

THE SIGNAL



**Astros Opening Day,
page 6-7**

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April 19, 2010



Alicia Nguyen
The Signal Staff

“Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me.” International and Intercultural Student Services challenges this belief advocating “words are powerful, painful and potentially deadly.”

Students worldwide came together April 16 to embrace the 14th annual Day of Silence, a national youth movement bringing attention to the bullying faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people and their friends. On this day students took a vow of silence to raise awareness of anti-LGBT bullying and harassment in their school.

“The National Day of Silence is important because the LGBT community suffers oppression, discrimination, and harassment throughout our country and specifically in our educational system from middle school and high school to college campuses as well,” said Stephen Erich, BSW program director “The National Day of Silence is now recognized across high schools and college campuses across the country. It’s difficult to estimate its impact on bullying and harassment on campuses. However, the fight for equal rights is never easy or quick and all of us that care about such things need to persevere and continue the good fight.”

This was the first time students at the University of

Houston-Clear Lake participated in a National Day of Silence. A panel discussion will be led by Gary Adams, UHCL career and counseling services, and Kim Case, assistant professor of women’s studies and psychology, at 5:30-6 p.m., April 19, in the Garden Room.

The discussion will include information about the most common form of bullying: micro-aggressions. These are little, non-physical actions that affect people, like slanderous comments such as “that’s so gay.”

“It’s always disparaging to hear phrases such as ‘that’s so gay’ thrown around so rampantly in society,” said Anthony Nguyen, Unity member and communication student. “The use of ‘gay’ as a superlative pejorative was something that was understandable/expected amongst 7th graders in the 1990s, not 20-somethings in 2010, still.

“I do realize that not everybody intends to put down homosexuals when they use the label,” Nguyen continued. “However, to me, I see that as a cop-out excuse. Virtually every instance of the word ‘gay’ used as default-adjective for ‘lame’ or ‘stupid’ originated from the notion that to label someone as ‘gay/homosexual’ is the utmost insult. Many will claim that it’s simply something they have grown accustomed to – an automatic, knee-jerk remark – and that it is said with absolutely no homophobic undertones. Yet, regardless of your intentions in using the word, as long as it’s uttered in conjunction with a belittling

statement, it will continue to have the negative association that has been applied to homosexuals.”

These feelings are not limited to the student body. Members of UHCL faculty and staff have strong feelings as well.

“The most important aspect of the event is that we want to give people a space to discuss these issues openly,” Case said. “The more we raise awareness of these issues among students, teachers and administrators in the school systems, the more we change the school climate and culture around what is acceptable behavior. This day brings awareness with regard to targeted harassment, prejudice and discrimination faced by LGBT students. When schools participate, they are telling all students that bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.”

Surveys show having anti-harassment policies in schools – especially those that deal with sexual orientation or gender identity – can be connected to students feeling safer at school.

“These students don’t have a voice when it comes to bullying or harassment” said Julie Smith, coordinator of women’s and LGBT services. “This day they can all come together and take a stand.”

There will be a panel display in Atrium II, level 2 exhibiting general information about Day of Silence, or check out www.dayofsilence.org for more information about the event worldwide.

Student receives top honor

Brian Bohannon
The Signal Staff

The recipient of this year’s UHCL Social Justice Student of the Year Award is Deysi Crespo.

The Social Justice Student of the Year Award is an honor granted to graduating seniors of the social work program who have placed the community at large above themselves in order to help those populations who are vulnerable or at risk.

Recipients of this award take a multi-faceted approach to social work, targeting a host of issues affecting a wide range of age groups and cultures.

Crespo accepted the award at the University of Houston, along with students from the university’s other system-wide campuses. Other recipients included members of professional groups outside of the university.

“To be included with all these people

was a huge honor,” Crespo said adding that she was always conscious that as a UHCL student she had “a reputation to uphold.”

Crespo is involved in a multitude of activities. For one, she develops programs addressed at preventing teen violence. In this role, Deysi visits various school districts doing speaking engagements with students in an attempt to reach children at a time when many life defining moments and choices are at their feet. She has spoken at Galena Park, Pasadena, Katy, and other Houston area school districts, and continues her work in this field today.

In addition to her work on teen violence, Crespo has done work as an advocate for family assault funding.

“Many don’t know that victims of robbery, homicide and sexual assault may be eligible to be helped out through this program with money, and even

Staples reports to community

Sonya Lynch
The Signal Staff

University of Houston-Clear Lake presented the 2010 Report to the Community and this year’s Distinguished Alumna and the Community Partnership award at a breakfast held at Lakewood Yacht Club March 25.

Dick Covey, president and chief executive officer of United Space Alliance, received the Community Partnership award. In his speech, Covey said that as one of the largest employers in the area, USA “looks to the UHCL as a resource.”

The report showed USA’s commitment to higher education through the programs they support at UHCL, a support re-emphasized by Covey in his speech. Although his speech began with laughter, Covey’s tone changed as he spoke about USA’s relationship with UHCL.

“Our employees and the people we want

to hire have come through the University of Houston-Clear Lake system and that has meant a great deal to us over the years and that is why we find it important to support the university in the ways that we do,” Covey said.

One of the many programs sponsored by USA is the Digital Media Studies program. Monica Stout, a DMST major graduating in May, shared her experience, inspirations and career opportunities she now looks forward to after graduating. In her speech she said she was able to find her niche.

“I was thrilled when I came across the Digital Media Studies program offered here,” Stout said. “It was fairly new and rather small, but I immediately realized the great potential this program had to offer me.”

The room was filled with alumni who celebrated with UHCL as President William Staples highlighted new initiatives and the various milestones UHCL received. UHCL

THE SIGNAL

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EDITORIAL

2-4-6-8, a mascot we'd appreciate

Hook 'em Horns. Gig 'em Aggies. Axe 'em Jacks, Sic 'em Kats, Go Coogs. All public undergraduate degree-granting institutions in this state have rally cries and mascots, except for one.

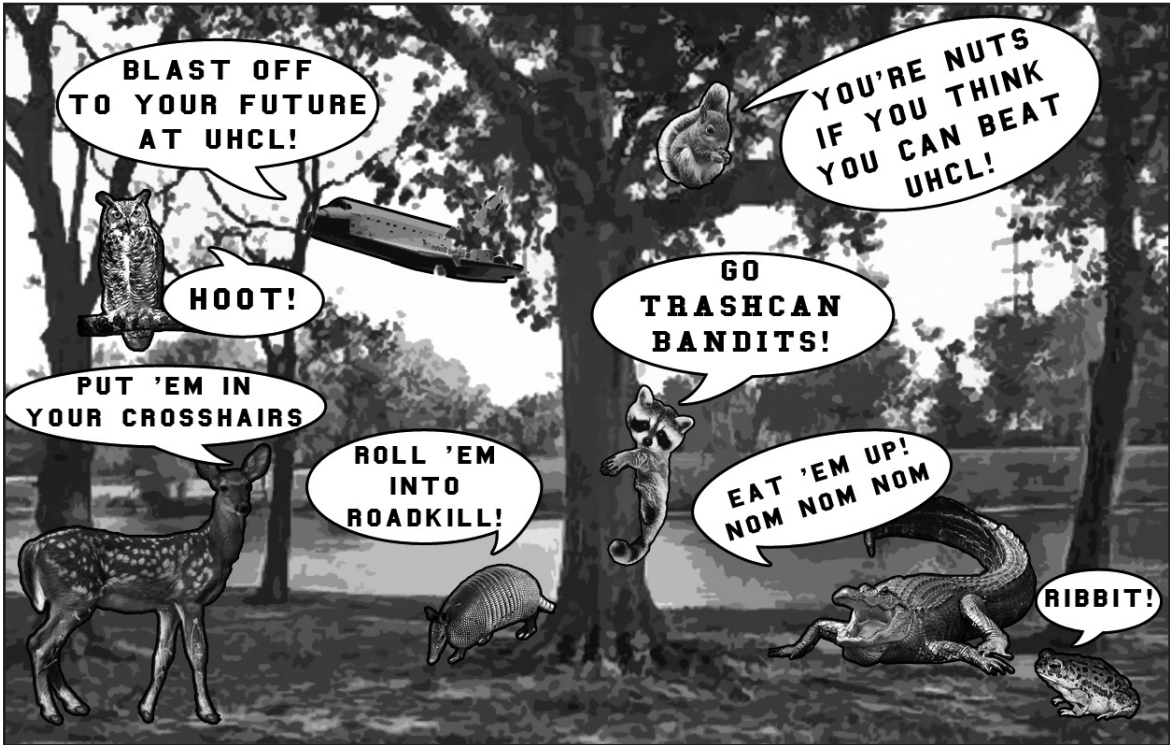
The four universities within the Texas State University System, the nine within the Texas A&M University system, the nine universities within the University of Texas System, and both of the universities within the Texas Tech University System all have mascots.

These institutions all have a shared sense of identity. There is only one academic university in Texas that can make no such claim. University of Houston-Clear Lake needs a mascot.

This university is traditionalizing. The average student age has decreased in the past five years as the number of students between the ages of 20 and 23 has increased. As students are graduating high school with more college credits than their predecessors, more students are eligible for admission to this exclusively upper-level university than ever in the past.

Next year, UHCL will approach the Texas Legislature to seek approval for downward expansion. If approved, the university will begin admitting students to take lower-level classes in 2012, negating the need for students to attend another college prior to enrollment at UHCL.

Orientation and new student



Bradley Denison: The Signal

programs will grow to ease the transition of not only those students new to UHCL, but also new to the college experience. These students will expect what their peers across the state already have: an identity.

"Blockie," the university's unofficial mascot, created by a group of students longing for an identity during Blast Off Week more than a decade ago, is our only symbol of belonging.

Mascots are derived most often from local industry or indigenous wildlife.

As a university in the fourth largest city in the nation, there is no lack of industry. Houston is known across the globe for

two of its industries, aerospace technology and petrochemical production. Evident by the warning signs at campus entrances, there is also no lack of wildlife. Sitting on a 524-acre wildlife and nature preserve, UHCL is home to many species of animals.

UHCL has numerous signs on campus warning of the presence of alligators – the chosen mascot of University of Houston-Downtown. University of Houston and University of Houston-Victoria are both symbolized as species of large cats: Cougars and Jaguars respectively.

While most mascots are

traditionally associated with sports programs, which we do not have, we still need a mascot. UHCL students are able to complete their degrees at an institution that is focused on the quality of academic instruction and student development, instead of the need to fund a costly athletic program. Our new mascot need not be ferocious. It should not aim to devastate another school. It should simply capture who we are as an institution.

Thirty-six years and more than 51,000 degrees awarded since opening its doors, it's time for UHCL to claim its identity and give Blockie a friend.

COMMENTARY

Does freedom of speech include the freedom to hate?

Christopher Curry
Contributing Writer

The U.S. Supreme Court will soon be faced with a challenge to rule whether or not free speech can take precedence over an individual's right to privacy.

Lance Cpl. Matthew Snyder was killed in Iraq March 3, 2006. Like those of his fellow fallen Marines since the war began in 2003, his body was sent home to his family. He was honored with a military funeral and his family was presented a folded flag in tribute to his service.

Just outside the church where the funeral was taking place, protesters were singing their own versions of classic patriotic songs while waving signs with such slogans as: "Thank God for dead soldiers," "fag troops" and "Thank God for 9/11."

The Snyder family did not hear or see the protest until they returned home and began to watch local news coverage from the funeral. Al Snyder, Matthew's father, filed a lawsuit against the group, known as the Westboro Baptist Church on the grounds of defamation of character, invasion of privacy and intentionally inflicting emotional distress.

In retaliation, the church

posted on their Web site that Snyder's family "raised him for the Devil" and "taught Matthew to defy his Creator, to divorce and to commit adultery."

"We have the First Amendment in doomed America," said Shirley Phelps-Roper, member of the WBC. "If the Snyder case prevails there will be no First Amendment left in this country."

On Oct. 31, 2007, a federal jury in Baltimore, Md., returned a verdict against the church, which was ordered to pay the Snyder family \$10.9 million.

WBC appealed the ruling to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. On Sept. 24, 2009, the Fourth Circuit found that WBC's protest was protected speech and did not violate the family's privacy. The money owed to Snyder was repealed, and on March 30, 2010, Al Snyder was ordered to pay \$16,500 to cover WBC's legal fees.

"The Fourth Circuit found that we obeyed the law, hello, the First Amendment applies, so, you're out," said Phelps-Roper. "These lawyers for Albert Snyder and Albert Snyder all knew they were on a fool's errand. Here's how we feel about [the verdict].

Ho-stinkin'-hum. We don't care if you have a First Amendment or if you don't. You have no respect for the laws of God; you don't deserve that First Amendment given to you by your God."

How convenient for WBC members that they can hide behind the very amendment they claim has no relevance – behind the very freedom that Matthew Snyder died to protect. In addition to losing his son, Al Snyder is out \$16,500 plus his own legal fees trying to protect the integrity of his son's memory.

Bill O'Reilly, Fox News commentator, has pledged to pay the entire amount.

Sean Summers of Barley Snyder LLP, Al Snyder's attorney, plans to appeal to the Supreme Court later this year with the help of donations.

"We are seeking donations to cover the cost of filing the Supreme Court brief and an outstanding petition for costs of \$97,000 from the district court," Summers said. "Any donations received surpassing the cost to cover Snyder's legal fees will be donated to health and education assistance for returning veterans. None of [the donations are] going to attorneys. None of it is going to Mr. Snyder."

Filings to the Supreme Court will be submitted by May 24, 2010, and Snyder's argument will likely be held in October. Any contact between Snyder and WBC members will be reserved to the courtroom.

"I have had no contact with [WBC]," Summers said, "Even if I wanted to, it's hard to have an intellectual conversation with them."

The Westboro Baptist Church believes that the world is doomed to hell because homosexuals are allowed to live freely in certain countries including the United States. They are based in Topeka, Kansas, and have operate under the leadership of Fred Phelps Sr. Members travel all over the country protesting any event they deem to be pro-gay, including all military funerals. A list of their planned protests can be found at their Web site, www.godhatesfags.com.

Anyone interested in staying up-to-date on the Snyders' court proceedings or donating money to help with the Supreme Court costs can visit www.matthewsnyder.org. The site also has a link to Matthew Snyder's memorial page on Facebook.

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International Inspiration

Art from around the world comes to UHCL

Jennifer Travis
The Signal Staff

Every year Sandria Hu, professor of art, brings together talented artists from across the world to exhibit their artwork in Houston. This year the artists held exhibits at the Czech Center Museum Houston April 11.

“We’re delighted to be able to host this exhibit,” said Effie Rosene, chairman and CEO of the Czech Center Museum Houston. This was the first year the museum has been involved with this exhibit.

The four international artists who were invited through the UHCL International Arts Consortium were Carlos Torralba from Mexico, Aleksandra Kekovic and Aleksandar Mladenovic both from Serbia, and Xenia Hoffmeisterova from Prague, Czech Republic.

Hoffmeisterova paints everyday items using bright colors and whimsical lines. She has an understanding of prints, sculpture and paintings. Hoffmeisterova is featured in public and private collections throughout Europe. She also owns the Millennium Gallery in Prague and is a founding member of the Association of Czech Galleries.

Kekovic is a successful female architect who owns her own company in Serbia.

She designs residential and commercial buildings, specializing in collective residential architecture.

“This is the first time we’ve invited a female artist,” Hu said. “I thought, ‘why not a female architect who owns her own company?’ You don’t hear that often.”

Mladenovic, who goes by Leka, has experience with painting and prints made in traditional techniques in etching, aquatint, woodcut, silkscreen and digital prints with implementation of photo material.

“When talking about printmaking, I use both drawing and photo-sourced material,” Leka said. “Although I do not like labeling in art, I would put my work in the category of hybrid printmaking. There is a lot of fusion of printmaking and painting practice. I enjoy working with students; [it] feels good to see their successful proofs of print.”

Torralba is a professor of art and director of the Facultad de Artes Plasticas of the Universidad de Veracruzana in Xalapa, Mexico. He has experience with acrylic etching, metal plate etching, woodcuts and silkscreen. His works have been displayed throughout the U.S. and Canada.

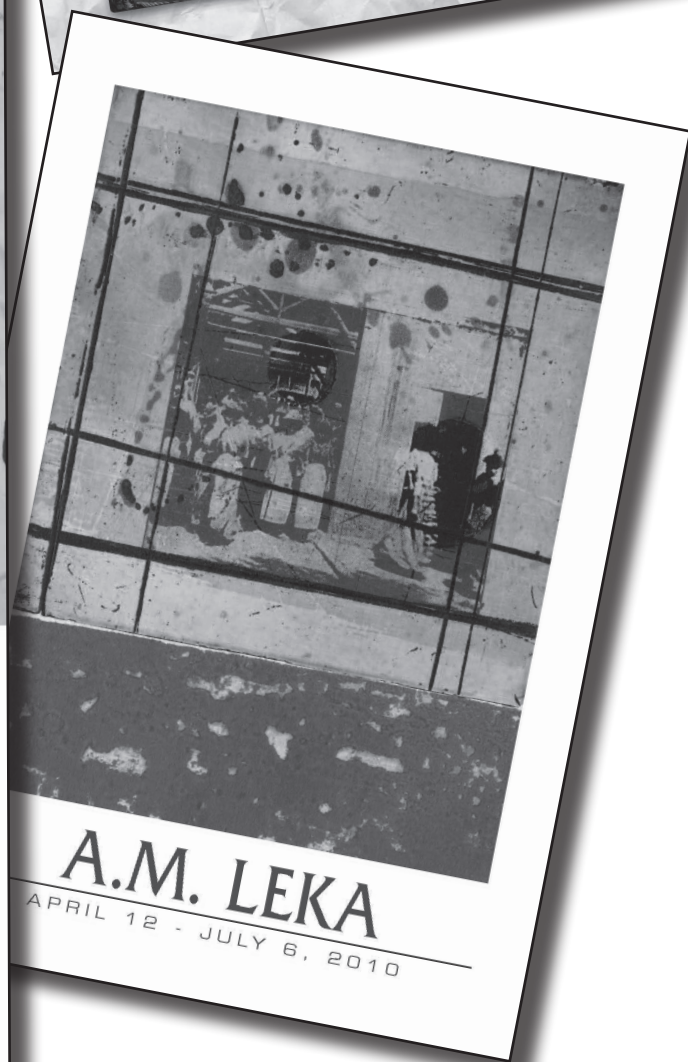
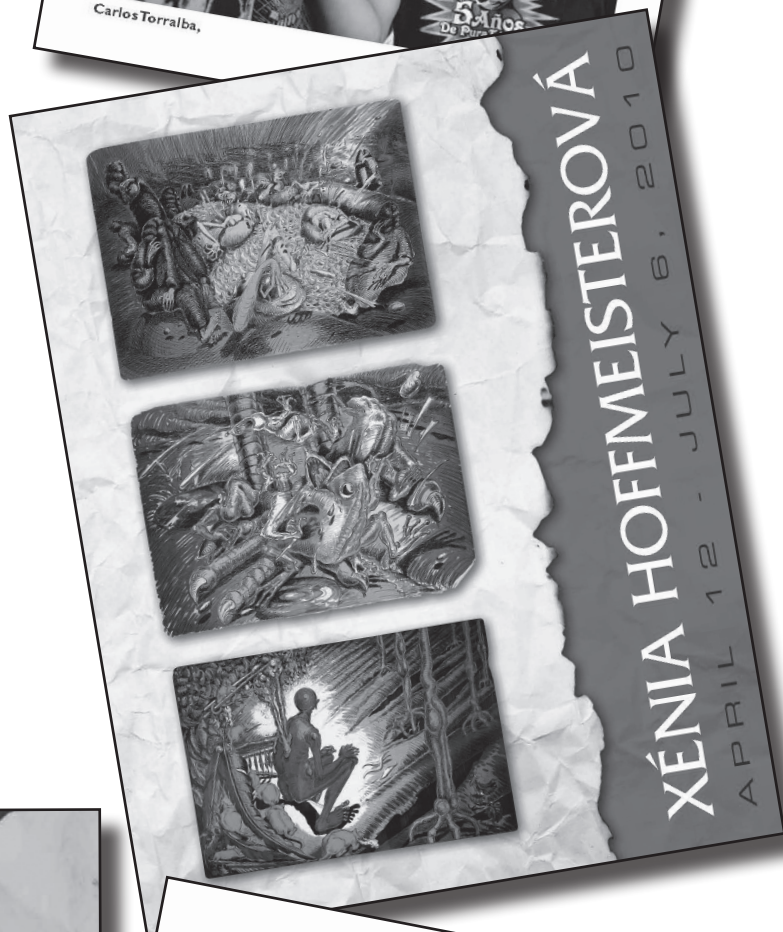
These artists were also invited to present workshops with UHCL

art students and for the Visual Arts Scholastic Event April 9 and 10. This was Torralba’s third invitation to VASE and first opportunity to critique Hu’s art students.

VASE is the state of Texas art competition for high school students held at UHCL every year in April. The artists presented workshops in printmaking and architecture for the competing students. The high school students’ artwork will be on display for VASE on the UHCL campus.

“To have the architecture workshop is the opportunity to convey to young Texans skills from my engineer’s practice,” Kevokic said. “My motto has always been ‘less is more.’ It is important for a student interested in becoming an architect to think deductively, to start from basic forms and composition in general and then to move towards the detail.”

This exhibition and artist in residency program was supported in part by a grant from the City of Houston’s City’s Initiative Program through the Houston Arts Alliance. It was supported by UHCL, Czech Center Museum Houston, Houston Arts Alliance and the city of Seabrook. For more information, visit the Czech Center’s Web site at www.czechcenter.org.

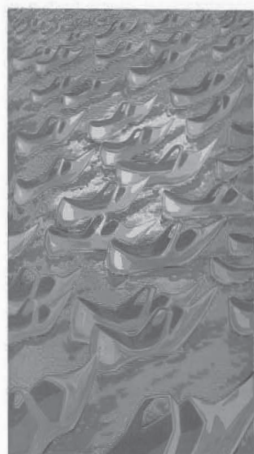


ART AND ARTISTS OF THE WORLD
SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2010 1:00 – 3:00 PM

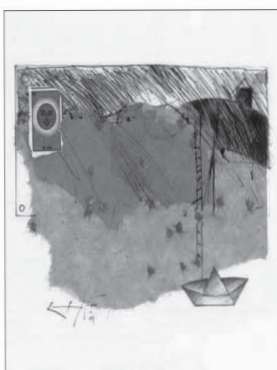
Professor Sandria Hu of the University of Houston Clear Lake will present the prints of Xenia Hoffmeisterova – Czech Republic; Carlos Torralba – Mexico; Aleksandar Mladenovic – Serbia; and the architecture works of Aleksandra Kekovic – Serbia. Reception to meet the artists and refreshments follows.

Czech Center Museum Houston
4920 San Jacinto at Wichita • Houston, TX 77004
Phone: 713-528-2060 • www.czechcenter.org

ART AND ARTISTS OF THE WORLD



Xenia Hoffmeisterova
CZECH REPUBLIC



Carlos Torralba
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Portrait of Virginia Woolf: Novelis writris, not Canis lupus.

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ART. ASK FOR MORE.
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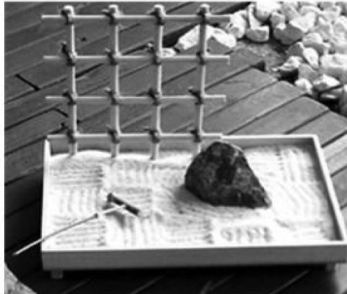



Image donated by Corbis Bettman

**** Student Life ** Student Life ** Student Life ****

FINALS PREP ZONE

Date: Wednesday, April 28
Time: 3 - 7 pm
Location: Atrium I & Garden Room
Cost: FREE

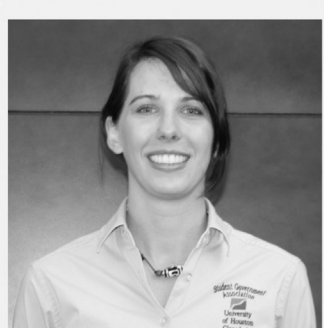


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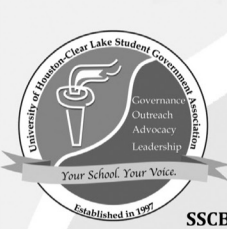
University Life Committee
Undergraduate Representative
Corey Benson

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

For Details Contact The SGA Executive Council:

Patrick Cardenas – President
Steve 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



ASTRO

Season opener falls short for the home team

Ryan Eldred
The Signal Staff

The Houston Astros opened the 2010 regular season April 5 with a loss against the San Francisco Giants. More than 43,000 people attended the game at Minute Maid Park to help celebrate the 45th anniversary of the franchise.

Festivities and pep-rallies took place outside Minute Made Park all afternoon. Bill Worrell, television broadcaster for the Houston Astros, said it best during the game by announcing, “Everyone in the ballpark has an extra step in themselves on opening day.”

Encouraged fan and League City resident Julia Gregory, who attended the game, said the atmosphere in the stadium was “reassurance to root for the good guys.”

Even after a first-game loss,

the Astros feel confident and are taking an optimistic approach to the season, especially after a crucial coaching change. The Astros front office and General Manager Ed Wade fired Cecil Cooper after the 2009 season and hired Brad Mills to take on the managing duties.

“I just want to give these guys [the players] a freedom to be who they are,” said Mills, who is a rookie manager with more than 20 years of Major League experience.

Houston fans are relying on him to re-create the magical ride to the World Series they experienced in 2005. This year new faces have been added to the roster.

“The manager brings a lot of fire to the team,” said Roy Oswalt, the Astros’ pitching ace, who is confident in his new skipper’s ability. “It should be fun.”

Fans packed the ballpark to see Oswalt in action against the two-time National League Cy Young winner Tim Lincecum. Lincecum, who has not pitched in Houston since last August, out-dueled the Astros right-handed pitcher.

“The season may have opened with a loss, but there are 161 games left and I will not let one get me down,” said Jeff Collins, a teacher at Baytown Lee High School, who attended opening day.

Oswalt made his eighth career opening day start for Houston, but Lincecum and the Giants’ bats proved too much for the Astros. Oswalt pitched six innings, giving up three runs on seven hits. Lincecum pitched a near-flawless seven innings, posting seven strikeouts and walking none. The Giants’ bullpen aided Lincecum’s performance and

sealed the team’s 5-2 victory over the hometown favorite.

Astros second-baseman Kaz Matsui, and left-fielder Carlos Lee each led the team with two hits. Unfortunately, the Astros were without their star first-baseman Lance Berkman who is on the disabled list while he recovers from off-season surgery on his left knee.

The Astros lost their six-game home stand against the Giants and the Philadelphia Phillies. They kicked off their road schedule April 12 against their division rivals, the St. Louis Cardinals.

Tickets and information regarding the Astros are easily available by visiting www.astros.com or by contacting the Minute Maid Park Box Office at 1-877-9-ASTROS.



David Sager: The Signal

Left: Enthusiastic crowd at the Astros’ season opener April 5 outside Minute Maid Park.
Center: Astros Manager Brad Mills speaking before the game.
Right: Minute Maid Field getting prepared for the game.

S

OPENING DAY



Kirk Sides: Courtesy

Above: Astros pitcher Roy Oswalt winds up on the mound.

Chili Cook-Off

Lindsey Watson
The Signal Staff

Rain did not stop the spirit and fun of the 21st annual Chili Cook-Off. The day started off gloomy and overcast and by midmorning the rain started to roll in. This did not, however, hamper the participants and attendees at Chili Cook-Off Saturday, April 10 hosted by Student Life.

Chili Cook-Off made a comeback this year, since the event was not held last year due to staff shortages.

With a rock wall, two bouncy houses, karaoke and enough chili to feed an army, the day was off to a great start. While a rendition of “Summer Loving” was belted out on the karaoke machine, someone else climbed the rock wall. Children and some adults were scrambled through the bouncy house and took a plunge down the slide. The Chili Cook-Off proved to be a success come rain or shine.

“I was worried the rain would affect numbers, but we had about 300 people there including teams,” said Allison Scahill, coordinator of student life for activities and student organizations and the organizer of Chili Cook-Off. “The most important thing for me was to make sure people were having fun and that most certainly was the case.

“Chili Cook-Off’s purpose is not only to have fun, but to build the community at the University of Houston-Clear Lake,” Scahill

continued. “This event provides students, faculty and staff the opportunity to bond or see each other in a different way.”

This year, 21 organizations took part in showcasing their chili for a chance at winning the coveted 1st Place Chili trophy. In the end, five teams were given various awards.

The Best Booth award was given to the School of Education Advising team. University Forest Apartments team was awarded the Cook’s Choice award.

Third Place Judged Chili went to the Chil-leaders, or the National Society of Leadership and Success team.

“We came first and foremost to have fun,” said Christopher Mathey, president of NSLS and sociology graduate student. “Everything else was a bonus. Our goal was to have fun.”

While the Chil-leaders wouldn’t reveal their secret ingredient, Mathey hinted “chocolate goes a long way in chili.”

The American Marketing Association walked away with the award for Popular Vote for Best Chili and 2nd Place Judged Chili.

“We are so proud,” said Kathleen Williamson, lecturer in marketing and AMA faculty adviser. “We have been here many years and this is our first year winning.”

Their secret ingredient was “chocolate, semi sweet,” revealed by Michele Collins, AMA president.

The Management Association’s chili was



Roman Rama: UHCL Communication Association

also a hit, scoring them three awards at the Cook-Off; the Judged Spirit award, the SGA award and 1st Place Chili.

Ashley Powell, public service leadership student and president of the Management Association, credits her team with their success.

“I can count on all of my members to be here,” Powell said. “What we bring to the table as an organization is what we brought to the table here, at the Chili Cook-Off.”

Next year’s Chili Cook-Off is already shaping up to be an interesting one.

“We challenge the Management Association, next year, to another ‘Proud Mary’ remix,” said Jessica Gough, treasurer of NSLS and education undergraduate student.



Courtesy: UHCL Student Life



Courtesy: UHCL Student Life



Corey Benson: The Signal Staff

LEFT: John Hernandez, history major, holds the 3rd Place Judged Chili trophy for NSLS. CENTER: The rock wall proved to be a fun challenge for many attendees. RIGHT: Vicki Villarreal Lenio and Shayla Habibi, members of NSLS, sing “Hit Me With Your Best Shot,” by Pat Benatar on the karaoke stage.



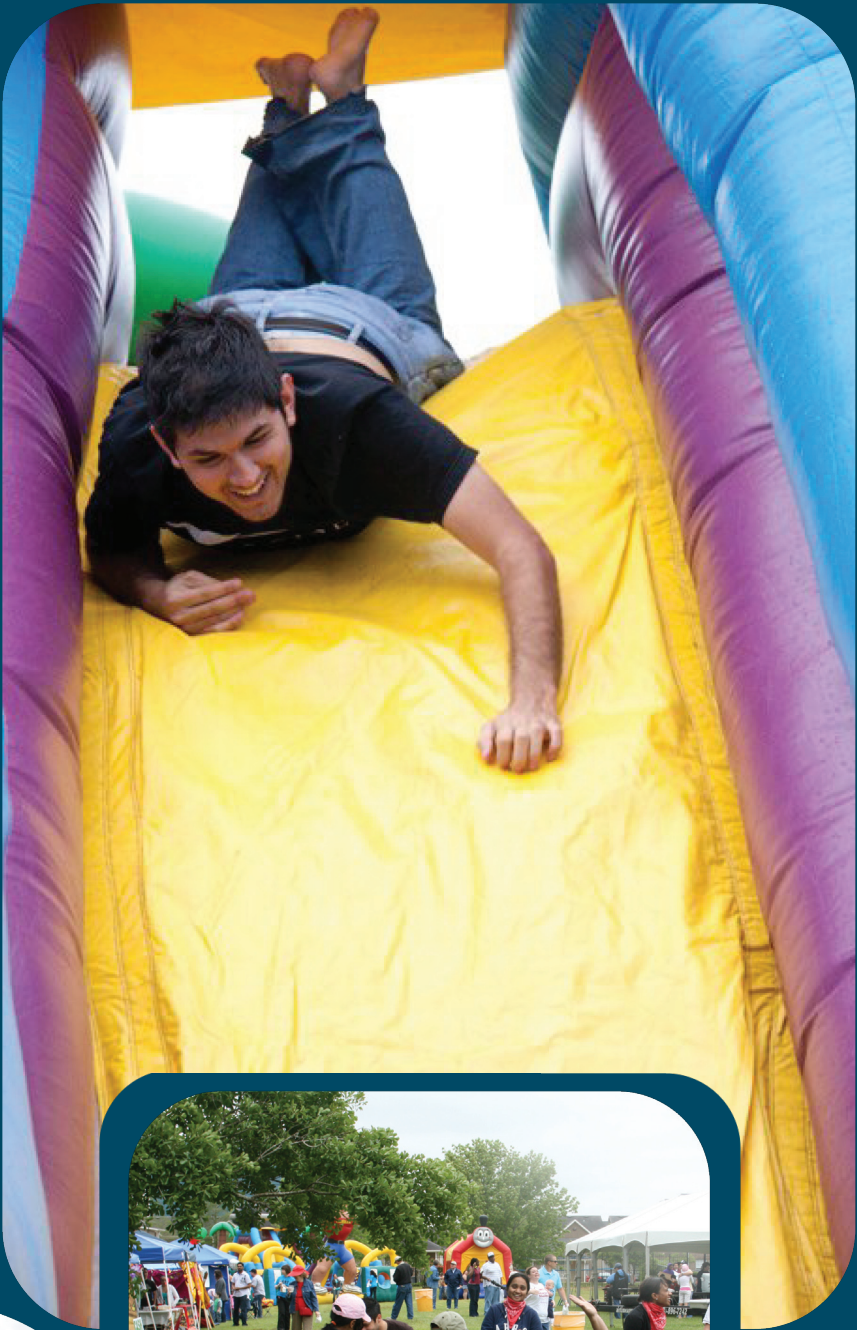
Stephanie DuBois: The Signal Staff



Roman Rama: UHCL Communication Association



Roman Rama: UHCL Communication Association



Roman Rama: UHCL Communication Association

ABOVE LEFT: Cups of chili await judging.

TOP LEFT: The Management Association celebrates their win for 1st Place Chili.

TOP RIGHT: Chili is poured into a tasting cup.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Alberto Alanis, communication major, slides down the Ironman obstacle course.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Chili Cook-Off attendees get low and drop it like it's hot.

BOTTOM LEFT: The Ironman inflatable obstacle course provided entertainment for attendees of all ages.



Stephanie DuBois: The Signal Staff



Courtesy: UHCL Student Life

The Comeback

Social Justice: *continued from page 1***DEYSI CRESPO**

counseling services,” Crespo said.

Compensation is granted via the Office of the Attorney General in Austin. Crespo began her work in this field through her internship with the Houston Police Department Victim Services Department, which she describes as “rigorous and intense.”

In fact, she got her first start in social work through the UHCL program as well. The Bachelors of Social Work program is a 3 year program; one which requires of students a minimum of 40 hours of volunteer work per semester. What she found was an agency by the name of Katy Christian Ministries. This place served as a launch pad for her career.

“They really opened a lot of doors

to everything else I’ve done,” Crespo recalled fondly, “I really found myself there. They have a crisis center for domestic abuse and sexual assault... and I didn’t know it existed right by my house.”

Her volunteer work continued well beyond the course requirements until May of 2008 when they decided to hire her on part time.

Currently in the works for this ambitious student are presentations on Shaken Baby Syndrome in addition to her duties as the Youth Program Director for the Katy Exchange Club. This is all in addition to campus participation, where she acts as the SGA representative for the Social Work Student Organization.

She continues her work on Teen Violence and hosts educational support groups, and also moonlights as a Research Assistant with Kim Case, assistant professor of women’s studies.

“Even though Deysi already juggles course work, her internship, community activism, student organizations and family responsibilities, she is the type of student that goes the extra 100 miles to learn something new” Case said. “Her presence has truly brightened the semester.”

UHCL REMEMBERS

Grad Student Dan Chaney

Dan Chaney, graduate criminology student, passed away in March 8 from heart complications related to a virus while he was visiting Guatemala at the age of 39.

“Dan was not a student who merely walked from his on-campus apartment to class each day, he was involved in shaping our university,” said Linda Contreras Bullock, assistant dean of student diversity. “His presence at this institution forever changed the campus climate and our awareness of students with disabilities.”

Chaney had asperger syndrome, an autism-related disorder where individuals exhibit difficulties with social interaction, along with repetitive patterns of behavior.

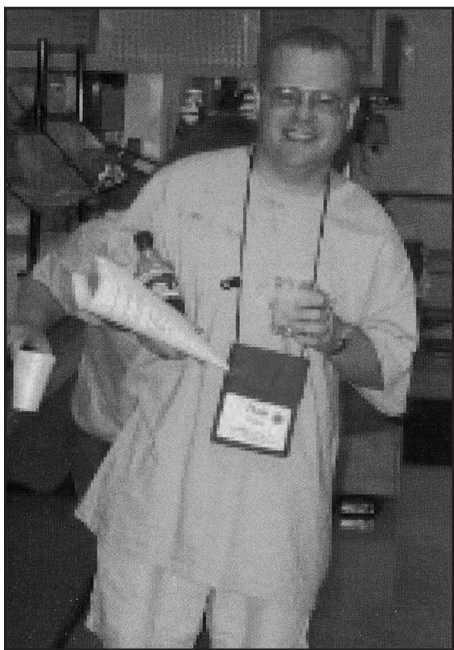
“When Dan shared his experiences and challenges with us, we responded swiftly, holistically, and with compassion and in the process we learned from him,” Bullock said. “We will not only miss him on campus, but also his participation in IISS’s programs and events.”

Before attending UHCL, Chaney earned two bachelor’s degrees and a master’s degree in education from Sam Houston State University. Chaney served as an orientation leader and participated in student leadership programs at UHCL. He graduated with a master’s degree in behavioral sciences from UHCL in fall 2007.

“Personally, I valued his inquiring mind, his thoughtful questions, his vast knowledge and his quest to learn more through his love of reading and travel,” Bullock said.

Chaney was pursuing a master’s degree in criminology, which would have been conferred at the end of this semester.

“There are many of us who can share a favorite Dan moment,” Dean of Students Anthony Jenkins said. “His presence became a welcoming hallmark to our community. Dan embodied an extraordinary zeal for life and people. Each of our lives is better because we had the pleasure of knowing Dan Chaney.”



Courtesy: UHCL Student Life

DAN CHANEY**Community Report:** *continued from page 1*

Sonya Lynch: The Signal

FROM LEFT: Kathy Tamer, United Space Alliance and UHCL distinguished alumna; Monica Stout, DMST major; Anne Henry, adjunct instructor, DMST; and UHCL President William Staples at the President’s Report to the Community breakfast March 25.

was awarded The Christa McAuliffe award given by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in November 2009.

This award recognizes outstanding achievements in preparing teachers through a hands-on program that allows them to intern at schools in the 23 partnering districts. The award was named for Christa McAuliffe who won the chance to become one of the first teachers in space on the Space Shuttle Challenger, which claimed the lives of her and six other crew members.

Also in December, Tina Farrell, assistant superintendent of Clear Creek Independent School District was awarded

UHCL’s first doctoral degree in education leadership. This program requires 69 hours of coursework including 21 hours in leadership, 15 hours in research, nine hours in communication and 102 hours in an area of specialization.

“What made many of our successes possible are the partnerships that UHCL has developed with corporations, individuals, alumni, cities, foundations and our own employees to advance key initiatives at UHCL,” Staples said. “The University of Houston-Clear Lake has positioned itself as a partnership-oriented and community-minded university. This is a role for UHCL that we take very seriously.”

Professor Stephen Rosoff

Stephen Rosoff, professor of criminology, passed away March 27.

“This is a huge loss,” said Steven Egger, associate professor of criminology. “He was my best friend and one of the smartest people I know.”

“Dr. Rosoff never lost an opportunity to poke fun at me,” remembered Candice Tucker, graduate criminology student. “He knew that I’d always be the one to fall for his corny jokes, and he would tell the students in his other classes, ‘There’s this one girl who will believe anything I say.’ The one time I did not believe him was the one time he was actually telling the truth; turns out he really did own his own pickle-making business, and used the profits from that to finance his Harvard education.”

Rosoff earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology and social relations from Harvard University in 1982. He then earned a master’s degree and a doctorate degree from the University of California, Irvine.

“Dr. Rosoff is absolutely my hero and the reason that I decided to pursue criminology,” said Brenda Ross, graduate criminology student.

After serving as a lecturer at Indiana University-Bloomington, Rosoff began teaching sociology at UHCL in 1988.

“Dr. Rosoff was a phenomenal professor, a confidant and a friend to his students,” said Joyce Delores Taylor, graduate multicultural edu-

cation student. “He was a role model and he will be missed.

Rosoff began teaching criminology in 2003 and became a full professor of criminology in 2008.

“Dr. Rosoff was one of the most compassionate, caring, intelligent, and thoughtful people I’ve ever encountered,” Tucker said. “He was my professor, my mentor, and in the last few months of his life he became my friend. He always said that if he were a monarch, he’d be known as ‘Rosoff the Good. I beg to differ. I think he will be known as ‘Rosoff the Great.’”



Courtesy: UHCL Archives

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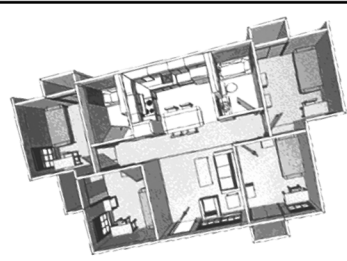

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Faculty, staff recognized



Courtesy: UHCL Office of Communications

Three faculty members were recognized during the 32nd annual University of Houston-Clear Lake Faculty and Staff Awards Presentation in April. Pictured from left to right are: Carl Stockton, UHCL senior vice president for academic affairs and provost; Lillian Benanvente-McEnery, recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award and associate professor of reading and language arts; James Benson, recipient of the Distinguished Service Award and associate professor of legal studies; Lawrence Kajs, recipient of the Distinguished Research Award and professor of educational leadership; and UHCL President William A. Staples, who received his 30-year Service Award during the presentation.

Accessibility for all



Courtesy: UHCL Health & Disability Services

ABOVE: Ron Graham, assistive technology trainer and UHCL alumnus with his seeing-eye dog Boise presented the Student Services Symposium "What Do Your Documents Communicate: Do they say what you see" April 8, which covered how to design documents to be more accessible and how to use the JAWS screen reader.

"People wouldn't dream of erecting a building today without handicap friendly entrances or bathrooms, so why build word documents that are not accessible to everyone as well?" Graham said.

Artistic expression



Alicia Nguyen: The Signal

ABOVE: Saralene Tapley, artist of acrylic paintings, was on campus as part of the Visual Arts Scholastic Event, which was held in the Bayou Building April 9-10.

VASE, sponsored by the Texas Art Education Association, gives high school students the opportunity to bring artwork created in their art classes to be evaluated by jurors. Medals were awarded to students who received superior rating in each division. Students' artwork is currently on display in the Bayou Building.

Visit www.uhclthesignal.com to view VASE artwork.

Campus Calendar

April 20

Beta Alpha Psi Raffle
Atrium I

SGA Meeting

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Lecture Hall

April 22

SETAC Earth Day
Alumni Plaza

April 23

Beta Alpha Psi Speaker
Meeting & Luncheon
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
SSCB Lecture Hall

Student Leadership

Banquet
6 - 10 p.m.
Nasa Bay Hilton

April 24

PTKAA Induction
Garden Room

April 25

Omicron Delta Kappa
Induction
2 - 5 p.m.
Forest Room

April 27

American Marketing
Association Bake Sale
11:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Atrium 1

April 28

Finals Prep Zone
3 - 7 p.m.
Atrium I & Garden
Room

April 30

SCEC's "Bring a Buddy
to the Fair"
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
SSCB Building

May 3

Last Day of Spring
Classes

May 4 - 10

Final Exams

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