A New State-of-the-Art Redbud Theater

The drama department will move next spring to a new $3.3 million state-of-the-art Redbud Theater in historic Hubbard Hall. Shown in Hubbard Hall with a model of how the space will look after the renovation are Drama Program Director Sharon Benge, center, and, from left, students Bonnie McCrea, Tristin Bunting, Brad McIntire, Megan Welsh, Lindsay Turman,aron Nealey, Thomas Stratton and Laurisa Tarver.

AFTER more than two years of taking the show on the road, the Texas Woman’s University Department of Drama will come home next year to a historic campus building. Construction of a 19,000-square-foot, 120-seat theater will begin soon in what was once the Northwest Dining Room of Hubbard Hall. The theater, which will include spaces for drama education and public performances, presentations and speakers, is scheduled to open with a gala performance in spring 2007. The $3.3 million project was designed by Bottino Grundt Architects of New York and Austin.

“We’ve been fairly resourceful in performing ‘on location’ during the past two and a half years, but for drama to have a new home is a thrill for us,” said Sharon Benge, director of TWU’s drama program. A TWU facilities management Feb. 1, 2007.

In addition to attending board meetings, Ms. Salter was chosen to serve on two board committees—student life and institutional development, the committee that oversees the university’s fundraising efforts. Legislation passed in 2005 added one student member to each public university’s board of regents. Student regents have the same powers and duties as other members of the board, with the exceptions of voting and being counted to determine a quorum.

“We knew Rachal for her intelligence, poise and advocacy on behalf of her fellow students.”

Ms. Salter, 20, of Port Houston or Dallas. She is president of the TWU-Dallas United Students Association and a member of the TWU Strategic Planning Steering Committee and the Texas Nursing Students Association. She has served as a member of the University Conduct Review Board and the University Curriculum Committee.

“Our students have always had a high-profile presence at our regents’ meetings,” TWU Chancellor Dr. Ann Stuart said. “Rachal is doing an excellent job representing the students.”

Ms. Salter will graduate in December 2006. She plans to continue at TWU as a graduate student in the healthcare administration program in either Houston or Dallas.
In Memoriam: Dr. Wilkes Berry

Dr. Wilkes Berry, associate provost emeritus of Texas Woman’s University, passed away Jan. 17. A memorial service was held Jan. 20 at the First United Methodist Church in Denton, followed by graveside services in Greenwood Memorial Park in Fort Worth.

Dr. Berry, a fifth-generation Texan, was born Feb. 9, 1938 in Fort Worth. He earned a bachelor of arts degree from Abilene Christian University, and a master of arts and a Ph.D. from Rice University. Dr. Berry joined TWU in 1981 and was with the university for 24 years before retiring in August 2005. During his tenure, he served as professor of English, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, provost of the General Divisions, associate vice president for academic and cultural affairs, associate provost and interim provost.

During the 2005 Honors Convocation, Dr. Berry received the Award for Meritorious Service, the highest honor bestowed by TWU. “He was a beloved member of the university and the Denton communities in many years of service to both,” Dr. Stuart said. “He will be missed by all who knew him.”

Survivors include his wife, June, of Denton; daughters Elizabeth Eileen Baur of Fort Worth and Alicia Meggs Boyette of Brunswick, Ga.; and six grandchildren.

Distinguished Alumni

The TWU Former Students Association recognized four Distinguished Alumni at this year’s homecoming. Show n w with Chancellor Ann Stuart they are, from left, Dr. Elizabeth Hall Burns, a vice provost at Texas Tech University; Barbara Dianne Huneley, a certified family law attorney and children’s advocate; Dianne Baker, former TWU softball coach and national promotions manager for softball for Schutt Sports; and Marie Chapman March, retired petrochemical engineer and former chair of the TWU Board of Regents.
Celebrating Spring Fling!

Faculty, staff, students, alumni and their friends and family flocked to TWU’s Hubbard Hall Oval for the Annual Spring Fling - an afternoon of music, games, food, entertainment and other activities. The afternoon also included the Third Annual TWU Golf Cart Parade, which drew 26 entries from student organizations and university departments. Among the winners was the TWU Habitat for Humanity Chapter, above left, recognized as the best overall organization golf cart for its “Wizard of Oz, There’s No Place Like Home” theme.

**2005-2006: A Banner Year for Pioneer Athletics**

When the TWU gymnastics team came from behind to win its eighth national title in April, the achievement capped off a record-making year of athletic and academic successes for Pioneer Athletics.

For the first time in 10 years, all five athletic teams advanced to postseason play during the 2005-2006 season.

In addition to winning the 2006 USA Gymnastics Collegiate National Championship, two Pioneer gymnasts also won national individual titles – senior Bethany Rehm on the uneven bars and junior Courtney Arno on the balance beam. Coach Frank Kudlac also was named National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches for Women Division II Head Coach of the Year.

The Pioneer basketball team advanced to the semifinals of the Lone Star Conference (LSC) tournament for the first time in 16 years. The Pioneers, under first-year head coach Rene Hanebutt, scored the only upset of the tournament, defeating Southwestern Oklahoma State in the first round. Pioneer soccer made its first postseason appearance in the program’s four-year history, advancing to the semifinals. The TWU volleyball team made its third consecutive trip to the LSC tournament in the fall. The TWU softball team was one of only two LSC schools to receive this honor.

The gymnastics team earned the National Soccer Coaches Association of America’s Team Academic Award for posting a team GPA of 3.0 or higher. Basketball junior Kelley Humphries was named to the LSC South Division All-Academic Team. She also was named to the 2005 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars Women’s Basketball first team by Black Issues in Higher Education magazine.

“arly excellence in both academics and athletics and are pround that our student-athletes are succeeding in both,” said Chalese Connors, TWU director of athletics.

2005-2006: A Banner Year for Pioneer Athletics

Head Coach Frank Kudlac, top left, and the Pioneers celebrate their national gymnastics championship.

**Founders’ Awards**

Lillian Moore Bradshaw and the Nelda C. and H.J. Lutcher Stark Foundation are the recipients of the 2006 Founders’ Awards. Mrs. Bradshaw, former director of the Dallas public libraries, has been a generous supporter of the TWU School of Library and Information Studies for many years. In 2005, the Lillian Moore Bradshaw Endowed Chair in Library Science was established at TWU. The Stark Foundation and TWU have had a long educational partnership. Mrs. Stark was an alumna, former regent and long-time benefactor of the university, and the recipient of TWU’s first honorary degree. Shown from left: Lillian Moore Bradshaw, Chancellor Ann Stuart, Susie Riedel, Walter G. Riedel III, president and CEO of the Stark Foundation, and Lawrence R. David, chair of the foundation’s board of directors.
TWU nursing professor Dr. Gail Davis was recognized for her work in the field of rheumatology during the 40th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals (ARHP)/American College of Rheumatology.

Dr. Davis was presented with the Clinical Master’s Award for her clinical and research work in the field of rheumatology. She also received a Star Award, which the ARHP presented to only 40 members in recognition of their career contributions to rheumatology.

The awards were presented in San Diego in November 2005.

Dr. Marian T. Hannan of the Harvard Medical School, nominated Dr. Davis for the Clinical Master’s Award.

"By providing excellent care to her patients, constantly expanding her expertise in rheumatology and providing outstanding teaching and mentoring of the next generation of rheumatology clinicians, Dr. Davis demonstrates the important components of the Clinical Masters Award,” Dr. Hannan said.

TWU fashion students, along with students from the Art Institute of Dallas, designed and created red outfits that were showcased during the American Heart Association’s Annual Go Red for Women Fashion Show and Luncheon in Denton Feb. 14.

"The event was an opportunity for the students to experience what an industry runway fashion show is like, complete with models, quick changes and audience reaction,” said Dr. Sheri Dragoon, assistant professor of fashion and textiles.

"It was exciting and challenging to see my designs go from sketches to patterns to an actual dress on a model,” said Claudia Murillo, a TWU fashion design senior.

A panel of judges from the fashion industry awarded prizes for the fashions at the show. The audience also had the opportunity to vote for their favorites during the runway presentation. TWU students won both first and second place in the People’s Choice category. Joanne Winterhalter won first place and $200, while classmate Tiffany Krueger placed second and collected $100. Another TWU fashion student, Anna Terrazas, won second place and $100 in the Judges’ Choice category.

The Go Red for Women Fashion Show and Luncheon is held by the Denton chapter of the American Heart Association to raise funds for heart research and educational programs.

TWU was recognized for having the largest school team participating in the 2005 Komen Dallas Race for the Cure. More than 80 TWU students, faculty and staff took part in the race, raising $2,100 for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. TWU’s team was organized by staff members Travis Bragg, Amy Parsons-O’Keefe and Karrie Fletcher and Dallas-Parkland United Students Association President Rachal Salter.
TWU Drama Takes ‘The Long March’ Off-Broadway

A powerful original play about a tribe of social outcasts searching for a sense of belonging marked the off-Broadway debut of the TWU Drama program, when “The Long March” was performed at New York’s Greenwich Street Theatre March 31 – April 2, 2006. “It is very rare for university drama students to perform off-Broadway,” said Sharon Benge, director of TWU’s Drama program. “This experience served as a wonderful showcase for our program and our exceptional student actors.”

“The Long March” is the product of an international collaboration between TWU and the Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin, Ireland. Patrick Sutton, director of the Gaiety School, served as an artist-in-residence at TWU in October 2004 and worked with TWU drama students on improvisation while documenting their work. He then returned to Dublin and gave the ideas and images to Irish playwright Martin M. Maguire, who scripted the play using the students’ work as his inspiration. “The result is a short play with music and song set in no particular place or time,” Mr. Maguire said. “It is about the universal idea that difference causes enmity, whether on the school playground or at an international level and it has throughout history.”

“This is a true acting piece, and performing in New York is a great way to cap off my master’s degree” said D’Lytha Myers, who played Sorrow in the production.
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...attended a Friends of the Texas Medical Center Library gala in Houston with, from left, Shelley Hayes, M.D., Kyle Britt and Karen L. Ross.

...attended a lecture given by Milbry Polk at the Fort Worth Zoo. Shown with Chancellor Stuart are, from left, Ginger Head, Milbry Polk, Catherine Cooke and Ramona Bass.

...participated in the first meeting of the advisory board for TWU’s new Center for Telemedicine and Health Informatics in Houston. Shown are, from left, Dr. Marcia Hern, dean of the TWU College of Nursing; Dr. Carolyn Gunning, TWU provost; Chancellor Stuart; Brenda Lyon, interim patient care officer for Memorial Hermann Hospital; and Dan Wolterman, president and CEO of Memorial Hermann Healthcare System.

TWU’s “Chancellor On the Move”

...welcomed Dr. Raymund A. Paredes, Texas Commissioner of Higher Education, to the TWU campus. Shown with Commissioner Paredes and Chancellor Stuart are, left, Lora H. Weber, director of the Office of Strategic Alliances for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and Amy Kowalsky, executive assistant to the chancellor.

...welcomed prospective students and their families to an admissions open house on the Denton campus.

...celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre with, from left, Emmett Smith, Pat Smith, Clarice Tinsley, Charley Pride, TWU Regent and DBDT founder Ann Williams and Dr. Penny Hanstein.

...attended the dedication of a new wing and the presentation of an astronaut suit and other memorabilia at the Ronald E. McNair Elementary School in Dallas. Shown are, from left, Keith D. Baker, McNair assistant principal; Hollis Brashear, member of the Dallas school board; Dr. Michael Hinojosa, general superintendent of the Dallas public schools; Cheryl K. Williams, McNair principal; U.S. Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson; Chancellor Stuart; and TWU Regent Ann Williams.