



## Tech reacts to professor's controversial essay

**FACULTY FREEDOM:** Students, professors argue the importance of free speech for Tech faculty after Colorado professor's recent controversy.

By Meghann Lora/The University Daily

University of Colorado professor Ward Churchill has sparked controversy across the nation over an essay he wrote about the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The freedom of faculty members to express views, however unpopular or distasteful, is an essential condition of an institution of higher learning that is truly free, according to a statement by the American Association

of University Professors.

Jonathan Marks, an associate professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance, is the president of Tech's AAUP chapter.

Marks said the fact that the association designates itself as an American association is important. He said the group embraces American rights and freedoms.

"As Americans, we hold dear the right of free speech," Marks said. "It is enshrined in our Bill of Rights."

Marks said freedom of speech does not guarantee that

people are always right.

"Freedom of speech means that people have the right to say stupid things," he said. "As Americans, we must hold to that, especially when we are threatened."

Professors should be able to speak freely about their area of study during class and should be able to speak freely on any issues outside of class, Marks said.

"Professors should speak on the interests of their class and on their area of study," he said. "We are expected and required to say things out of class. It's called research, and that means publishing what you think."

Marks said universities would be in peril if professors were unable to voice unpopular opinions.

"The university would be in terrible shape if you had

to stick with an approved set of political opinions to keep your job," he said. "That's what happens in tyranny."

Michael Dini, an associate professor of biological sciences, was criticized in 2002 for his policy on writing letters of recommendation. He said faculty members have the right to free speech.

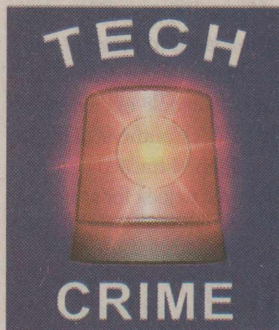
"I'm a strong supporter of academic freedom," he said. "I think that's one of the great things about American universities, that faculty have the right to say what they want and keep their jobs."

Dini said students benefit from faculty who are allowed to speak freely.

CONTROVERSY continued on page 3

## Theft on campus brings concern from students

By Katherine Amerson/The University Daily



Although a rash of theft is sweeping the campus, using common sense and eliminating theft opportunity for thieves can prevent most pilfering.

Maj. Gordon Hoffman with the Texas Tech Police Department said room 234 of Bledsoe residence hall was burglarized Feb. 7 when a student went to the bathroom and left his door open.

"Most of this stuff is just carelessness of property," he said. "Theft is a crime of opportunity. That's just how thieves work. They're not going to go to a great amount of trouble, because they don't want to get caught."

Since Jan. 29, Hoffman said, five instances of theft in residence halls have been reported.

"Most of it is stuff they left unattended," he said. "They need to be more careful with their valuables."

Another theft occurred Jan. 31 on the second floor of Chitwood residence hall, Hoffman said, and a TV and DVD player were stolen.

The Chitwood resident had to move her belongings to a study lounge because a water pipe had broken, according to a Tech Police Report. The lounge door was unlocked when the resident left the lounge, and the items were stolen.

According to a Tech Police Daily Report, \$380 was stolen from room 321 of Hulén residence hall Feb. 7.

THEFT continued on page 3

## Sen. Duncan expresses concerns about waste facility expansion

By Katherine Amerson/The University Daily

Waste Control Specialists LLC is requesting an expansion at an Andrews County radioactive waste disposal facility, but state Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, has concerns about the plans.

Deon Daugherty, communications director for Duncan, said the facility in Andrews County is already running, but the technical aspects of the expansion pose some problems.

"What Sen. Duncan is concerned about is their application to bring in 11E2 waste, a different classification of radioactive wastes," she said. "The 11E2 stuff is uranium tailings; it's a byproduct of the Manhattan Project bombs of the 1950s."

The Manhattan Project was a

World War II effort to develop nuclear weapons, according to Wikipedia, an online encyclopedia.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality governs the low-level waste already in Andrews County, Daugherty said, but the entity that should have jurisdiction over the new waste is the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Another concern Duncan has, Daugherty said, is taxpayer compensation for having the material in Texas.

"If this material is going to come into the state of Texas, the taxpayers should get a benefit for hosting the site," she said.

There is already some 11E2 material in Texas, Daugherty said, but it

WASTE continued on page 3

## JUGGLING JESTERS



ANDREW WEATHERL/The University Daily

CHRISTOPHER SIMS (LEFT), a senior computer science major from Spring, and Arne Ledet, an assistant professor of mathematics from Denmark, practice juggling during the Texas Tech Juggling Club's meeting in the Student Union Thursday night.

## Tech creates courses dealing with bioterrorism, biosecurity

By Kelly Gooch/The University Daily

Throughout the country, universities have started classes related to bioterrorism and biosecurity, including Texas Tech.

Steven Presley, associate professor at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health, said he started teaching a course called biological threats in the environment in spring 2003.

Students in the course study diseases that have occurred in the United States and diseases such

as malaria that are becoming more prominent in America.

Presley said the course helps students understand biological threat agents, most of which exist naturally.

Students learn how to detect threats and recognize them if agents are released, he said.

He had nine students in spring 2003, five or six last spring and two this semester.

He said the course heightens awareness of biological weapons, and some students who have taken the course went on a consulting group looking at biological threat agents in Russia.

"I think it assisted a couple of grad students," he said.

Bioterrorism, Presley said, is an area of academic research he believes was

BIOTERRORISM continued on page 3



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/The University Daily

SEN. ROBERT DUNCAN, R-Lubbock, is concerned about the plans Waste Control Specialists LLC has to expand an Andrews County radioactive waste disposal facility.

<b>Inside The UD</b> Classifieds . . . . . 5    Opinions . . . . . 4 Crossword . . . . . 3    Rundown . . . . . 2 Life & Leisure . . . . . 5    Sports . . . . . 6		<b>Weather</b> Today <b>SHOWERS</b> High 52 / Low 39 Tomorrow <b>A.M. SHOWERS</b> High 59 / Low 41		<b>Wall Street at a Glance</b> <b>Dow Jones Industrials</b> NYSE: 7210.65 +48.66 Close: 10,749.61 Change: +85.50 <b>Standard&amp;Poors 500:</b> Nasdaq Composite: 1197.01 +5.02    2053.10 +0.55 <b>American Stock Exchange:</b> 1480.00 +14.83	
EDITORIAL: 806-742-3393    ADVERTISING: 806-742-3384		BUSINESS: 806-742-3388    FAX: 806-742-2434		CIRCULATION: 806-742-3388    E-MAIL: ud@ttu.edu	





# Opinions

Opinions Editor:  
Angela Timmons  
(806) 742-3393  
UD@ttu.edu



## Feeling the love bug all year 'round

Lasting love is more than just a feeling

I can feel it now. Those butterflies in my stomach must have forgotten their Ritalin this morning. It is all I can do to keep from being stupid in front of her. There she is. She is incredibly beautiful. Suddenly the butterflies seem to have gotten hold of something sweet because they have begun to flutter much faster.

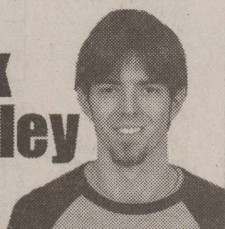
I strain my brain to think of something sweet to say, and it comes out even better than I planned. She laughs. I laugh. We laugh. Would you like to go out this weekend? Sure! Now, you now what comes next: a Valentine's Day present, of course.

What is love? Haven't you fallen in love before? Of course, there are two different kinds of love right? The love you have for your parents is not the same as that love you have for that cute person you invited to your crush party, is it?

As Valentine's Day approaches, I bet you have been wondering: What is love? Well, you have come to the right man, because I have all the answers.

Contrary to popular belief, love has nothing to do with feelings. If I may quote the second greatest man of all time, St. Paul, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not

**Mark Stanley**



*This Valentine's Day, will you sit there a moment wherever you are and contemplate what love really is?*

rude, it is not self seeking, it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. Love always protects, always trusts, always perseveres. Love never fails." (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

Hmm, he did not say anything about those coked-up butterflies I have. Where do they come in? Somewhere along the line, American society started to equate love and feelings. That was a huge mistake.

You may like her a lot and have that feeling in your gut, but unless you are willing to give everything to her and ask for nothing in return, I'm sorry, but you do not love her.

Now, let us say for a moment that you do not believe the Bible (the most historically credible book in the history of literature).

According to DivorceMagazine.com, 50 percent of all first marriages in the United States ended in divorce in 1997. On the other hand, 52 percent of all married people reach their 15th anniversary.

If you ask any happily married couple who has been together for 15 years how they did it, they will reply with one word: "love."

How many relationships have to end in, "I thought he loved me," before it is clear? The truth is, no one has ever "fallen in love." The feelings come naturally. You have to work at love, and love is love no matter who you love.

Love is never giving up. Love is always giving and never getting. Love is waiting until marriage if that is what they want. Love is unselfish. Love is staying together even when you have lost those feelings for each other and being sure they will return. Love is

about someone else.

I have been in my current dating relationship 18 months. I assure you she does not like me sometimes, but we will never be apart because we love each other.

Even when I am so annoyed at her I could punt her dog off a bridge (a la "Anchorman") I still love her and would never leave her.

As for the s-word (yeah, sex), it will last a little longer than the feelings will, but if you have real love, it never fails.

This Valentine's Day, will you sit there a moment wherever you are and contemplate what love really is?

I once had a conversation with a not-so-smart man, but he gave me the most profound piece of advice about relationships I have ever heard. When talking about a couple recently divorced, I said, "I guess they just got tired of each other."

To that he replied, "I stay tired of my wife, but I can't quit loving her."

■ **Stanley is a freshman architecture major from Levelland. E-mail him at mark.stanley@ttu.edu.**

### VIEW FROM ANOTHER UNIVERSITY

## Democrats should back off of Condoleezza Rice, see confirmation as a victory

By Becky Perry/  
The Daily Texan

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN — Condi's back on the job. Bruised but undaunted by her Senate confirmation hearings, Condoleezza Rice hit the road this week in her first overseas trip as secretary of state.

Saturday, she met with the Russian prime minister to urge democratic reform in Moscow. Sunday, she arrived in Israel to encourage progress toward peace and a Palestinian state. Tuesday, she delivered her main policy address to a cautious audience in Paris. At each stop, Condi stayed focused on the vocabulary of Bush foreign policy: The message of freedom.

Condi took the oath as secretary of state a mere two weeks ago, becoming the second woman and the first black woman to fill the post.

President Bush had hoped to swear Condi in earlier last month on his own Inauguration Day. With a diplomatic to-do list that includes easing political tension in Europe and accelerating the Middle East peace process, there is no time to waste. Yet the month of January engulfed Capitol Hill with debate over the Condi confirmation hearings.

Why the wait?  
To outline the obvious: Condi is female. And she is black. By traditionally liberal standards of diversity, her confirmation should be celebrated as a victory for underrepresented

minorities.

A specialist in Soviet military history, Condi served as the first female national security adviser under Bush Sr. and the youngest, first female, first non-white provost of Stanford University. Thus, even her critics admit that Condi is highly qualified.

Yet, Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., was determined to land a few choice blows before Condi assumed office. Her mode of opposition was not unusual — Boxer last made the news by protesting Ohio voting problems, but her method of attack was vicious.

During the televised hearings of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Boxer repeatedly tried to smear Condi as a mindless flunky of the Bush

administration.

In one exchange, Boxer declared: "I personally believe — this is my personal view — that your loyalty to the mission you were given, to sell the war, overwhelmed your respect for the truth."

Condi took her beating with composure. The Warrior Princess is not easily ruffled.

Despite the shrill protests of Boxer, Condi is now trotting the globe with a message of democratic reform. As she ponders the diplomatic challenges in her future, perhaps Condi owes Boxer a thank-you note.

Now she's ready to face the French.

## Don't be in it for just a grade

We pay thousands of dollars for classes, so learn and expect more

Admit it, we all go looking for the fabled easy A at some point in our college careers.

We spend plenty of time asking whom to take or not take for classes, analyzing grade distributions and professor evaluations in an attempt to come up with the perfect schedule.

I know I have. Currently, I am taking 19 hours. While for most of my classes I did not have a choice of professors because of only one section was offered, I tried valiantly to end up with a popular "good" professor for one of my hardest classes.

My efforts were continually thwarted, and I ended up in the "hard" professor's class. I began the semester with a sense of impending doom.

However, five weeks in, I have been pleasantly surprised. Yes, the class is hard.

Yes, the professor demands attendance, respect and a diligent work ethic.

But the truth is, when he gets in front of the class, it is easy to pay attention. He is passionate about his subject, sometimes painfully honest and expects a lot.

However, the biggest thing he has going for him is that he actually teaches his subject with such clarity that I find myself truly understanding it for the first time.

I am sure we have all taken a class or two from a professor who either did not seem prepared to teach the subject material of the class, who lacked the passion to interest us in his subject or simply cared more about their research than teaching.

"If they don't care about it, why should we?" is an attitude easy to adopt in such classes.

I have sat in classes where professors have simply followed the notes of a previous lecturer and been unable to answer students' questions.

Likewise, I have sat in classes where the professor thrived on tricking students and openly laughed about it in class. This sort of teaching is ineffective, unfair and a waste of my tuition money.

Research and publications do bring money and prestige to universities, but we cannot forget the academic side of things.

Because college is a choice for students, as opposed to high school education, we ultimately bring the money for professors' salaries so they are able to write, publish, do research and live and die by the tenure track.

It is sad to see good professors leave university classrooms for the industry because they are

**Sara Miller**



*Sure, those easy As are nice and help the GPA, but with tuition prices escalating higher each semester, should we not aspire to get something more out of the class?*

unable to meet the "publish or perish" expectations set forth by the administration.

Unlike my stepfather, who did not want to coach and teach but was able to wait for the right job to come along, university professors do not have such liberties.

To stay on as a faculty member, it seems as if publications and/or research take first priority and teaching students falls by the wayside.

I doubt an excellent professor who came to the university simply because they loved to teach, without any publications and/or research to his name would ever receive tenure.

If I have to take a class to graduate, whether I like the subject or not, I might as well find an interesting teacher to make it worth the money.

Sure, those easy As are nice and help the GPA, but with tuition prices escalating each semester, should we not aspire to get something more out of the class?

Do not get me wrong. A professor doesn't have to be hard, difficult or demanding to be a good professor. However, an understanding of their subject, a desire to teach and a bit of a sense of humor go a long way in the classroom — especially when your subject is less than earth shattering to the general population.

I mean, really, we love astrophysics too, but when you're excited about it, we get even more excited.

■ **Miller is a senior petroleum engineering major from Lubbock. E-mail her at saramiller1@hotmail.com.**

Tell us what you think.  
E-mail your opinion to  
[opinions@universitydaily.net](mailto:opinions@universitydaily.net).

The University Daily

Editorial Board  
Heidi Toth / Editor  
Joey Kirk / Managing Editor

Beth Aaron / News Editor  
Megan Finney / Copy Editor  
Angela Timmons / Opinions Editor  
Kristen Gilbreth / Life & Leisure Editor  
Bryan Wendell / Sports Editor  
Andrew Weatherill / Photography Editor

**LETTERS:** The UD welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be no longer than 300 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number, Social Security number and a description of university affiliation. Students should include year in school, major and hometown. We reserve the right to edit letters. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. All letters will be verified before they are published. Letters can be e-mailed to UD@ttu.edu or brought to 211 Student Media. Letters should be sent in before 3 p.m. to ensure the editors have enough time to verify and edit the submission.

**GUEST COLUMNS:** The UD accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community.

Guest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification and submission.

**UNSIGNED EDITORIALS:** appearing on this page represent the opinion of The University Daily. All other columns, letters and artwork represent the opinions of their authors and are not necessarily representative of the editorial board, Texas Tech University, its employees, its student body or the Board of Regents. The UD is independent of the School of Mass Communications. Responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies with the student editors.



