

INSIDE TODAY



I Had to Discover My True Self

By James Kaplan
Naomi Watts once tried to be the hot young star, but it never quite panned out. Now, the Australian actress is thrilled to be a late bloomer. Watts talks about her overnight success—after 15 years in the business—and about her family.

In step with@: Al Michaels

By Kevin Sites
Six-time Emmy-winning sportscaster Al Michaels will be doing the play-by-play during the Super Bowl on NBC alongside analyst John Madden. Michaels talks about working with Madden and reveals what makes a great Super Bowl.

THE FINE PRINT

Trinidad BOE mtg.

The Trinidad School District No. 1 Board of Education will host a special meeting at 9 a.m. today in the Administration Building with a work session to follow.

Hispanic COC luncheon

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce luncheon will begin at 12 p.m. today at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites. Joni Fair, founder and CEO of SCHPC will be presenting Hospice 101.

Al-Anon Family Group

The Al-Anon Family Group, to help family members living with someone who is drinking and/or using drugs, will host a free meeting at 6 p.m. tonight at Presbyterian Church, 801 San Pedro, in the basement. For more information, please call Sharone (719) 846-9999. Not affiliated with any other organization.

Classical guitar concert

Jim Bosse and his buddy Alejandro Davila will be coming to Trinidad to perform a classical guitar concert at 6:30 p.m. tonight at the First United Methodist Church. There will be a free-will offering to defray some of their expenses at the concert.

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RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of 1/29/09. Johns Priority No. 5 as of 3/20/1862.

Trinidad Lake Accounting: Release, .04 acre ft.; Inflow, 35.04 acre ft.; Evaporation, 0; Content, 21,440 acre ft.; Elevation, 6,182.23; Precipitation, 0.

Downstream River Call, Winter Storage as of 3/10/1910.

(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



Robert Philbin named TSJC Faculty of the Year

Courtesy of Trinidad State Junior College
Special to the Chronicle

Professor of Physics Robert Philbin has been named TSJC Faculty of the Year for 2009. Philbin has taught physics, math, computer science and astronomy at Trinidad State Junior College since 1991.

He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines and his Master's degree in Astrophysical Sciences from Princeton University. His research at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory was numerical computation of electron distributions in weakly-ionized plasmas.

Philbin began teaching in 1987 at Essex County College in Newark, N.J. followed by three years at the Hill School, a boarding school in Pottstown, Pa. Although he has taught exclusively at TSJC for the past 17 years, he did take leave to work with an indigenous group doing economic development in Magdalena de Milpas Altas in Guatemala.

In his physics classes, Philbin emphasizes the relationship of energy



Robert Philbin

(Photo courtesy of TSJC)

to modern life. "All of my favorite topics are energy related: solar power, human-powered transportation, cycling and kayaking; fossil-fuel engines, and alternative technologies," he said. Outside of the classroom Philbin and his family, wife, Deanna, and children, Paul, Daniel, Sarah, and Ruth have built two low-energy/low-water use homes, the second one being completely off the grid, using solar photovoltaics and a passive solar pueblo design.

Philbin writes simulation software for his classes, including simulations of the greenhouse effect, planetary atmospheres, and Brownian motion. In turn, he encourages his students to write software and perform modeling of such things as water pricing policies and the SARS epidemic.

Behind the scenes, Philbin's advocacy for student learning has led him to

serve as Chair of Trinidad State's Assessment Committee for the Improvement of Student Learning. Philbin is also currently very excited about and involved in implementing TSJC's two-year \$1.7 million Science, Technology, Engineering and Math grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

His future plans are to work on expanding the engineering program at TSJC, extending the energy and environmental sciences, plus computer engineering aspects of all engineering disciplines.

A luncheon and award ceremony to recognize Faculty of the Year honorees, including Philbin, will be held during the meeting of the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education at the Community College of Aurora on Feb. 11.

ED class tells small business borrowers what's out there in today's markets

By MIKE GARRETT
The Chronicle-News

A varied cross-section of seven Trinidad area entrepreneurs and business people attended the first workshop class, "How to Get a Commercial Loan," sponsored by Trinidad-Las Animas County Economic Development and Executive Director Steve Simonson Wednesday night to learn what's out there in financial market lending opportunities when or if they decide to grow their businesses.

Participants ranged from a real estate broker and building contractor, a Main Street antiques and second-hand shop, a yoga instructor, a semi-retired investor-businessman and a financial planner. They contributed their own business experiences in the lending marketplace to the discussions.

While a severely depressed economy has everyone concerned about cash flow and whether banks and other lending institutions are still loaning money, Simonson, a small business owner and lender in Montana over the past several years, assured his



Steve Simonson, executive director of Trinidad-Las Animas County Economic Development, hosts a seminar on what's out there currently for small businesses to secure growth funding from local lending institutions. Six Trinidad area small business representatives participated in informational discussions in the hour and a half class, part of a series that ED is sponsoring this winter and spring.

(Photo by Mike Garrett)

class that they are, especially Trinidad area banks, savings and loans and other lending institutions like the Small Business Administration.

But he stressed that today's lenders are usually only responding to businesses who have all their ducks in a row and can present a sound case that they are a good credit risk. It still comes down to how much money you need and how can you pay it back, said Simonson, who is also spearheading efforts to secure a small business \$50,000 revolving loan fund that will be

available through the ED office this spring.

If one sentence could sum up Wednesday's presentation, it's that cash flow is king right now in the nation's financial marketplaces. Simply put, if you haven't got the prospects of it, you can't borrow it.

When it comes down to what lenders look for from a potential customer, Simonson presented the six "C's" of credit: Character of business owner, can we, capacity of business, Continued on page 3

Obama calls \$18B in Wall Street bonuses 'shameful'

By BEN FELLER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama issued a withering critique Thursday of Wall Street corporate behavior, calling it "the height of irresponsibility" for employees to be paid more than \$18 billion in bonuses last year while their crumbling financial sector received a bailout from taxpayers.

"It is shameful," Obama said from the Oval Office. "And part of what we're going to need is for the folks on Wall Street who are asking for help to show some restraint, and show some discipline, and show some sense of responsibility."

The president's comments, made with new Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner at his side, came in swift response to a report that employees of the New York financial world garnered an

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WEATHER WATCH

Today: Sunny, with a high near 55. North northeast wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 20. West wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Tomorrow: Sunny, with a high near 57. West wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tomorrow Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 21. West northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Sunday: A slight chance of snow before 11 a.m., then a slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 47. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east. Chance of precipitation is 10 percent.

Sunday Night: A 10 percent chance of snow. Partly cloudy, with a low around 17. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.



Benefit car wash

There will be a car wash to benefit Sheriff James Casias from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 21, weather permitting, at the City Hall parking lot. The cost will be however much you want to donate. The car wash is sponsored by the Trinidad Police Department and the Trinidad Youth Advisory Council. Power washers provided by Grand Rental.

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