

## Wind beneath my wings



GREG MCREYNOLDS/THE BATTALION

Nick Wilson, a senior aerospace major, tightens a bolt on the aileron of the Black Horse model airplane at the wind tunnel. The model is a group project for the AERO 429 class.

## Allen sues after traffic accident

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — "Home Improvement" star Tim Allen is suing a California man for \$12 million over a tabloid account of a traffic accident.

Henry Armstrong, a 72-year-old retired film librarian, told the National Enquirer that he was hit by Allen's Ferrari in Studio City, Calif. He filed a suit there against Allen, who was not ticketed.

"He stood over me as I lay on the ground in agony," Armstrong was quoted as saying.

"He was bleary-eyed and unsteady on his feet, and he never uttered a word, never mind said sorry."

Allen, who has a home in suburban Detroit, sued on Tuesday, claiming Armstrong falsely portrayed him as heartless and under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

In June, Allen was fined for driving while impaired in Michigan.

## Secret of Fox's 'Simpsons' told

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The former animator and director of "The Simpsons" says the secret to the show's success is not in the stars but in the moon.

"Fox would prefer we have more naked butts, please," David Silverman said before a recent appearance at the University of Nebraska.

He said whenever a character's exposed rear was shown, Fox used it to promote that week's episode.

"If it was on any other network, 'The Simpsons' would not be what it is today," he said.

Silverman directed "The Simpsons" when it began nine years ago. He left in 1996 to work for DreamWorks SKG.

Questions from the crowd of mostly college students ranged from whether the character Smithers is gay — Silverman said yes — to how long the series will run (another year and possibly longer, he said).

## 'General Hospital' romance be with date rape scene 20 years

NEW YORK (AP) — Nearly 20 years ago, Luke and Laura of "General Hospital" became daytime television's most popular couple after what the show romanticized as Luke's "seduction" of Laura.

The writers glossed over how it really happened: Luke raped Laura on the floor of a closed disco late one night.

Now "General Hospital" is revisiting that episode from its past, in part to illustrate how attitudes toward date rape have changed since 1979 and to make clear that the story would not be handled the same way today.

"My first reaction was that it was a big can of worms that could eat us alive. I was terrified, basically," said Anthony Geary, the actor who plays Luke Spencer.

In the original story line, Luke was tormented by his lust for Laura. Feeling he had nothing to lose upon learning the mob had a contract out on his life, he forced himself upon her.

Much to the show's surprise, the two characters were a big hit with viewers. So the writers had them run off together, fall in love and get married. "General Hospital" subsequently referred to the disco incident as a seduction, angering many women.

Luke and Laura are still together and have a 16-year-old son, Lucky.

In Friday's episode, Lucky is told that his father once

raped his mother.

Complicating matters even further — this is a soap opera — Lucky learns about arch-enemy, the illicit offspring of his man with whom she had an affair.

"For us, it was a great opportunity Riche, executive producer. "We didn't let's make amends.' We didn't feel guilty had to."

But Riche acknowledged that the same woman falling in love with her rapist pass muster with viewers today.

"It would be different," she said. "The ferent. What the audience perceives and pect is very different from what it was. They are more conscious date rape is us."

In future episodes, Lucky will continue who tries to explain it.

"We are going to say, certainly, that ing with rape in a much better way, a appropriate way, and a much healthier wa ther did," said Robert Guza, head writer.

"General Hospital" has aired since 1963, a popular daytime drama during the 1980s, to No. 3 in the ratings but last week was favorite show by readers of "Soap Opera

## WHAT'S UP

### Thursday

**Graduate Fellowship of Intervarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF):** Bible study for graduate and on-traditional students, followed by fellowship will be held at 7:30 p.m. See our website for location and map at <http://stat.tamu.edu-inlow/ivcf.html>. Call Mark or Jennifer at 764-1552.

**ATM Womens Rugby:** Come join! No experience needed. Practices are from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the pitch on the corner of Texas Ave. and University. We will host a tournament on March 7 at 9 a.m. Be there to support your women's athletic club sports, and catch the men's game against UT at 2 p.m. Call Nikki at 694-0084 for information.

**Association on Baptist Students:** A meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at

410 College Main. Call Bobby at 846-3223 for details.

**Alpha Phi Omega:** Meet to go to the Boy's Club at 3:30 p.m. in 133 Koldus.

**Catholic Students Association:** There will be a daily mass at 12:05 p.m. in the All Faith's Chapel.

**Aggie Speleological Society:** A meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. in Koldus 146. Call Travis at 693-4088.

**Study Abroad Programs Office:** An informational meeting to promote the Italy Spring '99 program will be held from 3 to 3:30 p.m. in Room 154, 161 Bizzell Hall West.

**ATM Roadrunners:** Will run three to four miles starting in front of G. Rolie White at 5:30 p.m. All students and

skill levels are welcome. Call Steve at 847-7905 for further information.

**Korean American Student Association:** There will be a general meeting at 7 p.m. in Room 231 of the MSC. Call Jesse Ko at 847-1579 for details.

**Resurrection Week:** There will be a general meeting at 7 p.m. in MSC 228.

**Aggie Guide Dogs & Service Dogs (AGS):** Maribel Schumann will be speaking to us about life with her service dog, Honor, at 8:30 p.m. in Rudder 707. Call Lynda at 693-1198 for more information.

**Campus Crusade for Christ:** A meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in Read 274. Call the CRU office at 696-8289 for details.

**Biomedical Science Association-**

**Dent./Opt. sub-branch:** from the Hargrove Dentistry building be speaking at 7 p.m. in Read 274.

**Pagan Student Association:** meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in Rudder 707.

**Alpha Phi Omega:** Meeting at 8 p.m. at Crestview Retirement Center.

**What's Up is a Battalion lists non-profit student events and activities. Be submitted no later than 5 days in advance of the date. Application deadlines are not events are run in What's Up. If questions, please call at 845-3313.**

**Ski Steamboat Springs**  
with the  
**TEXAS A&M SNOW SKI CLUB**  
**This Spring Break**  
Trip includes: 6 night/5 day luxury condo stay, 4/5 day lift ticket, round trip transportation on luxury sleeper coaches  
Price: \$495, for more information, call Chuck at 694-2726

First Annual...  
**Anchor Splash**  
Saturday, March 7  
from 2pm - 5pm  
@ the Rec Center  
indoor pool  
... come support your favorite fraternities and corps outfits at the pool.  
Event sponsored by Delta Gamma. Proceeds support the Delta Gamma Foundation and Service for Sight.

...it is just one night  
...it is just a dress  
...but the memory is forever  
Trunk Show thru March 8  
All dresses registered  
**Charlie**  
Open on Sundays and late on Wednesday & Thursday 505 University Dr. E  
70% off all of the end of season merchandise

**GERMANY**  
**TEXAS A&M & TUEBINGEN**  
Are offering a reciprocal exchange program that allows TAMU students with 4 semesters of college German to spend the 1998-99 academic year in Germany!  
INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS:  
Wednesday 3/4 4:00-5:00pm  
Friday 3/6 10:00-11:00am  
Tuesday 3/10 4:00-5:00pm  
Room 154 Bizzell Hall West  
Requirements: 3.0 GPR, U.S. Citizen, and Junior status at time of exchange.  
Study Abroad Programs 161 Bizzell Hall West 845-0544

**BE AN EXCHANGE STUDENT IN PUEBLA, MEXICO**  
UNIVERSIDAD DE LAS AMERICAS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 1998-99  
INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS:  
THURSDAY, 3/5 4:00PM  
FRIDAY, 3/6 2:00PM  
RM 358 BIZZELL HALL WEST  
REQUIREMENTS: 3.0 GPR, U.S. CITIZEN, JUNIOR STATUS AT TIME OF EXCHANGE, PROFICIENCY OF THE SPANISH LANGUAGE  
STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS 161 BIZZELL HALL WEST 845-0544

**FILE FOR ELECTIONS**  
MARCH 2-6  
9am-5pm  
IN ROOM 149 KOLDUS  
YELL LEADERS-STUDENT SENATE-  
CLASS COUNCILS-STUDENT BODY  
PRESIDENT-RHA OFFICERS  
<http://www.tamu.edu/sga>  
If you need special assistance, please call 845-3051  
Campus elections are sponsored by the Election Commission.

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