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Around town

Industry reps to visit with engineers

To recognize Engineering Week several industries will be available to answer engineering students' questions about job descriptions and availability. The industry representatives will have information booths in 224 MSC today from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 5 p.m.

Alcohol topic of noon seminars

The Alcohol Awareness Program will present a series of noon-time seminars concerning topics such as "responsible drinking," "teens and alcohol," "party planning" and "problem drinking." The first program will be today in 120A. Rollie White. Students, faculty and staff are invited to attend. For more information call Dennis Reardon at 865-0596 or 845-3019.

Science students must take exam

Any juniors or seniors in the College of Science who have not previously taken the English Proficiency Examination should plan to take the test this semester unless they have completed English 301 with a minimum grade of C. Students in the College of Science are required to pass either English 301 or the test in order to qualify as a degree candidate in the College of Science.

The English Proficiency Exam will be administered by the English Department. Students in the Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics Departments should register for the exam in 151 or 152 Blocker before March 2.

Spirit award applications available

Spirit award applications are now available in the Former Students Lobby; 110 YMCA; Student Activities; and the Student Government Office. Deadline for applications is Feb. 29.

Tenneco official to visit class

Kenneth L. Otto, senior vice president of Human Resources for Tenneco, Inc., will speak to Management 481A students Friday as a part of the "Visiting Executives" program. Otto will tour the campus with University administrators, as well as attend an informal luncheon with students in the Rudder Tower Dining Room.

Orienteering meet to be Saturday

The Outdoor Education Institute and the Office of Continuing Education is sponsoring the Second Annual Orienteering Meet Saturday beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Texas A&M Range Science Area, approximately four miles from campus. Orienteering is a sport in which competitors find their way around the backcountry with a map and compass. Awards will be presented in five categories: junior high, high school, ages 18-35, ages 36-50 and over age 50. The courses will be divided into novice, intermediate and expert.

Instruction will be available before the meet at 8:30 a.m. Cost for entering is \$3 for adults and \$2 for junior high and high school students. For more information contact the meet director, Rick Beelby at 845-7258.

To submit an item for this column, come by The Battalion office in 216 Reed McDonald.

Thousands attend wrestler von Erich's funeral in Denton

United Press International

DENTON — They took off work and skipped school Wednesday — almost 2,000 of them — to say good-bye to their "Yellow Rose of Texas," wrestler David von Erich, dead at 25 of an inflamed intestine. It seemed impossible to believe, especially for the adolescent girls who were his biggest fans, that a minor illness could cut down their modern gladiator.

David was the blond giant who, of all his wrestling brothers, most resembled their father Fritz von Erich, the legendary "Iron Claw."

Von Erich, whose real name was David Adkisson, was found dead last Friday in his hotel room in Tokyo after he failed to show up for a wrestling match. An autopsy showed his heart had been weakened by an intestinal inflammation his family thought was just a bout with the flu.

The most loyal followers of the von Erich clan assembled in a Baptist church about 40 miles north of Dallas Wednesday morning to mourn David.

Mack Hilliard, 69, and his wife Naomi, 65, a retired couple who live in Denton said they had followed wrestling since the heyday of Fritz, whose real name is Jack Adkisson.

"We like all of them (von Erichs) but I believe David came the closest to his father's 'Iron Claw,'" Hilliard said.

About 1,000 people fit inside the sanctuary. The others encircled the church waiting for a glimpse or sign of what was happening inside. Plans to broadcast the services on loudspeakers outside were canceled at the last minute.

Banks of flowers — most of them yellow — surrounded the closed casket. Weeping teenage

girls, who only two weeks ago would have been shrieking "love you, David," as their father entered wrestling's "squared circle," clutched still more yellow buds.

David and his brothers — Kevin, 26, Kerry, 23, and Mike — represent goodness, Christianity and patriotism to the fans. Another brother, Chris, only 13. The eldest boy, David Jr., died many years ago at 6.

Mourners sobbed and wailed as three ministers described von Erich's "born again faith." A comment from a boisterous, white-haired preacher that David had lived more in 25 years than most do in a lifetime brought a heartfelt "that's right" and "amen" from one middle-aged woman.

Women and girls leaned over the balcony wailing uncontrollably as the casket was wheeled up the aisle of the church. One cried out: "god be with y'all, Kevin."

"I just hate that he died in another country," said Sally Calvin, a 30-year-old nurse from Rhome, Texas. "That's hard on the family."

"When I was little, Mama and Daddy used to take me to the wrestling in Wichita Falls where Fritz was wrestling," she said. "Then I didn't go for a while until the boys started wrestling."

She said she was amazed that such a seemingly healthy young man died of something "that's usually not that terrible a disease. I was surprised he was in the hospital" if he was so sick.

A block from the church someone had scrawled on trash dumpster the ultimate teenage accolade: "David's fine."