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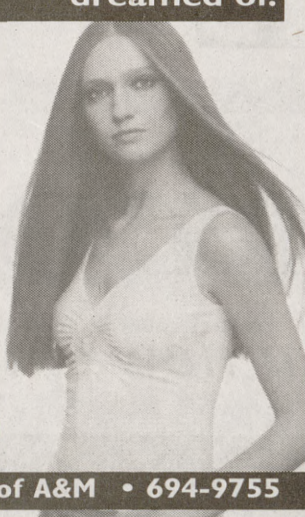
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# Feeling the burn



## Local gyms credit new semester for increased attendance

By Adelle Hollaus  
THE BATTALION

With New Year's resolutions in full swing, sweat has become part of thousands of students' daily routines. From the Student Recreational Center to local gyms, many students have made working out a priority.

Laura Copeland, faculty supervisor at the Student Recreational Center and a senior journalism major, said about 5,000 students come into the facility each day.

"The amount of people who work out at the Rec Center varies during the year, but the beginning of a new semester is always the busiest," Copeland said.

The Rec Center's long lines do not deter Matt Johnson, a senior special education major. Johnson, who frequents the Rec Center three times a week, said he began exercising at the beginning of the year to get in better shape.

"I have now reached that point where working out is now adding, and I just don't feel right when I miss a couple times," Johnson said. "If I have to wait in a line, so be it."

Copeland said the Rec Center places a 30-minute time limit on its cardio equipment, but a constant crowd of students keeps the machines occupied.

However, other students do not want to wait in these lines for equipment. Avoiding lengthy waits for machines is one reason why Mindy Weathers, a senior communication major, decided to take her workout away from campus.

"The Rec is too much of a hassle — not just because there are a lot of people working out there, but also because it is hard to find a parking place," Weathers said.

Weathers is now a member of Aerofit, but said she still cannot

escape the crowds.

"The other day, I waited for 15 minutes to use a treadmill," Weathers said.

Danny Waggoner, assistant general manager for Gold's Gym in College Station, said the number of people working out should start to decline during the next couple of weeks.

"We have about a 70 percent drop-off rate after the first couple of weeks or so," he said.

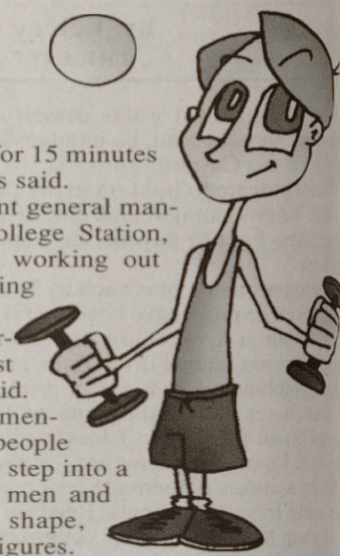
Waggoner said this tremendous decline is linked to people being intimidated when they step into a gym and see physically fit men and women, already in good shape, working hard to keep their figures.

"Everybody is in here for a reason: they are not happy with what they are seeing," Waggoner said.

Waggoner advises those persons who do not like to work out in a crowded environment to exercise in the early morning. Gold's Gym's slowest hours. If people wait to start working out between 4:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., they could get caught in the gym's busiest hours, he said.

Waggoner said the four best ways to stay motivated and continue working out throughout the year are to know what you want to achieve from your workout, set goals for yourself, have a plan and keep a schedule.

"The hardest part of joining a gym," Waggoner said, "is walking through the doors."



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## Reubens should not face child porn charge, lawyer argues

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Paul Reubens, the actor best known for playing Pee-wee Herman, shouldn't face a child pornography charge because his collection of erotica is historical, his lawyer is arguing.



REUBENS

The state's child pornography law, enacted in 1989, does not apply to the images and film in the case because they were produced decades earlier, Blair Berk said in a motion filed Friday. Some of the images are from the turn of the 20th century, according to the document.

The motion also argues that the law is unconstitutionally broad and that a statute of limitations expired before the charge was filed.

The document said officers seized "well over 30,000 images and more than 650 hours of film" from Reubens' home in November 2001. It said authorities have identified items in one book, 25 magazines and one film that allegedly violate California's child pornography statute.

The motion described the collection as "a vast and valuable historical collection of art-work, kitsch memorabilia and adult erotica."

Reubens, 50, has pleaded innocent to one misdemeanor count of possessing material

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

depicting children under 18 engaging in sexual conduct. He is free on \$20,000 bail.

The charge carries a maximum penalty of a year in jail and a \$2,500 fine.

## O'Toole to receive honorary Academy Award this year

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Peter O'Toole, nominated seven times for an Oscar for films as diverse as the epic "Lawrence of Arabia" and the nostalgic comedy "My Favorite Year," will receive an honorary Academy Award this year.

"O'Toole's performances have ignited the screen for more than four decades," Frank Pierson, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, said Friday in announcing the award.

It will be presented during the 75th annual Oscars ceremony on March 23 at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood. Its citation will read: "Peter O'Toole — whose remarkable talents have provided cinema history with some of its most memorable characters."

O'Toole, 70, made his stage debut at 17 before attending the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts. He made his film debut 10 years later with a bit part in the 1959 film "The Savage Innocents."

The Irish-born actor shot to international fame three years later, portraying legendary British adventurer T.E. Lawrence in David Lean's landmark film "Lawrence of Arabia." The performance brought him the first of his

seven best actor Oscar nominations.

The others were for "Becket" (1964), "Lion in Winter" (1968), "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" (1969), "The Ruling Class" (1972), "The Sandlot" (1980) and "My Favorite Year" (1982).

"He's seven times been nominated as best actor, which puts him in extremely rarefied air for a performer," Pierson said. "The Board of Governors felt it was time for him to hold his own Oscar in his hands."

## Bundchen donates \$150,000 to help fight hunger in Brazil

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) — Model Gisele Bündchen is donating \$150,000 to help fight hunger in her native Brazil.

Bündchen will hand over the money — her fee for one show in Sao Paulo Fashion Week — to Brazilian first lady Marisa Silva, O Globo newspaper reported Sunday.

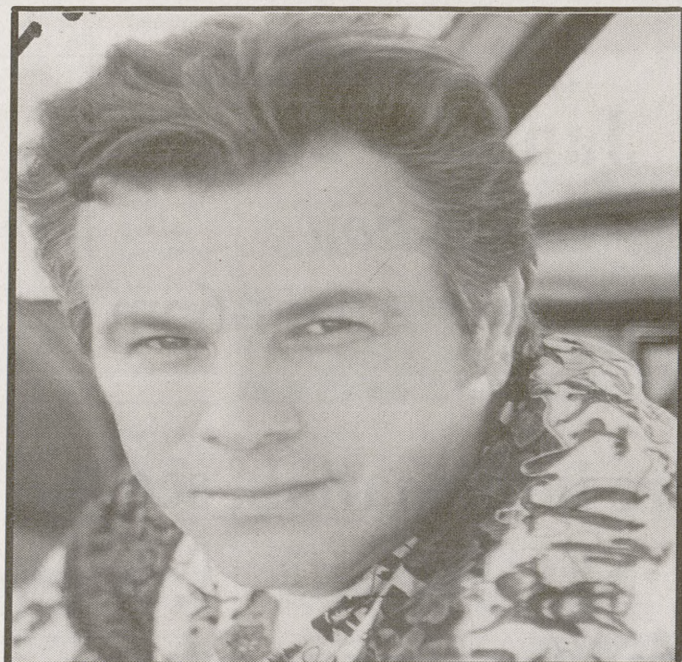
The fashion week starts Monday and Bündchen's appearance will be in a show by designer Ricardo Almeida, who dresses President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. Silva is initiating a "zero hunger" program that is expected to cost at least \$700 million annually.

"The campaign is very important for the country" Bündchen told O Globo.



BUNDCHEN

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