

# Time Frames

By BRENDA S. McCLURKIN

For nearly two years, the riches of Special Collections have been highlighted in a weekly feature in the Sunday edition of the *Arlington Star-Telegram*. Located on the second page of the Arlington (BB) section, "Time Frames" regularly spotlights a photograph, map, or document from our collections. The column provides an opportunity to share Special Collections' extensive holdings with an audience of over 67,000 households in Arlington, Dalworthington Gardens, Grand Prairie, Kennedale, Mansfield, and Pantego, Texas.

This collaborative effort evolved from an October 2003 article written by O. K. Carter about Special Collections' acquisition of the J. W. Dunlop Photograph Collection. Manuscript Archivist Brenda McClurkin proposed the feature to Carter, who enthusiastically presented the suggestion to newspaper executives. The new column was born and took its name from the headline of a second article on the Dunlop photos done by Carter's colleague, L. Lamor Williams. McClurkin coordinates "Time Frames" content with support from her Special Collections colleagues and hands it off to Kristi Payne, Assistant Metro Editor of the *Arlington Star-Telegram*.

A broad spectrum of subjects has been selected for "Time Frames", drawing from all aspects of the collections. They have been as diverse as the woodcut title page of the Cabeza de Vaca's *La Relación y Comentarios*, 1555; a 1721 map published in Juan Antonio de la Peña's *Derrotero de la Expedición en la Provincia de los Texas...*; the March 24, 1836, issue of the *Telegraph and Texas Register* reporting the fall of the Alamo; original 1837 parole documents of Mexican Army officers taken prisoner at the Battle of San Jacinto; 1839 Republic of Texas currency; a slave manifest for the steamship *Portland* that sailed to Galveston in mid-July, 1850; a 1911 invitation to a Fourth of July celebration sponsored by the American Colony of Mexico City; 1915 sheet music celebrating the battleship *U.S.S. Texas*; a Neiman Marcus ad for ladies' "Palm Beach Styles" from the December 1919 issue of *Beau Monde*; *Dallas' Pictorial Weekly*; and a photograph

of the debris from the Roswell incident in July, 1947.

A concerted effort is made to link the "Time Frames" topic to a historic or current event. As an example, the first article was a two-part series that appeared on November 17 and 23, 2003, and commemorated the fortieth anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. It featured *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* photographs of Kennedy's November 1963 visit to Fort Worth and of Lee Harvey Oswald's funeral. Holidays have been acknowledged with photographs of an Easter egg hunt at Arlington State College in the mid-1950s, Amon G. Carter hosting

his traditional Thanksgiving meal for *Star-Telegram* newsboys in 1941, and two small boys riding the Leonard's Department Store monorail during the Christmas season of 1949.

Photographs are particularly eye-catching, and images of Arlington and Fort Worth history have often been featured. The J. W. Dunlop Photograph Collection is an excellent source of historic images of Arlington citizens, buildings, businesses, schools, street scenes, and events, while the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Collection contains a wealth of Fort Worth and early Texas images. The Basil Clemons Photograph Collection has been tapped





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- 1 Uncle Frank Neal, Parker County pioneer, is caught napping in his chair. Robert Hanks Brister Papers. (June 19, 2005)
- 2 Twins Byron and Lee Hendricks performed their daredevil double Roman jump at the 1952 Fort Worth Stock Show Rodeo. *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Collection. (January 24, 2004)
- 3 UTA homecoming activities in October 1982 included a bonfire lighting. UTA Photograph Collection. (February 15, 2004)
- 4 Woodcut title page of Cabeza de Vaca's *La Relación y Comentarios*, 1555. Jenkins Garrett Collection. (July 25, 2004)
- 5 Arlington mineral well fountains at Center and Main Streets, circa 1910. J. W. Dunlop Photograph Collection. (November 14, 2004)
- 6 Segal's Pre-Easter Style Show attracted the ladies of Breckenridge Texas. Basil Clemons Photograph Collection. (April 4, 2004)
- 7 This sign designated members of the Journeymen Barbers, Hairdressers, Cosmetologists and Proprietors' International Union, Local 63, Dallas, Texas, circa 1915. UTA Labor Archives. (January 9, 2005)

Dates in parentheses indicate when the images were featured in the *Arlington Star Telegram*.

for its photographs of 1920s store window displays, circus performers, and various other aspects of life in the oil boom-town of Breckenridge.

UTA history has not been overlooked. Images have highlighted the Carlisle Military Academy football teams of 1904-1908; the 85-year history of the student newspaper, *The Shorthorn*; Arlington State College's successful bids for Junior Rose Bowl championships in 1956 and 1957; UTA Olympic gold medalist swimmer, Doug Russell; and a 1982 homecoming bonfire. Current events at UTA also have been publicized to encourage public participation: President Spaniolo's

investiture, a Libraries exhibit featuring Formula SAE racing cars, the Virginia Garrett Lectures in the History of Cartography, and Special Collections exhibits all have been promoted. Even President Spaniolo's political campaign button collection was featured in October 2004 during the national presidential campaign.

Response to "Time Frames" has been very positive. Readers frequently say they clip the articles to keep or mail to others. Many "Time Frames" readers have found their way to Special Collections to use our materials or view exhibits. Others have found loved ones (or themselves!) pictured in featured photographic images and have

called to order a print of the image. Tarrant County Judge Tom Vandergriff had the opposite experience. He called about a photograph of the gathering held at the B&B Café in Arlington celebrating his inaugural election as mayor in April, 1951. Judge Vandergriff knew he had been at the B&B that evening, but he was not included in the picture!

"Time Frames" continues to be a way for Special Collections to reach out to the public and demonstrate the depth of the collections that they may use and enjoy. Pick up a Sunday *Arlington Star-Telegram* and become a regular "Time Frames" reader yourself! 🌟