Tyler Junior College Newspaper Stands Tall

East Texas Community College Press Represents UT-Tyler Students on First Amendment Issue

When administrators at the University of Texas at Tyler <u>stifled</u> *The Patriot Talon's* ability to report and editorialize on administration malfeasance there, the nearby *The Apache Pow Wow* of Tyler Junior College jumped into <u>the breach</u> with its 5-May-2011 <u>report entitled</u> "UT-Tyler newspaper advisor fired from job." That report, written by *TAPW*'s editor-in-chief Joshua Mumphrey, spared few punches in describing the <u>campus turmoil</u> at UT-Tyler that has come in the wake of the Rod Mabry administration's <u>decision</u> to fire Vanessa Curry, effective 1-June-2011.



Mumphrey reports that Curry felt the scene of her firing, wherein she was met by her chairman and the assistant dean of her college with her termination notice, was nothing other than surreal. Curry indicated to Mumphrey that she was neither provided with the so-called complaints about her job performance, nor with an opportunity to make the case that she performs her job adequately. In addition to covering the related issue of Curry's health concerns, Mumphrey also reports on the legal ramifications for Mabry and UT-Tyler regarding Curry's dismissal. *TPT* editor-in-chief Kamren Thompson told Mumphrey that, barring a relatively quick and equitable decision by Mabry, *TPT* will be seeking legal remedies. To that end, Thompson has (1) spoken with a lawyer affiliated with the Student Press Law Center, which has been covering this situation since 22-April-2011, and (2) retained, temporarily, the services of attorney Adam Goldstein until permanent counsel is retained.



Clearly, this situation is not going well for the Mabry administration of UT-Tyler. With the recent report on UT-Tyler business dean Harold Doty's shenanigans, the Tyler business community is <u>beginning to</u> <u>learn</u> about Mabry's <u>misrepresentation</u> of both USMNEWS.net and the <u>wayward administrators</u> in his employ.