



The Rundown



Man sentenced to life for killing child

WACO (AP) — A man was sentenced to life in federal prison for the beating death of his 2-year-old stepdaughter while her mother was serving in Iraq.

John Dale Mayer Jr., 30, also was sentenced Wednesday to two terms of more than 30 years, one for each conviction on charges of sexually assaulting the girl and her sister, said assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Frazier. The sentences are to run concurrently.

Mayer, who lived on the Army post Fort Hood in Killeen, pleaded guilty in February. Because the government did not pursue the death penalty, a mandatory life sentence was imposed.

Mayer had watched the 2-year-old and her two siblings since their mother was deployed in April 2003. One month later, Mayer sexually assaulted two of the children more than once, according to an FBI affidavit.

Mayer told investigators he was changing the toddler's diaper but she was fussy, so he hit her head on the linoleum floor, the affidavit said. The child became unresponsive, but Mayer said he did not take her to the hospital because she had bruises from earlier abuse.

Man kills, wounds six during rampage

LAUREL, Del. (AP) — A man wearing a bulletproof vest killed two people and wounded four others Thursday during a rampage in Maryland and Delaware before police arrested him, authorities said.

Police said the suspect also carjacked a vehicle, shot and killed a dog, and rammed a sport utility vehicle into a house during the crime spree. Delaware State Police Cpl. Jeff Oldham said authorities have determined a motive for the attacks, but are not releasing details. The suspect did not know any of the victims.

"Quite a morning for a little rural town," said Laurel's mayor, John Shwed.

The attacks started in Laurel, where three men were shot, and continued across the border in Maryland, where the suspect fled on foot before being caught. The three other people were shot in Salisbury, Md., including one who died, Oldham said.

Police identified the suspect only as a man in his late teens or early 20s. A witness said police told her that the suspect was trying to shoot into an apartment in Laurel where his girlfriend lived when the spree began.

Pope considered resigning his post

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II suggested in his last will and testament that he considered the possibility of resigning in 2000, at a time when he was already ailing and when the Roman Catholic Church began its new millennium.

The document was released by the Vatican on Thursday as a steady stream of new pilgrims joined the masses of people crowding the world's smallest state for the pontiff's funeral. Some 4 million pilgrims have visited Vatican City and its surroundings since the pope died Saturday, police chief Marcello Fulvi said.

John Paul's will, which he wrote over the course of his 26-year pontificate, said he had left no material property and had asked that all his personal notes be burned. It mentioned only two living people: his personal secretary and the chief rabbi of Rome who welcomed him to Rome's synagogue in 1986.

The Polish-born pope in 1982 also had considered the possibility of a funeral in Poland, asking that the opinion of his fellow countrymen be taken into account by the cardinals. Three years later, however, he said the cardinals had no obligation to sound out the Poles but could do so.

LIGHT WORK



STEVE LEWIS/The University Daily

A LUBBOCK POLICE officer watches the intersection of 19th Street and Flint Avenue Thursday morning while Lubbock Power and Light employees update software for the traffic lights.

Warden, wife return to Oklahoma

FORT SUPPLY, Okla. (AP) — Oklahoma prison warden Randy Parker and his wife, Bobbi Parker, returned home early Thursday, nearly 11 years after she disappeared with an escaping inmate.

Bobbi Parker, 42, was found Monday at an East Texas ranch after authorities arrested the escaped inmate, 60-year-old convicted murderer Randolph Dial. The FBI said the initial investigation showed she was a captive who stayed with

Dial all this time out of fear her family would be harmed if she escaped.

The Parkers' two daughters, who were 8 and 10 when Dial escaped with Bobbi Parker in 1994, were at the warden's residence Thursday at the William S. Key Correctional Center in Fort Supply in northwestern Oklahoma. The Parker couple returned to the home at 1 a.m., said corrections department spokesman Jerry Massie.

"Warden Parker and Bobbi want to maintain their privacy and secu-

city with their family," he said. "They would like to express their gratitude for everyone for their prayers and outpouring of support. The Parker family would like for everyone to respect their need for privacy. Your understanding in this matter would be greatly appreciated."

Dial waived extradition and arrived at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester early Wednesday and was placed in the top-security unit. He is alone in a cell in a portion of the prison containing death row inmates. Inmates there receive meals in their cells and are locked up 23 hours a day.

Bobbi's sister-in-law, Tanya Parker, who was at another Parker family home in Carmen, also in northwestern Oklahoma, said Wednesday the family had long hoped for Bobbi Parker's return.

"We have kept the faith," she said.

The FBI used a tip to track down Dial and Bobbi Parker in Campti, a tiny community deep in the southeast Texas Piney Woods, near the Louisiana border.

Dial told reporters he abducted her at knife-point during his escape from the Oklahoma State Reformatory in Granite, where her husband was a deputy warden. He said he brainwashed her into staying with him in Texas as they moved from Houston to Crockett to Nacogdoches, and then the chicken farm five years ago.

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## SGA discusses organization funding

By Travis Cram/  
The University Daily

The Student Government Association met Thursday night in the Lankford Lab inside the Electrical Engineering building to discuss a number of legislation items, including the 2005-2006 Student Organization Funding Bill.

Some of the organizations and the amounts they will receive include the Tech Habitat for Humanity, which will receive \$13,750, the meat judging team, \$12,500, Tech Forensics Union, \$10,000, the livestock judging team, \$9,400 and Saddle Tramps will receive \$9,375.

Internal Vice President Nathan Nash, who presided over his final senate meeting for the 40<sup>th</sup> session, said the legislative process is one that has been going on throughout the year.

"It starts in the fall with representatives from each organization proposing an amount that they would like to receive from the student government," he said.

Nash said it is a long process and senate committee members then are assigned to evaluate the amounts that the organizations ask for. Member of the committee recommend an amount to the senate if the original amount is too much or not enough.

"Committee members are assigned budget packets for the student organizations that then go through an interview process in order to receive a certain amount," he said.

Members of the senate then go through a process during the meeting in which senate members from the colleges that represent the organizations may amend the proposed bill in order to see that certain organizations may receive sufficient funds.

"The committee representatives look at what the organization does for the university," he said. "Most of the organizations are mainly service-oriented."

Nash said that the senate tries to allocate the money to the various organizations as best as is possible.

"If the organization is entitled to the amount they request, then we try to make sure we get it to them," he said.

Art Glick, executive associate to the vice president of operations, spoke to the senate early in the meeting about a safe bicycle access system at Texas Tech. The plan, Glick said, hopes to create safer bicycle routes not just around the Tech campus but also around the community surrounding the university.

"The plan is for appropriately designated routes for bicyclists to have access to," he said. "We are also trying to address the pedestrian problem."

The plan, Glick says, hopes to create bicycle routes for areas like Flint Avenue between 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> street, which will keep them on the paths designated for them and off the streets away from dangerous accidents. He said this is the fourth time since 1970 there has been an interest expressed in bicycle safety throughout the campus and surrounding area.

The senate also discussed other bills including one that would propose a separate commencement ceremony for graduate students. Nash said that Tech is not the only school in the Big XII to address this proposal.

"From what I understand, seven out of the 12 schools already have separate ceremonies for their graduate students," he said. "We should have a ceremony that just focuses on the graduate students."

Casey Harmon will take over as internal president in the next meeting April 27.

"First thing we will do is pick new committee heads and members," she said.

Another proposed legislature was expanding the amount of members on each committee in order to match the growth of members in the senate.

"There are a larger amount of senators now," she said. "This is just a formality of the rules."

## BOUNTIFUL BRACELETS



STEVE LEWIS/The University Daily

JENNIFER CHITWOOD, A freshman biochemistry major from Lubbock, buys a wrist band from Katie Nolde, a senior history and political science major from San Antonio; Annie Lin, a freshman pre-med major from Abilene; Morgan Perry, a junior clinical lab science major from Amarillo; and Jenna Hensley, a junior pre-pharmacy major from Santa Anna. The sale is sponsored by the Tech Women's Service Organization and proceeds go to tsunami victims. The sale will continue in the free speech area through next week.

## Student chases suspicious-looking man

By Brittany Barrientos/  
The University Daily

A Texas Tech student took matters into his own hands Monday as he reportedly chased down a suspicious male in the Architecture building.

According to Texas Tech Police Department incident reports, the suspect confronted Tech sophomore Davin Hoyt while he was on the eighth floor. According to the incident report, Hoyt was suspicious of certain activities on the floor throughout the semester.

Maj. Gordon Hoffman with the Tech Police Department said the incident still is under investigation, but police have leads and a possible suspect.

Hoffman said the suspect was a

white male approximately 5 feet 10 inches tall. He said the suspect had brown hair and a beard, and was last seen wearing jeans and a gray shirt.

The vehicle in question is a silver, four-door Hyundai Elantra with a Texas license plate.

Hoffman said an officer patrolling the area surrounding Hulen-Clement residence hall spotted the two men in what appeared to be an altercation.

"The officer noticed two white males jogging and scuffling, when he stopped to check it out, the suspect sped away," he said.

According to the incident report, Hoyt suffered minor injuries, but did not require medical treatment.

After the suspect fled the scene, Hoffman said Hoyt spoke to the police about the incident.

"(Hoyt) encountered the person on the eighth floor and was suspicious," Hoffman said. "The suspect ran toward 18th Street and Flint and Hoyt chased him. This is when the officer encountered the situation. The two men got into a scuffle, when the suspect yelled that he had a gun. Hoyt immediately backed away and the suspect escaped."

Hoffman said students should continue to be aware of their surroundings.

If suspicious activity is spotted, students are encouraged to call the Tech Police Department at 742-3931 or call 911.

To report information on either the suspect or the vehicle, contact the Tech Police Department at 742-3391.

## Gas prices to keep rising

WASHINGTON (AP) — While gasoline costs have reached record levels, prices at the pump are forecast to go even higher in coming weeks because of growing demand, government forecasters said Thursday.

The Energy Information Administration projected that average gasoline prices will peak at \$2.35 a gallon in May. Motorists paid an average of \$2.22 a gallon last week.

The statistical agency said that despite soaring costs at the pump, motorists are not easing off the roads. It projected demand for gasoline this summer at 9.3 million barrels a day, a 1.8 percent increase over last summer.

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# Opinions

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## TECH TALKS BACK

### Kubler fails to see the purpose of well-rounded education in college

Daniel Kubler's reflections (*UD*, 4/6) regarding the difference between higher education in the United States and the United Kingdom raises issues often debated among students pursuing a bachelor's degree in the liberal arts versus students pursuing a bachelor's degree in one of the professional schools such as business.

What is the purpose of a college education? Must courses be related to a major? Must courses "add value" in terms of the market place? This is an old question.

Henry David Thoreau wrote, "We seem to have forgotten that the expression liberal education, originally meant among the Romans one worthy of free men; while the learning of trades and professions by which to get your livelihood merely was considered worthy of slaves only."

Our comfortable sense of completeness leads us largely to exclude from our visions of human behavior a second grand tradition for understanding, motivating and justifying action.

This tradition sees action based not on anticipations of consequences, but on attempts to fulfill the obligations of personal and social identities and senses of self, particularly as those obligations and senses are informed by the ethos and practices of great human institutions. This tradition speaks of self-conceptions, identities and proper behavior, rather than expectations, incentives and desires.

This second vision has become somewhat obscured in contemporary life, and particularly in the halls of business schools; but it has a long and distinguished pedigree.

Consistent with March's view, and in answer to Kubler's query, courses in the liberal arts and outside your major need no justification. They are what they are, and if you are lucky, in the realm of time they may add to your sense of self and help you answer, "Who am I?"

— Kimberly B. Boal, organizational studies and strategic management

### University must work to keep bus routes

I am writing this letter in regard to the "SGA plans to cut funding for off-campus bus routes" article written by Meghann Lora in *The University Daily* on April 6.

Being I will be living at Raiders Pass next year and most likely the rest of my college career, this article caught my attention and made me think about my future transportation to and from school.

As a current student who pays a transportation fee of \$3 per credit hour, I expect, use and greatly appreciate the bus routes on and off campus — more so on campus, because I live on campus and am too lazy to walk to class.

However, I will be living off campus now and will expect and be more dependent on the off-campus service more than before, which has been provided to students by Citibus since 1968. I feel it is more so the responsibility of the university than the apartment complexes to continue to provide this service.

From my understanding, SGA's intents are to invest the money saved from off-campus bus routes to build a new parking garage. Though I am aware most students want this, SGA's direction in doing this is unfair to students who use the off-campus bus routes. As it is the mission of SGA to "serve and protect the student body and its interest," I believe this is more in the interest of the university than the student body.

A huge percent of students live off campus. Wouldn't it be in the best interest of the student body to keep something as essential as the off-campus bus routes to students who don't have other means of transportation?

OK, so what if this parking garage was built? Will the commuter or garage permit be a reasonable price? I don't see the point in paying a \$3 transportation fee for each credit hour just to have a parking garage built and then pay another estimated \$250 for commuter or garage parking.

Better for the students? I think not. I commend the efforts of the SGA in getting a parking garage, but to take away what a lot of students depend on, expect and appreciate is unfair.

I would suggest re-examining the budget. I am sure cuts can be made to the budget where funds are not needed. An example would be the Saddle Tramps. Almost a \$10,000 budget just to hang and decorate the campus with red and black paper prior to games and whatnot is not my idea of good use of student fees.

— José Hernández, sophomore management information system major from Lubbock

## NASA: the corporate frontier

Is NASA no longer our guide to the stars?

Not too long ago in a nation called the United States of America, the people of this democratic republic said, "What the heck?"

They grew tired of waiting for NASA to launch new shuttles and decided to build their own ships. They would populate the vast expanse of the universe even if McDonald's footed the bill.

Of course, if Burger King paid the costs, the people could have it their way.

Bad puns out of the way, with our space program moving more slowly than a snail on a strip of flypaper, private corporations make strides to make it to the cosmos. I'm all about it. If I have to book a flight on south galactic airlines to see what lies beyond, just tell me where to sign.

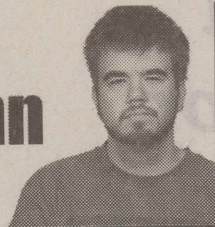
With so many private companies shelling out the dough, citizens of earth could be curious to see if NASA will take a back seat to major discovery and exploration.

Virgin Galactic represents one such company with plans to create vessels that will revolutionize global travel by using the upper atmosphere to speed things up.

This is great news because instead of a small crew, hundreds of individuals will witness the feat all at once.

On the Virgin Galactic Web page the company promises to take the average Joe to infinity and beyond within three

**Ezra Mann**



*NASA seems to be funding more projects rather than taking them on. Sure, we may see that planned trip to Mars within 25 years, but they aren't taking any chances.*

*I like this option, because putting all your shuttles in one program is why we wish instead of obtain.*

At [www.virinalgalactic.com](http://www.virinalgalactic.com), you can sign up for updates from the company and sign up for a change to be one of the

first to ride where few have gone before. Heck, this may give me the perfect opportunity to be the first columnist in the great beyond.

I'm not putting down "Star Wars: Episode III," but that seems a bit tame to actually going there.

The corporate race to space heated up in 2004, when the Ansari X-Prize pitted several companies against each other in a contest to see who could send the first private craft past the upper atmosphere. SpaceShipOne claimed the \$10 million prize in October, when it flew three times in the contest supported by the Federal Aviation Administration and The X Prize foundation.

Virgin Galactic provided the funding for SpaceShipOne's endeavor.

More than 26 other teams competed, giving man's dream to see the stars a much-needed boost.

I don't believe this spells doom for NASA, but I see a new direction in our exploration among the planets.

Years ago, only the best of the best made it into outer space and now with forces outside of the government working hard to change the pace, we may yet see things thought impossible in our lifetime.

I see NASA becoming more of a gov-

erning body, regulating and monitoring travel by millions of future astronauts. NASA will not close its doors, merely change the jobs around.

NASA seems to be funding more projects rather than taking them on. Sure, we may see that planned trip to Mars within 25 years, but they aren't taking any chances.

I like this option, because putting all your shuttles in one program is why we wish instead of obtain.

Outside projects such as a space elevator, new booster research and additional shuttle changes enjoy the thumbs up to continue work.

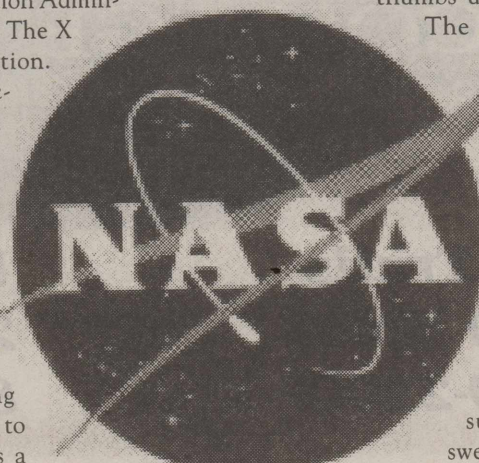
The issue no longer is if but how missions can be brought within a closer time frame.

Many can dream of reaching for the stars, but to realize that goal and within a timetable makes the success all that more sweet.

I don't believe NASA will fade out of the picture, but I do see changes. With corporations now involved in the space race, the common man now can see what seemed only for the elite.

I'm ready to see that dream come true — now all I have to do is wait.

■ Mann is a junior journalism major from Lubbock. E-mail him at [paul.mann@ttu.edu](mailto:paul.mann@ttu.edu).



The University Daily

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WOMEN'S TENNIS

# No. 57 Tech travels south for two matches

By Anne Gepford/  
The University Daily

The Texas Tech women's tennis team already has taken a leap of faith, including an 18-spot jump in the rankings.

While they already have played four ranked teams in the conference this season thus far, Tech travels south to take on two more.

It is a battle of the numbers this weekend as No. 57 Tech faces off against No. 15 Baylor and No. 37 Texas A&M.

The Red Raiders first travel to Waco in their first weekend on the road since Spring Break. The Bears come off a win against No. 10 Texas Thursday in which Baylor (16-3, 7-0) took the top seed in the Big 12 conference away from Texas.

Tech (7-9, 4-3) hits the road after wins at home last weekend against Kansas and No. 56 Colorado.

Coach Cari Groce said the ranking does not play a role in the matches Tech

faces this weekend.

"I think we enjoyed the ranking for all of five minutes," she said. "We've got a very tough match against Baylor, who's the No. 15 team in the nation, tomorrow."

Team captain Tara Browning said the Raiders' previous schedule has played a role in their ranking now.

"When we started out, we weren't really getting that many wins, but our schedule was tough," Browning said. "We're not No. 1 or anything, but there's still a long way to go for goals and everything."

While hard work and determination have played a role in the better ranking, Groce said the number is not what matters — it is about each and every match played.

"I think our schedule to this point

has prepared us for Big 12 play," she said. "We've got to be prepared to play."

The schedule for the spring season included many high-ranking opponents outside of the Big 12. The conference itself currently boasts seven teams in the top 75.

Groce said the high rankings indicate the level of tennis at which Tech has been playing.

"We hope this is the start of a lot of good things to come," Groce said.

Team numbers are not the only numbers at work this weekend, however.

Tech's doubles pair of Lakann Wagley and Browning is ranked 26th in the nation.

Groce said the duo has worked hard all season in order to play better. "They have a lot of experience to-

gether," Groce said. "They complement each other very well. They certainly deserve it."

While there are three doubles matches in any given dual, a team must win at least two out of three to win the doubles point.

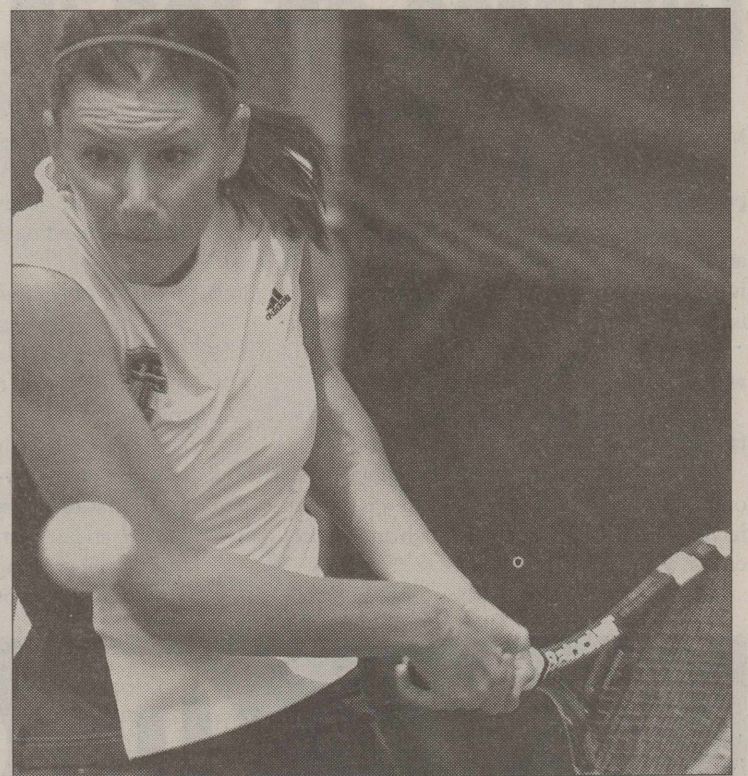
Browning said the doubles point is a hard fight, no matter what team Tech is playing.

"I just think doubles is a good head start," Browning said. "The singles matches are just as tough."

The Raiders will attempt to send a tough message this weekend, as after Friday's match against Baylor, Tech travels to College Station to take on the Aggies on Saturday.

Browning said the team is ready for its matches because of the other team's anticipation.

"We know they're nervous about us, and that's awesome," she said. "We're not giving them anything. In the past, we were probably a team they didn't even think twice about."



VANESSA VELA/The University Daily

SOPHOMORE LAKANN WAGLEY readies a swing during the Red Raiders' 4-3 win against the Kansas Jayhawks Sunday at the McLeod Tennis Center.

MEN'S TENNIS

## Red Raiders travel to Austin, College Station for tough conference matches

By Trey Shipman/The University Daily

The No. 10 Texas Tech tennis team continues down the grueling road that is the Big 12 conference as it prepares to take on No. 14 Texas A&M and No. 38 Texas this weekend.

The Red Raiders travel to Austin today and will put their 19-1 record on the line as they square off with the Longhorns (8-5, 0-2 Big 12). Saturday the team will head south down Highway 71 to face the Aggies (9-5, 2-0) in College Station.

Coach Tim Siegel said the team is battle tested and prepared for the confrontation that lies before them.

"We've played a very tough schedule, so we're certainly ready to play two good teams," he said. "We'll be ready for a big crowd at both places and we're looking forward to the challenge."

The Raiders are led this season by a duo of sophomores in Bojan Suzmanski and Radek Nijaki. Suzmanski is ranked No. 37 in the country and posts a singles record of 13-1, while Nijaki sits at No. 40 with a record of 8-3.

Playing in the No. 1 spot for Tech, Nijaki has defeated two nationally-ranked opponents this season in No. 30 Mark Van Elden of Oklahoma State and No. 20 Fabrizio Sestini

of TCU.

Siegel said the matches have importance outside of wanting to defeat a conference foe.

"These matches will help determine where we'll be in the NCAA tournament, as far as the possibility of hosting a regional," he said.

The atmosphere at both matches is expected to be hostile and Siegel said handling that would be the key to the matches.

"These will be some of the biggest crowds that we've seen all year, and we expect them to be rowdy," he said. "But I know what to expect from this team and I have confidence in them. The one thing that's been constant all year is that we play hard every match."

Texas is coming off back-to-back losses against Oklahoma and Oklahoma State.

The 'Horns are led this season by Junior Callum Beale, who is No. 25 in the nation.

The Aggies take on the Raiders coming off a 5-2 win over No. 11 Oklahoma State. Sophomore Brett Joelson comes into the match as the reigning Big 12 player of the week and is also nationally ranked at No. 20.

SPORTS OPINION

## When passion for sports goes too far

What kind of world are we living in?

Seriously — I think sports are important. They are a huge part of my life — I love to play them, I love to watch them, I love writing, talking and screaming at the TV about them.

But at no point in my life have I thought of shooting my coach.

At no point in my parents' lives have they thought about shooting my coach.

I asked them. No matter how frustrated they may have been during all those years, never once did they get so mad that they even entertained the thought.

I want to know what this world is coming to.

Texas can't be that different from Kansas.

I know I'm a "foreigner." I know football is a big deal here. But do y'all (yes, I said y'all) seriously feel the need to shoot somebody over an altercation better left out on the field?

Thirty-seven-year-old Gary Joe Kinne Jr., the head football coach and athletic director, was shot below the ribs in Canton.

Anne Gepford



Ever since Columbine, school shootings have been a larger part of society than in the past.

Usually, however, they involve students.

This one, which happened at 9:20 a.m. Thursday at Canton High School, had authorities identifying a 45-year-old as the suspect. Jeffrey Doyal Robertson, the suspect, was later carried on a stretcher to a helicopter.

A high school shooting possibly involving a parent?

Where do we draw the line in parent involvement in sports?

I didn't graduate that long ago, and I know that when I was in high school, the parents were the supporters.

My coach wouldn't have it any other way. Parents stayed in the bleachers.

They weren't coaches, and you better believe that anything said or done at practice or during a meet was not subject to parental review.

If it's to the point where you have to ban a parent from campus and school activities because of an

"altercation" after a coach takes over a program, I'd say that's a cue to be careful of that person.

Being a redhead, I know the terms "hot head," "firecracker" and "temper" very well.

Most people know how to control their temper, but they refrain from using an assault rifle and a hit list to solve disagreements.

I love my parents because they know sports and understood what I was going through when I swam — my mom swam for her high school too.

But they knew they weren't my coach, and therefore, they knew they weren't experts on the subject.

If a parent becomes a coach, then I'd say it's OK to coach your own kid.

But, at the same time, isn't that a slight conflict of interest?

Either way, parents are too involved in the lives of their children when it comes to sports.

If you have a problem, solve it through words, not physical violence.

Don't pick up an AK-47 and hide behind it (because chances are, you won't be hiding for long). Take a lesson from your children and realize it's only a game.

■ Gepford is a sophomore advertising and political science major from Leawood, Kan. E-mail her at [anne.e.gepford@ttu.edu](mailto:anne.e.gepford@ttu.edu).

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