

## Romance in print

### Looking for love in all different places — student's advertising attempt falls short

Distance Parten

love. Romeo and Juliet died for it. Othello killed for it. And Dave? Well, look out an ad in The Battalion.

campus was abuzz Thursday Friday over a love advertisement "earnestly seeking an adorable brunette," by Dave, a recreation and parks major who wished to not have his name published. Dave said he didn't know anything about the man he saw at a small gas station, but he had to try the way to find her.

Friday, Oct. 7, Dave and Kayli were on their way to Dallas when they stopped at a gas station in Groesbeck.

They walked up to the store where she was standing there with other people," Dave said. He made eye contact and exchanged pleasantries, and then she came out of the store.

He said he couldn't stop thinking about the "really cute" girl at the gas station. Dave's

buddy confirmed his feelings by telling him she was making "googy-eyes" at him. Dave and his buddy devised a plan to find her.

"We were driving along talking and I said 'There's got to be some way I could get in touch with her,'" Dave said. "We made up the ad in the truck."

When Dave returned from Dallas, he decided to place the advertisement in The Battalion. Dave wouldn't disclose the cost of the ad, but said "I paid a pretty penny for it."

"I'm a pretty crazy kind of guy," he said. "But I wouldn't do this for just any kind of girl. She was really, really cute."

The girl did respond to the ad, but not quite the way Dave had hoped. The dream-girl in Groesbeck, it turned out, has a boyfriend.

Kayli Jackson, a junior community health major, was on her way to Dallas to perform with the Aggie Wranglers at the state fair when she and her friends stopped in Groesbeck.

"We stopped to get something to eat and drink and use the re-

stroom," Jackson said. "And while we were waiting, my boyfriend noticed these two guys. One of them had on an Aggie ring. My boyfriend was the first one to talk to them."

Jackson said she didn't think anything unusual had taken place. She and her friends had just been talking to some fellow Aggies.

"I smile a lot," Jackson said. "They were Ags. I didn't think I was being flirtatious."

Jackson didn't pick up a copy of The Battalion on Thursday, the first day the ad was published, but her roommate saw her at the mall and asked if she had seen it.

"She started telling me about the ad," Jackson said. "I was trying to figure out who the girl could have been."

That night, Jackson saw some of her Aggie Wrangler friends and realized the girl had to be her.

"Of all the people he would remember, I was surprised it would be me," Jackson said. "If I was a guy, I'd have picked the other girl with me. I was totally shocked."

Jackson called Dave after the

Baylor game Saturday. Dave said Jackson called to tell him how flattered she was and to thank him.

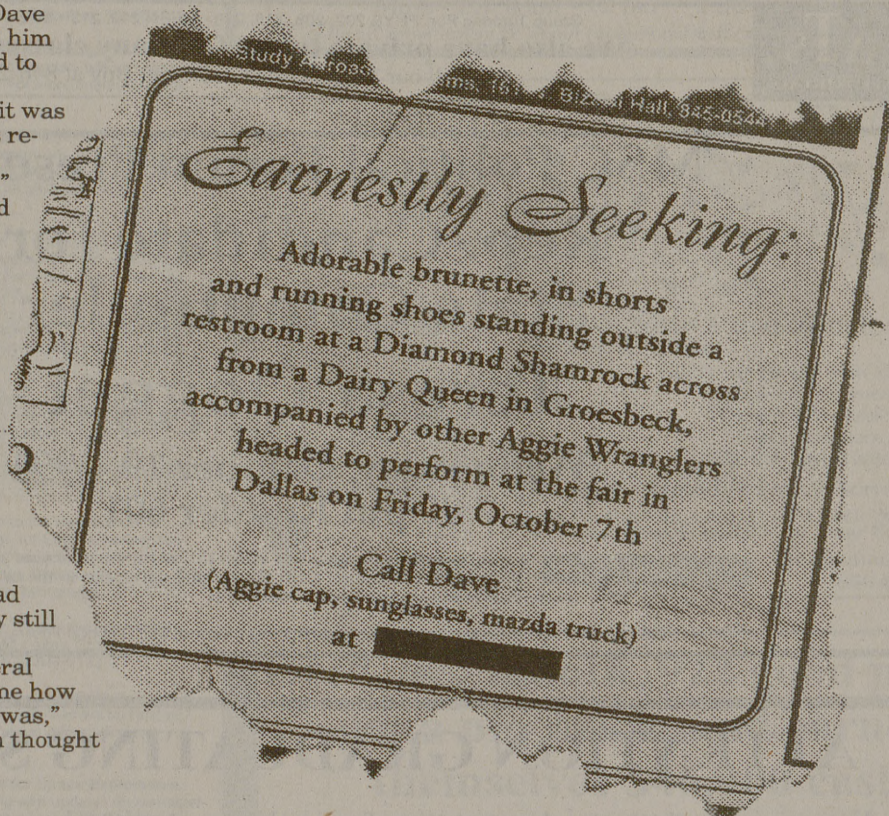
"She said she thought it was really sweet, and she was really flattered," Dave said. "But she had a boyfriend."

Jackson said she would have probably met Dave for lunch or coffee if she didn't already have a boyfriend, but she wasn't sure if she would date him.

"I think the best way to meet someone is through a church organization or something — someone that has similar beliefs" Jackson said.

And as for Dave, well he may not have won the heart of the woman he had hoped for, but the ad may still find him a date.

"There have been several ladies that called to tell me how nice they thought the ad was," Dave said. "A lot of them thought it was really romantic."



Pfeiffer Brothers, a Western music duo, will perform at the MSC art gallery at 7:30 p.m.

## American Voices present Western diversity

Jeremy Keddie

American Voices presents artists who represent cultural diversity in the West, and will feature the Pfeiffer Brothers tonight at the art gallery in the Memorial Student Center at 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the English and speech communication departments, American Voices started seven years ago and was created to offer an opportunity for students to experience art of non-mainstream repertoire and that demonstrates ability to bridge the gaps in the diversity of American culture.

Jason Kouyomjian, American Voices director, said the goal of the series is to present artists who are able to bring together separate worlds through music, poetry and playwriting.

"The people we are bringing in are the people you cannot see from the road," Kouyomjian said. "They are people who have lived with ranching traditions and people who have lived in barrios who are mainstream."

The Pfeiffer Brothers are the western music duo of Wiley Jim and David Earl. They perform cowboy classics of the western screen and original compositions of western swing, ballads and blues on the guitar and bass fiddle.

Stegall, cowboy poet and the recipient of the Western Heritage Award for "Outstanding Original Western Music," said the Pfeiffer Brothers are excellent presenters of cowboy and western music and stated the significance of the music's genre.

The most important thing about the current public acceptance of cowboy and western swing music is the fact that it serves an art form that is a very important thread in the fabric of America's history," Stegall said.

Kouyomjian said there is a freedom in the art of the West which has not been politicized yet. She said the artists of the western culture are not restricted in

their works by institutions, such as the National Endowment for the Arts, and the art finds its roots in the land.

"Unlike the city, nature provides a commonality for all Americans," Kouyomjian said.

Kouyomjian's interest in the art of the American West grew with the renaissance of Western music, poetry and stories about 10 years ago. She said the renaissance began when cowboys realized the representation of their culture in art was dying as the turn of the century grew closer.

"This music and these stories tell the people who they are and urge the next generation to grow in this rich soil and to carry the torch of this world renowned legacy of the American West," she said.

One of the major events of the renaissance is the annual poetry gathering of the cowboys at the Buffalo Bill museum in Cody, Wyo. Kouyomjian said she first saw the Pfeiffer Brothers at the event.

But Kouyomjian's interest in the culture of the American West has also been magnified by her husband, Charles E. Gordone, a distinguished lecturer in speech communication and theater arts and of English at Texas A&M.

Gordone and Kouyomjian moved from New York City to College Station seven years ago after losing faith in the "urban myth." She said she and her husband were tired of living in the city where life was dangerous, expensive and quick-paced, and chose to leave.

"Texas increasingly restored hope because of the people's connection to the land," Kouyomjian said.

Gordone, recipient of a Pulitzer Prize in 1970 for his play, "No Place to Be Somebody," and his wife have been working together to present the diversities in American cultures to students.

Last April, Gordone presented a paper on the studies of black cowboys at the Buffalo Bill museum. He is currently continuing research on the participation of blacks in the West.

## THE GREAT GUMP PHENOMENON

### Unusual movie still making millions thanks to loveable, naive character

By Haley Stavinoha

"Hello, my name is Forrest Gump. You know, my momma always said 'You're no different than anybody else, Forrest.'"

Well, for those who have seen the movie, "Forrest Gump," the movie is quite different.

The movie has quickly become one of the successful movies of all time, unlike the usual action-packed blockbuster flicks.

And it's still going strong. Entertainment Weekly reports the movie's box office sales are up to \$300 million.

So, why all the hype over a movie that's about a guy who is mentally slow, but extremely fast when it comes to running?

"It's a movie for escapement," Texas A&M psychology professor Dr. Arnold LeUnes said. "It was very enjoyable."

LeUnes, who teaches abnormal psychology, said it's not probable for someone with the same mentality as Forrest to become a Vietnam hero, ping-pong champion, and live through a hurricane to become a millionaire.

"Even though this all may not be possible, the movie may to some, give hope," LeUnes said. "And through hard work, you can achieve what ever you put your mind to."

"My momma always said, 'Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what your gonna get.'"

Dr. John Lenihan, a Texas A&M history professor said, "In reality, things don't fall into place as easy as they did for Forrest."

Lenihan, who researches American films, said the producer was clever with the way he added the history, but it was not one of his favorite movies.

Even though Hanks did a superb job, Lenihan said it bothered him that it was not true to life and was afraid people may take home the wrong message.

"You may be mentally slow and get by just fine," Lenihan said. "Life is just not a bed of roses."

"My momma always said, 'Stupid is as stupid does.'"

In the movie, even though Forrest had a hard time understanding everyday events, he knew the difference between right and wrong and good and bad.

Forrest did have many heartaches with Jenny, the death of his "best good friend," Bubba, and when his mother died. But otherwise, life for him was fairly easy.

The loyalty of friendship showed through several times, such as when Forrest brought Bubba out of the forest before it was blown up and when Forrest carried out Bubba's dream of starting a shrimp business.

"Personally, I liked this picture because of the loyalty of friendship and the thought stimulation of the difference between fate and destiny," said Ginger Wilson, a senior accounting major.



Tom Hanks as the memorable and popular Forrest Gump.

"The way Forrest carried out Bubba's wishes, and the way Forrest did not think of Bubba as a black guy, but as an equal, should be highly commended, Ginger said."

A movie like "Forrest Gump" is open for interpretation. Whether it is watched for enjoyment or just to pass the time, it is easy to find a message.

Teri Terni, a psychotherapist out of Houston, feels the message is simplicity.

"We make the world out to be too complicated, and these days we are also too materialistic," Terni said.

"Why couldn't we be more like Forrest — kind and caring, loving, and more open minded?"

Terni also mentioned that viewers are able to relate to the movie because everyone wants to be accepted as individuals.

"There needs to be more respect for individuality, and for each others values," she said.

"In general, wouldn't it be great if we all accepted others for who they are? That way, we would all 'fit together like peas and carrots.'"