

the North Texan

A UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

VOL.60, NO.2 | Summer 2010

BEHIND THE
SCENES
UNT ALUMNI
WORKING
IN HOLLYWOOD
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“I see a future where sensor technology can be used to predict floods and wildfires in order to save lives.”

I believe monitoring the environment is the best way to protect it and save human lives. Through the development of networking protocols and signal processing algorithms, I've created a system of low-cost, battery-powered wireless sensors to continuously monitor environmental conditions such as soil moisture in floodplains and temperatures in forests. The real-time data collected by our system helps ecologists build environmental models to predict flash floods and wildfires. I chose to earn my Ph.D. at UNT because of its leading wireless technology research and faculty, but the real benefit of UNT was the collaboration with others in electrical engineering, geography and environmental sciences. Now that I have my doctorate, I plan not only to change the world, but to protect it.

— Jue Yang
 ('10 Ph.D.), computer science and engineering

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING



12 million
 Americans were affected by floods and wildfire in the last 10 years.
 — EM-DAT, The International Disaster Database

UNT
 discover.unt.edu



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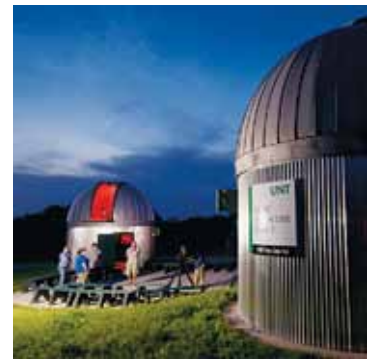
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ONLINE FEATURES



Jana Birchum

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Experience the Denton Arts & Jazz Festival for yourself through our video and

learn about UNT's new addition to the festival — the UNT Showcase Stage.



LOVEBIRDS
Did romance blossom for you and a fellow classmate at North Texas? We

want you to tell us your stories and share your photos.

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- STARMAN'S STARGAZING TIPS
- VIDEO: NSF GRANT WINNER'S HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH AND FAMILY INSPIRATION
- U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS
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Jonathan Reynolds

Student Success Stories

DISCOVER HOW RECENT UNT GRADUATES USED HARD WORK AND PERSEVERANCE TO ACHIEVE THEIR EDUCATION DREAMS, OVERCOMING OBSTACLES AND MAKING PARENTS AND PIANO TEACHERS PROUD ALONG THE WAY.



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- Learn more about your fellow alumni
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Don't forget to follow us at twitter.com/northtexas.

FROM OUR **President**

The year ahead

UNT'S COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

I'VE SPENT MY LIFE IN PUBLIC HIGHER education, starting first as a college student. The experience has taught me that education is perhaps the last true frontier for those seeking growth and progress. Society will falter without excellent public universities filled with creative faculty and talented staff members dedicated to supporting students' dreams.

In my first month, I have seen how UNT excels at this fundamental mission.

Throughout my career, I have been committed to maintaining strong connections between world-class research and education. In my time here, I want to make sure that UNT continues its efforts to emerge as a major research university with its students' education as a central focus.

The upcoming academic year will be an important one as we follow up on the new strategic plan for research (learn more on pages 6-7), approved in May by the UNT System Board of Regents, and prepare for the upcoming legislative session, which starts in January. We proceed from a strong base as an energetic university committed to excellence.

My nearly two decades as a public university president taught me that one of the most important things I can do as a leader is to listen. I hope you will join me at the many campus events throughout the year (see calendar.unt.edu). I want to hear from you about how we can work together to make UNT the best that it can be.

I look forward to meeting you, and I thank the university community for the warm welcome I have received. I am excited about the year ahead.

Sincerely,



V. Lane Rawlins

President

president@unt.edu



Jonathan Reynolds

In one of his first official acts as UNT president, V. Lane Rawlins presided over spring commencement. More than 3,600 students graduated, joining an alumni network of more than 326,000.

The North Texan

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Let us know what you think about news and topics covered in *The North Texan*. Letters may be edited for length and publication style.



Read more letters and share your comments at northtexan.unt.edu.

the beginnings of a wonderful and lasting career in music. The education I received was invaluable and I am so grateful to North Texas for making this possible.

I hope this will encourage young students to do their best and reach for the stars. Stay with your goals and become great at your craft.

Darrell Bledsoe ('70)
Amarillo

A little bit of good

In 1952 or 1953, my father purchased 750 acres in Navarro County. The county agent informed my dad that Denton's college (now UNT) had available three gunny sacks of coastal Bermuda grass, newly developed grass that had some promise as a staple for cattle, would help control soil erosion and could be baled. My dad sent me to Denton to pick up the grass, 100 miles from Barry. I set out in the 1950 Chevrolet pickup, used to move cattle.

I was impressed by the college driveway, set up like a large cul de sac, and walked into the administration office. Everyone turned to look at me to my surprise. From there, I was directed to the agriculture department. Walking back to the truck, it hit me that the truck smelled like cattle and so did I. The agriculture department had one building

An inspiring man

I was saddened to hear about William Ward's passing (winter 2009), but my thoughts quickly turned to all of the joy he brought me and his other students. Dr. Ward was a special teacher, mentor and friend who gave the UNT community so much through his classes and his unique perspectives on life.

He helped open my eyes to a world of art I'd never seen before — from his "art car" to his giant Chuck Close print. He had an enviable thirst for experience and was an inspiring man who always had time to give to his students. His vivacity lives on in those he taught and touched.

Matt Flack ('96)
Lake Forest, Ill.

Editor's note: Readers can visit northtexan.unt.edu/obituaries to write memorials to our fallen Eagles.

Power of place



I attended North Texas in the 1970s as a FIJI (Phi Gamma Delta) from Iowa. I am very impressed today with the almost unimaginable growth in all academic areas ("Power of Place," winter 2009). In addition to the impressive new programs and buildings, the new UNT football stadium will finally give the institution a signature facility to give the school the exposure it sorely deserves outside of the classroom.

Never could I have believed North Texas could have placed itself where it is today way back 30 years ago.

Richard D. Garmer
Eagan, Minn.

Reach for the stars

I would have never dreamed the journey that was ahead after graduating with a vocal music degree from North Texas in 1970. Studying with Eugene Conley, Ed Baird and Frank McKinley, to name a few, set me on a course that to some, including myself, is unbelievable. After teaching music over a 15-year span and receiving a doctorate in voice, I traveled the world producing music education series for Silver Burdett Ginn and McGraw Hill, recording more than 9,000 songs on CBS, Sony and other labels.

Being nominated for several Grammy and Dove awards, winning one of each and getting to produce all genres of music with major artists is a dream come true.

I have so many fond memories of North Texas and the inspiration and knowledge I received from great professors. Those years were

Calling all North Texas lovebirds

Did romance blossom for you and a fellow classmate while you were students at North Texas?

The North Texan is looking for tales from alumni pairs who have gone from classmates to soul mates. Whether you met in the Union, in class, through your roommate or at a Mean Green sporting event, we want to hear your story.

Be sure to tell us what year you met and describe your first date and the moment you knew you had found true love. And, let us know how UNT has become a part of your family's traditions or anniversaries.



Send your love stories to northtexan@unt.edu or share them online at northtexan.unt.edu/online and upload your favorite photos there. Additional ways to contact us are listed below.



A couple from North Texas in the 1938 Yucca.

that seemed like it was a two-car garage at one time, but it was empty except for three gunny sacks.

At the farm, my dad had prepared a waterway for my five brothers and I to hand sprig. By the time of his death in 1983, about 550 acres were in coastal Bermuda grass. In 1969, returning to the farm, I acquired from my father 50 acres that were in coastal grass. The 50 acres have been productive, requiring just fertilizing and baling.

A little bit of good goes a long way. The good the county agent, the Denton college and my dad did has helped the family keep the farm and make a living all this time.

My oldest grandson, Ricky Ferrer, graduated from UNT in 2005 and now works in

New York as a graphic designer.

Ricardo Ferrer
Barry

Reconnecting



I want to express my thanks for the alumni event UNT hosted recently in Bellevue, Wash. My wife, Joni Hennigan Lora ('86), graduated from North Texas with two undergraduate degrees. She and I met on campus at a concert more than 24 years ago. We went to the event here in Bellevue together and were amazed at the connections we made. I reconnected with a

friend I worked with at IBM in Dallas more than 20 years ago. And I met a number of people who had studied music at UNT, and one of them now is playing in a jazz band with me. We are excited to have made old connections and new friends. It was a great event and a surprising success. We hope you will do it again and again.

Doug Lora
Redmond, Wash.

Editor's note: More than 30 alumni reconnected at the Bellevue Mean Green Mix and Mingle in April hosted by UNT's Division of Advancement. Pictured from left are Doug Lora, Breton Grassley ('85), Joni Hennigan Lora ('86), Teresa Grassley-Hooper ('84) and Passion Julinsey ('94). Stay tuned for future events planned for various cities

nationwide by the advancement division and the UNT Alumni Association.

Contact Us!

If you would like to comment on a story, share your North Texas memories or photos, submit news or obituaries, or otherwise get in touch with us, we would love to hear from you.

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Today

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Jonathan Reynolds

EXPANDING RESEARCH

UNT has set its sights on becoming a major research university. To get there, it is strategically investing in its faculty, students, academic programs and research facilities.

A PLACE WHERE RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP and creativity flourish, UNT is furthering its impact in science, engineering and nanotechnology to become a major research university that attracts top students and faculty. UNT's new strategic plan for research lays out its vision and the steps it will take to reach Texas' Tier One status. UNT submitted its plan to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in April, along with the state's six other emerging research universities. University leaders already say UNT is on the right path.



Jonathan Reynolds

Materials science doctoral student Eric Osei-Yiadom works in the XPS/Auger microscopy lab at UNT's Center for Advanced Research and Technology.

UNT's vision is to become a major research university with equally strong programs in the sciences and the arts while continuing to provide students with a top-notch education.

The university's ability to expand in new directions while remaining student-centered is part of what attracted V. Lane Rawlins to serve as president for the 2010-11 academic year.

"A national research university can't forgo teaching to do research. They go hand in hand," says Rawlins, who oversaw Washington State University as it was designated a top-tier research university by the Carnegie Foundation — one of only 96 such institutions nationwide to reach this classification. "UNT is managing to give students the very best education while growing its research profile. That dual commitment will push it to the top tier and maintain its hold as one of the most comprehensive, diverse institutions in Texas."

UNT recently created a 10-year plan to outline how it will meet the criteria of the state's new Tier One program, which provides a pathway for Texas universities to become top research institutions. The plan calls for hiring more research-active faculty to increase external research funding, increasing graduate student support, improving undergraduate education, providing more opportunities for student and faculty development, and developing more research space.

"UNT has a strong foundation of being comprehensive and collaborative, which is the impetus for our growth as a national research university," says Vishwanath "Vish" Prasad, vice president for research and economic development.

Faculty and students

Faculty will play an instrumental role in UNT's goals as they attract funding for research and scholarship, an essential ingredient for a top research university. UNT will continue recruiting and retaining more high-quality faculty, seeking those who are already known in their fields or are rising stars and who conduct multidisciplinary research.

UNT's seven active research clusters already are drawing prominent faculty and yielding results. For instance, two new experts hired as plant signaling cluster faculty (see page 11) are bringing \$2.3 million in research funding to UNT.

At the same time, UNT is enhancing graduate and undergraduate education to maintain a high-achieving student body and strong graduation rates. UNT already has boosted its competitiveness by investing about \$6 million in the past three years in graduate education, with more than \$3 million for more competitive stipends, scholarships and fellowships.

Facilities

The university is committed to providing researchers with top-notch facilities, including a new high-performance computing facility and a design render farm to support animation and visual imaging. UNT also has a host of new or improved facilities in the works. They include a nanofabrication facility, the new Life Sciences Complex, the future Business Leadership Building and a new research field station in Chile. UNT plans to create about 300,000 square feet of research space through reallocation, renovation and new construction to accommodate new hires and new research emphases.

Discovery Park, UNT's nearly 290-acre research facility, is UNT's hub of research and innovation. It features a unique combination of high-powered microscopes and other tools to give UNT's nanotechnology research a competitive edge, says Raj Banerjee, associate professor of materials science and engineering and director of UNT's federally funded Institute for Science and Engineering Simulation.

Nowhere else in the region will researchers and industry find the space, expert knowledge, research capability and economic development potential that Discovery Park offers, Prasad says.



Learn more about UNT's quest for major research university status at research.unt.edu.

Pass it on: Great things are happening at UNT. Learn about them here and share our successes with your family and friends.

- **PUCK MADNESS!** For the third time since 2007, the UNT Inline Hockey Team won the Southwest Collegiate Hockey League Championship. The club sport, similar to ice hockey but with no offside, is played with teams of four wearing inline roller skates chasing a non-bounce plastic puck.
- **LOGISTICS PROWESS.** A UNT team — Jessica Harris, Jin Zhao, Chris Eanes ('10) and Jonathan Page ('10), all logistics and supply chain management students — won the National Logistics Challenge for the third consecutive year. Coached by Ila Manuj, assistant professor in the Department of Marketing and Logistics, the students dominated the college-bowl style competition.
- **CHAMPION MOVES AND GROOVES.** The North Texas Dancers earned the championship title — for the first time — in the Division I-A category at the 2010 American Collegiate Championship this March at UNT in conjunction with the American National/International Championship. Presented by American Dance/Drill Team with more than 6,000 participants, it is the largest event of its kind in the country, drawing teams from across the U.S. and as far away as Japan.



Kent Jackson

BRILLIANTLY GREEN

Presidential search

The UNT System Board of Regents and Chancellor Lee Jackson announced a 23-member Presidential Search Advisory Committee, which will lead to university and community stakeholders in UNT's search for a new president. The committee includes undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff members, administrators, alumni, and Denton and other

community leaders.

Members were nominated by the UNT Faculty Senate, Staff Council, Student Government Association and Graduate Student Council, as well as the UNT Alumni Association, UNT Foundation and Denton Chamber of Commerce.

The search advisory committee, led by UNT alumnus and former UNT System Board of Regents chair John

Robert "Bobby" Ray ('69), began meeting in May and will work with a search firm to identify candidates and encourage them to apply. Other alumni on the committee include Rhys Best ('69), Jim Coffey ('93), Ben Joyner ('74, '76 M.B.A.), Steve Mitchell ('85, '85 M.S.), Ken Newman ('66), Randy Robinson ('06), Victor Rodriguez ('55, '62 M.S.) and Jack Wall ('64).

Together they will review credentials, conduct interviews and make recommendations of highly qualified candidates to the chancellor and the Board of Regents in time for the board's regular meeting in February 2011. An appointment is expected before the 2011-12 academic year.



Visit northtexan.unt.edu/news to learn more about the committee.



Several UNT graduate degree programs and colleges have been selected as among the nation's best by *U.S. News & World Report*. Read more about graduate school rankings at northtexan.unt.edu/news.



Jonathan Reynolds

Students gather on campus during UNT's Earth Week festivities in April.

Earth Week

UNT's Office of Sustainability joined with the North Texas Energy and Environment Club, the UNT campus and the Denton community to host UNT's Earth Week in celebration of the 40th anniversary of Earth Day in April. Events included a green products and sustainability fair, a nature photography workshop, a campus clean-up day and a moonlight tree planting. The Distinguished Lecture Series hosted Eric Schlosser, author of the bestselling book *Fast Food Nation* and co-producer of the documentary *Food Inc.*

The university-wide public awareness campaign promotes

sustainability and aims to generate a sense of responsibility and excitement about reducing, reusing and recycling. In 2008, UNT became the first large public university in Texas to join the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment.

Also during Earth Week, students voted to pass a green fee, an initiative for the Texas Green Fund Campaign, a statewide effort to encourage college campuses to go green. Implemented in spring 2011, students will pay a green fee of \$5 each fall and spring semester, which would add up to about \$360,000 a year for environmental improvements and sustainability projects at UNT.

Goldwater Scholars

Three students in UNT's Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science were named 2010 Barry M. Goldwater Scholars — more than any other public university in Texas. This year's scholars, Anupria Gangal, Katheryn Shi and Kathy Wang, were recognized for their groundbreaking research with wide-ranging applications in the medical and technology fields. Goldwater scholarships are considered to be among the country's most prestigious awarded to students planning careers in mathematics, science and engineering.

KENNEDY TOWNSEND

Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, author and former lieutenant governor of Maryland, delivered the keynote address at the doctoral commencement ceremony in May. In a second event as part of the IMPACT Lecture Series sponsored by UNT's Toulouse School of Graduate Studies, she discussed topics in her book, *Failing America's Faithful: How Today's Churches Mixed God With Politics and Lost Their Way*. Townsend, the eldest child of the late U.S. Sen. and Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and Ethel Kennedy, is a senior advisor at an international investment firm.



Jonathan Reynolds



Mike Woodruff

Fulbright awards

Three UNT faculty members and two graduate students recently earned Fulbright honors. Elizabeth Oldmixon (left), associate professor of political science, received a Fulbright Scholar grant to teach in Ireland for the fall 2010 semester.

Claudia Howard Queen (right), assistant professor of music for dance, was selected for a Fulbright Specialists grant at the Taipei National University of the Arts in Taiwan. And Dale E. Yeatts, professor of sociology, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to conduct research in China for spring 2011.

This is Queen's second Fulbright award allowing her to teach in Taipei. This summer, she'll conduct a workshop to help students, professional composers and dance musicians create music to fit the needs

of choreography.

Oldmixon will teach religion and U.S. politics at University College Cork and research the Catholic Church's influence on policymaking in Ireland.

Yeatts, who will be located at Tsinghua University in Beijing, plans to visit several Chinese villages in rural settings with the goal of developing recommendations for improving the lives of the elderly. He also will work to further develop a theory of sustainable communities.

Maria De La Luz Leake, a doctoral student in art

education, was selected for a Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program to Mexico this summer where she will study language, history and culture — her third Fulbright award.

Anthony Tran, a first-year master's student in radio, television and film, was awarded a grant from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program to study in Vietnam during the 2010-11 academic year. He will explore Vietnamese cinema and its interaction with Hollywood.

MEAN GREEN™

Tennis: Sun Belt champs



Courtesy of the Sun Belt Conference

The Mean Green women's tennis team came from behind to win its first Sun Belt Conference Championship this April and advanced to the NCAA tournament for the first time in program history. The team, one of four UNT teams to see post-season play this year, also was nationally ranked by the International Tennis Association this season, another program first. The Mean Green climbed as high as No. 60 and entered the NCAA tournament as the 64th best team in the nation, losing to No. 32 Tulsa.

Mean Green head coach Sujay Lama was named the 2010 Sun Belt Conference Women's Tennis Coach of the Year, and junior Madura Ranganathan was named an

All-Sun Belt Conference tennis athlete for the 2010 spring season, the first UNT player selected for the conference. She won 10 matches during the 2010 regular season.

"Four things led to our success," Lama says. "We believed in each other, we saw pressure as a privilege, we used adversity to make us better and, most importantly, we became one family with one mission — to bring home the Sun Belt Championship to UNT and qualify for our first NCAA tournament."

In the conference championship against No. 49 Florida International, the Mean Green rallied from an 0-3 deficit to win 4-3.



To learn more, make a donation to athletics or join the Mean Green Club, go to meangreensports.com.

TOP RESEARCHERS JOIN PLANT SIGNALING CLUSTER

Two internationally renowned plant science researchers will join UNT, bringing decades of experience and technical expertise to one of the university's most prominent areas of research. Vladimir Shulaev of Virginia Tech and Ron Mittler of the University of Nevada-Reno will be part of UNT's Signaling Mechanisms in Plants Cluster, a team of researchers who collaborate to improve the understanding of cellular communication in plants to find solutions related to energy, agriculture, nutrition and medicine. Shulaev and Mittler will begin at UNT this fall as professors of biology and will be supported by state-of-the-art laboratories housed in the new Life Sciences Complex, which is scheduled to open at the end of June. They bring the total number of plant signaling cluster researchers to seven.

GLOBAL CONNECTION

Music team to China

Six graduate students and four faculty members traveled to Guangzhou in southern China March 9-21 to help the South China University of Technology establish a chamber music program.

While students at the China university focus on preparing for solo careers, not all are familiar with Western chamber music. The UNT team led workshops, master classes and concerts to teach students about ensemble performance and collaboration between players, and chamber music in particular. The group also brought along \$5,000 worth of music as a gift to the Chinese students and faculty to start a chamber music library at the university.

UNT faculty members Susan Dubois, Nikola Ruzevic and Terri Sundberg worked closely with the China university's faculty members, while the UNT students shared their expertise with their counterparts

on the South China campus. The UNT student group consisted of the Bancroft String Quartet — made up of doctoral students Michelle Paczut on viola, Szemoke Jobbagy on violin, Ross Gasworth on cello and master's student Samuel Park on violin — and doctoral students Reuben Allred on piano and Kellie Quijano ('03

M.M.) on clarinet. The project was directed by Gene Cho, professor of theory and ethnomusicology.

The residency was made possible by a \$30,000 grant from the U.S. State Department, Cultural Affairs Division.



Nikola Ruzevic, UNT cello professor, gives a master class for students at South China University of Technology in Guangzhou in March.

Ross Gasworth



Michael Clements

New autism learning technologies lab

A new laboratory in UNT's College of Information is determining technology products and tools that

enhance the math, reading and social skills of children with autism spectrum disorders in kindergarten through sixth grade.

The Technology and Applied Research in Autism Laboratory, or TARA, opened in March at Discovery Park and is under the direction of learning technologies faculty members Demetria Ennis-Cole, associate professor, and Cathie Norris ('83 Ph.D.),

Regents Professor. Researchers study how existing technology tools benefit children in the autism spectrum, including tools for augmentative communication — communication for those with impairments in their ability to produce or comprehend spoken or written language.

Supervised by faculty members and graduate students, the children will

visit TARA up to three times a week to use software, computer games, social skills DVDs, reading devices, flash cards and sensory items. The researchers will study the tools' effectiveness through experimental research designs that use pre-tests and post-tests, surveys of teachers and parents, and feedback from the children.



Ask an Expert

How can you make a difference volunteering?

Summertime is an ideal time to use a school break or vacation to give back to your community. "There can be great benefits to volunteering, both professionally and personally," says Pamela Sybert ('71, '80 M.S., '99 M.S.), director of the Educational Consortium for Volunteerism within UNT's College of Public Affairs and Community Service. "And if your experience and motive for volunteering align, it can be very rewarding."

She offers the following advice for getting involved in a community service project:

Recognize the benefits

- Learn new skills, use old skills differently or test out a new profession.
- Fulfill a requirement to volunteer for a class or meet a community service mandate.
- Meet other like-minded people, give back and even model volunteer behavior for others.

Consider the possibilities

- Look for online jobs. Without leaving home, create an e-newsletter, enter data or search for grants.

- Volunteer your vacation. Travel and volunteer simultaneously for a mission trip, archeological dig or work in a clinic or on a farm.
- Get started with special events. Fun runs and galas are a good way to become involved.

Find a match

- Follow your passion. What would you like to see changed?
- Find organizations by searching online and asking friends. Consider your willingness to travel and your availability.
- Be prepared for an interview. The organization may want to identify your skills and talents. If it is not a good fit, you may be referred to other agencies.
- Have healthy expectations. Good organizations should help you learn their mission and give you clear direction, but they will expect you to fulfill your commitments.

—Megan Beck



Mike Woodruff

COMMUNITY SERVICE HONOR ROLL

For the second time in three years, UNT has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, recognizing students, faculty, staff and alumni for building a culture of service and civic engagement. UNT has more than 20 student organizations focused on volunteerism and community service, and the university links students, faculty and staff with community agencies through the Center for Leadership and Service. The College of Public Affairs and Community Service also offers fields such as emergency management, public administration, gerontology, social work and rehabilitation studies, and the nation's only 100 percent online certificate in volunteer and community resource management.

Student regent

Jonathan Gallegos, a senior pursuing bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting, was recently appointed by Gov. Rick Perry as the student member of the UNT System Board of Regents. Gallegos is co-owner of Spyre Marketing Group LLP, a member of the Beta Alpha Psi Honors Accounting Organization, past student senator for the College of Business, past chair of the Student Government Fiscal Committee and a past Student Government Association sergeant at arms.

The student regent holds a one-year term and represents the interests of students, the state of Texas and the university system.

Climate and instability

UNT's Cullen Hendrix and Idean Salehyan, assistant professors of political science, are researching the links between climate change and political instability in Africa and will provide guidance to U.S. government policymakers.

They received a \$500,000 grant that is part of a \$7.6 million Department of Defense grant awarded to the Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law at the University of Texas at Austin and were recruited for the center's program on Climate Change and African Political Stability. ●



Register to receive the e-newsletter on the UNT Alumni Association web site at www.untalumni.com.

UNT Alumni Association

The UNT Alumni Association is bringing alumni news and information straight to your e-mail box once a month. The e-newsletter is designed to keep you informed about campus life and help you discover ways to become involved and reconnect with fellow alumni.

"Since launching our e-newsletter program last fall, we have been able to keep alumni and friends more informed about the tremendous progress at UNT," says executive director Derrick P. Morgan. "We look forward to enhancing this service to offer even more timely and relevant information to our readers in the future."

Morgan says the electronic communication is the most cost effective and timely way to announce new member benefits, programs and services to alumni around the globe.

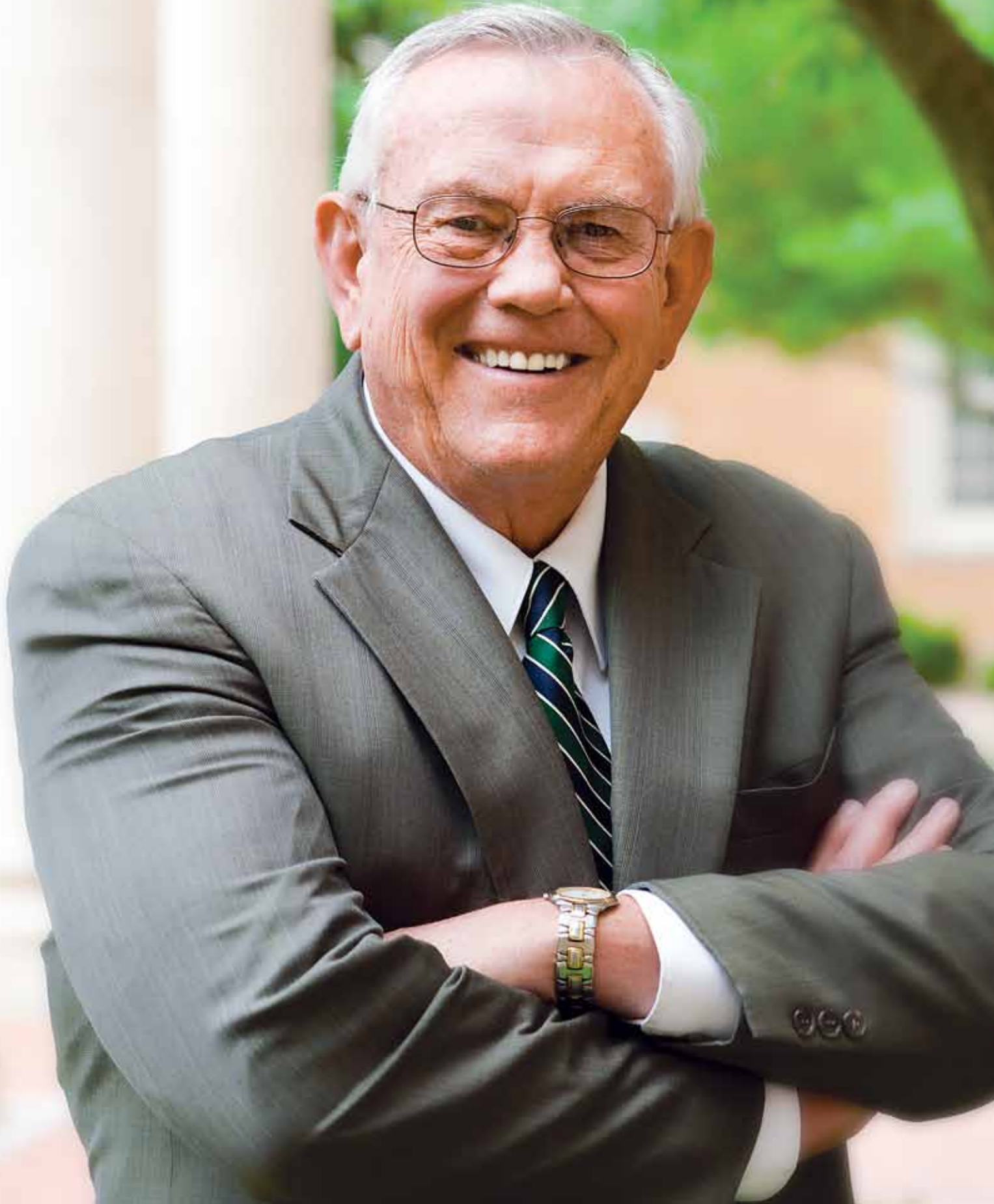
The e-newsletter includes "Did You Know" and "Upcoming Events" sections, briefs and articles about what's happening at UNT, and information about the university's affinity partners who offer special discounts and services to alumni. You'll also find career topics and training information from the Career Center.

To sign up for the e-newsletter, log on to the UNT Alumni Association web site at www.untalumni.com and enter your name and e-mail address.

If you would like to see other types of information in the e-newsletter, send your suggestions to alumni@unt.edu.



To join the association or learn more, visit www.untalumni.com, e-mail alumni@unt.edu or call 940-565-2834.



New president to keep UNT moving forward

BY ERNESTINE BOUSQUET

UNT's new president, V. Lane Rawlins, may have left his family's Idaho potato farm for a career in higher education, but the farm has never left him.

Growing up, Rawlins learned to work hard and to measure success not by how long he worked but by how much he got done. And every season, he saw his family's labor bear fruit. It made him realize early on that the more work and care that went into tending the fields and crops, the greater the harvest was.

Those farm-fueled maxims shaped Rawlins into a transformative leader. A savvy higher education veteran with four decades of experience, Rawlins has a proven track record for making good universities great and a collaborative management style that has swayed legislators, faculty, staff and students alike.

The former president of the University of Memphis and Washington State University says he was motivated by UNT's energy, momentum and diversity as a growing research university to come out of retirement and serve as president for the 2010-11 year. Rawlins, who retired from WSU in 2007 after seven years as president, follows Interim President Phil Diebel, who served this spring after Gretchen M. Bataille stepped down in February.

"President Rawlins not only has the experience to help UNT strengthen its research profile and maintain its academic excellence, he is driven by a passion for public universities," UNT System Chancellor Lee Jackson says. "His pragmatic and collaborative leadership style will be invaluable for UNT."

Rawlins sees UNT as a university that excels at giving students of all backgrounds the best education possible, which he regards as a public university's fundamental mission. Rawlins, who was the first in his family to attend college, has spent most of his academic career working for

public universities after earning his Ph.D. in economics from the University of California at Berkeley and his B.S. in economics from Brigham Young University.

He says it's his way of giving back after the opportunities he received to pursue higher education.

"Public institutions provide perhaps the last frontier for generations of young people seeking growth and progress, and they are absolutely critical to the success of our society," says Rawlins, who is a noted labor economist.

Rawlins will lead UNT during a pivotal year. With a new strategic plan for research (see pages 6-7), UNT will work toward reaching key benchmarks to become a major research university. Rawlins brings experience from leading WSU during the time when it substantially grew its research funding and was recognized as a top-tier research university.

But as he has done throughout his career, Rawlins says he will work to maintain a connection between world-class research and top-quality education at the highest levels.

"We'll change a lot of things with our research, but the most important thing we'll change is students' minds," he says. "Because when professors are thinking on the edge, it changes the way students think."

Rawlins also will join Jackson in representing UNT during Texas' next legislative session, which starts in January.

Rawlins says his main priority will be to ensure that the university stays on track by developing strategies and resources to keep UNT moving in the right direction.

"I'm excited about the path UNT is on," he says. "It's a great place that is in transition to something even better." ●

Norm Miller

by ERNESTINE BOUSQUET

At the time, Interstate had five employees and 30 distributors, and offered only automotive batteries — selling about 200,000 a year.

Miller immediately put his skills to the test. Mentored by Searcy, he helped Interstate grow by putting in long hours, logging thousands of miles on the road and learning every

aspect of the business.

Perseverance came naturally to Miller after his university days. Searcy helped him take it to the next level.

“He taught me to put in the hours and to put your best in every hour,” he says.

Miller ended up CEO and chairman of Interstate in 1978. By the time he stepped down as CEO in 1990, Interstate had surpassed Sears and Diehard in battery sales.

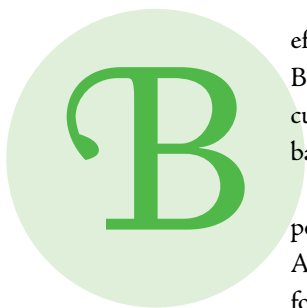
Now Interstate sells nearly 16 million batteries a year, reaps \$1 billion in annual sales, has 300 wholesale distributors throughout North and South America, employs about 1,400 people nationwide and distributes batteries for everything from automotive needs to household appliances. The company also is well-known on the NASCAR circuit as a sponsor of Team Interstate.

“To accomplish all of that is a big deal,” says Miller, who now serves as chairman of Interstate. “We grew everything from the ground up.”

Miller says fortune, a strong Christian faith and sound business training led to his successful career.

And most notably for Miller, Interstate has stayed true to its Christian mission and its family roots. Most of its distributorships are family-run operations.

“It’s been a fun thing to have a part in people taking a chance, investing their money and being successful,” Miller says. “I ended up exactly where I belonged.” ●



Before Norm Miller ('62) headed Interstate Batteries, he worked the road, convincing customers to buy and distribute its batteries.

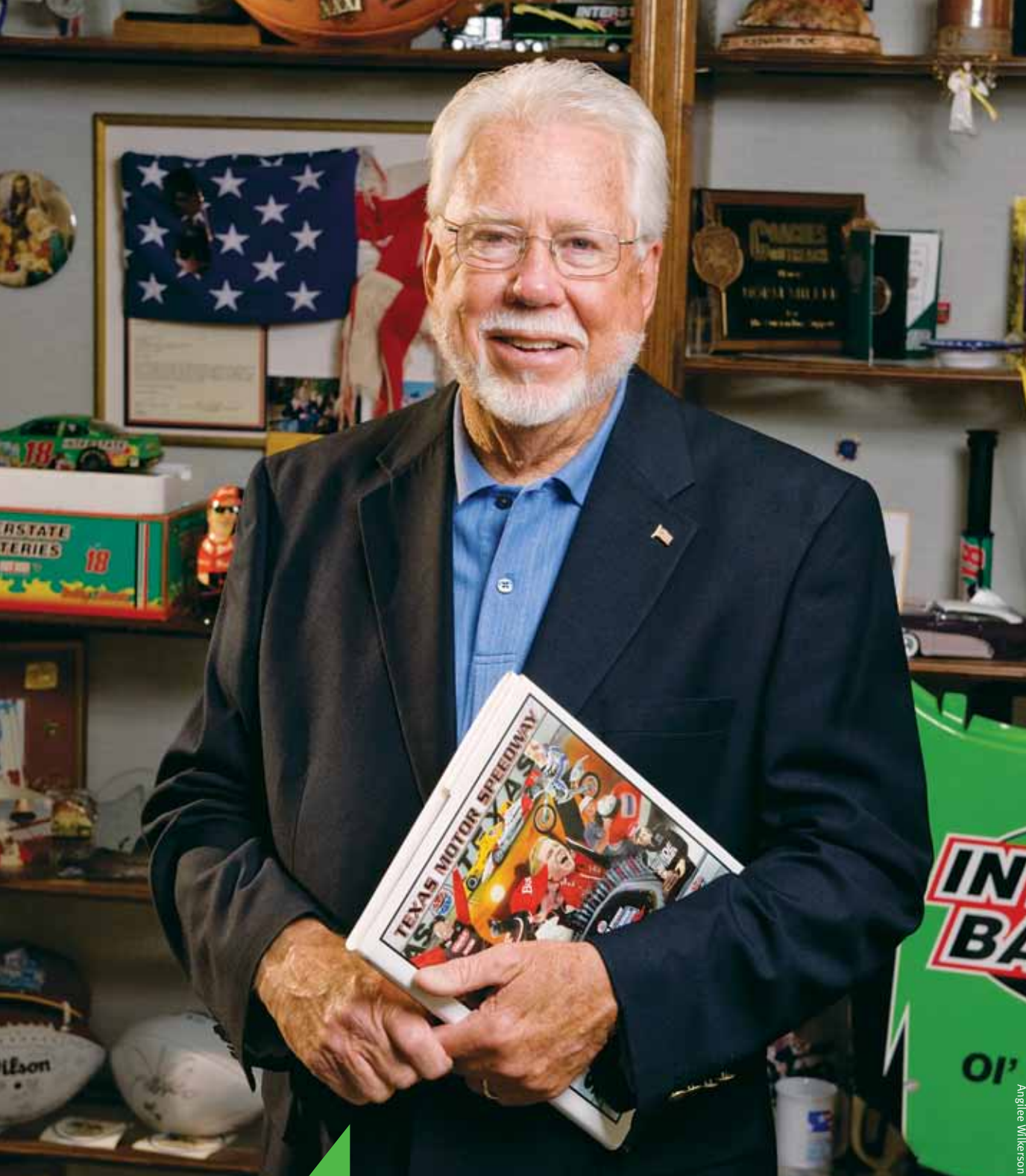
The first thing he did when talking to potential customers was size up the room. A mounted stuffed bass on the wall was fodder for conversation about fishing to get the customers talking. Miller would weave the conversation into a discussion about Interstate Batteries. Then he would move in for the trial close, or test close, asking opinion-based questions to get the customers in the “yes” mood and get a read on their potential to buy.

Miller learned these elemental sales lessons while studying general business at North Texas. He took his first business classes not knowing how to make a sales pitch. By the time he graduated, Miller says, he could make a sale from pitch to close, market a product and read a budget. These fundamental skills helped him build Interstate into the No. 1 replacement brand battery in North America.

“Back then, I didn’t have a clue,” Miller says of his sales experience before college. “My whole foundation for sales and marketing came from the foundation that I got at North Texas.”

Miller, 71, went to work for Interstate in 1962 soon after graduating, joining his dad who was an Interstate distributor in Tennessee. Miller soon returned to the Dallas-Fort Worth region to work directly for Interstate and its founder, John Searcy.

Norm Miller started out as a salesman for a fledgling company in 1962. After working his way to the top in 1978, he took Interstate Batteries to No. 1, relying on business fundamentals he learned at North Texas.



Angilee Wilkerson

Norm Miller ('62)
Dallas



Degree in:

General business

What I'm reading:

Game Plan for Life by Joe Gibbs

Advice I'd give to a new UNT student:

Work at your courses. You may never get another chance to devote as much time to just learning.

What people would be surprised to know about me:

I have a great-grandson.

Music I'm listening to:

Born Again by the Newsboys

Last movie I saw:

The Blind Side

My favorite UNT memory:

Actually graduating

Superhero I'd want to be:

Bud Abbott

My definition of success:

Being in God's will

Best part about running a battery company:

Seeing business as a "team" competition and winning

Q
|
and
A

JOIN THE FUN. WELCOME UNT'S NEXT GENERATION.



Remember the excitement of moving into your dorm room for the first time? Relive that experience by welcoming the next generation of UNT students to their new home on Sunday Fun Day, Aug. 22. Connect with incoming freshmen as they begin their UNT journey, help build UNT spirit and share your Green Pride.

Alumni are needed to help:

- move students and their belongings
- support recycling efforts
- serve food and beverages
- get students checked in

Each volunteer receives a free T-shirt and refreshments at Crumley Park. Volunteer hours are from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Join us for Sunday Fun Day — it's the start of something big.

To sign up, e-mail james.fairchild@unt.edu.

UNT



Muse

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Jonathan Reynolds

UNT SHOWCASE

It was all UNT music all weekend long at the Denton Arts & Jazz Festival's new UNT Showcase Stage this spring.

Watch our festival video at northtexas.unt.edu/culture



to experience the music and the fun.

DENTON'S QUAKERTOWN PARK WAS HOST to more than 2,700 musicians, artists and performers and about 220,000 visitors during this year's Denton Arts & Jazz Festival April 23-25. The festival's new UNT-sponsored stage showcased the diversity of the renowned College of Music, with everything from fusion/funk, African drumming, Latin jazz and mariachi music to keyboard, trombone and guitar ensembles, jazz singers and all nine lab bands — almost 30 UNT groups in all. Above, the Four O'Clock Lab Band, directed by master's student Dan Foster, entertains the crowd.

Books

Radio goes rural



The impact of radio on rural America in the three decades before the arrival of

television is the subject of *Out of the Dark: A History of Radio and Rural America* (University of Alabama Press) by Steve Craig, professor of radio, television and film.

His study shows that as radio connected isolated families to the rest of the nation, its advertising and entertainment produced more uniform values that led to a stronger national identity. Radio also contributed to a growing

demand for consumer goods among rural families, quickly bringing them into modern America.

Music and mortality



Bruce Bond's seventh full-length collection of poetry, *Peal* (Etruscan

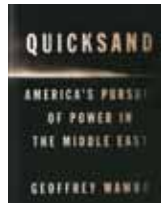
Press), features 29 poems exploring mortality and its embodiment in music.

Poet Molly Bendall describes the collection as "ghostly, elegiac and ecstatic ... a work of exquisite complexity by one of our best poets writing today."

Bond, Regents Professor of English, serves as poetry editor for *American Literary Review*.

His poem "Ringtone," which is included in *Peal*, was selected for *The Best American Poetry 2009* anthology.

Middle East troubles



In his new book *Quicksand: America's Pursuit of Power in the Middle East* (Penguin

Press), Geoffrey Wawro traces the United States' involvement in the Middle East over the last 100 years.

Wawro, the Maj. Gen. Olinto Mark Barsanti Chair in Military History and director of the Military History Center, covers events such as the establishment of Israel, the death of Anwar Sadat, the energy crisis, the current wars in Iraq and

Afghanistan and the rise of Al-Qaeda. Drawing parallels between the past and the present, he concludes that the U.S. continues to repeat mistakes in the region.

Dance and Theatre

Coming and going



Dance graduates Ashley Franco ('09) and Sarah Young ('09) choreographed a dance called "Coming and Going," which the two performed in February at the third annual Pilot: Choreogra-

Monster Island Plus

"A blend of folk, acoustic, rock and experimental music that began in Bruce Hall and migrated to Fry Street, then to Dallas and beyond" — that's how Edward L. Holland ('89) describes the new CD *Del Otro Galaxia* from Monster Island Plus, a band of UNT students who played their own brand of music in the 1980s. Founding members Holland and Tim Pope ('90, '93 M.S.) reunited at a wedding party in 2008 and gathered in North Texas last fall for the recording project, along with Sam McCall of Brutal Juice fame and Austin bluegrass player Marc Utter ('94).

The CD is a mix of acoustic/electric originals and covers, including songs from the 1969 *Star Trek* episode "The Way to Eden," in which space hippies try to take over the U.S.S. Enterprise.

"It's considered to be one of the worst episodes from the entire series, but we contrarily consider it to be one of the best," says Holland, now a practicing military paralegal for the U.S. Navy in California. "Without permission to officially record these songs in our own style, we probably would never have cut the album."

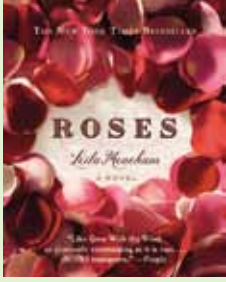
The project was mixed in Durango, Colo., by McCall, a former UNT student who was in the Denton band Brutal Juice when it was signed to Interscope Atlantic Records in the early '90s. He also was involved in recording the bands Caulk and Baboon at the time.

Special guests featured on *Del Otro Galaxia* are Texas native Annie Benjamin on vocals and flute, and guitarist Takashi O'hashi with the Japanese band Seikima-II. Art graduate David Lamb ('89) assisted with the CD's final graphic design.

"We always enjoyed playing music from many different genres, and UNT was a great place to learn about different types of music," Pope says. "It was an amazing experience getting together with these guys and making music again. The technology has changed, but the good old vibe is still there."

From left, Sam McCall, Marc Utter, Tim Pope and Edward L. Holland





East Texas epic

The first major novel from Leila Jaynes Meacham ('63) of San Antonio — *Roses* (Grand Central Publishing) — was an instant bestseller on *The New York Times* list and has received rave reviews.

Publishers Weekly calls the book an “enthralling stunner” that “may herald the

overdue return of those delicious doorstep epics from such writers as Barbara Taylor Bradford and Colleen McCullough.” *Library Journal* says “readers who like an old-fashioned saga will devour this sprawling novel of passion and revenge.” And *People* magazine compares the work to *Gone With the Wind*.

Set in 20th century East Texas, *Roses* tells the story of a cotton planter and a timber magnate and the role of love, fate, pride and sacrifice over three generations of their families. Meacham, who earned a degree in education at North Texas, wrote a few romance books in the 1980s while working as a high school English teacher.

“I returned to writing 10 years after retiring from teaching,” she says, “when I ran out of all the things I waited to do until retirement.”

She already is working on her next Texas saga.

phers Take Flight Dance Concert at the Dallas Hub Theater.

Their work was selected as one of nine dances to be performed at the modern dance festival produced by Muscle Memory Dance Theatre. Applicants came from around the country. Franco describes the dance as depicting “the ever-changing relationship between friends as their paths cross over time.”

Dance award



Marcelo Carlos

Shelley Cushman, professor of dance, earned the 2010 University Dance Educator of the

Year award from the National Dance Association. Cushman received the honor for her teaching methods that inspire and encourage college students to appreciate dance as a performing art and healthy lifestyle.

The award was presented in March at the association’s national convention in Indianapolis. At the Film Festival for the National Dance Association Program, Cushman presented five works from *Cinematic Caricatures* — a set of dances developed in collaboration with filmmaker Ben Levin, professor of radio, television and film, and composer Phil Winsor, professor of music. (Her recent work, “Choking the Earth? Just Take Off Those Clothes and Join the Water in D-Flat,” is pictured.)

Upcoming Events



The Elm Fork Education Center’s **2010 Summer Explorer’s Camp** is offering children entering second through eighth grade weekly adventures through July 9 at the Environmental Education, Science and

Technology Building. Visit www.efec.unt.edu or call 940-369-7956.

Among **music camp performances** this summer are Conductors Collegium concerts June 16, 19, 22 and 25 in the Murchison Performing Arts Center; a Vocal Jazz Workshop concert June 25 in Kenton Hall; and the All-State Choir Camp concert July 17 in the Murchison. Check www.music.unt.edu/calendar for details.

Through UNT’s new **Travel-Learn Program**, visit Ireland Oct. 18-26 to learn about literature from David Holdeman, English department chair, and enjoy One O’Clock Lab Band performances. Travel to Chile Jan. 6-15 with Warren Burggren, arts and sciences dean, to learn about UNT’s sub-Antarctic biocultural conservation program. Or visit Israel March 31-April 10 with Richard Golden, director of Jewish studies. Visit call.unt.edu/lifelonglearning or call 940-565-3482.

Different Tempers: Jewelry and Blacksmithing, featuring the works of 14 national metalsmiths, sponsored at UNT by Humanities Texas, will be on exhibit from July 6 to Sept. 18, with an opening reception from 4:30 to 6 p.m. July 6 in the UNT Art Gallery. Visit gallery.unt.edu for more information.

The Department of Dance and Theatre’s **Summer Arts Festival** Aug. 5-7 in the Studio Theatre features new works by UNT students: the musical *Behind the Horizon* by Brian Christensen and the dance “Absolution” by Terryann Elouise Davis. Call the box office at 940-565-2428 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. beginning July 22, or visit www.danceandtheatre.unt.edu.



Visit calendar.unt.edu for more upcoming events.

Daxi Xu / Daily Tar Heel



World premiere

Steven Harlos, professor of music and coordinator of piano, traveled to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in April to give the world premiere performance of *Dysfunctional* with the

UNC Symphony Orchestra, directed by Tonu Kalam. The piano concerto, commissioned by the Barlow Endowment, was written for Harlos by composer-pianist Stephen Anderson ('00 M.M., '05 D.M.A.), assistant professor of jazz studies and composition at UNC and a recording artist for Summit Records.

Anderson says although Harlos was not one of his professors at UNT, he enjoyed hearing him play with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, where Harlos is the keyboardist. The two decided to collaborate a few years ago.

"He is known as a wonderful classical pianist who improvises and also plays jazz extremely well," Anderson says. "I received all of my degrees in classical composition, yet played piano in the jazz bands all along, so we both share a love of classical music and jazz."

Anderson's 2008 *Forget Not* jazz trio CD, recorded with fellow One O'Clock Lab Band alumni Jeffrey Eckels and Joel Fountain ('02), has aired on jazz radio internationally. His latest CD, *Nation Degeneration*, with Eckels and Ross Pederson ('08), was released in May.

Music

Collegium harmony



Jennifer Lane, associate professor of voice, and the UNT Collegium commemorated the 250th anniversary of Handel's passing with a recording at the Murchison Performing Arts Center last year.

The tribute, *Own the Pow'r of Harmony!* — *Hidden Vocal and Instrumental Gems of G.F. Handel*, was released commercially on Magnatune.com, with proceeds supporting early music studies at UNT. Visit magnatune.com/artists/albums/jennifer_harmony for more information about the work.

Safe-in-Sound award

The College of Music and Kris Chesky, director of UNT's Texas Center for Music and Medicine, have earned the 2010 Safe-in-Sound Excellence in Hearing Loss Prevention Award in the services sector from the National Institute for Occupa-

tional Safety and Health in partnership with the National Hearing Conservation Association. Presented at the 35th annual Hearing Conservation Conference in February in Orlando, Fla., the award was given to UNT and Chesky for raising awareness of the importance of hearing loss prevention in musicians.

Researchers at the center have been studying ways to prevent noise-induced hearing loss from music exposure and discovering ways people can save their hearing at an early age.

Television and Film

Spring visit



Jonathan Reynolds

Academy Award-nominated screenwriter Guillermo Arriaga returned to UNT this spring as the first artist-in-residence of the new Institute for the Advancement of the Arts, housed at UNT on the Square. His visit included a screening and discussion of his film *The Burning Plain*, a reading of his works and an open forum about film and filmmaking, in addition to work with UNT classes.

Arriaga was nominated for an Academy Award in 2007 for his screenplay for *Babel*, which also received nominations from the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, the Hollywood

Foreign Press Association and the Writers Guild of America. In 2005, he won the Best Screenplay Award at the Cannes Film Festival for *The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada*, directed by and starring Tommy Lee Jones.

Campecine



Denton High School students learned about research and the college experience when they capped off a year-long digital storytelling project with the Campecine film festival at UNT in February. Mariela Nuñez-Janes, associate professor of anthropology, leads the project, launched with Denton High School's Peer Assistance and Leadership coordinator Tim Sanchez.

The students participate in a week-long workshop at UNT in the fall, where they determine the topic for their digital story and create their film using still images, dialogue, music and video. The students decide which films are shown during Campecine. Nuñez-Janes says some of the films are about personal experiences, while others are about social issues.

"This experience is empowering for the students who are just beginning to find their way in the world," she says.

"They leave Campecine feeling like they have something

to contribute; they find their voices.”

More information and videos from the program can be found at courses.unt.edu/nunezjanes.

Tribeca pitch



Eugene Martin, assistant professor of radio, television and film, was selected to present a trailer and answer questions about his documentary in progress during the Tribeca Film Festival this spring.

From more than 230 applications worldwide, Martin's project on the Anderson

Monarchs Girls Soccer Club of Philadelphia was one of eight selected for The Good Pitch@Tribeca. The collaboration between the Sundance Institute and the United Kingdom's public television provider, Channel 4 in London, brings together foundations, entrepreneurs, broadcasters and other media professionals to expand the resources and the impact of social-issue documentary.

“It's a wonderful way to announce your film before it's finished and start building an audience,” says Martin, who will donate a percentage of his documentary's profits to the Monarchs' players fund. The soccer club that formed in 1998 with eight girls is today an athletic, mentoring and tutoring organization with nearly 100 members.

Martin's partners on the documentary include the composer of the film's score, Mario Grigorov, composer for *Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire*; and the film's supervising editor, Samuel D. Pollard, who worked on Spike Lee's *When the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts*.

Visual Arts

Distinguished service

D. Jack Davis, longtime professor of art education and former dean at the College of Visual Arts and Design, received the Distinguished Service Within the Profession Award from the National Art Education Association at its national convention in April in Baltimore. The honor recognizes his outstanding

achievement, contribution and service in the field of art education.

Davis, who began his career at UNT as a professor of art in 1971, has served as chair of the Department of Art, associate vice president for academic affairs, vice provost and founding dean of the School of Visual Arts (now the College of Visual Arts and Design). He now serves as professor and director of the university's North Texas Institute for Educators on the Visual Arts.

UNT was well represented at the annual NAEA convention this year. In addition to 16 conference presentations made by faculty, graduate students and alumni, art education student Amanda Batson was elected president of the National NAEA Student Chapter. ●



When photography professor Dornith Doherty journeyed to a remote Norwegian island this spring, just 800 miles from the North Pole, she became one of a select few to see inside the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. Built into a frozen mountainside and opened only a few times a year, the vault secures the world's seed collections from natural disaster or catastrophe. Doherty took photos of the vault as part of her faculty fellowship with UNT's Institute for the Advancement of the Arts. The fellowship has allowed her to continue work on her project, *Archiving Eden*, inspired by an article she read about the Svalbard vault's opening in 2008. For the project, Doherty has used X-ray machines to photograph seeds and cloned plants at the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation in Colorado and the Millennium Seed Bank in England. She then incorporates the images into digital collages.

The Svalbard vault did not have X-ray machines for her use, but she plans to use her documentary-style photos in a future book. Doherty says she is interested in the vault from a philosophical and cultural standpoint and is “captivated by the photographic process of collecting and making visible the inaccessible or invisible.” She also plans to photograph Argentina's seed bank. Her work will be featured in a solo exhibit at the Encuentros Abiertos Photography Biennial in Buenos Aires in August.

Photographing the Svalbard Global Seed Vault



Dornith Doherty describes the Arctic landscape and the Svalbard Global Seed Vault as “very elegant and simple, but perfect” on KERA's Think TV, where she discusses her project, Archiving Eden, and her trip to the vault on the remote Norwegian island.



Learn more about Doherty and her work at www.dornithdoherty.com and visit northtexan.unt.edu/online for a link to her interview on KERA's *Think TV*.

BEHIND THE



Scott Murphy ('87, '94 M.S.) wrote for Star Wars: The Clone Wars animated film and TV series in 2008 and 2009 and has written episodes for Angel, Flash Gordon and The Nightmare Room.

SCENES

UNT alumni bring major motion pictures,
television shows to the screen

by ELLEN ROSSETTI

Scott Murphy ('87, '94 M.S.) got his first rejection letter in elementary school. After seeing *Star Wars*, Murphy heard talk about a sequel. So he hand-wrote a 20-page script for *Star Wars II*, typed it with the help of his dad and mailed it to LucasFilm. About a month later, the letter arrived. "Sorry," it said, "but we're not taking submissions."

About 30 years later, LucasFilm had a different answer for him. That rejection letter, turning brown around the edges, sat framed on his desk at George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch while he wrote for *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* animated film and TV series in 2008 and 2009.

Murphy had landed a dream job. Like so many others aspiring to make it in Hollywood, he took a roller coaster ride to Los Angeles — starting with making Super 8 movies in his childhood backyard and later perfecting his craft at UNT.

Spider-Man 3 star Thomas Haden Church, *My Blueberry Nights* star Norah Jones, *Robocop* Peter Weller ('70) and *The Blue Veil* star Joan Blondell all are former UNT students and household names, but viewers may not realize UNT has numerous alumni working behind the scenes as the creative forces driving top movie and television productions.

Not for the weak of heart

Sharon Nash ('82) — now a prolific TV producer — always knew she'd be in the entertainment business. She wrote, directed and starred in a modern adaptation of *Little Red Riding Hood* in fifth grade.

At North Texas, a radio, television and film professor told Nash's class, "Most of you will never make it into commercial television. You might want to go into corporate."

But Nash thought to herself, "He's not talking about me."



Courtesy of Sharon Nash

Sharon Nash ('82) went from news reporter to producer, working on *The Ananda Lewis Show* and *The Roseanne Show* and casting episodes of *America's Got Talent* and *Ellen's Really Big Show*.

After graduating from North Texas, she worked as a local TV news reporter in Ardmore, Okla., Shreveport, La., and Raleigh, N.C., before becoming the host of *Beyond 2000*, a science and technology program in Australia. She returned to the U.S. to work as an entertainment reporter, interviewing celebrities and covering the Oscar and Emmy awards ceremonies.

She then became a producer, working on *Extra*, *The Ananda Lewis Show* and *The Roseanne Show* and competing on *America's Next Producer*. She cast episodes of the popular *America's Got Talent* and *Ellen's Really Big Show* and now has a coaching and consulting business to teach people about the entertainment business.

"It's not for the weak of heart," she says. "You have to be tenacious."

She credits Don Staples' film criticism class at UNT with teaching her how to think critically and use images to portray a story.

"People see TV and they think it's quick and easy because they have their own video camera," says Nash, a Pasadena resident. "They don't realize how long it takes per hour of television — how many people are involved, how much money and how many people are staying up at night doing this."

Necessary roughness

Micheline Mundo ('91) agrees the hours are rough.

While at UNT, Mundo helped costume extras for *Born on the Fourth of July* scenes filmed in Dallas. Between her radio, television and film studies and the job, she was up about 24 hours a day, she says.

"If you want to stay on top and stay in the game, there is no rest," Mundo says. "It is still fulfilling, it is still fun and I love what I do. I just hate the hours."



Michelene Mundo ('91) has worked on such shows as *The X-Files*, *Entourage* and *Criminal Minds* and on movies such as *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*.

Hollywood came to Denton during Mundo's time at UNT, when filmmakers used the campus as the site of a fictional university for the comedic football flick *Necessary Roughness*. As an extras casting coordinator, she wrangled students for scenes.

After she graduated, *Necessary Roughness* production coordinator Debbie Schwab called and said friends in the music industry were searching for an assistant. Mundo packed two suitcases and moved to California, where she quickly shifted from music to film work.

She two-stepped with Robert Duvall while working as a set production assistant on *Geronimo* and smoked a cigar given to her by Oliver Stone while working as an additional second assistant director on

Any Given Sunday. She worked on other films such as *Selena*, *Jerry McGuire* and *Dr. Dolittle 2* before serving as a second second assistant director on the TV show *Entourage*. For five seasons, she served as second assistant director on the *Criminal Minds* TV series, where she oversaw the production schedule and ran the set.

"*Criminal Minds* was great, but it's time to move on," says Mundo, who is poised to take on a new challenge. "I'm so excited about constantly moving forward and moving up the ladder in this business. It is challenging and always rewarding."

Batman and beyond

Like Mundo, Kristopher Carter's ('93) connections at UNT helped fuel his career.

The music major was interested in film composition. While playing double bass in the UNT Symphony Orchestra, Carter shared a music stand with Ian Walker, son of television and film composer Shirley Walker.

At Ian Walker's invitation, Carter flew to Los Angeles in 1993 to meet Shirley Walker on a scoring stage. He sat next to a young man taking notes. That man was a fellow UNT composition graduate, Michael McCuiston ('87), who was working on Walker's music team.

After talking to Walker in her home studio, Carter returned to UNT to finish his degree. Soon after he graduated, she called and offered him a job. While working for her, Carter helped compose music for the animated *Batman* TV series.

Renée Vernon



Now, Carter works with McCuiston and composer Lolita Ritmanis at their company Dynamic Music Partners. The team holds 20 Emmy nominations — with six earned by Carter himself. In 2001, he won an Emmy for an episode in the *Batman Beyond* series. Carter has composed for a long list of TV episodes and films, including the Cartoon Network's *Ben 10: Alien Force* and an independent film, *The Dance of the Dead*. He recently finished working on a musical episode of *Batman:*

The Brave and The Bold featuring actor Neil Patrick Harris as the villainous Music Meister.

Carter cites several UNT teachers who inspired him, including Martin Mailman, Jean Mainous, Joán Groom-Thornton, Cindy McTee and Joe Klein.

“North Texas prepared me better than I could have imagined — writing for different media, styles and groups. Just hearing all of the music at the college had a profound impact on my creative voice,” he says.



“North Texas prepared me better than I could have imagined...”

— Kristopher Carter ('93)

Composer Kristopher Carter ('93) has six Emmy nominations, including a win for an episode in the *Batman Beyond* series. He recently finished work on a musical episode of *Batman: The Brave and The Bold*.

Playing with action figures

For many alumni, career dreams started in childhood.

At 18 months old, John McInnis ('99) picked up a crayon and began drawing shapes. Concerned about a twitch in his hand, his mom took him to the pediatrician.

“Maggie,” the doctor said, “your boy is sketching!”

McInnis eventually got a pencil in his hand to draw spaceships, robots and

creatures. He enrolled in UNT’s School of Visual Arts — now the College of Visual Arts and Design — and credits Russ Pensyl, who taught a 3-D and multimedia art class, with inspiring him.

“He said that once you learned tools of one software package, you can learn anything,” McInnis says. “Keep up your traditional artwork and try to blend it with this new medium.”

After graduation, McInnis got a job with Dallas-based Janimation, where he

helped create a two-headed serpent in *Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams* and a flying dragon for a Blockbuster commercial, among other projects.

By August 2005, he was in California, where he worked for Third Floor on “pre-viz” — or concept shots — and for 20th Century Fox. His projects have included *Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer*, *Aliens in the Attic*, *The A-Team* and *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*. One of his favorite projects: creating a raging



Renée Vernon

John McInnis ('99) created a two-headed serpent in *Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams* and a raging river god in *The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian*. Now at DreamWorks, he recently finished work on *Shrek Forever After*.

river god who rises from the roaring waters and rips off a bridge in *The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian*.

Today, McInnis lives in Toluca Lake, Calif., and is a rough layout artist for DreamWorks. He takes ideas from the script, director and storyboard and creates a virtual environment. Recently, he finished work on *Shrek Forever After*.

"Nothing is very detailed in layout but quickly choreographed with cameras and characters to help tell the story — kind of like playing with action figures," he says.

Colbert's armor

UNT also helped Matt Poitras ('01) discover his best talents. Poitras says the films he made as a student didn't always have the best stories and direction, but they always had the best costumes and props.

After earning his bachelor's degree in radio/television/film, Poitras opened MP Filmcraft in Austin and settled into a prop-making career. Stephen Colbert on Comedy Central's *Colbert Report* wore Poitras' hand-crafted Patriot Armor on his show in 2007.

“For a while, that was how people would introduce me — “This is the guy who made the armor for Stephen Colbert,” Poitras says.

Colbert’s outfit included a breastplate, cape, sandals, shin guards and gauntlets. Poitras also created Jedi belts for Disney’s Mickey Mouse and codpieces and original artwork castings for a gladiator school in Rome.

His RTVF classes, a metalworking jewelry class and history courses at UNT helped give him the skills to research details about period costumes and bring them to life, he says.

“UNT offered the best hands-on program that I had heard about in Texas,” Poitras says.

A great starting point

UNT connections run deep for several alumni in Hollywood. Carter and Murphy met at UNT. Mundo and Murphy had a fellow classmate, Michael Phillips ('92), who’s also in the business.

Murphy first got a bachelor’s degree in music from UNT but then pursued his real love by getting his master’s in RTVF, where he was helped by professors such as Fred Watkins ('92 M.S.) and Gerry Veeder.

“I really look back fondly on the time I had then,” says Murphy, who has written episodes for *Angel*, *Flash Gordon* and *The Nightmare Room*, and sold a screenplay to Miramax.

“I was able to get my hands on equipment and work with a crew. That was a great starting point, because in the industry you have to know how to collaborate. It was a place where I could fail without a lot of downside, as opposed to out here, where it is very competitive.” ●



Christine Reilly

Matt Poitras ('01) has created Jedi belts for Mickey Mouse and codpieces and original artwork castings for a gladiator school in Rome. He also is “the guy who made the armor for Stephen Colbert.”



Jonathan Reynolds

Standing from left: Rhys J. Best ('69), Delva Cotton King ('72), John Robert "Bobby" Ray ('69), Cragg Hines ('67), Michael McMillen ('58) and Joe Roy with Global Interact, and John Moranz ('71, '72 M.B.A.). Seated from left: E. Douglas McLeod ('65) and Kristin Farmer ('95 M.Ed.). Not pictured: Judith Garrett Segura ('70 M.A., '77 M.F.A.).

Alumni Awards 2010

Honoring
professional experience
and service to UNT

The annual Alumni Awards Dinner set the stage for highly esteemed honors bestowed by the Alumni Association and Division of Advancement upon UNT alumni and other university contributors April 16 in the Gateway Center.

First presented in 1965, the Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Award is the university's most prestigious for alumni and is presented for distinguished professional prominence and extraordinary contributions to society. This year's honorees were Rhys J. Best ('69), Kristin Farmer ('95 M.Ed.) and John Robert "Bobby" Ray ('69).

"The Alumni Awards provide a unique opportunity for us to see what our graduates have done to improve our world," said then-Interim President Phil Diebel, who presented the awards this spring. "Each of the honorees embodies an excellence in knowledge, creativity, enterprise and community engagement — all the things that UNT values and tries to impart in its graduates."

Rhys J. Best

Shortly before earning his degree from North Texas, Best began a 20-year banking career. In 1985, he capped it with a presidential post at First City Bank in Dallas, which was the fourth largest bank in Dallas at the time. He later joined Lone Star Technologies Inc., a public holding company that manufactures steel tubular products for the energy industry, becoming president, chair and CEO, a role he kept until Lone Star merged with U.S. Steel Corp.

Best serves on several public and private corporate boards and is chair of the board of Crosstex Energy LP. In 2006, he was recognized as an Ernst and Young Regional Entrepreneur of the Year. Throughout his career, he has been active in various community and civic affairs and has served as a member of the UNT College of Business Board of Advisors.

Leldon E. Echols, a fellow board member with Best at Trinity Industries Inc. and Crosstex Energy LP, says, "Rhys is an outstanding business professional who conducts himself and treats others in a completely honest, straight-forward, courteous manner, with high integrity."

Kristin Farmer

After earning a master's degree in special education with a concentration in autism and behavioral disorders, Farmer treated children in public schools in Norfolk and Virginia Beach, Va., and in San Diego, Calif., as an autism and behavioral specialist. Later, she became a private behavioral specialist, providing therapy in home and community settings.

In 2002, she co-founded La Casa Center for Autism, a nonprofit organization that caters to patients who cannot afford services. In 1996, she began Autism Comprehensive Educational Services. Through personalized treatment and

applied behavioral analysis, ACES has had an impact on more than 10,000 individuals and families dealing with autism, developmental disabilities and behavioral disorders.

Bridgette Anderson, an occupational therapist in San Diego's Developmental Therapy Center, says Farmer was her peer, mentor and boss.

"One of her greatest strengths is her inability to accept 'no' for an answer to a dream, goal or inspiration," Anderson says. "Instead, she finds a different path."

John Robert 'Bobby' Ray

Born and raised in Denton, Ray earned his bachelor of business administration degree from North Texas, and after working at Texas Instruments, began a career in homebuilding. He became president and partner of one of Dallas-Fort Worth's top homebuilding companies. After selling the company to K. Hovnanian, Ray remained with the new company serving as a group president.

Ray was appointed to the UNT Board of Regents in 1995 and served until 2007. During his final eight years, Ray was elected chair. In his tenure on the board, UNT experienced enrollment growth, a significant increase in campus building projects and the creation of the College of Engineering and Discovery Park.

Jim Grandey ('67) has known Ray since the first grade in Denton. In nominating Ray for the award, Grandey and his wife, Diane Moore Grandey ('68), say not only did his leadership on the UNT board help propel the university forward, but Ray "has continued to look out for UNT interests as a member of the Select Commission on Higher Education and Globalization and also the Task Force on Higher Education Incentive Funding."

Ray serves on the Plano Presbyterian Hospital board and the advisory board for Northern Trust Bank of Texas. ●

UNT ALUMNI AWARDS

• PRESIDENT'S CITATION

Presented to individuals who have given extraordinary service and support to UNT either by enhancing its reputation or by helping the university accomplish its mission.

Judith Garrett Segura ('70 M.A., '77 M.F.A.), a writer, artist and private consultant for history and archives projects

Delva Cotton King ('72), co-owner of The King Group Inc., an advertising firm specializing in ethnic marketing

• OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Presented to honor individuals who have provided exceptional volunteer service to UNT.

John Moranz ('71, '72 M.B.A.), an information technology consultant

• GREEN GLORY AWARD

Presented to acknowledge individuals — not necessarily alumni — whose assistance to UNT has enabled the university to provide a standard of excellence in its endeavors.


Cragg Hines ('67), staff journalist for the *Houston Chronicle* in Washington, D.C.

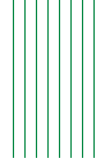
E. Douglas McLeod ('65), attorney and former three-term member of the Texas House of Representatives

• ULYS KNIGHT SPIRIT AWARD

Presented to an individual or group that has made noteworthy efforts to sustain spirit among the UNT family. Ulys Knight ('28), a basketball player named most popular man on campus, was later known as "Mr. North Texas" for his participation in alumni activities.

Global Interact, a community organization that promotes friendship with international students

 Learn more about this year's winners and nominate alumni for the 2011 awards by Sept. 1, 2010, at www.unt.edu/development/alumniawards.



William Dwyer

Summer Skies

by RANDENA HULSTRAND

William K. Dwyer ('68, '73 M.S.) has been curious about the universe since he was a boy growing up in Azle. He followed space discoveries, satellite launches and rocket technology over the years. And then, as a master's student in the early 1970s, he signed up for one of North Texas' first astronomy summer labs at the old missile base northeast of Denton.

"Why did a math and physics graduate student take a freshman astronomy class?" Dwyer asks. "The midnight adventures looking at the galaxies through a 16-inch telescope were just for fun. That's the only reason."

Dwyer says this fascination, powered by his rigorous North Texas education, prepared him for an engineering career with NASA at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. He is the system manager for the command and data handling system computer hardware aboard the International Space Station. With the station assembly now complete, he's responsible for 51 general purpose computer systems controlling everything from life support to guidance and navigation, from electrical power to payload control.

"The math and physics classes were designed to make us learn to think, challenge and prove by accepting only what could be shown to be true," Dwyer says. "That is the essence of good engineering, and in my job, human lives are in the balance."

UNT alumni improve space travel, explore new technologies and keep the allure of the universe alive



Rachel Thompson

Jonathan Reynolds

Stellar facilities

For decades, UNT operated an observatory at the Nike missile base. But with the growth of the astronomy program and increased light pollution in north Denton, the university built the Rafes Urban Astronomy Center (RUAC) in 2007 near the Denton Municipal Airport on land donated by former UNT vice president of administrative affairs Richard Rafes ('90 Ph.D.) and his wife, Tommye ('85, '04 M.Ed.).

"Astronomy is magic. People young and old alike love it, so we wanted a facility where students and the community could learn about the sky simultaneously," says Ron DiIulio, director of UNT's planetarium and astronomy lab program in the Department of Physics and a former North Texas student himself. DiIulio and Preston Starr, manager of UNT observatories, discovered pieces of a meteor that was seen streaking across the Texas sky in 2009.

Today, RUAC oversees the lab portion of UNT's astronomy courses. The university has one of the largest enrollments in the nation for introductory astronomy classes that offer multiple laboratory components — a planetarium, telescopes and a research-grade observatory for advanced research. RUAC accommodates about 3,400 students, many of them non-science majors, and more than 38,000 visitors annually.

Astronomy for non-science majors, DiIulio says, is important because it teaches the scientific method and builds students' reasoning abilities — skills applicable to other areas of their lives.

"Our goal is to inspire students to go into the sciences and show them that physics doesn't have to be intimidating," he says.

In addition to academic study with labs and lectures, RUAC provides public

outreach for groups at informal free star parties the first Saturday of each month, and also for private groups, including guided Sky Theater planetarium showings.

Twelve-year-old Jack Kresky, a Boy Scout from Southlake, recently caught a glimpse of Saturn's rings through his first telescope viewing during a UNT star party with troop members. His peek into the sky, he says, made him think about the wonders of the universe and his future place in it.

"I want to be an astronaut," he says, "and the first man on Mars."

Out of this world

This year, the program held its first upper-level class in which students began studying exoplanets — planets beyond our solar system orbiting stars other than the sun — on five research telescopes at UNT's Monroe Robotic Observatory near Gainesville. The observatory sits on 13.2 acres donated by rancher and former student John David Monroe.

Students in Denton led by Ohad Shemmer, astrophysicist and associate professor of physics, observe live feeds via the Internet, prime technology for collaborative opportunities around the world. UNT trains its telescopes on specific points in the sky, creating exoplanet transit data for researchers at Las Cumbres Observatory Global Telescope Network

in Santa Barbara, Calif., and Tel Aviv University in Israel.

"UNT is helping shine light on one of astronomy's newest research areas," Shemmer says, adding that the first exoplanet was not located until two decades ago and to date more than 400 have been discovered. "We're formally looking at other worlds."

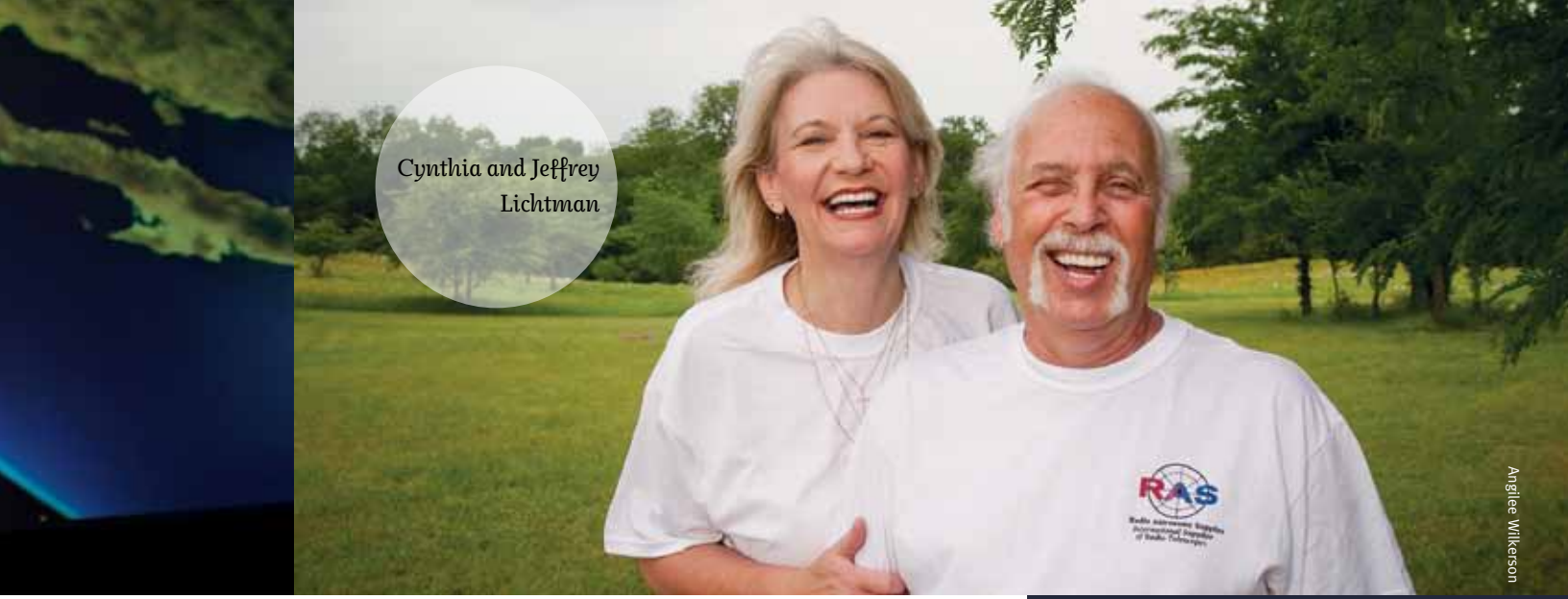
And through a relationship with the Noble Planetarium in the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, a new clamshell observatory at RUAC will house a unique mount holding four telescopes to look at the sun's different layers. Real-time images will be shared with museum-goers in Fort Worth and students in RUAC labs via the Internet.

"The adventures and experiences that young people encounter when studying the unknown is what makes it work for me," DiIulio says. "Visitors return with their little ones — our future students and astronomers."

Universe listening

Cynthia Herod Lichtman ('81) and her husband recently moved their international radio astronomy supply company, Radio Astronomy Supplies, from Florida to near Sanger. That's just northwest of where she took astronomy as a business student at the old missile base in 1978.

"A love for astronomy was one of



Cynthia and Jeffrey
Lichtman

Angilee Wilkerson

the things we had in common,” she says of her husband, Jeffrey, who supplies research radio telescopes, trains researchers and assists universities around the world. He established the Society of Amateur Radio Astronomers in 1981. Serendipitously, the couple stumbled on the RUAC facilities when looking for land to relocate their company and have helped connect the center’s first radio telescope, which observes the universe at radio wavelengths, invisible to human eyes.

“It’s fantastic to be near UNT again,” Cynthia says. “We love the intellectual stimulus, giving hands-on help and being able to assist the physics department.”

The radio dish captures energy waves of various frequencies from celestial objects — from pulsars and black holes to Jupiter and quasars — and relays the signals to the radio telescope receiver.

“Who knows? It is always in studying the unknown that the new technology of tomorrow is discovered,” says Ryan Lane, a physics graduate student who’s been collecting data from the radio telescope.

“While the practical applications aren’t always apparent immediately in the lifetime of those who discovered them — such as with observations from Newton, Galileo and Copernicus — discoveries lead to other discoveries,” he says.

Passing on culture

In fulfilling a science requirement

with an astronomy class, music major Rachel Thompson (’04, ’07 M.Ed.) discovered a passion for the sky.

“Going to class was entering a world outside our own, but seeing Jupiter through a telescope at the lab was phenomenal,” she says. “I was hooked.”

She added physics as a second major and says it “helped me think with another hemisphere of my brain.”

After the class, Thompson’s husband gave her a telescope and she took a job at RUAC, knowing she wanted to teach at a planetarium. A master’s in education later, she is the planetarium educator at the Noble Planetarium in Fort Worth, teaching astronomy to students age 3 through high school.

Thompson reminds visitors of important technologies here today because of the space program, such as microwaves, cell phones and medical advances like breast cancer detection. And she’s dedicated to cultivating amateur astronomers because she says they drive astronomy with contributions to scientific knowledge through star watching, asteroid tracking and comet discoveries. They’re also examples of how the power of story expands the knowledge of humanity.

“Knowledge about constellations has passed from generation to generation,” she says. “And by handing down astronomy to our children, we’re passing on our human culture.” ●



Jonathan Reynolds

Star parties

The state-of-the-art Rafe Urban Astronomy Center provides hands-on observatory experiences for UNT students and the public. In addition to classroom space, three huts each house four computer-controlled telescopes for student labs. And star parties include a chance for visitors to peer through large telescopes within the observatory domes after congregating under the stars at the Hudson Amphitheater, which includes movable bench seating.



Go to northtexan.unt.edu/starparties and tell us about your UNT experiences with the night sky for a chance to win your own star party with family and friends. You also can see firsthand the cosmic wonders of space during open houses on the first Saturday of every month. Go to astronomy.unt.edu/starparties for more information.



Nest

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Gary Payne/Courtesy of the Denton Record-Chronicle

ART FOR EVERYONE

For 30 years, George Cadell has contorted steel and bronze into thought-provoking, emotional pieces for collectors and the public alike.




Learn more about the sculptor and his work in his Crossroads foundry at northtexan.unt.edu/online.

ARTIST *George Cadell* HAS A GALLERY AS BIG AS THE United States. In fact, the U.S. is his gallery, with welded steel and bronze sculptures as far as California and North Carolina in homes of private buyers. However, it is his public art in Denton County and Oklahoma City of which he is most proud. Cadell, who attended North Texas from 1974 to 1979 to study bronzing, is inspired by Southwest Native American culture and wildlife.

“My main reason for creating art is to communicate,” he says. “If people can see that I created something special, then I’ve been successful.”

CONNECTING WITH Friends

Keep up with the latest developments in the UNT family and tell your peers what you've been up to since leaving the nest. Send your news to *The North Texan* (see contact information on page 5). Members of the UNT Alumni Association are designated with a ★.

 Read more, share comments and connect with friends at northtexan.unt.edu.

1951

Mary L. Broome Natho, Dallas :: is an active freelance writer of articles and features in *The Dallas Morning News* and other area publications.

1962

David E. Klement, Bradenton, Fla. :: was sworn in to a four-year term as commissioner for the Florida Public Service Commission in January. In his more than 40 years in journalism, he served as editor for *The Bradenton Herald*, *The Detroit Free Press* and *The Daily Oklahoman*.

1964

Alicia Kay Lanier, Irving, and **Bill Hobbs** ('64), Tyler :: were among the visitors of retired North Texas journalism professor **Barbara Colegrove** as she recovered from a broken arm in Addison this winter. The occasion

reunited her two former students after 45 years. Both semi-retired, Alicia is a realtor and Bill is a part-time assessment coordinator for the National Assessment of Educational Progress.



Douglas Smith (M.M.Ed.), Louisville, Ky. :: retired

after nearly 35 years as professor of church music at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He was an instructor of trumpet at North Texas with John Haynie from 1965 to 1967 while his wife, **Rose**, was secretary to the dean of the music school.

1965

Benny C. High, Woodstock, Ga. :: retired from the Boy Scouts of America after a 41-year career in Fort Worth, Dallas, Shreveport, Oklahoma City and Atlanta. He was director of support and operation for the BSA's 13-state Southern region.

At North Texas, he was a basketball letterman.

1967

Delbert Vest, Denison :: retired from music worship leadership after celebrating his 30th anniversary with Parkside Baptist Church in Denison.

1970

Carol Taylor Mitchell, Omaha, Neb. :: received an Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award from the University of Nebraska at Omaha Alumni Association in April. She is a professor in UNO's teacher education department.

1971

Jose Dodier Jr., Zapata :: was elected chair of the Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board, the lead agency for conservation of natural resources in Texas. He is a partner in Don Jose Land & Cattle Co., a cow calf and wildlife management operation.

1974



Glenn M. Light (M.S., '78 Ph.D.), San Antonio :: director of

the sensor systems and non-destructive evaluation technology department in Southwest Research

Upcoming Alumni Gatherings

UNT alumni gather to learn more about each other, celebrate their green pride and network for their next career move. Here's a sampling of what's going on:



UNT Alumni Association Mixer: Plan to join fellow alumni at a happy hour mixer beginning at 6 p.m. July 8 at the Fox and Hound in Lewisville. Drink specials and limited complimentary appetizers will be available.

Family Weekend: Don't forget to join us Oct. 8-10 for a fun-filled weekend of activities. Learn how to get involved at www.unt.edu/familyweekend or contact the UNT Parent Programs Office at parents@unt.edu or 940-565-4373.

Homecoming 2010: Save the date and plan to join the university community Oct. 16 for annual Homecoming celebrations. The Mean Green football team will play Florida International. For more information, contact Rob McKinney at robert.mckinney@unt.edu or 940-565-3162.

For more information or to join the UNT Alumni Association, call 940-565-2834 or go online to www.untalumni.com.

Institute's mechanical engineering division, received the 2010 Research Award for Sustained Excellence from the American Society for Nondestructive Testing Research Council. He holds 15 U.S. patents and teaches graduate classes at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

1976



★ **Sparky Koerner** (M.M.Ed.), Texas City :: becomes presi-

dent of the Texas Jazz Educators Association in July after serving as president-elect. He is a professor of music and chair of the fine arts department at the College of the Mainland. The college's jazz

ensemble, under his direction, performed at the first Jazz Education Network Conference in May.



Ed Parv, Austin :: published *Natural Born Manager: A*

Handbook for Accountability Management (Dog Ear Publishing), focusing on how to identify and maximize management potential. He is a certified management accountant with 35 years in organizational leadership.

1979

David Hansen, Park City, Utah :: is the advance stage

manager for *The Phantom of the Opera* tour, which visited Dallas beginning in February. He joined the Actors' Equity Association in 1979 as a professional stage manager right after graduating, went on the road in 1981 with a touring musical and continues to work on the road today.

Bruce Noller ('81 M.B.A.), Dallas :: is the new CEO of NewMarket Technology Inc. He has served as president of managed services and director for NewMarket and previously was president of Noller and Associates Inc., a Dallas-based accounting and tax firm. Prior to founding his own firm in 1994, he served as vice president for Integrated Control Systems, a worldwide management consulting firm.

1980

Betty Berkeley (Ph.D.), Dallas :: attended a naming ceremony in April for the Dr. Marvin H. Berkeley Human Resources Building of the Dallas ISD. The building is named in honor of her late husband, the business dean at North Texas from 1973 to 1983. He was president of the Dallas ISD school board from 1967 to 1973.

Ron Whitehead (M.P.A.), Addison :: was honored as the 2009 Metrocrest Citizen of the Year by the Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce in February. He has served as the city manager of Addison since 1982 and received numerous awards, including a

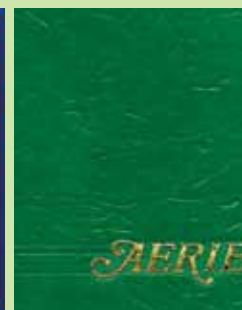
Down the Corridor

From the 1906 *Cotton-tail* to the 2007 *Aerie* and all the *Yuccas* and *Wings* in between, UNT yearbooks are now online and fully searchable through the Portal to Texas History (texashistory.unt.edu). The portal, created by the UNT libraries' digital projects unit, provides access to Texas history materials from libraries, museums, archives, private collections and historical and genealogical societies throughout the state.

The portal's UNT yearbook collection includes all yearbooks printed: the 1906 *Cotton-tail*; the *Yucca*, 1907-1943, 1945-1974; *Wings*, 1977, 1979, 1980; and the *Aerie*, 1982-2007. The books are searchable by text or can be browsed by page. Go directly to the yearbook collection at texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/UNTY/browse.

If you need help, there are handy guides that explain how to do anything in the portal. Just click on "Help" at the top right corner of any web page in the portal, then click on "Guides."

You also can find yearbooks on the portal from a number of other universities in Texas that have paid to have them added. Yearbooks are included from Abilene Christian University, 1916-2007; Daniel Baker College in Brownwood, 1913-1952; Hardin-Simmons University, 1908-2007;



Howard Payne University, 1913-2002; McMurry College in Abilene, 1924-2006; and Austin College, 1899-1950. While you're browsing, check out other collections, including photos from the UNT archives showing the early days of campus.

HELPING HANDS

Each generation's college experience is stronger because of the pride and support of those who have come before. Annie Wilkerson and her siblings Roberta, James Claude, Elie and Ruth attended North Texas for teaching certificates during its earliest days from 1903 to 1908.

"Education was highly valued in their family, and Grandmother would often reminisce about her mother reading poetry to them," says Nancy Kelly ('82, '83, '91 M.S.), Annie's granddaughter and an academic counselor in the College of Visual Arts and Design since 1999.

That legacy was passed along to Helen Peden Kelly ('49) — Annie's daughter and Nancy's mother — who passed it on as well.

"I remember Mom saying, 'We weren't the richest folks in the classroom, but we were usually the smartest,'" Kelly says.

And the Wilkersons guided others. Elie taught elementary school for 50 years, the last 14 in a one-teacher school in Three Rivers, and she helped and encouraged her nieces and nephews to go to school.

Helen, who passed away in 2007, was a "Rosie the Riveter" for Conair (now Lockheed Martin) in Fort Worth during World War II. She traded in her war bonds to come to North Texas and work



Annie Wilkerson



Helen Peden Kelly ('49)



From left, Gary Kelly, Nancy Kelly ('82, '83, '91 M.S.) and Austin Alexander Kelly ('10)

Jonathan Reynolds

on her degree at 28, older than the average female student at the time.

"Mother credited Imogene Dickey, the dean of women, for giving her a job as a house mother to give her a place to live and make extra money to finish school," Kelly says. "She wore her Golden Key Society charm around her neck for her Golden Eagles reunion in 1999. Mother was always so proud of her degree."

Nancy, through her work at UNT, also has been a mentor to many — especially her nephew, Austin Alexander Kelly ('10), a senior psychology major who graduated in May and plans to continue with graduate studies in counseling at UNT in the future. A

fourth-generation UNT student, Austin lived in Maple and Traditions halls and minored in counseling like his Aunt Nancy. He says he tries to pass on her advice and helped other students with their classes.

"I try to be a good listener," says Austin, whose dad, Gary Kelly, attended in 1973 and was a member of the 12 O'Clock Lab Band. Even though the campus is vastly different today than it was in 1903, Austin says the North Texas spirit he was raised with remains.

"The more things change, the more they stay the same," he says. "Coming to UNT just felt right." ●

— Randena Hulstrand



Read about other UNT legacy families who have spanned generations with tradition and pride at northtexan.unt.edu. And don't forget to share the history of your own UNT legacy.

Journalism 'best of'

Blood-sucking vampires, international art thieves and lingerie-wearing football players have all been prey to **Michael Mooney's** ('09 M.J.) fascination with obscure characters.



"I try to write stories that connect disparate parts of society, and I try to tell them in a way that will change how they are viewed," Mooney says, attributing his success to the Frank W. and Sue Mayborn School of Journalism.

As a student, he wrote about fired *60 Minutes* producer Mary Mapes for the Mayborn magazine. He did not imagine an immediate decorated writing career — he was just hoping to get a job. In contrast, his many honors include awards from the Florida Press Club and the Society of Professional Journalists, and he was a runner-up for the Sex Positive Journalism award for his investigative story on prostitutes.

Mooney describes his most esteemed award — *The Best American Crime Reporting 2009* honor for his *D Magazine* story, "The Day Kennedy Died" — as a dream. Days later, he won *The Best American Sports Writing 2009* honor for "Royal Flushed," about poker players in Florida.

Mooney told the Neiman Foundation, "When I got the news that my JFK story was selected for Otto Penzler's anthology, I was pretty sure it was my friends playing some sick prank on me."

Currently a staff writer for the *Broward-Palm Beach New Times* in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Mooney is gaining entry into the best of journalism today. He dreams of reporting for *Rolling Stone*, *GQ* or *Texas Monthly*, aspiring to be like his heroes — Gary Smith, David Grann, Mark Boals, Pamela Colloff, Skip Hollandsworth, Gay Talese and Michael Lewis.

"Compared with them," Mooney says, "any successes I've had are like grains of sand on a wide beach."

— Khashan Poitier

Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas City Management Association in 2006.

1981



Edward Serna, Austin :: was named the Texas

Department of Motor Vehicles' first executive director. He was previously the Texas Department of Transportation's assistant executive director for support operations and headed the transition team that moved motor vehicle services from TxDOT to the new TxDMV.

1982



Lloyd Reiter, Gainesville :: was named executive vice president and

chief credit officer for all eight locations of the First State Bank of Gainesville. With this position, he was elected to the bank's board of directors and also will continue serving as a commercial lending officer at the main branch. He is married to **Mary Reiter** ('88), who teaches third grade in the Lindsay ISD.

1987

Prakash L. Dheeriya (Ph.D.), Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. :: a professor of finance at California State University at Dominguez Hills, has published 20 children's

books in a series called "Finance for Kidz" (Fintelligence Publishing). The books, which cover basic financial concepts such as wants versus needs, goods and services, scarcity and value, budgeting and money management, are for children as young as 5.

1991

David Wehmeyer (M.Ed.), Carrollton :: has published *Just Waiting for the Bell! Stories & Adventures of an Elementary School Principal* (Tate Publishing). He shares tales from his 18 years of experience as an elementary school administrator. The stories feature pig-kissing fundraisers, kamikaze hugs, advice for surviving dismissal car lines and more.

1992

Judey Dozeto, Austin :: is production manager/print buyer for Steve Jackson Games, where she manages the general production schedule of all printed materials and games and negotiates contracts with printers. She is the former marketing coordinator for Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

1995



Emily Whitlock Adams ('95 M.S.), Fort Worth :: is a

CPA who was hired as senior tax manager at Sanford, Baumeister & Frazier PLLC. She has 15

years of experience in public accounting, including owning and managing an accounting practice in Denton. She is a former president of the UNT Accounting Advisory Board and treasurer of Rotary International. She has been an adjunct professor of accounting at both UNT and Texas Woman's University.

1996

Gracie Amber Patrick, Dallas :: wrote *The Alphabet Kinecton: The Kinesthetic Teaching Technique*

(Tate Publishing). With 10 years of experience as a teacher, she created this approach to learning letters and sounds as a game. She says the book is especially useful with students who have ADHD, dyslexia and autism.

1997

★ **Susan Andrews, Boston, Mass.** :: is proud to announce the birth of her son, Tristan Jackson Onstott, who was born in January. He weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces, and was 20 inches long.

Barbara Crowley (M.S.), Dallas :: launched a social networking site geared to the Baby Boomer generation and older adults last fall. A Baby Boomer herself, she says the site, called Snabbo (Social Network Allowing Baby Boomers Only), is nostalgic and easy to navigate.

★ **Michael E. Mosley, Flower Mound** :: was promoted to president and COO of Rasa Floors & Carpet Cleaning LLC in Carrollton. The multi-family flooring provider helps sponsor

the Texas Apartment Association Education Foundation's partnership with UNT.



Trevor Parsons, Los Angeles, Calif. ::

launched a new business, LA Perks, which focuses on discount passes for Los Angeles tourists. He and his wife, Amanda, met as cast members on reality TV show *High School Reunion* in 2004 and have a 1-year-old daughter. At

Michael Clements



A teacher's gift

In 1975, Bonnie Beardsworth Hardaway ('79 M.A.), who had completed her undergraduate degree in English and history at SMU in 1964, was told she must earn a master's degree in order to continue teaching in the Highland Park ISD in Dallas.

Hardaway taught English and American history to eighth-graders and regularly incorporated the living history recorded by the daily newspapers into her lessons, so journalism seemed a good choice for a second degree.

"I chose UNT because it had the best journalism program in the area, and it was affordable," says Hardaway, pictured second from left. "It took me four long years, working full time and commuting, but it was worth it."

Today, retired after 38 years of teaching in Texas and New Mexico, Hardaway has chosen UNT again, this time as the beneficiary of her entire estate. She says an inspiring visit to campus in April confirmed that she had made the right decision. She attended a performance by UNT's Grand Chorus and Symphony Orchestra, chatted with the deans of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Mayborn School of Journalism, toured campus with a student Eagle Ambassador and even attended a history class. Before returning home to Holly Lake Ranch near Tyler, Hardaway finalized paperwork that one day will transform her charitable bequest into a source of substantial scholarships for UNT undergraduate students of English, history, math, science or journalism who pursue teacher certification.

"My scholarships will be in excellent hands," she says. "I hope the students who receive them will love teaching as much as I did."

— Janet Zipperlen

To learn about the options and benefits associated with naming the University of North Texas in your will or living trust, contact Rob Buchheit in UNT's Division of Advancement at 940-369-8277 or robert.buchheit@unt.edu. For information about other ways to support UNT, call 940-565-2900 or e-mail giving@unt.edu.

..... IN THE // News

→ *How It Should Have Ended*, a web series owned by the Starz Network that parodies movies by providing alternate endings, won the 2010 Streamy Award for “Best Animated Web Series.”



Courtesy of How It Should Have Ended

Bryan English ('02 M.M., '05 D.M.A.), director of instrumental studies at Texas Wesleyan University, has been writing the music for the series (at www.howitshouldhaveended.com) for five years. Also an official honoree for the 2010 Webby Awards, the series was on the “Top 10 Playlist” in the December issue of *Wired*. It won “Best Internet Parody” in the 2006 Scream Awards on Spike TV and was named one of the “Top 100 Coolest Film Sites on the Web” by *Fade In Magazine* in 2007.

→ The web series *Fear News with The Last Girl* from www.fearnetwork.com, starring theatre graduate **Ginger Marie Rogers** ('07), was an official honoree of the Webby Awards this year in the “experimental and weird” category. In the series’ first season, Rogers delivered news from the horror entertainment industry while running for her life from weapons-wielding monsters, possessed teddy bears and creepy clowns. Rogers was interviewed on the red carpet at the 2010 Streamy Awards in April.

→ Radio/television/film alums **Daniel Miller** ('05) and **Nick Comardo** ('05), with friend Eddy Rivas, started their own web production company based in Houston in 2007. Last summer, their scripted sitcom following “three hapless geeks with big dreams of Internet stardom” was picked up for production by the web broadcaster Revision 3. *Web Zeroes*, now in its second season, was featured in the *San Antonio Express-News* and *Houston Chronicle* last fall. RTVF alum **Jace Ford** ('07) composes all the music for the show. See *Web Zeroes* at revision3.com/webzeroes.

UNT, Trevor was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma.

2002

Michelle Coltharp-Baxter, Fort Worth :: has taken up crocheting prayer shawls. After the deaths of six family members in six months, and with two broken arms, Chelle began to crochet shawls for physical and emotional healing. She now creates and donates one shawl a week to someone who writes her with a request at ctalkwc@aol.com.

been certified by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards as a national board certified teacher. She has taught in the Dallas ISD for 10 years and is married to former UNT student **Sheldon Allen**.

Lindsay Dyer French ('05 M.S.), North Richland Hills :: married Justin French in October in Arlington. She is employed by NEC Corp. of America in Irving, and he is a project planning manager for the city of Arlington.

2007

JD Reid, Dallas, and **Jarrold Hareluk** ('02), Waco :: are co-owners of a Dallas independent publishing company, Wide Array. After releasing *Upstart Crows*, a collection of literary fiction, they have put together a follow-up, *Upstart Crows II: True Stories*, released in January. The collection features writers around the country, including a handful of UNT alums. Both JD and Jarrold took creative writing classes at UNT on their way to earning their English degrees.



Calley Bliss, Brooklyn, N.Y. :: released her debut

album, *Pigeonholed*, in March. She graduated with a major in jazz studies and has worked as a vocalist in many genres. She says the CD, with its mix of influences, is being marketed under the “unclassifiable” genre.

Charles Luke (Ed.D.), Fort Worth :: is the vice president of strategic program development for Volunteers of America, Texas. The faith-based nonprofit organization provides housing for the elderly; corrections, treatment and community services; and care for people with developmental disabilities. ●

2004

Mark and Jonith Wilkinson ('05), Fort Worth :: welcomed their baby boy, Brady Patrick Wilkinson, in October.

2005



Doretha Piper Allen (M.Ed.), Desoto :: has

FRIENDS WE'LL MISS

UNT's alumni, faculty, staff and students are the university's greatest legacy. When members of the Eagle family pass, they are remembered and their spirit lives on. Send information about deaths to *The North Texan* (see contact information on page 5).



Read more, write memorials and connect with friends at northtexan.unt.edu.

1930s

Viola George Sample ('39), Houston :: She majored in history and education and taught elementary school in Weirgate, Port Arthur and Houston. She earned her master's in education from the University of Houston in 1959 and was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Survivors include her brother, Ralph George ('42).

1940s

Herb Ellis, Los Angeles, Calif. :: He played jazz guitar for such greats as Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong and Stan Getz and was a member of the Oscar Peterson Trio. In a recording, touring and performing career that spanned six decades, he was regarded as one of the finest jazz guitar soloists, recording for Verve, Concord and Columbia. He also was a studio musician

and played in several bands for television shows. He studied from 1940 to 1942 at North Texas, where his roommate was reed player Jimmy Giuffrè ('42). UNT awarded Ellis an honorary doctorate in 1997.

Virah Freeman Niemann, Austin :: She attended North Texas from 1941 to 1943 and worked during World War II as a draftsman, helping design airplanes. She later worked in the oil and gas industry and was a real estate investor.

Mary Elizabeth Carlisle McCreight ('44), Houston :: She lived in Winters for 48 years before moving to Houston to be closer to her son. She worked with her husband in his medical practice until his death and was active in the beginning of the Candy-Stripers at the Winters Hospital.

Ruth Margaret Walters ('45), Tyler :: After graduating from North Texas, she continued her study of music at Indiana University, the University of Colorado at Boulder and the University of Utah as well as in New York City. She was a piano instructor at the University of Texas before returning to her hometown of Tyler, where she taught private piano lessons for many years.

Marian Alice Rawlings Bird ('46), Pasadena :: She received her degree in physical education from North Texas, where she was the sports manager for the Women's Recreation Association and a member of the House Presidents Club.

Lila Lee Grimes Henson ('46), Richardson :: Until her retirement in 1991, she was an administrative secretary for Richardson ISD. She was a

University Community

Margaret 'Madge' Theresa Craig, Victoria, Canada, associate professor of teacher education and administration who worked at UNT from 1991 to 2000, died March 21. A native of Canada, she taught in Prince George and received a bachelor's degree from the University of British Columbia and her master's and doctorate in education from the University of Victoria. At UNT, she

taught reading education to future teachers and won the Shelton Excellence in Teaching Award in 1995-96. Memorials may be made to the Margaret T. Craig Scholarship at UNT.

Albert E. Gates, Laredo, North Texas regent from 1976 to 1983, died July 25, 2009. He attended Texas



A&I and Texas A&M universities

and served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He was a rancher, president of Espejo Corp. and director of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, the First Federal Savings & Loan in Laredo and the First National Bank of Carrizo Springs. He was instrumental in implementing a screwworm eradication program in Texas and Mexico. He and his wife enjoyed traveling on ranch tours around the country and the world.

Kathleen Kirk Gilmore, Dallas, research scientist and adjunct professor in UNT's Institute of Applied Science from 1975 to 1989, died March 18. After earning her doctorate in anthropology from Southern Methodist University at 58, she became an authority on Spanish Colonial archaeology. She excavated a number of Spanish forts in Texas and was the first to prove the location of La Salle's Fort St.

member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Siege of Bexar Descendants.

Homer G. Bankhead ('48), Allen :: He was a lieutenant in the Merchant Marines in World War II and served as a private in the U.S. Army. He earned his business degree at North Texas, and at the age of 72 earned a juris doctor degree from Texas Wesleyan University. He was a professional fundraiser, managing campaigns for the United Way and colleges, hospitals and churches around the country.

Ralph Douglas Massey ('48, '51 M.Ed.), Nederland :: He was a teacher and coach for the Beaumont ISD for more than 30 years. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a lifetime member and former post commander of the American Legion.

Henry Truett 'Torg' Torgerson ('48, '49 M.S.), Marlin :: He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, receiving two battle stars and a Bronze Star. At North Texas, where he earned degrees in industrial arts, he was a member of Alpha Chi and Phi Delta Kappa and served as a teaching fellow. A school teacher for 31 years, he taught "shop," drafting, history and Industrial Cooperative Training. He also owned a furniture restoration shop. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Ruth Ann Davison Torgerson ('50).

1950s

Wesley Surber Coffman ('50, '53 M.M.Ed.), Dallas :: He served in the U. S. Navy during World War II and completed his education at North Texas and Florida State University. He was a music educator and church musician in Sherman, Houston and Dallas. From 1981 to 1995, he was dean of the School of Music at Hardin-Simmons University.

A.C. 'Ace' Tinch ('56), San Antonio :: He was president of Harding-Conley-Drawert-Tinch Insurance Agency and a specialist in bonding, insurance and risk management services for construction firms. He received the Credit Executive of the Year and the Ben R. Binford Lifetime Achievement Award from the Independent Agents of San Antonio in 1997.

Jane Ann Clark Trawick ('56, '58 M.M.Ed.), Katy :: She taught in public schools for 32 years and was the pianist at St. Peter's United Methodist Church. She accompanied various choirs there and worked in the church office. She also was a member of the National Music Teachers Association and the local book club.

Frank Collendrina ('57), Dallas :: He served in the U.S. Navy and was a longtime insurance executive with a CPCU designation. He earned his degree in business at North

Texas, where he was a member of Theta Chi.

Doran John 'Buddy' Haesly ('58, '59 M.A.), Austin :: He owned a commercial real estate business that developed the Oaks at Inwood in Houston and other projects. He taught advanced biology at North Texas for a year and was a graduate researcher with Archibald Roach and J.K.G. Silvey, investigating the effects of actinomycetales on aquatic and marine environments. He finished course work for a doctorate in bacteriology and virology at the University of Texas at Austin.

1960s

Linda Jones Altermann, Santa Fe, N.M. :: While attending North Texas in 1962-63, she met her future husband, Tony Altermann ('65, '68 M.S.), whom she married in 1963. She was instrumental in the establishment of Altermann Galleries in 1978. She had been president of the Lake Highlands Women's League

Louis Gilmore was the first female president of the Society for Historical Archaeology and served on the board of the Texas Historical Foundation. In 1995, she was the first woman to receive the Harrington Medal in Historical Archaeology, and she received the Governor's Award for Historical Preservation in 2008. At the time of her death at 95, she was continuing research that recently had led her to Spain, for a book about a Spanish captain.

Lee Gerald Knox, Denton,



assistant professor of geography who worked at North Texas

from 1949 to 1985, died Feb. 15. He served in the Army during World War II, participating in seven landings and in campaigns in Europe and North Africa, then earned his bachelor's and master's

degrees from Oklahoma State University. At North Texas, he was known for his sense of humor and colorful stories and enjoyed leading student geological field trips. He served in the Faculty Senate for many years and volunteered as the "Voice of the Eagles," announcing football and basketball games. He also volunteered as a special events coordinator and directed the Homecoming Parade. He was named an outstanding faculty

member for his service to the university and in 1985 received the student body's highest honor, the 'Fessor Graham Award.

Edmund P. 'Ted' Pillsbury, Dallas, former director of the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth who was awarded an honorary doctor of fine arts from UNT in 1996, died March 25. He earned his bachelor's degree from Yale and a doctorate from the University of

and the Book Lover's Review Club, served on the boards of the Dallas Repertory Theatre and the Santa Fe Concert Association, and was a lifetime member of the UNT President's Council. Memorials may be made to the Altermann Scholarship Fund to benefit the College of Visual Arts and Design.

William 'Bill' Frank Garrett ('62), Granbury :: At North Texas, he was captain of the golf team and went to the NCAA semi-finals his senior year. After teaching and coaching high school golf, he played on the PGA tour for 10 years. He worked for Ping Golf Club Manufacturing for 30 years around the southwestern U.S. He is survived by Judy Schwan Garrett ('61), his college sweetheart and wife of 48 years.

Judy Cooksey Robinson ('62), Weatherford :: At North Texas, she was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority. She taught at American military bases in Europe while traveling with her husband,

the late Louis B. 'Burney' Robinson ('62), for his job with Texas Instruments. After they moved back to Texas, she taught school for 30 years, retiring in 2001 from Terrell Elementary School in Denison. Survivors include her children, Tisha Robinson Beaird ('91), Brady Robinson ('93) and Eric Robinson ('94).

Bill Estes ('64, '73 M.Ed.), Sherman :: At North Texas, he was in Sigma Phi Epsilon, lettered in basketball as a freshman and worked as a student fireman. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1968 and after attending pilot school was stationed in Florida, Virginia, Oregon and Turkey. He coached basketball in Sherman, Kaufman, Pittsburg and Crowley and retired as head of the science department in 1996. He and his wife operated the Book Rack for 27 years.

Elisabeth C. Burnside ('69 M.S.), Delray Beach, Fla. :: She earned her master's

degree in clinical psychology at North Texas.

1970s

Jimmy R. Barnes ('72), Dallas :: He earned his degree in industrial arts education at North Texas.

Frances Ann Gee ('79), Carrollton :: She was an educator who devoted 35 years of service to the Dallas ISD and W.T. White High School before retiring. She sponsored academic decathlon teams, including five that advanced to state competition, and she judged and sponsored UIL literary competitions in addition to inspiring her students in English and history.

1990s

Jon Michael Jordan ('93), Plano :: He became a certified public accountant, working as a partner with his father at Jordan Donohoe & Co. in Dallas. His

hobbies included golf, football, basketball, hunting and shooting.

2000s

Ginger D. Pallett-Perez ('01), Burleson :: At UNT, she was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha and held several offices. She earned her degree in social work and was a teacher.

Louie G. Brewer Jr. ('09), Denton :: He earned a bachelor's degree in music theory from UNT.

Craig A. Bishop, Coppell :: He was a sophomore studying mechanical and energy engineering after transferring to UNT in 2009.

Raegan Davis, Dallas :: She was a freshman in her second semester at UNT, majoring in education. After traveling to Romania to do mission work and studying Spanish in Spain, she had plans to teach and one day open her own school. ●

London's Courtauld Institute of Art. He led the Kimbell to recognition as one of the nation's outstanding small art museums as its director from 1980 to 1998. Pillsbury went on to chair the fine arts department of Heritage Auction Galleries in Dallas. He was a longtime supporter of the arts at UNT, serving as a member of the advisory board for the College of Visual Arts and Design since the board's inception in 1992 and collaborating with the

UNT-based North Texas Institute for Educators on the Visual Arts.

E.E. Stuessy, Austin, who served



on the North Texas Board of Regents from 1973 to 1985, died

Feb. 22. He was first appointed to the board by Gov. Dolph Briscoe and had been active in the Austin Chamber of Commerce and as a

board member of the Austin City National Bank, Boy Scouts of America, Junior Achievement, Operation Orphans Inc. and the Austin Child Guidance Clinic. As a regent, the retired contractor and owner of the E.E. Stuessy Co. served as chair of the building committee.

Memorials

Send memorials to honor UNT alumni and friends, made payable to the UNT Foundation, to

the University of North Texas, Division of Advancement, 1155 Union Circle #311250, Denton, Texas 76203-5017. Indicate on your check the name of the memorial fund or the area you wish to support. You can make secure gifts online at www.development.unt.edu/givenow. For information about an existing fund or to learn how to honor a friend or loved one, e-mail giving@unt.edu or call 940-565-2900. ●

THE JOURNEY TO GRAD SCHOOL

by MARSHA SOWELL ('10)

IN 2007, I CAME TO UNT IN hopes of becoming the first in my family to earn a bachelor's degree. At the time, I didn't know what graduate school was. Now — with my eternal thanks to the Honors College, the Ronald E. McNair program and the faculty of UNT — I have a \$120,000 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship to begin work toward my Ph.D. at Penn State.

I came from a small high school where few students go on to college. My first semester at UNT, I didn't have a lot of financial support, so I shared a room in College Inn and lived on Ramen noodles. I got a job at Bruce Cafeteria so I could eat a free meal — I was the lady who wiped off the tables and refilled the mayo. The next semester I was lucky. I received scholarships and could buy decent groceries. It was nice not having to worry so much.

Then the Honors College recommended that I apply for the McNair program, which prepares first-generation, low-income or under-represented college juniors and seniors for graduate school. I chose to study political science because I thought I wanted to become a lawyer, but when I learned about the Rwandan genocide, I wanted to study human rights.

After being accepted to the McNair program, I found my faculty mentor, James Meernik, and he and the McNair



Michael Clements

staff guided me through the maze of learning the craft of research.

My first time on an airplane was when the McNair program funded a trip so I could present my research at a conference. Now, I've been to California, New York, New Orleans, St. Louis and Chicago. As an undergraduate, it's rare to attend these conferences and it can be intimidating to go into a room filled with people who know so much more than you. It's definitely a learning experience. I would present a poster or paper, be scared to death, get over it, get the experience.

I've focused my research on determining why international human rights organizations report heavily on some countries and not at all on others. After taking an international conflict class with Michael Greig, I'm now investigating the impact of human rights reporting on the intensity of civil conflicts. To make a student interested enough in a topic to go study it on her own — that says something about the quality of teaching.

I also was lucky enough to be an

undergraduate teaching assistant for Kimi King, which showed me why I want to become a professor. She gets such participation from her students that she makes a large class feel small. To see a teacher like that was one of my greatest experiences at UNT.

I plan to become a professor, act as a mentor and continue conducting research on human rights and conflict. It's exciting to find something that no one else knows and to share that knowledge. One day I hope to help someone the way Dr. Meernik helped me, and I want to be as good a teacher as Dr. King.

I don't know if I'll impact the world, but I want to impact those around me. ●

Marsha Sowell ('10) earned her bachelor's degree in political science in three years and begins her doctoral studies this fall. She's inspired her mother and older sister to attend college, too. Watch a video featuring Sowell at northtexan.unt.edu/ online.

LEADERSHIP 24/7

MEAN GREEN

tight end Draylen Ross plays a key role on the field and off. A natural leader committed to helping others, Ross dedicated himself for the past two years to helping his younger brother earn a high school diploma. After a full day of classes and football practice, Ross spent his off-time as Willie's home school teacher. Ross also managed to mentor local schoolchildren, organize a gift drive for a Denton women's shelter, maintain his grades and make some key plays on the football field.

After graduation, he wants to shape the next generation through teaching and coaching.

This is UNT.

North Texas Football 2010

Dates subject to change.

Sept. 4	at Clemson	Oct. 16	Florida International (Homecoming)
Sept. 11	Rice	Oct. 30	at Western Kentucky
Sept. 18	at Army	Nov. 6	Troy (UNT Preview)
Sept. 25	at Florida Atlantic	Nov. 13	at Middle Tennessee
Oct. 2	Louisiana-Lafayette	Nov. 20	at Louisiana-Monroe
Oct. 9	Arkansas State (Family Weekend)	Nov. 27	Kansas State

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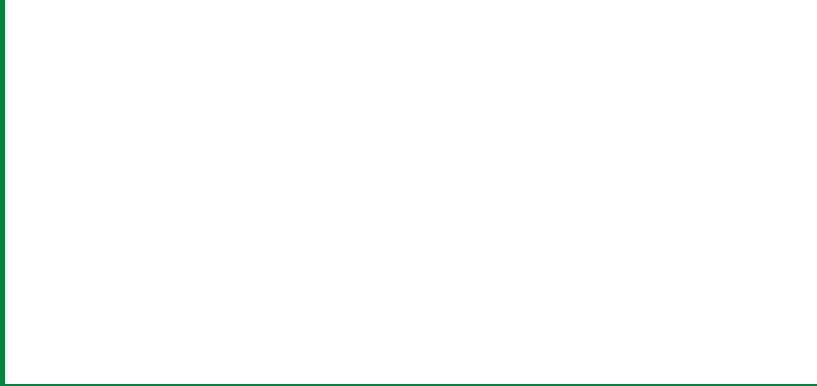


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PARTING SHOT

In a celebration of world cultures, the annual International Week in April offered films, food, performances, festivals and music from some of the countries represented by UNT's nearly 2,500 international students.



Jonathan Reynolds

