

People in the News

Hanks coaches dancing actors

NEW YORK (AP) — The 20-somethings who play devoted members of the Wonders in Tom Hanks' directorial debut, *That Thing Called Love*, had to be coached in the art of '60s dancing and decorum.



Hanks

Mashed potato in, head-banging out.

"It's really a matter of explaining to them what they cannot do," Hanks told Entertainment Weekly in its Oct. 11 issue. "It's hard when you're talking to an audience of 300 people and one of the first things you have to do is, 'Look, please do not high-five each other. High-fiving did not exist in 1964.'"

Only later, he added, when the scene is done and the bouffant comes off, "do I actually get to all their tattoos."

Friends cast gets raise from NBC

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC has made sure *Friends* will be there for at least the 1999 TV season. The network's contract with the series' producers, Marta Kauffman and David Crane, was increasingly strained about the drawn-out negotiations involving Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox, Lisa Kudrow, and LeBlanc, Matthew Perry and David Schwimmer.

Kauffman and Crane felt the network was hurting the quality of the show and pushed both the network and Warner Bros., the show's production company, to make a deal, the magazine reports.

Search on for Home Alone star

NEW YORK (AP) — WANTED: Mischievous yet lovable prankster to fill sneakers of departing Home Alone star. Applicants should have strong vocal cords, angelic smile, fish mind. Blond hair a plus. Responsibilities include foiling guys, throwing temper tantrums, frequent promotional appearances. Compensation generous.

About a thousand would-be stars — and their parents — turned out for a *Home Alone III* casting call Saturday, bright-eyed and eager to ham it up for Hollywood. They were vying for the mantle of Macaulay Culkin, the one-time child star who, at 16, is no longer quite right for the lead role.

"I like to show off" said 8-year-old Alex Zakupowsky, who flew from Washington, D.C., with his mother for the audition. "I'm a really big fan of Macaulay Culkin ... and I'd like to be famous."

Saturday's audition was just the start for 20th Century Fox's nationwide search for the heir to Culkin's crown. The studio also plans open calls in Los Angeles, Seattle and Chicago.

Twain's husband dodges spotlight

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — When Shania Twain showed up for last week's Country Music Association awards show in Nashville, husband Mutt Lange wasn't along to escort the popular Canadian hitmaker.



Twain

Chances are that her husband-producer-songwriting partner won't be holding hands with Twain at other public functions either.

"He never comes with me," Twain tells Country Weekly magazine. "I don't think he ever will, and I totally understand where he comes from."

"He's a very humble guy and basically doesn't want to be a star. He just wants to be a person who makes the music."

Grammer hurts NBC with habit

NEW YORK (AP) — Kelsey Grammer's stay at the Betty Ford Center could cost his network more than just a little bad press.

TV Guide reports in the Oct. 19 issue that NBC may have to air reruns of his show *Frasier* for part of the fall season. The network could lose as much as \$500,000 in advertising revenue each time it shows a repeat.

The loss of new *Frasier* episodes could also hurt ratings for *Caroline in the City*, which follows Grammer's Emmy-winning sitcom Tuesday nights.

Grammer was arrested for alleged drunken driving Sept. 21 after he flipped his Dodge Viper near his home in suburban Los Angeles.

A&M's unique language captured in *Texas Aggie Dictionary*

Former student completes book after five years of research

By SHEA WIGGINS
THE BATTALION

When Nancy Barnes transferred to Texas A&M her senior year a foreign language invaded her ears. "CT," "red ass," "crunchy," "pusheye," "sky buggy," and "Leather Legs" were part of the lingo Barnes had to translate. She started to decipher and learn the Aggie-speak with a small box of index cards used for definitions. The note cards grew into a book she recently published, *The Texas Aggie Dictionary*.

"No one else has a language of their own like Texas A&M University," Barnes said. Barnes, Class of '79, spent years in research and exploration of A&M's archives to compile the dictionary. The book includes definitions of terms, historical stories of past generations, the sheet music for school songs and the school yells.

"It is a fun-filled book with the origins of the Aggie language," Barnes said. "It gives you historical origins of words like 'whoop,' which came from the trains of early College Station."

Barnes transferred to A&M from New Mexico State University for her senior year of undergraduate school.

"The main reason I [wrote the book] was because I had gone to another school," Barnes said. "When I transferred, I was so overwhelmed by school spirit that

I felt the need to write it all down."

Barnes said that there are many anecdotes included that most A&M students are unfamiliar with.

"We have stories about the other dogs besides Reveille that have lived at A&M," Barnes said. "The dog Ranger was here in the 1940s and the 1950s. He was so popular that The Battalion endorsed him for the U.S. presidency."

Barnes said the terms defined in the book have interesting stories behind them.

"A 'bag monster' is the invisible monster that keeps you from going to class in the morning. A 'sky buggy' was the contraption in 1945 that drove Coach Homer Norton, who had just undergone stomach surgery, up and down the field to coach the football game. An 'ice cream suite' is a term used to describe the yell leaders' uniforms," she said.

Phil Barnes, illustrator of the dictionary and Class of '80, said his wife interviewed many groups before she wrote the book.

"We looked to old Ags, current Ags, sorority girls, dorm residents, current CTs, yell leaders, red pots and the archives," Barnes said. "We interviewed as far back as the Class of '30."

Barnes said the book is the first one since the 1940s to have sheet music printed in it.

"Even the band and the singing cadets don't have the original sheet music," Barnes said.

Barnes said he and his wife created the dictionary to preserve Aggie history.

"We wanted to document a lot of the history, traditions and words," Barnes said. "A lot of the fine points of our history are being lost."

Barnes said the real attraction of the book is that it contains the past, present and future of A&M.

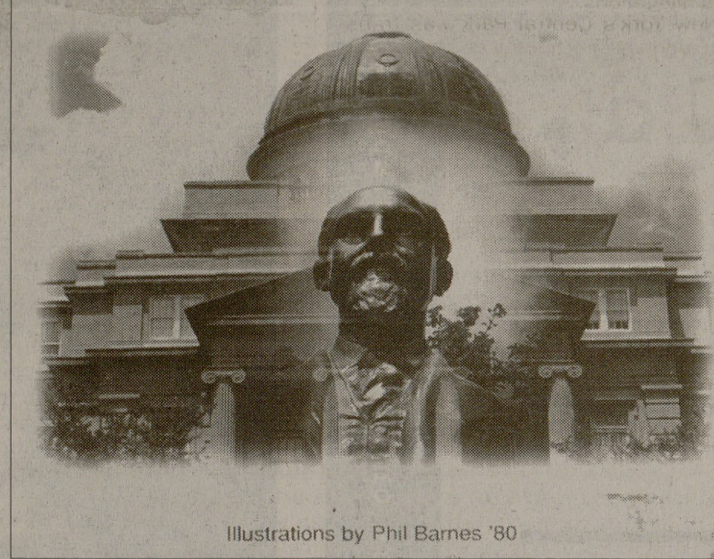
"There is something in it for the Class of 1945 and for the Class of 2005," Barnes said. "A lot of grandparents are buying the book for their grandchildren who are just thinking about attending A&M."

Nancy Sawtell, director of communications for research and graduate students at Texas A&M and Class of '82, was around the couple while they searched for information.

"They collected stories from Phil and my husband's Corps buddies and asked a lot of questions on campus," Sawtell said. "They created part of the culture

The Texas Aggie Dictionary

Nancy B. Barnes '79



Illustrations by Phil Barnes '80

AGGIE SPEAK

BAG MONSTER - the invisible monster that keeps students from going to class in the morning

SKY BUGGY - the contraption that, in 1945, drove Coach Homer Norton up and down the football field to coach the team after he had undergone stomach surgery.

ICE CREAM SUITE - term to describe the yell leaders' uniforms

definitions from
The Texas Aggie Dictionary

of being an Aggie."

Sawtell said they have a copy of the dictionary.

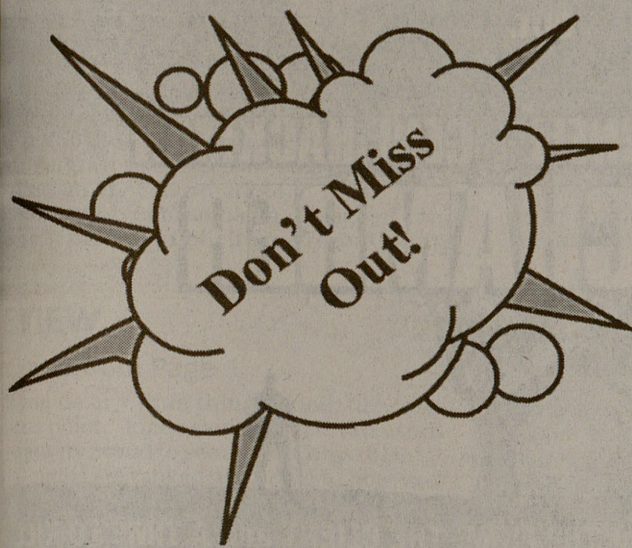
"I went to TCU for undergraduate school," Sawtell said. "The Old Army definitions are the most unique terms to me. Every university has its traditions. This helps current students to know what former students did and knew about."

Barnes autographed the dictionary for customers at Hasting's Bookstore the weekend of the Colorado game.

"The book is already a success," Barnes said. "It is locally written and locally published. It is a book for everyone. It is not targeted at football, the Corps or another group like many books about A&M are. It is the first book not just about one subject."

Barnes said her degrees from A&M in veterinary public health studies have nothing to do with writing books, but she wants to pursue writing when she graduates with her Ph.D. in December.

"This school has changed my life because now I want to be a writer," Barnes said. "I have lots of ideas for articles and books, and A&M has given me a good start. I have been working up to writing for a long time."



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RTC
Sperry-Sun Drilling
Texas Instruments
Transco
UFE Incorporated
Universal Computer Systems

CVEN, MEEN
CHEM, CEEN, CEEN, ELEN, PHYS
CHEM, CHEN, ELEN, MEEN
COSC, CVEN, GEOG (GIS)
CHEN, ELEN, MEEN
CHEN, MEEN
CVEN, ELEN, INEN, MEEN
MEEN, INEN
COSC, CVEN, ELEN, MEEN
INEN
CEEN, CEEN, CPSC, ELEN
BANA, CHEM, CHEN, CPSC
CHEN, CEEN, CEEN, CPSC, ELEN
CPSC, ELEN
CHEM, CHEN, ELEN, MEEN
CPSC, CEEN, ELEN
ACCT, FINC MGMT, AERO, ELEN, MEEN
CPSC, CEEN, CEEN, ELEN, MATH, PHYS
CHEN, ENTC, MEEN
INEN, CPSC, CEEN
CPSC, CEEN, CEEN, ELEN, ENTC, MEEN, INEN
CPSC, CEEN, CEEN, ELEN
ELEN, ENTC, MEEN, CVEN
MEEN
ALL MAJORS

TUESDAY, October 8

Central Intelligence Agency
Champion International
City of Houston/ Public Works & Eng.
Cyrix Corporation
Dow Chemical
DSC Communications
DuPont
Eastman Chemical
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Freese & Nichols
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InterVoice
Le Tourneau
Lockheed Martin Vought Systems
M&M Mars
Marathon Oil
Mobil
Monsanto
Nortel

LBAR, BUSI, ELEN, CPSC, CEEN, CEEN
CHEN, ELEN
BUSI, LBAR, CPSC, ENGR
ELEN, CEEN, CEEN
CHEN, ELEN, MEEN
CPSC, CEEN, CEEN, ELEN, TELE, MGMT
CHEN, ELEN, MEEN
CHEN, MEEN
CHEN, ELEN, ENTC, INEN, MEEN
CHEN, COSC, CVEN, ELEN, MEEN, ACCT, FINC
COSC, CVEN, ELEN
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ACCT, CHEN, CEEN, CEEN, CPSC, ELEN, MEEN
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ELEN, OCEN, CVEN
AERO, CPSC, CEEN, CEEN, ELEN, MEEN
ELEN, MEEN
MEEN, ELNE, CVEN, CHEN-Environmental, INEN-Safety, HR
CHEN, MEEN
CHEN, ELEN, MEEN
ACCT, FINC, MGMT, CEEN, CEEN, CPSC,
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AERO, CEEN, CEEN, CPSC, ELEN, MEEN
CHEN, MEEN

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