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HODGES, OTHERS REFLECT
ON A RECORD-SETTING
GAME. PAGE 8.



WEATHER FORECAST



TODAY
SUNNY
HIGH 86 / LOW 60



WEDNESDAY
STORMS
HIGH 81 / LOW 53

ON PAGE 6



Comedy's got an
"Alternative" side.

STATE

Dallas airport fight extends to Wikipedia

DALLAS (AP) — American Airlines and Southwest Airlines have used advertising campaigns, catchy slogans and dueling consultant studies to settle a dispute over air service in North Texas, and now their eye-gouging fight has spilled over to an online encyclopedia.

Someone using an Internet service provider registered to American edited online encyclopedia Wikipedia last week to describe Southwest Airlines Co. as "a notoriously litigious company constantly seeking to change laws to gain an advantage."

For a time, the site also said Dallas-based Southwest is "known for its PR machine and litigious nature."

Wikipedia's volunteer monitors deleted the phrases within hours and traced them to someone using a domain registered to American, a unit of Fort Worth-based AMR Corp.

Tim Wagner, a spokesman for American, said the changes were "not something the company initiated or condone." He said American doesn't have an employee or contractor by the name of the person who sent the changes to Wikipedia.

NATION

Miss. gov. lets casinos be rebuilt on land

BILOXI, Miss. (AP) — Floating casinos that were devastated by Hurricane Katrina can be rebuilt on solid ground under legislation signed Monday by Gov. Haley Barbour that could lead to major changes in the tourism industry along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

All 13 hotel-casinos on the Mississippi coast were damaged or destroyed when Katrina slammed ashore Aug. 29 with killer winds and a storm surge that tore the walls off many gambling houses and tossed some of the massive barges on land.

The new law, approved during a special legislative session that ended earlier this month, allows the casinos to build up to 800 feet inland. Previously, religious conservatives had fought successfully to keep the casinos off dry land.

"This bill is about more than gaming," Barbour said in a statement. "By signing this bill, the state is taking the necessary precautions to provide safety for the casinos and, in turn, is providing jobs for thousands of displaced Mississippi workers."

WORLD

China hopes to conduct spacewalk in 2007

BEIJING (AP) — China hopes to conduct a spacewalk in 2007 and might recruit women into its next group of astronaut candidates, a senior space program official said Monday following the safe completion of the nation's second manned mission.

The Shenzhou 6 flight ended the first stage of China's plan, which focused on development of space vehicles, said Tang Xianming, director of the China Space Engineering Office. The next stage focuses on developing ways for astronauts to walk in space and the ability to rendezvous and dock with other spacecraft, he said.

"Our estimate is that around 2007 we will be able to achieve extravehicular activity by our astronauts and they will walk in space," he said at a news conference.

Tang said he also expected to see female Chinese astronauts "in the not-too-distant future."

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A DAILY TOREADOR EXCLUSIVE

Tech senior recounts frightful holdup

By JAY LANGLEY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Friday started out as a typical day for Texas Tech senior Rebecca Patton. But, as she prepared for her bartender shift at Rockfish Seafood Grill, her life was changed forever.

"As I pulled into the parking lot, I heard two or three gun shots," said Patton, a human development and family studies major from Lubbock.

As she rolled up her windows in panic, Patton saw a man coming toward her car holding what she described as a small black revolver.

"He put the gun up to my temple and forced me out of my truck," she said.

A Lubbock police officer alerted by the gunshots came around the corner, and the gunman fled the scene in Patton's red pickup truck.

Lubbock Police Sgt. John Gomez said at approximately 10:26 Friday morning, the gunman, Adam Garcia, from El Paso was stopped for speeding.

"When the officer stopped him, he ran away toward the parking lot of the restaurant," Gomez said. "Shortly after that, the officer heard a couple of gun shots from the direction of the restaurant parking lot."

Gomez said who or what Garcia was shooting at is unknown.

"I couldn't feel my legs, and I think I passed out."

— REBECCA PATTON
Holdup Victim
Senior HDFS Major

About a dozen squad cars pursued Garcia through a residential Lubbock neighborhood until he hit a tree on 39th Street and turned the gun on himself.

Lt. Roy Bassett of the Lubbock Police Department said Garcia's motivation is not known.

"Unfortunately, Garcia's the only one who knows why he did this to himself," he said. "It was a simple traffic stop where he could have showed his driver

license and proof of insurance and then gone about his business. We just don't know what was going on in his head or his personal life."

Back at Rockfish, Patton said she was in shock.

"I couldn't feel my legs, and I think I passed out," Patton said. "An elderly man helped me into the restaurant where the police came to question me."

Stephen LaPlante, a Tech graduate student studying physical therapy, has been dating Patton for a year and a half. LaPlante and Patton said they are not angry.

"I am just upset," LaPlante said. "I have

HOLDUP continued on Page 5

DESIGNING Woman



DAVID JOHNSON/The Daily Toreador

MELISSA HALL, A sophomore fashion apparel design major from Mesquite, creates a basic clothing design for a class assignment Wednesday afternoon.

A FIRMLY ROOTED TRADITION

Agriculture and Natural Resources Week endeavors to cultivate public understanding

By DANIELLE NOVY
STAFF WRITER

If cotton really is the fabric of our lives, then the agricultural realm of influence is woven into many aspects of people's daily routines.

The 15th-annual Agriculture and Natural Resources Awareness Week, which commenced Monday, is intended to raise public awareness on the extent of the role that agriculture plays in everyday lives.

A string of campuswide events aimed at shedding light on agriculture's effects and options are available to the this week.

The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources has displays stationed in the Croslin Room of the Texas Tech Library, the Student Union Building and outside of the Plant and Soil Science Building.

Leslie Thompson, associate professor of animal and food science, said the various exhibits provide information about the relevance of agriculture and the opportunities it can provide.

"I think one of the things we're trying to focus on as far as awareness is changing people's view of agriculture," Thompson said.

The range of agricultural products used routinely is more extensive than most people realize, she said.

"A lot of the research we do has an impact on human medicine," Thompson said.

Even cotton is used for more than just clothing, she said.

"Cotton is used to manufacture a lot of other things," she said. "An example is money, which is made from cotton."

Angie Burkes, coordinator of student programs at the College of Ag-

ricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, said the events of the week would be interesting and informative for participating students.

"They'll understand where all of their food, clothing and most of their

AG WEEK continued on Page 5



STEVE LEWIS/The Daily Toreador

ONE OF SEVERAL displays on campus illustrating the benefits of agriculture.

DeLay declined chance to plead guilty, keep job

By LARRY MARGASAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Texas prosecutor offered Rep. Tom DeLay a deal to plead guilty to a misdemeanor and save his job as majority leader, but DeLay chose to fight felony charges instead, the congressman's attorney said Monday.

Dick DeGuerin, DeLay's lawyer, described the offer in a letter to the prosecutor as he filed motions in Austin to dismiss felony indictments and — barring dismissal of the case — to seek a speedy trial.

Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle had no immediate comment.

DeLay, R-Texas, has been indicted on conspiracy and money laundering charges in a Texas campaign finance investigation, both felonies. He was obligated to step aside — at least temporarily — under House Republican rules.

"Before the first indictment you tried to coerce a guilty plea from Tom DeLay for a misdemeanor, stating the

DELAY continued on Page 5

\$245 million in 9/11 loans in default

By FRANK BASS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Roughly \$1 of every \$5 in loans the Small Business Administration directly made to companies hurt by the Sept. 11 attacks has fallen into default, leaving the government with an uphill effort to recover millions of dollars in taxpayer money.

The agency is just now learning about the magnitude of businesses that went under or stopped making payments. Its Sept. 11 direct disaster loan program often gave recipients two years before their first payments were due, according to documents reviewed by The Associated Press.

The SBA directly lent \$1.2 billion to more than 10,000 companies that made specific arguments about how their businesses were hurt by the suicide hijackings in 2001.

Of that amount, \$245 million is in default, the records show. The SBA investigators consider a loan in default if it has been charged off or liquidated or is more than 60 days delinquent.

SBA officials say they have written off less than \$10 million of the default total and will make strong efforts to recover much of the rest of

9/11 LOANS continued on Page 5

SGA's Hanson revamps Tech on-campus recycling initiative

By **ANDREW WOOD**
STAFF WRITER

With the initiative of a few campus organizations, Tech looks to recycle an old program thrown in the university's trash two years ago.

The Recycling Committee, led by John Hanson, Student Government Association graduate vice president, met earlier this month to discuss ways to revive the recycling program that was eliminated because of the state's budget cuts in 2003.

"One big focus that we are going to have is education, because if people mix different recyclables together, you cannot recycle any of those," Hanson said. "It reduces the workload if people know how (to recycle)."

The Recycling Committee has gained support from Tech administrators, Hanson said. Max Hinojosa, vice president for operations, is one administrator who supports the recycling program.

"We are at a point now, where we have students who are really active in recycling, and they want to use it," Hinojosa said.

Hanson and Hinojosa said the university is looking around the campus to find a proper location to have recycling bins.

Though recycling is beneficial, Hinojosa said it still is expensive.

"The thing that made it real tough (to bring back to Tech) is

that it's an economic decision," Hinojosa said. "As we recycle, it's just as important to buy recyclable products."

The *Daily Toreador*, was one of the examples Hinojosa mentioned while speaking about the failure to use recyclable resources. He said the newspaper is not printed on recyclable paper.

Hanson said the Recycling Committee's next step is finding support from the faculty and staff senates.

"There are different recycling plans all over campus, and we want to make it more of a united effort," he said.

Hanson served as keynote speaker at the SGA student senate meeting last Thursday where he addressed recycling.

Grassroots, an environmentally friendly and aware organization on campus, is another campus organization active in the recycling initiative.

Clint Peters, Grassroots vice president-elect, said the organization also has been active in the recycling campaign.

"(Recycling is) good for the planet, and it is also good to save oil during a time of crisis," said Peters, a senior natural history major from Lubbock. "In a world where pollution is out of control, were already short on resources."

Peters said Tech is the only Big 12 school without a recycling program; however, students still are

interested. Grassroots also is looking for a prominent person to speak to the students about recycling.

"We're interested in finding a voice for our initiative," Peters said, as he mentioned Bob Knight, men's basketball head coach, as one of the possible spokesmen.

The Residence Halls Association is another organization in pursuit of on-campus recycling.

Rosa Phifer, the association's external vice president, said the organization wants to bring more recycling to the residence halls.

She said she hopes the organizations will combine their manpower with the resources.

"If the program does go through, I hope the Tech community pulls together and uses it," Phifer said.

Ryan Worley, SGA external vice president, said he hopes the recycling program continues after Hanson leaves.

"Right now, it's just a pilot program. We got to make sure it's successful in the future," Worley said. "From my personal opinion, it's something that had a long time coming. It's something that a community of 28,000 (students) can adopt."

Other organizations actively involved in the recycling effort include Beta Beta Beta Biological Honors Society, the Honors College and the Tech Law School.

"I think it's something a lot of people are wanting to see," Hanson said. "I'm excited that it's going to be coming back."

2005 SGA, Homecoming elections similar, except for number of voters

Nearly 1,000 more students vote in online SGA presidential election, than by scantron for king and queen

By **ANDREW WOOD**
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech students selected Homecoming officials to responsibly serve the student body. Well, for just one day. Some Tech elections have a longer lasting impact.

Though Homecoming and Student Government Association general elections are under the same election code, the rules for the two elections differ.

The SGA general elections are limited to students on the main Tech campus, while Homecoming elections are open to students at the Health Sciences Center.

Instead of going online to vote for Homecoming king and queen, students must go to the Student Union Building and fill in the bubble on a scantron form to vote.

The Homecoming election rules were changed in 2004 to keep students for cheating with the elections, said John Hanson, SGA graduate vice president. Though the Homecoming elections are online, Hanson said this does not mean there will be no other problems associated with the Homecoming election.

"It's not online voting, which helps prevent cheating, but it also makes it increasingly difficult for some people to vote," Hanson said. "There is nothing we can do, because that is how the election code is written."

Ethan Logan, unit associate director at the Center for Campus Life, also serves as election commissioner. While Homecoming elections were held online, Logan said students who did not vote would give information about their eRaider account, in order to have more than one vote.

"I don't think it's a question of security," Logan said. "It's just that people were allegedly asking for (other students') account."

The Homecoming elections have presented problems from being open to both the university and the HSC.

Landon Westfall, president of the HSC student government, said one HSC student ran for Homecoming queen and was at a disadvantage because she does not attend the main campus.

"We couldn't campaign here with her name," Westfall said. "All we could do is promote Homecoming events."

He said the HSC SGA would try to bring another voting center to the HSC.

"We should have our own election table over here," he said. "A majority (of HSC students) aren't familiar with the Tech campus."

While comparing the Homecoming elections to general SGA elections, Logan said he did not believe one was better than the other.

"I'm not going to say that one is better than the other, but both of them are unique," Logan said.

While people had to show up in person to vote on the Homecoming candidates, Hanson said SGA general elections are conducted online at the SGA's Web site, www.sga.ttu.edu, and are available for 36 hours.

"People can be online and (the SGA general election) is more available," Hanson said.

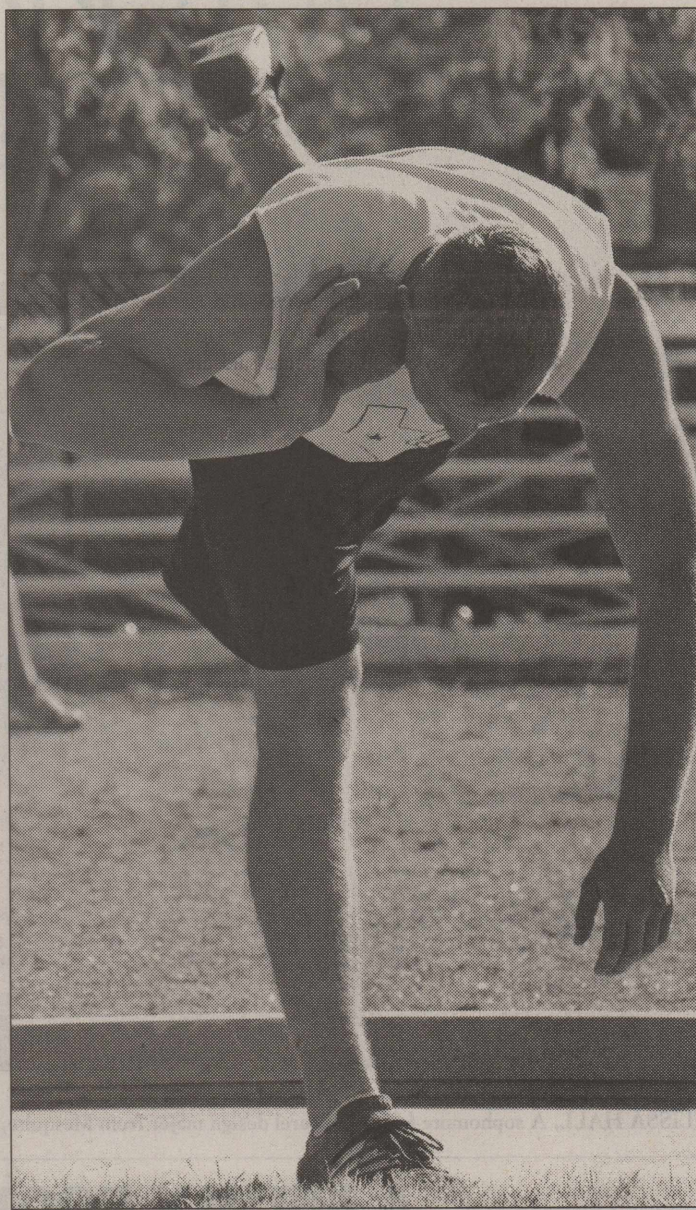
While people have more time to vote for SGA officials, Hanson said the SGA general elections are more complex than Homecoming elections.

"The SGA elections are more involved, they have a longer process to them, and there are more rules and restrictions involving the campaigning because there is a different purpose for the elections," Hanson said. "There are obviously different rules."

The top five king and queen candidates were introduced at the Homecoming pep rally.

The Spring 2005 SGA general elections had a turnout of 2,902 students, while 1,356 students voted on their Homecoming queen and 1,334 voted for Homecoming king, Logan said.

GIVE IT A SHOT



STEVE LEWIS/The Daily Toreador

Chad Andrews, A junior exercise and sports science major from Richardson, practices the shot put at R.P. Fuller Stadium Monday afternoon.

Police continue to investigate stabbed Lubbock woman case

Lubbock police continue to look for answers in the stabbing death of Sharon Lynn Beard. Beard died at University Medical Center after being brought in by her husband from stab wounds to her head, neck and back, Thursday afternoon.

Lubbock police said they have arrested Beard's husband, Jonathan Beard, but on separate charges.

Investigators are examining the car in which Beard was transported to UMC for possible evidence, but are still trying to establish the location of the crime.

Detectives are investigating Jonathan Beard's involvement in his wife's death because he had taken her to the hospital where she died just minutes later.

Medical examiners conducting Beard's autopsy have not released information, but Lubbock police officers said she had deep wounds on her head, neck and back.

Lubbock police said Jonathan Beard claimed his wife had been stabbed somewhere around a portable restroom in the Canyon Lakes area.

The *Daily Toreador* will continue to update this case as information becomes available.

To report information concerning this crime, call the Crime Line at 806-741-1000.

THE DAILY TOREADOR

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Breaking News

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Tech Notes

Tech Notes is a service provided to Texas Tech students by the Student Government Association and The Daily Toreador. To have your student organization event listed, please call 742-3631 or e-mail Dailytoreador@ttu.edu.

Corrections

Call: (806) 742-3393

Policy: The *Daily Toreador* strives for accuracy and fairness in the reporting of news. If a report is wrong or misleading, a request for a correction or a clarification may be made.

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Wind engineering team returns from Rita's path

By CARLOS BERGFELD
STAFF WRITER

With the holidays quickly approaching, memories of this year's hurricane season may be fading from many Americans' thoughts.

The imminent threat of another hurricane may have passed this year, but the risk of future storms calls for increased diligence in preventive measures.

On a commission from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, researchers from Texas Tech's Wind Science and Engineering Research Center traveled to Texas and Louisiana coastal cities last week to analyze the damages from Hurricane Rita.

Researchers from Tech and elsewhere will use the data collected to help improve the resilience of man-made structures and prevent wind damages from leading to further catastrophes.

"I think Rita probably caused the most significant disruption to

electricity transmissions in this country ever," said Chris Letchford, a professor of civil engineering who led the Tech research team.

Stationed in Galveston, the team traveled to Port Arthur, Beaumont, Orange and Lake Charles, La., to gather data.

Four Tech graduate students and eight institute researchers accompanied Letchford, and the team broke up into three area-specific groups at the sites to better analyze the damage.

"Most modern engineered buildings performed very well structurally, but a lot of water found its way into buildings," Letchford said. "Basically, it's wet, moist, hot, and there's no air conditioning."

The bulk of the damage in all the cities occurred in older buildings, which may show the positive effects of more recent construction techniques.

"Basically, what we saw reinforced the newer codes that we have for this type of building," said Brad Coffman,

a student in the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program at Tech.

Coffman was on one of the two teams assigned to look at damages to major buildings, and he said many of the larger buildings had cheap roofing materials that offered little resistance to Rita's winds.

"It just looked like they were peeled off," he said.

A native of New Orleans, Letchford said he did not get to travel with the team that analyzed Hurricane Katrina's damage, though complications and severe flooding prevented researchers from getting into the city.

"I wanted to go on the Katrina trip just to see home, not that it would have looked anything like home anymore," he said.

Other teams analyzed damage to residential structures and "lifelines"

the power, water, sewage and gas related structures in the cities.

Much of the damage to residential structures did not come directly from the winds of the hurricane, but from the trees uprooted by the storm, researchers found.

"The trees fell down onto the houses and crushed the houses," said Hua He, a graduate student studying civil engineering from Wuhan, China, whose team analyzed Rita's residential damage. "It was a serious problem because it happened several times."

Being the fourth hurricane He has analyzed, Rita had much more damage from trees than Katrina, Ivan or Charlie, he said.

He will be able to use the data collected from both Rita and Katrina for his work with hurricane prediction models.

"I want to use damage survey data

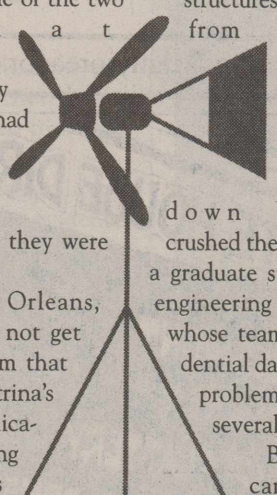
to validate my computer model so it can produce results that are close to the real data," he said.

He said the pattern of damages to older structures might not be a sign of improvement in building codes, but simply a matter of aged, weakened building materials.

All the evacuees have still not returned to some of the cities, as power issues plague several areas in the coastal towns.

"The city is totally washed out," said Apoorv Dabral, a civil engineering graduate student from Dehradun, India, who looked at damage to lifeline structures on the trip.

The Wind Science Engineering and Research Center initially formed after the Lubbock tornado in 1970 to improve the wind-resistance of buildings on the South Plains, but has since been involved in researching and improving construction techniques nationwide.



Supreme Court declines to block abortion for Missouri inmate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court cleared the way Monday for a Missouri prison inmate to terminate her pregnancy.

Although the high court made no sweeping rendering on the constitutionality of the Roe v. Wade ruling ensuring a woman's constitutional right to an abortion, it effectively enforced a lower court ruling that Missouri Department of Corrections must provide transportation for the woman to have the procedure by refusing to hear an appeal. It was unclear how soon the abortion would be carried out.

Late Friday, Justice Clarence Thomas had granted a temporary stay to the state, which prevented the woman from having an abortion on Saturday. But Monday's high court action was unanimous.

Abortion has been a divisive issue at the Supreme Court and an emotional subject in the confirmation of President Bush's picks for the court.

"I am extremely disappointed in the Supreme Court's decision. The decision is highly offensive to traditional Missouri values and is contrary to state law, which prohibits taxpayer dollars from being spent to facilitate abortions,"

Gov. Matt Blunt said in a statement.

Missouri's law forbids spending tax dollars to facilitate an abortion, but the federal judge took the position that the prison system in Missouri was blocking her from exercising that right. Thomas' stay had temporarily blocked the ruling by U.S. District Judge Dean Whipple.

The state attorney general's office said Monday morning that it just learned of the decision and was informing the Department of Corrections, but had no other comment.

The department said it would follow the court's order that the procedure be allowed but didn't yet know the practical details of when or how that might occur.

"We're a law enforcement agency. If we're compelled by the courts to do something, we're going to follow the law," corrections spokesman John Fougere said.

The woman has not been identified. She is represented by the American Civil Liberties Union, which said in court papers that she is running out of time because she is 16 weeks to 17 weeks pregnant, and Missouri bars abor-

tions after 22 weeks.

"Today, they said no more delay. It confirmed that a woman doesn't give up her right to terminate a pregnancy once she walks in a prison," said Talcott Camp, one of the ACLU lawyers.

She has said she will borrow money for the abortion from friends and family but cannot afford to pay for transportation to a clinic to have it done.

The court fight was over those costs, estimated at \$350 plus fuel for two guards to accompany the woman on the 80-mile trip from her cell in Vandalia to a St. Louis clinic.

Under a policy adopted over the summer, Missouri's prison system does not provide transportation or security for inmates seeking abortions. State officials argued that the policy is reasonable because of the costs and security risks of transporting inmates for procedures the officials said are not medically necessary.

In court papers, the woman said she discovered she was pregnant shortly after being arrested in California in July on a Missouri parole violation. She said she tried to get an abortion in California but was transferred back to Missouri before it could be performed.

The Supreme Court's action came in a brief order and did not address the merits of the case. Justices are hearing arguments later this fall in an abortion case, involving a challenge to a parental notification law.

Today, they said no more delay. It confirmed that a woman doesn't give up her right to terminate a pregnancy once she walks in a prison.

— TALCOTT CAMP
ACLU Lawyer

DISCUSSION WITH DORI



CAITY COLVARD/The Daily Toreador

DEREK STANLEY, A senior communication studies major from Levelland, gets interviewed by KAMC-TV Dori Robau about the Red Raiders 6-0 season, Monday afternoon.

FBI: Rapes up, other violent crimes drop in 2004

WASHINGTON (AP) — Murders across the United States fell for the first time in five years, while rapes increased slightly last year, the FBI reported Monday.

The number of violent crimes fell by 1.2 percent last year. Property crimes dropped 1.1 percent in 2004, compared to 2003.

There were 16,137 murders in the United States in 2004, the last full year for which statistics are available. That was about 350 fewer than in 2003, according to the FBI data. The decrease is the first since 1999, although smaller than what the FBI reported in June. Chicago was largely responsible for the drop, recording 150 fewer murders in 2004 than in 2003.

The number of rapes has increased in three of the past four years, according to the FBI data. Rapes increased by .8 percent to 94,635 rapes, or about 750 more than in 2003.

Rapes are up nearly 5 percent since 2000, while murders have increased by 3.5 percent, FBI data show.

The rates of all violent crimes have dropped over that same period. The crime rate is at a 30-year low, government data have shown.

Despite the historical trend, the FBI included a "crime clock" in its report that shows a violent crime is committed every 23.1 seconds. A murder occurs roughly every half-hour, according to the clock.

'Ghost' lectures mark start of Halloween spirit

Peter Jordan, a well-known parapsychologist, presents Ghosts, Part 1 & 2, 8 p.m. today in the Student Union Ballroom.

The Tech Activities Board and the Center for Campus Life are hosting the event.

Kelly Berger, a sophomore public relations major from San Antonio and a member of the board, helped coordinate the event.

"We thought it'd be a good thing to do in October," she said.

With the onset of Halloween, she said it would be interesting to have a ghost expert to speak about the paranormal.

Jordan has spent 30 years investigating poltergeists and demons. His presentation focuses on the findings of his research.

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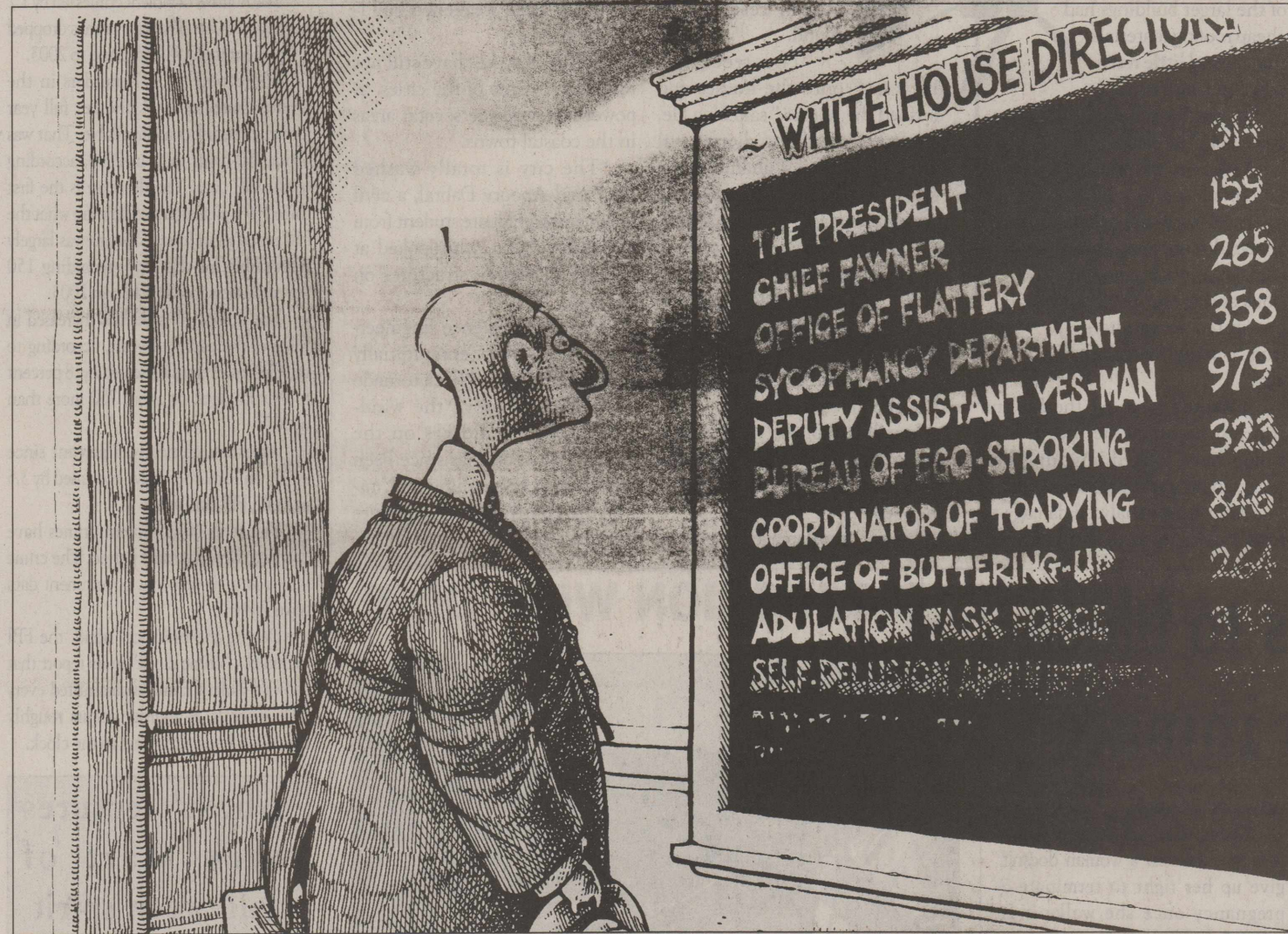
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18 Movie Night!	19 APARTMENT • Ethernet included in bedrooms • Fully furnished apartments • Full-size washer & dryer in units • Cable plus HBO included • All kitchen appliances included • Mirrored closet door in 4/4 units • Side by side refrigerators in 4/4's • Ceiling fans in livingroom and bedroom	20 Dinner Party
25 30" Flat Panel HDTVs in every apartment! (only 4" thin)	26 sleep in!	27 CLUBHOUSE • Two ultra tanning domes • Wireless internet access • Movie theatre • Extensive fitness center • Game room • Espresso bar • Conference/study rooms

Contact information — Opinions Editor: Jeremy Martin

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Miers too inexperienced, unpredictable for nomination

President Bush thought he hit a home run. The timely retirement of a liberal Supreme Court justice had given him an opportunity to reshape the ideological leaning of the court, perhaps for decades. He had found a nominee he liked and trusted — who was vouched for by people the president had confidence in despite possessing a short judicial resume. Bush unveiled his nominee at a major press conference, declaring that the next Supreme Court justice was “committed to interpreting, not making the law.”

Think you know how the story goes?

Leave it to President Bush to never miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity — kind of like Texas Tech’s offense in the first half of the Kansas State game.

The year was 1990. The nominee’s name was David Souter. In his first year on the court, he voted with Justice Antonin Scalia 85 percent of the time. It wouldn’t take long for this to change.

Only two years later, Souter joined Justices Anthony Kennedy and Sandra Day O’Connor in a plurality opinion in the case of *Casey v. Planned Parenthood* that upheld *Roe v. Wade*’s usurpation of abortion policy from the states. And in 2000, Souter joined

the Court in a 5-4 decision in *Cornell University v. Ewing*, a partial-birth abortion case.

It’s a hard thing being a legal and constitutional conservative in the United States. Democratic presidents appoint liberal justices 100 percent of the time; Republican presidents appoint liberal justices just over half the time (only three of the seven Republican appointees prior to John Roberts were conservatives). Admittedly, this is an improvement, but it’s hard to be optimistic when liberals still make up a majority on the court.

In 2000 and 2004, legal conservatives nonetheless sucked it up and campaigned hard for President Bush anyway, hoping that this time we’d elect a president who would get it right. In fact, last year when I was asked by several conservatives why — after protectionist steel tariffs, runaway domestic spending, a Department of Education budget growing at twice the rate as in the Clinton years and a new Medicare entitlement — they should support President Bush I often replied, “The Supreme Court.”

I was pleasantly surprised by the John Roberts nomination. I truly expected the president to pick a squishy judge with a short paper trail and a minority background (possibly Attorney General Al Gonzales). My satisfaction with Roberts makes my disappointment over the nomination of Harriet Miers to replace Sandra Day O’Connor all the more palpable.

Leave it to President Bush to never miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity — kind of like Texas Tech’s offense in the first half of the Kansas State game.

Who is Harriet Miers? No one really

Joe Biles



knows, and that spells trouble. In the words of one of her colleagues at the firm of Locke, Liddell & Sapp, “She is unrevealing to the point that it’s an obsession.” Miers’ judicial philosophy is a mystery, wrapped in a riddle inside an enigma. Her friend Merrie Spaeth, a veteran of the Reagan White House, told *The Wall Street Journal*, “I have never had a political conversation with her.”

Colleagues from the Dallas City Council have commented they were never able to predict how Miers would come down on the next issue. In a series of reverses that would make John Kerry proud, Miers alternatively favored then opposed both reorganizing the council’s single-member districts into an at-large system and the Wright Amendment, which kept planes leaving Love Field from flying out of Texas.

What we do know doesn’t give me much confidence. Miers was one of the key figures in formulating the Bush administration’s position on two legal challenges to affirmative action policies at the University of Michigan in 2003. Miers backed the position Bush ultimately embraced, opposing outright quotas while supporting racial preferences in general. And why shouldn’t she have done so? Miers got herself nominated largely on the strength of her gender.

Miers also represents a selection pro-

cess gone horribly wrong. According to *The Wall Street Journal*, her own deputy suggested her to White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card after her role in the well-received Roberts nomination. When the Beltway political elites (and Laura Bush) decreed that the next nominee had to be a woman, the lobbying for Miers took on a life of its own.

Her own deputy — who had every incentive to see Miers promoted and no desire to reverse his earlier recommendation — handled the vetting. Card settled on Miers early on and is reported to have angrily stifled dissenting views at staff meetings. Vice President Cheney and Attorney General Gonzales argued against her. Laura Bush spoke in her favor. The rest is history.

You would think after the Hurricane Katrina debacle, with the Federal Emergency Management Agency being overseen by a man whose sole qualification for the job was being the college roommate of Bush’s 2000 campaign manager, Bush would have wanted to avoid the perception of cronyism and perhaps appoint someone who was qualified.

Logic evidently works differently inside the Beltway.

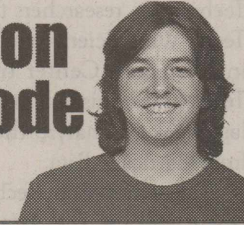
If Miers will not withdraw from consideration, then her nomination should be stopped in the Senate. You can voice your opinion by calling the Senate Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and asking for your senators, John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison. A Supreme Court nomination is simply too important to role the dice on.

■ Biles is a senior history major from Mineral Wells. E-mail him at Joe.G.Biles@ttu.edu.

Rove the smear artist

Bush’s greatest asset may be on his way out

Jason Rhode



It looks bad for Karl Rove, deputy White House chief of staff. He just got finished with his fourth and final grand jury appearance in the Plame case. It took about four and half hours. A fourth time. Not good. If once isn’t enough to convince the jury of innocence, typically the investigated party is given a second chance. A third is suspicious. A quartet of appearances is beyond troubling. Rove has said he will step down if indicted. Special Counsel Patrick Fitzgerald’s work and the grand jury’s probe, expire Oct. 28. Will Rove give up the ghost at the same time?

Rove is charged with leaking the identity of undercover CIA operative Valerie Plame. Her husband is retired ambassador and one-time investigator of Nigerian yellowcake uranium Joseph C. Wilson IV. Wilson discovered the intelligence was bunk. We invaded anyway. Wilson then wrote a condemnatory op-ed that was published in *The New York Times* July 6, 2003. July 14, Bob Novak published a column critiquing Wilson. He mentioned Plame’s status as an agent.

Three days after, *Time* reporter Matthew Cooper also wrote about Plame — saying that July 11, Rove told him Wilson’s wife worked for the CIA. And the race was on.

If you’re debating if Rove did it, don’t. Seriously. This is Karl Rove. The guy who Bush calls “The Boy Genius,” “The Architect” and “Turd Blossom.” He’s Keyser Soze. The man could build the Death Star and may have already.

The Plame leak? He did it. You know it. We know it. You secretly admire him for it. And I assure you, as far as the Architect is concerned, his only crime is that he got caught.

The sole tragedy in this is penny-ante stuff for Rove. Like Capone, he’s going down on a technicality. Great works should end the careers of great artists. Rove, a political genius of the first order, deserves better. Every Rove watcher has a favorite moment. Which do you choose? The “he’s a crazy traitor” smear against John McCain in 2000? The gubernatorial race against Ann Richards where Rove started whispering she was a lesbian? Or perhaps the story he told about another Texas Republican consultant, John Weaver, suits your palate.

He and Rove were both aiming in the ‘80s to be the state’s top conservative operative. Weaver started up his own firm and hired away a star from Rove’s team. So the Architect started telling people that Weaver, during a state Republican get-together, had tried to hit on a young man. Rove won.

My personal favorite took place in 1994, when Rove ran Harold See’s campaign for the Alabama Supreme Court against incumbent Democrat Mark Kennedy. Kennedy, during his time as a judge for the family and juvenile courts, had become an advocate for helping abused children.

A family man himself, Kennedy helped to found the Children’s Trust Fund of Alabama in the ‘80s and the Corporate Foundation for Children a few years later. In 1994, he just finished his term as

president of the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect.

Rove began the rumor that Kennedy was a homosexual pedophile.

After that, the Architect’s place in history was secure.

And the Plame leak? The story of how it happened is well known. Not so thought out is what the possible end of Karl Rove as an effective force in American society would mean for not only Bush, but also the Republican Party.

The Bush era has closed, but this presidency, no matter how gut-shot, is hardly spent as a political force. Losing Rove would cripple it; the Architect is more central to this administration than anyone but the president.

After Clinton, the Democrats became a party with no new ideas. The Republicans absent Rove may suffer the same fate. The GOP is Rove’s party; the recent republican majority is his work — a party centered on a religious platform that, rather than cutting government, seeks to selectively grow it to the advantage of corporate interests.

This required the removal of all libertarian thought from the coalition. The fiscal conservatives also needed to be neutralized. So Rove used the war to push them to the side and split the Democrats. It was Rove’s intuition to connect evangelicals with the new generation of conservative intellectuals, and it paid off marvelously. But it’s not an easy coalition to maintain.

Without Rove, Bush will be hard-pressed to win back the conservatives he has lost by appointing Miers; no one plays the base like Rove. Bush relies on Rove not just to win elections, but to advise on tactics and long-term policies; to anticipate the president’s train of thought; to put out the innumerable small fires; to be his filter whipping boy, his catspaw and president-by-proxy.

Rove is the political lobe of Bush’s mind. You may disagree with me about the lifespan of the Bush era. But I remind you that 2006 is an election year. Rove and Bush’s mission was to secure a sea-change in Washington and lock in GOP congressional majorities for decades. That vision will suffer if Rove is removed.

Bush and Rove. For 25 years, the two have existed in a weird but elegant pairing. Rove was The Brain, Bush was The Man.

If Rove goes, the bloody craft of politics will be diminished, and the world will lose the most perfect duet since Simon and Garfunkel. But history consoles us. In 69 A.D., the Roman emperor and horrific poet Nero stabbed himself in the neck with his pen. Shortly before dying, he croaked out: “What an artist dies with me!”

Rove. What an artist. What an art.

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

VIEW FROM THE BIG 12

Military recruiters use dishonest tactics, pick less-fortunate targets

By RAMSEY TESSDALE
IOWA STATE DAILY (IOWA STATE U.)

(U-WIRE) AMES, Iowa — For just a moment, imagine a fighter jet swooping across the screen. The pilot gives the thumbs up. The voice-over explains to us that this pilot is a person of honor; he is defending his country. While being a hero, he is earning money for college. The music is pumping, and it’s so cool that it makes you want to sign up.

For another moment, imagine the charred shell of a Hummer burning in the streets of Baghdad. Imagine your friend recovering from losing his arm.

Imagine attending your officer’s funeral. Imagine coming back home to the U.S. to be homeless.

Many of the soldiers doing the dirty work for our government are people who were recruited by the massive \$1.9 billion dollar advertising budget the military spends yearly on recruitment. But what many of these recruits don’t know is that they were specifically targeted because of their skin color, or they were in a certain demographic.

To fight a war in Afghanistan and Iraq, our government needs to rebuild the Army.

They were given monetary bonuses for signing you up. When the recruiters fell short of their goals, a new campaign was devised, and the recruiters were released back onto the streets.

Military recruiters have typically gone after minority areas, and a recent report in *The New York Times* while nearly 60 percent of American population and metro areas. General soldiers who have been killed is nearly double that of those coming from densely populated areas, according to data from the Pentagon and the Census Bureau.

When people in rural areas have fewer opportunities, and the economics are against them, as well as the opportunity to join the military seems encouraging.

They are offered scholarships for college, opportunities to travel the world and, more important than anything else, the opportunity to leave.

When the economy is doing poorly and there is a rise of poverty and unemployment, the number of opportunities to build a life, they join the military.

Seems harmless, but when you consider the demographics of the people with fewer opportunities, it’s disproportionately biased against the rural poor and minorities.

When the number of Spanish-speaking people in the U.S. grows, Guard have a Hummer with a speaker system that includes several subwoofers and thousands of watts? It looks pretty cool, right? They use these tools to trick you into thinking differently about war and fighting.

Fancy cars with sound systems and gimmicks recruiters use to lure you into the military, take a moment and consider some of the facts that the recruiter did not tell you.

Did they forget to mention that you are five times more likely to end up living on the streets when you finish? Five hundred thousand veterans are homeless at any one time during the year, which averages out to roughly 33 percent of all homeless people being veterans of the U.S. military.

When they promise you that college money, look at the facts: 65 percent of recruits do not receive any money for college. Only 15 percent of recruits receive four-year degrees.

Of those who do receive a degree, only 12.5 percent of all enlisted officers are people of color.

The next time a military recruiter approaches you, ask him about these facts. Ask him why 50 percent of soldiers on the front line in the first Gulf War were persons of color.

Ask him why so many veterans are homeless.

Don’t fall for military recruiters’ tricks. The facts simply don’t add up. The immoral and unethical recruitment process won’t fool you longer.

The recruiter wants his bonus, and the government wants you to fight their war.

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

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

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

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Bus driver faces charges in explosion that killed 23

DALLAS (AP) — The driver of the bus that caught fire while carrying elderly patients fleeing Hurricane Rita has been charged with criminal negligent homicide in the deaths of 23 passengers, a spokesman for the Dallas County Sheriff's Department said Monday.

The charges against Juan Robles Gutierrez, a 37-year-old Mexican national, were forwarded to District Attorney Bill Hill, Sgt. Don Peritz said. Hill's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Robles was taken into federal custody on an immigration violation five days after the Sept. 23 explosion near Dallas.

Peritz would not give specific examples of illegal actions by Robles, saying details would be released if he is indicted.

"The bus is under his care, custody and control and so is everyone on board," he said. "Safe transportation from the nursing home to the final destination is his responsibility. Based on the end result, he failed in that responsibility."

The bus caught fire about 16

hours after leaving Houston with residents of the Brighton Gardens nursing home who were fleeing approaching Hurricane Rita. Some passengers and the driver escaped but the flames, fed by 18 medical oxygen tanks that also caused explosions, trapped many inside.

There was no comment Monday from the bus company, Global Limo Inc. of Pharr, which was shut down by federal regulators Oct. 7 as a hazard to the public. Its telephone had been disconnected.

Sandra Mendoza, vice consul with the Mexican consulate in McAllen, said Robles was in federal custody in Houston. She said he would receive legal help from consular officials.

Criminal negligent homicide is punishable by up to two years in state jail on each charge and up to a \$10,000 fine, or both.

From the beginning, investigators have focused on the condition of the bus brakes. A motorist told investigators he motioned the driver to pull over shortly after seeing a rear wheel hub that was glowing red.

Authorities said Robles, the

driver, did not mention the encounter with the other driver when they interviewed him after the fire.

Sheriff Lupe Valdez said investigators have found no evidence that Robles helped several people off the bus before it was engulfed in flames, which was widely reported after the explosion.

"After an exhausting number of interviews, we have been unable to confirm any of those claims," Valdez said in a statement.

Peritz said failure to help crash victims was not part of the charges against Robles, and charges against other people were still possible.

The Texas Department of Public Safety has said that the bus' right rear brakes failed because of the loss of bearings, and that the left rear brakes were "not maintained in good working order."

Also Monday, at least the third lawsuit was filed in the case. Two sons of 86-year-old Houstonian Lester Lothman, who was killed in the explosion, filed suit in Harris County district court against the bus company, Brighton Gardens and Robles.

HEADING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION



KELLY MATHERLY/The Daily Toreador

No. 6 JENNIFER Vasquez, scores a goal off of a header at the Tech vs. Missouri game Sunday afternoon.

Holdup

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

never seen her like this in the time that we have been together. Things that seem simple are very hard for her right now."

Patton said she has trouble walking to class or driving.

"It is too hard right now," she said. "It is really hard to be alone."

Patton said her employers at Rockfish and her professors at Tech have been supportive. She said her strongest support has come from LaPlante.

"I am on call for her 24 hours a day," LaPlante said. "Even if it is just to sit next to her and hold her hand."

He said while he feels no personal animosity towards Garcia, he does not want Garcia to be painted as the victim.

"Becki is the victim," he said. "She is an innocent girl who was on her way to work. And now she is changed forever."

DeLay

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

alternative was indictment for a felony which would require his stepping down as majority leader of the United States House of Representatives," DeGuerin wrote Earle.

"He turned you down flat so you had him indicted, in spite of advice from others in your office that Tom DeLay had not committed any crime," the lawyer wrote.

DeLay and two political associates are accused of using corporate money to finance the campaigns of Texas Republican candidates for the state Legislature. Texas law prohibits corporate political donations in state political campaigns.

The charges allege that DeLay, two political associates and a Texas political action committee started by DeLay sent corporate money to the Republican National Committee in Washington — and that the RNC sent the funds back to Texas for the legislative candidates.

The donations helped Republicans win control of the Legislature in the 2002 elections and gain approval of a DeLay-inspired congressional redistricting plan that later helped the GOP retain control of

LaPlante said his girlfriend will be OK.

"She is a strong person who will get through this," he said. "Even the police officers told us that she handled the situation perfectly. It gives me confidence that even at that time she was thinking about doing the right thing."

Patton said she is not sure why this happened.

"But like my dad told me, maybe God had a plan for this to happen to me, because if it was someone else they wouldn't be strong enough to get through this," she said.

Patton said she is thankful to the elderly couple who helped her at the restaurant and especially to the Lubbock police.

"If that police officer hadn't come around the corner at the right time, the situation could have ended the wrong way," she said.

Patton and LaPlante said the important thing is that she is all right.

"She is alive, and that is all that matters to me," LaPlante said.

the U.S. House.

In a series of filings prior to the Texas Republican's arraignment Friday in Austin, DeGuerin asked for:

— A speedy trial, because the indictments "have already had adverse collateral consequences including the temporary loss of Tom DeLay's leadership position in the United States Congress and an unknown effect on the upcoming (March 2006) primary election."

— Dismissal of the indictments because, he contended, they failed to allege any act or omission by DeLay and improperly joined two offenses.

— Separation of DeLay's case from that of two political associates charged as co-conspirators, because DeLay wants a speedy trial while the associates are pursuing appeals that would delay their cases.

DeLay will likely be booked in a Texas county jail this week despite attempts by his attorneys to bypass the fingerprinting and mug shot process.

Steve Brittain, one of DeLay's Austin attorneys, also said the lawmaker has the option of turning himself in to Fort Bend County authorities, the county where DeLay resides.

9/11 loans

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the money by collecting collateral, negotiating settlements with borrowers, or bringing delinquent loans up to date.

The \$245 million "does not represent the actual loss to the government, which, because of settlements and recoveries on collateral, will be less than this amount," SBA spokesman Michael Stamler said.

Among the loans already written off, taxpayers are picking up the tab for a \$992,000 loan made to an Atlanta hotel; \$986,000 to a Florida boat dealer; \$620,000 to a Maine broccoli farm; and \$38,900 to a Lubbock computer store.

"Business just isn't doing as well as it was in the past," said Winnie Mou, owner of Manhattan Travel Inc., located about a mile from the World Trade Center site. Her company began paying back its \$11,600 loan last year.

Rep. Nydia Velazquez, who represents New York City and is the top Democrat on the House Small Business Committee, wants the SBA to extend the period of time before companies are required to make loan payments, hoping to ease the burden.

"A lot of these companies are just beginning to have to pay back their loans," said Velazquez. "What is the government going to tell them when they can't?"

A second SBA-backed Sept. 11

program, which guaranteed loans made by banks to businesses across the country more broadly hurt by the economic downturn, has a much smaller default rate, records show.

Of the \$3.7 billion lent by the Supplemental Terrorist Activity Relief program, only \$191 million has been charged off or liquidated or become 60 days overdue. That's a 5 percent default, compared to 20 percent for the SBA's direct lending program.

Historically, other government disaster lending programs have written off about 5 percent of loans. The largest SBA write-off in the last quarter-century came in the wake of the 1992 Los Angeles riots, when taxpayers absorbed \$122 million of \$356 million in loans, slightly more than a third.

The SBA loan programs received increased scrutiny from Congress and elsewhere after an AP story in September disclosed that some companies with Sept. 11 relief loans from banks under the STAR program weren't harmed by the attacks and didn't even know their money was being drawn from the program.

AP also reported that some businesses far removed from New York and Washington got loans directly from the SBA while businesses closer to the World Trade Center were either turned down or unaware of the aid.

The SBA says that while some loans might have been made in haste, the agency is vigorously prosecuting people who obtained tax dollars or loan guarantees under false pretenses.

In June, a former New York attorney pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud and one count of money laundering after receiving a \$247,000 SBA loan. The attorney claimed his offices at 40 Wall Street were damaged by the Sept. 11 attacks and the firm lost clients as a result.

A joint investigation with the IRS found that the firm's offices had never been located at that address.

Raffle Monday for Lake Alan Henry deer hunting permits

A random drawing for rifle deer hunting permits at Lake Alan Henry, will be held Monday at the Parks and Recreation office, according to a news release from the City of Lubbock.

Interested hunters are encouraged to fill out forms Monday through Friday at the office.

Parties must sign up together, according to the release.

If selected, hunters will be contacted and will need to purchase permits as soon as possible.

For more information, call (806) 775-2602.

88.1 - FM

Tech's only alternative.

Ag Week

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

entertainment comes from," Burkes said.

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Awareness Week events are focused mainly on making people aware of how relevant agriculture is to their lives and what opportunities are available, she said.

In addition to the informative exhibits, Agriculture and Natural Resources Awareness Week is providing an Ag Council chili cook-off at 5 p.m. Thursday at the Equestrian Center and the Gamma Sigma Delta Golf Tournament at 8 a.m. Friday at the Rawls Golf Course.

"Everyone is welcome to have a team," Burkes said of the golfing event.

Burkes said one of the week's biggest highlights would be the Tech Collegiate Rodeo, which is slated to occur at 7 p.m. Thursday to Saturday at the Tech Equestrian Center.

Jared Lay, assistant director of the Career Center, said he believes the chili cook-off would be one of the most entertaining events for students to attend.

"Students can get a better awareness of all of the agricultural activities that go on," he said. "They can see how big the agricultural spectrum is."

Lay said since Lubbock is based on agriculture, it is important for

people in the community to learn more about it.

Meighan Edwards, an honors arts and letters major from Lubbock, said she believes agriculture is vital to many people.

"Agriculture is something I've generally taken for granted," Edwards said. "I typically think of it as not as important as other lifestyles, but really it is necessary. Agriculture is completely underappreciated."

HIGHLIGHTS OF AG WEEK

Several events that will take place as part of Agriculture and Natural Resources Awareness Week include:

- Tues through Thurs.**
 - Research Highlights exhibit from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Croslin Room at the Tech library
 - Landscape Architecture display behind the Plant and Soil Science building from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - Ag in the Bag from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., 5,000 elementary-aged children are expected to come to Tech's Livestock arena to learn about agriculture.

- Thursday**
 - Ag Council chili cook-off 5-6:30 p.m. at the Tech Equestrian Center
 - Tech Collegiate Rodeo starting at 7 p.m. at the Equestrian Center

- Friday**
 - Golf tournament at the Rawls Golf Course from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tee time, 8 a.m.
 - Research Highlights exhibit from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - Collegiate Rodeo

- Saturday**
 - Collegiate Rodeo

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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By Diane C. Baldwin
Columbia, MD
10/18/05

Monday's Puzzle Solved

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Life is Calling. How far will you go?

Wednesday, October 19

General Information sessions
9:00-10:00AM, 10:00-11:00AM,
11:00AM-12:00PM
Foreign Languages Building
Qualia Room #09

Thursday, October 20

General Information Sessions
9:30-11:00AM, 11:00AM-12:30PM
Foreign Languages Building
Qualia Room #09

General Information Session
6:00-8:00 PM
Student Union
Playa Room

www.peacecorps.gov

To attend, reserve a seat by calling 214.253.5471
or e-mail RSVP@peacecorps.gov

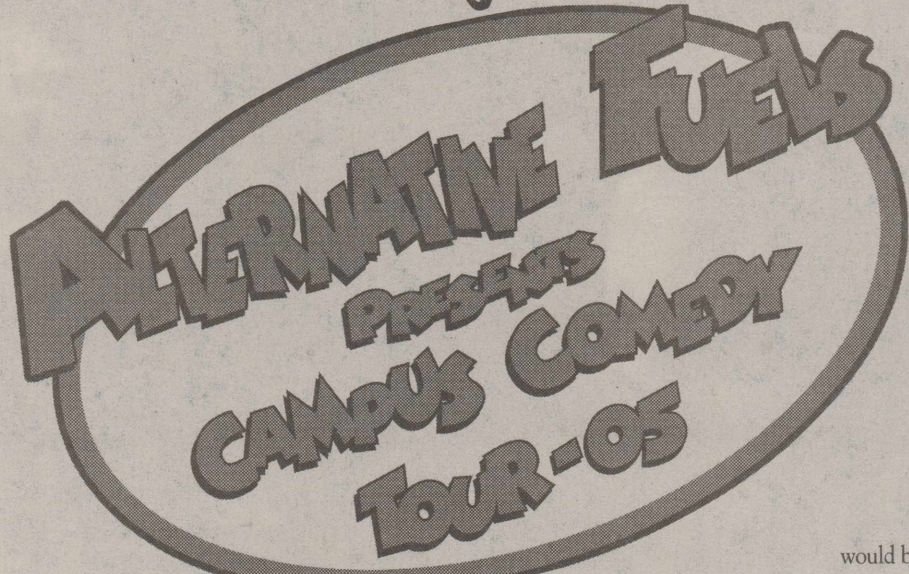
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Contact information — Features Editor: Clara Cobb

life&leisure@dailytoreador.com

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Comedy group to 'fuel' laughing fire on campus



By ANNE GEPFORD
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

This alternative group will go on tour, but it will not be because they are rock stars, musicians or groupies.

The group will not travel to typical tour venues, either.

When Alternative Fuels, Texas Tech's improvisational comedy troupe, goes on tour, it is to the residence halls.

Antonio Hardy, a sophomore advertising major from Grand Prairie, said the crazy name fits with the group itself.

"I think Alternative Fuels goes with the energy we bring to each show," he said.

The group drew the inspiration to go on tour from Vince Vaughn's comedy tour. Hardy said he hopes the group's first official comedy tour draws a new crowd.

"We really want to get exposure this semester, so we figured a comedy tour

TOUR DATES

Hulen/Clement: TODAY

Wall/Gates: Oct. 25

Horn/Knapp: Nov. 1

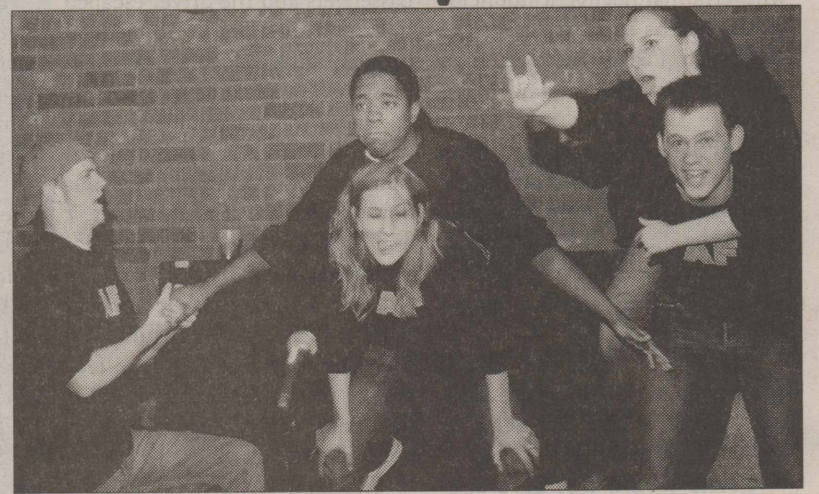
Bledsoe/Gordon/Sneed: Nov. 8

Stangel/Murdough: Nov. 15

Chitwood/Weymouth/Coleman: Nov. 22

Carpenter/Wells/Murray Hall: Nov. 29

Shows begin at 7 p.m. and usually last an hour.
Times and dates are subject to change.



Alternative Fuels members perform in March. FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

would be the best way," Hardy said.

Alan Taylor, a senior psychology major from Rowlett, said audience participation is crucial for the performers as the tour travels through the residence halls.

"You very much have to be an active participant," he said. "It's going to be a lot of fun for the people that actually get to see it. It's perfect if you just want to have fun."

Taylor said while most of what the group does is humorous, some of it can be serious as well, depending on the subjects brought forth by the audience. The improvisational troupe does not consist of only theater majors, and Taylor said being onstage often has changed his confidence level in front of multiple people.

"I'm a lot more confident in my abilities to make stuff up," Taylor said. "It's this freedom that you grow and learn how to use. You don't stress about the small things because you've built this confidence in yourself."

Bill Gelber, a professor of acting and the adviser for the group, said the group started in 2001 with a group of students looking to get more involved with improvisation.

"They were particularly interested in just that type of theater," he said.

Gelber has been the adviser for the group for two years, and said the show always is interesting to watch.

"They're very good actors who want to add to their technique," he said. "They're very good at what they do. They're always working on improving themselves."

Gelber said Alternative Fuels has a double meaning to its name, as the fuel itself can drive the actors to be better as well as come from the audience's suggestions.

"Those suggestions are creative fire for them to put their pieces together," he said. "I would say that what drives us can be funny as well as serious."

Hardy said he would describe group members as "crazily creative."

"Everyone's just so quick on their feet," Hardy said. "That says something about your personality."

While each show is different for all involved, Hardy said the feelings of being on stage still remain the same.

"You get a rush when you're up there," he said. "It's kind of like you leave your life when you're up there, and you come back to it when you're done."

Whether onstage or off, Alternative Fuels can bring a different perspective to an issue, funny or serious, Taylor said.

The group begins its tour at 7 p.m. today at the Hulen/Clement Residence Hall. Shows usually last an hour.

Hardy said the feeling of the stage is an adrenaline rush for all involved.

"When you're onstage, you're just free to do whatever," Hardy said.

Musician Marc Mason Harper loses battle with cancer Sunday

By CLARA COBB
LIFE & LEISURE EDITOR

After a six-month battle with lung cancer, Grammy-award winner and Lubbock live-music legend Marc Mason Harper died Sunday morning.

In his last media interview in late July in a dimly-lit bar, Marc Mason Harper watched as his youngest son, Hunter, helped two young Texas country artists prepare for open microphone night. It was clear Harper was focused completely on his son, and he smiled.

"I like smaller places," Harper said. "It's more intimate. Everyone gets to

know each other."

Harper was about the same age as his son when he first learned how to play guitar from what he called an "old hippie" who lived across the street from Harper's childhood home. When he was 13, he played his first paid show.

Harper had been in the music and entertainment industry for more than three decades and had traveled the world with the Box Tops and the Kentucky Head Hunters. He was working with the Kentucky Head Hunters in 1990 when they won a Grammy Award for Best Country Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocals.

Harper said he toured extensively for 10 years in the U.S. and abroad in Europe.

"Waking up in different place every night, unwrapping a little soap," Harper said. "I hate that more than anything — little soaps in hotels."

When he was touring, he traveled with as many as 30 people and as few as one. He said he preferred traveling alone.

"I'm a lot easier to deal with than 30 other personalities trying to deal with me," he said. "I don't have to take it as serious. I can have more fun by myself."

Harper, a 1978 graduate of New Deal High School, returned to West Texas in 1995, and began to make a mark in the Lubbock Texas music scene, which he was involved in for more than 25 years. Harper's style, according to his Web site www.marc-masonharper.com, was "Y'alternative West Texas Country Rock Music."

"I don't consider myself 'Texas country' because I was doing it along time before the fad started," he said. "That's not putting anybody down."

Locally, he performed regularly

at Kershner's Inside 4-Bar-K, Bash Riprock's, and Texas Café and Bar, also known as "The Spoon."

Friend and fan Lindsay Duhe, a graduate student studying English from Highland Village, said she will miss Harper and his regular performances.

"Marc always came in with a smile," she said. "Even in the end, no matter how bad he felt, he always came a played to make other people happy."

Harper was still singing and smiling the day he died.

"Within the past six or eight years I've been raising my kids so I had to change a lot of stuff," Harper said. "It keeps me home a lot. I live in New Deal — I'm proud of that."

Harper said he did not plan writing a song or have any method for songwriting.

"I pick a subject, and I write about it. I try to stay on that subject best I can," he said. "My life is totally spontaneous musically."

Jason White, coordinator of the Marc Mason Harper Benefit Concert in July, said he enjoyed listening to Harper's songs and listening to him

play live.

"Marc was kind of carefree; he's a free spirit," White said. "He's not afraid of offending someone through his music."

Harper said he was aware his choice of words sometimes might have offended people in the audience.

"I tend to speak my mind without trying to be offensive to anyone. I've ran myself out of a couple places with my mouth," he said. "Rednecks tend to put things funny. If you're taking yourself too serious, you can't have fun. I think being myself is fun, and if other people can have fun with me, that's kick butt."

Harper said he played because he loved sharing his stories from the stage with other people.

"I like the college crowd, the younger crowd. It keeps me from over-maturing. I enjoy doing this, I don't just do it for the money," he said. "Of course, the more attention I get, the more money I make. If it was about the money, I wouldn't be playing at Bash's or any other place in Lubbock all the time. I don't like Nashville; I don't like politics of someone else's version

of success. To me, success is a level of happiness individually."

Having fun and being a single father are the only things Harper took seriously.

"He was so good with children," said friend and fan Andrea Antoniotti, a senior interior design major from Austin. "He was an amazing father."

He is survived by his four children. Holly and Hunter, his two youngest children, will remain with their paternal grandparents.

"My children are my greatest accomplishment in life," Harper said. "I was peaked over the top a couple times, I was looking over the top, and that's nothing compared to my children."

Services for Harper are 2 p.m. Wednesday at White Funeral Home located at 2210 Broadway Ave. Harper requested attendants do not wear black. His last recording was Oct. 16 at The Blue Light. The release of the recordings are pending.

"Don't take things serious to the point you're not having fun," Harper said. "Appreciate the goodness of the small things."

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Crowe's 'Elizabethtown' still worth the visit

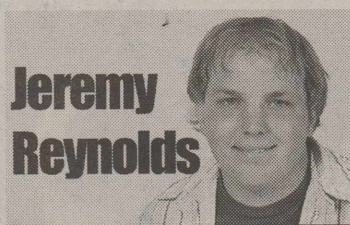
Too many plots, too little time, overzealous romanticism make 'Elizabethtown' too busy, but still a heartfelt flick where big-name actors deliver big-time performances

Cameron Crowe's latest window into his past — "Elizabethtown" — is sort of like that monotone teacher everybody hates to get. You know she is trying to make a point, but she is doing a bad job of delivering the information.

Crowe ("Almost Famous") tries to add too much into a little more than two-hour film. The two plots of a death in the family and a new love, might be too much even for this director to take on.

The film, for the most part, is a perfectly simplistic snapshot of a down-home family and the roots that make the people grow. Once again, Crowe draws from his own experience for the film. Even though he has succeeded in the past with this technique, this time he is stretching far to make his life seem interesting.

The film is full of well-developed characters as all Crowe films are. Each character is uniquely different, which is something most films lack. But, even with



Jeremy Reynolds

FILM REVIEW

★★★ - Good

Movies are rated on a five-star scale.

"(Crowe's) other films . . . show love as a real emotion. 'Elizabethtown' shows love as a craptacular Reese Witherspoon film that should go straight to video.

the great characters, the perfect dialogue and the fine acting, the film never really pulls the trigger and gets going.

Crowe leads the audience down great paths of father-son relationships and the chaos of a passed family member, but then he goes off onto the romance part again and loses whatever he was building up with his other plot. One of his best insights of the film is when Uncle Dale tells his son that you cannot be buddies with your own son. Crowe should have stuck with the family and left the romantic comedy aspect alone.

Romance in a Crowe film is expected, so one cannot be too hard on him for that. But, "Elizabethtown" is the first time he has tried to make a joke out of love. His other films such as "Almost Famous" and "Jerry Maguire" show love as a real emotion. "Elizabethtown" shows love as a craptacular Reese Witherspoon film that should go straight to video.

Another problem the film has

is that it feels too much like his previous ones. He takes a rich and successful man and strips everything away and then lets the chips fall where they may. Crowe needs to find a plot that is exciting for the audience to watch and not repetitive. He is trying to be the Frank Capra ("It's a Wonderful Life") of today when he should realize even though Capra knew how to make a great, simple film, Crowe is still much better with the details of life.

Orlando Bloom finally sheds all his togas, elf ears and pirate attire for a film that is not a period piece. He plays Drew Baylor — a "failure of mythical proportions." He is on the verge of committing suicide in easily the most creative way I've ever heard of, when he gets the call that his father has passed.

On his way home, his path crosses with Claire Colburn played by Kirsten Dunst. Her character moves between being loopy and trying to be a female Yoda with all her little theories. She falls

— and falls hard for Bloom, who in turn is beginning to see her in the same way.

In supporting roles, Susan Sarandon plays Bloom's mother, and Judy Greer ("The Village") plays his sister. Both actresses are strong with Sarandon showing she can still get it done at her age, and Greer showing she should be getting better than supporting roles. The two are not in the film but at the beginning and end. Both actresses steal the show, however, when they do come on screen.

When Bloom arrives in Elizabethtown to take his father back to Oregon for burial, the audience is introduced to a wide range of characters who are the cliché ones that someone would expect to meet in Kentucky. With Crowe's extra touch, he gives them all unique traits, such as the child who runs into rooms and begins screaming for no reason or the cousin who is trying to raise his child differently from how his father raised him, but is still just as lost.

One of the best characters in the film is the music. Crowe is a student of music, and his love for it shows through. The audience sits in the theater while Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers cascades over them, watching Bloom get his first glimpse of Dunst without even knowing it. Crowe's films are ones by which all others are judged when it comes to the soundtrack. Who needs a coherent script when you have Lynryd Skynyrd and Elton John singing in the background?

"Elizabethtown" is not going to be Crowe's masterpiece, but it does offer a few insightful moments and the comedy never really stops. But, the film is still a large mess of plots, subplots and characters. Next time, Crowe should concentrate on either love or death, because the two do not blend well on screen.

■ Reynolds is one of *The DT's* movie critics. E-mail comments and questions to Jeremy.N.Reynolds@ttu.edu.

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Growing pains

Last year's 30-point loss to the 'Horns has Tech heading to Austin confident, not cocky

By JOEY KIRK
EDITOR

Texas Tech broke into the Bowl Championship Series rankings at No. 7 Monday for the first time since the BCS was developed in 1996.

Senior cornerback Khalid Naziruddin doesn't have time to think about it.

The Red Raiders are undefeated at 6-0 with three consecutive Big 12 Conference wins. But Naziruddin isn't letting it get to his head.

Tech leads the nation in passing yards and points scored, averaging 472 yards per game and 54 points each contest.

All of these things could create a massive ego for the Raiders, but Naziruddin said they have something else on their minds — No. 2 Texas.

"The reason we're not big-headed this year is because of last year," he said.

In 2004, Tech was set to face the then-ranked No. 5 Longhorns at Jones SBC Stadium. The Raiders boasted a 4-2 record, and the hype began.

It quickly went away after Tech took a beating by the hands of quarterback Vincent Young and Co., leading the 'Horns to a 51-21 victory on their path to the Rose Bowl.

Giving up 493 yards of total offense to the 'Horns last year, 158 of which came from Young on the ground, fifth-year senior quarterback Cody Hodges said Tech's air attack offense won't have to try to beat Texas on the

scoreboard single-handedly this year — an aspect of the Raiders' team has emerged since the blowout loss.

"The past couple years it's been, 'Texas Tech, we're gonna have to outscore teams,' but we don't have to outscore teams any more," he said. "The past couple of weeks against Kansas and Nebraska, the defense won the game for us."

Naziruddin said Tech finally has realized its mistakes from that game, and in a year's time, he said the Raiders have found a way to correct those going into the showdown.

"We are more mature; we have seniors, juniors," he said.

Just as Tech begins to prepare for Texas, fifth-year senior quarterback Cody Hodges said last year's performance still lingers in the Raiders' thoughts. But he agrees with Naziruddin.

"I just think we're a more mature football team," Hodges said. "We've got a lot of juniors and seniors that were part of last year's team, and then Texas got us back down to earth. As a team, we're more level-headed."

With both teams unbeaten thus far this season, Hodges said he isn't focused on the records, last season or what could happen.

"Since that game last year, it's been about Texas Tech and what we can do to get better," he said.

And if it were a vote, Hodges would have the majority of the team on his side.

"About the UT game last year: I second that," junior receiver Joel Filani said. "We

need to worry about what we're doing instead of focusing on the other team. We need to do what we can do and get better."

Since the 2005 season started, Tech coach Mike Leach said his team has done a good job of keeping the right mindset in the midst of rankings and records.

"We're a better-focused team than we were last year," he said. "The biggest thing we need to worry about is improving this week."

The last time Tech went 6-0 to start the season was in 1998. That year, the Raiders finished the final six games, 1-5. Hodges said he doesn't expect the same results from this year's squad — but criticism always will follow no matter what happens.

"I think we're heading in the right direction; I don't know if we're peaking," he said. "I think as a team we've gotten better each week. If we win, people might be quiet for a day or two, but they're still going to make comments."

Taking BCS rankings, standings and criticism into consideration too heavily, Leach said, will show him that Tech hasn't changed from last year prior to the matchup with the 'Horns.

"If it does anything than we're not as far along as we thought," he said. "We're the same team doing the same things we were doing when we weren't ranked."

After beating Nebraska 70-10 the week before playing Texas in 2004, the Raiders rose into the No. 24 spot of *The Associated Press* poll.



DAVID JOHNSON/The Daily Treador

TEXAS TECH RECEIVER Joel Filani stretches for the goal line in the Raiders 59-20 win over Kansas State Saturday. Filani leads the Big 12 in receiving yards per game with 111.5.

With the hype surrounding last year's game, Leach said he found players focusing too much on that, rather than on the game itself.

"I thought we spent way too much time with people talking about describing what they were gonna do rather than be concerned about the practice and the process," he said. "More concerned with doing interviews than having practice."

With the 2:30 p.m. Saturday kickoff in Austin looming, Naziruddin said Tech is ready for the challenge, especially after what happened last year — but practice is key.

"Last year, we were focused, but we could've been more focused," he said. "Coach Leach is really stressed on beating your opponent on Sunday, on Tuesday, on Wednesday in practice."



DAVID JOHNSON/The Daily Treador

RED RAIDER QUARTERBACK Cody Hodges sets to throw against Kansas State Saturday. Hodges was selected the SBC Big 12 player of the week after throwing for 643 yards and five touchdowns in the Raider's victory.

Hodges keeps Big 12 Player of Week title at Tech

By JOEY KIRK
EDITOR

Cody Hodges now has six games under his belt as a Red Raider.

Texas Tech coach Mike Leach and the Big 12 Conference both believe Saturday's performance against Kansas State at Jones SBC Stadium was his best of the 2005 season, but the fifth-year senior quarterback begs to differ.

"I was just trying to make too much happen, and second, I just held on the ball way too long," he said after the 59-20 victory over the Wildcats.

But completing 44-of-65 passes for 643 yards and five touchdowns said otherwise.

Hodges was given the honor of being the Big 12 Conference Offensive Player of the Week, and Leach said after having the fourth-best game in NCAA history for passing yards, it was much deserved.

"This is the best game he's played since he's been here," he said. "The bigger thing wasn't this play or that play. I think two things."

Leach began to think, and then he spouted off his answers.

"The first is all units working together, and as you improve on the line, you improve as receivers," he said. "Cody's numbers are naturally going to go up."

Hodges threw for 368 yards against Nebraska a week prior to

last Saturday's game, completing 34-of-45 attempts and four touchdowns, including the last-second game-winning toss to junior receiver Joel Filani.

But because of Hodges' performance against the Wildcats Saturday, Leach said he helped to get the entire offense on the same page.

"I thought the whole unit improved, and I thought the receivers had a lot to do with that, because we had four guys with over 100 yards...five if you count Filani's 200," he said.

Four different receivers went past the century mark in receiving yards, with Filani leading the pack with 255 on 10 catches.

Senior running back Taurean Henderson caught 10 passes for 118 yards, junior receiver Jarrett Hicks had 105 on nine receptions and junior receiver Robert Johnson finished with seven catches for 107 yards.

With the numbers put up by Hodges, he couldn't take all of the credit for himself. Instead, Hodges remained humble, congratulating his teammates for a job well done.

"Anytime you have four receivers with over 100 yards, I think that says something about your offense," he said. "If they want to start keying on Joel, then the other guys are going to be open. So for defenses, it presents a lot of challenges."

One challenge Hodges has faced all season is the blitz. Leach said

against K-State, he finally found a way to get around it.

"The biggest thing I thought he did better, like at the end where he threw one of those touchdown passes against the blitz, I thought maybe was one of his best plays of the game," he said.

Hodges may be touted as player of the week for giving Tech the edge on Kansas State, but protecting him and completing the passes are the only things the quarterback is worried about — not records or awards.

"But I think the guys on the O-

line did a great job blocking, and the guys catching the ball, obviously I'm going to get a lot of credit for, but they did a great job," Hodges said.

"I really don't care about records — we won the game. I was amazed that I had that many yards."

As the Raiders prepare to travel to Austin to play Texas at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Hodges once again has another challenge on his hands — will lucky game No. 7 be better?

"I didn't complete every pass, so we have next week to work on that," he said.

BCS rankings kind to Lone Star State

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas coach Mack Brown has two opponents to worry about this week: No. 10 Texas Tech and the new Bowl Championship Series standings.

While the Longhorns sit at No. 2 in the first BCS standings released Monday with an inside track to the Rose Bowl, Texas will be tempted to look down the schedule — its own and others — to see what they'll need to do to avoid getting bumped off down the stretch.

"You worry about it, but you've got to go out every week and play," said guard Kasey Studdard. "If you don't, something might come up and bite you. Whatever happens in the BCS is going to take its course. I can't worry about that. I got to worry about playing Tech."

We control our own destiny."

The easy answer is to win the rest of the games and figure the rest will take care of itself.

But even that hasn't always worked in the complicated world of the BCS.

Just ask Auburn, which got left out of last season's BCS title game despite an undefeated season and Southeastern Conference title.

And don't forget California, the team that got leap-frogged by Texas for the Rose Bowl berth.

The good news for Texas is their strong hold on the No. 2 spot. If the Longhorns (6-0, 3-0 Big 12) can keep a tight grip, an undefeated season should get them to the Rose Bowl on Jan. 4.

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7 AM Jay Jay	Today David Strathairn, Chris Botti	Early Show Fall fashions for men	Believers Voice	Life Today	Good Morning America	Ultimate
8 AM Bears			Paid Program			TBA
9 AM Dragon Tales			Paid Program	Judge Mathis Orthodoxists balls	Tony Danza Denise Richards	Becker
10 AM Sesame Street	Regis & Kelly	Price Is Right	Judge Joe	The View Rod Stewart	To Be Announced	TBA
11 AM Mister Rogers	Jeopardy!	Young and the Restless (HD)	Judge Hatchett	Paid Program		Starting Over
12 PM MotorWeek	News	KLBK 13 News	Jerry Springer	All My Children		Access Hollywd Extra
1 PM Creative Living	Days of Our Lives	Bold & Beautiful	Paid Program	One Life to Live		People's Court
2 PM The Lions	Passions	Guiding Light	General Hospital	Divorce Court		TBA
3 PM Buster	Oprah Winfrey	Maury	Just Shoot Me	Montel Williams		Fear Factor "Couples"
4 PM Clifford	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy	That '70s Show	Insider		Fox 34 News First @ Four
5 PM Maya Miguel	News	KLBK 13 News	Access Hollywd	News	Malcolm	
6 PM Nightly Business	Nightly News	Evening News	Family Feud	World News	Simpsons	
7 PM Nova "Nova scienceNow" (HD)	Biggest Loser	NCIS "Switch" (HD)	America's Next Top Model	Jim (HD)	Baseball Playoffs A LCS Game 6 Angels at White Sox (if nec.) Alt. Prog.: Bones; House; 9 News	
8 PM Frontline "The Torture Question"	Name Earl (HD) Office (HD)	Amazing Race Family	Sex, Love & Secrets "Molting"	Commander in Chief (HD)		
9 PM Independent Lens	Law & Order: SVU "Strain" (HD)	Close to Home (HD)	Wife and Kids	Boston Legal (HD)		
10 PM Nightly Business	(35) Jay Leno (HD)	(35) David Letterman (HD)	King of the Hill	(35) Nightline	Seinfeld	
11 PM Charlie Rose	(35) Conan O'Brien (HD)	(35) Late Late Show	Fear Factor "Couples"	(35) ET	Frasier	
12 AM Destinies	(35) GED	(35) Last Call	Blind Date	(35) Jimmy Kimmel	Cheers	Just Shoot Me

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