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Tae kwan do instructor merges art with discipline, academics

By Amy Couvillon

nnovation of traditional martial art forms is inevitable and has the poential to improve the art, says a Tetas A&M lecturer and tae kwan do nstructor

"Modernization of the traditional tae twan do style is necessary for improjed performance of skills," says Steve Powell, who has been an instructor with the Tae Kwan Do Club since 1971. "This is the same for any physical activity. If this was not so, we would still be using metal or wooden poles for the pole vault.... We would still have prize fights with

Povell, an instructor at the U.S. Black elt Academy in College Station, is a sixth-degree black belt in the Jhon Rhee system of Tae Kwan

Jhoon Rhee, often called the "father o tae kwan do in the United States," sarted a program in the early 1986 that modernizes the Korean tae wan do discipline and merges it with academic achieve-ment, Powll says. Students in the program here to achieve a "B" report-card a rage to qualify for the black belt exin, he says.

"Ninety-fiv percent of my kids that I have hee have a B' average or better," Powe says. "Jhoon Rhee has for manyyears promoted the martial arts, ne only as a means of self-defense, by also as a way of improving one's se-image.

Modern knowledge, Powell explains, can contribute to martial arts

"Current research in other fields such as exercise physiology, motor learning, motor development and sports psychology are changing our approach to training and performance of many activities," Powell

juvenile delinquency. An April 6 Battalion article described a 1983 research project conducted by Dr. Michael Trulson, an associate professor of anatomy and martial arts instruc-

The study made the assumption that a certain form of training can cause delinquent behavior. But,

"Current research . . . in other fields (is) changing our approach to training and performance of many activities. More research is still needed in the martial arts in order to improve skills."

- Steve Powell, Tae Kwan Do Club instructor

says. "More research is still needed in the martial arts in order to im-

Technology can lend a hand, too. In his doctoral dissertation, Powell is studying tae kwan do movements with cinematography. By filming the techniques at 200 frames per second, he explains, he can determine the most efficient technique for a kick or

"It gives you a stop-action," Powell says. "You can see every little movement all the way to the target, so you can analyze it. You can find out which way is the best way, how you can get the most power and the most efficiency.

Powell says he disagrees with recently published research linking modern forms of martial arts with

Powell says, it did not take into acount the effect of the instructor. Powell says the psychological effect of martial arts training on a student depends heavily on the attitude of the instructor; it's not something inherent in the form being taught.

Powell teaches children and teenagers at the U.S. Black Belt Academy. He says the mental aspects of tae kwan do are just as important as the physical training.

You can't have one without the other," he says. "Especially with kids. You've got to get out there and ap-ply yourself, physically and mental-

Modern forms of martial arts are not based only on fighting and aggression, Powell says, but emphasize achievement, discipline, responsibilstresses this idea to his studen

"I get out there and say, is self-defense, you only when you have to," Pow You learn to respect oth

through the training. And teacher that does that, the that instills that in the studen "It's in the role model you those kids. You know, I've g in my classes that want to Steve Powell, and that's kind

The most important thir youth gains from the training says, is the realization that he complish a goal.

"There's no 'Maybel cand Powell says, pointing to a sig wall that has the word "Can" circle and slash. "It's " That's what we try to instill students — you can! I can, y everybody can! It's almost i Rogers, but it's a grown-up

Powell teaches the students their skills responsibly. Ever begins with a recitation of the dent's creed, which is poste front wall of the training ro

"To build true of through knowledge in the honesty in the heart and str the body," the creed says." friendship with one and build a strong comm fight to achieve selfish ends achieve might for right.'

Fishing industry, beaches lose in battle with erosion

HOUSTON (AP) - Erosion eats up at least 100 acres of beachfront and 300 acres of bayfont each year resulting in multifillion-dollar losses to landowners all cuts in tax rolls, researchers say. Two-thirds of the ste's shore-

lines experience some cosion, said Bob Morton, a Universit of Texas

"Some parts lose just a ttle while other parts lose 25 feet rr year," Morton said. "There are periods, such as after hurricanes where losses are tremendous. The fishing industry also ses be-

cause some of the state's met productive estuaries are bein destroyed in the erosion proces said Bob Nailon, a Texas A&M mrine

'Each acre of marsh habition produces \$80,000 worth of sarts and commercial fishing," he \$d. "It's the nursery where it all begin"

mission, said Monday.

and two cars between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Larry Felio, re-

gional pipeline engineer for the Texas ailroad Com-

The two men injured in the blaze — Dag Turner,

45, who was visiting his brother-in-law at one of the burned-out mobile homes, and Odessa fire apt. Dick Corbell — were in stable condition Monday Medical

Highway mobile home park and sales office

Center Hospital, a spokeswoman said.

Sediment washing into bays can our shorelines to erode," she said cloud the water and block sunlight to "Maybe we never should have inhabshallow waters, Nailon said. Vital microscopic organisms that would have fostered new fish die.

And sediment dropping on oyster reefs eventually smothers them, he

State officials are considering several possibilities to curb the erosion problem including newly-designed bulkheads and hauling in sand, said Lisa McGiffert, an assistant for state Sen. Chet Brooks. The senator heads a legislative committee that investigates coastline rehabilitation.

"Anything we would do is probably only a Band-Aid," she said. "But maybe it would last for our lifetime, if not forever.

The consensus of the legislative committee is that the state must first adopt a coastal plan and then try pi-

determine why a crude oil pipelin erupted into a haustion, the hospital spokeswoman said.

lot projects, McGiffert said. Agency calls "Maybe we should have expected feet," he said.

"Maybe we never should have inhabited places like Galveston Island, but it's not realistic to . . . move everybody out." In Chambers County, soil conser-

vationist Eddie Seidensticker and Nailon have been planting a special grass they believe might one day slow the erosion of inland bays. The grass, called soft chord grass, acts as "shock absorber" when waves crash against the shore, they say.

"It can actually reverse the ero-sion process and build back the shore," Seidensticker said.

Morton, however, says, "It may be good therapy, but in most cases it's

cal cyclones could kill it."

In addition, more water fills oceans and bays because of what the U.S. Environmental Protection

Cause of pipeline blast undetermined ODESSA (AP) — Investigators wrked Monday to _ Three other firefighters were treated for heat ex-

plume of fire and smoke that destryed nine mobile homes and left two people hospitalized.

The blaze, fed by a split 10-inch oil the owned by the American Petrofina of Midland, destryed the trailers homes, Felio said, noting that the extreme tempera tures the fire produced made the investigation difficult. "The way everything melted down, it'll be difficult to tell for sure," he told the *Odessa American*.

The fire apparently ignited under one of the mobile

Felio said the fire may have been started by a pilot light on a water heater or a short in electrical wiring.

Petrofina employees worked through the day Sunday to remove the 10-inch, 60-year-old line and replace the affected joints, Felio said. The line, which was installed in 1927, had a split about 20 inches long. But "we don't know the source of the nition . . . it's speculation," Felio said, adding that he culd not estimate the monetary amount of damage tohe Andrews Workers cut out a section between 40 and 50 feet long and replaced it, he said. The line is not expected to

be used for about a month. No Petrofina officials in Midland could be reached

for comment by late this morning.

throws boy, 15 to his death AMARILLO (AP) - A

Roller coaster

owed him to ride a roller one more time died when straining bar gave way, hur him about 10 feet in the air, horities said.

An autopsy was ordered on body of 15-year-old Mig Perez, who died about 6 p.m. er Sunday at the Wor "He asked me, 'Mama

ride the coaster one more [ust one more?' " Angi he boy's mother, said, c

Perez said she agree on's request after he beg hat she and her you Marcelo, watched Miguel bo the last car of the Zyklon, known as the Big Coaster.

Marcelo Perez said that as the ride was coming to an end, hes the bar that restrained brother fly up and Miguelfall Amarillo Medical Service we called at 6:05 p.m. and an ambilance arrived at 6:10 at Woods

land, but an AMS spokesmansa there was nothing its emergent Wonderland operator Borchardt said the restrai bar is put in place automat

as the participant enters the In a press release late Stright, Borchardt said the has been in operation for 36 is and the accident on the 20 coaster is the first fatality web

The Zyklon, a multi-cart that rides along red tracks, is o of three roller coaster-type at the park.

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