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Lubbock, Texas © Copyright 2005

## HSC student arrested after three-car accident

By Brittany Barrientos/The University Daily

An accident in the early morning hours Wednesday ended with a Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center medical student arrested with a 0.22 blood alcohol content.

According to the police report, the incident occurred at approximately 2 a.m. Wednesday at the 4000 block of 19th Street and involved two Tech students and a student from South Plains College. No one was injured.

According to the report, medical student Morgan Leak was traveling west at the 4000 block of 19th Street when he lost control of his vehicle, striking a light pole before traveling into oncoming traffic and striking two vehicles.

Jodee Brown, a sophomore pre-physician assistant

major from Lake Jackson, said she was driving one of the two cars Leak hit.

"I saw him hit the pole, and I saw the lights go out when the power line broke," she said. "He came into our lane of traffic; it was really scary."

She said Leak appeared to be intoxicated.

Leak was contacted by *The University Daily* and declined to comment.

According to the police report, a field sobriety test was administered on the scene.

Because of the presence of the odor of alcohol, and Leak blew a 0.22 before being arrested at the scene.

The legal blood alcohol content index in Texas is 0.08.

Brown said she was driving home from work and was alarmed by the accident.

"From now on I'm going to be a little more wary; it could have been so much worse," she said. "Me and the guy next to me didn't make a mistake."

Brown said when Leak swerved into the oncoming lanes, both she and Michael Bryum, the driver of the other vehicle, shifted and increased their speed to miss a head-on collision.

She said no one was injured, but there was damage to all the vehicles.

Byrum, a South Plains College student, said his main

concern when the accident occurred was to get out of the way.

"It was scary," he said. "I was going and hit the gas, trying to get out of the way."

Bryum said Leak was apologetic at the scene.

According to the factors and conditions in the investigator's opinion listed on the police report, suspected factors for the accident were failure to control speed and alcohol.

Jill Wiggins, a public information officer for the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, said all kinds of offenses can raise a red flag on licensing applications when the time comes for medical students to become doctors.

ACCIDENT continued on page 5



## Schiavo dead at 41

Vickie Chachere/  
 Associated Press

PINELLAS PARK, Fla. (AP)

—With her husband and parents feuding to the bitter end and beyond, Terri Schiavo died Thursday, 13 days after her feeding tube was removed in a wrenching right-to-die dispute that engulfed the courts, Capitol Hill and the White House and divided the country.

Cradled by her husband, Schiavo, 41, died a "calm, peaceful and gentle death" at about 9 a.m., a stuffed animal under her arm, flowers arranged around her hospice room, said George Felos, Michael Schiavo's attorney.

No one from her side of the family was with her at the moment of her death. Her parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, were not at the hospice, Felos said. Her brother had been expelled from the room at Michael Schiavo's request moments before the end came.

The death of the severely brain-damaged woman brought to a close what was easily the longest, most bitter — and most heavily litigated — right-to-die dispute in U.S. history.

"Mr. Schiavo's overriding concern here was to provide for Terri a peaceful death with dignity," said Felos, who also was present at the death.

But the Rev. Frank Pavone, one of the Schindlers' spiritual advisers, called her death "a killing," adding: "And for that we not only grieve that Terri has passed but we grieve that our nation has allowed such an atrocity as this and we pray that it will never happen again."

Schiavo suffered brain damage in 1990 and fell into what court-appointed doctors called a persistent vegetative state, with no real consciousness or chance of recovery, after a chemical imbalance caused her heart to stop. She had left no written instructions in the event she became disabled.

Her husband argued that she told him long ago that she would not want to be kept alive artificially. Her parents disputed that, and held out hope for a miracle recovery for a daughter they said still laughed with them and struggled to talk.

Pinellas County Circuit Judge George W. Greer sided with her husband and authorized the removal of the feeding tube keeping her alive. It was disconnected March 18.

Gov. Jeb Bush, the president's brother, said Schiavo's death "is a window through which we can see the many issues left unresolved in our families and in our society. For that, we can be thankful for all that the life of Terri Schiavo has taught us."

## Tech to test emergency sirens today

Texas Tech will once again test its siren at 10 a.m. today, weather permitting.

The last test conducted by Tech had malfunctions with some of the sirens and is supposedly fixed, said Maj. Gordon Hoffman of the Texas Tech Police Department.

Lubbock is part of Storm Ready, a national voluntary program that helps communities in preparing for potentially disastrous weather conditions. According to the National Weather Service Web site, it helps communities attain a new level of preparedness and encourages communities to take a proactive approach to improve local hazardous weather operations plans, communication and public awareness.

## RUBBING REMINISCENCE



ANDREW WEATHERL/The University Daily

JESSICA SAMUELSON, A junior math major from Denton, rubs the name of her cousin, Ronald D. Samuelson, at the traveling Vietnam War Memorial that was erected in Memorial Circle Thursday afternoon.

## TAKING BACK THE NIGHT

TECH STUDENTS MARCH toward Memorial Circle Thursday evening chanting and holding signs in observance of Take Back the Night.



Story By Clara Cobb/The University Daily  
 Photo By Andrew Weatherl/The University Daily

The warm spring temperatures dropped, the sky turned overcast and the West Texas wind whipped violently through Texas Tech campus Thursday night, but their voices did not waiver.

Multi-colored neon signs billowed and The Clothesline Project teetered dangerously, but still they marched.

Michelle Lonis and her 2-year-old daughter, Avery, joined hands and forces in the national Take Back the Night march and protest.

"It's OK to say no. It's OK to say this isn't right," Lonis said. "I was a victim when I was a teenager. I would love for women to have the message that it is OK not to accept violence and adversity against them."

Lonis said she brought her daughter to the protest because she wants to teach Avery about her rights and how to be a strong woman at a young age. Avery, toddling in pigtails, chanted along with the crowd as they progressed from the Student Union building to Memorial Circle.

Stephanie Shepperd, a senior English major from Wichita Falls and president of the Feminist Majority League Alliance, led the chanting during the march, even as her voice strained and cracked in the wind.

"In the United States, a woman is raped every two and a half minutes. It's a war on our home soil, and we aim to bring

NIGHT continued on page 5

## Texas attorney general addresses misleading 'No Late Fees' ad

By Travis Cram/  
 University Daily

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott announced this week that he had reached an agreement with Blockbuster concerning allegations regarding its misleading information in their "No Late Fees" advertising.

According to a statement from the attorney general, the advertisements failed to clearly disclose that a consumer who rented a video or game from Blockbuster and kept it out more than seven days past the due date would be charged the selling retail price of the video or game. The consumer later would be allowed to return the video or

game but would be charged a restocking fee of at least \$1.25.

"Advertisers may not use catchy slogans if those slogans are misleading," Abbott said.

Abbott alleged that the company also fails to disclose its late fees program is offered only at participating stores.

The Lubbock Blockbuster at Quaker Avenue and 4th Street is not one of the participating stores in the program because it is a privately owned franchise and not associated with the corporate franchise, said Zayd Riley, store manager.

"We still use the Blockbuster name but we are not associated with

BLOCKBUSTER continued on page 5



STEVE LEWIS/The University Daily

BLAKE PENDER, A junior international business major from Dallas, drops off a rental Thursday morning at the Blockbuster Video near the corner of 50th Street and Boston Avenue.

### Inside The UD

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### Weather

Today  <b>MOSTLY SUNNY</b> High 62 / Low 34	Tomorrow  <b>SUNNY</b> High 76 / Low 42
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### Wall Street at a Glance

<b>Dow Jones Industrials</b>	NYSE: 7167.53 +9.03
Close: 10,503.76	<b>Nasdaq Composite:</b>
Change: -37.17	1999.23 -6.44
<b>Standard&amp;Poors 500:</b>	<b>American Stock Exchange:</b>
1180.59 -0.82	1459.70 +10.20

# The Rundown STATE NATION WORLD

## Admissions law could see change

AUSTIN (AP) — If it weren't for the Top 10 percent law, Monte Geren said, many of the most successful students in his school district wouldn't make it to a Texas university.

Geren is superintendent of La Vega Independent School District, a relatively low-income area in Central Texas. Eliminating the law that guarantees students who graduate in the top 10 percent of their high school classes automatic admission to public universities would likely punish students for factors beyond their control — the location and wealth of the school they attend.

"The fact of matter is in many instances the curriculum is more limited, facilities and other resources are limited, and we feel it would be a detriment to not have that opportunity just because students didn't have the opportunity to attend one of the better high schools that have all those things," Geren told lawmakers Wednesday.

The Senate Subcommittee on Higher Education heard testimony about how Texas admissions law affects racial, ethnic and geographic diversity in the state's public universities. The committee examined one bill that would abolish the top 10 percent law and others that would change it.

The university admissions law was adopted after a 1996 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision made affirmative action illegal in Texas college admissions. In 2003, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed that decision, allowing universities to use race as one of many decision-making factors.

The top 10 percent law primarily affects the state's flagship universities, the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University in College Station, where enrollment is most selective.

Administrators at UT Austin have long called for change in the top 10 percent law.

## Wolfowitz approved to lead World Bank

WASHINGTON (AP) — The World Bank approved Paul Wolfowitz as its new president Thursday, affirming the administration's choice of a Bush loyalist to take the helm of the 184-nation development bank.

Wolfowitz, the deputy defense secretary who helped plan the Iraq war, will begin his five-year term on June 1.

"Nothing is more gratifying than being able to help people in need and developing opportunities for all the people of the world to achieve their full potential," Wolfowitz said after winning unanimous approval from the World Bank's 24-member board.

The bank's stated mission is to fight poverty and improve the living standards of people in developing countries. It lends about \$20 billion a year to developing countries for various projects, including roads, schools and fighting AIDS.

The installation of Wolfowitz enables the Bush administration to put its imprint on the bank, which employs some 10,000 people worldwide.

That has raised the hackles of some international aid and other groups. They question his development credentials and worry that he might try to use the bank to help America's allies and punish its enemies.

Wolfowitz, 61, said he believes deeply in the World Bank's mission and would not pursue any political agenda.

Some critics, including people from the Mobilization for Global Justice and ActionAid International USA, protested the choice outside the bank's headquarters Thursday.

"Now the developing world has to live with Paul Wolfowitz, a man with no relevant experience but for his oversight of the reconstruction of Iraq — a project beset by corruption, cronyism and incompetence," said Robert Weissman, director of Essential Action, one of the protest groups.

## Soldier convicted for death of Iraqi

WIESBADEN, Germany (AP) — A military court Thursday convicted a U.S. Army tank company commander of a lesser criminal charge in connection with the shooting death of a wounded Iraqi last year.

Capt. Rogelio "Roger" Maynulet was found guilty of assault with intent to commit voluntary manslaughter, which carries a maximum of 10 years in prison. Prosecutors had sought conviction on a more serious charge of assault with intent to commit murder, which carried a 20-year maximum.

Maynulet, 30, of Chicago, stood at attention as Lt. Col. Laurence Mixon, the head of the six-member panel, read the verdict at the court-martial. The court was to reconvene later Thursday to consider Maynulet's sentence.

Mixon did not give reasons for the ruling, which followed 2 1/2 hours of deliberations.

At the sentencing hearing, Maynulet asked the court for leniency, occasionally pausing and looking down to keep his composure.

"I hope you can take into consideration my service, my attitude and my love for the Army before you make a decision," Maynulet said. "I respect your decision. I wouldn't want to be in your position. I think you did what you have to do."

Maynulet's father, Rogelio Maynulet, and his wife, Brooke Maynulet, also took the stand as character witnesses. Several officers who have worked with the defendant in Germany since he left his command in Iraq praised his work.

Maynulet's 1st Armored Division tank company had been on patrol near Kufa, south of Baghdad, on May 21, 2004, when it was alerted to a car thought to be carrying a driver for radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr and another militiaman loyal to the Shiite cleric, who led uprisings against U.S.-led forces in Iraq last year.

They chased the vehicle and fired at it, wounding both the passenger, who fled and was later apprehended, and the driver.

# March a busy month, Texas Tech police say

By Brittany Barrientos /The University Daily

Easter weekend capped off a fairly busy month for the Texas Tech Police Department.

According to police incident reports between Thursday and Sunday, 13 students were arrested. The primary arrest causes were driving under the influence of alcohol, driving while intoxicated, possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia and public intoxication.

Maj. Gordon Hoffman from the Tech Police Department said March did not seem any more troubling than previous months, despite the fact the majority of students were out of town for a week.

"March seemed pretty average," he said. "It's hard to tell if spring break was a factor."

During March, seven students were arrested for driving while

intoxicated, 11 students were arrested for possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia, 11 students were arrested for minor in consumption of alcohol and seven students were arrested for driving while intoxicated, according to police incident reports.

In February, 10 students were arrested for minor in possession of alcohol, 18 students were arrested for possession of drugs or drug paraphernalia, and 12 students were arrested for public intoxication.

Hoffman said several factors play into the number of arrests.

"Authorized strength of force can make a difference. Right

now, (the force) is close to full strength," he said. "The more police officers on patrol and observing, and the higher amount of public awareness of crime on campus will ultimately be part of the solution to the problem."

According to campus incident information for March compiled by the Student Mediation Center before Easter weekend, there were 25 cases of alcohol possession by a minor and 11 cases of being under the influence of alcohol in the residence halls. There also were 19 cases involving drug use and paraphernalia.

According to the incident information from March of last year, the numbers were comparable to the allegations from the previous year.

Possession of alcohol was the only major change, with 25 this year and 18 this time last year.

Ken Gassiot, assistant director for Student Judicial Programs, said these numbers reflect allegations, and the numbers may be reduced upon judicial hearings.

"All of the numbers (in the March incident information) are either in residence halls or on campus and reflect only Tech students,"

he said. "These numbers are just allegations and after disciplinary hearings, when it's decided whether the student is responsible, the numbers could go down."

The incident summary also included residence hall policy violations, the largest of which were violations of the fire safety policy and the alcohol container policy.

Gassiot said fire safety and alcohol container policy violations are not quite what they seem to be.

"Around all the holidays, the residence hall staff inspect all the rooms for violations, they could find a candle or a George Foreman grill," he said. "The (fire safety policy) number is always going to seem a little high, but it's much more innocent than it seems."

Gassiot said regardless of the violation, students still are breaking policy and need to be careful. He said alcohol container violations include alcoholic cans or bottles, empty or full, that are found in the residence halls.

Hoffman said though the Student Judicial Program and the Tech Police Department are in constant communication, they do not necessarily respond to the same cases, especially those involving residence hall violations.

"They certainly see violations that we do not see," he said.

The report also stated that the main perpetrators of Code of Student Conduct violations were freshman males and freshman females were second. Senior females had the lowest number of violations.

Gassiot said the numbers reflect how students become better decision-makers with age.

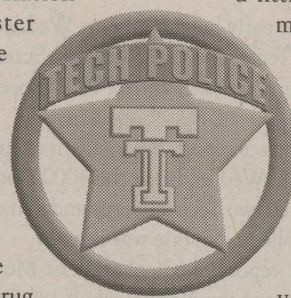
"The older you get, the better you get at making decisions," he said. "As class (standing) goes up, the number of incidents should go down."

The top four locations the report pinpointed where incidents have occurred are Weymouth Hall, the 1800 block of Flint Avenue, Coleman Hall and Gates Hall.

With few exceptions, neither the police incident reports nor the March incident information reflect violent crime. The report also showed no cases regarding academic dishonesty for the month.

Gassiot said if there were one violation they could really cut down on, it would be drug violations. The numbers may not reflect the prevalence of the problem on campus, but he believes students should discontinue drug use, regardless.

"Marijuana has been a big problem this academic year," he said. "It might still be going on to the same degree as last year and just more students are getting caught."



*"The older you get, the better you get at making decisions. As class (standing) goes up, the number of incidents should go down."*

— KEN GASSIOT  
Assistant director for Student Judicial Programs

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# Committee selects Kirk as 2005-2006 UD editor

By Brittany Barrientos/  
The University Daily

After an interview process that was nothing short of "Apprentice"-style, the hard wood chair and blazing interrogation-like lights, *The University Daily* named its new editors for summer and the 2005-2006 academic year.

After weeks of application and interview proceedings, the Student Media Committee voted Joey Kirk the editor for the upcoming school year, and Nikki Siegrist summer editor.

Kirk, a senior journalism major from Wylie, said he is both excited and relieved the process complete and the apprehension over with.

"I'm relieved; I have a tough challenge on my hands, but I always love competition," he said. "I have plenty of days to get better, and I will be able to build on what (current editor Heidi Toth) has done."

Kirk said before being chosen as the new editor, he and the other candidates went through an application process, an interview with the management team and an intense interview with the Student Media Committee.

Jason Sifford, chairman of the committee, said the interview process was extremely difficult and the committee was impressed with each candidate.

"This interview process is extremely difficult; being before such a large committee can be nerve-wrecking," he said. "All three candidates did a remarkable job and I don't think any of them will have a problem finding a job later."

Sifford said what particularly impressed him about Kirk was his positive attitude and knowledge of the importance of accuracy in reporting.

"One of the main things Joey spoke a lot about that was very important was that he sees credibility as being very important," he said. "There was not a particular vision; it is more of the strength of his convictions on the quality of the paper at large."

Sifford said Kirk's experience made him a strong candidate for the position.

Kirk said he does have a vision for the paper that includes continuing to

Kirk strive for objective and accurate reporting, and expanding the focus of the paper to include more.

"I want to make this place more award-winning so the students can embrace it as a place to get their news," he said. "I also want to broaden our horizons and add more beats so we can get to the point where we cover fully."

Kirk said he wants to make working for the newspaper more of a group experience, and allow employees to feel appreciated and useful.

Beth Aaron, a senior journalism major from Belton and the other candidate for the 2005-2006 position, also said she is relieved the process is complete and believes Kirk will do a good job.

"He is very capable to handle the position," she said. "He cares a lot about the paper and I know it is in good hands — that's all I ever cared about."

Aaron said she will share ideas she had for the paper with Kirk, in a continuing effort to better the newspaper.

Siegrist, a senior journalism major from Amarillo, was chosen as summer editor and said she is looking forward to making her mark at Tech.

"I'm very excited," she said. "I'm looking forward to making my hole in the Tech history book and maybe leave a mark."



Siegrist said she wants to make sure the students are both informed and intrigued by the stories *The UD* has to offer.

"I want stories the people can connect to, so they want to find out who is this person, and why should I care," she said.

Toth, a graduate student from Roswell, N.M., studying business, said she believes Kirk will be able to handle the responsibilities.

"I've worked with Joey for two years, and he's always been gung-ho about the paper," he said. "It should be a pretty easy transition for him."

Toth said some of the responsibilities of being editor include dealing with questions, complaints and concerns, working on editing and layout, and doing things from an administrative standpoint.

"It's a lot tougher than it looks on the outside. It is a great experience that prepares you for the real world," she said. "I think he will do a good job."

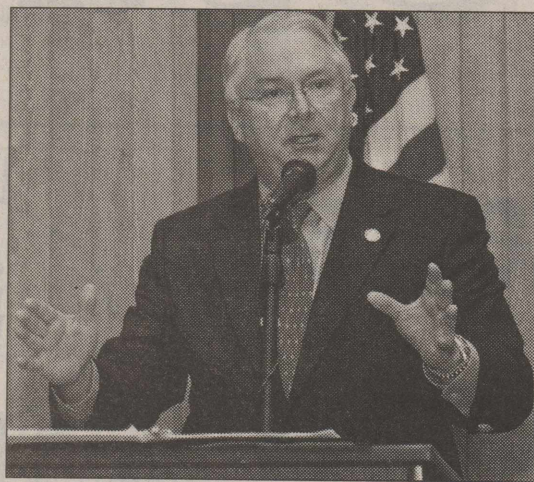
Toth said she hopes Kirk can continue to work on and complete projects she started.

"My original goal was to make *The UD* the top college newspaper in the country," she said. "I hope he can continue to strive for that so it can eventually be the top college newspaper in America."

Siegrist said she has the same goals in mind for herself and Kirk.

"I have no doubt he will take the paper to higher standards and he will win awards," she said. "Though that's not the ultimate goal, when you strive for excellence, they normally come with the territory."

# Neugebauer discusses war, Social Security at community meeting



LINC ARMES/The University Daily

U.S. REP. RANDY Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, speaks to Lubbock residents at the Mae Simmons Community Center Thursday night.

By Travis Cram/The University Daily

Randy Neugebauer returned to Lubbock Thursday to address concerns and find reactions to national news from the people of District 2 at the Mae Simmons Community Center.

Neugebauer expressed his concern for not just the people of Lubbock but everyone in the United States.

"My representation is important, and I understand that," Neugebauer said. "I love this district, and I love the people in it. My job is to preserve and protect the constitution of the United States by protecting the rights for everyone, individually and collectively."

He addressed issues such as the war in Iraq, Social Security and Terry Schiavo.

"Life is precious," he said. "Terry could not speak for herself. She had less rights than prisoners on death row do today."

Members of the Lubbock City Council were in attendance for questioning and discussing issues with Neugebauer and those in attendance. Tom Martin sat in as Mayor pro temp as Mayor McDougal was unable to attend the meeting because of prior engagements.

"Randy fulfills a job that very, very few of us could stand up to," Martin said.

City Councilman Floyd Price, among others in attendance, discussed that some of the main issues have to do with local funding for programs such as Community Block Grant, which is a fund used for local projects within the community.

"It allows people to come in and help low-income communities and revitalize them," Price said.

Neugebauer spent time discussing the social security fund and its future. He used an analogy that if the captain of the Titanic had heard 24 hours before they set out there would be a huge iceberg in the ocean that could sink the ship, he would have probably taken a different course.

"Instead he had to deal with what to do about the iceberg after he had already hit it," Neugebauer said.

The congressman said the problem does not lie with just funding, but with spending money.

"Congress doesn't have an income problem, it has a spending problem," he said. "We need to look at how we are spending our money more carefully. Reduce the deficit, reduce spending, and look at our budget process."

This is how he sees trying to deal with social security today and in the next 40 years. According to Neugebauer, when Social Security started it was at a 40-to-1 ratio, with 40 people supporting every one person. Today, he says, it is at a 3-to-1 ratio and by the time this generation will be looking at retirement, it will be at a two to one ratio.

He also commented on remarks made by Winston Churchill III the day before about the only way to say "victory" is for an Iraqi government to be able to hold its own.

"We can't provide their freedom forever but it is a slow process," he said. "The people of Iraq are realizing what they can do but also find themselves with a target painted on their chest once they step forward," he said.

Neugebauer then stated the fact that we are there to stick it out.

"We have put our sword in the ground and we are going to stay," he said. "We have to keep our nation strong and it comes with a cost."

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# Opinions

Opinions Editor:  
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## Testing tears down students

Since the dawn of education, many a pencil pusher and professor of knowledge made rules to ensure pupils would gain necessary know-how. Textbooks trembled, binders parted and the calculators divided. For many years, students were the focus of the mighty teacher, but one day standardized testing rose from the dusty crevice of locker hell and doomed the system forever.

OK, maybe that took the perspective a wee bit out of proportion, but no more so than the government places on ridiculous measures of public learning. I'm not saying political leaders disregard the educational future of children (debatable, though). However, the situation regarding success or failure remains at a resolution geared in the wrong direction.

Instead of crusading about the evils of standardized testing, the focus should fall on the incorrect use of such a method. As a tool of measuring how a group of students performs in a certain area, standardized testing works. The downfall occurs when this evaluation determines whether a child passes, a school shuts down or a principal obtains rewards. If this continues, educators will have to practice an "every child left behind" doctrine.

If we want standardized testing to fulfill a useful application, problems need to be recognized, funds should be correctly applied and focus should be toward student needs.

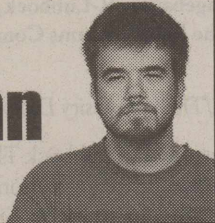
Problems with standardized testing can be overcome if they receive recognition. Since our state and federal representatives refuse to acknowledge what ails their solution, both the public and journalists must make known the concerns. People can bug the journalists and make them see the worries and journalists can report that message. If the general population and journalists sit idly by, the same ignorance about the truth will prevail.

One difficulty that will not surprise anyone deals with the garbage most standardized test use will not prepare students for college or life in the real world. In Texas, the TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) and TASP (Texas Academic Skills Program) tests take up a young student's time by forcing questions that would be helpful only to a second or third grader. Children and teenagers spend so much time preparing for these "exams" that they miss out on essential learning elements. Instead of learning enough about music, art, foreign cultures and even the history of their own government, students suffer the fate of mind numbing hogwash.

If the forced baloney seems tame because standardized testing determines so much about the school's future, many educational institutions will hold back underachieving students so drop out rates will seem nonexistent. Those children officials assume fit in with the measurement will accomplish statistics, while the others flip burgers regardless.

Of course, regardless if the school reaches the students in a way which teachers feel comfortable, if set standards continue unmet, the school will lose out. Lubbock can relate to this dilemma because Dunbar Junior High and Ramirez Elementary both started out exceptionally well in their programs, but the current state of testing resulted in one of the primary reasons both

**Ezra Mann**



*Instead of crusading about the evils of standardized testing, the focus should fall on the incorrect use of such a method. As a tool of measuring how a group of students performs in a certain area, standardized testing works. The downfall occurs when this evaluation determines whether a child passes, a school shuts down or a principal obtains rewards. If this continues, educators will have to practice an 'every child left behind' doctrine.*

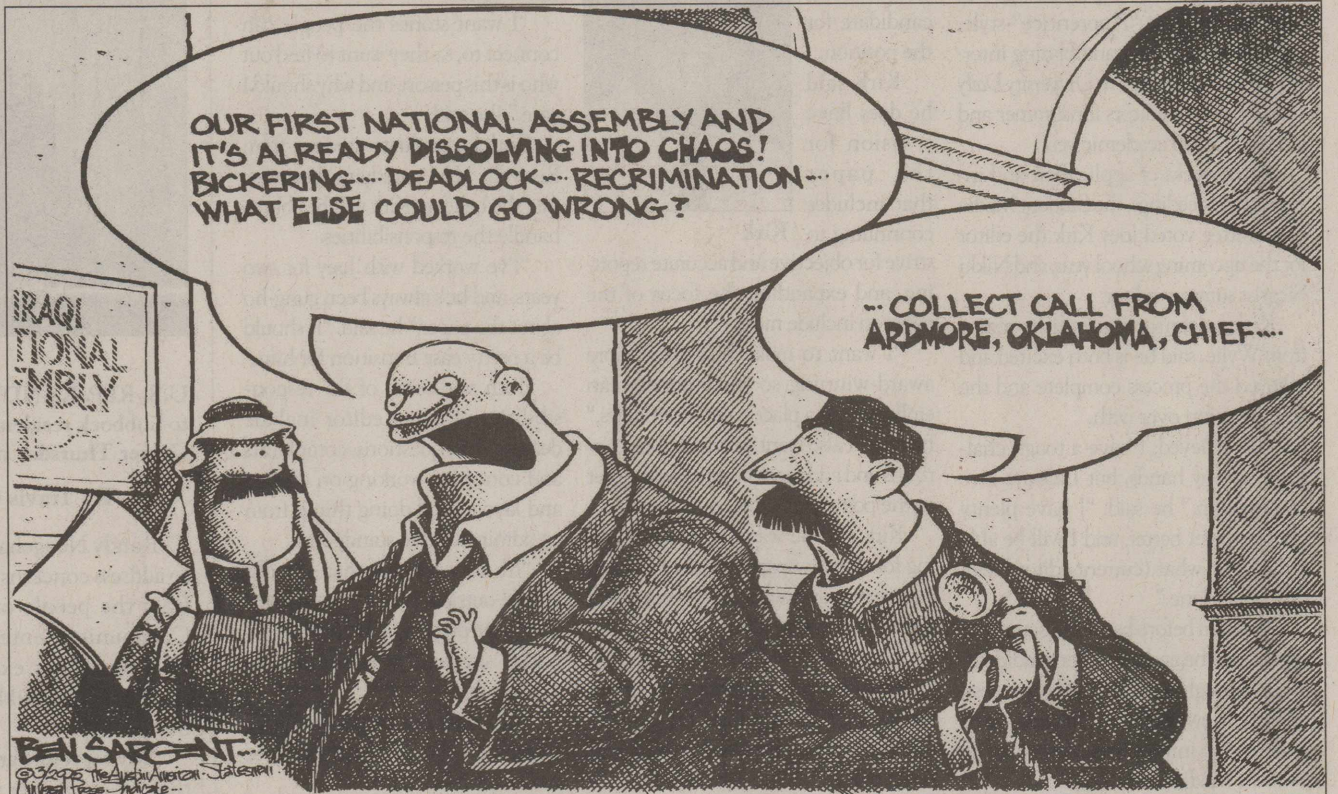
schools have since fell.

Furthermore, we can fix standardized testing by taking away a sizable amount of funding and applying it to the schools. Instead of being used to improve infrastructure, buy supplies and hire proper educators more than \$2 billion dollars burns with required exams. If you are in a low-income bracket, forget about it. You may as well fit your children to be the next stars on a degrading reality TV show.

Finally, we can give the future a chance by focusing on the children more than the test results. We cannot expect young people to succeed if one way of doing things controls the outcome. All children learn differently. Whether they start without trouble or suffer a learning disability, children fail if they lack separate attention. Instead of being a single unit, give the youth a chance to be individuals.

At the end of the day, we must ask ourselves how much we really care about those who will next take the world. We cannot ignore the problems with standardized testing. Take a stand and let the government know you want the funds to help improve the schools and focus on the children who attend. Ask yourself one question: Will we do something, or is standardized testing more important than the students?

■ **Mann is a junior journalism major from Lubbock. E-mail him at paul.mann@ttu.edu.**



### TECH TALKS BACK

#### Tone of article misses the meaning of quotes

This letter is in regard to the article printed in Tuesday's paper titled "Culture Conflict."

It is not a topic that lends itself easily to representation with limitations on paper space. I also appreciate the effort that went into writing the article; it is a volatile subject.

I can't help feeling, though, that the tone of the article was an inadequate representation of my beliefs and especially my organization — it is not to be held responsible for my personal beliefs.

Peg me as a Christian who is, once again, disappointed with the approach taken toward homosexuality by other Christians. The appalling protests that took place last year by the Christian group down from Kansas were disgusting and embarrassing.

And now this emergence of a "reconciling" church. If the notion of reconciliation is narrowly restricted to homosexuals in leadership, then yes, I disagree with it. My idea of reconciliation is hardly limited to a single group of people, though, rather to everyone who has not found or has forgotten the peace and the freedom that comes with knowing Jesus.

I apologize to those who have been victims of condemnation — that is our sin as Christians. Raining hellfire and brimstone is hardly an acceptable approach. I don't appreciate being lumped in with that point of view. There is a world of difference between condemning and condoning and I believe that between the two

a godly approach can be found — one that involves love and acceptance and respect without encouraging sin in anyone.

— *Abby Andrews, senior architecture major from Fort Worth*

#### Thanks for keying my car

I would just like to thank the prick who keyed my car in the commuter lot on Wednesday. I really appreciate it.

I feel like I should apologize to you for parking between the white lines next to your car. I felt bad all day for doing so. Now that the apologies are out of the way, I would like to reiterate my thanks.

Seriously, at least I parked my car between the lines, which is more than I can say for some people at Tech. So I would just like to thank you for making my Wednesday so much better.

Nothing says have a great day like your "Tech buddy" keying your car while you are in class.

Hell, you might even have increased my resale value, I can just claim it's a racing stripe now. It makes the car go

Faster — sweet. Thanks a lot, you prick.

— *Trey Urech, junior mechanical engineering major from Katy*

#### Get up off my grill — and my English

In response to Heidi Toth's Wednesday column about the English language: What is a word? Where does it come from?

What's unique about language, especially English, is it always is growing, changing and evolving.

Words we might see today as slang or poor grammar might be the standard in years to come. And what's wrong with that? Words have been coming in and out of the English language since its inception.

Why should we now be stuck in a rut of monotony?

"Krunck" has the same legitimacy in our language as "truck." Krunck is a type of music; "truck" is a type of automobile.

There was no "truck" until someone said it and there was no "krunck" either until someone said it. And now just as you can "keep on truckin'," something can be krunck. To reject this adaptation is to deny English of the one aspect that makes it so interesting: diversity.

What you call deterioration I call embellishment. Synonyms, antonyms, metaphors, similes, personification, alliteration — none of this would exist without a constantly growing vocabulary. You say you are mad. Are you angry or are you insane? Is insane an acceptable definition for mentally unstable?

What about "chemistry?" When two people have good chemistry, it is not that they have some sort of molecular attachment but rather their personalities work well together. What about "sweet?" If a boy is sweet to a girl does that mean he tastes good?

Many of our words today came out of the so-called slang of past generations. Why stop now? Is our current slang any less worthy than the slang of our forefathers? I disagree. Words are my paint too, and I want as many colors on my palette as I can get.

— *Tim Barnett, senior advertising major from Kingwood*

## Churchill: Hypocrite hiding under the guise of free speech proponent

One of the greatest attributes of our country is the freedom to speak your mind on any number of issues you feel compelled. It's one of the very reasons our country is so great. However, every once in awhile along comes a person or group who makes you question the idea of free speech. Of course, I'm kidding, but there really are some people who would be better off keeping their mouths shut.

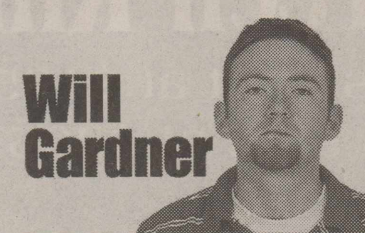
One such person happens to be Ward Churchill. For those of you who may be unaware, he's a Native American who believes our country and the victims of Sept. 11, 2001, deserved what they received. He is of the opinion that employees in the Pentagon and the World Trade Center were capitalists and merely got a taste of their own medicine.

Churchill was allowed to express his opinion, so allow me to openly express mine. I believe he's a hateful lunatic who gets pleasure out of other people's misery. Why else would you write a 20-page paper on a topic such as this, two years after the incident?

Why would you preach this at various universities, especially in New York, nearly four years after this tragedy?

Why would someone do this? Simple. Ruffle some feathers, shock people and stir up hate. It's people like Churchill who incite riots and start fights. Without people comparable to Churchill, there would be no 9/11s. The world would be a better place.

Unfortunately, these people do exist and they do have an open forum to preach whatever pops into their warped minds. Some of you reading this may think



**Will Gardner**

*Why would someone do this? Simple. Ruffle some feathers, shock people and stir up hate. It's people like Churchill who incite riots and start fights. Without people comparable to Churchill, there would be no 9/11s. The world would be a better place.*

I am being too harsh. However, there is a saying along the lines of actions speak louder than words. Let's examine one of Churchill's recent actions and then you can decipher, for yourself, whether he deserves such vehement criticism.

Churchill was arrested, and later acquitted, for disturbing of the peace during a Columbus Day. This man, who yells at his detractors about the right to free speech was at a Columbus Day parade, a symbol of free

speech, attempting to disrupt it — because of the hate toward Native Americans it represents.

I guess, in Churchill's mind, it's alright to condemn innocent victims of a terrorist attack and call our president a terrorist, but if you toss out a couple of floats and a fun atmosphere, you're crossing the line.

This man is a hypocrite, plain and simple. He seems to want to bend the law to whichever side best suits him. If freedom of speech can protect him, then he'll use it to its fullest extent.

However, if this very same freedom conflicts with what he believes, then he'll simply ignore it and create some ridiculous excuse of how it didn't apply to him at the time.

I don't know what's scarier: the fact this man's views are so heavily publicized or he's a tenured professor at a public university. There's no telling how many topics this man spun to his disturbing train of thought while he taught college students.

One can only hope his students had judgment enough to separate fact from lunacy.

The good news is, it appears Churchill may lose his job and we, just like those students of his, have the ability to dismiss his ravings as those of a mad man.

The Churchills of this world always will disappear in time, because this country is too great to let them drag us down. The memories of those lost on that tragic September day will far outlive hate-filled activists.

It's that very reason the United States is where it is today: at the top of the social food chain.

■ **Gardner is a junior English major from Tomball. E-mail him at william.l.gardner@ttu.edu.**

Send letters to the editor to  
[opinions@universitydaily.net](mailto:opinions@universitydaily.net)

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**Night**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this year. The alliance has sponsored the protest consistently for the past four years; however, the protest has taken place at Tech on and off since it began in 1978.

Lichti said while the march makes a statement about violence against women, it also is a reminder of the work women have left before they achieve equity in women's rights.

"We're still here. Thirty some-odd years ago, Take Back the Night started, and we're still marching," Lichti said. "Things haven't changed."

The alliance raised \$3,500 for the Lubbock Rape Crisis Center, which was presented in Memorial Circle at the end of the march and received by Kelly Whitman, a volunteer coordinator and fund-raiser for the center.

"It is a symbolic gesture; it's symbolic for zero tolerance against violent crimes," Whitman said. "The Lubbock community will stand zero tolerance for violent crime, especially sexual assault."

Whitman said the center averages 28 cases per month and 48 percent of last year's cases involved children less than the age of 17.

Kyle Lancaster, a senior mechanical engineering technology major from Grapevine and a member of Students for Social Justice, was one of the few men among the crowd.

"Think about all the people you know. You know at least one person who has suffered violence — domestic violence or sexual violence," Lancaster said. "Most people

don't realize it, but it is someone you know. Of course I think (violence against women and children) is a problem in Lubbock. It is a problem everywhere."

Lancaster said he was glad he could participate in the protest.

"If more males show up, it is a sign they acknowledge it's a problem and they're willing to stop the problem," he said.

According to the Women's Protective Services Web site, battering is the most common crime in the United States; every nine seconds, a woman is battered.

Hattie Heiner, coordinator of community development and education for the services, said protest is vital to community awareness.

"(The protest) definitely has a positive impact and raises awareness to the whole community," she said.

"Violence doesn't just affect women and children; it affects everybody. Whether they know it or not, everybody knows somebody affected by domestic violence."

For information regarding services countering violence against women and children in Lubbock, contact WPS at (806) 747-6491, the Center at (806) 763-7273 or the Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network at (800) 656-HOPE.

Meanwhile, Lonis said she hopes participating in the protest today will pave the way for women of a new generation, and for her daughter, to live without fear of violence.

"I am a strong believer in women's rights and I am against violence against women," Lonis said. "We're not going to put up with violence. We made a statement to stand up for our rights, used our voice and it's empowering."

**Mother of child who shot brother charged**

HOUSTON (AP) — The mother of a 4-year-old boy who shot his 2-year-old brother has been charged with making a gun available to a minor, Houston police said Thursday.

Tameka Michelle Jones, 29, is scheduled to answer the misdemeanor charge before Harris County Criminal Court Judge Mike Fields on Friday. She was charged March 22, Houston police spokesman John Cannon said.

The 2-year-old was shot in the head after an argument with his brother over a toy on March 12, and he remains in critical condition. He has shown signs of improvement this week, said Child Protective Services spokeswoman Gwen Carter. The 4-year-old is being cared for by his grandparents and receiving counseling.

Fields' court said Thursday it has not been informed whether an attorney is representing Jones. A phone listing for Jones could not

be found.

Prosecutor David Harbach said the case is very unusual given the ages of the children involved.

"The crime with which she has been charged is a crime of negligence," Harbach said of the mother.

The 4-year-old knows he got his mother's gun — a .25 caliber automatic pistol — from her purse after his 2-year-old brother threw a toy at him and bit him, but that may be all he understands, Carter

said. CPS is investigating whether his parents provided a safe environment for the children.

Carter said the boys' mother got the gun because of some burglaries in the neighborhood. The mother told investigators the gun was always out of the children's reach except the day of the shooting.

The 4-year-old will not face charges; the minimum age in Texas for delinquent conduct charges is 10.

**Family mourns loss of children to alleged drunken driver**

DONNA (AP) — Rodolfo Garcia clings to the memory of his four children racing up to meet him, climbing all over him after a long day laboring in the fields.

It's all he has of them now. The children — ages 9, 8, 6 and 1 — were killed in a car wreck with an alleged drunken driver over Easter weekend.

"They were so healthy," he quietly recalled. "The doctors, the dentists always said so."

The story is numbingly familiar in Texas, which leads the nation in alcohol-related driving fatalities. It's even more familiar in the Rio Grande Valley, which leads the state in such deaths, according to 2003 federal statistics examined by Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

At the home of Garcia and Anna Pacheco, the children's

mother, the house was strangely quiet this week. In a small back room, Garcia, 29, stared at the tile floor Tuesday. Pacheco, 28, lay quivering on the bed; her back to those in the room.

Pacheco's mother, Felipa, spoke of how the children would bounce on the bed, run around in the small yard and do their homework.

"So happy," Felipa said.

The oldest, 9-year-old Stephanie Pacheco, was popular, studious, and helpful. Her teacher called her "her right hand," Felipa said. The two boys, 8-year-old Rodolfo Garcia and 6-year-old Hector Manuel, were remembered as bright, energetic, and mischievous. One-year-old Angel Jesus Garcia liked to laugh.

At nearby B.G. Guzman Elementary School, where the three oldest children went to school, black rib-

bons hung outside. Teachers came by the house to offer comfort.

The children were on the way back from visiting relatives Saturday when a truck slammed into the passenger side of their minivan, sending them and their uncle flying from the car. It was unclear whether the children were wearing seatbelts or in safety seats, Donna police Investigator Rick Balli said.

Texas law requires children under 17 to wear seat belts and children less than 4 years old or less than 36 inches tall with a child safety seat.

The driver of the truck, Juan Jose Garza, was charged with four counts of intoxication manslaughter and three counts of intoxication assault. He remained in the Hidalgo County Jail on Thursday on \$570,000 bond.

Blood tests showed Garza, a 29-

year-old self-employed construction worker from Weslaco who has no criminal record, had a blood alcohol level of .268. That's more than three times the legal limit of .08. Police said he admitted to spending the day drinking beer and had no memory of how he lost control of his truck.

Speaking softly in Spanish, Garcia wondered why Garza's bail wasn't higher.

"For all four children?" said Garcia, his broken arm in a sling and a scab of dried blood in his right eyelid. "Don't the officials know? You can't get them back."

The 15,000-population city of Donna, a mix of old and new subdivisions filling former ranch and farm land about 10 miles north of the Mexican border offered four plots in the city cemetery, saving the family about \$4,000.

**Accident**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Certainly it can affect their licensing," she said. "It doesn't mean they can't get a Texas license, but it will certainly put a flag on their application for a license."

Wiggins said alcohol violations are of particular concern, because it can impair a person and their ability to practice medicine.

She said on licensing applica-

tions, people with criminal violations must disclose the violation if they want a chance of being licensed.

"The application will allow them to disclose the arrest, which will provide a flag. (The applicant in question) will then be brought before a committee on a board and they will ultimately decide if the person can be a licensed doctor in Texas," she said. "And if they don't disclose the arrest, well there's a much bigger problem to face."

**Blockbuster**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the corporate stores," he said. "Because we are a privately owned store, we choose whether or not to participate in certain promotions by the corporation."

Store managers from Blockbuster stores surrounding the Dallas/Fort Worth area, which are part of the corporate system and the late fees promotion, refused to comment on the ruling.

According to Blockbuster.com, the company was founded in Dallas in 1985 and generated around

\$5.5 billion in 2002. The group has more than 8,500 stores in the United States, its territories and 28 other countries.

Blockbuster responded with a press release announcing the company will augment consumer communications supporting its "popular" program.

The company also says in the release they are working with representatives from 47 states and the District of Columbia in resolving some of the questions raised about advertising for the "No Late Fees" program. Nick Shepherd, president of U.S. store operations for Blockbuster, commented on the

changes.

"Our customers will be glad to know that we are not changing our 'No Late Fees' program, but we are adding some additional communications pieces to support the program," he said. "More people are renting from us more often, so customers clearly like No Late Fees. They like the flexibility, the convenience and the value that No Late Fees offers."

Houston native Cassie Cone, a sophomore business major, believes the program is not the most successful plan Blockbuster offers.

"I think the best deal they have is being able to pay a monthly fee for

renting as many movies or games as you want to," she said. "That way you can keep them as long as you want to and just take them back and switch them out."

The agreement between Abbott and the company stated Blockbuster promised to provide a full refund or credit for any rental item that was converted to a sale under the "No Late Fees" program upon the return in condition of the items rented as well as refunds for "restocking" fees. Customers who believe they qualify for these refunds may obtain complaint forms at any company-owned or participating franchise owned stores.

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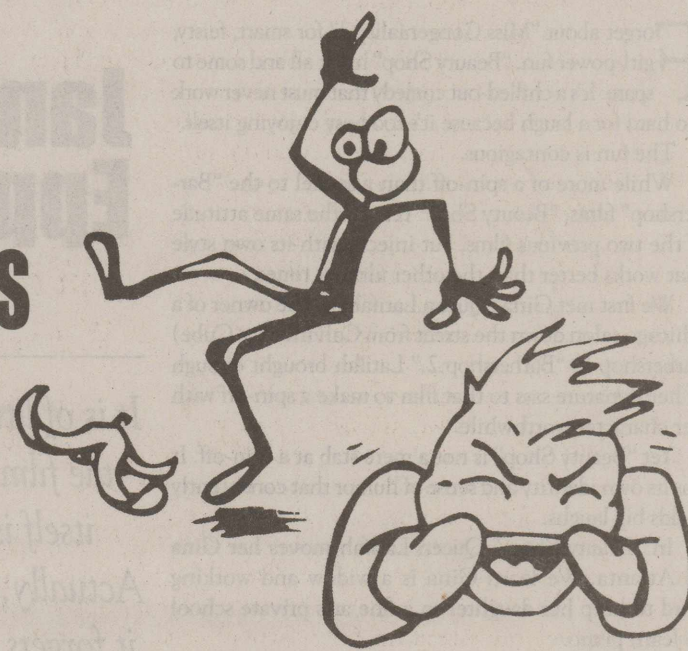
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## Pulling Pranks: Students share April Fools gags

By Jeremy Martin/  
The University Daily



For some people, April 1 is an excuse for lame jokes. After lying about the weather report or the time of day, some will give their victim a slap on the back or a punch on the arm and have a good hearty laugh in the name of the April fool.

Others try to make their practical jokes a little more creative.

In high school, Shannon Jetton had a teacher who picked on her in class every day. The teacher was a coach and his mother also taught at the school. Jetton, a sophomore pre-nursing major from Junction, decided she was tired of the coach's abuse, so she retaliated in the best way she could imagine. She set live chickens loose in his mother's classroom.

"She was pretty upset," Jetton said. "Chickens are filthy animals. She came in the class and there was chicken crap everywhere, also feathers."

Though the teacher was angry

about the free-range poultry in her classroom, Jetton said she felt the need to confess — the summer after her graduation.

Grant Buchanan, a freshman business administration major from New Braunfels, also used a high school prank as an excuse for revenge. Buchanan's target was an unfaithful girlfriend.

"I was drunk, and I was mad at her cause she cheated on me," he said. "So I got about three pairs of her underwear and ran them up the flagpole."

Sometimes the victims of practical jokes are innocent bystanders, like Clay Styles' grandparents. Styles, a senior advertising major from Lubbock, decided to have a little April Fool's fun at the expense of grandma and grandpa.

*I told them that I got my girlfriend pregnant. I said that I was going to have to drop out of school and get a job to support her.*

— CLAY STYLES  
A Senior Advertising Major from Lubbock

"I told them that I got my girlfriend pregnant," Styles said. "I said that I was going to have to drop out of school and get a job to support her. I only let it go on for like 10 minutes because my grandfather was getting so mad about it."

Faking pregnancy seems to be a popular prank for students. Josh Mullins, a senior communication studies major from Buna, found himself the butt of this kind of joke when his girlfriend and friends conspired against him.

"I went home for a week and they all got online and tell me how she was pregnant," he said. "It really scared me."

Another practical joke that seems popular with students is to tell their parents they have been arrested. Stu Spendlove a doctoral student in clinical psychology from Ventura, Calif., said he once made the mistake of pulling this joke on his mother.

"I called my mom once after a basketball game in high school and told her there was a fight after the game and I got arrested," he said. "She started crying, so I told her it was a joke. That's one of her biggest fears that I would get arrested and I played on it. I lost any chance to go

anywhere else that weekend, and that's the last time I ever tried to play a joke on my mom."

And then there is the occasional prank that borders on actual illegal activities. For a practical joke on a co-worker, Josh Mantooth, a sophomore advertising major from San Antonio, technically committed theft.

"I worked at a restaurant and I stole \$100 out of this girl's cash register," he said. "At the end of the day we had to make up for any money we were missing. She was crying in the manager's office, and I

just brought the money in and said April Fool's."

But sometimes, parents get the last laugh on April 1. Sean Pace, a sophomore music major from Lubbock, said he remembers when he was 10 years old and a friend's parents played the final joke at an April Fool's Day slumber party.

"They set the smoke alarm off at like 3 o'clock in the morning," Pace said. "They ran us out of the house screaming 'Fire! Fire!' We were all standing out there in the front yard in our underwear without any shoes on when they told us it was just a joke."

## Relay for Life fund-raiser this weekend

The American Cancer Society's signature fund-raising event will once again illuminate R.P. Fuller Track at the third annual Texas Tech Relay for Life. The 12-hour relay will be on April 2, from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. on April 3.

Emily Curtis, co-chair of the relay said more than 60 teams are participating in this year's event, making the donation goal \$60,000. Teams consist of between 10-15 people and each person is encouraged to raise \$100.

Teams will continue to circle the track for 12 hours straight. The first lap around the track is a survivor's lap.

"We ask all the cancer survivors

take the first lap together," Curtis said. "We read their names and applaud their survivorship. It is a really great kick-off."

Kathy Winn, executive director of the Lubbock American Cancer Society said at around 10 p.m. the relay event has a luminaries ceremony. She said that the ceremony was a time to remember those who have lost their battle with cancer and to celebrate those who have survived.

"It reminds us why we're out there," Winn said. "Usually, it is about 30 minutes and it is very moving. Then, after the ceremony, the lights come back

up, walking resumes and everybody just goes all night long."

Curtis said the relay event includes games, bands, contests, tournaments, prizes and lots of Tech students raising awareness.

"The whole concept behind it being an all-night event is the fact cancer never sleeps," Curtis said. "So, for one night, we are not either, as we unite to fund finding a cure."

For more information about Relay for Life or to get involved, contact the American Cancer Society at (806) 792-7128 or visit [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

## Some kind words for Dan Rather from Fox News

NEW YORK (AP) — Fox News Channel chief executive Roger Ailes said Thursday he'd have no problem hiring Dan Rather — except the former CBS anchorman makes too much money.

Ailes had some kind words for the embattled Rather, whose unpopularity with many of Fox's Republican fans was sealed by the network's discredited story about President Bush's

military service. Rather stepped down as "CBS Evening News" anchor on March 9.

At a media forum sponsored by Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications on Thursday, Ailes was asked if he'd ever hire Rather.

"I wouldn't not hire him," Ailes replied. "Dan is a very controversial guy but Dan does a lot of very good journalism and I'm one of those guys who thinks you can't wipe out a person's career over one moment unless it's so egregious and so bad that you don't have any choice."

## Agency backs plan for NYC Jets stadium; could help city's chances of 2012 Olympics

NEW YORK (AP) — A proposed \$1.9 billion stadium designed to lure the 2012 Olympics to the city cleared its biggest hurdle yet Thursday, winning the blessing of the state agency that owns the land and handing a major victory to Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority board unanimously accepted a \$720 million offer from the New York Jets to develop the site over a remote railyard on Manhattan's West Side, turning down two competing proposals worth more money.

The 75,000-seat stadium is backed by the city and state and would allow the Jets to play in New York for the first time in a quarter-century. The Jets currently play home games at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

Jets President Jay Cross said he hoped construction could begin in July, noting the NFL recently awarded the city the 2010 Super Bowl on the condition of a new stadium.

Bloomberg, a Republican, has made the stadium the early centerpiece of his re-election campaign, insisting it will create jobs and growth for years to come in a largely underdeveloped frontier along the Hudson River.

In a statement, the mayor praised the Jets for investing in the city's future and added, "But ultimately, New Yorkers will be the big winners if this project becomes reality."

Many New Yorkers do not share his zeal, opposing the plan by 53 percent to 38 percent, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released before the vote. Some residents have said the stadium will cause too much congestion and cost too much money.

"Why are you doing this?" City Council speaker and Democratic mayoral hopeful Gifford Miller asked the MTA board during public comment before the vote. "This is not over. This is a terrible mistake."


Outside the hearing, anti-stadium demonstrators began chanting "Sweetheart deal!" after the vote was finished, while union workers backing the plan replied, "Jobs! Jobs!"

Olympic officials have said build-

ing the stadium is critical to New York's bid. The International Olympic Committee will award the Games in July. Paris, London, Madrid and Moscow are the other finalists.

Among those who submitted

competing bids for the site was Cablevision, the company that owns Madison Square Garden. It fears the new facility, just a few blocks away, would compete with the Garden and drain its revenue.



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- Or stop by the Student Union Building Mesa Room
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BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE	1:05	3:10	5:15	7:25	9:30
NATIONAL TREASURE	1:35	4:20	7:15	9:50	
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### THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS  
1 Full of lip  
6 LP player  
10 Part of USNA  
14 One of the San Juan Islands  
15 School collar  
16 Pueblo people  
17 Less than seaworthy boat?  
19 '60s hairstyle  
20 Travel charge  
21 Tree of Delphi?  
23 Kellogg's rival  
25 Blackjack  
26 Chicago transp.  
27 Ms. Gorbachev  
30 Kind of log  
32 Herd sounds  
36 Cavalry sword  
39 Sledgehammer  
40 Pasture plant  
41 Stoooge  
42 "Loot" playwright  
44 Alternative to chains  
47 Grp. of oil men  
49 Group psyche  
50 Kin of FBI  
52 Doesn't lack bounds  
54 Lake feeder  
58 Complaint about autumn?  
62 Singing syllables  
63 Accurate  
64 Arctic setbacks?  
66 Stone  
67 First name of 18D  
68 First name in late-night TV  
69 Invites  
70 Classic cars  
71 Top of a wave

DOWN  
1 Beginning of celery?  
2 Cupid's missile  
3 Head cover  
4 Annapolis  
5 French fashion letters  
6 Lend a hand  
7 Me also  
8 See 12D  
9 Not out-of-bounds  
10 Cries of discovery  
11 Cafe  
12 With 6D, an anagram  
13 Christian's frocks  
18 "Gymnopodies" composer  
22 Numbered composition  
24 Rel. day  
28 Huff and Jaffe  
29 Make amends  
31 Expensive tiling option?  
32 Ins. option  
33 Flower's need  
34 No longer fortune's favorite  
35 Fine, black stuff  
37 Flock female  
38 OR workers  
43 Radar's drink  
45 Buzzing sound in the U.K.  
46 Won follower?  
48 Wyoming city  
50 Talent org.  
51 Edible tubers  
53 Reproduce like moss  
55 Singer Frankie  
56 Earthenware pots  
57 "The Man Who There"  
59 Birds' display area  
60 Potpourri  
61 Acorns, after time  
65 TV watchdog agoy.

By Stella Daily & Bruce Venzke  
Madison, WI  
4/1/05

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

BARS	RECIPES	CPA
ABEL	ANODES	RUN
ASHPIN	PORT	URN
EMANUEL	EMS	
TRAMP	ISSA	FEET
UNREAD	GALILEO	
TASS	EASTER	ESS
THAT	IS	NOT
RAP	ERODED	EPEE
ATLANT	ABRADE	
WHATSHIPS	AMIDE	
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REN	ARE	BUILT
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# 'Beauty Shop' A SPIN-OFF WITH SOUL

Forget about "Miss Congeniality 2" for smart, feisty, girl-power fun. "Beauty Shop" has it all and some to spare. It's a chilled-out comedy that must never work too hard for a laugh because it's too busy enjoying itself.

The fun is contagious. While more of a spin-off than a sequel to the "Barbershop" films, "Beauty Shop" retains the same attitude of the two previous films, but injects with its own style that works better than the other films at times.

We first met Gina (Queen Latifah) as the owner of a Chicago salon down the street from Calvin's (Ice Cube) barbershop in "Barbershop 2." Latifah brought enough of her signature sass to that film to make a spin-off with her character worthwhile.

Yet "Beauty Shop" is not a mere stab at a spin-off. It has its own identity and sense of humor that consistently yields big laughs.

In "Beauty Shop," Queen Latifah moves her Gina to Atlanta. We learn Gina is a widow and working hard to keep her daughter in a fine arts private school to learn piano.

To pay for it, Gina is working as a hairstylist for Jorge Christophe (a hilarious Kevin Bacon), a queen of a different sort.

Gina is Jorge's prized possession, as she brings in a variety of upscale clientele. But therein lies the problem: Gina doesn't like being seen as property. So she quits, and decides to open her own beauty shop.

The only shop she can afford, though, is smack in

## James Eppler



*It is of little use to delve much into the film's plot, because the film itself is unconcerned with it. Actually, the film works best when it forgets all about plot. The focus and success of the film is found in the people, as Gina fills her shop with a wide collection of colorful characters.*

the middle of the ghetto. But Gina finds she has the opportunity to thrive there.

When she does, she starts filling her salon with neighborhood regulars and even some of Jorge's clientele (Andie MacDowell and Mena Suvari), who start making the trip across town.

Jorge, naturally, gets his highlighted locks in a tangle, and plots to cripple Gina's business.

It is of little use to delve much into the film's plot, because the film itself is unconcerned with it. Actually, the film works best when it forgets all about plot.

The focus and success of the film is found in the people, as Gina fills her shop with a wide collection of colorful characters.

Fans of the "Barbershop" movies will, no doubt, recognize similarities in some of the characters.

Alfre Woodard as Miss Josephine could give Cedric the Entertainer's Eddie a run for his money in terms of loud-mouthed, opinionated banter, and Alicia Silverstone is adorable as the token white hairstylist, even if she does sport one of the worst southern accents of all time.

Watch, also, for an all-grown-up Keshia Knight Pulliam (sweet little Rudy from "The Cosby Show") as Darnelle, Gina's sultry niece.

Gina also hires an ex-convict truck driver (Bryce Williams), who has a skill for doing hair and whose sexual

preference is somewhat of a mystery.

There's no mystery, however, about Joe (Djimon Hounsou from "In America"), a piano-playing electrician who lives above the beauty shop and has the hots for Gina.

Reigning over all of this is Latifah, who has become a formidable comedic talent. She is the soul of "Beauty Shop," and gives it a free-flowing groove.

So what if each plot turn is predictable? Who wants to nitpick the shoddy editing or the stereotypical portrayal of race relations the film upholds?

That's how I know I truly enjoyed the movie — when I am willing to overlook all of these things.

"Beauty Shop" makes you feel like a participating on-looker, waiting for the next joke, the next slam. You won't be waiting long between laughs.

The film works so well because it is never forced. It never feels like it has to be about anything except individuality within a community, fearlessly speaking your mind and ghetto-fabulous hair.

EPPLER'S RATING:



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

## Nickelodeon's 'Kids Choice Awards' comes of age, green slime and all

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Twenty years ago, Nickelodeon discovered the answer to that age-old question: What if you gave out awards and nobody showed up to collect them?

The show was called "The Big Ballot," which would eventually morph into the "Kids Choice Awards." But back then it was just a little peashooter of a program that nobody paid much attention to.

"We awarded a lot of prizes, but nobody came to pick them up," Nickelodeon Television President Cyma Zarghami recalls with a laugh. "It was a little bit pathetic, but it made us feel

like we were getting in the game."

On the eve of Saturday's 18th annual "Kids Choice Awards," Nickelodeon is clearly in the game.

Chris Rock, who hosted February's Academy Awards is scheduled to make an appearance at this year's "Kids Choice Awards." So is Oscar winner Halle Berry and Cameron Diaz, last year's co-host. The 2002 "Kids Choice Awards" burping contest champion, plans to be there, as does Will Smith, who will debut a song from his forthcoming album "Lost and Found."

At some point in the show, when

awards in such categories as favorite actor, actress, singer and athlete are handed out, some celebrity will have a huge bucket of green slime dumped on his head — as much to their surprise as that of the audience. Past recipients of that dubious honor have included Tom Cruise, Jim Carrey, Pink, the Olsen twins, Mike Myers and Adam Sandler.

"Jim Carrey hugged me the year after he got slimed," Zarghami recounts.

So why do celebrities line up to expose themselves to such silliness? "I think there's something very

real about it. I think that's the whole thing," says Ben Stiller, who will host the show this year when it's broadcast live (7 p.m.) in front of 10,000 kids from the University of California, Los Angeles.

"If you connect with kids who have seen movies you're in, you can feel that connection they have to you and it's a very real thing," Stiller adds. "The enthusiasm kids have for what they like is very genuine. In that way it just feels very good to be a part of

that connection. ... You can actually have fun and be a part of something that is very not cynical."

*"Maybe in a couple years I'll be able to show her the tape and say, 'Hey, look what I did once.'"*

— BEN STILLER  
Host, 'Kids Choice Awards'

"Oh yeah, it was nice," the star of the movie "Fat Albert" remembers about finally getting one after coming up short four

years in a row. He won during his last season on the children's variety show "All That!"

"I was old and ready to leave and they finally gave me one," he adds, laughing. "And I was like Thank you. Now I can go. Now I have my blimp. I've been waiting for five years."

Award winners are picked by fans who vote online, by phone and through Nickelodeon's magazine. Last year, according to the network, 17 million ballots were cast.

The show is broadcast around the world, and that kind of exposure, network officials say, has helped make it a popular draw for young celebrities, particularly those building an audience among the teen set. Thus Hilary Duff of the rival Disney Channel's "Lizzie McGuire" and Amber Tamblyn of CBS' "Joan of Arcadia" are slated to appear this year, along with rapper Lil' Romeo, actress Amanda Bynes and TV and film star Frankie Muniz.

Stiller says he's fascinated by the bond fans establish with stars such as Muniz, who was only 14 when his show "Malcolm in the Middle" debuted in 2000.

Stiller's wife, Christine Taylor, was a teen star herself when she appeared in the series "Hey Dude" in the late 1980s. He says people still approach her to talk about the show.

For himself, the 39-year-old star of "Meet the Fockers" is hoping his brush with kid celebrity will give him some cachet with his 3-year-old daughter.

"Maybe in a couple years I'll be able to show her the tape and say, 'Hey, look at what I did once,'" he says.

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# WAR OF FOUR

Two top seeds battle underdogs for shot at college basketball's pinnacle prize



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VS.  
(4) **Louisville**  
5:07 p.m. Saturday  
CBS  
(KLBK-TV Channel 13)



National Championship  
7:18 p.m. Monday  
CBS (KLBK-TV Channel 13)

National Semifinals Game 2

(1) **UNC**  
VS.  
(5) **Mich. State**  
7:37 p.m. Saturday  
CBS  
(KLBK-TV Channel 13)



## Final Four coaches: The free advice is over

(AP) — All those treys being launched from all over the NCAA tournament map last weekend did wonders for college basketball.

But North Carolina coach Roy Williams admitted Wednesday they made him jumpy.

He has got Sean May, the best big man still standing in the Final Four, and he would prefer to keep running his offense from the inside out. He does not even want to think about getting caught up in a shootout.

"The first thing I start looking for," Williams said, "is the closest exit I can sneak out."

Michigan State coach Tom Izzo would volunteer to escort him when their teams meet in Saturday night's semifinal. Ditto for Louisville's Rick Pitino and Illinois' Bruce Weber, whose teams play the opening semifinal. All three would welcome the chance, even if none came out and made the offer during an hour-long teleconference.

But there was little doubt all three would not mind seeing enough traffic beyond the arc in St. Louis to fill an air controller's grid.

"I like it," said Weber, whose team put up almost three dozen 3s in a furious comeback win against Arizona in overtime. "When it first became a rule, it became a thing where it was used too much. I think last week was just unusual."

The good news is that the coaches, except for Weber, are as experienced at Final Fours as experienced gets. The bad news is that the players, with one exception, have absolutely no Final Four experience.

Pitino, who won a national title at Kentucky, is back for the fifth time with his third program. Izzo, who won in 2000, is back for the fourth time in the last seven years. The long-suffering Williams, who brought Kansas to the closing weekend four times, is making appearance No. 5 as well.

Only Weber, at 48, is a newcomer. So naturally, he spent the last few days calling friends in the business for tips on what to expect. But the free advice stopped Wednesday.

"He's a 3-point shot at the buzzer from being perfect this season," Pitino said jokingly. "He doesn't need any advice from me."

Besides, all four coaches expect to be occupied just giving advice to their own squads. After scanning all four rosters, Izzo could find only one player who's even been to a Final Four, and that's his own Tim Bograkov, a fifth-year senior and former walk-on.

But all four teams are led by upperclassmen, which the coaches agreed was the difference in getting through what has been an upset-filled, last-gasp tournament.

And if your team doesn't have one of those, well, there is always Lady Luck.

## Cast in St. Louis not exactly what experts forecasted

The invitations have been passed out, the tables are set and all is ready for the world's greatest dance to take center stage during one of the most invigorating weekends in sports.

All are present and accounted for in what is expected to be ... wait a second — I see Roy Williams and his highflying Tar Heels have made their appearance. And I think I can make out Illinois boasting its record, with only one blemish, sitting comfortably in the seat that prepared for them for months.

But where is superstar Chris Paul and his Demon Deacons; where is Coach K and his little buddy J.J., and Jim Boeheim already is on the links with his Orangemen, watching from afar?

These so-called favorites, the Wake Forests, the Dukes and the Syracuse, that were granted their tickets by the so-called "experts"

Trey Shipman



weeks ago, all have found themselves on the outside looking in.

When the tango ensues this weekend, two teams experts thought had as much chance of making it to St. Louis as getting Mark McGwire to talk about the past will take the floor.

Louisville and Michigan State both have ridden four and five seeds all the way to the Mecca of college basketball, leaving fans and analysts everywhere scratching their heads.

So why is it everyone doubted the two squads who have put themselves in a position to capture a national

title? The Cardinals, who compete in the typically below-average Conference USA, were considered a team that simply could have been great in the beginning of the season.

They lost two star recruits, including Sebastian Telfair, who opted to jump to the NBA, and were plagued early in the season by multiple injuries to a frontcourt already considered weak.

Supposedly, the key to success in the tournament is the ability to work the inside-out game. The Cards have plenty of guys who can knock it down, but where was that inside force they could go to with a minute left and a game on the line?

Under the wizardry of coaching legend Rick Pitino, Louisville has proven every surefire success theory wrong by taking their "let it fly" strategy and knocking down shots.

The Cardinals are led by the sharp shooting of Francisco Garcia, Taquan Dean and Larry O'Bannon. Dean and O'Bannon both shoot over 40 percent from beyond the arc, while Garcia has averaged 15 points a contest and has been the player off of which the entire team seems to feed.

When all three are on their game, there may not be a team in the country that can stop them.

As for Tom Izzo and his Spartans, I look at their track record and find it hard to fathom why they are an "underdog."

Izzo has led five teams to regional finals in the last six years, including three Final Four appearances and a national championship in 2000.

All of those teams were said to have more talent than the one set to take on North Carolina Saturday.

They have made their run this year by playing fundamental team basketball. You don't see them giving the ball to one guy and telling him to "get us the win." They have 10 guys who average 9.6 minutes per game and none that average more than 30.

Not to go against the grain, but the Spartans actually do have one of the experts' ingredients for success in that all five of their starters shoot over 80 percent from the free-throw line.

If Michigan State gets in a free-throw battle in the final minutes of a close ballgame, the odds are certainly in the Spartans' favor.

So as we all sit down this weekend to watch David take on Goliath, remember that David isn't necessarily a young Sheppard boy. The Illini and Carolina earned their tickets to the celebration as expected, but watch out for the outcasts that have come to crash the party.

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■ Shipman is a sophomore journalism major from Belleville. E-mail comments to him at [trey.shipman@ttu.edu](mailto:trey.shipman@ttu.edu).