

THE BRAND

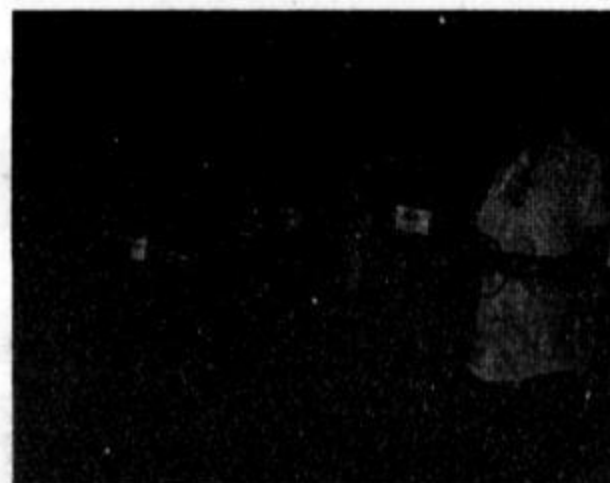
HARDIN-SIMMONS HOSTS CONFERENCE

by Michael Bussey
Editor-in-Chief

According to most modern-day Americans, a leader is someone with great wealth, important title, and a network connection to other well known citizens. There are many others though who would define a leader in a much different way. You do not have to have a fancy title or great wealth, just a heart and passion to lead with a vision and work to serve God and others over self. There are many students throughout the world and especially in Texas who are striving to do just that. These students feel as if they have a calling by God to change their campus to where it glorifies Him and educates a society of Christians the way of leadership and not just any kind of leadership, but servant leadership.

In the fall of 1997, Brandon Tidwell, a senior and student body president at the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor revealed a vision to new faculty member, Dr. George Louthierback. Tidwell explained to Dr. Louthierback what his views of leadership were and where he wanted to take his vision. Tidwell wrote in a letter to conference participants, "The world's version of leadership is centered on position, anarchy, and power. We believe leadership is about representing our student body while maintaining the integrity and values of God's word." Tidwell and Louthierback took their idea to the Baptist General Convention of Texas and in the fall of 1997 the Texas Baptist Universities Leadership Consortium (TBULC) was born. UMHB worked hard to get ready for their first conference to be held in January 1998. They soon found out that this was going to take a lot of work and enlisted the help of other Baptist Universities. They changed

the name to the Christian Association of Student Leaders (CASL) and formed a charter to be signed by the founding schools; Baylor University, Dallas Baptist University, East Texas Baptist University, Hardin-Simmons University, Houston Baptist University, Howard Payne University, University of Mary-Hardin Baylor, and Wayland Baptist University. Throughout the years the universities have taken turns on hosting the conference. HSU has



College Men Sing

The men of the Christian Association of Student Leaders sang a special song for the ladies during the Thursday night mixer. (photo by Michael Bussey)

hosted the conference for the second time, first in 2000.

With the name change the universities saw the opportunity to open this not only to Baptist universities, but to other denominations as well. Last week students from Abilene Christian University, Brewton-Parker College of Georgia, Dallas Baptist, East Texas Baptist, Hardin-Simmons, McMurray University, Mary-Hardin Baylor, and Wayland Baptist gathered on the Forty Acres for this year's CASL Conference.

The HSU CASL Steering Committee, headed by CASL director-junior Wayne Holder and CASL President senior Alison Newhouse decided on the theme of "Building

Community: Chaos to Koinonia". Mr. Mack McCarter, this year's CASL speaker, expressed to the students of what it meant to be a member of a community. That community is people around you. He encouraged students to not only make your campus your community, but the city around you. McCarter said in a general session, "In today's world we can know and talk to someone in Berlin through the internet, but not even know who lives two doors down from you."

Besides the general sessions by McCarter, students also went to meetings called roundtables. Sections included Student Government, New Student Orientation, BSM, Greek Life, and anything in between. Students in these meetings bounced ideas off of the different schools on how to do this and that. They shared what the campus had done and what they wanted to do. Hardin-Simmons took a leadership role in not only planning CASL, but in its participation at roundtables. Many HSU students at the end of CASL realized how fortunate they were to be at such a great campus where people care about one another, the communication between students and faculty, & the involvement of our board of Trustees and administration.

Change is inevitable. As Dr. Johnson talks about in his book "Who Moved My Cheese?", change is also around us and is going to happen. But, we all have a choice in how we handle that change. The members of the CASL Conference this year challenged the participants to go to their campus and with God's guidance, change their campus to glorify God and to do as HSU does "Enlighten Education By Faith".

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VOLUME 91, ISSUE 8 (9)
FEBRUARY 3, 2003
BRAND@HSUTX.EDU

headphone masterpieces

BY JASON CASSELBERRY

'Torpedoes' guided Petty to success

My "Top Five Things I Want to Do before I Die" is as follows (Not in order, just listed. All are equally important):

1) I want to be around to see the next musical revolution; the next big thing that's on the scale of John Lennon, Kurt Cobain, and Mick Jagger.

2) Work at Marvel Comics as a writer. Write my own takes on Spider-Man, the Avengers, and Daredevil. I'd get to meet Stan Lee, and write the kind of stories that inspired me.

3) Marry Catherine Zeta-Jones. I think I need to re-evaluate that.

4) I want to introduce my child (whenever the day comes that I decide to have children) to my creative idols and see his or her reaction. I'd be exposing him/her probably to Akira Kurosawa, Eddie Vedder, Thom Yorke, and Brian Bendis.

5) I want to write Tom Petty's biography.

As a music zombie, I hold Tom Petty in incredibly high regard. No matter how many records the guy sold, how many tragedies hit his life (lost his home to a fire), or how much cash the guy rakes in, Tom Petty is

one of us. He loves music. He fights for the little guy (he refused to release his album *Southern Accents* unless MCA lowered the price of the album by a buck back in the early 80's). He's constantly expanding his creativity. Most importantly, the guy NEVER sold out.

You know, the term "sold out" gets thrown around way too often. Is it "selling out" to feed your family? No. Is it "selling out" to get a nice home instead of sleeping on dirty clothes? I don't think so. I think "selling out" is when your music becomes secondary to making money. Musicians have a tendency, after making major bank on an album or tour, to begin making stale pieces of work that only serve to please record execs, fickle pop music dorks, and line cash coffers. Creativity dies, as does artist integrity. That's why it's so hard to take "musicians" like Fred Durst seriously.

Tom Petty has failed to fall into this category. After releasing *Damn the Torpedoes* with *the Heartbreakers* in 1979, every album by Petty has evolved and pleased the ears.

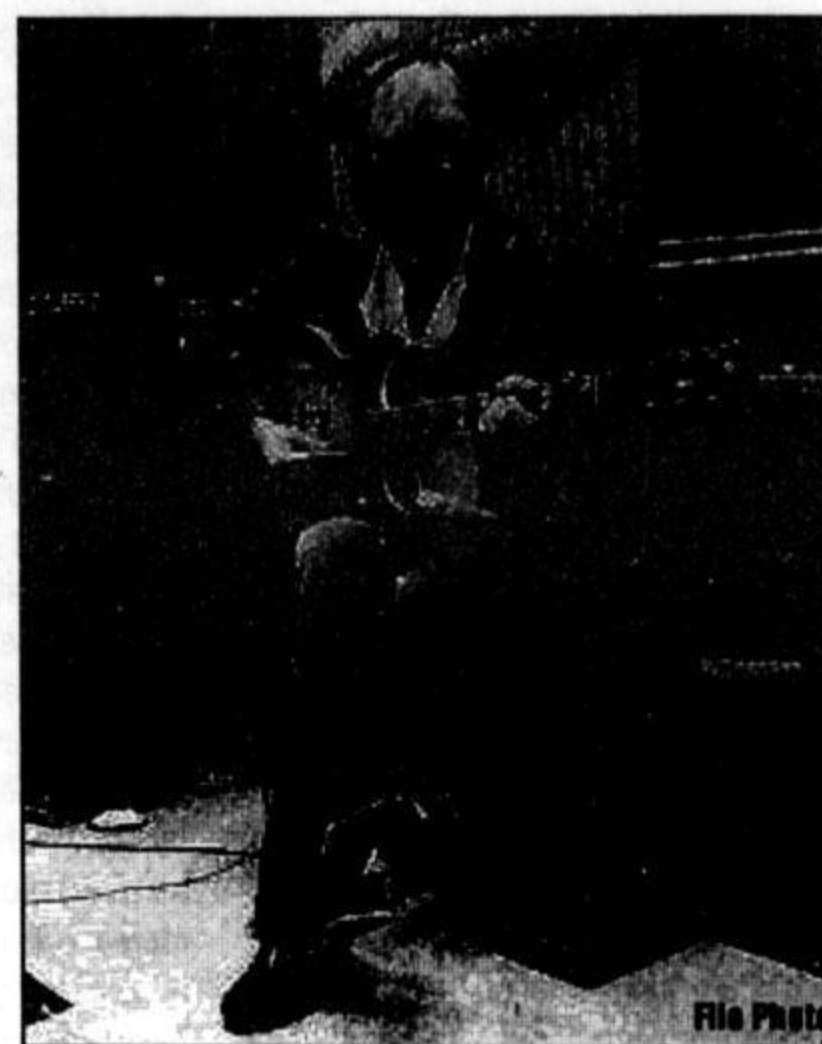
Damn the Torpedoes has accomplished two impressive feats. One, it's the standard bearer for all of Tom Petty's work and two, it's allowed me to use "damn" for the second time in the school newspaper (Score: Jason 938, HSU 3. Yes, I know that's very high school of me). It was also one of the first albums I was introduced to by my father. I have listened to it on 8-track, vinyl, cassette, CD, and now via

iTunes since someone jacked my copy. I love this record.

And how can you not with a track like "Refugee"? This barn-burner encompasses the band's Southern rock, bar blues, new wave machinations, and Petty's trademark slurred vocals to create one heckuva sing-along track. The struggle to get the words out on the chorus ("You don't . . . have . . . to live like a refugee") and the clever lyrics ("Somewhere, somehow, somebody must've kicked you around some") make "Refugee" not only the signature track, but also a CAREER definer.

"Even the Losers" captures feelings of hard luck ("Baby, even the losers get lucky sometimes"). It's a playful, reminiscing track for the young and once young.

"Don't Do Me Like That" is a quick, jittery track that demos Petty's pop sensibilities. He really does have a knack for hooks ("Then he said, 'You better watch your step or you're gonna get hurt yourself. Someone's gonna tell you lies. Cut you down to size'"). For an album, it's pretty short at nine tracks, but the songs are so full they brim with creativity. Nearly 25 years later, it still holds up as an incredible piece of rock music.



Is this guy the coolest or what?

So back to my Top 5; what would I do if I ever got the chance to meet Tom Petty and write his biography?

I'd probably grab a chair and start firing off questions. I would ask him of his perception of the music industry today, since it's such a vile place to work in. I would ask him what his favorite records were. I'd ask him what he was thinking when he wrote "Stop Dragging My Heart Around" for Stevie Nicks (I can't stand Stevie Nicks).

Then I'd go "Hey, your album *Damn the Torpedoes*... I think that's one of my favorite albums ever. You did good work. Thanks, man."

Jason Casselberry is a grad student and the former Entertainment Editor of the Brand. He writes columns for the back page. In the frozen tundras of the Viking countries of Minnesota and Wisconsin, he is referred to by the citizens only as "Master Storyteller".

QUICK HITS

A snapshot of recent ear goggle delights.



THE DARKNESS *Permission to Land*

Is it a parody or is it for real? Whatever it is, this cheeky throwback to stadium metal is addicting and loads of fun. Must hear = 1. Believe in a Thing Called Love



INCUBUS *A Crow Left of the Murder*

I can tell you that as a whole, the album is good, probably a B+. But standouts like "Meglomaniac" prove that creatively, the band is heading in the right direction.