is time? Among those who challenged the question there were engineers, clockmakers, mathematicians, philosophers, and scientists of every pedigree; however, after reading *Dreaming Indigo Time*, it is apparent that a poet of de Korvin's caliber can ponder something as fleeting as time with the best of them.

The opening poem of de Korvin's collection, "In No Time," is a playful and masterful piece that speaks of the suppression of the writer through the drudgery of life. "They hand me the transaction papers. / *Accounts and Balance* / it says at the top. / Under Accounts I write: / *In the crowded city zoo / the dream tiger still walks behind bars,*" de Korvin writes. "In No Time" finds de Korvin letting his fascination with the imagination run wild through his verse, thus creating a fantastic landscape where the simple objects that litter a desk serve as chess pieces and the letters of his verse float amongst the sky as clouds.

"An Epoch," a seminal and epic part of de Korvin's collection, explores the themes of hardship over the years with a tender sensitivity complimented by tongue-in-cheek humor. De

Korvin writes, "You went with your eyes of Poland / your face with its shadows of Berlin wall / your vision of clouds waiting at the doors / of the big welfare building. / Your heart ticking, a worn down clock / and your head, the globe / of a broken-up world." De Korvin explores the harsh landscapes of discrimination, unemployment, disappointment, alcoholism, and death in "An Epoch" to arrive at the powerful vision of "Man walking on the moon, leaving behind / a dying century." De Korvin even finds the words in "An Epoch" to turn an old expression inside out as he

writes "You say: the sun turns like an old record / because history repeats itself."

De Korvin at last saves the most powerful poem in *Dreaming Indigo Time* for last, the tender and sentimental "I Dream Time." It is in this poem that de Korvin is able to connect the past to the future through his verse and come to terms with the gift of mortality and time. De Korvin's visions of time come alive in the verses of "I Dream Time" as Indigo River, the perfect form of de Korvin's own answer to time, becomes frozen and time neglects to function by its normal standards:

"I Dream Time"

Time went one day forward
and two days back
and then three days forward
and then four days back.
The jumps become wider.
Soldiers that were shot,
shot bullets back with their hearts
into the barrels of rifles.
Each poem read was read anew,
and rediscovered a million times.

DUAL

continued from page 2

example of this is military service; citizenship in the other nation where the national is a citizen will not exempt him or her from it.

When considering dual nationality, one must consider

these consequences before obtaining this special status. Allegiance is owed to both countries, although the country where one resides in is where the stronger allegiance is thought to lie. It is often advised that people with this status do not mention it when dealing with their respective governments unless specifically

asked. Otherwise, problems could occur unnecessarily.

Dual nationality is a wonderful privilege. It can open doors for travel and broaden one's opportunities throughout the world. Individuals with this status can have a larger voice in world affairs by being able to vote in more than one country, and they can hold on to the heritage their ancestors more tangibly. Dual nationality is far more an asset than a liability. ☺

WANTED: MANAGING EDITOR FOR STUDENT NEWSPAPER

UHD's student newspaper, *Dateline: Downtown*, "Student-Run Since Volume One," seeks a literate, energetic and mature (full- or part-time) UHD student -- with excellent writing skills, ability to manage an eclectic and idiosyncratic staff of student writers, and broad knowledge of UHD student activities and interests -- for the position of managing editor. Will join a committed and enthusiastic current staff. Must be able to write and edit grammatically correct stories on short notice and tight deadlines, following Associated Press guidelines. Pay is based on a 20-hour workweek, but production schedules require the editor's commitment to on-time delivery to the printer, which often requires sustained teamwork and late hours "to put the paper to bed" on deadline. The job is open for the school year 2006-07, but successful candidate may be able to start in Spring 2006, depending on qualifications. Successful candidate

should have a vision for the paper, a nose for news, and a feel for human-interest stories featuring UHD students, staff, faculty, and administrators that would capture the curiosity of student readers. Ideal candidate would be a creative thinker who has (or could develop) a network of contacts on campus and in the No-Do neighborhood that would keep her or him well informed on topics of interest for readers in the broader UHD community; investigative reporting a distinct option, based on ability. Managing Editor works closely with the Business Manager, Assistant Editor, and Layout Designer, to produce a quality, twice-monthly publication with an editorial vision that includes high editorial quality and standards on tight deadlines. For application, contact the faculty advisor, Professor Anthony Chiaviello, at 713-221-8520 (leave message), or by email at ChiavielloA@uhd.edu.

MEDICAL

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have graduated from a school in a field of medical specialty. One must be found with appropriate moral and professional standards for that field of study. Of course, a candidate must be licensed in their respective field.

Requirements for the more advanced fields obviously are more demanding. One must have a master's degree in some fields at least, if not a doctorate. However, this carries a higher degree of benefit as one may start at the level of a captain. In some fields, work experience may be required to augment existing degrees.

Overall, the Army health care team provides everything a man or woman with the right potential and ambition needs to succeed. The educational opportunities offered are second to none. The hands on experience offered allows full use of skills and practical application of knowledge learned. The chance for growth and improvement of one's self are limitless.

By joining the Army health care team any man or woman may truly be: an Army of One. ☺

LADY LUCK

continued from page 4

checked in without a problem, walked to my room in the back of the complex, and I opened the door of room 144.

Finally, a nice surprise on this trip for me- because this room was nice! It was clean and spacious, with a big bathroom, coffee maker, hairdryer, TV, and mini refrigerator. The only thing that I noticed was missing was the microwave but I didn't think I would need one anyway. I put my one bag

to the side and decided to find a pizza place that delivered to the hotel, so I opened the telephone book on the desk. After calling ten different Dominoes, I found the right one and ordered my dinner, a medium three-meat pizza. Then I relaxed and channel surfed, which I haven't done in a long time since I don't have cable at home.

Day 2: More Revelations

Upon returning to the campus, I walked up to the marble statue in front of the law school and read the inscription, "Leadership starts with learning," Robert Dedman Sr." I walked to Florence Hall and this time I noticed that there were lots of squirrels running around. I don't know if it was the squirrels, trees, or lack of pollution but my allergies had been giving me trouble ever since I arrived in Dallas. As I was looking at the landscape around Florence Hall, I noticed that there were no signs on the outside of this building. No wonder I couldn't find this place yesterday. The one tiny sign that labels this building as Florence Hall was on the backside of the building facing away from the main entrance, which is why it took me 45 minutes to find my classroom.

Inside the building, I noticed that I had absolutely no reception on my cell phone and even within five feet of the building's doors there was no reception. I had to take a short walk during my class breaks just so I could call back home and let mom know I was still alive. It was on one of these trips that I passed a door and read a sign taped to it that said, "Uni-sex bathroom (Like in Ally McBeal)." I've never seen Ally McBeal but that sign still made me laugh. Curiosity got the best of me so I walked in and immediately reached for the light switch. There wasn't a switch that I could feel but there was a flat plastic cover there in its place. The light flicked on and I immediately looked at the missing switch and discovered that this plastic cover had a sensor on it. This plastic thing was a motion detecting light switch, which

means the light automatically turns on whenever there's movement in the restroom and that's a nice piece of energy saving technology.

Entering the classroom was not as bad as yesterday, but the A/C was not on and it was uncomfortably hot. Our teacher called SMU control and they told her, "It's only 80 degrees in there," before they turned the air on. It took another 20 minutes for the room to actually cool down enough for the class to stop dripping sweat onto the desks. I did think it was impressive that SMU has a system where they can monitor the temperature in the school's buildings. Why can't the rest of Florence Hall have an updated look to match this technology?

Returning to Love Field

Going through security was ridiculous again. There are still people who forget that carry-ons cannot have gels or liquids inside them so they get detained for a little bit before their stuff gets thrown away. There are signs posted all over the airport that remind people about the heightened terror threat and actually lists the items that are not allowed. Basically, if the item is spreadable, then it is not allowed in the carry-on bag or in the cabin. So, if you buy a drink or ice cream two minutes before you board the plane, you will be forced to throw it away because it is not allowed onboard. There are signs that warn people to consume all drinks and ice cream prior to boarding the plane at each shop in the airport, but people forget since this rule is still new.

As I waited for my flight, I noticed that every TV at every gate had the Cowboy game on. I left Dallas on my 7:30pm flight, which was delayed 35 minutes- but at least this time I got my bag of peanuts. And just think- I have to do this all over again.

For information on LSAT prep classes through Get Prepped, visit their website at www.getprepped.com. ☺

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers
About Our Environment

EARTH TALK

From the Editors of E/The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk: Are there any environmental or human health risks to using nail polish?

-- Deborah Lynn, Milford, CT

Conventional nail polishes dispensed at most drugstores and nail salons contain a veritable witch's brew of chemicals, including toluene, which has been linked to a wide range of health issues from simple headaches and eye, ear, nose and throat irritation to nervous system disorders and damage to the liver and kidneys.

Another common yet toxic ingredient in conventional nail polish is a chemical plasticizer

known as dibutyl phthalate (DBP). According to the Environmental Working Group (EWG), a non-profit research and advocacy organization that campaigns to educate consumers about the health risks of cosmetics, studies have linked DBP to underdeveloped genitals and other reproductive system problems in newborn boys.

As such, DBP is banned from cosmetics in the European Union but the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the United States has taken no such action, even though a recent study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found DBP and other toxic phthalates in the bloodstreams of every person they tested. Further, five percent of women tested who were of childbearing age (ages 20-40) had up to 45 times more of the chemicals in their bodies than researchers had expected to find.

EWG attributes the prevalence of DBP in young women to widespread use of nail polish. "Women of childbearing

age should avoid all exposure to DBP when they're considering becoming pregnant, when they're pregnant, or when they're nursing," says Jane Houlihan, EWG's Vice President for Research.

Luckily, safer nail polishes do exist and are readily available at natural health and beauty supply stores as well as from online outlets such as Natural Solutions and Infinite Health Resources. These products, from such makers as Honeybee Gardens, PeaceKeeper, Jerrie, Visage Naturel and Sante, rely on naturally occurring minerals and plant extracts to beautify nails without the need for toxic ingredients.

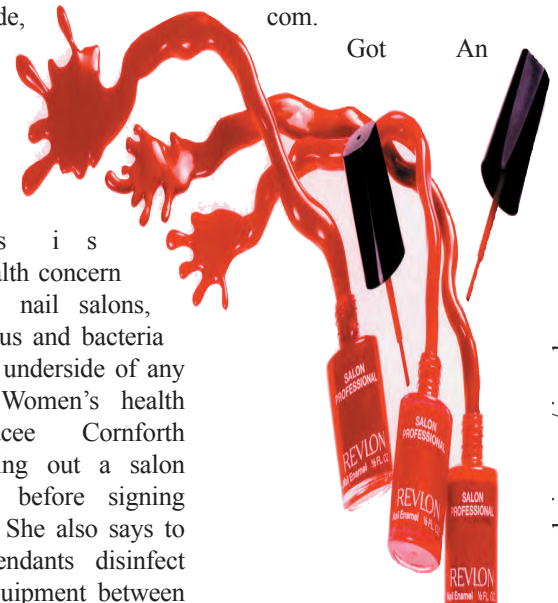
Major nail polish manufacturers are also now getting in on the act. According to the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics, a coalition of organizations that includes EWG and the Breast Cancer Fund, Avon, Estee Lauder, Revlon and L'Oreal confirmed last year that they would begin removing DBP from products. And leading drugstore brand Sally Hansen has said it is reformulating

all of its products to remove DBP and toluene as well as formaldehyde, which is also known to cause cancer and reproductive problems.

Exposure to toxic chemicals is not the only health concern associated with nail salons, where nail fungus and bacteria can lurk on the underside of any emery board. Women's health advocate Tracee Cornforth suggests checking out a salon for cleanliness before signing up for services. She also says to make sure attendants disinfect all tools and equipment between customers, and even recommends bringing in one's own manicure or pedicure kit so as to minimize the transmission of any unsightly or painful maladies.

Contacts: Environmental Working Group, www.ewg.org; Campaign for Safe Cosmetics, www.SafeCosmetics.org; Natural Solutions, www.bewellstaywell.com; Infinite Health Resources, www.infinitehealthresources.com.

com; Infinite Health Resources, www.infinitehealthresources.com.



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Environmental Question? Send It To: [Earthtalk, C/o E/the Environmental Magazine, P.o. Box 5098, Westport, Ct 06881](mailto:Earthtalk@emagazine.com); Submit It At: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/, Or E-mail: Earthtalk@emagazine.com. Read Past Columns At: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php

**This is my Writing Arm.
Let's See Yours!**

**Dateline Downtown
Room 260S | 713-221-8569**

Dateline: Downtown

is offering the UHD community (students, faculty, and staff) **FREE** tickets to the seasonal Galveston attraction "Dickens on the Strand." For information on how to obtain tickets, see the [Dateline Downtown](#) page on the Crossroads Festival on Wednesday October 25 1:30pm on the South Deck or e-mail us at dateline@uhd.edu

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