

THE MAGAZINE OF TEXAS LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY WINTER 2007

TORCH

Music

The Soul of TLU

ON THE COVER

Junior business major Marcus Stone leads the new TLU Drumline. The Drumline joins a long list of musical opportunities for both music majors and non-music majors who just love music. PHOTO BY JOAN MEREDITH SNOW.

THIS PAGE

Students participate in an experiential workshop to process the emotions of hate and hope. The fall workshop preceded the 27th annual Krost Symposium, "The Creative Journey of the Heart: Hate, Tolerance, Forgiveness, Hope." PHOTO BY DUSTIN WYATT.





TORCH

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What's coming up at TLU

The mission of Texas Lutheran University is to prepare undergraduates academically, spiritually and socially in a residential community of faith and learning for service and leadership.



In this issue of the Torch we celebrate the gift of music. It is a powerful gift. Plato thought it so powerful that it could subvert any existing culture or constitution, and so he advised controlling it to exploit the good effects it could have and avoid the bad.

As in all authoritarian proposals, the catch is in who gets to decide what is good or bad. Many dictators and their minions have tried to reserve this power to themselves by censoring and even prescribing music. That is akin to trying to give the angels orders about what to say or not say. Thomas Carlyle once remarked that “Music is well said to be the speech of angels; in fact, nothing among the utterances allowed to man is felt to be so divine. It brings

From the President

Dr. Jon N. Moline

Celebrating the gift of music

us near to the infinite.”

The very attempt to dictate musical norms can backfire. During Stalin’s bloodiest purges in the late 1930s the Fourth Symphony of Dmitri Shostakovich was attacked in Pravda, the party newspaper. Such an attack could be a prelude to imprisonment or execution. So Shostakovich quickly composed his Fifth Symphony and entitled it “The Response of a Soviet Composer to Just Criticism.” It is brassy, militaristic in places, and carefully written to end on the politically correct optimistic note. It even includes one of Stalin’s favorite folk-tunes.

Shostakovich was spared as a result, although many western critics thought that this symphony showed he had become a political hack. But had he? Did the angels speak over the heads of the censors? Recent critics and interpreters have suggested that they did – with irony, sarcasm, and caricature. They take the composer to have been subtly mocking, not flattering, Stalin and his goons.

“Music is arguably the most effective emotional language for communicating across barriers of all sorts.”

So did the writer Boris Pasternak, who exclaimed, “He said everything, and nobody did anything to him!” Stalin’s minions weren’t very good at understanding the speech of angels!

Felix Mendelssohn once remarked, “It’s not that music is too imprecise for words, but too precise.” Music is arguably the most effective emotional language for communicating across barriers of all sorts – cultural, linguistic, ideological, and even religious.

TLU is blessed with a strong music program, and this shows most vividly every year in the Christmas Vespers. The music speaks to the soul. Thanks be to God for the gift of music! ■



Founded in 1891, Texas Lutheran University offers degrees in 39 academic disciplines and pre-professional programs. The university is located in Seguin, near San Antonio, and is a university of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Texas Lutheran University admits students of any race, color, or national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the university.

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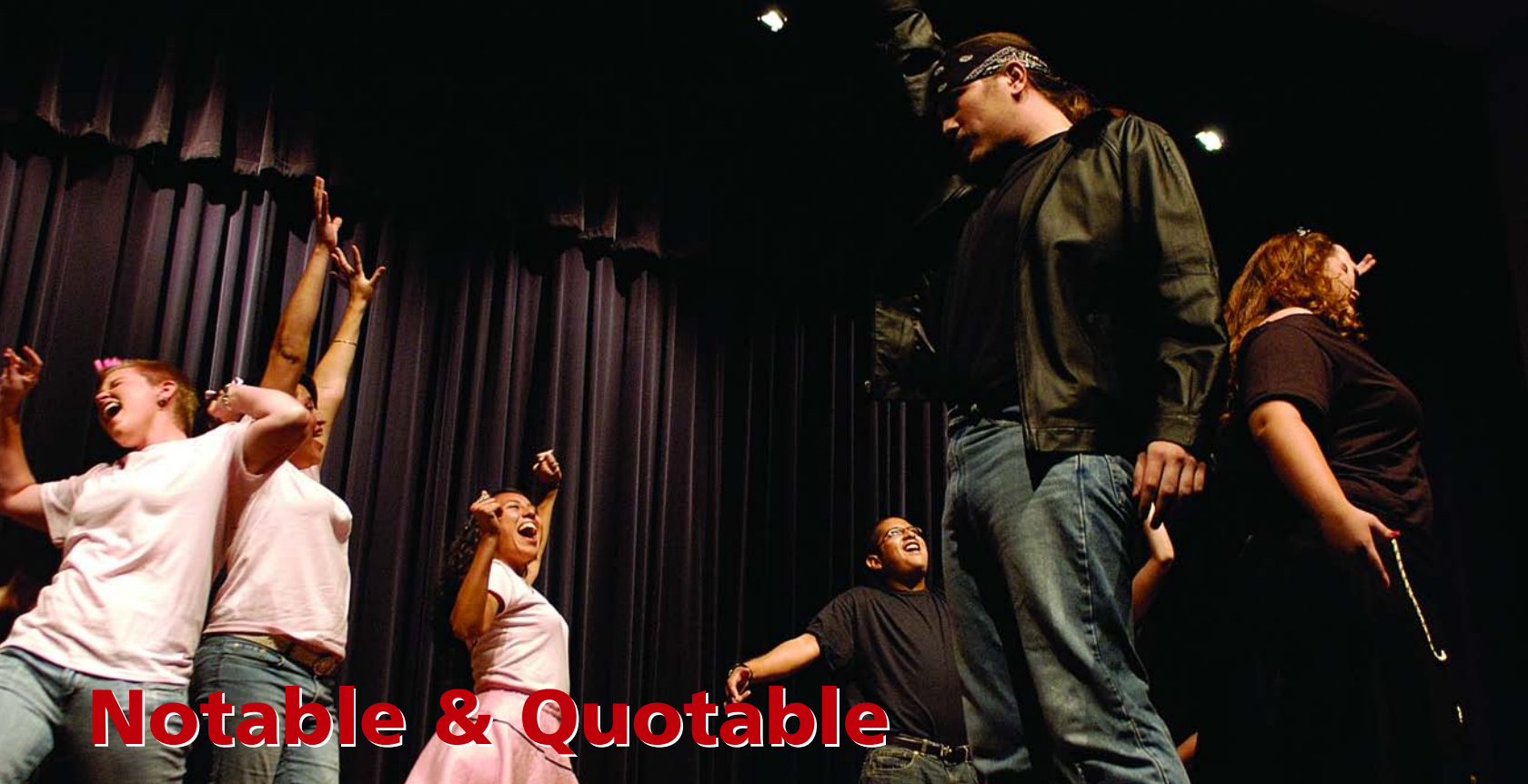
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Notable & Quotable

"If you have a university where there is dissent – a difference of opinion – thank God! Then you have growth."

- Dr. Carmen Tafolla, well-known author and TLU alumna, discussing Texas Lutheran during a presentation to the Mexican American Student Association (MASA)

"This may sound like an annual echo, but Texas Lutheran University is good... the consistency speaks volumes about not only the university as it is now, but its unwavering commitment to welcoming students and sending them back out into the world not only smarter – but better people in general."

- From an editorial in the Seguin Gazette Enterprise, Wednesday Sept. 6, 2006

"You should know and learn as much as you possibly can. At this time in your life you have the capacity to do this. Always be skeptical when someone tells you you don't really need to know something. You never know when you may need this knowledge."

- Opening Convocation speaker Dr. Neal Pellis, NASA's associate director of the Human Research Program, challenging the student body

"You know you are a member of the Golden Group if you can remember when this place was known as the Chapel of the Required Presence – and you really, really, really know if people have forgotten your reputation and invite you back to speak in this chapel."

- The Rev. Ron Birk '56 during Homecoming Chapel services at the Chapel of the Abiding Presence

"It's kind of an eye-opener."

- Alicia Davis, junior psychology major, commenting on the first African-American Leadership Conference at TLU and how it facilitates students learning more about leadership and what it's like to be an African American on campus

"It was very diverse. There were women wearing head scarves and others that were not. Some people had very little education and others we met could speak seven different languages. Some of the people were very friendly and others were a little hostile."

- Samantha Bryant, junior English major, in her blog describing her impressions of Morocco during a trip she took while studying abroad in Granada, Spain. Read more from student blogs at www.tlu.edu.

Members of MASA perform a number from "Grease" at the Bulldog Revue during homecoming.

Physics major Joseph Panzarella participates in functional neuroscience and medical physics research at the Research Imaging Center of the UT Health Science Center in San Antonio.

His focus was on an automated blood activity sampler system required to quantify cerebral blood flow rates in subjects undergoing PET scans. Summer research was funded by an AT&T fellowship and the Budwine Foundation.



TLU receives recognition

For the 23rd year, TLU has been listed in the U.S. News & World Report college rankings as one of the nation's best regional comprehensive colleges. In this year's report, TLU was tied for fifth in

overall quality among undergraduate colleges in the Western United States.

The annual study evaluated TLU in the "comprehensive colleges – bachelors" division, which ranks regional schools with a comprehensive focus on undergraduate education and that offer a range of

degree programs in the liberal arts and sciences and in professional fields such as business and education.

To determine the quality rankings, U.S. News compares statistical data regarding student selectivity and retention, class size and graduation rate, faculty resources, financial resources, alumni giving rate, and academic reputation among peer institutions.

For the fourth consecutive year, Princeton Review has named Texas Lutheran a "Best College in the Western Region" in recognition of TLU's quality education.

The Princeton Review, one of the nation's most respected and popular college admissions resource organizations, reported that "Texas Lutheran University fits an attractive academic niche, offering broad department strengths with a light coating of religious education."

Approximately 115,000

students at 361 top colleges responded to a survey by the Princeton Review, and the Web site www.princeton-review.com features student opinion data. Princeton Review reported that TLU's students said that the university's instructors prioritize teaching and monitor student progress to "make sure that every individual in the class is learning."

TLU was one of 21 Texas schools receiving the Best in the West designation.

TLU Salutes honors 2006 inductees

A college president, a noted author, and a young doctor were among those recognized at the 2006 TLU Salutes Award Banquet during homecoming weekend.

TLU President Dr. Jon N. Moline presented Dr. Wayne

Dr. Gerhardt honored



Dr. Ray Gerhardt was remembered at homecoming when a tree was planted on campus in his honor. His wife, Anita, his children, and grandson (pictured), joined the TLU community and Guadalupe County Democrats to honor his memory. Doc Gerhardt, TLU history professor from 1959-1994, died Nov. 10, 2004.



for more information
about giving to Center
for Servant Leadership.

PHOTO BY DUSTIN WYATT



The Molines are surprised at the Excellence In Leadership Dinner with the announcement by Linda and Ed Whitacre that AT&T is giving a lead gift of \$250,000 toward the naming of the "Jon and Sandra Moline Center for Servant Leadership."



2006 TLU Salutes honorees included Barbara Effenberger, Dr. Wayne Powell, Dr. Carmen Tafolla, and Dr. Stephanie Dove-Cudjoe.

Powell, president of Lenoir-Rhyne College, with TLU's prestigious Distinguished Alumni Award.

The TLU Distinguished Alumni Award is given to alumni who have, in the judgment of the university's Board of Regents, established outstanding professional records of success or distinction in their chosen careers.

Powell, a 1971 TLU graduate, was a professor, associate dean and dean at Oklahoma State University before moving to Hickory, N.C., where he was named vice president and dean for academic affairs at Lenoir-

Rhyne. In October 2002, he was named the college's 11th president.

In selecting him for this honor, the TLU Board of Regents cited Powell's "outstanding record of achievement and service in higher education, both as a respected scholar and professor of mathematics, and as a dedicated and effective administrator."

Moline also presented Dr. Carmen Tafolla, noted author, educational consultant, and scholar in bilingual studies with the Distinguished Alumni Award.

After beginning college at TLU, she earned her doctor-

ate and returned to serve as the first director of the TLU Mexican-American Studies Center. She held faculty and administrative positions at several universities and is now a full-time author.

Tafolla communicates a clear, vibrant sense of Chicano identity, culture and history through her published books of poetry, scripts, short stories, children's books, and her one-woman show that she has performed worldwide.

Barbara Effenberger received the TLU Community Service Award. A 1961 graduate of TLU, Effenberger was a school counselor in Seguin.

Since retiring, she has served in the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature and as a delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, chaired the advisory council of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, and volunteered at area nursing homes.

She is the long-time chair of the Guadalupe County Democratic Party, is active with the Women of the ELCA, and works with the Family

Violence Shelter and CASA.

Dr. Stephanie Dove-Cudjoe was awarded TLU's Outstanding Young Graduate Award.

Dove-Cudjoe, a 2001 graduate, earned a doctor of medicine degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas in 2005, and is a resident in family practice at the Baylor Medical Clinic in Garland. She is active in her church and in the Student National Medical Association, a community service organization focused on increasing health awareness in the African-American community and supporting medical students of African heritage.



TOP: TLU Athletics Hall of Fame inductees were Kent Richter, Jessica Szymanski, Lief Larson, Richard Gregory, and Charles McMahon. **BOTTOM:** Receiving the TLU Athletics Wall of Honor award were the Charles Koehler family - Greg, Barbara, Jackie, Charlie, Jeff, and Nancy - and Calvin Vann.



Speakers at the 27th annual Krost Symposium included, left to right, Dr. Jim Hopper, psychologist and Research Fellow at McLean Hospital and Harvard Medical School; Rev. David Doerfler, founder and facilitator of Concentric Journeys; Dr. Denise Menchaca, independent researcher, writer and performer; and Chris Pramuk, theologian, musician, and author.

TLU Athletics Hall of Fame

Athletic director Bill Miller joined Moline in presenting the 2006 Class of inductees into the TLU Athletics Hall of Fame and the Athletics Leadership Wall of Honor.

The Athletics Hall of Fame is reserved to honor the highest achievement in intercollegiate athletics by former Bulldog student-athletes and coaches, and this year five former Bulldog athletes were inducted.

Named to the Athletics Hall of Fame were Richard Gregory '54, who started all four years in both football and baseball; Lief Larson '84, the only two-time winner of the Eddy Award, given for uncommon leadership and excellence on the football field and in the classroom; Charlie McMahon '59, an All-American who signed with the Denver Broncos; Kent Richter '69, who lettered in track and field and football all four years; and Jessica (Gaytan) Szymanski '95, who lettered four years in volleyball and continues as career leader in total games played

and total blocks.

TLU Athletics Wall of Honor

The Athletics Leadership Wall of Honor recognizes people who have contributed to the success of the university's athletics program outside the realm of intercollegiate athletic competition. The Class of 2006 includes the Charles Koehler family, Elmer Luckenbach, and Calvin Vann.

The Koehler family was recognized for its outstanding citizenship and dedicated service to the community. Charlie and Jackie Koehler and their four children – Steve, Greg, Nancy and Jeff – have individually and collectively donated countless hours to civic causes and have made generous financial contributions to support the work of many charitable organizations, including TLU.

Luckenbach, a football player at TLU in the 1940s, has been a faithful supporter of the Bulldogs ever since. His many years of dedicated Christian service to the elderly were recognized with the TLU Distinguished

Church Service Award in 1989.

Miller pointed out that Vann has probably been to more TLU athletics contests in the last 10 years than any other Bulldog fan, taking thousands of pictures that he has shared with TLU and its fans, parents, and players.

Alum enables other Kosovars to attend TLU

Most TLU students have more than a two-day notice that they are leaving for college. And most do not

travel halfway around the world to attend the university. But Aida Sopa, Bukurje Zeqiri, Drenushe Bislimi and Getoar Mjeku are not your typical TLU students.

These four students came to TLU in August from Kosovo on Education for Peace Scholarships established by the Bislimi Group, founded by Faton Tony Bislimi last year.

A 2005 TLU graduate, Bislimi earned a B.S. in computer science and a B.A. in math, graduating summa cum laude. He says he came to this country from Kosovo with nothing, but God guided



New international students arrive on campus to begin the 2006-2007 academic year. Among them are four students from Kosovo, recipients of the Education for Peace Scholarships established by the Bislimi Group.

During Greek Week, TLU "Greek gods and goddesses" competed in a Bulldog spirit contest. Pictured are students Christina Martinez, Leo Aguilar, Laura Townsend, Phil Bush, and Ashley Boyd.



his way to TLU, and he is now a Kennedy Fellow at Harvard University's JFK School of Government.

"Am I satisfied though? No. Just as my dreams came true, my faith grew. And I kept asking for more – not for me, but for other sheep out there in my beloved Kosovo," Bislimi said.

So through the Bislimi Group and Texas Lutheran University, two full scholarships and two half scholarships are being given each year to students from Kosovo. The Bislimi Group is responsible for finding the most promising students, who must go through a rigorous selection process in Kosovo before TLU makes the final selection.

Since this is the first year for the Education for Peace

Scholarships, there was a learning curve. Problems in obtaining visas caused the students to know only two days before they had to leave that they were actually going to be able to go to TLU.

"That's a very short time to prepare your things and say goodbye," Sopa said.

Despite the difficulty in coming, the students from Kosovo were delighted to be able to study at an American university.

"That's one of the greatest dreams of every student in Kosovo," Sopa said. "We are the lucky ones."

"I would like to go back to Kosovo and do something for my country," Sopa said, echoing the sentiments of all four students to return to their homeland to make it a better place. "Kosovo is a

place that has had a war and now it really needs people – reformed people – who can bring something new to Kosovo," she said.

Bislimi trusts that TLU is making a difference in the lives of the four students, and that as they study at TLU, they will be prepared to help produce a better future for Kosovo.

"In our Lord's service, I believe we are helping build a generation of leaders for a newly born country – a generation that will lead Kosovo into becoming a true democracy and an open and progressive society in Europe," he said. "TLU is making a difference in Kosovo in the best way possible, and Kosovars will be thankful forever."

first African American Leadership Conference organized by students belonging to DIVERSE (Driven Individuals Valuing Respect and Support Everywhere).

Held on campus Oct. 20-21, 2006, the conference was organized by students to provide serious leadership information on issues concerning the African-American student community.

A variety of speakers addressed the group, including TLU alumni Demetrius Hardeman '05 and Stephanie Mitchell Crimiel '92, and representatives from Texas State University, 100 Black Men of San Antonio, and 100 Black Women of San Antonio.

The luncheon keynote speaker was Darren Dunn, operations manager for KWED radio and immediate past president of the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce.

The DIVERSE student group was organized and developed by the Center for Servant Leadership. Dr. Maria Avalos and Dr. Bonita Vinson also assisted in the conference. ■



African American Leadership Conference

Alumni, faculty, students and community members came together last fall to be a part of Texas Lutheran's

TLU alumnus Demetrius Hardeman '05, special agent with the IRS, was the opening speaker at the first African American Leadership Conference held in October at TLU.

The reality of **Facebook**

THINGS ARE DIFFERENT ON CAMPUS TODAY. OH, STUDENTS STILL GO TO CLASS. THEY STUDY AND WRITE PAPERS. THEY COMPLAIN ABOUT THE FOOD AND PARKING. CHAPEL IS STILL AT 10 A.M. ON MWF, AND STUDENTS STILL SOMETIMES SLEEP THROUGH THEIR 8 O'CLOCK CLASSES. BUT TODAY THEY COMMUNICATE DIFFERENTLY. AND THAT'S REALITY.

It's called social networking. Students use online communities like Facebook and MySpace as a link to their friends, schedules, and daily lives. Some TLU students check these sites 8-10 times a day – maybe more. It is how they keep in touch with friends, know when a group is meeting, or know what other students are saying or up to. It is a way to know when to meet for dinner, who's

dating, or where the party is happening.

A site usually includes a profile and pictures posted by the owner or others who have tagged the site by posting photos on it. And there is also wallpaper where visitors to the site communicate and write thoughts and comments – good or bad, true or false – sort of a dialogue that is open to anyone else visiting the site.

Until recently, Facebook has been limited. It was created two years ago to give college students an environment where they could share information, but also have control over who they shared information with. A college e-mail address was needed to set up a page initially.

Facebook has expanded to allow others into the site – at first those invited in as friends – and then the site grew to allow high school students and businesses groups in as well. There are still controls, but it also means that the number of potential viewers of a student's

page is larger.

Facebook and social sites like it are a reality throughout society today, and it is no different on Texas Lutheran's campus.

Dean of Student Life and Learning Kristi Quiros '85 says that Facebook is a hot button issue everywhere. She explains that it has both positive and negative aspects. "It is a great way for students to connect with those who have similar interests or to keep up with friends who are at other schools. But sometimes there seems to be a disconnect with students when they put information on sites such as Facebook. They don't think about it being available world-wide."

This year, for the first time, TLU's new student orientation included information about social networking sites – things to remember like safety and access. "We remind students that employers check out applicants for jobs or internships, so they should consider how they are portraying themselves," Quiros says.



"I tell students to ask themselves if they would want their grandmother to see this."

Social networking starts well before college. Quiros says that there are freshmen who come to school and they've already chatted online with everyone on their floor – they have a head start on meeting people. But there are also those who are not happy with what they've found when they Googled their future roommate or looked him or her up on Facebook or MySpace. She says they don't realize that what they read or see may not be true.

"Before they get to know someone, before they even e-mail, much less call or talk to someone face-to-face, they are judging an individual by his or her profile and deciding they want to change roommates. However, I try to remind them that getting to know people who are different than you is an important part of the college experience."

Quiros says that residence life asks

students to wait until they arrive on campus and meet each other personally before requesting a roommate change. If changes do occur, it is usually after fall semester when students may change to be with a new friend rather than avoid someone based on an online profile.

Although it isn't the official or only means to communicate with students, more and more professors and organizations are using Facebook to reach students.

Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones, associate professor of theology, says that his site is a small way to let his students know he cares about the things that they do. It is also another way to connect with students less formally and have some fun with the students. For example, he says he posted a picture of himself in his uncool, Napoleon Dynamite high school graduation suit.

Forty-nine TLU groups (and growing daily,) from the Betas to the Student Government Association to the Catholic

Student Organization, all have Facebook members and communicate everything from elections to pizza parties and meetings on the site. Others, including the "Wal-Mart – The Most Exciting Place in Seguin" group and "I Swim to Class When It Rains," may just want a place to complain.

Quiros explained that TLU administrators do not prowl the Internet as some schools have tried, but do follow up on any complaints. She explained that social networking sites can have negative aspects, including cyber bullying, where a student is sent hateful, harassing or threatening mail. These instances, although rare, do happen.

"Social networking is a reality. We are just starting to learn about it and figure out how to make it work for us as a community and have it work for our students. It can be a positive thing, as long as people remember to use it safely and responsibly." ■

TLU freshman Amandine Miller of New Braunfels relaxes in the Alumni Student Center between classes. She says that social networking sites are a good way to keep up with friends on other college campuses.

Music — The Soul of TLU



When dozens of alumni choir members joined with the current TLU choir in singing “Beautiful Savior” at homecoming last September, tears of emotion and a shared love of music melded the past and present. Whether from the organ, band or voice, music continues to touch the lives of Texas Lutheran students, instilling a sense of community that becomes a large part of the college experience. Music is – and always has been – a vital part of life at Texas Lutheran.

By including music in the liberal arts curriculum, TLU ensures that all students have an opportunity to experience music and all it has to offer. Each student is required to take six semester hours of the arts as part of the dimensions of liberal education requirement. While the arts can include courses in dramatic media or fine art, many students choose to fulfill the requirement with music classes.

“The study of music at TLU provides the opportunity to create, define, communicate and, ultimately, add deep meaning to the lives of our students,” said Dr. Douglas R. Boyer, associate professor and director of the TLU School of Music.

Boyer came to TLU in 2001 following the retirement of Dr. Sigurd Christiansen, who had been a fixture as TLU choir director for 30 years. A 1983 graduate of Texas Lutheran, Boyer explained that he returned to TLU because he saw an opportunity to bring together his spirituality and his love of music.

“My father is a Lutheran minister, so I grew up in a Lutheran home, went to Bethany Lutheran College in Minnesota,

and then received two B.A. degrees from Texas Lutheran... I feel at home at TLU. I am incredibly fortunate to work with such wonderful students, such brilliant educational colleagues from all disciplines and such amazing staff,” he said.

Dr. John Masterson, executive vice president and provost, praised the music program. “It is the soul and voice of TLU,” he said. “Often the first contact the public has with the university is through the choir or band.”

In recognition of that importance, TLU began offering the bachelor of

music degree in 2002 and created the School of Music in 2004, demonstrating the university’s commitment to the music program – not only to its future, but also recognizing the university’s rich musical traditions. Thousands of students who have attended Texas Lutheran have participated in the choir or band, and thousands of others have been enriched by their performances.

While TLU prepares some students to pursue a career in performing, many more find their calling in education as music teachers, band directors, or



Dozens of past choir members join in singing “Beautiful Savior” at Homecoming 2006. The choir is directed by Dr. Douglas R. Boyer '83, associate professor and director of the TLU School of Music.

The TLU String Ensemble presents "Morning Strings" in chapel last fall.



possibly church musicians. These educators bring the love of music and their spirituality and devotion to their students.

TLU recognized the importance of music education when it made the School of Music a part of the College of Professional Studies.

"We take pride in our music education program," Masterson said, "and we believe that we are signaling the importance of preparing our students with a strong music education."

Music scholarships

In order to attract top music students, TLU has recently strengthened its scholarship program. The Da capo Award is a scholarship valued up to \$15,000 a year recognizing those musical performers who also meet certain academic requirements.

Boyer explained that auditions and interviews for the Class of 2011 will take place Feb. 18 at the university's PACE Day. For more information, prospective students should visit www.tlu.edu or contact Boyer at 830-372-8000.

Other scholarships are available for non-music majors, including performance scholarships worth up to \$2,000 a year.

"Music is a vital element at TLU, not only for those who wish to have a career in the field of music, but really for every student," Boyer said.

"We have a huge group of non-music majors," he says. "They love music and are part of one or more of our ensembles – and they are involved in other things as well."

Ensembles range from the University Choir and Band to the recently established TLU Drumline.

The Choir is open by audition to all students of the university, according to Boyer, who is also the director of choral music and the Mary Gibbs Jones Chair in Choral Music. The Choir performs a wide range of both sacred and secular choral works, and performs during the traditional Christmas Vespers and spring choir tour, which will include the Houston area this year.

While the Women's Choir, begun in 2002, also performs sacred and secular literature on campus and on tour, Boyer says that their performances are totally different and have an amazing sound.

The Kantorei Chamber Choir is comprised of the strongest vocal musicians and, again, is open by audition to all students. Kantorei focuses on music of our time and often performs works

written by Boyer and other modern composers. The group has been praised for their performances on campus, on tour, and at events such as the Excellence in Leadership Dinner.

Along with Boyer, other full-time music professors include Shaaron Melcher Conoly, associate professor of music who teaches vocal performance and who has been at Texas Lutheran since 1970. Conoly studied in Paris with noted baritone Pierre Bernac on a Fulbright Award, and she was a recipient of the Sears Foundation Teaching Excellence Award.

Dr. Eric Daub serves as the head of the piano department, teaches music theory courses, and is active as a soloist and accompanist at TLU and in the surrounding area. Daub is a recording artist for Pure and Simple Music, active in the music ministry at his church, and has a variety of experience in jazz, country, blues, gospel, arranging and composing.

Dr. Denise Peterson, assistant professor, is the initial appointee to the Anita Windecker Chair in Music, teaches violin and viola, and conducts the strings program at the university. The TLU String Ensemble performs in concert and recital each semester. Peterson also conducts

the Community Youth Orchestra of the Mid-Texas Symphony and is currently the co-principal violist in the Mid-Texas Symphony. Dr. Peterson also has an interest in ethnomusicology and performs locally in traditional Irish bands.

Director of bands Beth Bronk is new to the TLU campus this fall. While at the University of North Texas, Bronk was a trumpet Teaching Fellow and studied conducting with Anshel Brusilov. She has taught instrumental music in Texas public schools for 18 years, most recently in New Braunfels where her bands earned statewide honors. She was awarded New Braunfels I.S.D. Teacher of the Year and the Mirabeau B. Lamar Award for Teaching Excellence. She currently serves as president of the Texas Music Educators Association Region 12.

Bronk says she is pleased with the musical talent that she sees on campus, including six Da capo Awardees in its initial year. About 100 students are involved in various band ensembles.

The University Concert Band is open by audition to all students of the university. The Concert Band performs in concert and on tour. Members of the top woodwind, brass and percussion sections comprise the Symphonic Winds, an elite ensemble that performs regularly.

The Jazz Ensemble plays a traditional Big Band format along with more contemporary literature. TLU offers courses in jazz improvisation and jazz history.

The Bulldog Pep Band performs at most home football and basketball games and is open to all university students with a band background.

Other ensemble opportunities include the Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir, Double Reed Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble, Brass Choir, Trombone Ensemble, Tuba/Euphonium Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, and the newest ensemble, the TLU Drumline.

Many of the ensembles and individual instruments are taught by adjunct professors. Because of its proximity to Austin and San Antonio, TLU attracts a number of adjuncts who are also performing professionals with groups such as the Austin Lyric Opera, the San Antonio Symphony, and other area orchestras.

Among the adjunct faculty members at TLU are Vangel Tangarov, principal clarinet for the Austin Lyric Opera who has won national and international competitions and is currently working on his doctorate at The University of Texas at Austin.

Guitar instructor Tony Morris is heard each week on over 200 public

radio stations as the host of the "Classical Guitar Alive!" program. He performs throughout the United States as a solo guitarist and chamber musician, and has performed at the White House three times.

Assistant professor Andrea Sokol-Albert, pianist, has won several national and international awards and has been highly acclaimed in the European and North American press. Her concerto appearances include the National Symphony Orchestra and broadcasting credits include National Public Radio.

New to TLU this year, Leigh Ann Woodard, an accomplished English hornist, recently performed the premiere of John Corigliano's third symphony Circus Maximus with The University of Texas Wind Ensemble at Carnegie Hall.

"We are fortunate to be able to offer our students such prestigious instructors, despite the relatively small size of our university's music program," Boyer said, noting that with the improvement of the scholarship program and the outstanding faculty, the School of Music is growing.

"And as the School of Music continues to grow in prestige and stature, more and more alumni continue to take pride in its ongoing traditions as a vital part of college life at Texas Lutheran." ■





Composer, professor, alumnus

A conversation with Dr. Douglas R. Boyer

Dr. Douglas R. Boyer is a recognized composer, clinician and researcher on the music of our time. An active member of the American Composers Forum and ASCAP, Boyer's commissioned works have been performed throughout the U.S., Mexico and Canada. He has been published in scholarly journals and cited in numerous textbooks. A 1983 graduate of Texas Lutheran, Boyer earned a M.M. degree from the University of Texas at San Antonio and his D.M.A. from The University of Texas at Austin. He joined the TLU faculty in 2001 and currently is an associate professor, director of the School of Music, director of choral music, and holder of the Mary Gibbs Jones Chair in Choral Music.

You have composed a number of works. Where have these been performed?

I feel very fortunate because I've had the opportunity to hear my works at many universities and churches. In San Antonio, for example, my setting of "The Church's One Foundation" was used for the installation service of the executive director of Mission Presbytery held at Trinity University; the King William Winds performed one of my pieces for the New Music Festival held at UTSA; and many churches have commissioned choral and handbell works for performance in worship services and festivals.

But, perhaps, the most memorable and frightening commission came from my friend, Laurie Jenschke, at the Eastman School of Music. To visit this incredible music school and not only hear my work, but see my name on the marquee as a featured composer, was quite a humbling experience... wonderful and completely terrifying at the same time.

How would you categorize your musical compositions?

Challenging. A bit "different." My music feels as though it is out of control, but in a controlled way. Much of what I write is poly-modal or bi-modal. That is, the ear

hears at least two distinct tonal centers at once rather than one; for me, this provides amazingly different and interesting opportunities to explore dissonance and resolution. Although this style of music is difficult to perform, the students seem to have enjoyed the challenge of learning and performing a number of my works. In fact, our students welcome the challenge of performing the music of our time. The TLU Choir has performed the world premieres of a number of challenging works by well-known composers: "Viderunt omnes fines terrae," by Latvian composer Rihards Dubra; "The Art of Music," by British composer Paul Ayres; "You Are a Letter From Christ," by American composer Steven Sametz; and "Love Came Down," by American composer Donald Grantham.

Your background includes theatre and you recently did the stage direction of the new opera "Witness." Tell us about it.

"Witness" premiered at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana last spring. The opera deals with the issues of racism, religious and social intolerance, the abuse of personal and institutional power, and how a sense of community, tolerance, and individual love and ethics can override and outlast those negative impulses. I rarely have the opportunity to return to my theatre roots; so when I do, I like to work on projects that deal with social issues and provide the opportunity for discussion and interaction in the schools, universities and the surrounding communities.

Describe your experience at the Lehigh University Composers Forum.

This week-long, intensive course of study focused on the art of composition and topics related to the professional composer. This summer I had the opportunity to work with master teacher/composer Stephen Paulus. He has been a composer I've admired for a long time, and, in fact, composed a work that the TLU Choir premiered at Christmas Vespers, "Light Shining Out of Darkness." ■

The TLU Board of Regents has awarded the Jo Murphy Chair in Education to **Dr. Eduardo Torres**, assistant professor of education; the Baenziger Professorship in Piano to **Dr. Eric Daub**, assistant professor, School of Music; and the Gembler Fellowship to **Dr. Chris Bollinger**, assistant professor of communication studies.

Three TLU faculty members had articles published in the San Antonio Express-News recently. **Dr. Pamela Johnston**, assistant professor of English studies, wrote a book review of author Sarah Bird's novel *The Flamenco Academy*, **Dr. Carolyn Schneider**, assistant professor of theology, wrote a story for the religion section entitled "Christian Leaders Around World Make Pleas for Peace in Mideast," and **Dr. Robin Bisha**, assistant professor of communication studies, has had several pieces published on Russia and Russian cooking, including "After communism, a cuisine is reclaimed," a special piece on Russia and Russian recipes. Some of the recipes are available in the expanded copy section of the online Torch (www.tlu.edu/news/torch).

At the American Chemical Society meeting held in San Francisco in September, **Anna Bergstrom**, instructor of education, presented two papers: "ChemBridge: Bridging the Divide Between the University of Texas and Urban High Schools" and "ChemBridge: A Hybrid Learning Community." She also contributed to "On the Assessment of Students' Qualitative Analysis Experiences."

Dr. Ana Maria Gonzalez, assistant professor of modern languages, presented a paper "Hasta no ver no creer: la revolucionaria perspectiva de Hasta no verte Jesus mio" at the X Congreso del Humor en la Literatura Luso-Hispana in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

Dr. Mark Gustafson, associate professor of biology and department chair, published a book review of *Amphibians of East Africa* in the October issue of "Choice."

In June, **Dr. Pamela Johnston**, assistant professor of English studies, presented "Locating Women's Studies at Religiously-Affiliated Colleges and Universities" at the annual conference of the National Women's Studies Association in Oakland, Calif.

Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones, associate professor of theology, taped an extension learning program for media-based continuing theological education sponsored by the Division for Ministry of the ELCA. His session, "A Trinitarian Theology of the Cross," is one of 10 hour-long presentations in the Systematic Theology series, which will be out in DVD format in 2007.

During the annual meeting of the interdisciplinary Southern Association of Canadian Studies, **Dr. Angelika Sauer**, associate professor of history, presented a

paper on the marketing of Canada as a destination for European migrants in the 1870s and 1880s. Sauer is the Texas representative on the association's board.

Dr. Bonita Vinson, director of career services, has been appointed to the journal editorial board for the Southern Association of College Student Affairs. During this one-year appointment, Bonita will review manuscripts submitted for the College Student Affairs Journal.

Dr. Joan Williams, assistant professor of education, was awarded the J. Robert and Mary S. Cade Vanguard Award for 2006-2007 to support the bilingual education certification curriculum. The Cade award provides funding for faculty projects or initiatives designed to enrich the cultural, spiritual, or intellectual life at TLU. ■

Ivonne Estrada receives Salinas Award

Ivonne Estrada has been named the recipient of the El Premio Salinas Award, which is presented annually to an outstanding student who represents the ideals of cultural harmony and service to others.

Estrada, a senior from San Antonio, is a multidisciplinary studies major with a specialization in bilingual education. Following her student teaching next semester, she will be the first student to graduate from TLU with the bilingual education certification.

A graduate of the International School of the Americas in San Antonio, Estrada grew up in the bilingual education program at Morrill Elementary School in the Harlandale District. Currently a volunteer at Morrill, she hopes to return to the school as a bilingual teacher in kindergarten or first grade when she graduates.

While at TLU, Estrada has served as president of the Mexican American Student Association and has been active in the Student Education

Association and the Black Student Union.

The El Premio Salinas Award honors the memory of Roberto Lee Salinas, a TLU student well known for his willingness to serve others before an accidental drowning in 1972. ■





Junior setter Megan Purser leads TLU to the 2006 ASC West Division Championship.



Volleyball

The Bulldogs won their fifth American Southwest Conference (ASC) West Division Championship in seven years and hosted the 2006 ASC Championship Tournament. TLU fell in the ASC tournament semifinal to the University of Texas-Dallas and ended the year with an overall record of 18-11. The Bulldogs were 15-3 in the ASC regular season.

TLU setter Megan Purser and middle blocker Jamie Lassiter were named to the ASC 2006 All-Conference Volleyball Team. Purser, a junior from Dickinson, and Lassiter, a sophomore from Richardson, also were named to the ASC West Division First Team.

TLU middle blocker/outside hitter Deanna Dahse, New Braunfels; libero Melissa Mudge, Round Rock; and outside hitter Amber Meeks, Magnolia, were named to the ASC West Division Second Team. Middle blocker/right-side hitter Mandy Bauer of La Feria, the lone senior on the team, was an ASC West Honorable Mention selection.

Cross Country

The TLU women's cross country team put three runners in the Top 11, including conference runner-up Staci Jackson, and placed second to McMurry at the 2006 ASC Cross Country Championship Meet. Jackson, a junior from Lake Highlands, completed the 6,000-meter course in 25 minutes flat.

First-year runners Renae Bignall of Katy and Rhonda Fetty of San Antonio placed eighth and 11th, respectively.

Senior Sarah Harper of Round Rock and junior Libby Gonzales of Uvalde put together finishes of 22nd and 23rd, respectively.

Jackson, Bignall and Fetty each earned ASC All-Conference honors.

TLU improved on its third-place finish from the 2005 conference meet. The Bulldogs were trying to bring the ASC title back to Seguin. TLU won conference titles in 2002, 2003 and 2004.

Football

Senior wide receiver Jason Trahan (Pearland/Pearland) added the school record for career receiving yards to his long list of accomplishments. Trahan concluded his 4-year career with 3,017 yards, breaking Roy Maas' old school mark of 2,637 yards. Trahan also holds school records for single-season reception yards (1,086), career touchdown catches (31) and longest play from scrimmage (98-yard touchdown catch vs. East Texas Baptist).

Senior defensive back Jake Robbins (La Vernia/La Vernia) and junior line-backer Matt Alves (Austin/Del Valle) were named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District VI First Team. The Bulldogs will appear on the national ballot for ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America. Robbins, a four-year starter in the Bulldogs' secondary, holds a 3.53 grade point average as an applied science major with interests in biology and chemistry. Robbins is a three-time ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District VI First Team selection. Alves has a 4.0 grade point average as a business administration major. Alves, a starting linebacker, is on the ESPN The Magazine All-District VI First Team for the first time.

Junior kicker Holt Storrie (San Antonio/Clark) established the new school record for field goals made in a career. He has 27 career field goals to better the record of 25, set by John Ostrom (1999-02). Storrie's record-breaking kick, a 28-yarder, came in the Oct. 14 home game against Sul Ross State.



At the ASC Championship Meet, Staci Jackson finishes second to push the Bulldogs to a runner-up team finish.



■ Women's Soccer

Seven Texas Lutheran women's soccer players were named to the ASC All-Conference teams, and TLU Head Coach Mike Alderson was selected as the ASC Coach of the Year. Four Bulldogs – defenders Meagan Shisler of The Woodlands and Kristen Broussard of Bedford, forward Kelli Layden of Sugar Land and goalkeeper Katie Kistner of Plano – were named to the ASC All-Conference First Team.

Forward Casey Rheman of Houston and midfielder April Kubeczka of Brenham were selected to the ASC All-Conference Second Team, and defender Alicia Gangemi of Converse earned a spot on the ASC All-Conference Third Team.

TLU's season ended in the ASC Championship Tournament semifinal with a 1-0 loss to the University of Texas-Dallas after a 4-0 quarterfinal win over East Texas Baptist. TLU finished 2006 with an overall record of 14-6-0 and a conference mark of 10-3. The Bulldogs established or tied 23 team or individual school records.

Rheman and Layden tied for the school single-season record for goals and points. Each player scored 18 goals and had five assists during the 2006 season. Rheman concluded her stellar 4-year

Senior wide receiver Jason Trahan catches a touchdown pass in TLU's 31-28 win over East Texas Baptist. Trahan ends his TLU football career with multiple school records, including the TLU marks for career TD receptions and career receiving yards.

career with a school-record 59 goals and 138 points (2 points for goals, 1 point for assists).

■ Men's Soccer

TLU freshman forward Alan Garza of Seguin was named the ASC Offensive Freshman of the Year and earned a spot on the ASC All-Conference Third Team. Garza was joined on the ASC All-Conference Third Team by senior midfielder Marcus Pais of San Antonio.

Senior defender Taylor Williams of Austin, junior midfielder Aldo Garza of Seguin, and sophomore goalkeeper Chris Gerhardt of New Braunfels were selected to the ASC Honorable Mention squad.

Alan Garza led the Bulldogs with 14 goals scored. He also had three assists and a team-best 31 points. Garza also had three game-winning goals and two "hat tricks" (matches with three goals scored).

TLU, under first-year head coach Eddie Salazar, posted an overall record of 7-11-1 and a 5-8 mark in the American Southwest Conference.

TLU Athletics Internet-Only Broadcasts

TLU has partnered with Stretch Internet to provide Internet-only broadcasts of upcoming women and men's basketball games throughout the 2006-07 seasons as well as 2007 softball and baseball games. Bulldog fans can access the broadcast schedule on the TLU Athletics Web page (www.tlu.edu/athletics). Fans can also sign-up for instant Bulldog game results through text messages or emails with the "escores" feature provided by Stretch Internet. A link to "escores" is located on the athletics Web page. ■

By the Numbers

SCORE BOARD

Interceptions by sophomore cornerback Dwight Bonner on the final two drives by Trinity in TLU's 14-9 victory over the Tigers. TLU's win snapped a six-game losing skid to Trinity.

2

Career touchdown grabs of more than 90 yards by senior wide receiver Jason Trahan. The Pearland native had a 91-yarder this year against Mississippi College.

3

Matches in women's soccer star Casey Rheman's career in which she has scored three or more goals. Rheman has twice scored four goals in a match.

6

New school-record for assists in a three-game volleyball match, set by Megan Purser in three-game victory over Mary Hardin-Baylor.

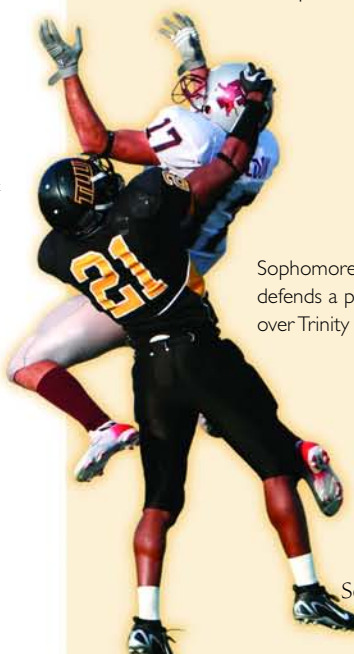
54

Length of game-winning punt return for touchdown by Jesse Gremminger in TLU's 28-23 road win over Howard Payne.

68

Goals scored in 2006 by the TLU women's soccer team. The Bulldogs shattered the school record for goals scored by 22 and finished in the NCAA Division III Top 10 for scoring.

84



Sophomore Dwight Bonner defends a pass in the win over Trinity this year.

TLU Golf: Driving toward the top

Head coach H.C. Tran '90

A rainy October day in San Antonio couldn't dampen H.C. Tran's mood. At the time, the Texas Lutheran head coach for women's and men's golf teams was striding alongside a fairway, watching Angela Aufderhaar compete in a playoff for her first collegiate title. A few minutes earlier, the Bulldogs had clinched their first women's team title since 1999. Now Tran followed Aufderhaar's quest to end the seven-year individual title drought for the women's team.

A chip within 10 feet and then a par-saving putt into the heart of the hole clinched the victory for Aufderhaar. The individual win added to the team performance that placed the Bulldogs ahead of 2006 NCAA Division III national tournament participants Mary Hardin-Baylor and Hardin-Simmons and vaulted TLU to No. 22 in the NCAA DIII/GolfStat national rankings.

"(The team's play) was a beautiful thing to watch," said Tran. "The women are working so hard to make this a special season. With such a young team (five freshmen, a sophomore and two juniors), I don't think they know how good they could be. We're trying to tell them."

The resurgence of the women's program and the continued growth of the men's golf team at TLU have taken considerable dedication from Tran, a 1990 graduate and a member of the 1990 men's NAIA national runner-up squad. Tran took over both programs shortly after TLU's decision to join the NCAA Division III, the non-scholarship athletic arm of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

The transition to NCAA Division III took some time for the golf programs, which enjoyed a wealth of success in the NAIA. The Bulldogs were team NAIA national runner-ups in men's golf in 1990 and in women's golf in 1999, and the programs produced three individual NAIA national champions – John Bohmann in 1967, Cameron Beckman in 1991 and Elizabeth Hoffman in 1999. The women and men's golf teams combined for 22 national tournament appearances in the NAIA.



H.C. Tran, left, is TLU's head golf coach. This year *Golf Digest* ranked TLU among the top 50 schools in the nation that provide student-golfers "the absolute best education and the opportunity to play."

But with Tran at the helm, the Bulldogs have asserted themselves at the national level in the NCAA Division III. In 2003, women's golfer Theresa Ashorn played in the NCAA Division III National Championship and finished 38th. In 2004, the men's golf team was ranked in the NCAA DIII/GolfStat Top 20 for the entire season.

In 2005, the Bulldog men broke into the NCAA DIII National Championships field for the first-time in school history and posted a 12th-place team finish with individual golfer Josh Werland claiming TLU's first-ever NCAA DIII All-American honor. The 2006 men's season built on the 2005 success with a first-ever American Southwest Conference team title, a second ASC individual crown (won by Michael Faterkowski) and a second straight trip to the NCAA DIII National Championships. TLU again finished 12th

and Werland again claimed an All-American citation at the national tournament.

In August of this year, TLU learned that both the women's and men's programs claimed Top 50 rankings in the *Golf Digest* "Academics First" listing. In announcing the "Academics First" list, *Golf Digest* stated: "For (junior golfers) who are excellent students first, golfers second, these schools provide the absolute best education and an opportunity to play." The Top 50 included NCAA Division I, II and III colleges and universities that did not award athletics scholarships for golf. The TLU men's program was ranked ahead of Division I schools William & Mary, Colgate, Fairfield, Brown, Bucknell and Lafayette.

"We feel that we can be at the national tournaments every year," said Tran. "With TLU's academic reputation and our ability to compete nationally in both programs, we can't help but be excited about the future." ■



By Tim Clark
Sports Information Director



Muellers pledge \$1 million

Lee D. Mueller Jr. and Barbara Frenzel Mueller of La Grange have pledged stock valued at approximately \$1 million to TLU's capital campaign.

The gift will be used to expand by one-third the AT&T Science Facility, for which ground was broken last April. The new science wing will now include a 3,000 square-foot floor that will house pre-engineering and physics labs and classes.

When the AT&T Science Facility is completed in late 2007, it will contain an organic chemistry lab, which will be named the Lee D. Mueller Organic Chemistry Lab.

"We are excited to receive this wonderful pledge, and we thank the Muellers for their generosity," said TLU President Jon Moline.

Lee Mueller earned a B.A. from Texas Lutheran in 1958, a degree in theology from Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary, and served as a Lutheran minister

for several years. Since 1963, the Mueller family has owned and operated Live Oak Farms, a registered angus cattle ranch in Fayette County.

Lee Mueller is vice chair of the TLU Board of Regents and is chairman of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. He is a founding member of the Lone Star Angus Alliance and serves as director of the State Bank of La Grange and of Texas United Bancshares.

Barbara Mueller also attended Texas Lutheran and subsequently became a teacher and counselor, serving 33 years in the education field, including 27 years in the La Grange schools before her retirement in 1999. During that time she was active in teacher, church, and community organizations.

Currently she is active in the Purple Angels Volunteers for St. Mark's Medical Center in La Grange and in the Texas Women's League supporting local charities. She is also a member of the Lone Star Angus Alliance and P.E.O., a national philanthropic educational organization for women.

The Mueller gift will also be recognized by naming the Education Wing of Tschoepe Hall for Barbara Frenzel Mueller.

The Muellers have one daughter, Laurie, a student at Campbell University Law School in North Carolina.

Leadership Dinner honors Wolffs

Bexar County Judge Nelson W. Wolff and his wife Tracy Wolff were honorees at TLU's Excellence in

Leadership Dinner Nov. 15.

The annual Excellence in Leadership Dinner honors residents of South Texas who have made a significant contribution to the community. Proceeds from the event support TLU's Presidential Award for Leadership and Service Endowed Scholarship Fund, which provides financial assistance to TLU students who have exhibited leadership qualities on campus and in their communities. In its six years, the annual dinner has raised \$438,000.

This year's honorees, Nelson and Tracy Wolff, have each spent many years serving the people of Texas.

Since 2001, Nelson Wolff has served as Bexar County Judge. Previously, he served in the State House of Representatives, Texas Senate, San Antonio City Council, and as mayor of San Antonio.

Tracy Wolff is currently leading the effort to restore the Bexar County Courthouse through the Hidalgo Foundation. She also helped get funding for the expansion of the Bexar County Child Abuse and Neglect Court that was completed last January.

Ed and Linda Whitacre were chairs of this year's Leadership Dinner. ■



for more
information about
Front Row.



Craig Biggio, Astros second baseman, will be the honoree at TLU's annual Front Row set for Feb. 13 at Minute Maid Park in Houston. The event, featuring a live, on-stage conversation between Biggio and Verne Lundquist, CBS sportscaster and TLU alumnus, is a fundraiser for TLU's intercollegiate athletics program. The event is presented by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

TLU recognizes Linda Whitacre for her tireless work on the Fritz Homestead

Visitors to the TLU campus may notice the newly restored Fritz Homestead near the corner of Court Street and Prexy, but while this house now looks new, it is home to a rich history that may have been forgotten if not for the contributions of Betty Jean Jones '46, the driving force behind its preservation, and TLU regent Linda Whitacre, whose long hours and hard work have given the Fritz Homestead the prominence it has now attained.

Whitacre grew up in Fort Worth and moved to Lubbock to attend Texas Tech after high school. There, she majored in home economics, with an emphasis in fashion merchandising. While attending school, she gained more than an education, as she met her future husband – Ed Whitacre. They were blessed with two daughters, one granddaughter and two grandsons, and have now lived in San Antonio for 12 years.

Board Chair Karen Norman introduced TLU to Whitacre about six years ago.

"Karen's enthusiasm was overwhelming! She introduced me to Dr. Moline, and I was hooked," Whitacre remembers. "I feel it is very important to have a faith-based institution, one that really cares about its students, and TLU is that school."

Norman knew of Whitacre's gusto for designing interiors, so she mentioned to Whitacre that she may be



able to assist with the restoration of the Fritz Homestead.

The Fritz Homestead dates back to the 1860s, when Frederick and Elizabeth Fritz, immigrants from Darmstadt, Hesse, Germany, built what is now a portion of the present house. The Fritz family owned approximately 800 acres of farmland, including the land upon which TLU now sits. A second small house was built adjacent to the original house in the 1890s, and in 1912, the two houses were joined together to make the current 3,500 square foot house.

Whitacre was approached for the project several years after the home was moved in 2001. She began working on structural changes with contractors, as well as with Betsy Clardy, vice president for development and alumni relations, and Stan Ledbetter,

vice president for finance.

"Down came sheetrock, and the wonderful wooden walls were discovered," Whitacre said. The house then came alive with its own personality. Betsy was a great help sharing the history of the house with me. My goal for the house was to maintain its integrity while making it serviceable and comfortable to be useful to the school."

Whitacre doesn't want to take sole credit for turning the Fritz Homestead into the beautiful dwelling it is today.

"I asked a designer friend, Linda Love, for help. She was great, and we used a few antiques to add to the authenticity of the home. Some were donations, and some new pieces were used to make it homey. Shirley Herres (also a TLU Regent) was helpful in many ways, aiding in selections and such. Overall, it was a very rewarding and fun project."

The outcome of all of the work and designing that went into the project is a home that has maintained its historical significance through original documents and letters, photos and donated antiques and furniture, while incorporating a modern, business-like atmosphere into the interior. The Fritz Homestead is currently being used as a meeting place for various events at TLU, including small receptions, outdoor concerts, board meetings and special events.

Whitacre said she is happy with how the Fritz Homestead restoration turned out. She has high expectations for its future. "It is my hope that the Fritz Homestead will be used often and enjoyed by all who have the opportunity to make use of it." ■

By Stephen Skinner
Development Writer and
Prospect Researcher



for more
information about
the Fritz Homestead.

PLAN AHEAD!!

HOMECOMING 2007

OCT. 5-7

Class Reunion years

1957 – Golden Group Reunion

1962

1967

1972

1977

1982

1987

1992

1997

2002

Omega Tau turning 50!

TLU's fraternity Omega Tau is approaching its 50th anniversary, and to mark this historic event, a special celebration is being planned during homecoming in October 2008.

Chris Bischoff, TLU major gifts officer and '74 Omega Tau alumnus, will serve as a point of contact at TLU. To volunteer and add your input, contact Chris at cbischoff@tlu.edu or 830-372-6987.

Watch for a letter soliciting your ideas for the celebration and start planning to attend this historic gathering to help celebrate the glory of Omega Tau. "One together!"

Upcoming TLU alumni events

Black and Gold Roundup

March 30, 2007



Get out your boots and denim for the Fifth Annual Black and Gold Roundup in San Antonio.

This annual event brings together TLU alumni with the medical community for a night of food, fun and dancing. Anne Marie's at Devonshire Place will again host the party, which begins at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, March 30. All money raised will be used for TLU scholarships. Purchase tickets online at www.tlu.edu or call 830-372-8026. Tables and individual tickets are available.

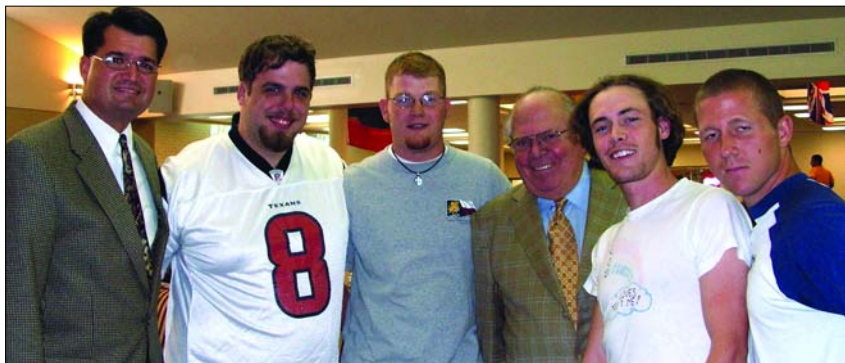
TLU Alum Happy Hours

Every month

Happy Hours in Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, and Austin are offering TLU alums a chance to catch up with old friends and meet new TLU friends. These informal gatherings are in a different location every month, and email blasts are the way we let you know where they are. If you would like to be notified, please make sure we have your current email address by dropping us a note at alumni@tlu.edu. **Check the Web site for dates and locations at www.tlu.edu.**



At an Austin Happy Hour, Whitney (Daum) Myers '98 visits with Annette (Lueker) Werling '98 and Kevin Werling '00.



When CBS Sportscaster Verne Lundquist '62 visited campus last fall, he reminisced about the early days of Omega Tau with fellow members of the fraternity – left to right, Tim Clark '94, students Phil Collins, Jody Heathcoe, Lundquist, Kristopher Phillips, and current Omega president Joseph Panzarella.



for more
information about
upcoming alumni events.

Q & A with Gail Randle



How can I get in touch with former classmates and friends?



TLU's privacy policy doesn't allow us to give out personal information. If you can't find your fellow alum on the Web directory at www.tlu.edu/alumni/network/email.html, you can contact the alumni relations department at 830-372-8026 or alumni@tlu.edu and let us know who you are looking for. If we have current information, we will contact that person for you and give them your information so that you can reconnect. We hope to have an online community available in the near future that will enable our alumni to network and re-establish friendships.



Gail Randle is the director of alumni relations at TLU.

Got a question? E-mail us at alumni@tlu.edu.

Fiesta HOMEcoming 2006





1938

EDITH KIEL's paintings were on exhibit last summer at Argent Court in Seguin. She is a resident of Argent Court.

1941

MYRTICE (NYGAARD) LARSON was recently awarded the E.L. Galyean Service Award at the Texas Retired Teachers Association State Convention in Amarillo on April 25. She resides in Arlington.

1948

MILDRED HOGSTEL has published more than 20 books for nurses. One of these books is the "Handbook for Family Caregivers of Older Adults."

1950

Former Seguin City Councilman and Mayor Pro-Tem RODGER WEYEL was chosen by Mayor Betty Ann Matthies to be the honorary parade marshal for the "Biggest Small Town 4th of July Parade

in Texas." He served on the Seguin City Council for 44 years.

1952

WALTER MILLER celebrated the 50th anniversary of his graduation from Wartburg Seminary and his ordination into the ELCA on June 10, 2006. During his active ministry, he has served the congregations of Grace Lutheran Church in Eagle Lake, First Lutheran Church in Galveston, St. John Lutheran Church in Thorndale and Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Giddings. When he retired from full-time ministry on Feb. 28, 1998, he and his wife, MARY (WIETSTRUCK) MILLER '59, moved to Taylor. The couple also celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 17, 2006.

1958

WILLIAM DRESSEN retired from the Lutheran ministry July 2, 2006. His last parish was Faith Lutheran Church in Talmage, Neb. and Christ Lutheran Church in Syracuse, Neb. where he served 33 years. Previously he was a

missionary in Cameroon, West Africa. Two of the youth he confirmed at Faith Lutheran became pastors and were present to lead the worship service in which the retirement was voted. Pastor Dressen and his wife, Betty, now live in Syracuse where he continues to serve as interim pastor in Lutheran congregations in southeast Nebraska.

ALLEN and BETTY (URBAN) '54 JOHANNES have been appointed co-chairpersons of the Bosque County Historical Commission in Meridian.

CHARLES SCHULTZ was awarded the Jack Bauer Award for distinguished service to the North American Society for Oceanic History and for lifetime contributions to the field of maritime history at the NASOH meeting in Manitowoc, Wis. in April 2006.

1960

MARGARINE (GEISTWEIDT) BEAMAN received the MetLife Foundation National 2006 Older Volunteers Enrich America Award in the Community

The Alumni Board and friends join faculty and staff to help incoming freshmen move in.

Preparing Lutheran pastors in Madagascar



Rev. John Pless with children at a Lutheran orphanage in Madagascar.

Rev. John Pless, an assistant professor of pastoral ministry and missions at Concordia Theological Seminary, has expanded his teachings beyond the classroom – thousands of miles beyond.

His teachings are based on Martin Luther's understanding of how God works behind human "masks" to give people daily bread.

He explained, "God cares for the neighbor in his or her bodily need in this way. Christ has given His church the mandate of preaching the Gospel, and where the Gospel is proclaimed there the church will also be the hands of Christ,

reaching out with mercy to help the hurting and the hungry."

So in 2005, when Pless was invited to visit Madagascar, he saw Luther's doctrine at work, first hand. In Madagascar, his work included assisting the leadership of the Malagasy Lutheran Church in developing a comprehensive approach both to HIV/AIDS education and to care for its victims.

Later in 2005, he was part of a team of six theologians who visited India and Indonesia to visit areas hit by the tsunami where the Lutheran Church was involved in relief work.

During spring break of last year, he was back in Madagascar with six of his students, who not only toured Lutheran churches, seminaries, hospitals, and schools for the deaf and blind in Madagascar, but also served meals at the Good Samaritan Center for the poor.

"It is especially invigorating to take students from our campus and teach them in a context often marked by deep poverty and profound human need," he said.

Pless was back in the field last summer, as leaders of several Protestant churches invited him back to lecture at

Rev. John Pless '75

several symposia on Lutheran identity in July and August.

"These trips enrich my teaching in the classroom as they provide me with vivid examples of how Lutheran theology really does enliven a full-bodied, robust approach to our care for the neighbor," he explained. "They help me expand my students' vision of the global nature of the Lutheran Church and our need not only to assist our brothers and sisters in those third world settings, but also to learn from their confession of the faith."

Pless will be lecturing to a pastoral conference in India this January, taking students to Madagascar at spring break, and in May will teach a two-week course in theological ethics at a Lutheran seminary in Siberia.

"I am eager to find additional ways to incorporate my students into opportunities for involvement in places such as these," he said.

"I am fully convinced that our pastors need to have a deep and rich theology coupled with compassionate hearts. It is essential that Lutheran pastors have a global view. The best way to accomplish this goal is to live, study and serve in a place like Madagascar!" ■

Champion category. The award was presented in Washington D.C. on April 28, 2006. There were only 26 individuals throughout the United States who received the award, and she was the only one from Texas. She also received the President's Call To Order Award. She has been involved with many volunteer programs at the local, state, national, and international levels. She is part owner of Beaman Metal Company and owner of Beaman Accounting and Consulting in Austin.

1961

CHARLES ECKERT is the part-time outreach pastor at Amazing Grace Lutheran

Church in San Antonio.

1965

After more than 40 years in education and career counseling, SUE (CHRISTIANSEN) MORROW considers herself "almost retired!" She continues with writing and consulting, and she facilitates the Interfaith Worship Services group. Her spare time is filled with antiquing and genealogy. Sue and her husband, Terry, who is a professor of art at Texas Tech University, reside in Lubbock, as do their son, daughter and son-in-law.

1968

GILBERT FRANKE has had 11 poems commissioned by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, and published in "Enrichment" magazine for "Joshua LifeLight Bible Study." The poems explore the theme of Jesus' ministry pre-figured in the role of Joshua at the conquest of Canaan. In May, he completed his 13th year as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMS, in Bishop. His wife, Beth, is the librarian for the Bishop Consolidated Schools.

1970

MARTY WOELFEL retired from the



TLU alumni from Victoria are (front row, left to right) Joyce Tripson, Vanessa (Valenta) Stevens '72, Barbara Schmidt, Nyle Ruth (Kahlich) Leshikar '63. Back row, left to right, are Larry Ullman '64, Jeep Kiel '64, Robert Tripson '66, John Schmidt '61; Michael Samford, Michelle Samford '90, Gail Norris '64, and Peggy Brockenbush '72.

Kentucky State University faculty in 2004. She is enjoying more time for volunteer work with Girl Scouts and Sweet Adelines. She resides in Louisville, Ky.

DIANE (TIMMERMAN) SIMECEK and her husband, Ray Simecek, were married in Big Bend National Park on Feb. 25, 2006. They reside in Seguin.

1978

VICTOR ANDERSEN has taken a new call at First Lutheran Church in Orange Grove.

JAMES "TY" FAWLEY was promoted to vice president of Vendor Management at EMC Mortgage Corporation, a subsidiary of Bear Stearns Company. He resides in Richardson with his wife Stacey.

CONNIE (STAGE) MUSANTE married Gary Musante in July of 2003. They reside in Brockport, N.Y. and have two adult sons.

The Home Builders Association of Greater Austin presented long-time member and past president WES PEOPLES with its highest honor, the "Distinguished Excellence Award." Wes has been in the home building industry since 1978, serving as Division President of NPC Houston and vice president of Midwest U.S. Operations for Ryan Homes. He was a founding partner of Wilshire Homes and later became Austin Division president of Hammonds Homes. In 2002 he was named Austin

JUDY (WOMBLE) PESCHEL, public information officer for Seguin ISD, has been given the Education Service Award by the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce. The award goes to recipients who go above and beyond in the field of education. Judy was instrumental in the development of the Seguin Youth Leadership Academy, worked with local aid groups to help displaced Rita and Katrina evacuees find shelter in Seguin, and spent the last two years coordinating agendas and functions for the Seguin Education Foundation.

1975

JOHN PLESS, assistant professor of pastoral ministry and missions at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., had two of his books, "Word – God Speaks to Us: Lutheran Spirituality Series" and "A Small Catechism on Human Life," published last summer.



ALUM NOTES



Division president for Meritage Corporation that builds homes under the Hammonds, Legacy and Monterey brands. He and his wife, KAREN (HOLMAN) PEOPLES, have three children: Max, Kate, and Jackson.

TOP: Karen (Christiansen) Haverlah '66 and Leroy Haverlah '61 of Austin enjoy the choir alumni reunion.

BOTTOM: Pam (Teichelman) Brisse '81 of Houston shows her daughter, Erica, the Chapel where she and James Brisse '81 were married.

1979

ROGER BUCHHORN began working as manager of the accounting services group at Padgett Strateman accounting firm in San Antonio in March 2006.

FERNANDO RAMIREZ was elected to the Sharyland ISD school board. He resides in McAllen.

1981

With more than 20 years of experience in a variety of executive healthcare positions in Texas, last July DENNIS PULLIN became chief operating officer for Washington Hospital Center, the largest private, not-for-profit hospital in the nation's capital. Pullin holds a master's

The name has changed but the voice is the same



On-air personalities
Sylkie Green and
Cornelius Grant of
the Temptations.

You could say Sylvia Green's national radio career had its roots at KWED in Seguin, where she interned while studying communications at Texas Lutheran.

After graduating from TLU, Green performed in the Broadway touring company of "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," before moving to California. That's where Green legally changed her

name to "Sylkie" Green.

Three years ago she began working with Cornelius Grant, the former music director of The Temptations. One of the last surviving members of the original group, he worked with The Temptations for over 20 years and later founded WARM (World Academy of Recording Musicians).

Green became co-partners with Grant in WARM, as well as The Starz of Tomorrow National Talent Search and Magnum Silk Entertainment.

In 2004 Green and Grant began co-hosting an Internet radio show known as i-WARM. That led to the launch of her new nationally and internationally syndicated radio show that she and Grant co-produce and co-host, "Yesterday's Old School Jamz."

This weekly two-hour program, which went on air in international markets the summer of 2005, highlights R&B and soul music from the '60s, '70s and '80s and is interspersed with interviews with

various music artists.

"It literally takes you back to the old school music. Every week we interview a different artist," Green said.

The radio show is heard in England, Canada, Germany, and on satellite and the Internet and on a growing number of stations across the U.S., including KTFM in San Antonio. Artists featured on the show include Dennis Edwards of the Temptations and Robert "Kool" Bell of Kool & the Gang.

The radio show includes other features such as a top five count down of the top songs for a particular week and year, news about old-school performers, and Green's personal favorite, a section entitled "I Bet You Didn't Know."

"It's very informative and can be hysterical," Green said.

Catch WARM on SIRIUS satellite radio. ■

Samantha Bryant
Junior English Major

degree from Texas A & M and has written numerous articles and edited several sports medicine magazines.

1984

MARK RUSSELL, Grange Insurance vice president and chief administrative officer, has been named chairman of the board of Governors for the National Insurance Crime Bureau, a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to preventing, detecting, and defeating insurance fraud and vehicle theft. Mark holds an M.B.A. from Ashland University and his accreditations include Charter Property Underwriter (CPCU), Associate in Risk Management (ARM), and Casualty Claim Law Associate (CCLA). He and his wife, Lori, reside in Dublin, Ohio where he serves on the boards of the Community Shelter and the Ronald McDonald House.

1985

VERNA ESCHENFELDER completed her Ph.D. in August of 2005, and she now is an occupational therapist at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. She is a neonatal intensive care specialist with current research focus in the area of neonatal feeding and premature infants.

GRACE (GERHART) KUNDE was installed as the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority director for Guadalupe County. Her term will run through Feb. 1, 2009.

1986

BRIAN VALENTA completed his Ph.D. in instructional management in December of 2004. He was also promoted to the rank of major in the Texas

State Guard in May of 2005. He resides in League City.

1988

ELIZABETH JORDAN accepted the position of director of music at First Lutheran Church, Richmond Beach, Wash. She began working there in August after moving from New York City where she had lived and worked as a composer for 15 years.

1989

JIMMIE BARRETT is the first vice-president of the Court Officers & Deputies Association and will become the president of CODA in the coming year. He is currently the county security supervisor, managing a staff of 25 deputies with the Arlington County



TLU alumni gathered near Bergen, Norway. Left to right are Ann-Elin Eikum, Frode Eikum, Debbie Eikum, Stig Martin Halleraker, Dr. Scott Bailey, associate professor of psychology; Hilde (Myklebust) Wolter; Henning Tvedt, Asbjorn Ystebo, Henrik Wolter, Lillian Stormo, and Marte Hammer.

Sheriff's Office. He has been working with the Commonwealth of Virginia to establish state guidelines for security in the state court system.

TODD DELLER and his wife, Debbie, finalized the adoption of Marc (12 years old) and Cheyenne (9 years old) in February 2006. In April, Todd started his new position as assistant controller for The Beck Group, a construction, architecture and real estate developer in Dallas.

MARY (RIEDER) REIDENBACH and her husband Paul announce the birth of their son Kenneth on July 22, 2005. They reside in Northport, N.Y.

DAVID and JESSICA (GAYTAN) '95 SZYMANSKI live in Ruston, La. with their two children, Dawson, 3, and Justin, 1.

1992

DEREK FARLEY and his wife, Robin, announce the birth of their daughter, Cameron Reese, on July 31, 2006. Cameron has twin older brothers, Jack Paul and Nicholas Dukes. The Farleys reside in Oak Point.

MICHAEL HUBER, M.D. is in private practice in Lukfin. He and his wife, Stephanie, have two children: Jarrett, 6 and Emily Grace, 3.

1993

J.P. GREGORIEW was named the "2006 Allen ISD Secondary Teacher of the Year." He teaches theatre arts at the Lowery Freshmen Center in Allen. His wife, Kelley, is an algebra teacher and the head volleyball coach for Allen High School. They have an 8-year old daughter, Kylie.

1994

JENNIFER (GIESBER) HOXIE became a third grade teacher at Vogel Elementary School in Seguin ISD after completing the Alternative Certification Program at TLU. She and her husband, Rory, also have a 5-year old son named Alex. They reside in San Antonio.

1995

STEVEN LUTZ took the position of assistant men's basketball coach at Southern Methodist University after serving in the same capacity at Stephen F. Austin University for the past six years.

1996

KATHRYN (SHARP) BARRIENTES completed her masters of science in taxation at the University of Texas at Arlington in December 2005. She has

In Memoriam

1930s

OLETA (SCHULTZ) DOSSMAN '30 passed away Sept. 9, 2006 at the age of 95. She was an avid reader, seamstress, needle and handworker, and enjoyed quilting perhaps most of all. She produced many quilts used and treasured by her family.

CHRISTIAN WILLIAM PFLUGER JR. '34 passed away June 29, 2006 at his Coupland home at the age of 90. After the death of his father in 1944, Bill went to work at Coupland State Bank, founded in 1905 by a group which included his father. At the first directors' meeting, Bill Pfluger was elected president of the bank and remained in that position for the next 43 years. Even after his retirement in 1987, he continued to be very active in the bank, serving on the Board of Directors for many years.

1940s

ERWIN FORSHAGE '48 died on Sept. 3, 2006 in San Antonio at the age of 81. He was in the accounting profession and was Seguin's first practicing CPA.

TED R. KRUEGER '43 of Austin passed away on July 30, 2006 at the age of 82. He was employed by the Texas Highway Department until his retirement in 1986 at which time he had 40 years of service.

A. EARL MGE BROFF, M.D. '45 of Yoakum, passed away May 27, 2006 at the age of 79. He was a TLU regent emeritus and recipient of the TLU Distinguished Church Service Award.

DORIS (SMITH) WILLIAMS '40 of Seguin died June 8, 2006 at the age of 85.

continues on page 29

Making a difference in D.C.

Stephanie Barret '02 and Jasen Zubcevik '03



International graduates Stephanie Barret and Jasen Zubcevik.

Stephanie Barret and Jasen Zubcevik came half way around the world to meet and fall in love at TLU. Today, they are two young professionals living and working in the nation's capital.

Stephanie came to TLU from Reunion Island, France as a part of an exchange program. Jasen was already at TLU, an international student from Macedonia in his second year of studies.

"At first, we became very good friends, and our friendship quickly grew," he said. "We spent two great years at TLU, years filled with wonderful

memories."

After graduating, Stephanie and Jasen decided to move to Washington D.C. for graduate school. They wanted to continue their studies in international relations and politics.

Jasen said, "We knew that the education we had earned at TLU would enable us to reach our goals of earning graduate degrees and eventually working for some of the most reputable companies in Washington D.C."

Stephanie successfully completed her graduate studies at the Elliot School of International Affairs at George Washington University and is employed by Internews Network – an international media development organization that works on improving access to information for people around the world by promoting independent media. She says she enjoys her job and loves working with individuals from different backgrounds, traveling, and managing and developing media projects worldwide.

Recently, Stephanie was promoted to senior program associate for Africa where she manages media development projects in seven African countries. As part of her work, she has recently traveled to Kenya, Nigeria and Ethiopia. She recently opened a field office in Ethiopia

and attended a health journalism conference in Nigeria with several international and local partner organizations.

Jasen graduated from American University, the School of International Service and joined the government affairs department at the National Association of Realtors (NAR), the nation's largest trade and professional association, where he is the government affairs political/grassroots representative. One of his major assignments at NAR is to manage large real estate brokers' involvement in political programs.

"The feeling of being a representative for the largest trade organization in the U.S. is something I cannot really describe," he said. "I'm very fortunate that I have been given the opportunity to work with and learn from some of the most skilled professionals in the business. Every day I look forward to new challenges, projects and accomplishments."

Stephanie and Jasen are engaged and planning wedding ceremonies in Macedonia and France. "In the future, we hope that we'll get the opportunity to do more overseas travel," Jasen said, "but no matter where we are in the world, TLU and Texas will always be in our hearts as our second home." ■

accepted the position of vice president of income tax at Harry and David Operations in Medford, Ore.

SONJIA (BROWN) FRITZ married Evan Ralph on July 15, 2006 in Buda. The couple resides in San Angelo.

ERIC GILBERTSON received his Ph.D. in philosophy in May 2006 from Sage School of Philosophy at Cornell University. He now teaches at Lewis & Clark College and the University of Portland.

CHRISTOPHER '95 and ALLISON

(ALBRIGHT) GORREBEECK were married on June 18, 2006 and moved to Fort Walton Beach, Fla. Christopher received his M.B.A. in May 2005 and Allison was promoted to major in the USAF in June.

JENNIFER (GAARDER) SKINNER and her husband, Thomas, announce the birth of their daughter, Grace Kelley, on Jan. 19, 2006. The family resides in Spring.

MICHAEL MOYER completed his Ph.D.

in counseling and educational psychology in December of 2005 from Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. He and his wife, ALYSON (SHUFELT) '99, have moved to San Antonio where Michael accepted a faculty position in the counseling program at UTSA.

CHELLE (LAGOSKI) NORTHCUTT and her husband, Joshua, announce the adoption of 22-month old Michael Carter on June 29. Just 24 hours later, she married Joshua. The family lives in the Houston area.

ADRIENNE (JOBE) QUIRE and her

1 9 9 7



Members of the Class of 1986 enjoying homecoming are, left to right, Carmen Cernosek, Regina Barton Keilers, Kim Lee, Kathy Blankenship Binnig, Jeff Engeling, Mimi Hertzberg King, Shirley Wetter Harris, and Monica Sookdeo Johnson.

husband, Michael, announce the birth of their first child, Andrew Michael, on Nov. 26, 2005. The family resides in Kyle.

1998

KATHRYN (PFEIFFER) ANDERSON and BOB ANDERSON announce the birth of their first child, Owen William, on June 20, 2006.

SARAH (PITNER) YOUNG and her husband, David, announce the birth of their second child, Nathan Westley, on May 10, 2006. Sarah is taking a break to stay at home with the boys, and David is in the Navy. They are in Norfolk, Va.

BETHANY ERICSON graduated from the University of Queensland in Australia with her master's degree in international studies, peace and conflict resolution. She relocated to Quito, Ecuador and helped a local non-governmental agency, CENIT, write a grant proposal. CENIT helps uneducated women and their children, encouraging education, proper health habits, and job skills. In June 2006 she arrived in Sri Lanka and is living in the capital city, Colombo, where she works for Norwegian Peoples Aid. Part of her work concerns land mines and part is working with other non-governmental

agencies doing relief work for those hard hit by the tsunami.

1999

AMBER (MILLS) BAUMANN married Jarrod Baumann on June 24, 2006 at Second Baptist Church in Houston. SHANNON (WAGNER) ROHLFING was the matron of honor.

BETHANY (FRITZ) GRISSOM and her husband, Russ, announce the birth of their second child, Melaina Sharon, on May 16, 2006. They reside in New Braunfels.

ALYSON (KRIPPNER) and KOREY KIRCHNER '98 celebrated the birth of their daughter, Madison Paige, on March 31, 2006. ALYSON received her master's degree from UTHSCSA and will complete a residency in obstetrics and gynecology in San Antonio.

TYLER and BRIANNA (JACKSON) MARVIN moved to Des Moines, Iowa where Tyler is running the offices for TEK Systems, the computer consulting company where he has worked since graduation.

SHANNON (WAGNER) and MARK ROHLFING celebrated the birth of their daughter, Abigail Marie, on April 14,

In Memoriam from page 27

STANLEY LEE WEISS '48 passed away Aug. 10, 2006 at the age of 80. He worked as a clothier and tailor for 30 years in Killeen where he owned Stanley Weiss Men's Store, Mark's Army Store, an appliance repair store and several apartment buildings. At an age when many consider retirement, Stanley became a stockbroker for A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc., where he worked until finally retiring some two decades later.

1950s

NORMA (WIEGMANN) TAYLOR '55, passed away Aug. 9, 2006 at the age of 77. She taught in San Antonio's Northeast Independent School District for 33 years. She was a teacher at Coker, Wilshire and Jackson Keller elementary schools.

1960s

BERNARD LEITER '66 died Friday, July 28, 2006, in Seguin. A graduate of Texas Lutheran, Bernie recently retired as senior buyer for The University of Texas at San Antonio.

1970s

RICHARD T. KIRK '73 passed away at the age of 62 on May 20, 2006. He worked for the Internal Revenue Service where he served as a senior excise/employment tax specialist, teacher, coach and mentor, and retired in 2000 after 27 years of service. Richard was a co-owner of a real estate company in Austin from 1988 until 1997.

DORCAS STROECK '78 died Sept. 6, 2005 after a long and lingering illness. She lived in San Antonio.

RICKY WIGINTON '78 passed away May 10, 2006 in Port Harcourt, Nigeria.



TOP: Jessie Boka '05, Megan Henske '05, and Victor Perello '06 enjoy a San Antonio Happy Hour.

BOTTOM: Jeep Kiel '64, Fred Davis '77, Assistant Coach Bill Schade, Connie Schade, and Dr. Harold Prochnow '51 enjoy the men's athletics reunion at homecoming.

2006. The family resides in Houston.

2000

SARAH (JESKE) and LUCAS LAND '01 announce the birth of their son, Asher Jeffrey, born on May 24, 2006. Sarah is in her fourth year teaching elementary music in the Killeen ISD. Lucas is in his second year at Truett Theological Seminary in Waco. They reside in Copperas Cove.

JENNIFER (BUCHANAN) PRINCE and her husband, Chad, welcomed their first child, Connor Chadwick, on Dec. 23, 2005.

2001

JILYN (CHANDLER) OLIVEIRA received her master's degree in education in July 2005 and is near completion of her doctorate in education from the University of Montana. She and her husband currently reside in Helena, Mont.



Members of the Class of 2001 celebrating their five-year reunion are, top row, left to right, Amanda Kidder-Micklos, Sarah Wilson, Rebecca Kunz Haverlah, Nicki Harris, bottom Jessica Hilburn Geisbauer, Jessica Decker Hansen, and Krista Walker.

2002

DANE BOYLE, director of the Guadalupe Regional Wellness Center, was named "Business Leader of the Week" by the American Bank of Texas. He is married to Beth and they have three children, Kayla, Greg and Kevin. They reside in Seguin.

LISA HUMPHREYS graduated in May 2006 with a master's degree in human services with a counseling emphasis. She currently works in Comal ISD as a counselor/social worker at the elementary school level.

WES KOLLE accepted the position of head baseball coach in Yorktown. He currently resides in Victoria with his wife, Jessica.

JENNIFER (CICCO) LAYTON and her husband, Bryan, announce the birth of their daughter, Natalie Ann, born on March 20. They reside in Chester, Va.

RYAN LOYD and SARAH LONNEVIK were united in marriage June 3, 2006 at the Chapel of the Abiding Presence at Texas Lutheran by campus pastor Rev. Greg Ronning. The couple met in Langner Hall during their freshman orientation in 1998. The couple resides in San Antonio.

CHRISTINA (LORENZ) QUINTANILLA and her husband, Joel, a current TLU student, announce the birth of their first child, Addison Grace, on June 22, 2006.

MELISSA (BAKKEN) TRAINER married Edwin Trainer on May 13, 2006 at the Cypress Chateau in Cypress. They reside in Houston.

2003

LAUREN DOW is a student at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, S.C., with plans to earn a masters of divinity degree.

KARI (CORDER) PASTRANO married Jason Michael Pastrano on April 8, 2006 at the Doubletree Hotel in San Antonio. They reside in Converse. Kari is pursuing her M.B.A. at the University of Phoenix.

JASON SENDELBACH married KIRSTEN (ROGERS) SENDELBACH on June 17, 2006 in Florida. He is a technology assistant at Wheeling High School in Chicago. Kirsten works for the McLeuhan County Youth Collaboration. The couple resides in Hawthorn Woods, Ill.



Enjoying homecoming are Ken Weiher '81, Paul Lemmon '81, David Ehler '81, and Keith Hill '80 with his son.



2004

CHRISTOPHER DYE married Brittany Wilson on June 24, 2006 in Atlanta, Ga. He received his masters of music degree in May from Columbus State University and now lives in Lubbock where he is a band director at Frenship Middle School.

JEFF ERICKSON and the rest of the personal training staff at Fitness Together in College Station were voted "Best in the Brazos Valley."

BRIAN HALLETT and JENNIFER (WEISE) HALLETT were married on June 10, 2006. They live in San Antonio.

ERIN (SPESSARD) HILL married David Hill in June of 2005 at TLU. Erin works as a children's ministry assistant at Central Baptist Church. They reside in Bryan.

2005

AMANDA (WITTENBURG) and JAKE COMPTON were married on July 23, 2005 in Edna. Amanda and Jake are currently pursuing master's degrees in exercise science from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

There are now three recent TLU graduates working at the San Antonio

Greater Chamber of Commerce. LORI DEVER is departmental assistant for public affairs, BRYNN SALT is the director of publications, and THERESA COOK '06 is assistant vice president of public affairs.

Since graduation, TRAVIS HAWKINS has worked for KSNT 27 News in Topeka, Kan. In a year and a half he has quickly moved up from running audio to camera operator, editor, newscast director, and is now the station's lead director, working on the evening news.

After 20 years in the Air Force, PAT MURPHY and his wife, Jeanna, are the new owners of Computer Link. They reside in Schertz.

KATIE (MEYER) and ADAM SARGENT '03 were married on June 17, 2006 in Pflugerville. The couple resides in Seguin.

MELISSA (WICK) TROST married Joel Trost on Sept. 2, 2006 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Seguin. The couple resides in Granbury.

2006

ERICA (BECK) LEU married Aaron Ta-tsung Leu at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Plano on June 3, 2006. The couple resides in Austin.

KELLY RABON is working as a news reporter for WLOX. She is currently reporting in the Gulf Coast, and resides in Pascagoula, Miss.

JENNA WALKER is an assistant producer on the "San Antonio Living Show" on WOAI-TV. ■

TOP: Marcie Hannemann Moehnke '01 and Andrea Seay '01 catch up at the homecoming lunch.

BOTTOM: Lisa Antwerp-Rangel '86 and Brittany Mellum '03 enjoy a Beta scrapbook.

All alumni – keep in touch by sending the Torch news about your wedding, children's births, career, achievements, graduate degrees, and other activities. As space allows, we also will try to include additional information that you may send about children, spouses, weddings, or grandchildren's births or activities. We do not include engagements, pregnancies, and other impending news. Photos will be used as space and quality permit – photos will be published in the Alumni Photo Album on the TLU Web site.

Please send your Torch items, new e-mail or mailing address to alumni@tlu.edu or Torch, 1000 West Court St., Seguin, TX 78155.

Rick Flores

Changing lives



Rick Flores is an exceptional band director, but to really understand what that means, you have to go back to his days at Burbank High School in San Antonio.

"I was an inner-city kid who lived in a housing project surrounded by drugs and crime," Flores said.

But he was determined to beat the odds and not become another statistic. He wanted to go to college and become

a police officer, but he had no money. So Flores, who played trumpet in the Burbank High School band, decided to send out cassette audition tapes to a few schools to pave the way. One ended up in the hands of Lee Boyd Montgomery Jr., then Texas Lutheran's director of bands.

When Montgomery came to the projects, hoping to recruit the young trumpet player, Flores said he was shocked that someone would actually take time to visit him concerning his future.

"Lee Boyd came to see me two or three times and got to know me. I didn't think I was smart enough because, even though I was ranked 16th in my graduating class, I only had a 520 on my SAT – that was a total on both parts! I'm sure he had to talk to a lot of people to get me admitted, but I got in. He believed in me and that made a world of difference!"

The next obstacle was tuition.

"I was so intimidated by the money –

but somehow Carol Hamilton (then financial aid director), who quickly became my angel, figured out a way to make it work."

At Texas Lutheran, Flores found more than a good band program. He found meaning for his life.

Flores didn't grow up in a religious home, but he would go to chapel every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and it touched him deeply. "If it wasn't for chapel and God's grace, no telling where I would be," he said.

He related how different his fellow students' lives were. He would visit his college friend's home for the weekend and was amazed that they would support one another and sit down to pray and have dinner together. This had never happened in his home. "God placed me at TLU to show me a different way of life," he said.

Flores worked hard at TLU, including his student teaching days. "It wasn't until the Seguin High School band director told me, 'One of these days, Rick, you're



In 2004, Rick Flores was recognized as the Teacher of the Year in Texas by the HEB Excellence in Education Awards in the Rising Star Category (teachers with less than 10 years of experience).



going to be a really fine band director,' that I actually considered teaching."

In 1995 Flores graduated cum laude from TLU with a 3.6 GPA and degrees in both music and sociology.

After graduation, Flores returned to San Antonio to teach at Truman Middle School in the Edgewood School District, and seven years ago came to Washington Irving Middle School in the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD), just blocks from where he grew up.

There were 149 students in the band program when he began. All of the crime, gangs and drugs that had been part of his neighborhood were still there. And at Irving, band was simply another elective.

Flores credits a Bible study that he started for turning the program around. Although they have since had to stop, it was the foundation for a band program that is as much about character and values as it is about clarinets and trombones.

Today there are 297 students in the

IMS band. Throughout the band hall are posters encouraging excellence, effort and teamwork. "We promote integrity, character and commitment," Flores said. He uses everything from problem solving and a buddy system to pasting stars on a large poster to foster leadership, loyalty and values.

The Irving band sets the standard for the SAISD. Recently the honor band placed fourth in the Texas Music Educators Association 2C State Honor Band Finals and also was awarded the National Wind Band Honors that recognizes the best band programs in the nation. This is the first time a SAISD band program has been recognized at the state and national level.

Flores continually challenges students to dream big and not allow their environment to dictate their level of success.

"My kids know my story, and so I really feel connected with them. My desire is to show them that there is a different way of life, much like TLU showed me. They must understand that

the key to their success in life is their education."

Each year Flores takes some of his students to the TLU Summer Music Academy. "It is a very meaningful experience for them," he said. "They can see things beyond where they now live to where their lives may take them."

He reiterated his gratitude to TLU and how the experience changed his life so that now he can help others change theirs.

"TLU will always have a special place in my heart because it provided me the opportunity to do what I love. Many of the same obstacles and challenges I grew up with in the barrio are very much alive today. Crime, drive-by shootings, drugs, and prostitution are all within steps of our school."

Flores smiled, "Someone once said, 'When you understand your purpose in life it all begins to make sense.' It is amazing that God has brought me back to this community – this is where I belong." ■

The Irving Honor Band Program was recently awarded National Wind Band Honors, which recognizes the best band programs in the nation.

Music of the heart

Confessions of a non-music major

By Rebecca Lowther '06



One thing I have learned in my short 22 years of life is that you can never tell where your greatest influences will come from. I have been in choirs since I was 4-years old and have been singing since before I could talk. That said, the day I stepped in to Ayers Recital Hall for my first TLU choir practice, I was nervous as all get out but pretty sure of what I would encounter. What I didn't realize was that I was stepping into one of the most defining experiences of my life.

Although my time with the TLU choir did further my knowledge of music, I learned so much more than that. Somewhere in the midst of crescendos, legato lines and dissonant chords I was instilled with a sense of how truly beautiful and fragile life is. I learned about humility, perseverance and strength from my fellow choir members and by watching our tireless director lead by example.

Dr. Boyer's gentle spirit and enormous heart leave a powerfully lasting impression on all who have the honor to sing under his direction. "Go and change the world," he must have told us at least a dozen times a year Dr. Boyer inspires his students daily to reach beyond their comfort zones and do something truly great. He reaches deep down inside of them and shows them beauty waiting there. Each new student who traipses through the doors of Ayers Recital Hall on the first day of choir practice will one day walk out older and wiser and bearing a greater appreciation for the beauty in life.

In addition to the life lessons garnered from my director and fellow choralists, I found myself deeply affected by the choir itself. A choir is comprised of many different people gathering their talents together to become one sound, one breath, one voice. That in itself is nothing short of miraculous. Being a member of the TLU Choir I was asked to take my performance a step

further. I had to connect to what I was singing, to draw up that emotion from the depths of my own experience and then convey that to the audience. Watching that much of yourself go out to other people can be scary, but the experience is life changing. It allows you to connect to complete strangers and to communicate on a level far deeper than simple words and notes would ever reach. As a choir of 50 or so, it was sometimes difficult to get everyone to convey the same emotions, but the labors proved to be well worth it. When we united in the message we conveyed, the song would take on a life of its own, shaking choir, director and audience to their very core. We became one sound, one breath, one voice, one message.

I stayed in choir all four years of college, despite having to take an 18-hour course load my last two semesters. Many people had trouble understanding why, as a non-music major, I would take on the additional workload of choir. The truth is that without choir, I never would have survived college. It was my outlet, my stress relief and at times, even my life raft. Choir allowed me to become simply a vessel for music. Immersed in the glorious sounds we could make as a group, I would allow all of the stress and pain of whatever I was going through to wash away. Writing may be the expression of my

heart, but music is the expression of my soul. It is an outpouring of praise to the One who gave me the ability to sing and an ever-present reminder that I am not alone.

More than any other experience at TLU, I loved choir the best. There were these little moments of perfection that just set my heart aglow and carried me through some of my darkest days. Moments like the first time we sang as a choir; every year it's a struggle of 50 separate people trying to become one that culminates in a magnificent chord and surprises every one of us. I will never forget the first time we sang "Allelujah" in tune. It touched me so deeply that I was affected for hours. Moments like that will never leave me. They will resound on in my memory; a quiet place where I can retreat in times of trouble. No matter what I am going through I will look back and remember that I was part of something beautiful and perfect in its intention. I was a member of the TLU Choir. ■

Rebecca Lowther, a communication studies major, graduated in May from TLU with a bachelor of arts degree. She was a member of the TLU choir for four years. Lowther now lives in San Antonio. She continues to stay in touch with TLU, Dr. Boyer, and the music in her heart.

"First Person" is an original, personal piece about any topic, written by a student, faculty, staff, alumnus or friend of TLU. To contribute or for more information contact the Torch editor at khughes@tlu.edu.



Becca Lowther has warm memories of being part of the choir – during practices and concerts – such as this performance at the 2005 Excellence in Leadership dinner in San Antonio during her senior year.

Remember when ...

Do you recognize anyone from this photo?

Keeping with our Torch theme on music, we found a photo of band members. Let us know when this photo was taken, who the people are and what was going on in the picture.



Last issue

Although Seguin has had several floods, most agreed that our clean-up crew photo was taken following the 1972 flood in Seguin.

Karen Miller, who lived on the river, recalls, “There were so many TLU students that volunteered to help clean up homes on the river that year. We were drained, emotionally and physically, and I don’t know what we would have done had we not had my fellow students come to our rescue.”

Greg Riedel remembers, “We spent many hours shoveling mud from homes, then removing all carpeting and sheetrock from the walls. I remember walking down the street to find an elderly woman sitting on the curb. I asked her if I could help her and she said, ‘not really- that’s all that is left of my house.’ She was pointing behind her to a concrete slab that was completely stripped of all but a few stubs of plumbing. Across the street I could see refrigerators that were perched in the tops of the 60-foot pecan trees that lined the Guadalupe River.”



Donny Anderson '76 reports that his work in the flood “oddly enough gave me good experience for Katrina last year at my home in New Orleans.”

Thanks to all who responded. Not everyone was identified, and two still remain unknown – but from left to right are unknown, Greg Reidel (with shovel) '73, unknown, Beth (Strot) Brooks '75, Dan Daniels '75, Elling “Stosh” Larsen '73 (sitting), and Bobby Reese '75. ■

Share your memories of the moment and identify those you can by e-mailing torch@tlu.edu or writing to the Torch at 1000 W. Court St. Seguin, TX 78155.



Academic Events

Conversations with Katrina: 500 Days After the Deluge
Symposium of writers, photographers and artists
7 p.m., Feb. 8
Jackson Auditorium

Spring Baccalaureate
10:30 a.m., May 12
Jackson Auditorium

Spring Commencement
7 p.m., May 12
Chapel Lawn



Alumni Events

Black and Gold Roundup
6:30 p.m., March 30
Anne Marie's
San Antonio

Homecoming 2007
Oct. 5-7
TLU Campus



Special Events

Front Row with Craig Biggio and Verne Lundquist
6:30 p.m., Feb. 13
Union Station at Minute Maid Park, Houston



Cultural Events

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Concert, Featuring "Spiritual Voices"
7 p.m., Jan. 14
Jackson Auditorium

Hui-Chy Ying Exhibit
Jan. 18-Feb. 6
Opening Reception:
3:30-6 p.m., Jan. 18
Annetta Kraushaar Gallery
Schuech Fine Arts Center

TLU Art Faculty Exhibition
Feb. 22-April 1
Opening reception:
3:30-6 p.m., Feb. 22
Annetta Kraushaar Gallery
Schuech Fine Arts Center

The Vienna Choir Boys
7:30 p.m., Feb. 23
Jackson Auditorium
Tickets required

XpressFest.07
The 7th Annual Festival of Student Productions
7:30 p.m., Feb. 23-24
3 p.m., Feb. 25
Wupperman Little Theatre
Schuech Fine Arts Center

TLU Band Concert
7:30 p.m., March 2
Jackson Auditorium

TLU Jazz Ensemble Concert
7:30 p.m., March 23
Wupperman Little Theatre

TLU Choir Spring Tour
March 22-25
Houston and San Antonio areas

Home Concert
7:30 p.m., March 27
Chapel of the Abiding Presence

TLU Art Student Exhibition
April 5- May 2
Opening reception:
3:30-6 p.m., April 5
Annetta Kraushaar Gallery
Schuech Fine Arts Center

A Special Tribute to James Joyce
Featuring Laurel Thomas, soprano; Brian Manaternach, tenor; and Jeffrey Jacob, pianist
7 p.m., April 17
Ayers Recital Hall
Schuech Fine Arts Center

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"
7:30 p.m., April 19-21
3 p.m., April 22
Jackson Auditorium

TLU Band Concert
7:30 p.m., Friday, April 27
Jackson Auditorium



Sports Events

Basketball Home Games
All games played at Memorial Gymnasium

Jan. 4 vs. LeTourneau
Women: 5:30 p.m.
Men: 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 6 vs. East Texas Baptist
Women: 1 p.m.; Men: 3 p.m.

Jan. 11 vs. Sul Ross State
Women: 5:30 p.m.
Men: 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 13 vs. Howard Payne
Women: 1 p.m.; Men: 3 p.m.

Jan. 25 vs. Mary Hardin-Baylor
Women: 5:30 p.m.
Men: 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 27 vs. Concordia-Austin
Women: 1 p.m.; Men: 3 p.m.

Feb. 8 vs. McMurry
Women: 5:30 p.m.
Men: 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 10 vs. Hardin-Simmons
Women: 1 p.m.; Men: 3 p.m.

For a complete list of TLU athletic events, please visit our Web site at www.tlu.edu.

"Happenings" is a partial listing of upcoming TLU events. All listings are subject to change. For more information on any of these items, or to learn what else is going on at TLU, please visit www.tlu.edu or call 830-372-8020.

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