



BY WENDY KILMER

► Students showcase creativity in FilmFest

For the third consecutive year, **FilmFest** offered ACU students the opportunity to submit their work in the category of drama, comedy or action films. This year, 13 were entered: five comedies, five dramas and three action films.

Ten awards were presented at the Nov. 2 ceremony that followed the showing of the qualifying films at the Paramount Theatre in downtown Abilene. Of these 10, six were won by the action film "In Sheep's Clothing," created by **Grant Starey**, a junior biology major from San Marcos. The film won awards for Best Production Design, Best Technical Director, Best Producer, Best Writer, Best Director and Best Film.

This year's judges included Emmy Award winner **Roman White**, a producer with Revolution Pictures and "CMT's Director of the Year"; **Don Henderson**, senior manager of creative expression with Apple; **Dave Stotts**, host and editor of "Drive-Thru History," a History Channel International series; and GeekBrief producer and writer **Neal Campbell**.

► HH&RB wins Austin City Limits festival

Ambient rockers **Homer Hiccolm** and the **Rocketboys** got the chance of a lifetime when they performed at Austin City Limits after winning the most votes in "The Sound and

the Jury," an online battle of the bands. The Rocketboys, an Abilene-based band composed of ACU students and alumni, were thrilled with the opportunity presented by the Austin City Limits Music Festival.

The annual three-day music festival, which began in 2002, has become one of the premier rock music events in the nation. This year's festival included performances from rock legend Bob Dylan, indie folk artist Regina Spektor, Björk, Muse and more than 120 other bands.

Homer Hiccolm and the Rocketboys include **Josh Campbell** ('07), senior management major

Philip Ellis, graduate student **Daniel Wheeler**, **Mitch Holt** ('07), **Brandon Kinder** ('06) and **Justin Wiseman** ('07).

► Troop 201 celebrates 50th anniversary

For more than 50 years, **Boy Scouts of America Troop 201** in the Texas Trails Council has shaped the lives of young men in association with ACU and Abilene Christian Schools. The troop celebrated its golden anniversary Oct. 7, 2007, at the University Church of Christ and at its scout hut on campus, west of Smith-Adams Hall.

Former ACU Bible department chair **JW Roberts** started Troop 201 – originally designated Troop 1 – in 1956. The reunion honored 74 Eagle Scouts from among the



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Jason Ligon, Drew Martinez, A.J. Yost and Troop 201 assistant scoutmaster Dr. Neal Coates ('87) at the Golden Anniversary ceremony.

troop's 611 participants through the years. Twelve percent of Troop 201's scouts have become Eagles, a percentage triple the national average.

Twenty-seven Eagles attended the reunion, including **Don Bacon** ('67), the troop's first, and Jay Tindol, its most recent.

"Those who have come through this troop have benefited from scout leaders such as **Dr. Charlie Marler** ('55), **Dr. John Estes Jr.** ('48), **Gene Linder** ('60), **Pat Agnew** ('64), **Kent Barnett** ('81), **Dempsey Peterson** ('85) and others," said **Dr. Neal Coates** ('87), assistant scoutmaster and the director of the reunion.

► Ad exec Lin among campus speakers

- **Steve Wen Ho Lin** ('86), president and CEO of the Grey Group – Greater China traveled from his home in Hong Kong to speak to students from several departments while on campus at Homecoming to receive a Gutenberg Award from the ACU Department of Journalism and Mass Communication. Other Gutenberg winners honored in an Oct. 18 dinner were **Pamela Hamm** ('85), anchor/reporter for KWES News 9 in Midland, and **Greg Staley** ('92), communications manager for the Travel Industry Association in Washington, D.C. Gutenbergs are awarded annually to recognize distinguished professional achievement among JMC graduates.

- **Dr. Wayne A. Meeks**, Woolsey Professor of Biblical Studies Emeritus in the Department of Religious Studies at Yale University, discussed the subject of biblical interpretation in and for contemporary culture at the annual Carmichael-Walling Lectures.
- Christian speaker, author and theologian **Ron Sider** spoke to students Oct. 15 about solutions to poverty in America. Sider is founder of Evangelicals for Social Action, a think-tank which seeks to develop biblical solutions to social and economic problems.

- **Jennifer McGregor** ('90), director of business development and marketing for Holabird & Root, an architectural, engineering and interior design firm, spoke to Department of Art and Design students about designing environmentally friendly spaces. McGregor works in Holabird & Root's Chicago office and serves on the art and design department's Visiting Committee. ▲



Daniel Wheeler, Mitch Holt and Brandon Kinder perform at the Austin City Limits festival.

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180 voices of current and former members of the ACU A Cappella Chorus combined to record an album, "Sweet Will of God," at the 10th annual Alumni Choral Reunion Aug. 2-4, 2007. While on campus, the ACU Choral Society presented a check for \$15,000 to the Department of Music's choral scholarship funds.

\$3.2 million in Department of Energy grants has been awarded to ACU during the past 25 years for nuclear research by its renowned undergraduate physics department. The latest grant is for \$450,000. ACU students work alongside their professors each year at national labs such as Los Alamos, Fermilab and Brookhaven on experiments typically reserved for graduate students from much larger universities.

82 NCAA, Lone Star Conference and ACU records were set by the 2007 football team during its best season in 30 years. The 10-3 Wildcats lost 76-73 in the NCAA Division II regional semifinals to Chadron State in one of many record-setting games for ACU. See story on pages 10-12.

41 ACU students spent the fall semester studying abroad in Montevideo, Uruguay, and Oxford, England. They returned Dec. 12. Each year, ACU sends approximately 200 students to study, largely in Europe and Latin America. ACU faculty teach classes and mentor the students throughout the experience.

50 percent of the proceeds of **HeartBeat clothing** are donated to Stephen's Children, a Christian organization that focuses on poverty issues in Cairo, Egypt. HeartBeat Clothing T-shirts are sold in The Campus Store in McClothlin Campus Center. HeartBeat (www.giveabeat.com) is the result of a collaboration of several organizations either affiliated with ACU students or founded by its alumni.