INSIDE:

Red Rose Buds

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Graffiti and fajitas: no crowds

Springfest: lovely and lonely

This year's Spring Festival was held at Allen's Landing on March 19. In the past, the event has been celebrated on the parking lot of One Main Street.

Chairperson of the University Program Council Gwendolyn Putney said the transfer was due to current construction at the parking lot. "It was not easy securing Allen's landing," Putney said. She encountered problems persuading the city to permit the University of Houston-Downtown to use the landing for the Spring Festival.

The festival was not just a social event, it was also a fund raiser for clubs and organizations. Nine student organizations, including LASSO, PLM, Finance Club and the Student Government Association participated. The items sold for the fund raising included strawberries, popcorn, soda, fajitas and hot dogs. The city will collect 10% of whatever the organizations sold.

The "Rodd Band," a new group from the Houston area seeking recognition, provided music at no cost. Magic 102 FM was also present. The radio station gave out free T-shirts to people who correctly answered selected trivia questions. The festival included a dunking booth with campus celebrities such as Dr. Tom Lyttle and Program Council coordinator Jocelyn Briddell daring bullseyes and water on the cool afternoon.

Dunking booth at Spring Fest

Putney said she was displeased with the student turnout. Asked about the light attendance, she said a lot of students probably did not want to come down the hill. She added that she spent a lot of time decorating the landing for the "celebration of the coming of spring."

However, some students felt the reason for the poor turnout was too little publicity. Angela Smart, a business student, said, "The festival is going slow, and I feel the reason is that there were few posters up. In fact, I only saw the banner two days ago." Another student, Bores Bratovich, said the reason for the poor turnout was that "Allen's Landing is hidden; besides, I don't think many students knew about it."

Other students saw things differently. Business major Michelle DeVeaux said, "I really had a good time, especially watching Dr. Lyttle get dunked. It is a shame some students didn't show up." Many students commented on the attractive scenery of the area; one cynic said we should all get used to living under a bridge, given the recession.

LASSO's fajitas were a big hit

No summer drought in class offerings

Students should be pleasantly surprised by this summer's course offerings says Dr. John Kerrigan, vice-chancellor of Academic Affairs, UH-D. Despite financial cutbacks, students should have more courses to choose from than they have anticipated.

Summer I will begin one week later than usual to allow local high school students to enroll in UH-D summer school. Because of this late start, Summer I will have classes Monday through Friday for the first two weeks of the session and will then return to the regular Monday through Thursday schedule. Summer II classes will not be affected by this change.

Regular registration for Summer I will be held June 4-5. Classes will begin June 9 and final exams are July 10.

Registration for Summer II will be July 11 with classes beginning July 14 and final exam on August 19. Early registration could begin in late April - early May, said Dean Jeffrey Bobbit. University Administration will determine next week whether early registration will be held.

Schedule for summer classes should be available during the first week of April at the Student Center or the Registrar's Office.

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Student Services will remain unaffected by budget cuts this summer according to Kerrigan however, the University is considering a 4-day work week to cut expenditures. If adopted, the 4-day schedule would begin this summer.

by Chris Haslett
When I think of attending a ball, I envision a dreadful evening with Cinderella's step-sisters, dry, boring and hypocritical people who can't even dance. That was until I deferred my cynicism and went to the UH-D Red Rose Ball at Hotel Intercontinental in the Galleria last year. And now what? I had a ball!

The minute I left my date's car, everyone seemed ready to make me feel important. Valet parking, friendly handshakes and hugs inside the hotel, an ample refreshment and hors d'oeuvres table, champagne and candlelight, and just beyond the reception room filled with people from school who never looked so good, you could hear the 26-piece Ricky Diaz orchestra. Even with this elegant band, there is a friendly touch: some of its members are UH-D alums and the band has played at every such ball since it began.

The Red Rose Scholarship Ball is an annual affair presented by UH-Downtown. The ball provides scholarships to UH-D students who have achieved scholastic excellence, and gives others an opportunity to participate in an elegant social evening. Recipients of the scholarship must have at least, a 3.0 GPA. Unfortunately, only ten scholarships are awarded.

Franciscia Iroh

Begun in 1981, the Red Rose Ball has proved very successful. This is because students and staff can meet their peers in a cultured, yet relaxed environment. One may associate with important professional, civic and community leaders.

The event was initiated by L.A.S.S.O (Latin American Student Services Organization) as a scholarship benefit for its members. However, because of the participation of many students and staff at UH-D, the benefit was redirected to include all UH-D students.

OPINIONS

Disabled students, including the blind and those in wheelchairs, have complained of the obstacles they encounter at UH-Downtown. The current construction on campus has hindered access to the building. Assistant vice-chancellor of student services Gordon Benson recommended that the handicapped use the south side exit with automatic doors or the second floor exits. This is because there is limited access to the westside exit facing Main Street and the northside exit which has a 6ft. elevation. When I observed the south exit, I found it blocked.

Blind students also complain that there is no braille on some of the elevator door frames. As a result they find it almost impossible to identify the floor they are on. They always have to walk out and touch the outside button switch and then get back on the elevator--and this, of course, takes forever. Benson says that there is braille inside and outside the elevators as well as beepers to tell a person what floor he is on. "There are 14 elevators for students in this campus," Benson says. "I wonder if that includes those that are temporarily or permanently out of service.

Hollywood in UHD

When I saw the big red crane holding that shiny gray Mercedes and the policemen and paramedics' lights glaring, I thought something awful happened, like someone failed a Chemistry exam and decided to end the college (and earthly) career.

How exciting! It was a television film crew shooting an episode of "Houston Knights," a tv pilot, starring the dashing Michael Pagan of "Streets of Fire" fame.

The scene included a big red crane attached to an expensive car which was lowered down with a hose to create the illusion of its once being immersed in the bayou. The same scene was shot at five different angles and will appear five minutes on the camera.

Pagan rehearsed and spoke some lines to his co-star, "A rich private-eye, in his $100,000 car is dead, and you can't tell me nothin!" "Print," yelled the director, "it's a wrap!"

by Jesse Halvorsen

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Dateline welcomes contributions from students, faculty and staff of UH-Downtown. If you have all questions, suggestions or complaints, write to the editor, UH-Downtown Center, 101 Main Street, Houston, Tx 77002, or leave your letter at the Student Services office, Rm S-328.

by Mark Stallman
Bishop to Gov.: 13% would ruin us

Charles E. Bishop, president, and Chester B. Benge, Jr., chairman of the Board of Regents, of the University of Houston System, wrote governor Mark White on March 11, 1986. The letter addressed the governor's executive order written on Feb. 18, 1986 to trim the system budget by 13%.

The letter says the University System is working on areas where reduced spending can be accomplished, while dealing with two levels of funding curtailment during the current biennium. The significant shortfall in collections of tuition and fees from the level estimated in the appropriation bill led to a biennial operating budget with 12.9% less funding based on the previous biennium. Proposition 2 monies reduced the shortfall once only.

The University of Houston System, it says, must consider the labor-intensive nature of the institution, a characteristic of UH shared with other universities. Salaries and wages for UH system faculty and staff, for example, comprise more than 75% of the university's total educational and general operating budget.

The above factors inhibit the university's ability to accomplish a 13% budget reduction of the general revenue appropriations. President Bishop and chairman Benge developed a plan in the context of the constraints and the objectives specified in the Feb. 18 executive order.

The plan proposes keeping essential services and operations to the extent possible while decreasing expenditures of state general revenue funds, no involuntary layoffs of employees, development of budgetary guides for the next two budget years, and continuation of proposing building projects, but delay of all construction until the state's financial projections become more definite.

Given these considerations, the university expects, during the remainder of the biennium, a total operational savings of $11.9 million. The savings represents an overall reduction in expenditures of state general revenue spending of 5.7% of the amount appropriated for the biennium.

Students and university personnel will assign approximately $2.3 million of the $11.9 million reduction in spending. The public will see a general reduction in services provided by the system. Recognizing the severity of pressure on the state's general revenue fund, the university will maintain the highest quality services possible.

The letter said reducing general revenue spending by 13% would curtail essential services, such as several academic programs, and furlough or terminate several hundred faculty and staff.

The system will continue to look for additional ways to reduce spending from general revenue sources throughout the course of the biennium. Through the budget planning process, UH will carefully examine all areas where spending can be curtailed without undermining the integrity of the academic enterprise. The above savings and any other possible reductions will be presented for final approval of the Board of Regents at its next meeting.

John Perry

Alums alive

The UH-Downtown Alumni Associations workshop meeting on March 12 got things off to a good start, forming three committees, a membership committee, a scholarship committee, and communications committee, said Ross Allyn, president of the Association.

The communications committee chairperson, Elizabeth Rodgers, keeps the association's all-important list of alumni names and addresses up to date. Four hundred names and addresses now compile the list, and with thousands of names yet to verify, Rodgers and her committee have a big job ahead. "We can't stress enough how important it is for graduates to get their names and current addresses on the alumni list," said Allyn. "No matter how strong or organized the association is or how important the issues affecting UH-D are, we can't take an effective stand if we can't reach our alumni."

Besides the opportunity to increase the visibility of UH-D and the quality of its graduates, the association also offers fellowship, fun and contacts in the work place. "It's not what you know, but who you know." said Allyn, "so come out and meet some of the who-you-knows at the next meeting (April 1, Room 990-N, 5:30 pm). At that meeting, the Political Awareness Committee will be formed. Andy Gomez, director of University Relations, takes an active part in the political area, said Allyn. For more information about the UH-D alumni association, call Andy Gomez, director of University Relations at 221-8010 or Ross Allyn at 439-3820 (w) or 955-9653 (h).

Cesar's CROSSWD.

Across
2. Sam Jacinto Monument
9. Produces Houstonian
10. Hilton
11. Original name for Houston
19. Not long
20. Not yesterday
21. Street in N. Houston
24. Exclamation expressing surprise

Down
1. Abbrev. for Hospital Complex
2. Abbrev. for millimeter
3. Abbrev. for a Group of Coin collectors
4. Abbrev. for Ohio
5. Chocolate Bayou Ensemble
6. 60 Minutes
7. ABBR. for alias
8. ABBR. for Computer Drafting
9. Pen for pigs
10. 13th letter of Greek Alphabet
11. Country sporting event
12. Astros Hacienda
13. University of Houston-Downtown
14. University of Texas at Austin
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Answers to last issue's puzzle

Dateline: University of Houston-Downtown March 25, 1986 Page 3
Fisher wins Fulbright

Dr. Robert Fisher, Associate Professor of History, will spend the 1986-1987 academic year at the University of Innsbruck after receiving a Fulbright grant from the Austrian-American Educational Commission.

The Fulbright awards began in the 1940s as a means of promoting international goodwill in the midst of the Cold War. Today, it has 700 positions available.

Fisher came to UH-Downtown in 1978 to teach Urban Studies, Social History and general history after teaching in upstate New York and Boston. While in Boston, he became involved in community organization. When Dr. J. Don Boney, UH-D chancellor at the time, indicated that Houston was a perfect place to become involved with such activities, Fisher was encouraged to move here.

Fisher explained, community organization is any effort made by a group of people at the grassroots level to effect some degree of change. He added that there is still a need for it.

In 1984, Fisher's book, "Let the People Decide," was published. The book traces the history of community organization from the 1890s to the present. He looks at social change from a historical perspective, not from traditional views. The book is a pioneering effort, and Fisher credited it in part for him receiving the Fulbright. He also credits UH-D, because it allowed him a year's leave to write his book.

Fisher proposed comparing the social movements of America to those in Austria and German since World War II. He said, "Most social movements in the US since 1945 have been community, rather than workplace, based." Before the war labor unions sought reform in the factories; after the war issues such as environmental concerns and women's rights have emerged through a grassroots, community effort. US social movements after the war have also tended to be non-ideological, without a clear political vision.

The Fulbright grant is an honor in the academic world, and Dr. Fisher is thrilled at being accepted. He stated, "I'm also excited by the support from my colleagues and the administration here. It's quite an honor. And it's a pleasure to have others share in my success through their support."

"Sheba" comes back, opens here

The stage is set and the actors are poised as the lights go up for the Spring drama production of "Come Back Little Sheba," a play written in the 1950s by William Inge. Inge, considered by some as the leading American playwright of the 50s, wrote "Picnic," and "Bus Stop."

The play is set in the 50s and portrays that period's view of alcoholism: coffee was a way to sober a man up, today alcoholism is seen as a disease. "Come Back Little Sheba" emphasizes character rather than action, Inge involving the viewer with the intimate daily routine of Lola and Doc.

"This is a difficult play for the lead actors," commented director Dr. Tom Lyttle. "They are on stage the whole time and are in several intense, emotional scenes. To rehearse such scenes several times is also very demanding, he said.

Locating 1950s furniture to create a realistic setting has also been a challenge. It's too expensive to buy, and it's hard to find people who will loan out such furniture, said Lyttle.

The play was chosen because it has become well known because of the film version starring Shirley Booth as Lola. In the UH-D version, Laura Fritsche plays Lola and Guadalupe Olivarez, Jr., plays Doc, the two leads. Turk is played by Marc Leffew and Maria by Stacy Jones. Dr. Herb Rebuhn, a faculty member, is also in the play, with students Norm Stallow, Jeff Harris, Chris Tassanais, Silka Goeller and William Addis. A final cast member is a young man from off campus portraying the Western Union carrier - a choice made to keep the play realistic.

by Denise Wilborn

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Viewpoint

Should college professors be required to take competency tests?

Yes. Let's face it, this type of testing would be an effective way of getting rid of inadequate instructors. After years of teaching, some professors seem to demonstrate an inability to remember certain concepts. Others are only familiar with about half the material they're teaching. The consequences of failing could become very serious and elderly teachers who fail the test may face forced retirement.

Felicia Richmond, Freshman, General Studies

Yes. Through the years, professors form their own ways of teaching and don't always go by the book. During lectures they stray away from their subject matter and talk about other things--this creates problems for the students. There are many good teachers around, but some need to freshen up in certain areas. Testing will always indicate in which areas weaknesses lie.

Naomi Gomez, Freshman BCIS

I have mixed reactions. The legitimacy of the testing instrument is a question within itself. Many teachers may experience some problems in areas that they don't teach. Professors, having gone through a well-structured training program, are evaluated on the basis of a standard criteria. This, in addition to peer review, should be sufficient.

Dr. Kenneth Jackson, Asst. Prof., Sociology

Yes. I feel it is necessary. It would encourage teachers to keep up with the trends that develop within their profession. Also, we should remember that there are many other factors that contribute to being an effective teacher, i.e., communication and professional skills. I believe the test should cover these areas above all others, yet vary departmentally.

Ken Thompson, Junior, Accounting

No. Faculty members at most universities across the nation have master's or doctorates, so I don't see where this would be applicable. In secondary education, where children's attitudes and ideals are being molded, the quality of teaching is very important. In colleges, where standards have been set, most professors take the initiative and stay up to date. At state funded institutes, competency testing isn't necessary.

Edward Lehman, Junior, Psychology

compiled by Aaron L. Gumm

Departmental...

The Science Engineering Fair of Houston is slated for April 3-5 at the Astroarena. The SEF provides public and private junior and senior high school students the opportunity to develop and present science/engineering projects. Projects are entered in 12 classifications in three divisions.

Last year's science fair organization awarded 93 "Place Awards," and area businesses, industries and technical societies presented more than 200 "Special Awards." Texas institutions also awarded 28 fellowships/scholarships. For more information contact the SEF Executive Director Dr. Larry Spears, chair, Natural Sciences, at 221-8015.

Two hundred twenty-five junior and senior high school students competed in the Houston Area History Fair held at UH-Downtown March 14 and 15, according to Dr. Gama L. Christian associate professor, Social Sciences. First and second place winners in 12 categories will participate in the state history fair in May.

The Counseling Center and Testing Services announces its placement test and orientation dates for new students. Summer I orientation will be May 2 at 8 a.m. in the lobby of the UH-Downtown Center. Summer II orientation will be July 10 at 8 a.m. also in the UH-D Center lobby.

Dates and times for the test are:

Summer I: April 22, 28 at 6 p.m.; April 25 at 1 p.m. All tests are given in room 617 of the UH-Downtown Center.

The Pre-law Student Association will hold a meeting on Friday, March 28 at 3 p.m. in Room S-404. All pre-law students are invited to attend. Contact Sandra Gilmore, 957-3860, for more information.

The Houston Festival, the annual celebration of the city and arts, will be held April 3-13. Entertainments, arts and crafts, sound and light installations, international foods, and literary works will be featured. Events are scheduled daily from 10:30 a.m. The closing of the festival will feature a lights and sound show, which will be displayed simultaneously from several stages located throughout the downtown area. Images will be displayed on skyscrapers, and the climax of the show will be a world class fireworks display. For more information call 521-0993.
Swimming pool

The UH-Downtown swimming pool is open to all students and their family and friends from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm Sunday through Saturday year round. The outdoor pool, located on the second floor of the Center building, ranges from three to six feet in depth and is large enough for students to swim, play water games, or just bob up and down. No lifeguard is on duty; however, so an adult must accompany all children under 12, and at least one other person must be in the pool area if a student wishes to swim.

Surrounding the pool is a well kept patio and garden area where students can relax on recliners, study at a patio table, look out over the city, away from all the exhaust and traffic. Commuting students can conveniently change into their swim wear in a dressing room off the second floor lobby, but many commuters do not realize that they can use the pool even if they are not living on campus.

*All students pay a $25 student center fee when they register, which allows them to use the weight room, TV room, computer room, and the pool area. They have a right to all of these facilities, and they can bring family or friends,* says Sandra Rosas of the Center's office.

Student organizations that would like to arrange a pool party should contact Judy Harper, coordinator for center activities, then talk to Jocelyn Bridell, director of student activities. If organization funds are to be used, the center activities office will then work with the organization in planning the pool party.

According to Rosas, students can also plan private "splash parties" but they do have to pay for the parties themselves which may include hiring a life guard and police officer depending upon the party's size.

Even if March pool temperatures of 50 or 60 degrees still seem a little cold for those who are not members of the "Polar Bear Club", the patio area is the perfect place for students to relax, study and catch a few sunrays between classes.

by Daphne McKnight
New Music America comes to O’Kane

“Fianoporte,” a selection of piano works, and “flute fling,” performances on flute, will be presented by the University of Houston - Downtown, in conjunction with New Music America ’86 and the Houston Festival, on April 7 and 8. Performances will start at 5:00pm in the O’Kane Theatre.

“Fianoporte,” will feature four musicians on piano. Performers will include Chris Brown of San Francisco, who will play a piano and electronics selection he composed, “His Master’s Voice.” It is an ongoing work for a computer controlled analog signal processor, designed by Brown. “His Master’s Voice” explores various computer controlled analog signal processor combinations and amplification. Each of the suite of pieces is completely controlled by the computer program and the patch of signal processor that it controls. The sounds produced by the musician are freely determined at the moment and can be produced on any instrument.

Anthony de Mare of New York City will perform using piano, voice and tape. His selections are “One Man Cha Cha,” composed by Meridith Monk, and “Piano Song,” composed by Christian Wolff. The “One Man Cha Cha” is essentially a suite of three solo arrangements, de Mare says, “I was interested in exploring with (composer) Meridith Monk the expansions and projections of the voice and utilizing this dramatically with the keyboard in a concerto situation.” The first two parts of this work were extracted from the Monk/Ping Chong work “The games.”

The last part is the “cha cha” from Monk’s “Turtle Dreams,” which when arranged from simultaneous multiple vocal lines and double keyboard writing, results in the “One Man Cha Cha.”

“Piano Song” was written for de Mare who asked for piano music with a voice part. It uses for its text a feminist anti-war poem, “I Am a Dangerous Woman,” by Joan Cavanagh.

Petr Kotik, from Brooklyn, N.Y., will perform flute solos which he composed. Robert Dick, of New York City, will play, “Cord,” solo works by composer Cindy McTee who also will be in attendance. McTee notes, “Chord is about multiple sonorities achieved through the use of extended flute techniques and arranged into patterns which retrograde at the work’s midpoint. The piece was inspired by the musicianship and virtuousity of Robert Dick who gave his first performance in 1977."

Also performing will be John Adams of Fairbanks, Alaska. He and the local group “Tambour” will play “Songbirdsongs,” a group of works composed by Adams. Begun in Georgia in 1974, the piece is an extended cycle which has grown, over the years and across the continent, to include almost 40 individual sections. These little pieces are part of my work towards hearing and making a new indigenous music, born of a specific place and belonging there like the plants and the birds themselves,” says Adams. "These are the echoes of rare

moments and places where the voices of birds have been clear and I have been quiet enough to hear. This music is not literal transcription, it is my translation of a language we may never really understand."

Tickets for each concert are $5 and can be purchased through Ticketron.

300 Graduate in May Downtown

UH-Downtown will honor more than 300 graduates at its 11th annual Commencement Day on Sunday, May 18, at 7 p.m. This year’s ceremony will be held in the Grand Ball Room of the downtown Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1200 Louisiana. This is the second time that UH-D commencement ceremonies have been in the downtown location.

Grand Marshall-elect will be Dr. Larry G. Spears, chairman of the Natural Sciences Department and coordinator of planning. Charles E. Bishop, president of UH-Systems, will give a brief address while general remarks will be presented by Chancellor Alexander Schlitz. "It is the school’s policy to ensure that the main focus of the ceremony is aimed directly at the graduates; as a result, guest speaker invitations are minimized," said Wilma Leopold, special events coordinator in University Relations.

The Paragon Brass Ensemble, who provided last year’s music, has again been asked to join in the commencement celebration. The Ensemble is from Rice University’s Shepherd School of Music. Also, an Alumni Association representative will be on hand to officially welcome the graduation class of ’86 to the organization. Further, the 1985 summer and fall graduates will also have the opportunity to participate in the formal commencement ceremony on May 18.

Traditionally, UH-D has sponsored a reception as a part of the special event segment. However, this year, the Senior Council will host a barbecue on April 25 in the UH-D Center, poolside.

by Vicki Lane

Red Rose buds

The University of Houston - Downtown will host its annual scholarship benefit, the Red Rose Ball, on Saturday, April 19 at the Hotel-Intercontinental. The ball will begin at 8 p.m. and will feature the music of the Ricky Diaz Orchestra.

UH-Downtown Chancellor Alexander F. Schlitz has announced that Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. King will serve as honorary committee chairmen for this year’s ball. Mr. King is vice chairman of the board of Texas Eastern Corporation.

The Rings hosted a dinner for the honorary committee in the Conroe Room of the Four Season’s Hotel on March 13. Some committee members are Ross C. Allyn, president of the UH-Downtown Alumni Association; E Virginia Barnett, executive director, UH Foundation Board; Dr. and Mrs. Charles E. Bishop, president UH System; Donald L Bonham, president Fiesta Marathon; Mr. and Mrs. M. Robert Dusler Jr., chairman of the board and CEO, Texas American Bank / Houston; Mr. and Mrs. Gene McDavid, vice-president and general manager, Houston Chronicle; and Mary Ellen St. John, Four Season’s Hotel - Houston Center.

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Atrium I

Henry King, Red Rose Chair

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**EXECUTIVE/LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS '86 - '87**

Election packets are available in The Office of Student Activities Rm. 710-Center

Election Dates are: Wed., Thurs. April 16, 17

**RUN FOR OFFICE !!!**

Those wishing to run for office must meet the qualification specified in the election packet.

Contact SGA for more information

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Ext. 107 or 167