

# UTD MERCURY

The Student Newspaper of The University of Texas at Dallas

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George Putnicki and one of his assistants, Helen Kimbrough, check a map pinpointing areas where noise pollution exists in Santa Fe, N.M., site of one of the studies recently completed by the Regional Noise Technical Assistance center at UTD. (Photo by Wade Jones)

## Hearing is concern of noise studies

By GERRI LEWIS  
Staff Writer

You may be losing your hearing and not even realize it. An estimated 102 million Americans—approximately half the U.S. population—are exposed to noise levels that could interfere with their everyday activities and in some cases cause permanent hearing loss.

The reason is noise pollution and according to George Putnicki, director of the Regional Noise Technical Assistance Center located on the UTD campus, "No one cares."

Putnicki is a professor in the graduate program in Environmental Sciences and is helping people get on-the-job training in this field through his courses.

"The students become co-authors of a genuine published report which is ready by officials of whatever city is being studied," he said. It is on the basis of these reports that a city will act.

After much advance preparation, Putnicki and his class set up monitoring sites and measure the levels of noise over certain periods of time, including both day and night.

Noise is measured in decibels (dB) and anyone who is exposed to noise levels of 70 to 75 dBs continually over a 24-hour period could damage the delicate tissues of his or her ears.

Rock music, a common offender, registers at approximately 110 dBs, a jet engine measures around 135 dBs, aver-

age street traffic about 85 dBs, and a business office with typewriters and telephones rates around 65 dBs.

Hearing loss due to noise exposure usually occurs gradually so considerable deterioration may occur before a person is aware of it. The damage is irreversible and everyone is paying the price.

According to Putnicki and his students, UTD's own power plant is a noise offender. The plant, he said, is probably the noisiest place on campus and workers who are provided with sound protected offices do not always use them.

Putnicki feels that education is the answer to the noise pollution problem.

Noise must be measured in decibels because most municipalities have vague noise ordinances. But while it is illegal to disturb the peace, Putnicki notes that noise is attitudinal.

"What is noise to you may be music to someone else's ears," he said.

## A&H speaker addresses moral issue

By TOM UHLER  
Staff Writer

Stating that abortion is considered in some philosophical circles as "perhaps the greatest moral problem of our generation," Dr. Louis Pojman opened the College of Arts and Humanities October series with a discussion of this controversial topic.

The main moral problem with the abortion issue, he said, is determining "if there is any reasonable place to draw the line between when a single-cell zygote ceases being a cell, and when it becomes a human being."

Citing traditional sources such as Aristotle, Dr. Pojman defined the human being as a living creature possessing "self-consciousness, rationality, a sense of self, and a sense of 'futurehood.'"

He delineated the three main positions on the abortion issue—the conservative position, which states that the fetus is a person and as such has the right to life; the moderate position, which holds that a fetus is not a person, but is a potential person; and the liberal position, which says that a fetus is not a person, but is only a biological member of the human species—and offered arguments from each side.

## Special events ready for Spain Fortnight

Dr. Carolyn Galerstein, Dean of the School of General Studies at UTD, will deliver a lecture on the literature of Spain, Monday, Oct. 27, as part of a series of events sponsored by the UTD Student Activities center in conjunction with Neiman-Marcus' "Spain Fortnight."

Four Spanish films, an art exhibit, travel films of Spain, and a Spanish dinner also will be presented by the university Oct. 20-31.

## Kicker Alert! C & W Band due Friday

The Student Congress invites all students to a "C&W Bash" on Friday, Oct. 17, from 8 p.m. until midnight. Music for the event will be supplied by The Will Barnes Band, which has just completed an engagement at Whiskey River.

Barnes has just released a new album and has a hit single with "My Girl Ran Off."

"His kind of hard driving country will knock your boots off and jingle your spurs," said Mark Mooring, vice-president.

The band will play in the mall between Green and Jonsson and beverages will be available.

The art exhibit, "Art from Spain," consisting of Spanish painting, sculptures, and other art works, on loan from collections of UTD faculty and staff members, will be on view in the McDermott Library. It will be open to the public Mon.-Fri. for the duration of the series.

## Wordsworth reads English poetry here Wednesday

"This England," an anthology of opinions and reflections about England, will be given by Richard Wordsworth Wednesday at 12:45 p.m. in Jonsson Center Performance Hall.

In addition to sentiments expressed by England's well-known poets, William Shakespeare and William Wordsworth (Richard's ancestor), Professor Wordsworth will quote from works of other notable literary figures and visitors to England, among them Ralph Waldo Emerson, Jane Austen and Charles Dickens.

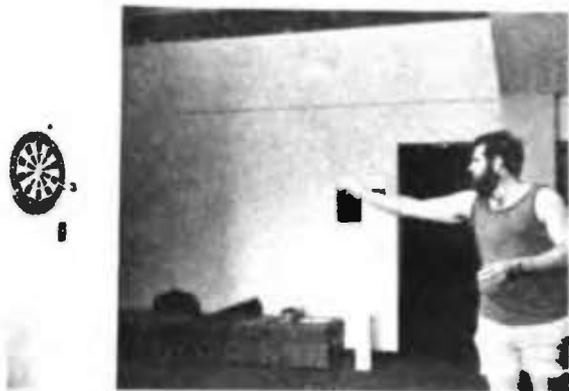
A graduate of Cambridge University, Prof. Wordsworth has a long list of acting credits dating from his years in English classical theatre. He combined his interest in acting with an abiding interest in his famous ancestor.

After a residency at Elon College in North Carolina, Prof. Wordsworth re-

turned to UTD for the fall 1980 semester to teach and to perform.



RICHARD WORDSWORTH



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DARTS CHAMPS are: first place, Roy Willis below; and Steve Murphy and Mike Crumley, from left above, second and third place. (Photos by Wade Jones)



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**Blood Club requests donations**

Breathe easy after donating your blood.

In connection with the blood collection drive to be sponsored by the UTD Blood Club and Student Health Service, the Wadley Blood Bank and the American Lung Association will have mobile units parked on campus Wednesday, Oct. 22, from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., to collect blood donations and to administer lung X-rays.

The goal of the drive is to collect 100-150 pints of blood. Wadley will be offering a gift to everyone who donates.

A film describing blood donation and the uses of the different blood components will be shown in McDermott lobby every half hour from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Oct. 21.

The Wadley Mobile Unit will be parked in front of McDermott Library from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

The ALA Mobile X-ray Unit will be on campus from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Cost of the X-ray will be \$5. For more information, call the Student Health Service office at 690-2747.

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The LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin emphasizes public policy analysis, interdisciplinary research and summer internships in government agencies in its graduate programs:

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**CALENDAR**

**OCTOBER**

- 13 7 p.m., UTD Astronomy Society organizational meeting at the observatory. Team Racquetball play begins.
- 15 12:45 p.m., Jonsson Performance Hall, *This England*, Richard Wordsworth. 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., Film Society presents Visconti's *The Innocent*, Founders North Auditorium.
- 16 12:30 p.m., University Theatre, NTSU Opera Workshop, scenes from well-known operas. Free admission.
- 17 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., Film Society presents Lester's *The Three Musketeers*, Founders North Auditorium. 8-Ball Tournament entry deadline, P.I. Building.
- 21 7:30 p.m., Spanish Fortnight film, *Pascal Duarte*, Founders North Auditorium.
- 22 7:30 p.m., Spanish Fortnight film, *Spirit of the Beehive*, Founders North Auditorium
- 24 6:30 p.m., pre-film Spanish dinner, Founders Banquet Room. 690-2945 for information and reservations.
- 24 8 p.m., Spanish Fortnight film, *Cria!*, Founders North Auditorium.



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# Numerous area companies slate on-campus interviews

Twenty-four on-campus interview schedules will bring industrial, university and government visitors to the UT-Dallas Placement Service during the last two weeks of October.

The schedule opens Tuesday, Oct. 14, with two federal agency interviewers meeting near-graduates in physical and environmental sciences.

Placement Service offices are in 1.408 McDermott Library, and the telephone is (690)-2943.

The schedule and major fields of interest:

**Tuesday, Oct. 14**  
Environmental Protection Agency, physical and environmental sciences; Department of Labor, master's in environmental sciences.

**Wednesday, Oct. 15**  
Arthur Anderson & Company, accounting/business; Standard Oil of Ohio (SOHIO), master's, geosciences.

**Thursday, Oct. 16**  
Ernst & Whinney, accounting; Mobil Oil, geosciences; Prudential Insurance Company, sales, all majors; Realty World/Mueller & Carrington, sales, general studies, management, social sciences.

**Friday, Oct. 17**  
Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, two-year graduate program, all majors; Price Waterhouse & Company, accounting.

**Monday, Oct. 20**  
AMOCO Production, master's or doctorate, geosciences.

**Tuesday, Oct. 21**  
Touche Ross & Company, accounting; Gulf Oil, all degrees, geosciences; Texas Comptroller, accounting; Planned Marketing Associates, field marketing, all majors.

**Wednesday, Oct. 22**  
New York Life Insurance, sales, all majors; AtlanticRichfield, minimum complete junior year, geosciences; also, accounting through master's.

**Thursday, Oct. 23**  
AtlanticRichfield, accounting (continued); Core Laboratories, geology, geochemistry, chemistry; ENSERCH, all degrees, geosciences.

**Friday, Oct. 24**  
Army & Air Force Exchange, marketing, accounting, computer information systems/sciences; McDonald Corporation, management training, all degrees, all majors; Foremost McKesson (McKesson Chemical), sales, business.

## A few words . . .



## About studying

By **MIKE RINGLEY**  
Student Congress President

Are you having problems completing your course assignments? Perhaps you need to utilize the services of the Effective Techniques Center (ETC). Services provided by ETC include academic skills improvement such as taking better lecture notes, developing textbook study strategy, gaining more efficient reading skills, and improving writing abilities. The self-improvement assistance is accomplished through individual guidance, small group meetings, self-study materials and tutor selection. In other words, ETC can aid with any type of academic problem.

ETC also provides preparation for the GRE, GMAT, and LSAT examinations. The preparation consists of both self-study material and practice examinations.

A new service offered by ETC is English as a Second Language (ESL) study. Both one-on-one and group conversation with native English speakers are provided. Multilingual instructors also have more formal, structured sessions available.

The center is open the following hours this semester: Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. ETC is in MC2.428, phone 690-2746.

# Auschwitz production evokes vivid pictures

By **CAROLE LESTER**  
Staff Writer

The abstract one-act "memory play," *A Message from Auschwitz*, opened the theatre department's fall season. It was a dramatically produced offering which told of the tribulations endured by 20 French women interned at the infamous Nazi death camp during World War II and of their efforts to survive.

Mental pictures evoked through the words spoken by the characters were vivid and the production was vitally assisted by Linda Williamson's staging and lighting and Carolyn Gillespie's costumes. The fragmented construction of the play itself, however, interfered with the audience's concentration. There were a few too many characters with too little identification, making it difficult for the audience to determine who the speaker was and what specific part she played in the human drama.

The play's major strength can be found in the words themselves; they become the action in an otherwise motionless drama. The words must be heard and the appropriately ethereal music sometimes overpowered them, but for the most part, the sound effects were used with restraint. Use of a large transparent scrim behind which were seen pantomimes of off-stage violence was a very effective device and aided in focusing the audience's attention on the essentials of the message.

It has been said that writing

about bad experiences is cathartic and Charlotte Delbo's play surely is an example of the truth of that concept. But to be viewed as drama, as a play, a storyline is needed to convey an immediacy, and it is in this respect, and this alone, that *A Message from Auschwitz* falls short.

The play's message is not death but survival. Over and

over the characters call for a survivor, a remnant, someone to take back the message of the horror. This is why the play should be presented. The message must continue to be told lest it be forgotten.

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