

**RANKINGS**

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The latest school to jump on the bandwagon was the University of Texas at Austin. UT was not ranked as one of the top-50 schools in the country.

Just last week, UT's student government passed a resolution backing an initiative for UT President Robert Berdahl to write a letter to the magazine denouncing the rankings.

Jeff Tsai, UT student body president and a senior government major, said the magazine attempts to coalesce vastly different schools, such as Texas A&M and William & Mary, a small liberal arts college, and claims to create a comprehensive list of rankings.

"They try to tell us in a series of rankings that is best for us and what is not best for us," Tsai said.

Tsai said the rankings are superficial and irrelevant since they make readers look at colleges on a different level, such as "A&M is better than W&M" and vice versa.

Cate Mueller, a media relations manager for U.S. News and World Report, said the magazine's college editorial staff meets annually with an advisory com-

mittee, which consists of several deans of admissions, research experts and officials from universities, to evaluate the criteria they use and make improvements on the survey.

Mueller said 75 percent of the ranking criteria is based on factual information such as the number of graduates and the number of applicants accepted compared to the number which applied.

"We rank them in a large number of objective attributes based on educational quality including academic reputation," she said.

Mueller said the remaining 25 percent of the ranking depends on the academic reputation section where deans of universities are asked to state their assessment of other schools. If deans have no background on another school, they do not have to fill out anything about that particular school.

Mueller said the magazine's traditional adage is "News you can use" and the survey is done for readers, not colleges.

"U.S. News believes that our rankings provide a significant service to readers," Mueller said.

Thompson said one of the inaccuracies of the rankings, besides the academic reputation section, is the value-added formula which is used to compute graduation rates.

The formula takes the average SAT scores

of entering freshmen and predicts the rate of graduation. Later, if the actual rate of graduation is better than the predicted rate, bonus points are given to the university. If the actual rate is less than the predicted rate, fewer points are tallied.

"What's profoundly silly about that is, to get a perfect score, the school would have to accept mannequins and give them diplomas," Thompson said. "The mannequins would have a predicted graduation rate of zero and an actual rate of 100."

Mueller said the Art & Science Group Inc., a higher education consulting group, conducted a study and found that college rankings play a modest role in an individual's decision on where to attend college.

"We basically never hear of a student who strictly chooses a school just because of what the ranking was," Mueller said.

Tsai said since U.S. News and World Report advertises statements such as "Exclusive Rankings" and "What's Right For You" on the cover of its annual rankings issue, it appears that the magazine promotes itself to readers as the main source of college information.

"The fact of the matter is that people do rely on the rankings because U.S. News encourages them to rely on these rankings," Tsai said.

**Tornado touches down near Houston**

PASADENA (AP) — A tornado damaged several buildings and overturned mobile homes when it struck Monday along a major thoroughfare in Pasadena, just southeast of Houston, authorities said.

Extensive damage was reported from the 3:40 p.m. touchdown but no serious injuries were reported, Pasadena police officer Gary Doskocil said.

He said police received reports of stores being damaged and mobile homes knocked over. Power was knocked out to about 5,500 homes.

Other scattered damage occurred at a church, where pieces of

the roof were blown off and windows ripped out. One side of a two-story office building was torn away and part of a mini-storage warehouse reduced to rubble.

Zory Gonzalez had stopped to talk to workers in a law firm in the office building.

"We heard the glass shatter and things flying everywhere," she said. "I heard the glass first and then it completely ripped the side of the entire offices."

She crouched under a desk until the noises of wind and flying debris stopped. She suffered some scratches on her feet when she lost her shoes scrambling for cover.

**CAIN**

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"We had no notification," Carpenter said. "It really just kind of caught us by surprise. We pay to have the privilege to live here. We need to be able to use the computers as well."

Carpenter said Cain Hall residents pay around \$2,100 a semester to live in the hall.

He said he is not bitter about the change, but he hopes they can work something out.

"We don't mind if athletes get special privileges," he said.

Carpenter said a good solution to the problem would be to allow athletes exclusive privileges to the

computers most of the day, but to have a "common time" when everyone could use them.

Dr. Karl Mooney, associate athletic director for academic affairs, said the Athletic Department is trying to solve the problem.

"We're trying to come up with a system to provide [non-athletes] an opportunity to use the lab when it's not packed," Mooney said. "It was never included in the contract that [the computer lab] would be available to non-athletes."

Mooney said it is important all student athletes have access to any supplementary learning tools because of pressure from the Big 12.

"[Athletes] can't have a light-weight schedule," he said.

**APPLICANTS**

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"We have roughly 1,600 monthly contacts," she said, "and our law school files have increased 50 percent."

The Office of Professional School Advising provides students with services to help them with the application and interview process. The office receives applications, holds workshops, answers specific questions, writes personalized letters and sends

letters of recommendation.

"We are trying to set up mock interview workshops, and we have hired a part-time health career adviser to enhance that division of our office," Blum said.

Rachel Smith, a senior microbiology major entering medical school this fall, explained how visiting the Office of Professional School Advising, sending off all applications, and getting an acceptance letter meant her single goal had been met.

"Yes, I'm in!" she said.

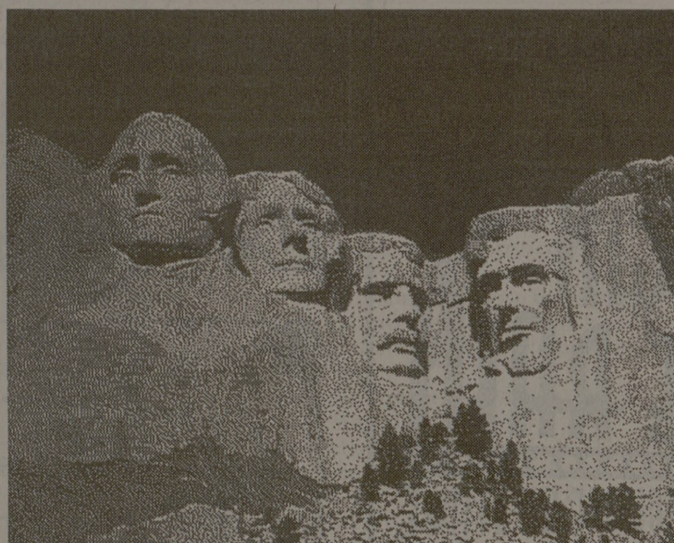
**WHAT INSPIRED THE MOUNTAIN MEN?**

**George Washington:**

"Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor."

**Abraham Lincoln:**

"Intelligence, Patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him who has never yet forsaken this favored land are still competent to adjust in the best way all our present difficulty. ...As was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said, 'the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether'"



**Thomas Jefferson:**

"God who gave us life gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, that His justice cannot sleep forever."

**Teddy Roosevelt:**

"There are those who believe that a new modernity demands a new morality. What they fail to consider is the harsh reality that there is no such thing as a new morality. There is only one morality. All else is immorality. There is only true Christian ethics over against which stands the whole of paganism. If we are to fulfill our great destiny as people, then we must return to the old morality, the sole morality."

**FACULTY FRIENDS**

We are inspired by Jesus Christ who said: "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." We are a group of professors, instructors, lecturers, and administrators united by their common experience that Jesus Christ provides intellectually and spiritually satisfying answers to life's most important questions. We are available to students, faculty, and staff who might like to discuss such questions with us. If you would like to be a part of the FACULTY FRIENDS ad, please contact Murphy Smith 5-3108, Steve Crouse 5-3997, or Lee Lowery 5-4395.

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| Dan Hale<br>Animal Science                   | Robert K. James<br>Educational Curriculum         | Leonard Ponder<br>Health and Kinesiology        | David Rhodes<br>Mechanical Engineering            | James G. Anderson<br>Veterinary Pathology       |
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| Doug Householder<br>Animal Science           | Patricia Larke<br>Educational Curriculum          | Wayne Wylie<br>Health and Kinesiology           | Wayne Sampson<br>Medical Anatomy                  | Jim Jensen<br>Veterinary Physiology             |
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| Nancy Simpson<br>Center Teaching Excellence  | A. D. Patton<br>Electrical Engineering            | Robert Field<br>Large Vet. Animal Clinic        | Judith M. Collins<br>Psychology                   |   |
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**SPRING 'MAKEUPS'**

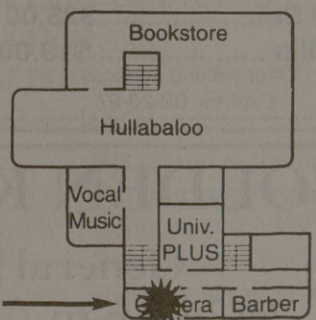
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Yearbook class portraits by **AR Photography**

Call 693-8183 for more details