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Monday
November 18, 1996

Volume 71
Issue 60

UD

THE UNIVERSITY DAILY



Honored volunteer

The Red Cross honors a Texas Tech employee with their highest award. Check out what she did to earn this recognition.

see page 4

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
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70 High
45 Low



'Mirror' gives good reflection

Legend Barbra Streisand can add one more success to her resume with "The Mirror has Two Faces."

see page 5

Students request merger information

by Ginger Pope/UD

Texas Attorney General Dan Morales soon will decide if Texas Tech students can receive information about the merger within the College of Engineering that they requested Nov. 6 through the Texas Open Records Act.

Students requested information about the merger of the department of engineering technology in the form of memos, letters, reports and e-mail, said Roberto Martinez, a construction engineering technology representative for the Society of Engineering Technologists and a senior construction technology major from Lubbock.

Tech administrators had until 5

p.m. Friday to respond.

However, Tech administrators Friday would not completely release the information, Martinez said.

Students requested the information after they learned Oct. 31 that the department of engineering technology would be merged with the civil, electrical and mechanical engineering departments.

SET President Zack Patton and SET Vice President Catherine Arnold met with Renee Vaughn, associate general legal counsel for Tech, Friday morning about 11:30 a.m. to receive the information, Martinez said.

The students were given only financial statements, and he said they were

not relevant. After the meeting with Vaughn, SET officers discussed the situation and decided to send the material to the attorney general because they wanted all the information they requested.

"We have legal counsel who looked over our request for information," Martinez said.

"So we felt it was proper and should have been completed," Vaughn said the government code under the Texas Open Records Act

shows certain documents are not public.

"We gave them everything they asked for that was not considered an exception," Vaughn said. "The request for interdepartmental memos between the dean and the president were an exception to the disclosure."

Vaughn faxed a request to the attorney general Friday asking whether the information could be released.

College of Engineering Dean Jorge Auñón said some of the information

the students requested may or may not exist.

"Some of it we have, some of it we don't," Auñón said. "Some stuff may not be appropriate for the students."

Vaughn said it probably will take months before the attorney general makes a decision, but Martinez said he expects it to take less time.

"Right now we're just waiting for the decision, and we're working with students, answering questions and representing them," he said.

"The open act decision is out of our hands."

This week Auñón is expected to name a recommendation committee to look at the merger situation and see if

there are other alternatives for solutions. Members will include faculty representatives from the civil, mechanical and electrical engineering departments as well as engineering technology.

Also included in the committee will be a student from engineering technology and a student from the College of Engineering overall, Auñón said.

As of Friday afternoon Auñón still needed nominations from electrical and mechanical engineering.

John Borelli, interim chairman of the department of civil engineering, said he has made nominations for the committee, and said the committee would be a good idea at this point.

'CNN factor' pushes U.S. troops to Africa

WASHINGTON (AP) - Not long after taking office, Secretary of State Warren Christopher said U.S. decisions on committing troops to save lives in distant lands would not be dictated by television's graphic images of human suffering.

CNN, he said, would not be the "north star" guiding U.S. policy decisions.

But U.S. officials said this week "the CNN factor" in no small way influenced President Clinton's provisional decision to send thousands of troops to Central Africa to help protect and funnel aid to more than 1 million refugees.

The crisis in Central Africa, based largely on enmity between Hutu and Tutsi, traditionally antagonistic tribes living side-by-side in several countries, festered all summer. The worst problem was in Burundi, where thousands were dying each month in tribal bloodshed.

The Clinton administration, influenced by electoral considerations and bitter memories of when the Somalia intervention turned sour three years earlier, was content to let the United Nations play the leading role.

The situation took on a new dimension last month when fighting flared again and forced hundreds of thousands of Rwandan Hutus to

flee U.N. refugee camps in Eastern Zaire, where they were sheltering from horrors at home.

It became obvious that a major humanitarian disaster was in the making, and the administration's steadfast resistance to committing troops to Central Africa began to melt — a process accelerated by televised images of desperate refugees bereft of the most elemental human needs.

"The folks upstairs spent a lot of time worrying about it," said one official, alluding to the impact those scenes had on policymakers in seventh-floor offices at the State Department.

At the same time appeals for U.S. intervention grew more strident from private relief organizations, newspaper editorials and foreign governments.

They also were influenced by bitter memories of 1994 when an estimated 500,000 Rwandans, mostly Tutsis, were massacred over a period of a few weeks by their Hutu compatriots.

The scope of the brutality was staggering, the response of the United States and the rest of the world tepid.

This time, an official said, "People didn't want a repeat of that."

“The folks upstairs spent a lot of time worrying about it.”

Anonymous U.S. government official



John Woolke/UD

Star-spangled pride: Texas Tech twirler Shona Parlin, a graduate Goin' Band from Raiderland's show in the Tech vs. Southwestern student studying physical therapy from Kaufman, performs for the Louisiana game Saturday. Tech beat the Ragin' Cajuns 56-21.

Court decision causes concern for A&M, UT

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Texas A&M University and the University of Texas are fierce foes on the gridiron. But when it comes to addressing an anti-affirmative action ruling, they're on the same team.

Their common adversary: Out-of-state schools that may be more attractive to Texas' top minority students because they can consider race as a factor in admissions and financial aid — something Texas schools no longer do under a federal court decision.

"It is long-term," Texas A&M President Ray Bowen said of the fallout from the lawsuit known as the Hopwood case, after lead plaintiff Cheryl Hopwood. "The recruitment of out-of-state universities in Texas has gone up. ... They know we're at a distinct disadvantage."

Max Sherman, dean of UT's Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs in Austin, added, "I think

for very competitive students, they're going to be aggressively recruited.

"And if someone offers them a financial package because they are a member of an ethnic minority, then they probably will be tempted to take that.

"If the state of Texas cannot make that offer to them because they are an ethnic minority, then you probably are at a considerable competitive disadvantage."

Both spoke in interviews at a recent Texas A&M conference that drew officials from a number of state universities to discuss dealing with the Hopwood decision.

In that case, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans struck down the UT School of Law's admissions policy, which was meant to boost enrollment of blacks and Hispanics.

Hopwood was among four whites who challenged the policy.

Duncan, Langston face off second time

by Tomi Rodgers/UD

The race continues between former Lubbock mayor David Langston, a Democrat, and Republican Robert Duncan for the Texas Senate seat vacated by Texas Tech Chancellor John T. Montford.

Duncan resigned as a member of the Texas House of Representatives to run against three Republican and three Democratic candidates in the Nov. 5 special election.

The Nov. 5 election eliminated five of the seven candidates running for the vacant seat.

A run-off election Dec. 10 between Duncan and Langston will determine who will hold the seat.

"People need to be aware that this election is very important," said Chris Wallace, press secretary for the Langston campaign.

"West Texas holds the key as to whether the House is Republican or Democrat."

In the Nov. 5 election, Duncan led with 38.59 percent of the votes, and Langston had 29.26 percent.

The Dec. 10 election is necessary because no candidate received more

than 50 percent of the vote necessary in the Nov. 5 election.

At a press conference last week, Langston intro-

duced an Ethics Reform Plan to eliminate special groups and decrease the amount of PAC money used in statewide election campaigns.

Langston said some of his first moves as senator would be to author legislation ending the practice of "legislating for profit" — accepting PAC money. Langston said he would work to enact term limits for state representatives and senators, tightening the conflict of interest laws and improving campaign financing.

“West Texas holds the key as to whether the House is Republican or Democrat.”

Chris Wallace, press secretary for David Langston

Michael Turner, a senior history and political science major from Austin and president of Tech's University Democrats, agreed that something needs to be done about campaign finance reform by Republicans and Democrats.

"I like to see that they are putting forth ideas and issues," Turner said.

"Langston will still need a lot of support from people to get his name out."

Wallace emphasized that Langston's efforts were bipartisan in an effort to eliminate special interest

groups.

"Many see this ethics reform as cru-

cial to the future of the citizens to renew their trust in the political system," Wallace said.

Darren Grubb, a staff member of Duncan's campaign and senior political science major from Midland, said Langston's reform ideas have been addressed previously by Duncan.

"Duncan has supported legislation for financial and ethical reform," Grubb said.

Grubb said he sees the Duncan campaign going well and said it will continue to deal with the issues.

"The election is shaping up, and the key will be voter turnout," Grubb said. Grubb emphasized the importance of each candidate encouraging their supporters to get out and vote.

Todd Bearden, press liaison for Tech's College Republicans and a senior political science major from Richardson, said he believes Duncan will be the better candidate primarily because of his experience.

"I think Duncan will represent us well in Austin," Bearden said. "As a Republican, he holds more true to the values of the area, and his experience with the legislature will pay off."



Duncan



Langston

Their View

Students show real dedication to Tech program



Megan Clark/editor

Kudos go to the students in Texas Tech's department of engineering technology. They've really created a lot of respect in their fight to keep their department intact.

And how have they accumulated such respect? By resorting to tactics reminiscent of students on college campuses across the nation in the '70s. They've passed around petitions.

They staged a protest. And now they're requesting information with help from the state government.

Good for them.

A week and a half ago, about 750 students signed a petition to stop the College of Engineering's dean from merging the department with other departments in the college. Officials claimed the merger is necessary and not unusual — it's completely fueled by financial reasons.

After a meeting with the dean and other campus officials did not satisfy students, they turned to whatever options were available to keep what they wanted. They visited *The University Daily*, asking for newspaper contacts in Dallas and Houston, how to write a press release and other information.

The two students were planning to take their story to anyone that would listen. And they did.

The students kept their promise and brought the issue even more into the public eye Nov. 8. They staged a four-hour protest outside the administration building while the Tech Board of Regents met inside to discuss issues at one of their semester meetings. Students carried signs, spoke with the media and lobbied for more departmental support.

By the end of the afternoon, students received more reassurance from Tech President Donald Haragan that a merger would be carefully considered before any action is taken.

But that wasn't enough.

Students requested information under the state's Open Records Law to receive any letters, memos or e-mail concerning the possible merger. Tech officials had until Friday to respond to the students' request and did not.

Now they've turned the tables on Tech — the Texas Attorney General's Office will decide if the students can see the information they need to continue their fight to keep their department in the college.

The students involved in the battle to keep their department should be commended. They've taken a stand against something they don't believe is right, and they've used every possible channel to try to make things work.

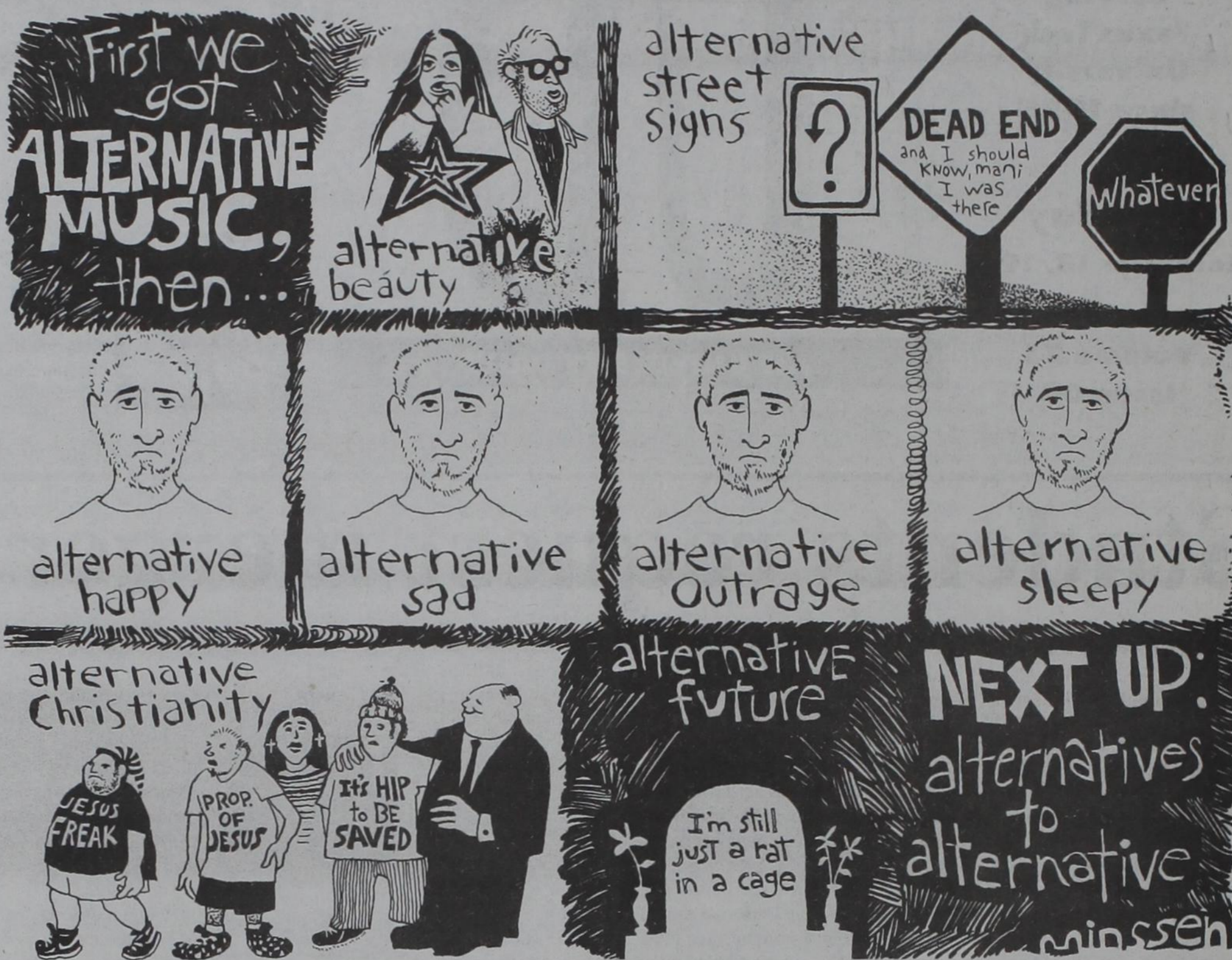
It's also refreshing to see a group of students break from the apathetic stereotype that usually describes most students on the Tech campus.

These individuals have taken the initiative to keep an important part of their education operating, and campus officials have taken notice.

Jorge Auñón, dean of the College of Engineering, has already set up a meeting that will include representatives, faculty and student, from all departments in the college. The group will meet to discuss the feasibility of the merger and the outcome of such an event.

The students in this department should be complimented for trying to get what they need from the education they pay for, and trying everything possible to make it there.

Megan Clark is a senior journalism major from Houston.



Student newspaper provides fair coverage



Cameron Graham/guest columnist

Well here I am sitting here in front of the old Macintosh, affectionately known as HAL, and I'm thinking about what to say for what will be my last column of the semester. I have been reading with great interest the thoughts of some of you about *The University Daily* and what kind of job they have been doing. I think I would like to put in my 2 cents worth.

My grandfather always told me that appearances can be deceiving. He always maintained that if you stuck to that rule, among others, then you can't go wrong. I think that is what a lot of you people out there have been doing, or rather, not doing.

If you look at the bottom of this column you will see that I am a history major. I also am minoring in jour-

nalism, so I know a little bit about what I am talking about here.

To begin with, newspapers have never been 100 percent unbiased. It is a simple, common fact that in the history of mankind there are newspapers that have been tools of one special interest or another.

The UD is no exception. Now I don't pretend to know everything about putting out a paper every day, especially on top of having to go to school and maybe try to enjoy college life. The people here at *The UD*, from what I have seen, work their combined tails off to put out this paper.

I have spoken to various reporters and at least two of the editors of *The UD* on several occasions. I am sure that if we all had time to sit down we could probably find some things to disagree on, politically, socially and so forth.

But here again, appearances can be deceiving. In my conversations with these fellow students I have come to suspect that the only motive they have in regards to this paper doing the best possible job they can and maybe gaining some valuable experience for their future careers.

If some people say *The UD* is biased, then my response is, "OK, so what else is new?" Friends if you recall your basic American history, you will remember during the Civil War, for example, you had papers supporting the pro-union crowd and those Southern states that favored the "peculiar institution." Again, there is nothing new in this.

I am not going to debate whether or not *The UD* is a publication that leans to the left — that is a matter of opinion.

The only thing I will say is that all of the columns that I have presented, they have been published correctly and true to how I wrote them. And I can say this while being the chairman of Tech's College Republicans. Again, appearances can be deceiving.

There have been sometimes over the course of this semester when I or some other member of our organization may not have been quoted completely, but here again this is what one has to expect. It is not malice that is behind this or someone's personal agenda. It is called the real world, and sometimes it stinks.

But this is something that I am not

going to fret over the rest of my life. We as a country have got to learn to lighten up a little. Otherwise we're bound to hack off our allies, and then they will be pointing guns in our direction.

Now you are probably thinking that I am not much of a Republican if I can sit here and type all of this into my computer.

I hate to say it, but appearances can be deceiving. Republicans as a whole would much rather get along with the media than fight with them. I personally have no problems with *The UD* staff.

Their coverage of the College Republicans this election year in my opinion was very good. And as a journalism student with a grand total of two journalism courses under his belt, I think the coverage was outstanding.

A final thought on appearances can be deceiving, or more importantly another piece of advice given to me by my grandpa, "If you're good, and you know it, then why waste time beating around the bush?"

See you next semester.

Cameron Graham is a junior history major from Lubbock.

Your View

Tupac does not possess good role model quality

To the editor: I am writing in response to Kristi Rieken's column "Tupac deserves further respect, less negativity (Their View 11/15/96)." I am having a hard time understanding how Tupac Shakur could possibly deserve any respect whatsoever. This is a man whose so-called music inspires violence and has a total lack of respect for women.

I assume I am supposed to feel sorry for Tupac because he is black or because he comes from an oppressed culture. Maybe I should even feel sorry for him because he had a hard time adjusting to having so much money. Maybe I should feel sorry for him because his art wasn't understood. I think not. Tupac Shakur was an utter waste of the talent he had. He was the typical kind of guy who was bitter about his life and voiced it to a group

of people who could really use a message of hope and inspiration.

As for Tupac's father saying, "My son don't deserve to be talked about like some common criminal," I have to agree. He was the one with money. Unfortunately, his money never bought him any class.

Andy Varkadoz, junior business major

Tech regents deserve more student respect

To the editor: I read with interest the tirade against the Board of Regents (Your View 11/12/96). Your language belittles a group of caring, devoted, diligent people who are helping Texas Tech make impressive strides towards the 21st century.

In your haste to berate these nine people, did you consider who really handles such affairs?

Is it Chairman Ed Whitacre? Surely

the CEO of Southwestern Bell has tons of free time to entertain your fantasy of universal notification. Perhaps it is Dr. Carl Noe's job? The head of Baylor's pain clinic probably just dotes on his charming wife all day. Or is it Dr. Bernard Harris Jr.? We all know he's just out in space.

Or maybe one of our local regents like John Sims? Well, I am sure you took the time to write him a conciliatory letter concerning the tragic death of his son.

The fact, Osmulski, is that these fine people receive about 20 pounds of written material in just the week of the meeting.

They are doing us all a service by devoting precious time and energy in preparation to make informed decisions concerning the future of Texas Tech.

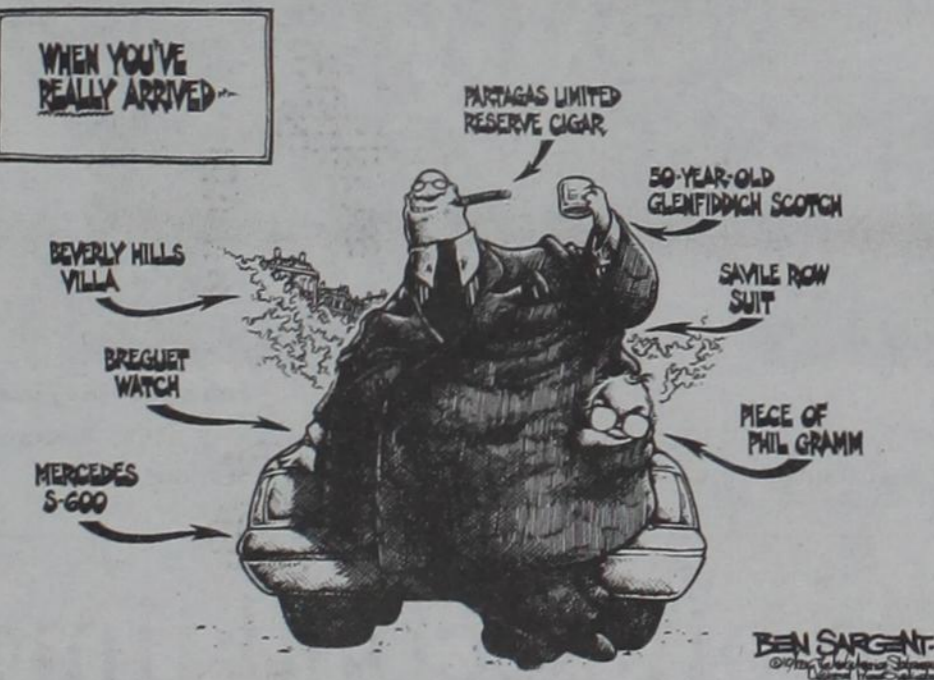
Your accusation of the regents "assuming" the "right" to arbitrarily call meetings is a bit harsh, if not totally unsupported by the way things actually work.

These people have extremely demanding professional and personal

lives. Yet, they still care tremendously, as evident in their efforts to help us. Please think the next time before calling them criminal, inept and deceitful.

David C. "D.C." Ward, senior chemistry major

Write a letter to the editor today with your opinion about campus issues and events.



e-mail The UD at TheUniversityDaily@ttu.edu today.

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Southwest Collection opens in limited areas

After breaking ground almost nine months ago, the new Southwest Collection/Special Collections library at Texas Tech will be open with limited access today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

From today until Dec. 20, individuals can visit the Southwest Collection Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will re-open Jan. 2 with extended hours.

The Southwest Collection Rare Books Collection and Archive of the Vietnam Conflict are the only areas of the library that will be opened today.

These exhibits were closed temporarily to prepare for the move into the new structure.

The new library is located between the Tech library and the Livestock Pavilion. Prior to the construction of the new building, the Southwest Collection was housed partly in room 106 of the math building and partly in the main library.

The 80,000-square-foot facility also will contain the University Archive, the Holden Reading

Room, the Marshall Formby Special Events Room and the Hoblitzelle Conservation Laboratory.

The construction budget for the building is \$8.8 million, with funds coming from bonds, tuition revenue and private donations.

The Southwest Collection emphasizes West Texas history and contains important documents from Tech's early days. More than 20 million manuscripts, 6,000 audio tapes and 4,000 pictures are available.

Individuals may not remove documents from the Southwest Collection, and no material from the library will be in circulation.

The Southwest Collection originated in 1955 after Tech officials visited the Barker Texas History Center at the University of Texas-Austin.

Individuals interested in more information about the Southwest Collection/Special Collection Library can contact Preston Lewis, interim director of the Southwest Collection, at 742-3676.

Meat judging team primed for championship

by Charles Melton/UD

The Texas Tech meat judging team will begin its final trek today on the journey to what could be Tech's third national championship in seven years.

The team, which has a 5-1 record, will leave at noon today to go to Dakota City, Neb., the site of the International Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest, which will take place Sunday.

The 1996 team had its five-contest winning streak snapped by Iowa State at the American Royal Meat Judging Contest Nov. 10.

"I don't think there was any disappointment," said team coach Eddie Behrends. "We didn't do bad — we had eight of the top 16 scores."

The team has competed with a one-contest-at-a-time attitude, and its focal point has not been the national championship, Behrends said.

"It's just another meet," he said of the national championship. "I know we have the best team."

Tech has won the national championship twice in the past seven years, and Behrends said it would feel good to coach the team to a national championship again.

"I would feel satisfaction for them (team members), because they deserve it," he said.

Behrends said depth and interteam competition have contributed to the

team's success this year.

"We have 13 members, and all of them fight for four spots," Behrends said.

"There is a lot of mutual respect among the team."

This year's team has the best record in the country and is probably one of the best meat judging teams Tech has ever had, said Mark Miller, associate professor of animal science and food technology and head of the meat judging program.

"This team has really set new stuff and has the longest winning streak of any team since 1973," Miller said.

The team's closeness and ability to help one another and pull for each other sets it apart, he said.

"They fight like brothers and sisters and always pull for each other, which makes a difference in their confidence," he said.

The team has no signs of overconfidence and is looking forward to the contest, he said.

"If they don't win, we'll know we did everything could," Miller said.

Meat judging team members include: Clint Alexander, Chad Brown, Kinann Campbell, Kati Christensen, Jess Davis, Hunter Graham, Cody Leech, Amber Lehmann, Julie McCain, Mysti Ripkowski, Pam Scott, Jimmy Spivey and Tim Tatsch.



Wes Underwood/UD

Checking grade: Kinann Campbell, a sophomore food technology major from Hereford, watches as Mysti Ripkowski, a junior pre-veterinary major from Robstown, inspects a cut of meat at the Texas Tech meats laboratory.

Texaco settles racial discrimination lawsuit for \$176.1 million

WASHINGTON (AP) — The president of Texaco says racial discrimination problems at his company represent just the "tip of the iceberg" in corporate America.

Other company leaders should examine their management and workers at their companies for similar signs of racism, Peter Bijur, Texaco's president and chief executive officer, said Sunday on CNN's "Late Edition."

"I would suggest that we are just seeing the tip of the iceberg here," said Bijur, whose company agreed last week to pay \$176.1 million to settle a racial discrimination lawsuit.

"It's important to drill down below that very tip and get down into what's beneath and find out what's going on. That's what I've done in the last two weeks, and that's what I think needs to be done."

Civil rights leaders echoed Bijur's concerns Sunday, contending other companies have similar problems that haven't been uncovered.

"The difference is, in the case of

Texaco, they got caught," civil rights activist Jesse Jackson said Sunday on CBS' "Face the Nation."

"But there are other companies that have not been caught."

N A A C P President Kweisi Mfume said lessons learned from the lawsuit can be applied more broadly.

"The message clearly resonates beyond corporate America," Mfume said on "Late Edition."

"It's not just the private sector. It's also the public sector. It's not just Texaco, but it's what's happening at Amoco and other places."

Texaco will pay \$15 million cash to about 1,400 current and former

employees and to give black employees 10 percent raises over the next five years at an additional cost of \$26.1 million.

The company also agreed to spend \$35 million on a task force to recruit black workers, monitor discrimination and develop diversity and sensitivity training.

“ I am committed to changing people's behavior. Can you change their attitudes? I'm not so sure. ”

Peter Bijur, Texaco president and chief executive officer

The agreement's \$176.1 million price tag makes it the largest settlement of a racial discrimination lawsuit in U.S. history.

But it pales compared to \$1.2 billion in reparations Congress appropriated in 1988 to Japanese-Americans as compensation for their internment

in camps during World War II.

Both Mfume and Jackson hailed the Texaco settlement as a good first step but said much remains to be done. Both civil rights leaders want changes in employment practices, the working environment, economic development and enforcement of anti-discrimination policies.

Jackson's Rainbow Coalition continued its call for a boycott of Texaco stock and use of its credit cards "to keep the pressure on," Jackson said. Though the NAACP, the country's largest civil rights organization, is not organizing a boycott, the group doesn't condemn people who picket or boycott the company, Mfume said.

While Texaco president Bijur said he expects to implement short- and long-term plans to combat racism, he doubts if the efforts will change the real problem.

"I am committed to changing people's behavior," Bijur said.

"Can you change their attitudes? I'm not so sure."

Small school district plagued by students' violent deaths

GILMER (AP) — A family coping with the loss of a 42-year-old mother will now bury the woman's 14-year-old son and his 17-year-old cousin.

A funeral is planned Monday for Dustin Caffey and his cousin, John Brewster, who were killed in a collision hours after the funeral for Caffey's mother Friday.

The boys' deaths bring to four the number of Union Hill High School students who have died violently this year.

One student at the tiny, rural school northwest of Gilmer was shot. Another one died in a traffic accident last spring, the week he was supposed to graduate.

Counselors from other school districts and ministers will be brought in to help students cope with the deaths, said Sharon

Richardson, principal of the Union Hill elementary and high schools. Combined enrollment for the district is about 380.

While dealing with the boys' deaths, the family was still waiting for results of an autopsy on Jeanette Caffey, 42.

She was found dead in bed Tuesday morning by one of her three sons, Jason, 17.

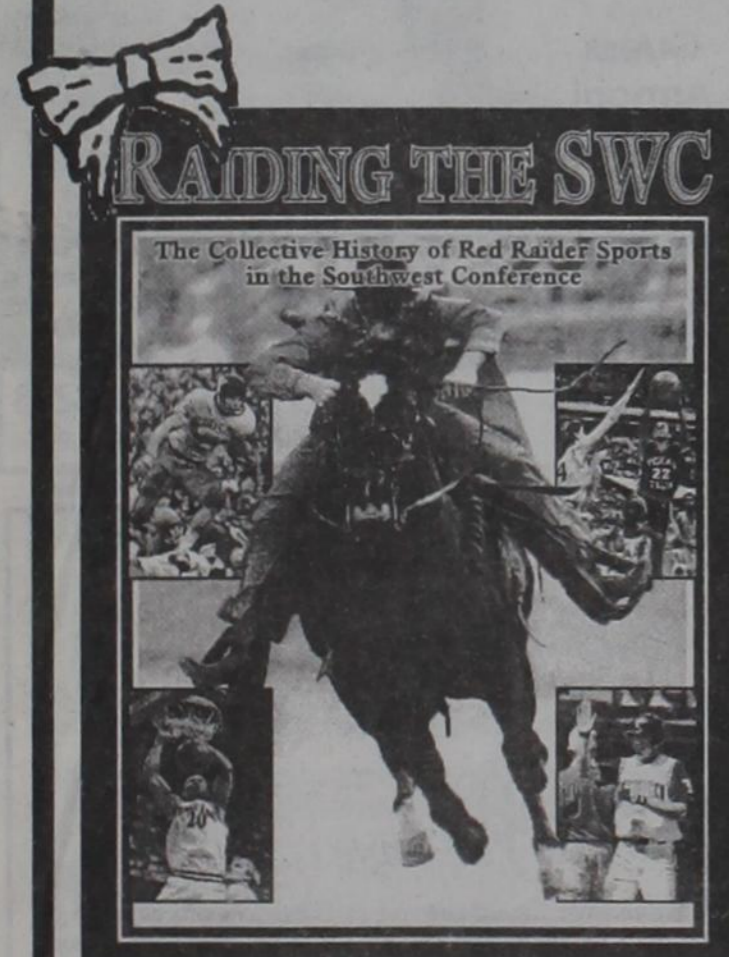
The family suspects heart failure, said Rev. Madison Caffey, Dustin Caffey's uncle.

Caffey, a Baptist minister and brother of Dustin's father, Glenn, said that family members have "held up just extremely well."

"It has really helped Glenn to trust that God has a plan," he said.

During the funeral the younger Caffey stuck close to his father and grandmother, his uncle said.

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Traffic attendant receives award for kindness

Tech employee receives highest accolade from American Red Cross for attempting to save a life

by Rebecca Babb/UD

Wanda Suggs sits in a Texas Tech traffic booth every day and tells people where to park, but she is more than just a traffic control attendant — she is a good samaritan as well.

Suggs received her CPR certification in April as part of a Tech program offered by the American Red Cross. May 5, while Suggs and her husband were driving on vacation, her CPR skills were put to the test.

"We came upon a lady that was on the side of the road trying to flag down help," Suggs said. "Her husband had a heart attack, and we stopped and assisted."

Suggs said another good samaritan, Joseph N. Richard of Lubbock, also stopped to render aid, and the two of them performed CPR on A.D. Hanna, a man in his early 70s from Wichita Falls who owned an oil field equipment supply company, until the ambulance arrived 90 minutes later.

Unfortunately, Hanna did not survive the heart attack, Suggs said.

Wednesday, during a 3 p.m. ceremony in the University Center Ballroom, the Red Cross honored Suggs

for her selfless act of kindness with the American Red Cross Certificate of Merit, the highest honor awarded by the Red Cross.

Suggs, who has worked for Tech for almost 18 years, was in tears as she received her award.

"You work hard and you struggle so hard because you want him to live," Suggs said. "You want him to pull through — it's heart-breaking."

Suggs said she would do it all again with no second thoughts, and she would advise anyone to try to help an accident victim.

"You don't know if they're going to live or die," Suggs said. "Why would you put a person's life on the line by not stopping? That's someone's life we're talking about, not some dog. I hope that if I were in the same position someone would help me."

Israel Zuñiga, executive director of

the South Plains regional chapter of the American Red Cross, said the

award Suggs received is the single highest award given by the American Red Cross, and it is signed personally by the president of the United States.

"The award recognizes someone who used life-saving techniques taught them by the Red Cross,"

Zuñiga said. "The awards are very hard to attain because it must be shown that the individuals sustained or saved a person's life."

Zuñiga said the award is the civilian equivalent of the Medal of Honor.

"Now and then, you come across people like Wanda who don't take the time to think about their personal safety and just jump right in," he said.

Tech Chancellor John T. Montford,

who attended Wednesday's ceremony honoring Suggs, said he is proud Tech teaches its employees CPR.

"We're very proud of Wanda for getting this most prestigious award from the Red Cross," Montford said.

"The award has national significance."

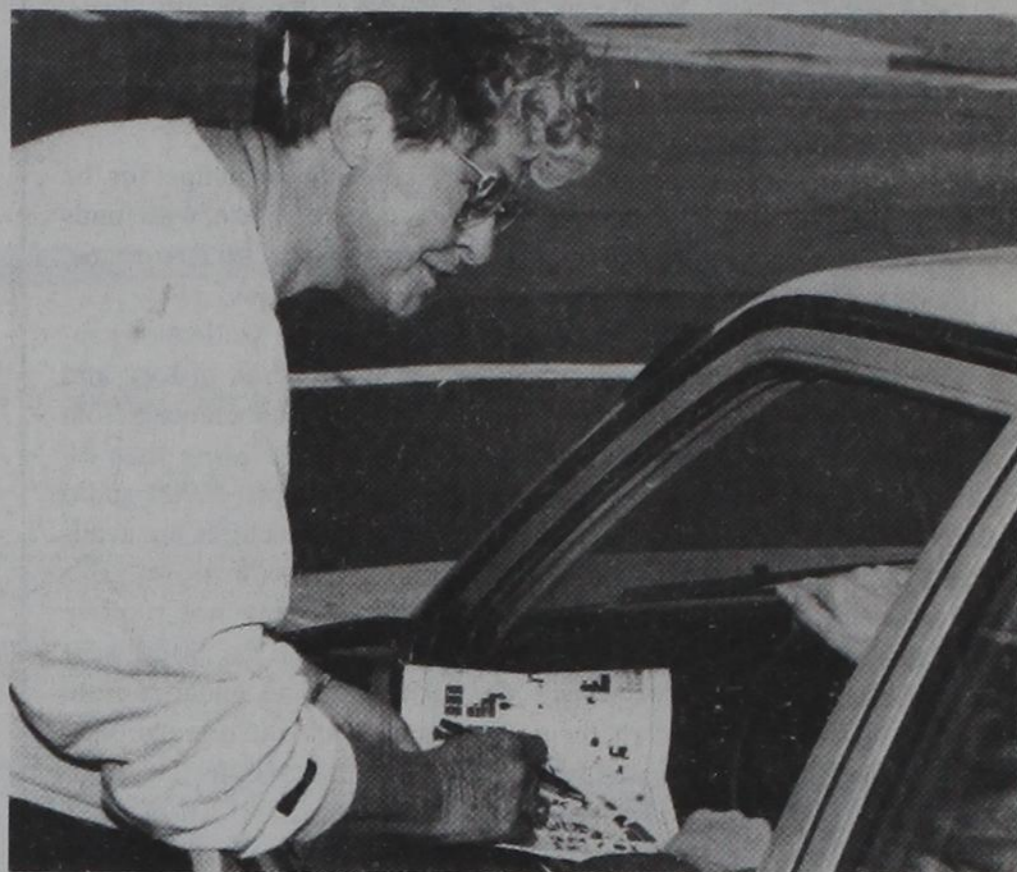
Montford said he recommends CPR training to everyone.

"We incorporate it into our staff training — it's time well spent," Montford said.

Eight other Tech employees received awards at last week's ceremony.

Recipients of the Safety Achievement Award for an outstanding safety program were Kevin Mitchell, a researcher with Tech's department of plant and soil sciences, Michael "Kip" Elms, a researcher also with the department of plant and soil sciences, Pete Tarlton, director of utilities for Tech's physical plant, and Robert Spruill, a technician for the department of chemical engineering.

Recipients of the 30 Year Safety Award for 30 accident-free years of service with Tech were Louie Alvarez, a custodian with the Tech athletic de-



Helping hands: Wanda Suggs, a traffic control attendant, assists a campus visitor by showing where to park. Suggs was awarded the American Red Cross's highest medal of honor for attempting to save someone's life May 5.

partment, Bill Fowler, farm livestock operations superintendent with the

Shroyer, director of grounds maintenance, and Felix Torres, a technician with the International Textile Center.

Mars-bound craft fails to leave Earth's orbit, cause remains unknown

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's celebrated mission to Mars failed early Sunday shortly after the rocket blasted off into space, dealing a serious blow

to the country's struggling space program. Military space force officials were unable to say precisely what went wrong.

"We don't know what happened yet," mission control specialist Anatoly Yeremenko said in a tele-

phone interview from Russia's main civilian space center outside Moscow, which was tracking the Mars '96 spacecraft.

The four-stage Proton booster lifted off as scheduled at 11:48 p.m. (3:48 p.m. EST) Saturday from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. At the space tracking center in Evpatoriya, Ukraine, officials said the first three stages fired properly.

The problems arose during the fourth stage. Ground control lost contact with the spacecraft, causing it to fail to leave its orbit around the Earth and head for Mars, officials said.

The spacecraft could remain in orbit for up to 30 days and will likely burn up re-entering the Earth's atmosphere, said one of the mission directors, Vladimir Molodtsov. The ITAR-Tass news agency said debris would likely fall into the Pacific Ocean.

"It is a very serious setback for world exploration of Mars, and in particular for the Russian space program," said James Oberg, an American specialist on Russian space activities.

"They are trying to show they still had the right stuff and they don't."

The trip would have taken the Mars

'96 spacecraft, which consists of an orbiter and four landers, 10 months.

With new evidence suggesting there may have been life on Mars, Earth's nearest planetary neighbor, interest in the Red Planet has never been higher.

A score of nations, including the United States, France and Germany, sent scientific instruments to Mars aboard the Russian spacecraft.

According to Oberg, the Russian space program ran short of time getting Mars '96 ready for launch.

"They were throwing it together on the launch pad," he told *The Associ-*

ated Press in a telephone interview. "Two weeks before launch, they were still hooking things onto it."

If the spacecraft had not been launched within a narrow window, the launch would have had to wait for another 2 1/2 years, Oberg said.

The Russian space program has been on the brink of collapse for several years, staying alive by the sheer dedication of its workers, he said.

"They're strapped for cash, they're strapped for talent, for materiel, and in this case they were strapped for time," Oberg said. "They had no time to wait a few weeks to get it right."

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Tech agriculture professor receives research grant

The McKnight Foundation recently awarded \$174,100 to Texas Tech researcher Henry T. Nguyen and Hailu Tefera of Alemaya University of Agriculture.

This grant is the second awarded to Nguyen for the genetic improvement of Tef, a popular cereal grown in Ethiopia. Tef is currently available to the country's 55 million people.

Nguyen, a professor of plant and soil science, and Tefera are working to develop the versatile grain that thrives in a broad range of growing conditions.

The researchers have received a total of \$600,000 from the McKnight Foundation since 1995. The grant is part of \$5 million that the McKnight Foundation has awarded in three years to nine partnerships between the United States and developing country crop scientists.

The grants are part of the foundation's new six-year, \$12 million Collaborative Crop Research Program. The McKnight Foundation supports basic and applied research aimed at improving food crops and agricultural systems in developing countries.

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