



Explosion at Shiite gathering kills at least 27

PAKISTAN BLAST: Thousands of worshippers at Shiite Muslim shrine when bomb exploded, wounding 18.

By Naseer Kakar/Associated Press

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP) — A bomb exploded Saturday as minority Shiite Muslims congregated at a shrine in a remote town in southwestern Pakistan, killing at least 27 people and wounding 18, police said.

Thousands of worshippers were at the shrine of a Shiite saint near the town of Naseerabad, about 210 miles south of Quetta

in restive Baluchistan province, when the bomb went off outside, said Mubarak Ali, a local police official.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility and no indication the attack was linked to clashes between renegade tribesmen and government forces at a town elsewhere in southwestern Baluchistan that left at least 30 people dead this week.

"It was a powerful bomb. There was blood

and body parts everywhere," Mehrab Khan, another police official, told The Associated Press.

"Right now people are angry. They are wailing and crying. Some of them have blocked roads in the town and we are trying to control the situation."

Dr. Badur at the Civil Hospital said 27 people were killed and 18 injured, nine critically. All the victims were men. Ali gave the same toll.

Pakistan has a history of sectarian violence, mostly blamed on rival majority Sunni and minority Shiite extremist groups. About 80 percent of Pakistan's 150 million people

are Sunnis and 17 percent are Shiites.

Most of the Muslims live together peacefully, but small groups of militants on both sides stage attacks.

Also late Saturday, two homemade bombs went off in a residential area of the town of Turbat, about 400 miles southwest of Quetta, wounding four people, local police official Naqeeb Ullah said. Police do not know who carried out the attacks, he said.

In another area of Baluchistan, thousands of people fearing the collapse of a shaky cease-fire escaped a remote town where fighting this week between Pakistani troops and renegade tribesmen left at least 30 people

dead, officials said.

Thursday's fighting in Dera Bugti, which lies about 30 miles from Pakistan's main gas fields, was an alarming escalation of a low-level tribal rebellion in Baluchistan, the country's poorest province.

A parliamentary committee has been set up to examine the grievances of the tribesmen in the province, which was roiled by insurgency in the 1970s. Tribesmen are demanding more returns from the natural gas extracted from their territory and resent the army's moves to set up garrisons in the

EXPLOSION continued on page 6

7-Eleven murder investigation latest of LPD successes

By Brittany Barrientos/The University Daily

The term "good police work" has been sweeping the nation, and the Lubbock Police Department has not been left out.

The police department announced March 10 that local police officers have solved another homicide.

The conclusion of this case marks the sixth homicide the LPD has solved this year, said Sgt. John Gomez. Despite solving several cases in a short period of time, he said homicide investigations are rarely open and shut cases.

"We have been working on these cases since they occurred," he said. "It is the result of good hard police work."

The most recently solved case involved Patricia Garcia, a convenience store clerk, who was killed Aug. 3, 2004. He said the police department pursued leads which led to the arrest of three suspects.

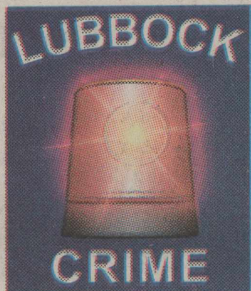
The other cases which have been recently solved involved Erica Perez, killed in a Cingular store parking lot March 4; Louis Red Zavala, killed Jan. 2; Martreon Moore, killed Dec. 21; Russell Baldree, a motorcyclist killed Aug. 2 and Armando Ybarra, killed Aug. 23, 2002.

Gomez said many of the cases were solved with help from the public.

"Anytime we have a homicide, it generates a lot of media attention," he said. "(The police department) gives out phone numbers people can call with information. In the Patricia Garcia case, we had early information in the investigation of a possible suspect, and we took the information and worked with it."

According to the 2002 Lubbock Crime Statistics

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HOW 'SWEET' IT IS



KELLY MATHERLY/The University Daily

RONALD ROSS AND the Red Raiders arrive back home, where a crowd of fans gathered at Lubbock International Airport Saturday night following Texas Tech's 71-69 win against Gonzaga to advance to the Sweet 16.

Wailin' Willie



SUZAN CAUDLE/Courtesy Photo

ABOVE: COUNTRY WESTERN singer and songwriter Willie Nelson sings during his St. Patrick's Day concert at the Lubbock Municipal Auditorium Thursday. RIGHT: Lubbock resident Darryl Lippe (left) stands on stage with Nelson after winning first place in the "Willie-oke" contest Thursday night at Texas Roadhouse. Lippe spent more than three hours getting into costume.

Country singer Willie Nelson croons his tunes at Lubbock Municipal Auditorium during spring break

By Kristen Gilbreth/The University Daily

An American soldier stationed in Iraq, a mother who died three years ago and a sassy sitcom star all had front row seats at a country music concert where redneck and Red Raider, grandma and Greek stood together in unison.

Willie Nelson proved Thursday night at the Lubbock Municipal Auditorium he can accomplish what many politicians and preachers have tried and failed: He transcended generational gaps, superseded stereotypes and harmonized the hippies with the holy, bringing together groups usually divided.

And he did it not by using sophisticated schemes, but rather the slow, simple style usually associated with native Texans.

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KRISTEN GILBRETH/The University Daily

State senate working to help Tech's graduate on time plan

By Meghann Lora/The University Daily

Some new state legislation may help Texas Tech in its efforts graduate students sooner.

Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, has written several bills under review by the senate subcommittee on higher education. These bills discuss topics such as flat-rate tuition, graduation contracts and tuition rebates. Zaffirini said she wants to offer incentives to students to graduate in timely manner.

"An increasing number of students are taking five or six years to get a four-year degree," she said. "What we're trying to do is offer incentives to graduate."

Senate Bill 32 outlines a pilot project for flat-rate tuition that took place at two colleges at the University of Texas at Austin. Under this program, full-time students in those colleges could not be required to pay tuition for more than 14 hours. Zaffirini said the pilot program was successful.

The UT Board of Regents recently approved a flat-rate tuition that will go into effect next fall, according to www.utsystem.edu/news.

"By offering a flat-rate tuition, (students) can take more courses without a higher cost," she said.

Jim Brink, senior vice provost for Tech, said he is concerned with some aspects of the proposed bills.

"The fiscal implications of this are yet to be explored," he said.

The concept of flat-rate tuition for Tech has been discussed as a possibility, Brink said. The university made an effort to decrease the average time it takes students to graduate, and flat-rate tuition could help students do that.

"We're very interested in this because it would fit into our efforts to get students to take their academics more seriously," he said.

The legislature's effort to help Texas students is commendable, Brink said. However, there must be a plan to handle the financial aspects of those efforts.

Student contracts to graduate in a timely manner are discussed in Senate Bill 30. Tech began accepting graduate-on-time contracts from entering freshman last fall, which follows many of the same guidelines the bill outlines.

One provision of this bill states a student who enters into a contract and satisfies the requirements would be exempt from payment for the final 15 credit

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Weather

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| High 66 / Low 37 | High 65 / Low 38 |

Wall Street at a Glance

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| Dow Jones Industrials | NYSE: 7276.84 -7.47 |
| Close: 10,629.67 | Nasdaq Composite: |
| Change: +3.32 | 2007.79 -8.63 |
| Standard&Poors 500: | American Stock Exchange: |
| 1189.65 -0.56 | 1483.94 -3.43 |

Anti-war activists demonstrate on second anniversary of Iraq invasion

NEW YORK (AP) — Anti-war activists marched in the streets of American cities big and small Saturday, stopping traffic and lying down alongside flag-draped cardboard coffins to mark the second anniversary of the start of the war in Iraq.

Some of the demonstrators were arrested in New York as they demanded that U.S. troops be brought home.

"This country was founded by acts of civil disobedience," said David McReynolds, 75, of New York, as he marched along 42nd Street. "We have an obligation to make our resistance public and to say as clearly as we can that the war is illegal."

In San Francisco, hundreds of protesters rallied in Dolores Park in the city's Mission district, holding up posters with photographs of dead American soldiers. The protesters then marched to City Hall for another rally.

One protester dressed like the hooded Iraqi prisoner in the famous photo taken of detainee abuse at Baghdad's Abu Ghraib prison. The woman was surrounded by others wearing

masks of President Bush, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, who were dancing to the song "Shout" by the Isley Brothers.

"This is a war of aggression," said Ed McManus, 54, a Vietnam War veteran. "Bush has admitted by his actions and his deeds that he is a war criminal."

Organizers encouraged civility at rallies in the city, where protests just after the war began were among the most vocal and angry in the country, with thousands of arrests and frequent conflicts between police and demonstrators.

Police wearing helmets and armed with batons lined the streets Saturday, but they reported no disturbances.

Across Europe, tens of thousands of protesters also packed streets and public parks to protest the war. In England, 45,000 people marched from London's Hyde Park past the American Embassy to Trafalgar Square, while an estimated 15,000 people — some carrying signs reading "Murderer Bush, get out" — marched in Turkey.

Hundreds in New York listened to anti-war speeches at the United Nations, then marched along 42nd Street to Times Square, where police penned them in on a sidewalk.

A small contingent of protesters then knelt in front of a military

recruiting station and lay down on Broadway next to the flag-draped coffins. Traffic was stopped for about five minutes before police moved in and arrested 27 protesters.

"It's such a small act in light of over 100,000 Iraqis dead and 1,500 American soldiers dead," Anna Brown, 40, of Jersey City, N.J., said before she was arrested.

An anti-war rally organized in part by veterans and military families drew about 3,000 people to a park near Fort Bragg, N.C. — home to more than 40,000 soldiers.

Demonstrators said they hoped it would build pressure to bring troops home.

"I can't remain silent on these issues, slap a yellow ribbon on my car and call it supporting our troops," said Kara Hollingsworth, the wife of a soldier serving his second tour of duty in Iraq. "I support our troops by making sure they are not put in harm's way unless absolutely necessary."

In Chicago, hundreds of police, some in riot gear, escorted about a thousand marchers down Dearborn Avenue to an afternoon rally at the Federal Plaza. Police were trying to avoid a repeat of two years ago when thousands of protesters caused a huge traffic jam during rush hour and hundreds were arrested.

Plano man's death ruled a homicide

PLANO (AP) — The death of a 30-year-old man who died after police handcuffed him was a homicide, the Collin County medical examiner said Friday.

Anthony Sanders suffered "sudden death due to chest compression and restraint" and post-traumatic mental disorder, Dr. William Rohr said in a statement.

Sanders' injuries occurred during a struggle Feb. 10 in which he was "subdued by sitting on his back all while in a prone position," the statement said.

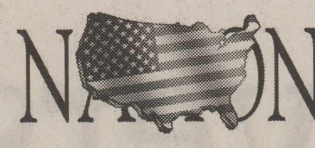
An officer whom police declined to identify handcuffed Sanders after responding to a neighbor's call that Sanders assaulted him. When police arrived, Carlos Mercado and a relative were holding Sanders down, according to Plano police.

Minutes after cuffing Sanders, the officer discovered he wasn't breathing. Sanders was transported to Medical Center of Plano, where he died.

Mercado said officers only handcuffed Sanders and did not hurt him.

Police plan to submit the incident to a grand jury to review and decide what charges, if any, should be filed, a police spokesman said.

The Rundown



House acts to block feeding tube removal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republicans embroiled in the life-or-death legal battle over the severely brain-damaged Terri Schiavo invited the Florida woman to testify to Congress in a procedural move intended to keep her on life support.

The Senate Health Committee has requested Terri and her husband Michael appear at an official committee hearing on March 28. A statement from the office of House Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., Friday said the purpose of the hearing was to review health care policies and practices relevant to the care of non-ambulatory people.

Frist's statement noted it is a federal crime to harm or obstruct a person called to testify before Congress, thus stopping any action that could threaten the health of the woman.

Earlier Friday, a House committee was issuing congressional subpoenas to stop doctors from disconnecting the tube, while an attorney for the parents of the woman said he would ask a federal judge in Tampa to block the removal and review the actions of state courts.

Such habeas corpus appeals seek to require the government to justify its actions.

Earthquake in Japan injures at least five

TOKYO (AP) — A powerful earthquake rattled southern Japan Sunday, swaying buildings and briefly prompting warnings of a tsunami. At least five people were injured, and smaller aftershocks continued to rattle the region.

The magnitude-7 temblor, which hit west of Kyushu Island at 10:53 a.m. local time, was centered at an "extremely shallow" depth below the ocean floor, the Meteorological Agency said. An hour after the initial temblor, aftershocks followed — at least one a magnitude-4.2 quake.

An hour after the initial quake, the agency said the tsunami danger had passed.

"There may be some disturbance of the ocean's surface, but we aren't worried about tsunami damage," said Masahiro Yamamoto of the Meteorological Agency.

At least five people were injured, most in the southern state of Fukuoka, some struck by toppling cabinets or items falling off shelves, and one burned by a cooking stove, public broadcaster NHK TV said.

Los Alamos security shutdown costly; government pays tab

WASHINGTON (AP) — Disruptions caused by last year's security flap at the Los Alamos weapons laboratory may have cost as much as \$367 million because activities were shifted away from the lab's normal work, members of Congress were told Friday.

Lab officials virtually shut down the facility last July after reports that two classified computer disks had disappeared. An investigation later determined they never existed. Some of the normal activities did not resume

until last month.

The laboratory also disclosed Friday the mystery about the disks might have been resolved quickly last summer if two employees had not "falsified" an inventory sheet showing the disks existed.

Los Alamos Lab Director Peter Nanos said the inventory sheet was signed though no inventory had been taken. The two individuals were fired, but when pressed at a House hearing about whether they should be criminally prosecuted, Nanos said that was not for him to decide.

The University Daily

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Publishing information
Periodical Postage paid by The University Daily, Student Media building, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409. Publication number: 766480. The UD is a student newspaper published Monday through Friday, September through May; Tuesdays and Fridays June through August, except during university

examination and vacation periods. The UD is funded primarily through advertising revenues generated by the student sales staff with free campus distribution resulting from student service fees.

Subscriptions
Call: (806) 742-3388
Subscription Rates: \$120 annually; single issues: 25 cents.
Postmaster: send address changes to The University Daily, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

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Administrators, Senate debate top 10 percent policy

By Brandi Fleming/
The University Daily

The Young Conservatives of Texas are combating the top 10 percent rule, which requires public universities to accept the top 10 percent of each high school graduating class.

Matthew Griffing, senior chairman of legislative affairs for the Young Conservatives of Texas, said the organization has been against the rule since it was instated.

"Students who attend very competitive high schools are at a severe disadvantage to those who attend less competitive schools," he said. "Because the top 10 percent is not consistent between high schools, it can't be."

Doing away with the top 10 percent rule will not fix all higher educational dilemmas, Griffing said.

"I won't make any prediction on the affect this will have on the cost of higher education," he said. "But capping enrollment will help

universities take better care of their student body in the long run."

Some fluctuation in pricing may occur in the wake of the top 10 percent rule decision, but nothing drastic is expected, Griffing said.

"The No. 1 reason I want to see the top 10 percent rule abolished is that it will equalize admission standards," he said. "I think it is foolish to have a system that makes standardized exams irrelevant for college entrance, and the rule does exactly that."

Senate Bill 320, authored by Sen. Jeff Wentworth, is the current legislation concerning the abolishment of the top 10 percent rule, according

to the Young Conservatives of Texas press release.

David Rushing, state chairman for the Young Conservatives of Texas, did not return phone calls to comment on the legislation.

Texas Tech President Jon Whitmore said he believes the top 10 percent rule has been beneficial for Tech.

"I don't think the rule has solved all our diversity problems by any means, but we have done just fine with it," he said. "I see no advantage to not having it; the students we have admitted under the rule have been successful."

Dale Ganus, Office of Admissions unit associate director, said 2,122 stu-

dents were admitted to Tech under the top 10 percent rule and 859 of those students enrolled.

"The number of students being admitted under the rule has been increasing each year," he said. "The students we have enrolled have been more prepared for a four-year college, they have made better grades and they have a higher graduation rate."

Kyle Clark, adviser of the Black Student Alliance at the University of Texas at Austin, said the top 10 percent rule has not accomplished a diverse population.

"I imagine the students who benefit from it will be for keeping it, and those who did not benefit will want to abolish it," he said. "There are a lot of loopholes in the rule and a lot of problems that need to be fixed."

Clark said a good rule when checking for diversity is if the university population reflects the population of the community.

"A big reason students of color are against the rule is that it makes some students feel their work is unappreciated, and they feel invali-

dated," he said. "The rule isn't even close to achieving its goal; numbers don't lie."

April Cobb, a sophomore psychology major from Lubbock, said the top 10 percent rule does not work.

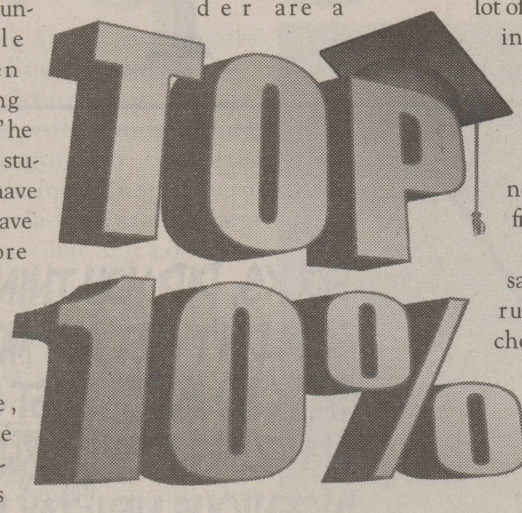
"The rule didn't work at all in my case, and I was not very happy about that," she said. "If we didn't make the SAT scores that the institutions we were applying to required, then we didn't get admission at all."

Whether students were in the top 10 percent of their class was irrelevant if they did poorly on their standardized exams, Cobb said.

"Scholarships and grants were the same story," she said. "It really all came down to SAT scores and nothing else."

Rather than abolish the top 10 percent rule, the rule should be revised, Cobb said.

"If they made the rule work the way it was intended then it would benefit everyone, even the universities," she said.



Florida girl's body recovered

HOMOSASSA, Fla. (AP) — The news this small community feared finally came Saturday: Police had found the body of 9-year-old Jessica Marie Lunsford, more than three weeks after she was snatched from her bedroom.

Citrus County Sheriff Jeff Dawsey said Jessica's body was found during an overnight search near a mobile home close to the house where she lived with her father and grandparents. A registered sex offender confessed Friday to the kidnapping and killing and told authorities where to look for the missing girl.

Jessica's father, Mark Lunsford, visited the search scene shortly after sunrise.

"Everyone heard me say, time after time, that she would be home," he said, his eyes hidden behind dark sunglasses. "She's home now."

Jessica's safe return had become a preoccupation in this rural town of about 2,500 people, hundreds of whom volunteered to scour the area in search of her. Word of the body's

discovery spread as the sun rose, and at the end of her street well-wishers began building a makeshift memorial of candles, flowers and teddy bears.

"The last three weeks it's been hard to sleep, hard to eat," said Kim Bidlack, who taught the youth church class Jessica attended before vanishing Feb. 23. "It's so hard to explain how this makes you feel. We're so heartbroken over Jessie, but then you have so much bitterness to the person who would do this."

John Evander Couey, 46, confessed to kidnapping and killing Jessica after taking a lie-detector test Friday in Georgia, Dawsey said. Police said he was arrested Thursday in Augusta, Ga., on a probation violation for failing to notify officials that he was moving, a requirement for sex offenders.

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Bill proposed to toughen animal-cruelty laws

AUSTIN (AP) — Supporters of a proposed bill that would strengthen the state's animal-cruelty laws say loopholes prevent many cases from being prosecuted, including a man who ran over his puppy with a lawnmower.

The bill, however, is opposed by a hunters' group, and farm organizations are studying whether it would affect livestock producers.

The push for stricter legislation is led by the Texas Humane Legislation Network and Bell County Attorney

Richard J. Miller, both of whom said numerous cases of animal cruelty in recent years have gone unpunished.

Miller said he was unable to prosecute a man who deliberately ran over his puppy with a lawn mower because the cruelty law only covers killing someone else's animal and because the puppy's instant death didn't meet the law's definition of terror.

A bill by state Rep. Toby Goodman, R-Arlington, would make it an offense for someone to kill his or her own animal in a cruel manner and

would extend the law to protect wild animals.

The bill would also make it illegal to kill or injure strays or someone else's livestock or train animals to fight one another — current law requires people to be caught causing animals to fight, according to the humane group.

The bill, however, is opposed by the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, which sent out a notice urging Texas hunters to ask their lawmakers to oppose the measure. The hunters' group said the bill would "turn common hunting practices into criminal acts of animal cruelty."

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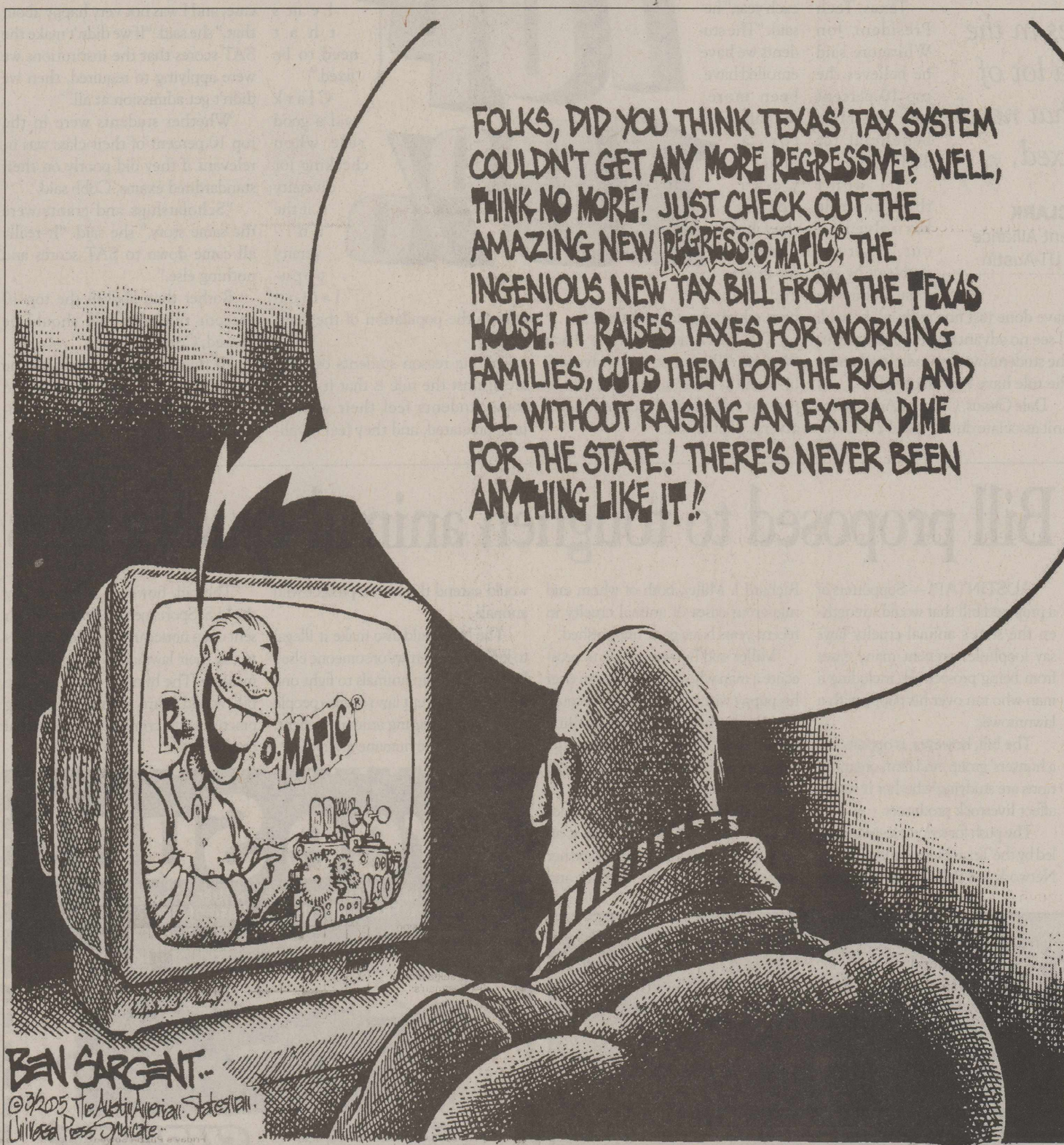
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Public schools and Texans

Vouchers encourage private schools, but public schools and children lose

Dear Rep. Carl Isett,
Please stop meddling with our public schools and attempting to form an educated opinion when you home-school your children. The message of what you think of our public schools are is clear through your own life.

Your constituent,
Robin Milstead

Robin Milstead



In a time in which Texas teachers have one of the highest turnover rates and our state mandating their minimum salary at \$24,240, the last thing we need to do is give money to private schools.

What we need to do is give money to private schools. We also don't need to allow companies like Edison Schools to come in and manage by contracting with public school districts. Our children and teachers deserve better.

My elementary school years were spent in Alief ISD, where children walk in the doors with language barriers, from low income families, single-parent homes and the need for teachers and the community to enrich their lives. While Alief is a high-performing district in Houston, to get the best, you must demand it. School vouchers won't help these children or raise the bar for low-performing schools.

The solution, though it may take time, is to enrich children's lives and bring Texas schools up to par with the rest of the nation. We have to address problems that stare us in the face everyday. Proposing to let the private schools "deal with it" is ignorant and inhumane for Texas children.

The media blitz our neighborhoods, trying to reach out to parents to stress the importance of education and the value of books over video games.

Teach communication between children and parents and see the growth it plays during an average school day.

Challenge our Hispanic communities to the power knowledge plays, because whether we like it or not, theirs is the fastest-growing community in our nation.

Every child deserves a chance at education and to make something of themselves. This begins in the schools right in front of us.

So I ask Rep. Carl Isett, Delwin Jones and State Board member Bob Craig: If children are our future, what are we showing them? Is it money that you care about, or our children?

Milstead is a senior English major from Houston. E-mail her at robin.c.milstead@ttu.edu.

Ok, so while most of us were headed to the sunny shores of Panama City Beach, South Padre or taking a dip in the oceans at Cancun, there was a storm a-brewin' in our own Texas legislature.

On March 11, Rep. Debbie Riddle from Houston (sigh) proposed a bill that would allow parents of any income to send their children to private schools with state dollars. I'm no math major, but this comes down to some basic common sense.

First, I'm embarrassed to say Texas has the lowest graduation rate in the nation. Second, when our own public schools are grossly underfunded, why the dickens would we spend money needed for those schools for the benefit of private schools?

The only explanation is there must have been some brandy in the punch bowl at that afternoon's meeting.

The reasoning Riddle gave to reporters was, according to tfn.org, "Every student for which a voucher is issued represents a cost savings to the state [of] approximately \$1000. So the state saves money, student performance increases and the low-performing school sees their ratings increase. School choice really is the most efficient way to improve all aspects of our education." Wrong.

Riddle couldn't be more off. The public schools need that money — and more. And of course student performance for that one student is going to increase because of the overwhelming amount of individual attention private schools offer. What about the other children who can't get that attention because their classroom is overcrowded? Not every single child in the public school system can go to private schools because there aren't that many private schools.

What is more disheartening is Riddle covers a section of Houston that includes Aldine, Humble, Klein, Spring and Tomball school districts. Except for Aldine, every one of those school districts are members of the highest performing in our state. According to the Texas Legislature Web site, 60 percent of her constituents' household incomes are more than \$50,000 a year. Seventy-two percent of her constituents are homeowners, and only 1.5 percent of her constituents need public assistance.

I think I smell a rat.

While her bill states any income can apply for "the choice" to move children to private schools, it's a little sneaky since the majority of her district wouldn't be approved for vouchers in the first place.

In a time in which Texas teachers have one of the highest turnover rates and our state mandating their minimum salary at \$24,240, the last

— conquering, they in turn are conquered.

At least liberals are honest about wanting larger government. The congressional Republicans of today are looking a whole lot like the House Democrats of yesteryear.

When they take for themselves the right to intervene in whatever catches their interest that week, then the men and women who perform such actions no longer can be said to operate on any principle, any code, except one that mandates self-interest.

Big government is bad only when it's not your big government.

If you think I'm wrong, ask yourself — how does making a grown man, hero to millions, cry in front of television cameras save us from steroid abuse?

Is that the price for the awareness they claim to raise? Ask yourself, if you were in the state of Terri Schiavo, would you want the collection of medical and moral geniuses on Capitol Hill determining your future? Do you really trust the government that much?

If you think so, my friend, you are no conservative. I'd like to point out that to try and bypass the ruling of the state of Florida, our Congress — which has loudly been beating the drum for almost a decade

now about the horrors of judicial activism — on March 17 passed Senate Measure 653, giving sweeping new powers to federal courts to review life-support cases.

Meet the new boss, same as the old boss.

Rhode is a senior philosophy major from Lubbock. E-mail him at jasonrhode@ttu.edu.

Conservatism: Missing In Action

The GOP made promises, but they've broken them — and lost sight of their platform in the process

What happened to conservatism? It seems just yesterday Republicans took charge of Congress, pledging to make good on their plan to wipe out the old and baronial Democratic leadership.

This would be the end of all that, we were told in 1994 — no more big government running your lives. Hadn't Bill Clinton said that two years prior during his inauguration speech? Surely, we now would see change. Regardless of whether you agreed with the GOP's so-called revolution, nobody could deny change was in the air.

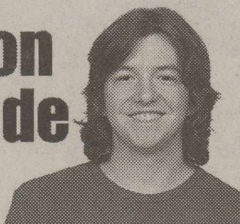
Which brings us to the sad but tragically predictable state of Congress today, and the party which controls it — what do we see? What of those brave new plans I heard of after the revolt? Has the state been smashed? The budget cut? Powers lifted, freedom expanded? The Contract With America completed? Where art thou, O revolution?

The Great Conservative Majority has turned into, to borrow a phrase from one of their ideological godfathers, William F. Buckley, "the last bastion of not very much at all." Like the French Revolution, this one at itself, a point that has been driven especially home during these last week, which saw the Congress turning its widely-televised attentions to — war? Terrorism? Social Security? Body armor for the troops? No — stepping all over each other to grandstand about steroids in front of the camera.

For a follow up, they forgot about that pesky states' rights platform and tried to order a feeding tube back into Terri Schiavo's mouth — against the recommendation of her physicians — keeping her (in the words of one commentator) "trapped in a living hell," preventing her "from dying with dignity." This is what the power of the state is doing for the quality of our lives. I'm so glad I pay their salaries.

Conservatism is about preserving individual liberties, restricting

Jason Rhode



Conservatives exist to fight ideas that appear in the shape of new freedoms but are ancient tyrannies in disguise. Or so they say. Whether you agree with this philosophy, or my description of it, I have not seen it practiced by its supposed heralds in the 11 years they have held sway over the destiny of this country.

the power of government, keeping the old that is good.

Conservatives exist to fight ideas that appear in the shape of new freedoms but are ancient tyrannies in disguise. Or so they say. Whether you agree with this philosophy, or my description of it, I have not seen it practiced by its supposed heralds in the 11 years they have held sway over the destiny of this country. Ironically, it was their most hated enemy — Clinton — who reduced government more than any president during my lifetime.

In 1994, Americans had every reason to be glad for the sea change,

even if they were Democrats. Governments or parties long unchallenged soon become entrenched and corrupt; without rebuke, long-held majorities forget their limits, forget their missions, forget who they're representing. Bipartisanship is dissolved. Eternal power breeds eternal arrogance, and the Democrats had held the whip hand for 40 years.

Surveys revealed Americans who sent Newt Gingrich to the speakership hadn't done so because of any supposed loyalty to his ideas, but because they were sick of the old leadership.

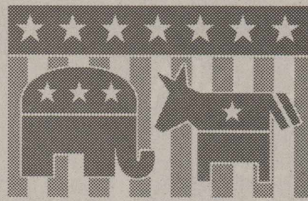
And did this change bring about an era of reduced partisanship? Was gridlock erased? Did the GOP, as it claimed, make you more free than you were in 1994? Well? Do I have to even answer this question? Read the Patriot Act lately? (A plague on the Democrats for that one, too.)

The first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, once noticed something about Thomas Jefferson during their many dinners together in the early years of this Republic.

The great slaveholder, Jefferson, spoke often and at length during these meals about how much he loathed a strong, active, federal government.

But talk as he did, Hamilton noticed that simultaneously, Jefferson had the eagerness of a man who knew he was bound to come into an inheritance. That is, for all his blustering about how bad that that power was, Jefferson (who knew he was an eventual president) was eager for it. And come to it he did, thus expanding the powers of Washington beyond anyone's imagination.

And so, like Jefferson, these so-called conservatives have achieved a pyrrhic victory; they've captured power, but in doing so become hosts to the philosophy of their enemies. They have become what they hated



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

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HSC physician brings hope to Guatemala

Dr. Miguel Pirela-Cruz, an orthopedic surgeon from HSC-El Paso, helps correct a boy's deformities

Story by Lindsay Wharton/
The University Daily
Photos courtesy of Lisa Ruley

A physician from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in El Paso recently went on a medical mission trip to Guatemala. There, he met a 16-year-old boy seeking medical attention for hand deformities from which he has suffered most of his life.

Dr. Miguel Pirela-Cruz, associate professor of orthopedic surgery is teamed with a group of volunteers to help the boy improve the appearance and function of his hands.

"(The mission) turned out to be a lot more than what I anticipated," Pirela-Cruz said.

Pirela-Cruz traveled to Guatemala to help children and

"I looked him over and introduced him to the hand team."

Dr. Pirela-Cruz was heading up that week."

— DR. ROLANDO CADENA
A Podiatrist from Las Cruces, N.M.

adults with orthopedic problems. He said physicians providing the medical services pay for most of the trip expenses, and charities donate money to help pay for nurse practitioners.

Pirela-Cruz was introduced to Oseas Lopez, the boy whose hands had been deformed since childhood.

Pirela-Cruz said people in Guatemala often cook over open pits, and boiling water fell on Lopez's hands when he was a year old, causing his deformities.

There are complicated moral issues involved with each case, Pirela-Cruz said, especially with Lopez.

For example, one surgeon working on Lopez's case did not believe Lopez needed surgery because he had learned to func-

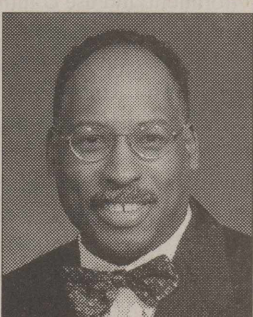
tion with his hands for the past 15 years, Pirela-Cruz said. However, volunteer surgeons debated about what to do and made a collective agreement.

The surgical team, headed by Pirela-Cruz, prepared to perform the first of several of Lopez's surgeries in Guatemala, but a power outage made it impossible to continue.

Plans were made to transport Lopez to the United States, where he could receive treatment, Pirela-Cruz said.

With the help of other doctors, Pirela-Cruz simultaneously performed one major surgery and several other surgeries on both of Lopez's hands.

Pirela-Cruz said the medical staff is trying to perform each task quickly because charities such as Healing the Children are paying for Lopez to receive



Pirela-Cruz

treatment in the United States, and funding is limited.

Lopez's first surgery included moving both hands around and bringing the contorted right side into a normal position, Pirela-Cruz said. A large wound was left, but Lopez was not in pain.

"It's a very significant change," Pirela-Cruz said.

While Lopez's hands will never look completely normal, he will continue his work on the hands, Pirela-Cruz said.

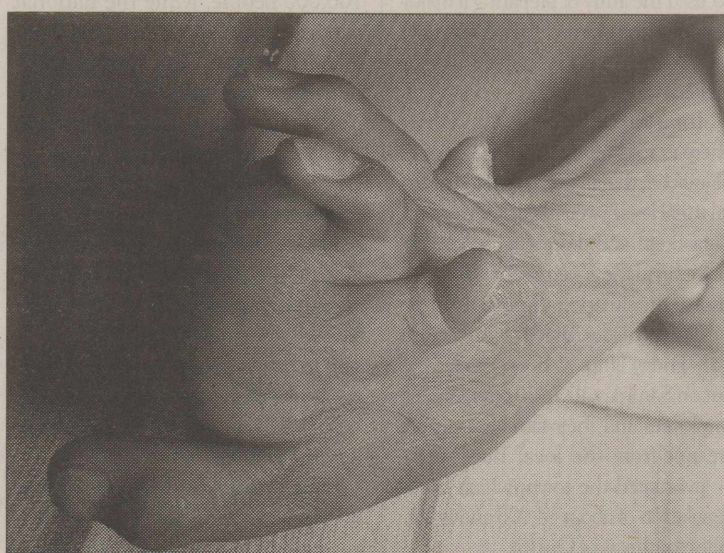
Lopez hides his hands when in public, which is common for people with deformities, Pirela-Cruz said.

The medical staff currently is addressing issues involving the left thumb, Pirela-Cruz said. Lopez's thumb will probably need two additional surgeries.

Dr. Rolando Cadena, a podiatrist from Las Cruces, N.M., introduced Pirela-Cruz to Lopez when Lopez approached Cadena about his hands.

"I looked him over and introduced him to the hand team Dr. Pirela-Cruz was heading up that week," Cadena said.

Lopez is living with Cadena



Courtesy Photo

THE RIGHT HAND of Oseas Lopez, a 16-year-old Guatemalan boy who learned to adapt to his hand deformities before Dr. Miguel Pirela-Cruz, associate professor of orthopedic surgery for the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center-El Paso and a team of volunteer physicians performed a number of surgeries on Lopez's hands in an attempt to make performing daily activities simpler.

and his family while he continues his surgery and physical therapy.

Cadena said Lopez has his own room and an avid interest in sports, especially soccer.

Lisa Ruley, director of communications and marketing at the HSC-El Paso, said Lopez

lives in Jutiapa, Guatemala, with his parents and three sisters.

She said Lopez's family has running water but no electricity.

Lopez goes to school in Guatemala and is an average student, she said.

Excuses multiply for keeping government data from public

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government argues that a health official's required public financial disclosure reports should not become public. Some of President Bush's military records were not released because officials did not want to search boxes filled with rat excrement. Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge's public schedules were withheld until he left office.

Those roadblocks to obtaining government data arose in response to requests during the past year by The Associated Press. In recent years, the AP and other regular users of the Freedom of Information Act have been presented with a growing list of never-before-seen excuses for denying the public release of government documents.

"It's become much, much harder to get responses to FOIA requests, and it's taking much, much longer," said David A. Schulz, the attorney who helps the AP with FOIA requests. "Agencies seem to view their role as coming up with techniques to keep information secret rather than the other way around. That's completely contrary to the goal of the act."

It has taken administrative appeals or lawsuits to overcome some obstacles, but not before requesters had to wait — sometimes until the information sought was no longer useful — and often had to spend hundreds or thousands of dollars for lawyers.

Other times, ordinary citizens were thwarted because they lacked time or money.

Whether journalists, advocacy groups or private citizens make the requests, the ultimate loser is the public, which learns less about its government, say those who have fought the fights.

Steve Hendricks, a Montana resident writing a book about tumultuous relations between American Indians and the government in the 1970s, said he could never afford an expensive legal battle. He said he was fortunate his wife, an FOIA lawyer, could wage his battle against the FBI to uncover documents the agency at first said did not exist.

Bush administration officials acknowledge reining in the policies of earlier administrations to protect privacy and national security, particularly after the Sept. 11 attacks.

"We were more attuned to privacy concerns, as well as the security matters, than prior to this administration coming in," said Mark Corallo, who just retired as the Justice Department's spokesman.

Corallo said the department relied on recommendations of career experts to handle information release requests. He said that elsewhere "perhaps the bureaucracy took advantage of the national security imperative at times to withhold non-national security stuff."

Whatever the case, some new roadblocks are novel.

During last year's presidential campaign, the AP filed federal and state suits that uncovered new, long-sought military records of Bush's

service. Weeks after Texas National Guard officials swore under oath they had released everything, two retired Army lawyers searched again under an agreement between the AP and the Guard and found 31 unreleased pages. These included orders for high-altitude training in 1972, less than three months before Bush abruptly quit flying.

Defending the failure to find the documents, Guard spokesman Lt. Col. John Stanford said searching the old, disorganized boxes was tough. "These boxes are full of dirt and rat ... (excrement) and dead bugs."

The AP's general counsel, David Tomlin, said the company spent almost \$100,000 litigating the case. The government was

ordered to pay the AP's legal costs, but disputed the amount. The AP settled for a fraction of what it spent, Tomlin said.

AP lawyers are still appealing for copies of the 2001-2003 financial disclosure reports, required under the Ethics in Government Act, from Dr. Edmund Tramont, director of the National Institutes of Health's AIDS division.

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS
1 Impish rogue
6 McGregor of "Trainspotting"
10 Present packaging
14 Heavy work
15 Print measure
16 Aperture
17 Just a minute!
20 Drench
21 All even
22 Deep passion
23 Actor Kingsley
24 Former mayor of NYC
27 Breakfast order
34 Postman's course
35 Cable channel's letters
36 Bargain-hunter's dream
37 Comic Carney
38 Reggae relative
40 AOL for example
42 Terrier foot
43 Way of old Rome
45 Part of USA
47 Merits
49 Hit by the Commodores
52 Hamlet
53 Spherical body
54 Type of pear
57 Bridge seat
59 I figured it out!
62 Convertible wannabe
66 Tenant's payment
67 Sufficient elbow space
68 "Guitar Town" singer Steve
69 Bulging shouts
70 Made great haste
71 Holy smokes!

DOWN
1 Leisurely
2 Walking stick
3 Shelter a fugitive
4 Pop's partner
5 Apprentices
6 Fencing foil
7 Blowhard
8 Dissemblance
9 Snooze
10 While on the other hand
11 Highway
12 As well
13 Stare intently
18 Merciless villain
19 Young sheep
23 Wager
25 All in one piece
26 Adj. modifiers
27 Attribute
28 Value
29 External
30 Former Israeli P.M.
31 "It's a Wonderful Life" director
32 Baltic island
33 Full of recent info
39 Green Hornet's valet
41 Partridge perch
44 Snappy comebacks
46 Major ruler
48 Priestly vestment
50 Barak of Israel
51 Sammy of baseball
54 Frizzy hairdo
55 Yuletide carol
56 Actress Allyson
58 Lamentor's words
59 Gillette razor
60 Cargo space
61 Simians
63 Table scrap
64 Tic-tac-los win
65 Hammariskjold of the U.N.

Friday's Puzzle Solved
HUSK BASHA ROVE
UHU AMOUR EVELM
HOMOGRAPH SEND
SHOWERS RESORTS
ENOS NOR
ANDREW TRACTORS
ROUST REAL SMUT
ETC TEARS ERA
NETS HARE CIGAR
ASSURED FINALE
BOB MERC
SUBJECT TINCENSE
OGEE RAINDANCES
ALEC ALBEE SAWS
RIFT TENOR EASE

By Bruce Venze & Stella Daily
Madison, WI 3/21/05

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Explosion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

region.

As government workers and their families fled the area in vehicles under paramilitary escort, ethnic nationalists accused the army of preparing a major offensive and warned they could turn the province into a "graveyard" for soldiers.

Interior Minister Aftab Khan Sherpao told reporters in the capital, Islamabad, that fighters loyal to the local tribal leader were digging in around Dera Bugti and destroying roads. He maintained the government wanted to resolve the situation through talks.

The two sides agreed to a cease-fire early Friday after 16 hours of clashes. But on Saturday all 3,300 government employees and their families — who are not from the local Bugti tribe — evacuated the town, which has a population of about 84,000 and is 185 miles southeast of Quetta.

Abdul Samad Lasi, the top government official in Dera Bugti, said at least 1,500 armed Bugti men have taken up positions in mountains outside the town and were waiting for an order to attack. He cited intelligence and security reports.

He said the evacuation was prompted by a warning from tribal chief Nawab Akbar Bugti on Saturday that he could not guarantee the government employees' safety.

The government has asked paramilitary forces not to initiate fire but to defend government installations, security official Col. Mohammed Furqan said.

In Quetta, the provincial capital, about 3,000 supporters from ethnic Baluch nationalist parties staged a protest Saturday, accusing the government of "ruthless firing" against tribesmen and concealing the deaths of civilians.

Homicide

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Index, Lubbock's overall crime index is higher than the national average. The report states Lubbock had nearly 6,900 criminal acts per 100,000 people, while the national average is just more than 4,100 per 100,000 people. The total number of crimes was more than 14,000. The most common were larceny and theft, totaling more than 8,300.

Sgt. Ross Hester said statistics can appear skewed based on the police department policy. He said in larger cities, many times petty crimes are not investigated the way they are in smaller or mid-sized cities.

"In terms of per capita, our average ranks with other cities," he said. "(But) in Lubbock, people tend to report any little old thing."

Hester said he believes people should feel safe in Lubbock — there are not as many fast-paced, hectic worries.

"Just because Lubbock has 200,000 people does not mean nothing is going to happen," he said. "I think Lubbock is pretty safe. I have had the opportunity to leave, but this is where I have chosen to stay and raise my kids."

According to the Lubbock Area United Way 2004 Community Statistics Report, the total number of murders in Lubbock is 27 percent lower than the Texas average. The report also states the number of rapes is 53 percent above the Texas average, the number of aggravated assaults is 141 percent greater than the Texas average and the number of robberies is 30 percent lower than the Texas average.

Statistics show, however, that the Texas Tech campus appears relatively safer; according to the 2003 Center for Campus Life Safety Report on the Tech campus in 2003, no murders occurred and one rape was reported.

Gomez said after a homicide is committed, the police department

not only works to solve the case, but works to make society continue to feel safe.

"Each homicide is different, with different conditions," he said. "(After a crime is committed) we actively patrol the areas. People should still be aware of their environment and use common-sense type (safety practices)."

Gomez said the cases involving Joanna Rogers and Jennifer Wilkinson, who both disappeared in summer 2004, still are under investigation by the Sheriff's Department. He also said the homicide of Tammy Cooper and her three children, murdered in their apartment in October, is under investigation.

"In the Cooper case, we have substantial leads we are working with," Gomez said. "The investigation is ongoing."

To report information that may be helpful to the police department in any case, call Crime Line at (806) 741-1000.

Concert

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Will the real Willie please stand up?

After performing in Oklahoma, Nelson's biodiesel-fueled tour bus headed south to familiar land. Since he grew up in Abott, the legendary singer/songwriter is in tune with Texas traditions.

Before his scheduled St. Patrick's Day concert, Nelson spent an hour hanging out with fans at Texas Roadhouse. The gathering was as laid back as a backyard barbecue.

The Frenship High School pom squad entertained Nelson as he sipped coffee and munched on a Cactus Blossom. Then, he watched locals compete in a karaoke contest and "Willie-oke" where judges sipped green beer while rating contestants on how they resembled Nelson, both physically and vocally.

Darryl Lippe of Lubbock was the winner of free tickets and other extras, but it was clear who West Texans were at the restaurant to see.

When Nelson stepped on stage with his brown New Balance tennis shoes, women of all ages screamed his name among whistles and applause.

Despite pleas from the crowd, the musical icon did not sing any of his 2,000 recorded songs. Instead, he said how much he enjoyed the people of the South Plains, adding concertgoers would notice differences in his show.

"I love coming here," Nelson said. "I don't think I've been here for awhile. So, I think our show may have changed a little bit."

I'm with him

Shooter Jennings, son of the late Waylon Jennings, opened Nelson's concert. And it was obvious by the number of times Waylon's name was mentioned that the country artist who often sang duets with Nelson was present in the minds of many.

A less visible famous face was Shooter Jennings' girlfriend, Drea de Matteo, who starred in the "Sopranos" and now plays Joey's sister in the "Friends" spin-off "Joey." She took backstage to her boyfriend, letting him have the spotlight. Sitting in an area closed off from the audience, de Matteo was dressed in plain clothes and guarded herself from anyone wanting to pull out the red carpet.

A long-haired, tattooed Jennings said since his dad was from Littlefield, Lubbock has always appealed to him, even if it is not as scenic as other parts of the country.

"I love this place," he said, while staring at the ground like a shy child. "It is so, well, flat."

As for the opportunity to play on the

same stage as Nelson, his celebrity name does not mean Jennings was without the jitters.

"(Playing with Willie) was awesome," he said with excitement in his voice. "I was so nervous."

The luck of the Irish

Many Tech students would agree with Creek Fullingham, a sophomore journalism major from Petersburg, when she said braids, booze and pot smoking are the things Willie Nelson brings to mind. Since his red hair is notorious for being twisted into two braids and in the '90s he admitted to regular marijuana use, the classification is not too farfetched.

Yet one Generation Xer said he looks beyond dress and drugs. Larry Gaytan, who was accepted to Tech for the fall, won tickets to the show on the radio. His luck continued when he wandered outside the auditorium as Nelson's bus pulled up.

As more than 2,000 fans waited for more than 10 minutes for Nelson to appear onstage, Gaytan said he held up the concert as he was casually chatting with his idol about everything from taxes to getting an education.

After joking with Nelson about the federal tax evasion trouble he was in during the '80s, Gaytan said the 71-year-old shared wisdom like a grandfather would with his grandchildren.

"(Nelson) said 'You don't wanna get in trouble with the damn IRS,'" he said. "Then, later he told me, 'Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do something.'"

After speaking one-on-one with the man who is known for "bucking Nashville," Gaytan noted Nelson's down-to-earth reputation is accurate.

"It was like if I knew the guy as if he was my next-door neighbor," he said.

When Nelson first appeared on stage singing "Whiskey River" with a Texas flag draped behind him, he pointed to say hello to Gaytan, who lifted his beer in response.

During the two hours Nelson sang more than four decades of songs, Gaytan said he tried to keep his military buddy who is serving overseas in Iraq on his cell phone for as long as possible.

"It was 4:30 a.m. in Iraq, and he called and got to hear Willie sing too," Gaytan said. "It was good for him."

Always on her mind

At times the audience matched Nelson's subdued stage performance by sitting silently as if viewing a serious play where whispers are quickly hushed by security. Even with alcohol in their systems, admirers seemed afraid to sing or dance to the mixed sounds of Nelson and his band: guitar, harmonica, piano and drums.

But that was only until Nelson sang a classic such as "You Were Always on My Mind" or "Beer for My Horses." These songs were accompanied by lighters swaying in the darkness and off-key voices screaming every word. Beyond the cheers, one audience member came to the side of the stage with tears in her eyes.

Anita Grant of Levelland brought a tiny stuffed animal to security in hopes it could be passed with a note to Nelson.

Grant said her mother, who died of breast cancer, was Nelson's biggest fan and always wanted to be close to Nelson but never had the opportunity.

"She brought (the stuffed animal) to one of Willie's concerts years ago, and she asked me to give it to him if I ever got the chance," she said. "She is smiling down on me right now."

On the Road Again

Nelson finished the show with "All the Girls I've Loved Before" and "Luckenbach," and a song from his latest album "Songs." Even though dozens of fans flooded to his bus after the show, they were too late; Nelson already was "on the road again" to continue his tour in Austin.

But groupies will not have to wait for Nelson to return to Lubbock for another performance — he will be making an appearance on the big screen in July as Uncle Jessie in "The Dukes of Hazzard."

Senate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

hours required for the student's bachelor's degree program. Zaffirini said the payment exemption would be in the form of a tuition rebate.

"That has tremendous fiscal implications," Brink said. "Unless the legislature is willing to fund that, that would make a blow to the universities."

Zaffirini said the proposed bills still are under review by committees.

"We are trying to ensure we have the best bill possible," she said. "A bill is seldom passed in

the same way it was submitted."

There still is debate whether the incentives will be mandatory or permissive, Zaffirini said.

Input from state universities has been received and she said she is willing to work with administrators to address concerns.

Ivan Machado, an occupational therapy major from El Paso, said this is his first semester at Tech and he is taking six hours. He said he needed only six more hours to enter into the occupational therapy program. Flat-rate tuition would not benefit all students, he said.

"I disagree on it because there's many students who cannot take 14

hours," he said. "They would be at a disadvantage because they would be paying more."

Machado said he would be one of the students at a disadvantage because he cannot take very many hours each semester. In addition, he said many students cannot get into the classes they need each semester, which may cause students to take more classes that do not count toward their degree.

"There's sometimes no way you can take more than nine or 12 hours," he said. "Some students might take classes they don't need."

Zaffirini said she has great faith in the students of Texas and high expectations and has proposed these bills to help them.

"Our purpose is to help students and their families in the most cost-effective manner for the students, the universities and the state," she said.

"I disagree on it because there's many students who cannot take 14 hours."

— IVAN MACHADO
An Occupational Therapy Major from El Paso

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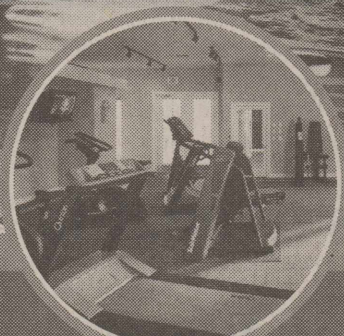
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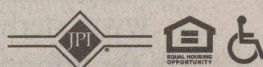
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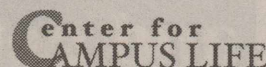
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LITTLE RINGS TRUE IN 'THE RING TWO'

The matted-haired, creepy-eyed dead girl, Samara, from "The Ring" is back in "The Ring Two," but her video, which kills people a week after they watch it, is not.

After the first 15 minutes of "The Ring Two," the plot device of the killer video is scrapped. That proved to be somewhat of a smart move.

What did you want? For the video to get put online, downloaded by various teen-agers and have Samara attack them through their monitors?

Instead, Rachel Keller (Naomi Watts) and her son, Aidan (David Dorfman) have moved away from big city Seattle, where the events of the first film unfolded, to the small town of Astoria, Ore., to escape their horrifying memories.

They were haunted in the first film by Samara (Kelly Stables), a young girl who was thrown in a well by her adopted mother and left to die. She would kill people within seven days of watching a video full of clues to her death because the people refused to help her by passing the tape to others.

As you might guess, Samara

James Eppler



While the departure from the 'cursed' video' plot was smart, some of 'The Ring Two' feels false. What was mysterious and frightening about the first film has curdled into cheap scare tactics and re-hashes

resurfaces (so to speak) in "The Ring Two," and she still has a fixation on Rachel and Aidan — but mostly Aidan.

Samara wants to possess Aidan's

body so she can come back to life. This presents Rachel with quite a conundrum. Will she have to kill her son to get rid of this ghost girl once and for all?

Rachel has a sit-down with Samara's birth mother, (Sissy Spacek in full "Carrie" creep mode), who resides in a mental institution. She tells Rachel killing Aidan is the only way to save him.

While this departure from the "cursed video" plot was smart, some of "The Ring Two" feels false. What was mysterious and frightening about the first film has curdled into cheap scare tactics and re-hashes.

A prime example: In "The Ring," spooked horses ran amuck and committed suicide, and tied directly into the story. In "The Ring Two," we get attacking computer-generated deer images, without reason or explanation.

It's also ridiculous when Rachel goes to Samara's old house and meets a realtor who is about to show it as an open house. The house is cleaned out, ready to be sold — except for the basement, which still has a ton of spooky stuff and clues to help Rachel. The realtor must have overlooked all

that stuff. Director Hideo Nakata simply lost control of his film.

Nakata, the director behind "Ringu" and "Ringu 2" which inspired the American "Ring" films, subs in for Gore Verbinski, director of "The Ring," who opted instead to work on two "Pirates of the Caribbean" sequels.

This is Nakata's first Hollywood film, and it is evident from the finished product he got eaten alive by Hollywood status-quo pushers, much like the fate of Takashi Shimizu ("The Grudge").

Too much time is spent on clichéd scare tactics, (light bulbs flickering off for no reason, for example) and not enough on developing the characters.

Instead of learning more about Samara, and why she is so angry, she is reduced to a movie monster that wants a mommy.

But Naomi Watts, one of my absolute favorite actresses (see "Mulholland Dr." and "21 Grams") works wonders with her underwritten role. She may be the sole reason to see "The Ring Two."



Photo courtesy of Dream WorksPictures
NAOMI WATTS (LEFT) plays a journalist and David Dorfman stars as her son in the sequel to The Ring. The film currently is playing in Lubbock.

David Dorfman also accomplishes something significant — he dodges the Haley Joel Osment bullet by giving his role enough gravity to avoid comparison.

There are some terrific special effects, including a scene in which a character is nearly drowned in a bathtub to exorcise spirits. It's just rotten luck "Constantine" did it last month.

I admire that "The Ring Two" was unafraid to do something different with the source material, and even found portions of the

film fascinating. But the film too often trips over its desire to be scarier than "The Ring."

It's what happens when a film is far more interested in the mayhem than the mystery.

EPPLER'S RATING:



■ Eppler is *The UD's* movie critic. E-mail comments and questions to James.D.Eppler@ttu.edu.

Hip-hop star Lil' Kim convicted of lying about shooting

NEW YORK (AP) — Grammy-winning hip-hop star Lil' Kim, known for her revealing outfits and raunchy raps, has been convicted of lying to a federal grand jury about a shootout outside a radio station.

Lil' Kim was convicted of three counts of perjury and one of conspiracy, but acquitted of obstruction of justice. She could get 20 years — a maximum of five years for each count — when she is sentenced June 24.

Lil' Kim and her assistant, who also was convicted, shook their heads as the verdicts were delivered, and supporters broke out in sobs. While many rappers have gone to prison, Lil' Kim, 29, would be the first big-name female to do time.

Asked outside court whether she had any comment, Lil' Kim, wearing a beige pantsuit and a pink jacket, shook her head and said no.

"We love you," a bystander shouted.

She later issued a statement saying she was "disappointed" in the verdict.

"However, I was acquitted of the most serious charge, obstruction of justice," she said. "Throughout my life, I have always lived with adversity and will continue to have faith and do good for my family, friends and fans."

The former sidekick and mistress of the late Notorious B.I.G. had testified that she didn't notice two close friends at the scene of the 2001 gun battle — her manager, Damion Butler, and Suif "Gutta" Jackson. Both men have since pleaded guilty to gun charges.

The shootout occurred outside WQHT, known as Hot 97, when Lil' Kim's entourage crossed paths with a

rival rap group, Capone-N-Noreaga. Kim's entourage confronted them about the song "Bang, Bang" from a Capone-N-Noreaga album, which contained a scathing insult to Kim from her long-time rival, Foxy Brown. A shootout erupted, leaving one man injured and more than two dozen rounds fired.

Hot 97 is the same station where the posses of 50 Cent and The Game traded bullets last month. No arrests have been made in that shooting,

which left one of Game's henchmen wounded in the leg.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Cathy Seibel told jurors that the 4-foot-11 Lil' Kim, born Kimberly Jones, had repeatedly lied to them, just as she did to the grand jury. The prosecutor belittled the defense claim that the sunglasses-wearing Lil' Kim didn't notice her two close friends at the scene of the crime.

"You would have to believe they were magic sunglasses that only block

out your friends who were shooting people," Seibel told the jury.

Defense lawyer Mel Sachs argued that Lil' Kim had no reason to protect Butler and Jackson because she had already eliminated them from her life.

Lil' Kim testified that after the shooting she had a falling out with Butler, Banger and Cease because they were freeloading at her New Jersey town house.

"I was just fed up," she said on the

stand. "They were taking advantage of me."

Lil' Kim's assistant, Monique Dopwell, was convicted of perjury and conspiracy. She faces up to 15 years in prison.

The rapper also testified at length about her modest background and mercurial career, which began with an impromptu performance for B.I.G. on the street in their Brooklyn neighborhood.

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| 7 AM | Body Electric | Today Sandra Bullock. Also a style segment; a report from the International Housewares Show. | Early Show Juliette Binoche. | Believers Voice Life Today | Good Morning America | Animal Atlas Spin City |
| 8 AM | Bears | Barney | Paid Program | Judge Mathis | Home Delivery | Becker |
| 9 AM | Dragon Tales | Arthur | Sesame Street | Regis & Kelly | Price Is Right | Judge Joe |
| 10 AM | Mister Rogers | Jeopardy! | Young and the Restless (HD) | Paid Program | Paid Program | Home Impro |
| 11 AM | HomeTime | News | KLBK 13 News | Jerry Springer | All My Children | Access Hollywd |
| 12 PM | Love of Quilting | Days of Our Lives | Passions | Guiding Light | Animal Adv | General Hospital |
| 1 PM | Scrapbook | Zoom | The Lions | Reading | Inside Edition | Oprah Winfrey |
| 2 PM | Buster | Cyberchase | Clifford | Arthur | Mays Miguel | Nightly Business |
| 3 PM | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow |
| 4 PM | Nightly Business | News | KLBK 13 News | That '70s Show | Jane Pauley | Fox 34 News First @ Four |
| 5 PM | News | News | KLBK 13 News | Family Feud | World News | Simpsons |
| 6 PM | News | News | KLBK 13 News | Family Feud | World News | Simpsons |
| 7 PM | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow |
| 8 PM | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow |
| 9 PM | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow | Antiques Roadshow |
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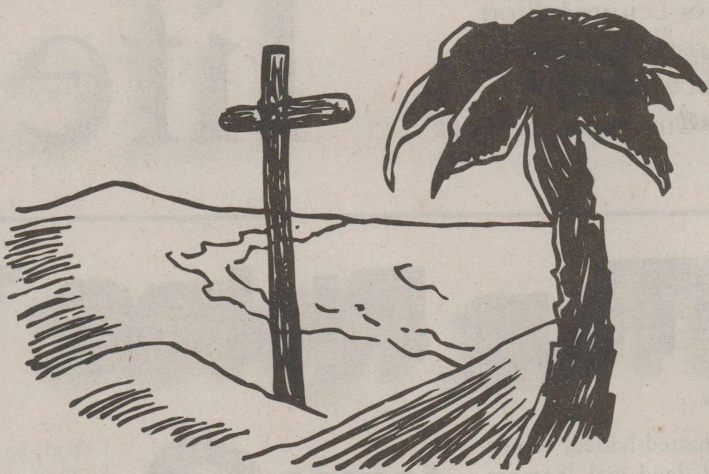
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SPRING BREAK SERMON

MARCH MISSIONS: Some religious Red Raiders spent week witnessing



By Jeremy Martin/The University Daily

Last week, while many Red Raiders laid out on a beach somewhere, oiled up and baked in the sun, Cole Younger, a graduate industrial engineering student from Artesia, N.M., spent part of his spring break snowed in at a church camp in Amarillo.

Amarillo is no ski town, but it still got 7 inches of powder Tuesday. So Younger and fellow members of Baptist Student Ministries, who had gone to the city on a mission trip, spent the day waiting for the snow to melt and the roads out of the camp to clear.

Other than the unexpected change in climate, Younger said he enjoyed his vacation. He and other members of Baptist Student Ministries took the trip to set up what they called Backyard Bible Club in a low-income government housing complex. Minus the snow day, they talked to children at the complex about the Christian faith for four days between Saturday and Tuesday.

While taking a mission trip up Interstate 27 and sleeping in a church camp may not be the typical student's idea of a good spring break, Younger said he had fun.

"Amarillo may not be real glamorous, but I enjoyed it," Younger said. "I liked working with other students to serve people and share our faith."

While Jessica Marcos, a junior human development and family studies major from Austin, and a group of about 30 students from Campus Crusade for

Christ did go to the beach last week, they were not just there to work on their tans. The group was part of more than 1,000 Christian students who went to Big Break, a conference in Panama City Beach, Fla.

Though the city also hosted MTV's Spring Break this year, Marcos said the group of students she was with did not have time to get caught up in the festivities.

The conference they attended had both morning and evening sessions, where students learned strategies for telling other people about Christianity. In the afternoon, Marcos and fellow members of Campus Crusade would hit the beach and practice their new strategies on strangers. She said many of students she talked to were responsive to what she had to say or at least polite to her.

"A lot of people were like, 'I'm just chilling on the beach, I'd be happy to talk to you for a few minutes,'" she said. "Even if they weren't interested they were still cool about it."

She said she felt like the trip, which included a 20-hour drive both ways, was worth it. Several of the people she talked to seemed genuinely interested in the Christian

faith, and she had a good opportunity to learn about other faiths.

"When we talked to a lot of people about (Chris-

tianity) they would say 'Yeah, that's definitely something I want in my life,'" she said. "We also had a lot of good conversations about what other people are thinking and what they believe."

While Marcos did not get the chance to talk to any of the celebrities at MTV's Spring Break, Alonzo Key, a sophomore history major from Lubbock, said he got to talk to a famous person on his way back from a mission trip in Galveston. Key said he stopped in Dallas on the trip home and he and a friend talked to Dirk Nowitzki from the NBA's Dallas Mavericks about the Christian faith. Though Nowitzki was in a hurry, Key said he had the chance to have a brief conversation with Nowitzki and handed him a gospel tract.

In Galveston, Key and a group of students from Indiana Avenue Baptist Church had a mission trip

similar to the Big Break in Florida. Key and fellow members of the church also went out on the beach to talk to students about Christ.

Key said the group could relate to the partying college crowd because many of his fellow Christians were partiers themselves on past spring breaks. The purpose of the mission trip was to show the students on the beach another way of life.

"We've been where they're at," Key said. "We're just telling them that we didn't find it satisfying."

The mission trip, Key said, made for a better, more rewarding spring break than a week full of gelatin shots and beer bongs.

"We shared our faith this week," he said. "That has eternal significance. I had more fun doing what I did than I ever had partying."

Though Younger spent most of the week in beachless Amarillo, he echoed the same sentiment. He said he did consider the mission trip a sacrifice of his vacation. In fact, the trip was the best way he could think of to spend his time off.

"I like to go on vacation as much as anybody else, but I think this made for a more rewarding spring break," Younger said.

"We shared our faith this week. That has eternal significance. I had more fun doing what I did than I ever had partying"

— ALONZO KEY
A Sophomore History Major from Lubbock

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY:

Techsans stay in Lubbock to save, not spend



By Clara Cobb/The University Daily

Ambler DeHay cleans the glasses, the bar and prepares for a heavy lunch crowd, just like she has done almost every day of spring break.

DeHay, a senior restaurant, hotel and institutional management major

from Lubbock, chose to work instead of play for her vacation.

"I was broke, No. 1, and everyone else went out of town and someone had to work the shifts," DeHay said. "This was an opportunity for good money."

DeHay, a bartender, said she had one day off during the week; however, she said she was unsure what her plans would be if she had left for spring break.

"I guess I would have gone to the beach or the mountains, one or the other," she said. "It's not a big deal."

DeHay said her vacation was well spent.

"The money wasn't as good because everybody was out of town," DeHay said. "It was worth it."

Jonathan Fleming, a senior civil

engineering major from Duncanville, like DeHay, had one day off of work during spring break.

"I didn't take off. I didn't even ask off — I needed the money," Fleming said. "I just didn't have that luxury."

Fleming said while he worked the majority of the time during the day, he still found time to enjoy himself.

"Working was OK," he said. "It allowed me to play golf every morning."

Fleming said the money he made was worth not going on a trip. He most likely would have gone home to the Metroplex.

"I probably would have done nothing but get in trouble," Fleming said. "I am good at getting in trouble, or at least I used to be."

Fleming said he made the responsible decision by working, adding not taking a vacation would also not poorly affect his schoolwork.

"I am a pretty big slacker as it is," Fleming said. "I'll just go back

have been if he vacationed rather than worked.

"I wish I could've gone. I had to work, and I got to baby-sit her dog," Craig said. "It was either stay here and make money, or go somewhere and spend \$500 or \$600."

Craig said the motivating factors for not leaving were money and not getting the time off of his retail job.

"Only certain people could get off work," he said. "I just wasn't quick enough on the ball."

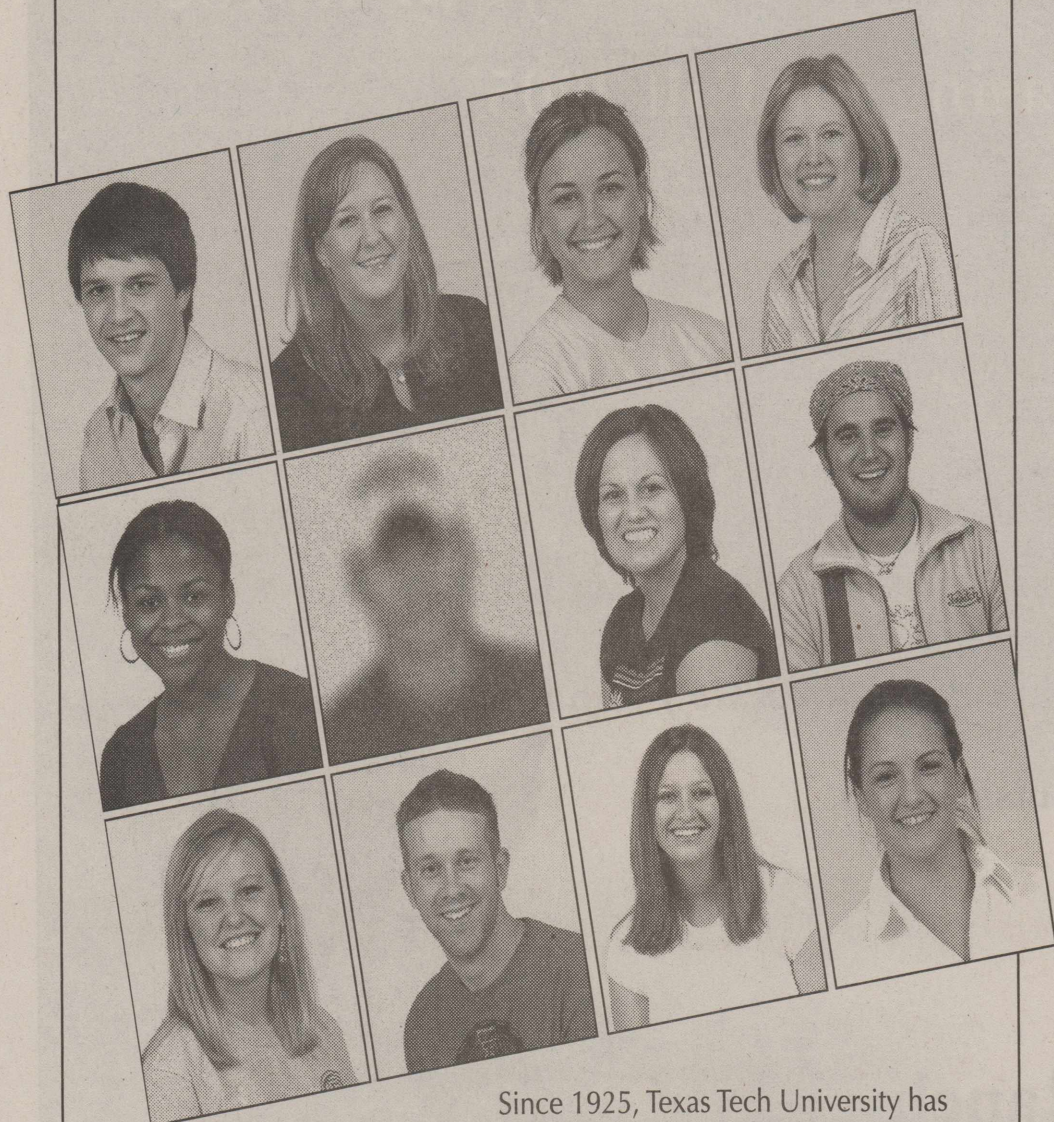
Craig said he would not take out a loan or put his spring break on credit. His last spring break of college is next year, and he plans to go on vacation for the first time in college.

"We always have big plans. Definitely, if I had the money I would not be here," Craig said. "My next spring break is my last spring break. I am going to do something so buck wild; it's going to be unbelievable. I am going to start saving now."

"I didn't take off. I didn't even ask off — I needed the money. I just didn't have that luxury."

— JONATHAN FLEMING
A Senior Civil Engineering Major from Duncanville

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Plot uncovered to kidnap Letterman's son

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — David Letterman and his girlfriend thanked law enforcement officials for uncovering a plot to kidnap their 16-month-old son from their Montana ranch, saying they were "forever grateful."

The man charged Thursday with hatching the scheme, Kelly A. Frank, worked as a painter at the talk-show host's 2,700-acre spread near the rugged Rocky Mountain Front. The 43-year-old Frank, according to police, had planned to hold the boy and his nanny for \$5 million ransom.

In a statement issued by the publicist for Letterman's production

company, World Wide Pants, Letterman and his girlfriend, Regina Lasko, praised the FBI and local authorities.

"We will be forever grateful for their tireless efforts and determination to vigorously pursue this situation," the couple said in the statement.

Steven Rubenstein, a spokesman for World Wide Pants, said he could not comment on whether Letterman's family was in Montana at the time of Frank's arrest.

The host of CBS's "Late Show" taped three programs earlier this week, but the network's coverage of the men's college basketball tournament pre-empted his Thursday and Friday shows.

Mike Ferriter of the state Department of Corrections said Frank had been working as a painter at Letterman's ranch west of Choteau in north-central Montana and apparently confided in an acquaintance earlier this month of his plan to kidnap Letterman's son and nanny for ransom.

According to the affidavit filed by Teton County Attorney Joe Coble, Frank had told the acquaintance that he knew Letterman and his family would be visiting their Montana home soon, and that Frank had a key to the house, knew where the baby slept and intended to kidnap the nanny "so that she could take care of the child."

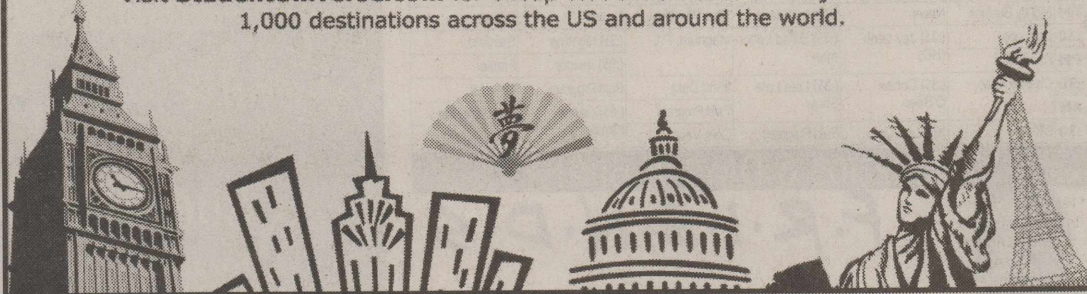
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Tech wins series against A&M

By Bryan Wendell/
The University Daily

While the Red Raider basketball team was upsetting Gonzaga in the NCAA tournament during the weekend, the No. 24 Texas Tech baseball team also managed an upset.

The team won the weekend series against the No. 8 Texas A&M Aggies, marking the first time the Raiders have won the opening series of conference play since a three-game sweep of Kansas in 1999.

Tech (17-6, 2-1 Big 12) won the Friday and Saturday games, 13-1 and 1-0, but then lost the finale Sunday, 7-5.

In Saturday's shutout, junior right-hander Brian Wyatt recorded a complete game victory. That game was the first time Tech shut out Texas A&M (17-7, 1-2) since April 4, 1992.

Sunday, however, presented problems for a Red Raider club that fell short of a sweep.

"Winning the series is always the focus, but to take two of three is still tough," said junior left fielder Chris Williams, who scored two runs in Sunday's loss.

Tech fell behind early, 5-0, after junior right-hander Adam Lawford had a rough start. The Red Raiders battled back, however, but only to 6-5 before the Aggies pulled away.

"We were happy to win the series,

but we would have been more happy with a sweep," Williams said.

He credited defensive lapses for some of the additional at bats awarded to the Aggies. The Tech defense committed three errors in the game.

Despite the win against a higher-ranked opponent, Williams said it is too early to use this win to characterize the team.

"It doesn't tell us a whole lot, but once you get in to conference play anybody can beat anybody on any given day," he said.

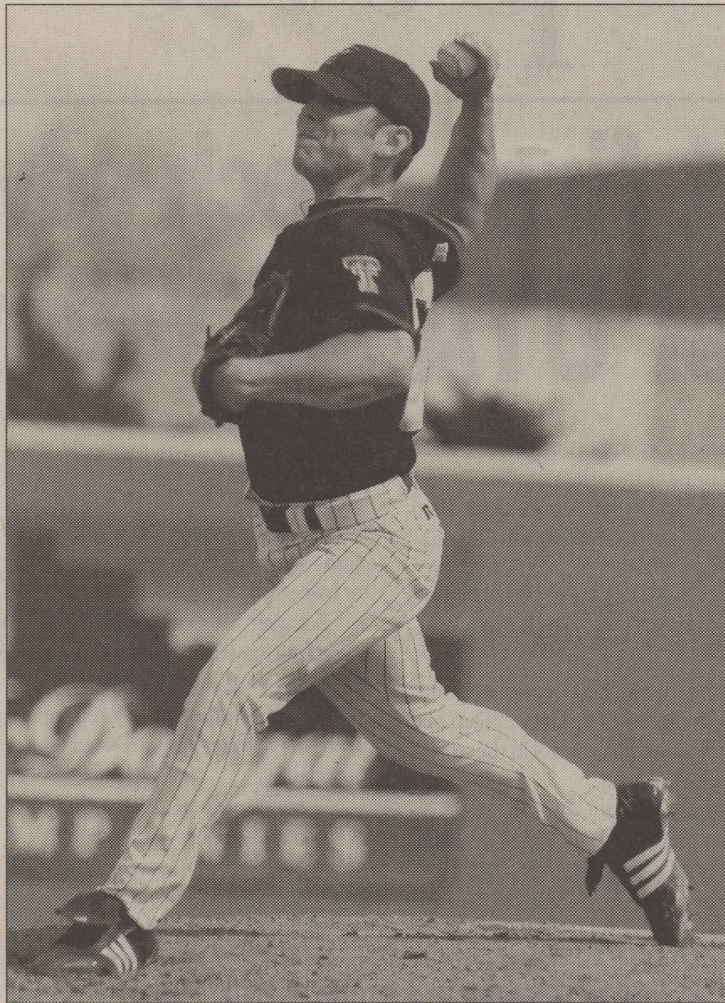
Coach Larry Hays said the series victory represented a duality for the team.

"It's good and bad," he said. "It's good to get two out of three against the No. 8 team in the country, but we had chances to win (Sunday) that we couldn't take advantage of."

Tech stranded 10 runners Sunday; seven of the 10 Tech players left on base were credited to senior second baseman Carey Avants, who went 0-for-4 in the game.

Friday's victory was almost opposite as Tech left four runners on base and scored 13 runs. Five Tech players recorded two RBIs in the game, and three others had one RBI.

That run support was almost non-existent Saturday as junior designated hitter Brian Capps scored the only run on a two-out



KELLY MATHERLY/The University Daily

Junior pitcher Zach Butler throws a pitch against an A&M batter in the baseball game Sunday. Tech lost, 7-5, but won the series.

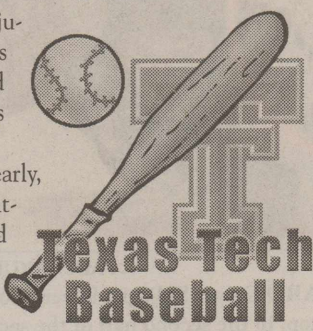
double down the right field line.

Hays said he was pleased with his team's ability to take two games from a talented Aggie squad.

"(Texas A&M is) going to be a hard team for anybody to take a

series from, so we're happy about that," he said.

Tech next plays Texas in Austin for a three-game series beginning Thursday. The Longhorns lead that all-time series at 87-31.



Women's tennis splits spring break matches

By Anne Gepford/
The University Daily

Beach balls and sand castles may be a part of spring break for some college students, but the Texas Tech women's tennis team traveled to Miami for work.

The team came out on top against Southern Mississippi Wednesday, winning all three doubles matches and four singles matches to give the Red Raiders a 5-2 win.

Katja Kovacic, at the fifth position, won her singles match.

"I think that's always good," Kovacic said. "You can always find good things in a win."

The win made the Raiders 3-6 on the season, but the week was not yet over.

Thursday, the scheduled match against Florida Atlantic was canceled because of rain.

Kovacic said the team was disappointed with the cancellation of the match.

"We all wanted to play, because I think we could have pulled an upset with that team," Kovacic said.

Despite the weather, Kovacic said the team still practiced. The loss of a scheduled match did not factor into the match the next day.

Tech came back on Friday to lose to Florida International 2-5.

Cigdem Duru and Janet Durham, at the second and third positions, respectively, were the

only Raiders to win singles matches. In doubles play, Tara Browning and Lakann Wagley combined in the second slot to overcome the No. 41-ranked doubles duo of Florida International, Egle Petrauskaitė and Desanka Jovanovic.

Kovacic said the No. 42-ranked team was a tough match for the Raiders, as the level of tennis is greater than some of the teams they have faced.

"Pretty much, their whole lineup was pretty solid," Kovacic said. "It's a different level of tennis. We had really good energy going. It was close."

Browning said the closeness of the match showed the improvement of the team.

"We're playing much better teams," Browning said. "Everyone's playing really well. We had a match-point in the doubles. We're all pretty happy with the way we're playing."

The Raiders, now 3-7, have been playing on the road all season long, but they return to Lubbock to face Iowa State, Nebraska and Missouri next weekend.

Browning said the team is looking forward to their first home matches.

"I can't wait," Browning said. "We've been on the road a lot already this semester."

Browning said the team's experiences on the road have led to a change in how they play, as was reflected this past week.

"They went on and did what they had to do," she said. "We're going out there to take it from them."

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TWO ROOMS AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER Two furnished rooms at Sterling Pointe available for summer. Includes ethernet, cable tv, own bathroom, and walk-in closet. \$455/mo, plus electricity, but all is negotiable. First floor apt. Contact Natalie at 972-978-2871 or 214-535-7134!!

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Now Leasing: We have some wonderful 1-2-3 bedroom homes with nice appliances and lovely yards. Coming up! For info see Ann or B. J. at 4211 34th (near 34th & Quaker) afternoons 1-5. 795-2011.

TECH TERRACE very large 3/2, two living areas, washer/dryer included. Great house! 2503 24th. \$1,095. Please call 773-5249. Other great houses available.

WINDSOR TOWNHOMES.
Two bedroom, two story townhouse, 2020 5th St. One block from future super Walmart Center. Close to Tech. Over 800 sq ft. Security fence, private backyard. \$375/mo. Pets welcome. Also, please, call for 1 or 2 bedroom apartments on 14th street. 441-8866 or 762-3726.

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for name brand clothing: Seven, Diesel, CBG, Abercrombie, LaCoste, A/X, David Yurman, JonLisa Exchange. 14th & University. 765-9698.

Lady Raiders net first-round win against UTA

By David Wiechmann/The University Daily

DALLAS — No. 4 seed Texas Tech found itself with a small lead after the first half.

Thanks to the switch to more physical play in the second, the Lady Raiders were able to run away from No. 13 seed Texas-Arlington in the first round of the NCAA women's basketball tournament in Reunion Arena.

LaToya Davis was the answer to Tech's lack of post presence to open the game. The junior had a career-high 26 points and added 14 rebounds. She scored 19 of her points in the second half when Tech (23-7) began its move.

The Lady Raiders led 32-29 against the Southland Conference Tournament champions, but Tech held off the Mavericks after the break to move on to the second round with a 69-49 victory.

"We're obviously pleased to be able to advance to next round," coach Marsha Sharp said. "I just told our team in the locker room, you survive and advance."

They face No. 12-seed Middle Tennessee State in the second round at approximately 8:30 p.m. today.

A win tonight would put Tech in familiar territory. The Lady Raiders would head back to the Sweet 16 after falling in the second round last year to Louisiana Tech, ending a streak of five consecutive trips to the regional semifinals.

Losing last year gave Tech the motivation to make sure it did not slip up in the second round this year, and the players said they are determined to get back to the Sweet 16, somewhere Tech has been 10 of its previous 17 appearances.

Davis said getting to the Sweet 16 is an important goal

for Tech, but it is not the most important since March Madness will extend into next month.

"I think the motivating factor for us is we don't want to stop playing basketball any time soon until April," she said.

Tip-off for Monday's game against Middle Tennessee State is approximately 8:30 p.m. today and will be televised on ESPN2.

The No. 14 team in the nation would not have been able to advance to the second round without Davis. Sharp said the all-Big 12 honorable mention took control in the second half, and the rest of the team followed.

"There's no question she took the game over for a long time in the second half, so we decided to jump on her back and let her carry us," Sharp said.

Davis said she saw an opportunity and took it because the Mavs were giving her good looks at the basket.

"In the second half, I was reading picks more, and it was kinda hard to box me out tonight, so I was getting rebounds and getting baskets to fall," she said.

This was UTA's first experience in the NCAA Tournament, and the Mavs started with the message they were not to be overlooked. UTA opened the game with its speed and was able to overcome a 10-2 run by Tech to cut the Lady Raiders' lead to three.

UTA forward Rola Ogunoye said her team wanted to make a statement in its first tournament appearance, and she believes the Mavs did that despite losing in the first round.

"Everybody considered us the underdogs," she said. "We knew we had to come out aggressive and prove our point, and that's what we did."

Tech advances to Sweet 16 with win against 'Zags

By Joey Kirk/
The University Daily

TUCSON, Ariz. — Bob Knight goes fly fishing quite often. Just ask him — he loves it just about as much as basketball.

But after his sixth seeded Texas Tech Red Raiders upset third-seeded Gonzaga Bulldogs, Knight must postpone his fishing to go on a trip he hasn't made in 11 years — to the Sweet 16.

"I would be out fishing, but I won't be fishing now," Knight said. "I would have been reflecting on what a wonderful experience it was to be with this team, picked by nobody."

Tech (22-10) came back from a 13-point second-half deficit to beat Gonzaga, 71-69, Saturday afternoon at McKale Center during the second round of the NCAA tournament.

The finishing touch came from senior guard Ronald Ross, who scored 113 points in Tech's last five games and 24 in this one.

With 1:10 left in the game, Ross took a pass at the corner from back-court mate Martin Zeno, hitting his second 3-pointer of the game and the most crucial shot of his career.



PAUL SAKUMA/Associated Press

TEXAS TECH FORWARD Damir Suljagic, lower, scores past Gonzaga forward Ronny Turiaf, top, in the second half of the second round in the NCAA Tournament, Saturday, March 19, 2005 in Tucson, Ariz. Tech defeated Gonzaga 71-69.

Ross said his mind was completely blank when he got the ball.

"I was just ... unconscious," he said.

"I was just playing."

Gonzaga forward Adam Morrison was guarding Ross. He was unable to get to Ross before the shot was off. Morrison said he gave Ross credit for coming up with the clutch play.

"He had enough time to make the shot, and he made it," Morrison said. "I tip my hat off to him."

The Raiders have not advanced to the Sweet 16 since 1996, when its NCAA tournament came to an end against Georgetown, 98-90.

This is a first for Ross and Knight as Raiders.

While leading his team in scoring, Ross also grabbed a career-high nine rebounds to command Tech on the boards.

One rebound came after Morrison missed his sixth 3-point attempt with 12 seconds left in the game. Tech forward Devonne Giles went up, with his shorts falling off, only to come down with the ball. When he hit the floor Giles was going out of bounds, so he called a timeout to keep possession.

Knight is adamant about his players getting the ball back or keeping it in their hands, but when it comes to their appearance, he said he has higher standards.

"I always tell them, 'If you can play, look like you can play,'" Knight said. "I know it's a simple thing, but I didn't want Giles playing with his shirt down to his knees at the end. I've always been proud of how they look."

Going into halftime, Knight wasn't too proud of how Tech looked, trailing 38-29. But forward Darryl Dora said the Raiders' 9-point deficit in the first half wasn't enough to put the game out of reach.

"We had to come out in the second half and basically be perfect," he said.

In that half, Tech shot 57.1 percent from the floor compared to 41.9 in the first.

An 11-2 run midway through the second capped off by Giles' sixth point of the game put Tech ahead, 57-55.

Gonzaga finished by shooting 50 percent on its next 14 possessions, giving Tech control of the game.

The Raiders combined for 5-of-7 free throws in the closing minutes.

With Tech leading 68-67 with less than a minute remaining, Bulldog forward Ronny Turiaf was sent to the line for one-and-one bonus. But his opportunity to regain control of the game fell short.

"I just stuck to my same routine," Turiaf said. "I just missed my free throws. That's it."

The game was over. Gonzaga again made an early exit as a top seed. Last season, the No. 2 Bulldogs fell to Nevada in the second round.

With Tech getting the victory, the Raiders must face West Virginia, which pulled off a double-overtime 111-105 upset of second-seeded Wake Forest Saturday night. The game is scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday.

Ross said either way, the Sweet 16 is on the agenda. The madness of March continues in Albuquerque, N.M., for the Raiders.

Ross said the way they are playing, Knight won't be taking a trip to the river for a while.

"We just gotta take advantage of our opportunity now that we're going to Albuquerque," he said.

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