

inside
this
issue

Meet
The
Music



Students
Attend
Conferences



Punch Shaw
in Honors
Seminar



Honors
Open
House



PROGRAM ACCEPTS 16 NEW STUDENTS



As the Presidential Honors Program begins its 22nd year, we welcome a new group of sixteen freshmen. In this group, we have four valedictorians, six with an SAT over 1300, and seven with a 29 or higher on the ACT. We have students from Stephenville and as far away as Gruver, TX, from a graduating class of only 13 students to one of 432. Please take some time to introduce yourself to our new students and welcome them to Tarleton:

Sarah Barmore, Geosciencemajor from Belton; Dacie Bishop, Marketing major from Bluff Dale; Zane Christian, Agribusiness major from Hico; Amanda Couch, Chemistry major from Fort Worth; Rachael Crouch, Pre-med major from Hamilton; Katherine Crutcher, Education major from Newark; Rebecca Frazier, English and History major from Stephenville; Adam Harris, Computer Science major from Stephenville; Kaylyn Howard,

Pre-pharmacy major from Granbury; Alan Hudson, Engineering Physics major from McGregor; Matt Messer, Pre-med major from Gruver; Leslie Reavis, Pre-med major from Burnet; Jennifer Schwartz, Psychology major from Stephenville; Crystal Sims, English major from Harper; Sarah Wells, Theatre major from Granbury; Jessica Winsett, Computer Information Systems major from Dublin.

PHP STUDENT STUDIES SPANISH IN GUATEMALA

Kim Fehlis
Pre-med

I was fortunate to travel to Guatemala for 5 weeks during the summer break. As a pre-med student and Spanish major, the opportunity to study medical terminology in a Spanish-speaking nation could not have been better suited to my educational goals. While the formal instruction was exceptional, the time I spent

volunteering in a local medical clinic and with my Guatemalan family was far more culturally edifying. You or I might call the living conditions “squalor,” while my family members considered themselves “privileged.”

As a future doctor, I couldn’t help but notice the disparity in health care between not

only the US and Guatemala but also between the public hospitals and private clinics. On top of that, the majority of the population is indigenous and adheres to traditional beliefs over modern science. For instance, my teacher caught a cold and refused to bathe for a week insisting that if a sick woman bathes, she will die.



It is hard for our progress-oriented culture to fathom a modern society that refuses to accept scientific advancement, even after we experience it firsthand. I would advise every student to spend at least a summer in another country, outside the comfort zone, to achieve a more global perspective and better appreciate how blessed we are to live in the United States.



PHP STUDENTS STUDY SPANISH IN MEXICO

Jessica Farrar
English

In May, Marlow Robitaille and I traveled with a group of thirteen other TSU students to Cuernavaca, Mexico to study Spanish. While there, we were completely immersed in the Spanish speaking world. Each student lived with a Mexican family and attended Spanish classes five days a week at La Universidad Internacional. Our classes were small, usually three to six students, and varied in difficulty according to our level of ability. The university provided a scenic, relaxing atmosphere in which to learn, and the teachers and students were quite amiable. Each weekend, our group went on

various excursions that enhanced our knowledge of the Mexican culture and provided an enjoyable break from the classroom. We went to Mexico City, Taxco, Puebla, and finally, Acapulco! Not only did this trip increase my knowledge of the language, it also broadened my world perspective. I am thankful



Marlow and Jessica at La Universidad Internacional



La Plaza de Tres Culturas in Mexico City...Aztec Ruins and old Spanish Church amidst the grand buildings of Mexico City

for this opportunity and for the financial assistance I received from the Presidential Honors Program and the Study Abroad office, and hope to one day participate in similar programs.

NEWS BRIEFS

ACADEMIC AWARDS

The 2006 Academic Awards Banquet will be on Friday, November 10th at 5:30 pm in the Thompson Students Center Ballroom. This is one of the required events for the Presidential Honors Scholars. This is our opportunity to acknowledge the Honors Scholars and thank the donors. Make plans to attend.

MUSEUM TRIP IN OCTOBER

On October 14, 2006, the Honors Programs will take students to tour the Kimbell and Amon Carter Museums with Dr. Punch Shaw. For those of you who have never gone before, this is a great opportunity to learn more about the works of art on display from someone who works with the arts in Fort Worth. If you are interested in going, call the Honors Office to get your name on the list.

TEXAN TOUR SCHEDULED

The Texan Tour will be on Saturday, November 4, 2006. We will need some students to set up and work our booth. The Texan Tour is a special event for High School students that will give them the opportunity to learn more about Tarleton and the programs offered. If you are available to help, please contact the Honors Office.

REGISTRATION

Early Registration for Honors Students is tentatively set for November 10th.

BACH ON HARPSICHORD OR BACH ON THE PIANO?

Visiting Scholar Dr. Punch Shaw Talks to Freshman Honors Seminar

Does it make sense to play Bach keyboard pieces that were composed with the harpsichord in mind on the modern piano? For one class meeting students in the Freshman Honors Seminar had to prepare arguments on both sides of this issue. The next week Dr. Punch Shaw, a regular music reviewer for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*,



talked to the class about the history of the harpsichord and piano and played representative performances of Bach and other composers on the two instruments.

The Freshman Honors Seminar focuses on theory of interpretation, and the first topic for discussion was interpretation in the performance of music. A musical score gives a kind of blueprint for the performance of music, but the score does not become music until someone performs it. And in performing the music, making the music actual as music, the performer has to interpret, has to



make decisions about how loud or soft, how fast, how much to sustain the notes, how passionately to play it, and so forth.

Other guest speakers will include a number of Tarleton faculty members: Dr. Charles Howard on



legal interpretation, Dr. Mallory Young on literary hermeneutics, Mr. Dan Malone on interpretation in journalism, and Mr. Mark Holtorf on interpretation in theater performance.

PRESIDENTIAL HONORS SOCIETY

Jessica Farrar
English

We invite all those interested and eligible to join us for our next meeting, which will be held on the evening of September 27th, to learn more about this organization. To

be eligible, one must have taken or be currently enrolled in an honors class, and have an overall GPA of 3.2. For further information, contact Jessica Farrar by email at JessF34@aol.com. Hope to see you there!

FEATURE

HONORS PROGRAMS OFFERS SPECIAL ORIENTATION

Last summer entering freshman in the Presidential Honors Program and Honors Degree Program were invited to come to a special Honors Freshman Orientation on the Wednesday afternoon before the regular two-day orientation session began. Ten Presidential Honors Scholars attended, and twenty-one students in the Honors Degree Program. Because this was a trial

run the number of Honors Degree Program participants was limited, but that program will be expanded significantly next summer.

Afternoon sessions included briefings by Dr. Clifford on the requirements and benefits of the Honors Programs and a presentation by Dr. Charles Howard on the transition from high school to college. Wednesday evening

students and parents, Honors faculty and administrators, and other friends of the Honors Programs attended an informal dinner in the dining hall, and after dinner several of the returning Presidential Honors Students hosted an informal social for the new freshmen in the game room of the Student Development Center.

18 EARN 4.0!

- Heather Gamblin
Interdisciplinary Studies
 - Matthew Gilbert
Engineering Physics
 - Stephen Myers
Engineering Physics
 - Marie Skaggs
Nursing
 - Megan Williams
Interdisciplinary Studies
 - Kim Fehlis
Pre-med
 - Jed Gohlke
Mathematics
 - Jessica Moorhouse
Undecided
 - Katrina Windham
Business
 - Will Mayfield
Computer Science
 - Rebecca Garrett
Nursing
 - Aileen Blum
English
 - Kevin Woller
Engineering
 - Bailey Pearson
English
 - Stephanie Trevino
Mathematics
 - Joseph Gilbert
Engineering Physics
 - Leslie Raddatz
Interdisciplinary Studies
 - Evan Stenmark
Engineering Physics
- Great Job! Keep up the good work.*

SEVEN PHP GRADUATES IN MAY



The Presidential Honors Program had seven students graduate this past Spring. Brandie Allen earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Geoscience, Kelly Anderson earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, Joseph Gilbert earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Physics, Mica Hassler earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre, Leslie Raddatz earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, Evan Stenmark earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Physics, and Stephanie Trevino earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics.

Four of these students were chosen

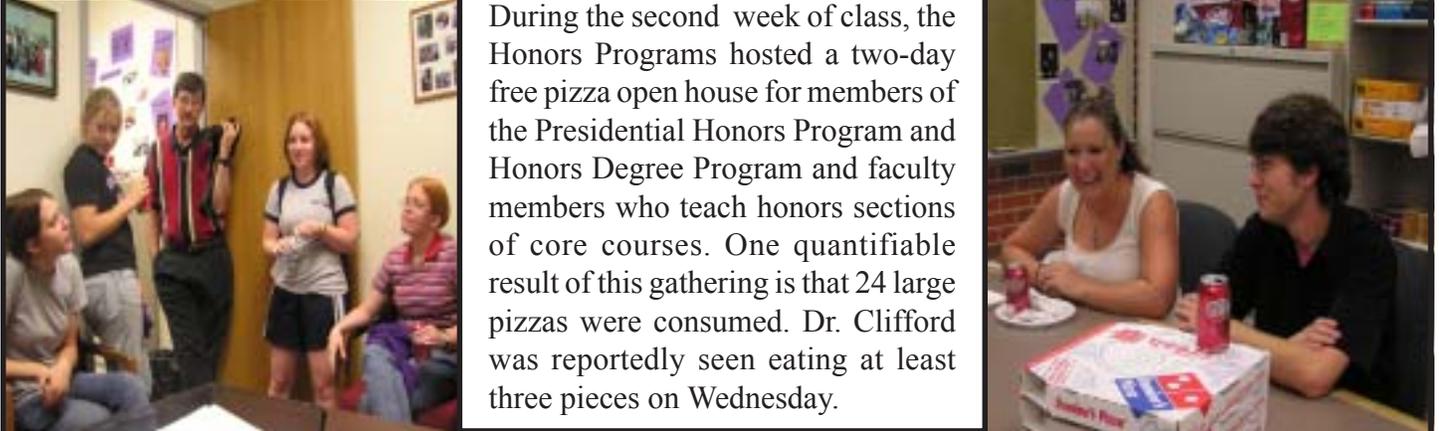
as Outstanding Graduates. Brandie Allen was chosen for Chemistry, Geoscience and Environmental Science. Joseph Gilbert was chosen for Mathematics, Physics and Engineering. Mica Hassler was chosen for Fine Arts and Communications. Leslie Raddatz was chosen for Curriculum and Instruction.

Mica Hassler is doing an internship with Disney World. Joseph Gilbert is working on his master's in engineering at Stanford. Kelly Anderson is working on a master's in social work at the University of Denver. Evan Stenmark is working on his master's in engineering at Oklahoma University.

HONORS PROGRAMS OPEN HOUSE WELCOMES STUDENTS



During the second week of class, the Honors Programs hosted a two-day free pizza open house for members of the Presidential Honors Program and Honors Degree Program and faculty members who teach honors sections of core courses. One quantifiable result of this gathering is that 24 large pizzas were consumed. Dr. Clifford was reportedly seen eating at least three pieces on Wednesday.



Meet the Music

with Dr. Punch Shaw & Bill Harris



Dr. Punch Shaw

AT

BORDERS BOOKS AND MUSIC

4613 S. Hulen (across from Hulen Mall)

Fort Worth, Texas

817-370-9476

Sponsored by

THE PRESIDENTIAL HONORS PROGRAM

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

<http://www.tarleton.edu/~honors>

254-968-1926

Tuesday, September 12, 7:30 p.m.
2006-2007 Season Preview

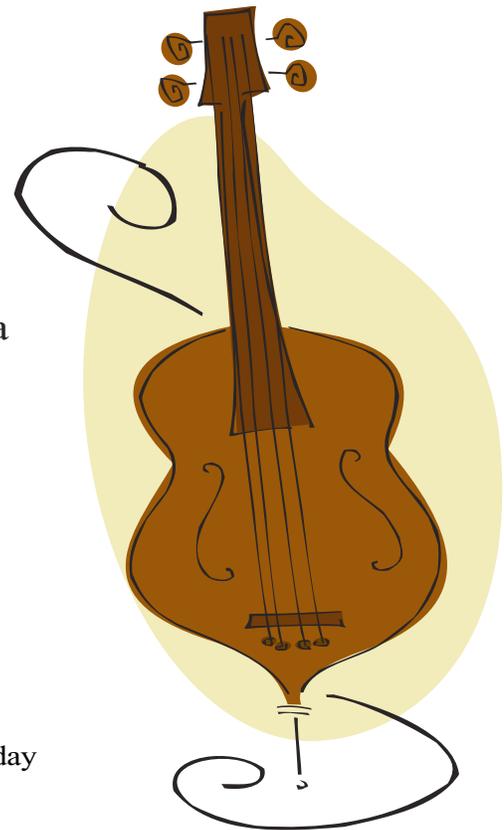
Tuesday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.
Classical Music in 19th Century America

Tuesday, November 14, 7:30 p.m.
Urban Musicscapes:
Classical Music Inspired by Cities

Tuesday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.
The Bill & Punch Christmas Show

MEET THE MUSIC usually takes place on the second Tuesday every month from September through June.

There is no admission charge and music lovers of all experience levels are welcome. Drawings will be held for tickets to area concerts and classical music CDs.



STUDENTS ATTEND CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO

Heather Gamblin

Interdisciplinary Studies

This past May, I had the opportunity to attend a professional development conference, courtesy of the Presidential Honors Program. Fellow elementary education major Leslie Raddatz and I traveled to Chicago, where we met with teachers from around the world at the International Reading Association's National Convention. During our four-day stay, we attended convention sessions and explored all the Windy City has to offer.

The convention itself was, at times, an overwhelming experience. The tens of thousands of educators in attendance represented all fifty states and multiple countries from around the globe. The number of sessions was perhaps the most overwhelming; each related to literacy in some form or fashion, and almost all of them looked very interesting. The resources we had access to during the convention will be invaluable as we begin our

teaching careers. In talking with other teachers, it was incredible to hear the different life (and teaching) experiences they brought to the table. Being able to participate in discussions about education and literacy with them was both informative and encouraging, and reminded me that co-workers can be of great help in a classroom. We also learned a lot about the literacy tools that are available to teachers...if only there was enough money in education to buy them all! Most importantly, the sessions we chose to attend provided us with helpful and applicable strategies, all of which are backed by current literacy research.

And of course, what trip to Chicago is complete without a little sightseeing? Leslie and I took advantage of the beautiful weather



to walk through Millennium Park and along the Navy Pier. Chicago is a city full of architectural beauty and cultural opportunities, and if it were not for the Presidential Honors Program I probably never would have been able to visit there. I feel very thankful for both the chance to travel to a new place and to participate in a professional conference on the national level. Many teachers never get the chance to attend a national conference, which reminds me once again of how beneficial the experiences I have had through my four years in PHP truly are.

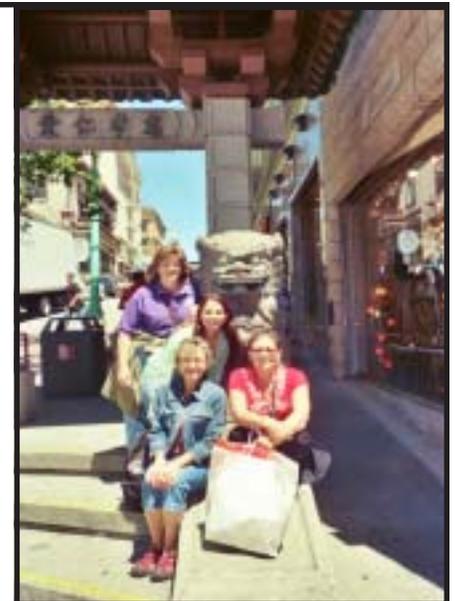
STUDENT ATTENDS CONFERENCE IN CALIFORNIA

Megan Williams

Interdisciplinary Studies

This summer I was given the opportunity to travel to Oakland, California, with Dr. Pam Littleton, Dr. Beth Riggs, and Dr. Kathy Smith to participate in a week long conference for math teachers. The conference was put on by Key Curriculum Press, a company that produces much of the latest technology and curriculum geared towards innovative "discovery" methods that are being developed

in modern mathematics education. At the conference I learned how to use the latest technology and computer programs in my classroom, and I also got to meet and collaborate with many teachers from across the world. In addition to all of the great ideas I was exposed to, I was able to see a beautiful part of the country that I had not yet been able to visit. I had a great time in California and am thankful for all of the people that made it possible for me to have this experience!



Tarleton State University
A Member of The Texas A&M University System



PHP and HDP members who wish to contribute ideas, stories, or insight to the newsletter, contact Jessica Farrar at JessF34@aol.com.

Aretē

Aretē is the classical Greek word for “excellence” or “virtue.”

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The opinions expressed within are those of the individual writers, not necessarily those of *Aretē* or of Tarleton State University.

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“The good of a human being is activity of the soul in accord with excellence [*arēte*].”
-Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*