

TROTTER PRIZE

Distinguished Lectures by Two Nobel Laureates

RECOGNIZING SEMINAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN COMPLEXITY * INFORMATION * INFERENCE

RUDDER THEATER 7:00 P.M. FEBRUARY 25TH

"The Astonishing Hypothesis"

FRANCIS CRICK-DNA pioneer and Nobel Laureate from The Salk Institute.

Since joining The Salk Institute, Dr. Crick's work has been entirely theoretical. He hopes to bring together the molecular and cellular aspects of neurons, the observations of neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, and the behavior of organisms as studied by psychologists. His work has been mainly in neurobiology, and especially in the visual system of mammals. He has also written on the neural basis of attention, REM sleep, and the visual system of awareness. His current research is focused on discovering the neural correlate of consciousness. The Astonishing Hypothesis is that human consciousness, indeed the human soul, can be explained solely on the basis of molecular biology. (Video presentation prepared for Trotter Award.)

"The Convergence of Science and Religion"

CHARLES TOWNES-Father of the laser and Nobel Laureate from Cal-Berkeley.

Since joining Cal-Berkeley, Dr. Townes' work has focused on astrophysics. He notes that at times it has appeared that science and religion seemed to clash. But, science, an attempt to understand how our universe works, and religion, an attempt to understand its meaning and purpose, are closely related. Though they can appear very different there is much parallelism, both being based on human abilities to understand using postulates or faith, intuition and inspiration, experimentation or observations, and logic or reason. And there remain mysteries. Some basic ideas in both have undergone changes in recent years and modern science is exploring many aspects of our universe which are strongly related to religious views and generating increasingly useful discussions between the two. (To appear in person.)

Presented by COLLEGE OF SCIENCE IN COLLABORATION WITH THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

TEXAS A&M AGGIE BLOOD DRIVE February 25 - March 1, 2002 SPONSORED BY ALPHA PHI OMEGA

Commons-Lobby Monday - Friday 10:45am - 5:45pm

Sbisa-Bus Monday - Thursday 12:00 - 7:00pm Friday 12:00 - 5:30pm

Vet school Monday - Friday 10:00am - 4:00pm

Rudder-Bus Monday - Friday 9:45am - 5:45pm

Zachary - Lobby Monday - Wednesday 10:00am - 4:00pm

Bio Bio - Lobby Thursday - Friday 10:00am - 4:00pm

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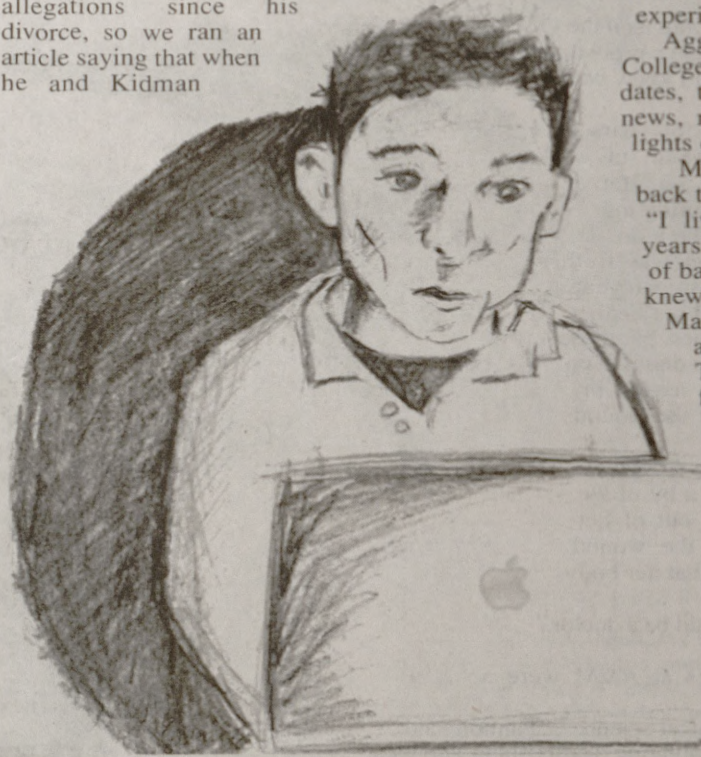
Students and entrepreneurs share their experiences launching Website

By Mike Whitlow THE BATTALION

Tom Comi, a Virginia-based entrepreneur who is one of the two creators of HollywoodPulse.com, is waiting for his first lawsuit.

His site posts satirical news articles about current news in entertainment.

"We're still waiting for our first lawsuit because it would be great publicity," Comi said. "Tom Cruise has been pretty litigious about homosexual allegations since his divorce, so we ran an article saying that when he and Kidman



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split, the judge awarded him the male pornographic collection. We thought that was our ticket to the big time, but we still haven't heard from Cruise's lawyer."

Other misinterpretations, despite the site's legal page insisting its status as a satirical publication, include multiple chatroom discussions of a recent article about Charlie Sheen.

"When Sheen married Denise Richards recently, their prenuptial agreement included a clause that said Sheen would have to pay her \$4 million if he cheated on her," Comi said. "We're not making that up. That's real life, but we ran an article saying that Richards' mother is offering \$1 million to the first woman that can successfully seduce Sheen so that Denise will divorce him."

Comi and his colleague Ray Richmond started the Website a year ago as something their families and friends could visit for a laugh.

"Ray and I were talking one day about how there was a void on the Internet of sites that parody Hollywood and the entertainment world," Comi said. "A year later we are getting 3,000 unique visitors and 10,000 hits a day."

That kind of success has not come without its fair share of work. "First we had to pay a graphic artist to design the logo and the site," Comi said. "Then we registered the site with the major search engines and told everyone we knew about it."

Comi and Richmond write the articles for their Website.

"It's tough sometimes to come up with funny stuff for the site," Comi said. "We find a real news item and then try to think of a

funny angle to write about."

HollywoodPulse.com is getting even as this week marks the beginning of show version of the material on AggieLandConcerts.com, the site's material broadcast in Malibu, and if the show support, it will be pitched to multiple nationally for syndication.

Casey Mack, a senior management forensic systems major and creator of AggieLandConcerts.com, said creating Website has been one of the most

experiences of his college career. AggieLandConcerts.com, devoted to the College Station music scene, features dates, times and locations. It also covers news, rumors, discussion groups and lights on bands.

Mack said he got the idea while back to A&M last spring.

"I lived in Crocker Hall my first two years and I could always hear the bands playing at Northgate. The rule was who it was that was performing."

Mack said. "As a result I missed a lot of good bands. I'm a Texas music fan, but I was never able to find out about Texas music until a few days before the event that was only if a lawyer actually placed a 'Battalion'."

Confronted with more centralized information, Mack used his classroom knowledge experience working at Texas Forest Service worked as a Web designer and AggieLandConcerts.com

students like himself and the local artists struggle to reach their target audience before.

"I wanted to help out the bands in that fight so hard to make the music AggieLand like it is in Austin," Mack said. "So I got a design and spent some sleepless nights this past summer until it finally clicked."

Launched in September, AggieLandConcerts.com began with a modest 6,000 hits a week. This semester the site has between 6,000 and 7,000 hits a week. Mack said he did most of his own marketing by posting campus and asking local artists to meet during their shows.

Mack said finding time is his only problem keeping the information current.

"I typically spend 20 to 30 hours a week on the site, and I have to go through a lot of emails a day. Several of the local venues like The Loose Moose, Big Pauly's and Harry's also try hard to keep me informed of their upcoming events."

With notoriety comes a fair share of experiences, and Mack is no exception.

"I remember in January when Roger came to town, I was allowed up on stage to take his picture. He sees me over the camera and comes over and grabs my camera," Mack said. "I'm thinking this is bad, but instead he's taking pictures of the crowd, including the front trying to flash him."

Mack said he hopes his site gives exposure to local bands as well as well-known artists.

"One of my major goals is to get people to the site to get information on the bands. Then see all the information on local bands and give those bands some exposure too," Mack said.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Ashcroft performs gospel tune for 650 people

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Attorney General John Ashcroft observed the 10th anniversary of a local theological seminary Saturday night by singing a rousing rendition of "Let the Eagles Soar," a gospel

song with strong political overtones that he performed several years ago.

Ashcroft told 650 people at the Conwell Theological Seminary dinner that he had written the gospel tune after watching an eagle fly overhead during a pre-dawn walk on his farm near Springfield, Mo.

"This country's too young to die, it still has a long way to go," he sang in his baritone.

The audience responded with a standing ovation.

7 course meal. Priceless advice. \$10.

Etiquette Dinners

February 25th 5:30-7pm MSC 225. Includes reception etiquette and dessert in Forsyth Galleries following dinner

February 28th 5:30-7pm Clayton W. Williams Jr. Alumni Center Lecture Hall B

business casual dress tickets: \$10.00 at Rudder Box Office starting Mon. Feb 18th

Persons with disabilities call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification 3 working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our abilities.

IN THE AFTERNOON Radio News from the newsroom

THE BATTALION

campus and community news 1:57 p.m. Monday through Friday

on KAMU-FM 90.7 College Station / Bryan