



HPV Debate Continues



Are you prepared when you get ill?



Women behind the veil

Dateline: Downtown

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S T U D E N T - R U N S I N C E V O L U M E O N E

WHERE IS YOUR SCHOOL PRIDE?

Shake off UH's overall perception as a community college

By Douglas Musgrove
Staff Writer

As I stood outside my building at work, enjoying the beautiful weather we were having, I got into a conversation with a person who worked in the same building. We began talking about the weather, politics, and then education.

"Are you in school?" he asked.

"Yes," I replied. "I go to UH Downtown."

He gave me an odd look and replied, "Oh, I'm sorry."

This is not the kind of response I am used to getting

when I tell people I am continuing my education at a university. But I later found out that his daughter had graduated from the University of Houston-Central, which he felt was a better school. This was, of course, his opinion and didn't sway me in any way or make me feel ashamed of the university that I attend. It did, however, make me ask the question: What is the difference between UH Downtown and UH Central? My Conclusion: Nothing!

There are students at UH Downtown who are as dedicated and serious about their educations as students at UH Central. As I did more research, something else came to mind. Some of the students I interviewed at UH

Central felt that they had more school spirit than the students at UH Downtown. I was determined to find out why.

It was a bright and sunny Tuesday afternoon when I went to the central campus. I went straight to the library and found a student smoking a cigarette outside. "What is it about UH Central that makes the students feel they have more school spirit?" I asked him. "Well," he replied, taking a long drag off his cigarette, "students here have access to all the sports venues that U of H Central has to offer. We also have great student organizations and fraternities." When I informed the student that UH also has fraternities, he was genuinely surprised. "I had no



La Lechuzca (The Owl Woman).

O'Kane Gallery
Opens March 22nd

Pride of the SouthSide

Alex Rubio
and
Vincent Valdez

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idea!" he said.

I then decided to get a female's point of view. I walked over to the University Center and found a young lady sitting inside the courtyard enjoying her lunch. She was a business major in her junior year. I asked if she felt UH Central had more school spirit than UH Downtown and she said yes. I asked her to elaborate.

"U of H Central is a much bigger campus with many

more opportunities. I am also a member of the AMA (American Marketing Association) here at U of H, and they have been a great asset in my education in marketing. Some people feel that U of H Central students are getting a real education and a real college experience." I asked her if she felt the sports are important to the school spirit of UH Central.

"Absolutely, we have all
see NIRVANA pg 6

The Lure of Sports:

Why black kids want to play ball

By Dr. Kendall
Dateline: Downtown

There are always concerns about the unreasonable number of black youths who want to go into sports. The blame is often placed on their desire for megabucks, fame, and, for males, endless limos at your beck and call—as if those are bad things. But there's more to it than that.

It's true that there are many career paths that reasonable, intelligent, hardworking black people could take, i.e. accountant, stockbroker, attorney, college professor. These are the kinds of jobs people want to recommend to talented young men and women. But in all of these jobs, there is the potential of unseen racism playing a considerable role in career advancement.

Sports have a more level playing field. If you get that ball inside those lines, in that hoop, or over that goal line, nobody

can say you didn't. Of course, not every sport is ideal for the Black American Dream. Figure skater Debbie Thomas entered a sport based on subjective criterion. Like being a grad student or job candidate, Thomas' work was judged based on standards that changed with each contestant. She wasn't quite... whatever. Surya Bonali, a Frenchwoman of African descent faced the same biases. She was "too athletic" or "too adventurous." In other words, she did stuff Dorothy

See BALLS pg 6

UHD's Cash Rebate

By Peter Lovie
Staff Writer

A jackpot goes to students who graduate on time! UHD will rebate \$1,000 to all students who finish their degrees with no more than 3 college hours over on their degree plans. This little known program is available to students at state schools (like UHD) all across Texas. Because the state has not widely promoted this award, Dateline feels it important to inform the student body as to the rules.

Eligibility extends to all students who have been Texas residents during their

entire college career, starting in 1997 or later. Students must graduate within the specific time constraints of their degree. This means a student graduating with a bachelor's degree must finish in four years.

Special considerations are allowed when calculating hours for the degree. Study abroad programs are acceptable, provided the credits transfer to a four year Texas university. Dual credit hours (such as from a high school) count towards your total. Teaching and other forms of certification do not necessarily count against you. If pursuing a double degree, the degree with

see CASH MONEY pg 8

S T U D E N T - R U N S I N C E V O L U M E O N E

March marks a month-long celebration of women across America. Last issue, Dateline ran an opinion piece against Governor Perry's recent executive order that Texas girls receive a new HPV vaccine. New Mexico is following suit with legislation, while Texans are widely criticizing Perry. The following is a defense of the order and the vaccine.

**By John-Paul Cortez
Dateline: Downtown**

As a society, we are always looking to improve the quality of our lives. Along these lines, we should welcome and demand new methods of preventative medicine. When Governor Perry mandated the Human Papilloma Virus

HPV: Hearing People's Voices

(HPV) vaccine for young Texas girls through an executive order, it seemed to me that our great state of Texas was finally on the right track. Some of the people who supported the governor in the last election and supported his other executive orders are now upset with this mandate. They claim it disrespects parental authority.

Thinking that the HPV vaccine is something that will invade our households and jeopardize the right of parents to make decisions for their children is ridiculous. In fact, only a mandate will ensure that all parents receive medically accurate information about the

benefits of the vaccine, and their ability to opt out. Otherwise, only parents who regularly read newspapers or watch the news may know anything about the vaccine at all.

HPV is a bigger issue than many seem to think. Approximately 80% of sexually active adults are walking around with this disease. It causes virtually all cases of cervical cancer, which can render a woman unable to bare children, and even kill her. To not address the spread of this disease is a prime example of how some in our country expect to simply ignore things until they go away. It isn't until something

"hits home" that we worry about doing something to alleviate the situation.

Detection of HPV is difficult to catch in. The only treatment options left once cancer takes hold are surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy. The virus manifests no symptoms, so many do not get tested at all. This leads to HPV incubating, undetected, for years. Many women today do not get well-woman exams annually, as recommended by medical professionals. Early detection through well-woman exams cannot catch all cases of pre-cervical cancer dysplasia, a condition that occurs when the cells on the surface of the cervix start becoming cancerous. If not caught in time, dysplasia can become cervical cancer which can spread to other organs. Treatment options pose a risk to fertility when biopsies and surgeries leave

the cervix damaged to the point of not being able to carry a fetus to term.

The HPV vaccine will help us protect women. The vaccine is only effective prior to exposure to the virus, which is why the Center for Disease Control recommends it be administered with the set of vaccines given to students in the sixth grade. Advancements in medicine have given the gift of this vaccine so that our daughters, nieces, granddaughters, and loved ones don't have to suffer from the four strains of HPV this vaccine protects against. This vaccine protects against the two HPV strains that cause 70% of cervical cancer and 90% of genital warts. It's expected that within a year, the vaccine will be approved for use in boys as well. Though much rarer, men can also suffer from cancers of the penis and anus brought on by HPV. When

see **THE JUICE** pg 8

Letter to the Editor

Dateline welcomes all viewpoints, even those that some people might find offensive or wrong. As such, the following Letter to the Editor by Daniel Arp is running in this issue:

UHD is kicking off their "Celebrate You" month for women. During these times of fairness, diversity, and equality, where does anyone celebrate men? One year ago, I phoned a UHD administrator, asking this question. I was told that this is a nationally endorsed campaign that is needed since "men run everything."

The idea that men have the privilege and advantage in society is a myth successfully perpetuated through the media, and those in academia. They have the advantage in their promotion because the masses don't argue with so-called experts.

I've never bought into this myth and I am not alone. But

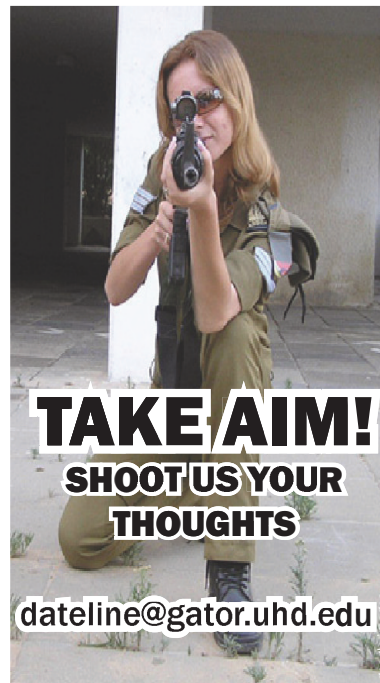
we are generally ignored due to the unpopularity of our position. When I espouse my ideas, those who should know the realities treat my viewpoint as an "oddball" position.

Dr. Warren Farrell, a professor and author, was an ardent supporter of NOW in the 1970's. Farrell began to question his position about men having societal advantage. After investigation in the areas of job opportunities, the so-called "pay gap," and legislation in favor of women, Farrell reversed his position. Not only do men not have all the privilege, but they are trailing behind women.

Consider that men served, by force of law (military draft), as soldiers in America's last six wars. Many have returned in body bags, wheelchairs, or with mental, emotional, and psychological scars. Tell me how they have the advantage? This is not male

privilege or power! This one point I believe trumps any about men having advantage.

I challenge UHD to do something to correct this gross imbalance. You celebrate those who, in my opinion, have substantially more privilege than men, and you do so for an entire month. You have no such celebration for men. Start now UHD, and be a trailblazer for other colleges by celebrating men for a month. Celebrate us with the same zeal you show women! Make others wonder why they didn't think of it first. ■



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Calendar of Events

FILM, SPOKEN WORD, AND A MONSOON WEDDING

WEDNESDAY, 21 March: Kama Sutra: The story of friendship and rivalry of two women from different social classes in India, as they grow into sexual maturity.

MONDAY, 26 March: Monsoon Wedding: A comedy of a traditional Indian family struggling with the realities of modern life through the wedding of their daughter.

WEDNESDAY, 28 March: Vanity Fair: A new film starring Reese Witherspoon and Jonathon Rhys-Meyers, this is the story of a British orphan struggling to climb the social ladder.

Like a bit more interaction? The following discussion groups will be held for just that purpose.

TUESDAY, 20 March: (Robertson Auditorium, 5pm) Women's Reading: This group will feature the works of Farnoosh Moshiri, Robin Davidson, Theresa Case, and UHD students.

Feel free to bring your own works and read them aloud.

THURSDAY, 22 March: (Room A300, 7pm) Road to Excellence: This session will feature recipients of the UHD Excellence Awards in Teaching, Scholarly & Service Award, and Distinguished Staff Award.

WEDNESDAY, 28 March: (Buffalo Bayou Room, Noon) Women Building Community: This session will feature local women leading the way to strong and healthy communities.

Would you rather just sit back and enjoy? The following may be for you:

WEDNESDAY, 28 March: (A300, 5pm) Music, snacks, drinks, massage and camaraderie. Gift bags and door prizes will be given away!

FRIDAY, 30 March: (UHD Coffee House, 1pm) Guitar & Soprano Concert: Featuring the musical talents of Valerie Hartzell and Yvonne Kendall. ■

The following are the activities being held for Celebrate You! on the UHD campus. All are free, and open to the public. So feel free to bring friends and family along with you.

Interested in film? The following films, by director Mire Nair, will all be shown in Room A405 at 7pm on the dates listed.

MONDAY, 19 March: Mississippi Masala: A classic film starring Denzel Washington and Sarita Choudhury, this is a story of the difficulties of interracial relationships in the United States, between a black man and an Indian woman.

Women advance in male dominated professions

By Don Pieper
Managing Editor

For the month of March, UHD is holding a celebration of women across the campus through a variety of events and activities. This celebration began several years ago as a one day event. Due to its popularity, there is now an entire month of events meant to encourage, empower and pay tribute to women.

I am personally opposed to relegating people into their own specific months of the year. I believe that it cheapens our culture to say that this group or that can have this month or that. Rather, we might actually try to teach these topics all year round. What we get instead is "Save MLK for February." And we, as a society, are weaker for it.

In recent years, women have

made considerable progress. Still, there is a long way to go before true gender equality is achieved in the United States. Let us go through a paint by numbers, so to speak. As we look at these statistics, let us keep in mind that, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2005 report, females make up just less than 51% of the total American population.

Let us first look at our government. There has never been a female President or Vice President. Currently, in the U.S. Senate, there are 16 women and 84 men. Currently in the U.S. House, there are 71 women and 364 men. This is about 16% of Congress. Earlier this year, Nancy Pelosi became the first female to ever serve as Speaker of the House, the second in line to replace the President. On the state level, 9 women serve as governors; 41 men serve in that role. Of the 100 largest cities, 12 have

female mayors, including Laura Miller in Dallas. There are 1,734 female state legislators around the country. There are 5,648 male state legislators, meaning that women hold about 23% of the seats.

What about corporate America? According to Catalyst, 15.6% of the corporate officer positions in the Fortune 500 companies is held by women. Women hold 14.6% of their board seats. Women are twice as likely as men to hold staff, or lower level positions within these companies.

Despite the tremendous male dominance of the military, women have fought alongside men in recent years. While it is true that women are not allowed to serve in combat units, this is meaningless in today's wars, which have no front lines. I personally served in Iraq, and saw women serving as gunners. I personally know female soldiers and Marines who have been in combat, just like me. They are no less because of their anatomy. To suggest otherwise is not only an insult to women and men, but to the nation and military

see GIRL PLEASE pg 8

Student Health Center



Student Health Insurance

By Andre Wojcik
Assistant Editor

Am I the only one who did not know that UHD offers a student health insurance? I'm sure that I got some sort of brochure or something at the beginning of the semester, but I more than likely stashed it away with the rest of my official UHD paperwork in the bottom drawer of my desk (also known as no-man's-land). As a new student, I guess I was preoccupied with things like enrolling in classes, figuring out financial aid, and finding all my classes (now I know that C-anything means a long walk to the Commerce Street Building). Now that I have settled into the swing of things, I've started to explore some of the options that UHD offers, including getting health insurance.

Alas, it is too late. When I visited our Student Health Center (N320), the receptionist kindly informed that I had until 30 days after the start of the semester to sign up for it. Fortunately, I am covered by my parent's plan until this summer, but after that, I am on my own. I know a lot of UHD students do not have health insurance and have the same concerns as I do.

The good news is that we have a wonderful health center on campus staffed by a team of professionals. It is not a requirement to have health insurance to get treated there. If you have the flu or a sinus infection, you have the option of going to the Health Center and they will not turn you away. At \$10 a visit, it is a pretty good deal. All students are eligible for services, although appointments are required. I was informed that same-day appointments are usually available if the student calls early enough (usually before 9:30 am). The business hours of the Health Center are: Monday

– Thursday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm and Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. The receptionist informed me that it would be prudent to have insurance for health emergencies that could not be treated in-house, such as a broken bone.

The insurance offered by UHD is a Student Accident and Sickness Program. If I did break my leg over the weekend, I would be covered, if treated at an approved local hospital (which is most hospitals in the area). The cost is \$420 a semester (\$210 for the summer semester). To be eligible, a student must be enrolled in 6 or more credit hours (3 for the summer session). The plan covers 100% of all charges incurred at the Student Health Center (including stuff like lab work) and 80% of "Reasonable and Customary Charges" in an off-campus hospital. The inpatient deductible for a hospital stay is \$150. Students be advised, this plan is rudimentary in nature. There are many things that it does not cover, like many kinds of dental treatment and eye exams. It also does not cover sexual reassignment surgery (go figure). What's more concerning is that it doesn't cover treatment for 'mental or nervous disorders.' On the other hand, treatments for these conditions are covered through the Health Center.

The insurance both is and is not cheap. It is \$420 a semester, which seems like a lot of money. Still, it works out to less than \$100 per month. And it is a good deal when comparing to other options. Medicaid is a hassle to deal with, and the costs of getting coverage from a private health care insurance provider are prohibitive. I know that in order to take care of my health, I need health insurance. As a student at UHD, I am eligible for a decent plan. As soon as the next semester starts, I will not hesitate in forking over the funds. As grandma always says, "better be safe than sorry." ■

Film



in the last two weeks at South by Southwest, S X S W , the annual film, music, interactive festival in Austin. Morgan Spurlock, famous for gaining an unhealthy amount

administration. Moore has been a target of conservative hatred as a result. At this year's festival, however, liberals attacked his methods. Manufacturing Dissent, by two Canadian filmmakers says that Moore does more harm than good to the liberal cause. The film documents Moore's distortions and lies in his films, which will certainly gain national publicity, particularly with political pundits.

In the past, independent film was represented, for the most part, topics that Hollywood deemed less economically profitable. Human interest stories, dramas, and overtly sexual content were the norm. In today's socio-political climate, however, documentaries have seemingly taken over. They have provided a voice to those who feel unrepresented in government and by the main stream media. It's nice to see Texas lead the way in the showing of these films. ■

**By Don Pieper
Managing Editor**

Remember when documentaries were boring? The teacher would pull them out and we would all groan. Well, some of us enjoyed the opportunity to catch a quick nap in the darkened classroom. Still, in recent years, it seems that documentaries have taken center stage in film festivals and awards.

These were highlighted

of weight for his 2004 film *Supersize Me*, presented *What Would Jesus Buy*, a film about American consumerism. He was also piquing curiosity about his upcoming documentary on the U.S. hunt for Osama bin Laden, tentatively titled *Where in the World...*

While Michael Moore is perhaps the most famous documentary filmmaker with his recent *Bowling for Columbine* about gun control and *Fahrenheit 9/11* which attacked the Bush



Michael Moore "speaks no evil"

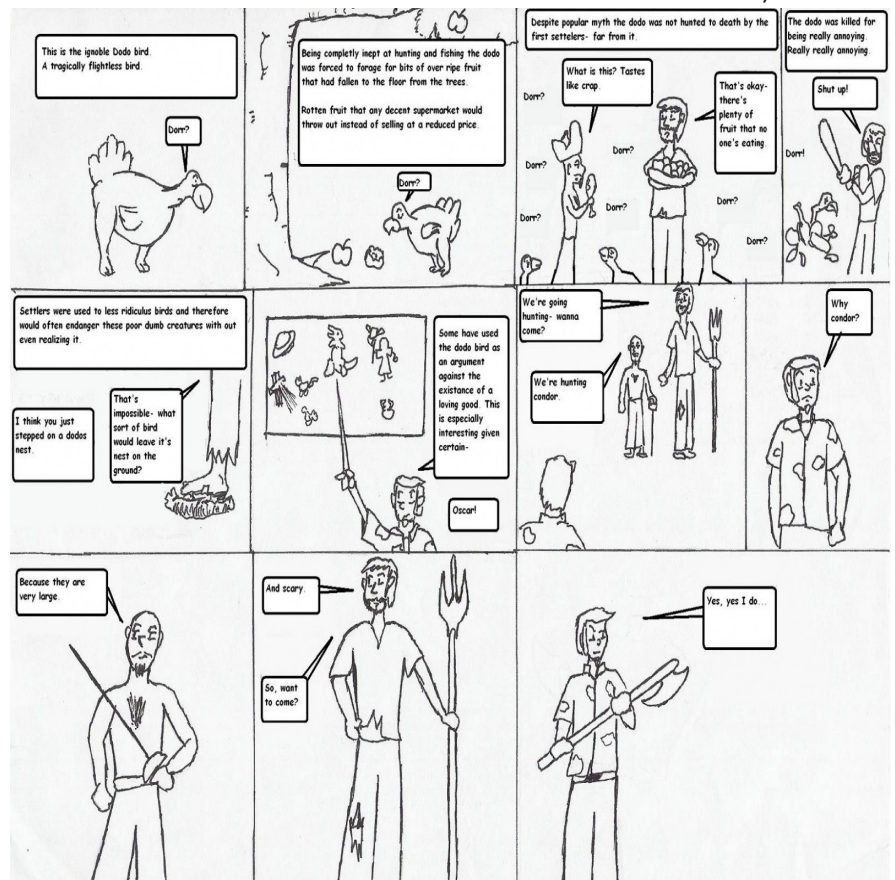
Student Cartoons

by Sadixt



"Good Old Darwin"

by Luke Fedell





Pride of the SouthSide

**By Juan Ortiz
Layout Editor**

This week, the O’Kane Gallery presents the art of two Texas artists who have gained international fame in recent years. Pride of the Southside is an exhibit that portrays San Antonio’s barrio.

Alex Rubio, also known as El Diablito, started off as a graffiti artist in the projects. Later he moved to murals,

working first with community organizations and then with an inmate program at the Bexar County Jail. He studied at the San Antonio Art Institute and then at the University of Texas-San Antonio. Rubio has served as an inspiration to the children and the prisoners who he’s taught over the years. He has facilitated art shows specifically to showcase the artist talents of the incarcerated, often displaying their works with his own. He has had shows

throughout the southwest, New York, and Puerto Rico.

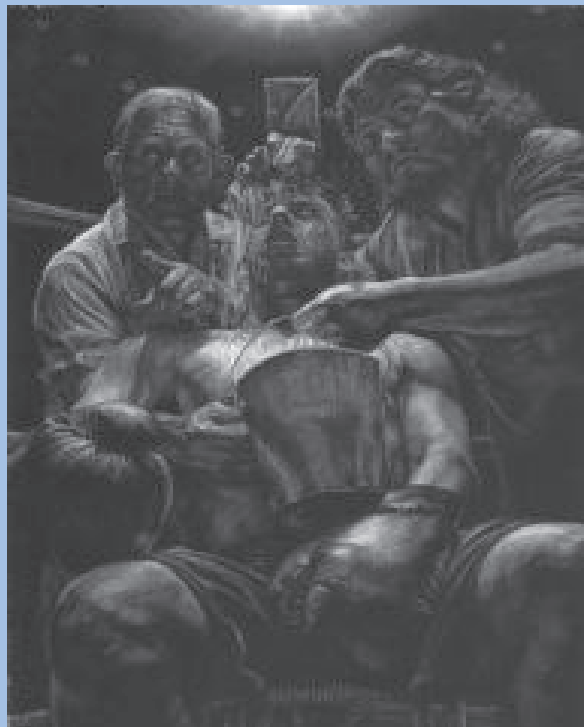
Vincent Valdez began his career in art at an early age, drawing and painting murals in San Antonio. He cites his two greatest artistic inspirations as his grandfather and Alex Rubio. Later, he received formal training at the Rhode Island School of Design. He has had his own shows from the east to west coast. He recently gained acclaim in Los Angeles, where he currently lives. His

art depicts the very physical struggle of life with menacing mood and stark color contrasts. Valdez is perhaps most famous for his boxing series, Stations, in which he contrasts boxing with the “stations of the cross.” Last year, the Houston Film Commission showcased a video prompted by these moving paintings.

The exhibit at UHD was uniquely created by the artist for a Texan audience. Similar presentations, however, are being

mirrored around the country with the traveling multimedia experience, Chicano Visions. Actor/comedian Cheech Marin, the force behind the project, was inspired to highlight the Mexican-American experience through artistic, scholastic, and cultural achievements.

Students are encouraged to stop by the O’Kane Gallery and see for themselves the works that have been directing the art world’s attention at Texas. ■



NIRVANA

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the sports stadiums right here on campus. We can go and see a sporting event anytime we want.”

Although we don't have sports teams on our campus, we still support those of UH Central because they carry the University of Houston name. Whether you are a Downtown or Central student you still take pride in the University of Houston Sports Organizations. As far as on-campus organizations, Downtown has plenty of them, whether they be fraternities or sororities, the Health Professions Organization, Chemistry Club, Environmental Club, Toastmasters, or even writing for the *Dateline Downtown*; we all have school spirit and take pride in our Downtown Campus life.

So I ask you, UH Central: We've got spirit yes we do, we've got spirit, how about you? ■

BALLS

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Hamill couldn't do.

One would expect that with a more objective sport like golf, a player would be safe. But when Tiger Woods, who's only part black, began winning everything in sight, white golf clubs started changing their courses to stop him. When Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer were winning everything in sight, not a single course was redesigned. But "Tiger-proofing" courses became the norm until he showed them that he could adjust his game to win anytime, anywhere. You go, Tiger!

What young black kids want more than money or fame is fair play. The court sizes in tennis and basketball are, metaphorically, set in stone, as is the football field. Aside from changing the course (which, again, was lowdown in the extreme) the same applies to the number of strokes it takes to put that ball in the cup.

I'm a college professor, one of those jobs you're supposed to get through hard work and education. Yes, I did all that but I wish I'd played ball. Here's why. Years ago, I was assigned to a committee whose purpose was the hiring of a faculty member in another department. I had

been added to the committee late, so I hadn't seen any of the documents. The first thing I heard was how Candidate X had taught a wide variety of courses. Great, everyone exclaimed, this will give us such flexibility in scheduling required courses. Much later in the meeting, we got to looking at Candidate Y. Hmm, they conjectured doubtfully, not so impressive. This candidate has taught such a wide variety of courses that there seems to be no focus in the teaching area. 'Hold up!' I said to myself. One person has taught a variety of courses and it's a good thing. Another has taught a variety of courses and it's a bad thing. The second one must be black.

Oh, you're saying, I've jumped to conclusions. I'm just a paranoid black person looking for special treatment. Well yes, I am black and maybe a little paranoid (though is it paranoia if they really are out to get you?). As for special treatment, if you call being judged on merit special treatment, then yes, I want some of that. Anyway, here's some salt to put on that hat you're about to eat, because I was right. Candidate Y was Black. She didn't get the job, despite better qualifications and more experience. I'll bet she wished she played ball too.

The same thing happens to other minorities. Another department that had three candidates: Candidates A, B, and C. Candidate A has a degree in hand, professional experience, substantial successful teaching experience, presented at national conferences, and energetically started new programs in the community. Candidate B had a degree in hand, professional experience, and less than a year of teaching experience. Candidate C had none of the above: no degree in hand, no professional experience, no solo teaching experience, and never presented at a national conference. Minorities already know where this is going. Candidate C, a white female, got the job. Candidate B, a more experienced white male, and Candidate A, the most qualified, a Hispanic male, didn't. I'll bet *beisbol* is looking very good to him right about now.

A friend of mine is a
see **BALLS** on page 4

**This is my Writing Arm.
Let's See Yours!**



**Dateline Downtown
Room 260S | 713-221-8569**

Woman's Place:

Eyes of Equality, Behind the Veil

By Victoria Albert
Dateline: Downtown

“O mankind, We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know each other. Verily the most honored of you in the sight of God is (one who is) the most righteous of you. And God has full knowledge and is well acquainted (with all things).” (Qur’an- 49:13)

This particular quote outlining the true equality of men and women is born of the divine notion that there is no room for perceived superiority (or inferiority) stemming from one’s biological nature, race, or ethnicity. In other words, our Creator-given rights include participation in a high level of basic humanity. But what constitutes *basic humanity*?

The process of every human’s “beginnings” includes the basic human reproductive development. As a lot of us may remember from Biology class, it takes nothing more than a mature sperm and mature egg to unite for another life to form. Every perceived loved, mediocre, or despised person is created in this identical fashion and thus maintains human status. Both men and women stand on equal footing in regards to their worth, humanity, and basic human rights. There is no room for the concept of a stronger or weaker sex.

In light of the social movements in various countries, the struggle to obtain equal rights for all continues. America leads the world in a fight for democracy and equal rights. Women are not exempt from fighting to obtain rights, and while America has witnessed a lot of progress in the socio-economic and political status of women in recent years, we still have some ways to go. Touted as one of the world’s most advanced nations, America’s focus is on enforcing democratic societies in other countries, and ensuring that everyone, specifically women, obtain their full rights.

One potentially surprising element of the full rights that women enjoy in some countries is that it comes from a religion that has received a lot of bad, misinformed press in recent years. This religion is called Islam, which literally means to surrender, submit, and obey the Creator with complete sincerity and without any resistance to His Supreme Authority. This is a “way of life” for its adherents around the world. Muslims, who are the followers of Islam, are both males and females.

According to its basic teachings, Islam imparts equal responsibility in positively contributing to the society for men and women. Muslim women are definitely not exempt from this commandment and maintain a very unique status in Islam. Established over 1,400 years ago, women gained the



right to become active socially, economically, and politically in Islamic societies. Their voices were heard, and contrary to what some claim, Muslim women could serve as religious scholars.

From the spiritual aspect, women maintain the same religious duties and moral obligations as men, and will be judged by God accordingly.

The Holy Qur’an states, “**And their Lord has accepted of them and answered them: ‘Never will I suffer to be lost the work of any of you, be he/she male or female’**” (Qur’an 3:195). In addition, women also enjoy other rights, including the right to possess their own property, financial security and inheritance, employment, the right to be respected as women,

seeking education, the right to accept or reject marriage proposals, the right to initiate divorce, and equality before the law. In addition, Muslim women have the opportunity to actively participate in social and political life, taking leadership positions, and ultimately embracing their “Creator-given” rights as human beings to live, and die, as dignified individuals.

BALLS

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corporate attorney. She’s Black. She earned her degree from a major Ivy League institution. A white male who went to the unaccredited YMCA night law school was promoted over her. She surely does wish she played ball.

Granted, it’s not all glory, even in the objective sports. Watch a TV broadcast when one

of the Williams sisters is playing some little white darlin’(LWD) like Lindsay Davenport or Anna Kournikova. The announcers’ remarks will fall into the following categories:

- Feeling sorry for the losing LWD – this happens if the LWD does something wrong or if a Williams does something very right.
- Enthusiastically congratulating the LWD for any small good thing.

• Trivializing any good thing the Williams sisters do, or saying how good things could have been better.

• Finding excuses for the LWD’s mistakes, while blaming the Williams sisters for their own.

Just look what happened in the year Magic Johnson and Larry Byrd were both basketball rookies. Magic was a guard for the Lakers all season playing his heart out. In the finals, Kareem Abdul

Jabar broke his hand and Magic had to play center all of a sudden. He scored 42 points, leading the Lakers to victory. Byrd, the Great White Hope of the Boston Celtics, was named Rookie of the Year. I lived in Boston some years later while racists there were turning over school buses with children in them, trying to overturn integration. I heard Whites praising Byrd for no other reason than that he kept the Celtics from being all black.

I know what you’re going to say. “That was a long time ago. Why don’t you just get over it?” Even I thought things were improving when football phenomenon Tennessee Titan quarterback Vince Young was named NFL Rookie of the Year. My brother-in-law, who is a big fan, however, let me in on some of the criticisms Young faced in an almost perfect season. Critics said

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BALLS

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that he didn't throw correctly, and he ran too much. The pro-football plays would be too "complicated" for him to understand, they said. Uh-huh. Meanwhile he threw long beautiful passes that got into the hands of his receivers, or when he couldn't get to them, he took matters into his own feet. Just as he did at UT-Austin, Vince Young sometimes put the Titans on his back and led them to victory. After several opening losses when he wasn't playing, he led his team to within one game of the playoffs.

Meanwhile, he left the precious WD Manning brothers in the dust (at least until the Super Bowl). Go 'head, Peyton! Alright, I am a Tennessean after all and Peyton played for UT-Knoxville: the *other* UT. Taking glory away from a WD is a crime in and of itself, apparently. But Young still got a prize, while the professors I spoke of didn't get the job. Because in those "other" careers that are so loudly touted as preferable alternatives, there's no way to know the ever-changing rules, and the people hiring sometimes just don't play ball. ■

CASH MONEY

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the lesser required hours will be used as the base of determination of eligibility for the program. Financial aid recipients will be eligible for the rebate. Technical preparation courses do not count towards the total. College courses dropped or taken by exam, as well as developmental courses, can count toward hours earned for the rebate.

Transfer students qualify for the tuition rebate, so long as they meet the other criteria. Hours from other schools are simply added to the credits earned at UHD for a cumulative total, which remains the same for all students. Transfer students will not qualify if hours must be added from out-of-state schools. Transfer and other students may be disqualified altogether depending on how hours are earned. Classes are counted as of the official census date every semester.

The program extends not

only to UHD but to all public state universities in Texas. The most recent data shows 3,421 students received the rebate for the 2004-2005 school year. All students are encouraged to take advantage of this program. Graduating on time saves money for students, their families and the state.

For some students, participation may be too late. We've waffled on our majors or simply taken unrelated courses because they interested us. This program is designed to stream line student life, getting people through with their degrees as quickly and efficiently as possible. If you are just beginning your college career, we at Dateline encourage you to think and act wisely in choosing your courses over the next few years. After all, a \$1000 check from the state of Texas is a mighty nice graduation gift. ■

THE JUICE

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both genders are vaccinated, we will begin to see the eradication of these strains of disease in our population. Until then, at least we can protect our young women.

This debate is an example of the recent changes our country has undergone in terms of political climate. Texas is playing a major role in this change. I believe that even the state of Texas is seeking new methods of thinking. The negative reaction to this medical breakthrough is seen by many as simply stubbornness and ignorance.

Additionally, statistics have shown that more people have contracted HPV than we readily admit. Fortunately, people are now looking for information on a condition they previously knew little or nothing about. It is this determination which will motivate us to vaccinate and protect ourselves. ■

GIRL PLEASE!

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they serve as well.

What about here at home? Crime statistics show that 1,400 American women are killed annually by their husbands and

boyfriends, according to the FBI. That's about 4 each day, on average. 132,000 American women report being raped every year. That's about 361 each day, on average. More than half of these women know their attackers. Because of shame, guilt, and fear, it is estimated that at least twice as many do not report being raped.

What about economic indicators? According to the 2004 U.S. Census Bureau report, the median income of American women is \$0.76 for every \$1 earned by American man. According to General Accounting Office data on the ten industries employing the most women, the pay gap between males and females actually widened between 1995 and 2000. The U.S. Department of Labor Statistics shows that women earn less than men in each of their 300 job classifications. According to AFL-CIO reports, if the average pay for women was equal to the average pay of men, women's salaries would increase, on average, by \$4000 annually. This would reduce poverty in America by more than 50%, giving a far greater advantage to working families and single mothers than any tax break.

If we compile this data, and use the year as a pie chart of sorts, we will see that women account

for all the days from January to the first week of August. Their political power reaches from January into mid March. Their corporate power gets left back in February. So what's the bottom line? Should we celebrate women during the month of March? SURE! But we should keep up the festivities from April to February as well. ■

Are you looking for a job on campus? Don't settle for a BORING job — work for your CAMPUS Newspaper!

The Dateline: Downtown, UHD's Student-run Newspaper currently seeks energetic UHD students to apply for the positions of Business Manager and Editor (separate positions). Candidates for the editor position must have excellent writing skills, ability to manage an eclectic and idiosyncratic staff of student writers, and a broad knowledge of UHD student activities and interests. Must be able to write and edit grammatically correct stories on short notice and meet tight deadlines. Pay is based on a 20-hour workweek, but production schedules require the editor's commitment to on-time delivery to the printer, which often requires sustained teamwork and late hours "to put the paper to bed" on a bi-monthly deadline. Some knowledge of InDesign will be helpful, although it is not required. This position is open for the Spring and Fall semester of 2007.

The same qualifications apply for all candidates seeking the Business Manager's position. In addition to managing staff this individual is responsible for managing the Dateline's budget for 2007. Must have excellent communication skills and the ability to generate advertising revenue for each issue. Some sales experience will be helpful, although not required. Primary responsibilities include producing payroll for newspaper staff and reporting faculty advisor on all expenses accrued throughout the school year as well as formulating a budget for the following academic year. This position is an excellent start up for any students majoring in Public Relations, Communication, Professional Writing, or Marketing. Position pays base plus commission on all ad revenue collected.

Don't just punch a clock:

- Gain professional experience while you are in school.
- Learn to design and market a regular publication.
- Learn the basics of developing and selling advertising for a specific audience.
- Gain professional editing skills and learn to manage writing staff.
- Carry a substantial amount of College Media Experience into your first interview after Graduation.