

The Future of the Astrodome
page 5

Veterans Day Commentary
page 2

WHEEL OF FORTUNE
Spin or Solve?
page 4

Moustache for Charity
page 5

University wins national award in education

Daniel Benitez
The Signal Staff

The University of Houston-Clear Lake School of Education was awarded the 2009 Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. This year UHCL will be the only university receiving this award. UHCL is being honored for its collaborative efforts to improve teacher effectiveness in public elementary schools and for its Professional Development Laboratory Schools. UHCL is also being recognized for its efforts to measure the success their teacher candidates have on improving student learning. “The University of Houston-Clear Lake is pleased and honored to receive this national recognition from AASCU for the quality and impact of our teacher preparation program on both teachers and the students they teach,” said William Staples, president of UHCL.

“Our dedicated faculty and staff, working in partnership with our collaborating P-12 professional development schools are committed to learner-centered teaching and learning for all. We deeply appreciate receiving the Christa McAuliffe Award, which will further our dedication to the professional development of the teachers who will positively impact their students and our communities.” The AASCU’s award was named in honor of Christa McAuliffe, a teacher who died in the 1986 Challenger Space Shuttle disaster. In 1984, when President Ronald Reagan introduced the Teacher in Space Program, Sharon Christa Corrigan McAuliffe was a teacher at Concord High School, where she taught social studies, American history, law and economics in addition to a course she implemented: the American woman. The target of the Teacher Space Program was to get

Education award: continued on page 6



Justin Joseph: The Signal

A P-47 owned by the Lone Star Flight Museum is painted to resemble an aircraft of the 358th Fighter Group from 1944.

Airshow brings 25 years of flight

Justin Joseph
The Signal Staff

The Wings Over Houston Airshow celebrated 25 years of flight at Ellington Airport Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, showcasing everything from early war planes to stunt planes taking the skies. More than 40,000 people were in attendance to watch the United States Navy Blue Angels return to the Airshow for the first time in more than 10

years. The tarmac of the airport was filled with jets, airplanes and helicopters as well as vendors and different activities for the audience. Spectators were able to meet military pilots, peek inside the cockpits of fighter jets and hold ammunition shot from the aircrafts. There were also hot air balloon and helicopter rides available to those who wanted to take a ride. The MQ-1 Predator unmanned aerial vehicle was on display courtesy of the U.S. Air Force.

Airshow: continued on page 6

Reverse articulation, a win-win partnership

Mary Ann Wangler
The Signal Staff

On Sept. 21 the University of Houston-Clear Lake and Brazosport College signed a reverse credit articulation agreement allowing students to earn an associate degree while earning their bachelor’s from UHCL. “The University of Houston-Clear Lake is very proud of our long-term partnership with Brazosport College and the reverse articulation agreement is a

further extension of our partnership,” said William Staples, president of UHCL. “The agreement is a win-win partnership for Brazosport College and UH-Clear Lake. Together, we are working to increase the college-going and college-graduation rates for our region.” A press release issued by Brazosport College explains, “The agreement will permit eligible students who transfer from Brazosport College to UHCL to transfer certain coursework back to Brazosport College to complete requirements for an

associate degree.” Pam Davenport, dean of student services at Brazosport College, described the general process: when a student from the college transfers to UHCL, their Brazosport transcripts will be evaluated to verify if they meet the criteria for reverse credit articulation; then the student will sign an agreement. Throughout the student’s UHCL career the university will send transcripts back to Brazosport, and once the student has fulfilled the requirements, the student will be awarded

an associate degree from the college. Brazosport College students who started taking classes at UHCL in fall 2008 or later and meet Brazosport residency requirements are eligible for the reverse articulation program. Students can contact the UHCL admissions office at 281-283-2500 or Brazosport College at 979-230-3000 for details. “Students don’t want to wait too long,” Davenport said. “Because requirements could change in the degree program which could affect their ability to earn the

Reverse articulation: continued on page 6



Photo courtesy of NASA

NASA Astronaut Walter Cunningham during his flight with the Apollo 7 crew.

Campus ceremony honors distinguished veterans

Clare Kemp
The Signal Staff

In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice was signed and peace was declared that would end World War I. U.S. President Woodrow Wilson declared that Nov. 11 be proclaimed Armistice Day. This day was legally declared a holiday, a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to those who served in WWI. In 1953 Al King, the owner of a small-town shoe store in Kansas, campaigned to change Armistice Day to “All” Veterans Day. With the help of then U.S. Representative Ed Rees, a bill for this holiday was pushed through Congress and signed by President Dwight Eisenhower May 26, 1954. On Nov. 8, 1954, the act was amended and the name was officially changed to Veterans Day.

Prior to this historical milestone, in 1951 a young man fresh out of high school by the name of Walter Cunningham enlisted into the Navy and within 18 months was accepted for pilot training. After two years, he took his wings and became a United States Marine Corps fighter pilot until August 1956. He then joined the reserve program until 1975. Cunningham became a man of many trades. He is best known today as America’s second civilian astronaut after spending eight years with NASA. “I can in all honesty tell you that I never thought of any of it as hard work,” Cunningham said. “Same way when I was an astronaut. We loved what were doing. We were busy 18 hours a day and sometimes I worked 24 hours a day when we were testing the spacecraft. I never remember having any resentment over having to do it. It was just like ah, am I not lucky to be able to do this.”

Veterans Day: continued on page 6

THE SIGNAL

Editor
Matt Griesmyer

Assistant Editor
Christopher Curry

Designers
Todd Blair
Juan Loya

Assistant Designers
Christine Crump
Ashley Tobar

Webisode Videographer
Armand Shafaii

Videographer
Frank Lemus
Jeffry Tupa
Vivian Volirakis

Social Media Manager
Ruth Garay

**Reporters/
Photographers/
Broadcast Reporters**
Cody Anderson
Daniel Benitez
Courtney Brodbeck
Grant Chessir
Lesli Cokley
Caroline Fry
Justin Joseph
Clare Kemp
Alison Schwamkrug
Mary Ann Wangler

**Ad Manager/
Production Assistant**
Lindsay Humphrey

Faculty Adviser
Taleen Washington

LETTERS
POLICY

The Signal is a public forum and will print letters to the editor subject to the following: letters must be no longer than 500 words. Where necessary, letters will be edited for grammar, spelling and style requirements. Letters must be signed and include the writer's full name, address and phone number. The editors reserve the right to refuse letters, announcements and contributed articles deemed libelous.

Address letters to:
The Signal
UH-Clear Lake
2700 Bay Area Blvd., Box 456
Houston, TX 77058

Reach the staff:
Phone: 281-283-2570
Fax: 281-283-2569
E-mail: thesignal@uhcl.edu

Visit the Web site:
www.uhclthesignal.com

The Signal on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/UHCLTheSignal

The Signal on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/UHCLTheSignal

The Signal on YouTube:
www.youtube.com/TheSignalNews

The Signal on Flickr:
www.flickr.com/thesignalnews

EDITORIAL

The Patriot Act:

Are we trading our liberty for a false sense of security?

Benjamin Franklin once wrote, “Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.”

Freedom can be taken away by a foreign attack, but it also must be protected here at home by ensuring that the public stays informed when the government attempts to enact laws that undermine American liberty.

The terrorist attacks that took place in New York and Washington D.C. Sept. 11, 2001, caused a sense of panic among the American people. Congress rushed to put together a bill giving the government more power to crack down on terrorism. Out of fear, the American people accepted laws that infringed on their personal liberty in exchange for a sense of security.

Shortly following the terrorist attacks that took place on 9/11, President George W. Bush signed what is known as the Patriot Act into law. Signed Oct. 26, 2001, the act made it legal for the United States government to monitor its citizens for the purpose of countering terrorism.

The government regularly passes new laws designed to make people feel safer. Each time one of these laws is put into effect a little piece of our freedom is taken away. In a way, it is almost like the government is forcing its own ideals on us, rather than giving us a right to choose for ourselves.

There are numerous laws that regulate almost every aspect of our lives. We are legally bound to wear our seat belts, smokers are told where they are allowed to smoke, and we are told how fast we can drive.

On Dec. 31, 2009, various sections of the Patriot Act are scheduled to expire. Some of the sections up for renewal include permitting the government to use electronic surveillance

on all phones and allowing the government to demand access to all business records.

Perhaps the most controversial section up for renewal is Section 215. This act allows the FBI to require bookstores and libraries to surrender sales and checkout records, as well as lists of all customers immediately upon request.

With expiration pending on these acts, there is a chance for the people to challenge the constitutionality of the Patriot Act and possibly put an end to the unnecessary invasion of our privacy.

In wartime, it is often difficult to balance civil liberties and civil rights with the demands of war and the need to create support for the war effort.

After the terrorist attacks of 9/11, people were scared and uneasy around Arab-Americans. This same type of fear was also present toward Japanese-Americans after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941.

In 1941 the U.S. government acted quickly to separate the Japanese citizens from the general population out of fear that they would undermine the war effort. They were officially classified as enemy aliens and put into internment camps.

Japanese-Americans were forced to live behind fences of barbed wire surrounded by armed guards. Life in these camps was not as harsh as in the concentration camps of

Europe; however, their right to happiness and prosperity was taken away.

Fortunately, in 2001 Americans did not overreact to the same degree. Although America has periods of its history that we are not proud of, as a nation we continue to strive to stay true to the promise of our constitution.

On Nov. 11, 2009, take time to celebrate Veterans Day. Veterans deserve our respect for what they do to protect our freedom. The United States was built upon individual rights and personal freedom, and we should continue to stand up for them.

Veterans deserve our strength and courage to protect at home those freedoms they are fighting so hard to protect overseas.



Matt Griesmyer:The Signal

COLUMN

From sailor to student, setting new bearings

Christopher Curry
The Signal Staff

This Veterans Day marks the fourth year I celebrate it as a veteran. I joined the Navy in 2002 and was honorably discharged in 2006.

The Navy was a decent job. Boot camp was a walk in the park compared to the other branches of military life. I got used to the constant yelling and was issued a thick enough jacket to fend off the bitter cold of Great Lakes, Ill.

After boot camp, I was sent directly across the street for three months of Information Systems Technician “A” school. Others went off to train in Florida or California, but I was already accustomed to the weather so I figured why change now? Military training was fast paced and there was always room for improvement.

Today, I find myself in school again, but in a very different setting. I’m the assistant editor for The Signal, which brings with it authority and privileges that I am not used to having as a former enlisted military member.

In the Navy, I was careful not to make mistakes. When I did, a “superior” would be there to let me know about it. “Good job, Curry,” was high praise, and it only took one mistake for them to forget all the “good jobs” and focus on my inadequacies.

I have been out of the military for almost four years, yet memories of life in the Navy still resurface when I’m stressed. At times, I get on edge when I don’t get the grade I was anticipating on a paper. I expect to be called to the back for a lecture on how I need to improve myself. It’s a strange feeling to have a “superior” say encouraging things and



Christopher Curry
The Signal Staff

compliment my work.

Most veterans have been through their fair share of tragic experiences including myself. While in the Persian Gulf a female crew member passed out during a drill and fell down three flights of vertical ladders; she survived but sustained a debilitating amount of brain damage.

A hull technician died after a pipe ruptured outside my workplace, flooding the hallway with fire fighting foam, which is used to stop combustion by removing oxygen from an out-of-control fire. He went in the space to plug the pipe but was overcome and suffocated. At the end of my Persian Gulf tour, 48 Marines from the 31st MEU and two Navy corpsmen had given their lives in Fallujah.

These experiences have stayed with me and sometimes I wonder what my perspective on the world would be without a military background. Would I even be in school now; would I be working toward a degree while paying off student loans?

More new veterans with similar experiences are transitioning into student life, and they may carry with them the same burdens of dealing with the loss of friends and the trauma of war, which most other students have never experienced. We have different ways of dealing with problems or frustrations. Some hold them in and others express them outwardly.

I have found that I can become irritated by insignificant issues and may have to leave the room and go for a walk. My friends tell me my attitude has improved significantly since my first day back into civilian life, but I know I still have a lot of room for improvement.

My Navy experience has given me a renewed appreciation of the freedoms I have regained, which I had to give up while following the authoritarian regime of military life.

Learning to find a balance between veteran and student life can be disconcerting. The disorganized world of college clashes with the strict ideals I was instilled with in the military. Sometimes I wonder if I’m not as good at handling stress as other students.

The memories of the military can be difficult to overcome, but those memories, both good and bad, will always be with me and I am glad to have them.

**** Student Life ****

Student Government Association

UHCL Fee Meetings

Come to the SGA meetings

November 10th (Presentations)

November 17th (Voting)

All students are strongly encouraged to attend.



**Your Money.
Your School.
Your Voice.**



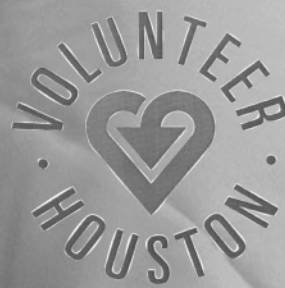
Attend the Student Government Association meetings every Tuesday at 11.30am at SSCB Lecture Hall 1.100.03.

Your School. Your Voice.
Boldly Serving the Student Body.

For Details Contact The SGA Executive Council:

Patrick Cardenas – President
Steven Steiner – VP Committee Coordinator
Amanda Schoolcraft – VP Outreach & Communications
Chris Greenfield – VP Administration

SSCB Rm.1.205 * 281-283-2556 * SGA@uhcl.edu * www.uhcl.edu/SGA



*Volunteering -
the opportunities
endless;
the rewards
boundless!*

Volunteers:

- **Make a difference**
- **Meet new people**
- **Explore new interests**
- **Build leadership skills**
- **Improve their communities**
- **Enhance their resumes**

Volunteer Kevin Colovin has raised the flags every morning for the United Way and American Red Cross for more than 15 years.

VOLUNTEER HOUSTON Bay Area
develops, supports and promotes volunteerism in the community we serve. Volunteers are matched with more than 250 area non-profit agencies.

**Call 281-282-6034 or visit
www.volunteerhouston.org.**



Don't wait until the last minute...



**EARLY REGISTRATION
for Spring 2010
semester is
now available!**

**Spring 2010
OPEN REGISTRATION
begins November 2nd**

**For more information go to
www.uhcl.edu/records**

STUDENT HITS IT BIG ON THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Juan Loya
The Signal Staff

The recession is hitting everyone hard, and students at The University of Houston-Clear Lake are no exception. When I lost my job this summer due to downsizing, I did what any other financially compromised person would do in that situation – I applied to be a contestant on America’s favorite game show Wheel of Fortune.

Yes, I did apply to new jobs as well, but the allure of easy money was too good to pass up. And easy money it certainly is, as any one with a decent vocabulary and spelling acumen can attest.

Wheel of Fortune is the common man’s game. Unlike Jeopardy!, which tests a contestant’s encyclopedic knowledge of useless trivia, or The Price is Right, which requires knowing how much a box of Rice-A-Roni costs, Wheel of Fortune simply obliges you to call vowels and consonants until you spell out a common English phrase.

It’s Hangman, basically, but for fabulous cash and prizes.

After I applied online I got an e-mail informing me that casting agents were coming to Houston and I was invited to audition. I immediately researched tips from past contestants to increase my chances of getting on the show. All of them recommended clapping like a maniac and following the producers’ instructions exactly.

When the audition came I smiled and spoke much louder than I’m accustomed to, clapped and high-fived my fellow potential contestants. Despite my usual introverted nature, I was a bundle of photogenic energy. My effort paid off; two weeks later, I was asked to appear on the show.

There’s an 18-month window following the invitation that I could potentially be on the show. The anticipation was brutal, but I passed the time by applying to more jobs, signing up for more classes,

and playing lots of Wheel of Fortune and Scrabble on my phone.

In early September, I got the phone call from the producers of the show scheduling my appearance. I was instructed to buy my plane tickets, book my hotel, and get ready – I had just two more weeks before I’d be facing the most competitive challenge of my life.

A lot of people ask me if the show covers airfare and accommodations, and the answer is no. The minimum amount of prize money a contestant can win on Wheel of Fortune is a thousand dollars, so you do get reimbursed after the fact. Still, shelling out money in the hope of raking it in is a bit of a gamble for me in any situation, more so given that I was recently unemployed. But worrying aside, I couldn’t wait to get to California and spin the wheel.

My biggest concern wasn’t really how I’d do on the show. If I could solve at least one puzzle and not look like a dunce, I would call that a success. My biggest worry was about what I would say when Pat Sajak asked me to talk about myself. I spent two weeks obsessing over what my interests were. Comic books? Kung fu movies? My wife obligingly helped me prepare, both in puzzle solving and personality projecting.

The morning of the taping, I met all of the other contestants waiting for the shuttle to take us to the studio. We were all about the same age, dressed like we were on our way to church or a business conference. I was the only wearing a tie, since the contestant packet they sent to explain rules and wardrobe discouraged anything too flashy. The fear of the producers not liking my outfit was another source of stress for the entire rest of the day.

On the shuttle over we talked about the previous week’s episodes and our strategies and tactics. I really got to know and like the other contestants in the short amount of time I had to interact with them. Everyone was very friendly and chatty and, as

you might imagine, we all had certain qualities in common. I was probably the least outgoing of the group, having to be told several times by the show coordinators to use a “big voice.” But yes, we were all Wheel of Fortune nerds in a big way.

When it finally came time for my taping to begin, I was a hopeless bundle of nerves. Outwardly I probably looked calm and serene, but inside I just wanted to be done with it as soon as possible. But then the intro music began to play. Pat Sajak and Vanna White walked onto the stage, and I forgot about being nervous and just got excited to be playing the game.

Though I had played many times at home on my couch, being in the studio in front of a live audience gave the experience a million new dimensions. Besides the game board and the wheel, there are about four other screens to glance at while playing to see what letters have been called, the puzzle category, and prize totals. My strategy was simply to buy vowels at every opportunity, because the fewer times you spin the wheel, the less likely you are to hit Bankrupt.

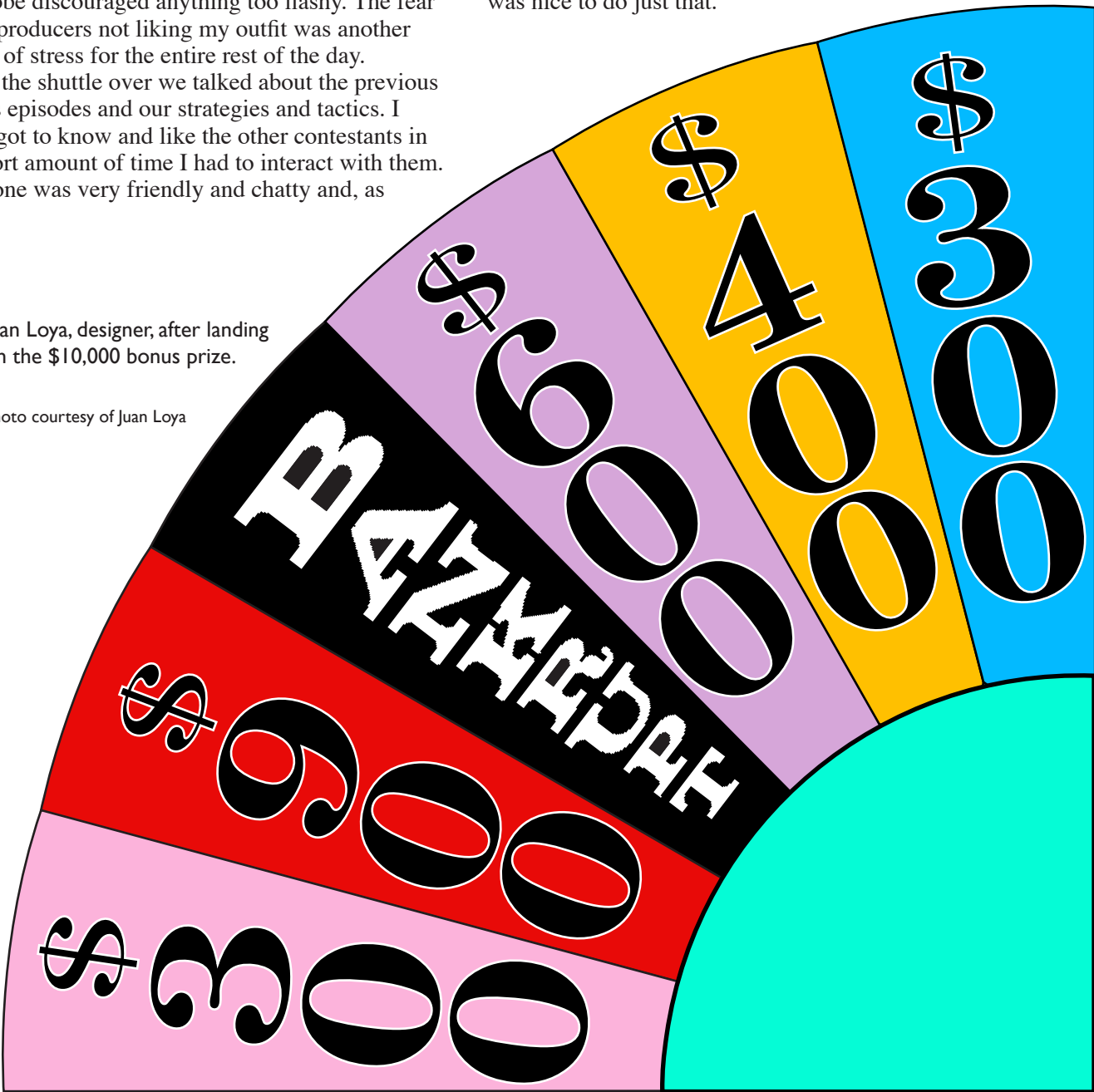
My practice and strategizing paid off. I solved all three of the game’s toss-ups, and a prize puzzle round that included a \$10,000 jackpot and a trip to Costa Rica. With these winnings in hand I easily qualified for the bonus round, where after calling enough letters to fill in every tile but one, I simply had to read the puzzle out loud to claim my \$25,000 bonus.

The answer was “HIT IT BIG,” and after months of worrying about my tuition, bills and lost salary, it was nice to do just that.



Juan Loya, designer, after landing on the \$10,000 bonus prize.

Photo courtesy of Juan Loya



Astrodome’s glory days not over

Matt Griesmyer
The Signal Staff

It was the dream of Roy Hofheinz, former mayor of Houston, to bring major league baseball to town. Hofheinz’s dream was realized in 1964 with the completion of one of the largest construction projects the city had ever seen.

The size of the structure is only exceeded by the history surrounding it. The first home run in the building was hit by Mickey Mantle. Mohammed Ali fought within its domed structure. Houstonians old enough to remember still talk about the college basketball game of the century between the University of Houston Cougars and the UCLA Bruins.

The stadium has such magnificent architecture that it is heralded as the eighth wonder of the world, this is the Astrodome.

The skyline of Houston is dotted with numerous structures that can be picked out from a distance, and the Astrodome is one of those identifiable structures. It has served the people of this town for well over 40 years. Yet now it lies dormant, gathering dust and awaiting destiny.

The actual owner of the Astrodome and its surrounding complex is Harris County, however, the current tenants of

The Reliant Astrodome, aka The 8th Wonder of the World, as it stands today.

the land, and by extension the buildings on it, is the Harris County Sports and Convention Corporation.

Willie Loston, executive director of the corporation, is essentially the keyholder to the complex.

“From day one, even though it was a county-owned facility, built by the county and financed by puplic bonding, immediately after it was built it was turned over to Roy Hofheinz under a 99 year lease,” Loston said.

Harris County Precinct One Commissioner El Franco Lee also expands on the concept of the county-owned property.

“The dome site is a county park, and it was county park land for that purpose,” Lee said.

The purpose that Lee speaks of is that of a public sports venue. This purpose, however, is currently in flux.

Once upon a time, the ‘dome served as the home field for two of the three major sports teams in Houston: the Houston Astros and the Houston Oilers (now the Tennessee Titans). Now, the stadium seats are gathering dust and the only people allowed inside are maintenance and security personnel.

So what is happening with this massive structure?

The Oilers moved to Tennessee in 1996 and the Astros left for their new home in the downtown stadium – once called Enron Field, now Minute Maid Park. The Astrodome remained vacant save for a few livestock show and rodeo events held annually.

Since the main tenants of the ‘dome left, plans have been submitted and are still under review from various county boards.

Loston described several ideas that were placed on the table when the boards first started accepting proposals: turn the dome into an indoor amusement park and hotel; develop a “city under glass” with multi-use building space; convert the ‘dome into an indoor festival space; develop the space into a movie studio.

“The Texas motion picture industry lost ground when other states put incentives for moviemakers to come to their states to make pictures,” Loston said. “They offer substantial incentives to film outside of Hollywood.”

There is, however, a new plan that is gaining support.

“We have been evaluating constructing/converting [the Astrodome] into a science-technology-engineering-mathematics institute with

one of the main physical components of that being, what we are being told, would possibly be the world’s largest planetarium,” Loston said.

“We have engaged professionals to develop a ‘preliminary feasibility concept.’ The concept would be to build a planetarium dome inside the Astrodome.”

Loston explained that the space required for the planetarium would be only a portion of the available land within the Astrodome.

“We do have some thoughts on what to do with some of [the remaining space] but we are not ready to go public,” Loston said.

In talking with Lee, it was explained that the people in charge of the concept plans for the Astrodome are not interested in selling off parts of the building to other buyers; any idea that is accepted would be a comprehensive plan.

“It will look like it fits,” Lee said.

“It won’t be an eyesore ... It has to fit under a master plan that respects existing tenants and their legal limits.”

MOVEMBER IS HERE, SO GROW A STASH

Grant Chesshir
The Signal Staff

What do Salvador Dali, Charlie Chaplin, Albert Einstein, Wyatt Earp, Ned Flanders, George Harrison, Hulk Hogan, Mario, Luigi, Geraldo Rivera, Tom Selleck and Burt Reynolds all have in common? They all proudly display(ed) the most controversial and recognizable facial accessory available to men, the moustache. Thanks to three gentlemen from Down Under, we now have a legitimate reason to grow a moustache.

In contrast to October’s breast cancer awareness month, men have little to no public awareness or support for male-specific cancers such as prostate and testicular cancer. Now, men are claiming the month of November in the name of men’s health awareness and calling it Movember.

The Prostate Cancer foundation reports prostate cancer will affect one out of every six men, and as the age bracket increases, so does the chance to be diagnosed. This statistic alone should scare men into calling their family practitioner and scheduling a prostate exam, but it does not. The Movember movement intends to call attention to these numbers while

raising awareness, having fun and growing “mos.”

The idea behind Movember is to grow a moustache for the month of November and raise awareness of men’s health, specifically prostate and testicular cancers. Movember is changing awareness through the power of brotherhood in moustaches.

The Movember movement began in 2003 with Adam Garone, Luke Slattery and Travis Garone. The idea for Movember came to the trio while they were at a bar in Melville, Australia, enjoying a few beers and discussing various fashion trends of the 1980s, especially the moustache. The three, along with a few of their friends, agreed to grow their mo, Australian slang for a moustache, for the month of November and to hold a party at the end of the month to celebrate the occasion.

Movember participants are known as Mo’ Bros and Mo’ Sistas. The mo’s are encouraged to register at www.movember.com to begin collecting support in the form of donations for the two foundations Movember is associated with, the Prostate Cancer Foundation and the Lance Armstrong Foundation.

As the month progresses and your dedication to the cause can be seen

all over your face, you will begin to attract attention from family, friends and passersby. This attention may range from jeers to narrowly escaping a pack of Burt Reynolds die-hards who mistake you for the Bandit himself. This is where the Mo’ Bro is presented with an opportunity to spread the word.

“You become a walking billboard, and we need to have some fun with it,” said Adam Garone. “You know, challenge your pop, challenge your brother to get screened for prostate cancer.”

Since 2003, Movember participation has grown from 30 to more than 174,000 in 2008. The 2003 Movember raised no funds. However, since then the organization has raised more than \$25 million globally. A large portion of the growing success of Movember can be attributed to online social networking.

Dan Redman, owner of the Mosaic Wine Group in Austin, Texas, learned of this great cause through friends who were involved with the Lance Armstrong Foundation.

“The thing about cancer is education, men just don’t know enough about it,” said Redman,

who grows his mo for his father, who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer.

With the amount of participants and funds collected increasing by leaps and bounds every year the question is “what are you doing to increase awareness of men’s health?” So drop the razor, raise some funds, spread the word and, as Adam Garone encouraged, “let’s bring back the mo, at least for a month.”



Graphic courtesy of Movember.com

Airshow: continued from page 1

“The aircraft is in fact unmanned.” said Col. Brett Thomas of the Texas International Guard. “It is what we call a U.A.V. or an unmanned aerial vehicle. Nobody is actually in the cockpit on the airplane itself, but we are in control of the airplane the whole time it is airborne.”

The Airshow set up a special tent where spectators could get autographs from legends and heroes of prior wars. To commemorate the war heroes, the program included a featured show named “Tora! Tora! Tora!” – a reenactment of the Pearl Harbor attack complete with explosives and dogfights.

The audience was captivated with the stunt flying of Gene Soucy and his assistant Teresa Stokes. The team worked well together, especially when Teresa left her seat in mid-air and became a wingwalker while Gene performed acrobatic tricks with his airplane, such as flying upside down and making loops.

The Harrier jet displayed maneuverability that makes it such a unique aircraft, especially its ability to land like a helicopter, which many jets are not capable of. Apache helicopters were also on display and did a fly by.

The Blue Angels ended the Airshow in grand fashion with a precise execution of various formations and drills many would not attempt in a dream, much less in the air. With a maximum speed of Mach 1.7 or 1,200 mph, the F-18 Hornets are designed to attack and fight in order to defend the nation.

“I can’t believe how flawless the stunts went today,” said spectator Natasha Lawrence. “I travelled in from Maryland to watch the Airshow.”



Justin Joseph:The Signal

AV-8B Harrier II Jet landing vertically onto the tarmac.

Reverse articulation: continued from page 1

associates through reverse credit articulation.”

“We are very excited about [the reverse articulation agreement] because we have a long relationship, and positive one, with the University of Houston-Clear Lake,” Brazosport College President Millicent Valek said.

Valek also stated that the agreement is beneficial because it allows students who have transferred to UHCL, but have not yet received an associate degree, to still receive one without having to do additional coursework at

the college.

Valek points out the other benefit that comes from the reverse credit articulation agreement is the recognition of the part Brazosport College had in the student’s education by being able to award an associate degree.

“We are very proud of our students.” Valek said “We like the idea of students having a degree from [Brazosport] as well as [UHCL].”

UHCL and San Jacinto College signed a similar reverse

credit articulation agreement June 2, 2008.

Valek feels that the reverse credit articulation is good because students could transfer into a university with every intention of completing their bachelor’s degree, but have something happen with their family or job that keeps them from finishing. With the reverse credit articulation agreement, a student can still earn an associate degree that may help them get a job.

Veterans Day: continued from page 1

In between his years of service, he spent eight years as a full-time college student.

“My first couple of years at NASA were heavily education oriented with things that I did not know before,” Cunningham said. “I felt fortunate that I had an opportunity to learn these things. Unless Americans in school are taught about the history and the sacrifices that we have made, and particularly what our uniformed service members have made, I don’t understand how they can have the pride in Nov. 11 that they should. Americans are fortunate. Our country was founded on a set of principles

that no other country in history has.”

Cunningham served in the USMC active and reserve from 1951 to 1976 and retired with the rank of Colonel. He accumulated 4,500 hours of space and pilot time, and exemplifies the effort of being a veteran.

University of Houston-Clear Lake’s Office of Alumni and Community Relations will be sponsoring the university’s seventh annual Veterans Day Celebration Nov. 11 from 10:30 a.m. to noon, with Cunningham as the keynote speaker. The event will be held on campus in Liberty Park and in the Student Services and Classroom Building.

A few portions of this year’s celebration will include: a flyby of two Army Apache attack helicopters, Bluebonnet Military Motor Pool display of vintage military vehicles and equipment. Stories of veterans and their families will be on display in Atrium I of the university’s Bayou Building throughout November.

“Veterans Day for me is a day to remember those who lost their lives in both recent and historic conflicts,” said Christopher Curry, a Navy veteran and undergraduate communication major. “I worked with several who did not make it home to enjoy the benefits of being

veterans.”

Curry, who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and was stationed in Sasebo, Japan, for two years, plans to attend this year’s celebration.

Students, faculty, staff and the community are all encouraged to attend this year’s celebration. Parking and admission are free.

For more information, contact the UHCL Office of Alumni and Communication Relations at 281-283-2024.



Photo courtesy of NASA

Challenger astronaut Christa McAuliffe was the inspiration for the Excellence in Teacher Education award.

Education award: continued from page 1

more people interested in the space program. NASA was looking for a gifted teacher who would teach a class while in space. Her planned duties included basic science experiments in the fields of chromatography, hydroponics, magnetism, and Newton’s laws.

She was also planning to conduct two 15-minute classes from space, including a tour of the spacecraft called “The Ultimate Field Trip” and a lesson about benefits of space travel called “Where We’ve been, Where We’re Going, Why.” The lessons were to be broadcast to millions of schoolchildren via closed circuit TV.

On Jan. 28, 1986, the Challenger broke apart 73 seconds into its flight. Christa McAuliffe was one of seven astronauts who died during the Challenger Mission.

“It is important to emphasize that teacher educator preparation is not just School of Education; it’s a university wide, community wide endeavor, so an award like this belongs to everyone not just a few faculty members,” said Dennis Spuck, dean for the School of Education. “It is a nice recognition.”


The award will be presented at the 2009 conference scheduled for Nov. 22-24 in San Antonio, Texas.

JSC Federal Credit Union Wants

YOU

VISA Check Cards and Credit Cards

FREE Checking Accounts • FREE Online Banking & Bill Pay • 32,000 Surcharge Free ATMs • 24/7 Account Access



University of Houston Clear Lake
Students, Faculty and Staff

You are eligible for membership with

JSC

Federal Credit Union
www.jscfcu.org
281.488.7070 800.940.0708

Clear Lake • League City • Ellington • Friendswood
Galveston • Texas City • Mainland • Park Place • Bay Colony


Open A JSC FCU Checking Account Today & Get Free Checks!

Get
FREE
Checks*


JSC
Federal Credit Union
www.jscfcu.org

Get
FREE
Checks*

*Coupon Good for 1 Free Box of Space Style Checks Only and is Redeemable at any JSC FCU Branch

NATIONAL GUARD 
TEXAS STRONG! TEXAS PROUD!
NATIONALGUARD.com

**TURN LEADERSHIP
POTENTIAL
INTO LEADERSHIP
SKILLS**



class in ten minutes?
no worries!



live on campus...save time and money!

university forest 2600 Bay Area Boulevard • Houston, TX 77058
campushousing.com/uhci

clv 

Lerman appointed editor of top tier journal

Lesli Cokley
The Signal Staff

Dorothea Lerman, professor of psychology, coordinator of the master's program in behavior analysis, and director of the University of Houston-Clear Lake Center for Autism and Development Disabilities, has been elected by the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior as the next editor in chief for the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis. Lerman will serve as the editor for the 2011-2013 issues of JABA.

"Being journal editor is an honor and a privilege; the fact that this is a top-tier journal is even more impressive, this is a testament to her ability and research expertise" said Robert Bartsch, interim associate dean for Human Science and Humanities.

JABA was established in 1968 as a psychology journal that publishes research about applications of the experimental analysis of behavior to problems of social importance. The journal is published quarterly by the

SEAB. Typically the journal publishes 50-60 articles a year.

As editor, Lerman will receive all manuscripts submitted to the journal and then assign each manuscript to an associate editor. The associate editor will then select three or four reviewers, who will critique the paper and make a recommendation about whether it should be accepted and, if so, what revisions should be made prior to publication.

Based on the reviewer's comments, the associate editor then writes his/her own decision letter to publish or not and revisions if need be. Lerman will make the final decision about whether the paper should be published, and she may request further revisions from the authors. She will then decide which articles will appear in each issue and in what order. The editor also selects associate editors and board members.

"Like all academic journals, its mission is to disseminate the latest research in a particular area. I am honored to serve

such an important role for the flagship journal in my field," Lerman said. "JABA publishes research in the area of applied behavior analysis, which essentially involves the application of basic learning principles to human behavior of social importance," Lerman said.

Every three years the election of a new editor begins with the current editor's call for nominations. The nominations are reviewed by the election committee, which consists of the current JABA editor, the most recent past JABA editor, and the SEAB president.

The nominating committee forwards one or more nominees to the SEAB board for consideration. Following discussion, the board elects the next editor, typically from among the individuals whose names have been forwarded by the nominating committee.

Lerman is a former associate editor for JABA, a former associate editor for Research in Developmental Disabilities, and a former editor in chief for Behavior Analysis in Practice.



Dorothea Lerman

Lerman has more than 50 previously published articles in JABA. Her research interests include functional assessment and treatment of behavior disorders in individuals with development disabilities and early intervention, and caregiver training. Lerman teaches courses in learning and applied behavior analysis.

"The journal will be in excellent hands," said Cathleen Piazza, current editor in chief.

Monster mash a campus smash

Courtney Brodbeck
The Signal Staff

Faculty and staff gathered at University of Houston-Clear Lake in the Bayou Building, Atrium II, Oct. 30 to celebrate the Halloween spirit.

Atrium II was transformed from a study area to a hauntingly wicked place for ghouls and ghosts to gather. Darth Vader, Forrest Gump, Michael Jackson and rowdy pirates were all in attendance.

The event awarded first, second and third prizes for the best individual and group costumes. Prizes were awarded to contestants by President William Staples, who dressed up as a doctor.

In the individual costume contest, first place went to our "oldest UHCL alumna," Margaret Garcia, copy center technician. Second place was awarded to a very happy clown, Renee Ball, procurement secretary, and third place went to Forrest Gump, also known as Edmond Puckett, director of Web and multimedia.

First place for best group costumes went to the Dean

of Students' Office. The staff dressed as Michael Jackson in various stages of his life. They busted out the moon walk, white gloves and the infamous Michael Jackson attitude to receive their prize. Second place went to the Human Resources Office for their hilarious school of fish costumes. The third place prize went to a group of pirates from the Environmental Institute of Houston Office.

"This is part of the spirit that makes the university great," said Anthony Jenkins, dean of students. "When we see students and faculty come together outside the classroom this further illustrates the value of connecting students to the university community."

At UHCL, the Halloween bash is an annual event held on campus, which faculty and staff are encouraged to dress up and participate.

"If the university community wants to beat the Dean of Students next year, they better bring their A-game," Jenkins said.



Courtney Brodbeck: The Signal

TOP: It was off with his head as Colleen Martin, facilities management and construction scheduling assistant, takes a mock slice at Ed Puckett's, aka Forrest Gump, head.

BOTTOM: The third place prize went to a band of pirates from the Environmental Institute of Houston office in the group costume contest at UHCL.



Courtney Brodbeck: The Signal

Campus Calendar

Nov. 9-Dec. 2
Wish Tree Program
For more information, call 281-283-2575 or e-mail IISS@uhcl.edu
SSCB 1.203

Nov. 11
Veterans Day, A Gathering of Heroes
10:30 a.m.-noon
Lobby of Student Services and Classroom Building

Nov. 14
Twogether Workshop
9 a.m.-5 p.m.
SSCB 2311

Now-Nov. 16
SSCB 1.205
SGA Annual Canned Food Drive

Nov. 17, 18, 20
UHCL "Vagina Monologues"
2010 - Auditions
11/17 & 18, 5-8 p.m.
11/20, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Student Orgs. Room

Nov. 18
Voices of Colour Speaker Series
Presents Regent Nandita Berry
12 - 1 p.m.
Garden Room

Nov. 19
Transgender Day of Remembrance
12-1 p.m.
Garden Room

Nov. 23
World AIDS Day Art Contest
The theme of the contest is "Universal Access and Human Rights." Art is due in the IISS by Nov. 23

Follow the Signal Staff's Movember progress online at uhclthesignal.com

