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### WEATHER FORECAST



TODAY  
SUNNY  
HIGH 63 / LOW 29

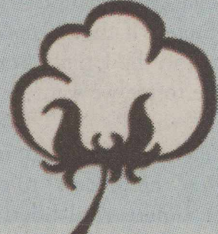


TUESDAY  
CLOUDY  
HIGH 57 / LOW 31

There's a new No. 1 in men's college basketball.  
**PAGE 7.**



### ON PAGE 6



Farm and Ranch Classic opens today.

### STATE

#### Big Bend National Park breaks visitor record

BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK (AP) — Big Bend National Park attracted more than 400,000 visitors for the first time last year, breaking a nearly 30-year-old attendance record.

The park had 400,947 visitors in 2005, breaking the previous mark of 378,000 visitors in 1976.

Park officials attributed the increase to media exposure and the Internet. People from afar can get a better idea of the park's recreational, natural and cultural opportunities, according to a park news release.

The land that is now part of Big Bend National Park was largely purchased by Texas in the early 1940s, and it was established on June 12, 1944. Since then, annual visitor numbers have topped 300,000 numerous times.

### NATION

#### W. Va. passes new mine safety rules

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — After 14 coal mining deaths in three weeks, the West Virginia Senate unanimously passed legislation Monday that would require mines to use electronic devices to track trapped miners and stockpile oxygen to keep them alive until help arrives.

The state House was expected to take up the measure later in the afternoon at the urging of Gov. Joe Manchin, who pressed lawmakers to pass the legislation by the end of the day.

"We can't afford to wait any longer," Manchin said after two miners were found dead over the weekend in a mine fire in Melville. Three weeks ago, 12 miners died after an explosion at the Sago Mine.

The Senate passed the bill without debate, 32-0, with two absences.

"These 14 miners have not died in vain," Manchin said.

If the bill clears both houses, coal companies would have to comply by the end of February.

The governor's legislation would require improved communications and the electronic tracking of coal miners underground, as well as faster emergency response and the storage of additional air supplies underground.

If the 14 miners who died in two accidents since Jan. 2 had been wearing a tracking device, "we could have concentrated all our efforts, all our resources on that one location," Manchin said.

### WORLD

#### Serbia-Montenegro train crash kills 39

BIOCE, Serbia-Montenegro (AP) — A packed passenger train derailed Monday and plunged into a steep river canyon outside the Montenegrin capital, killing at least 39 people, the government said.

More than 135 people were injured in the late-afternoon crash, among the deadliest European train accidents of the past quarter-century.

The train, which carried dozens of children returning home from a ski vacation, derailed near Bioce, a village about nine miles northeast of Podgorica as it emerged from a tunnel above the Moraca River, police said. Interior Minister Jusuf Kalomperovic said initial reports indicated the train's brakes may have failed.

Victims cried for help from the ravine, where four train cars lay smashed. Darkness in the densely forested area was hampering rescue efforts.

### INSIDE

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## Bush calls surveillance legal, needed

By JENNIFER LOVEN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — President Bush pushed back Monday at critics of his once-secret domestic spying effort, saying it should be termed a "terrorist surveillance program" and contending it has the backing of legal experts, key lawmakers and the Supreme Court.

Several members of Congress from both parties have questioned whether the warrantless snooping is legal. That is because it bypasses a special federal court that, by law, must authorize eavesdropping on Americans

and because the president provided limited notification to only a few lawmakers.

"It's amazing that people say to me, 'Well, he's just breaking the law.' If I wanted to break the law, why was I briefing Congress?" asked Bush. One of those who had been informed, Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., was sitting behind Bush during his appearance at Kansas State University.

Bush's remarks were part of an aggressive administration campaign to defend the four-year-old program as a crucial and legal terror-fighting tool. The White House is trying to sell its side of the story before the Senate

Judiciary Committee opens hearings on it in two weeks.

Back in Washington, Gen. Michael Hayden, the former National Security Agency director who is now the government's No. 2 intelligence official, contended the surveillance was narrowly targeted. He acknowledged that the program established a lower legal standard to eavesdrop on terror-related communications than a surveillance law implemented in 1978.

Under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, government officials had to prove to a secretive intelligence court that there was "probable cause" to believe that a person was

connected to terrorism. Bush's program allows senior NSA officials to approve surveillance when there was "reason to believe" the call may involve al-Qaida and its affiliates.

Hayden maintained that the work was within the law. "The constitutional standard is reasonable. ... I am convinced that we are lawful because what it is we are doing is reasonable," he said at the National Press Club.

Hayden also rejected suggestions that the NSA rank-and-file had problems with the electronic monitoring, saying that the

SURVEILLANCE continued on Page 2



### U.S. feeling vibrations of 'cell phone culture'

By JEREMY REYNOLDS  
FEATURES WRITER

Throughout the subways and transit systems spread around the world, a silent hush has invaded. Spontaneous beeping and polyphonic ring tones now characterize what was once a talkative hotspot.

The phrase "cell phone culture" came from China where many businessmen conduct all their meetings face-to-face and therefore cannot always rely on answering machines at the office to answer their calls, according to www.corante.com. These men then use the phone-based text messaging to keep them in constant contact with employees and clients.

Nowadays, the subways in China are silent, said Carrie Jerrell, a graduate student who teaches introduction to creative writing in the English department. This is because students commuting to school are able to carry on entire conversations with cell phone text messaging.

Cell phones, and cell phone culture, began in the 1980s as a way of taking work on the road. Since then the cell phone revolution has changed the way people interact, conduct business and view others in social standing.

The cell phone culture has started

CELL PHONES continued on Page 6



MAIN PHOTO by LINC ARMES, INSET by COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toreador

INSET: MEGAN GRUBB, left, a sophomore art major from Austin, and Emily Sultan, a freshman English major from League City, talk on their cell phones on their way to class Wednesday morning.

## Ford cuts likely will not affect Lubbock dealers

By ANDREW WOOD  
STAFF WRITER

Super Bowl XL is approaching, and thousands of people are traveling to Detroit. Others will be heading out of town, and there is a good chance they will not be driving a Ford.

Ford Motor Co. announced Monday that the North American division will eliminate 25,000 to 30,000 jobs, trying to make up for last year's \$1.6 billion loss. The company also plans to cut 14 facilities.

According to Yahoo! News, Chairman and Chief Executive Bill Ford said the restructuring effort would benefit the company in the long run.

FORD continued on Page 5

## Suspects sought after unrelated area burglaries

By PAUL ROBERTS  
STAFF WRITER

Two burglaries were reported in Lubbock during the last week, occurring on consecutive nights. Lubbock police received a call at 4:45 p.m. Thursday about a burglary at 5717 Second St., police officials said.

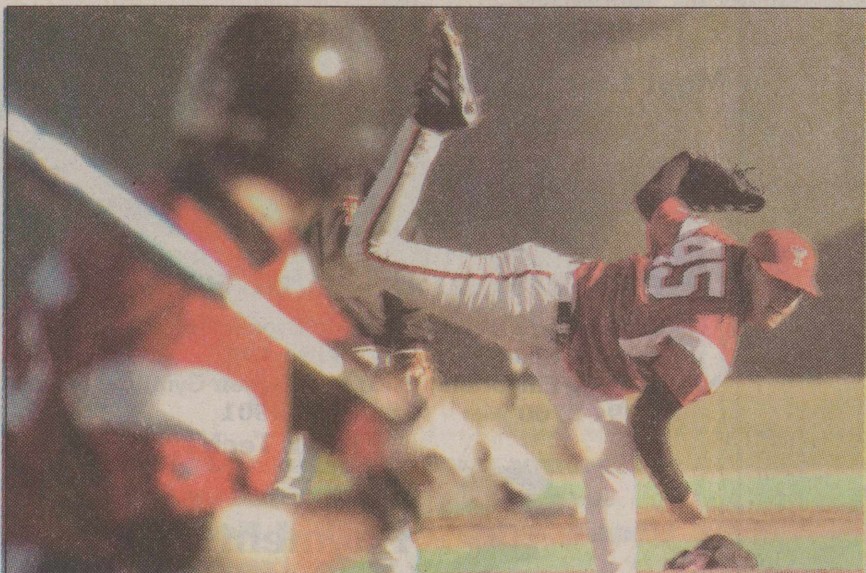
Lubbock Police Lt. Roy Basset said the homeowner came home to find an unknown vehicle in her garage.

Two suspects were in the vehicle. "She pulled her car behind the unknown vehicle to block it in," Basset said. "The two suspects immediately exited their vehicle, forced her out of her car, then moved it and fled the scene."

He said the burglars were hiding in the garage to load stolen property into their

BURGLARIES continued on Page 2

## RECHARGING THE BATTERY



STEVE LEWIS/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH FRESHMAN pitcher A.J. Ramos, No. 45, gets some practice Friday afternoon at Dan Law Field. The Red Raiders open their schedule at home with a three-game series against the University of Louisiana at Monroe Indians beginning Feb. 3.

## Diet, exercise and Nintendo?

Research suggests gaming may be good for you

By CARLOS BERGFELD  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Some experts would like to add a new item to the list of healthy lifestyle practices: copious amounts of video game playing.

Recent publications by university professors and journalists suggest video games may result in positive effects for the player, contrary to the usual implication that playing video games can lead to deleterious social consequences.

"Video games, to me, if they're played right and in a good context, are empowering in that they put you in control," said James Gee, a professor of learning sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Author of "Why Video Games are Good for Your Soul," Gee has devoted his research to the positive effects of video games, especially as a

tool for learning. "The day will come when rather than doing biology in a book, you'll enter a world and do biology in that game," he said.

Gee was one of several researchers highlighted in a July 2005 Discover article by Steven Johnson, entitled "Your Brain on Video Games," showcasing research pointing to the advantageous effects of gaming.

Unique features of the video game medium can translate games into powerful exercises in mental dexterity.

Most games have some sort of built-in training for the player as a way to get them acquainted with the software.

In addition, video games gradually increase in difficulty and complexity, challeng-

VIDEO GAMES continued on Page 8

# THE DAILY TOREADOR

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### Breaking News

Phone: (806) 742-3393, Fax: (806) 742-2434

E-mail: [dailytoreador@ttu.edu](mailto:dailytoreador@ttu.edu)

### 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](mailto: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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## In Brief

### Debate team takes No. 5 ranking nationally

There may not be much room for rebuttal when talking about the Texas Tech Speech and Debate team's recent success.

During the fall semester, one of Tech's speech and debate teams found itself tied for a No. 5 national ranking.

Four of Tech's five debate squads are ranked in the Top 100. The teams' combined success pushed Tech up to the No. 5 ranking.

Tech's speech and debate squad has taken their communication talents around the country, competing at speech tournaments in California, Colorado, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Wyoming and Texas.

### Rape Crisis Center looking for volunteers

The Lubbock Rape Crisis Center is accepting volunteers to help sexual-assault victims and their families.

To be a part of their spring volunteer program, training begins Thursday.

Interested people who are 18 or older can participate in their program. For more information, call the crisis center at (806) 763-3232 or (806) 763-7273.

### Highland Lakes campus moves

One of Tech's Hill Country locations, TTU at Highland Lakes in Marble Falls, moved to a new location; however, it still is located near Marble Falls.

The new building has a computer lab, five classrooms and offices for faculty and staff.

Although the location has changed, the telephone number has not.

People still can dial (830) 798-9548 or (806) 742-6450 and the

number will be free of charge.

The campus is located in Gateway Park, off of Highway 281.

For more information, call Renea Latham at (806) 742-6450 or (830) 798-9548.

### Masked Rider tryouts

Students hoping to become the next Masked Rider now have their chance.

People wanting to be the one to carry on with the tradition need to pick up an application at the Center for Campus Life, located at the second floor of the Student Union Building.

Preliminary applications for the role of the 2006-07 Masked Rider are due 5 p.m. Feb. 28. If anyone has questions, they can call (806) 742-5433 or visit the center's Web site, [www.campuslife.ttu.edu](http://www.campuslife.ttu.edu).

### Tech Tennis hosts First Serve event

The Tech tennis teams will be hosting a First Serve Season Kickoff at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Jones SBC Stadium. The event will provide the public with an opportunity to meet the No. 23 ranked men's team, and No. 61 ranked women's team before their seasons begin in early February. For more information, contact Kendall Brooks at (806) 742-2770.

### LPD needs dispatchers to ensure quality

The Lubbock Police Department is issuing a "dire call" for dispatchers in the LPD Communication Center. Roy Bassett, public information officer for the department said it does not matter how many officers are on the street if the center is not fully staffed. He called the dispatchers "the unsung heroes of the department" and said the lack of staff in the department is "a pressing problem for the Lubbock Police De-

partment." For more information on applying, look at the job listings on the LPD Web site, or call the non-emergency number (806) 775-2816.

### Man with Lubbock warrants shot in Florida

Keith Jester, a man with two aggravated robbery warrants in Lubbock was shot and killed by officers from the Davie Florida Police Department Saturday. His identity was not immediately released, but the department confirmed to the Lubbock Police Department it is the man with ties to Lubbock robberies. Warrants were issued for Jester after police recovered fingerprint evidence from the scene. The Daily Toreador will provide more information as it becomes available.

### Tech offers lifelong learning program

It's never too late to start. That's the message the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Tech is giving out. It is offering new classes for people who are at least 50 years old. Some of the classes for the spring semester include dinner and drama, acting basics, religions of the worlds and current affairs. Classes start Feb. 3. For more information, call (806) 742-7200 ext. 270.

### Mortar Board looking for Top 50 seniors

Mortar Board, a national senior honor society representing the best and the brightest seniors across the United States, is now accepting applications. Mortar Board at Texas Tech is made up of the top 50 seniors on campus who represent the ideals of scholarship, leadership and service. Those interested in joining should apply at <http://www.orgs.ttu.edu/mortarboard/>. Applications are due by 11 p.m. Feb. 8. Contact Brittany Buckmaster at (512) 876-8343 for more information.

## Surveillance

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

agency's independent watchdog told him Friday that "not a single employee" had registered a concern with that office about the program.

Democrats countered that many important questions remain.

"We can be strong and operate under the rule of law," said Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. "These are not mutually exclusive principles — they are the principles upon which our nation was founded."

In his remarks, Bush said that allowing the NSA to monitor the international phone calls and e-mails of Americans with suspected ties to terrorists can hardly be considered "domestic spying."

"It's what I would call a terrorist surveillance program," Bush said at Kansas State. "If they're making a phone call in the United States, it seems like to me we want to know why."

He said he "had all kinds of lawyers review the process" to ensure it didn't violate civil liberties or the law.

And he insisted that a recent Supreme Court decision backs his contention that he had the authority to order the program through a resolution Congress passed after the 2001 terrorist attacks that lets him use force in the anti-terror fight.

"I'm not a lawyer, but I can tell you what it means: It means Congress gave me the authority to use necessary force to protect the American people, but it didn't prescribe the tactics," Bush said.

Bush and Hayden sought to paint the program as vital to national security. "Had this program been in effect prior to 9/11, it is my professional judgment that we would have detected some of the al-Qaida operatives in the United States," Hayden said.

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## Sorority Spring Recruitment

### Information Session

Tuesday, January 24th  
6pm

**Escondido Theater Student Union**

and/or attend

**Game Night at the sorority lodges**

Thursday, January 26th  
6pm

Meet at the Union in front of Barnes and Noble

For More Information call 742-LIFE or visit [www.gogreek.ttu.edu](http://www.gogreek.ttu.edu)

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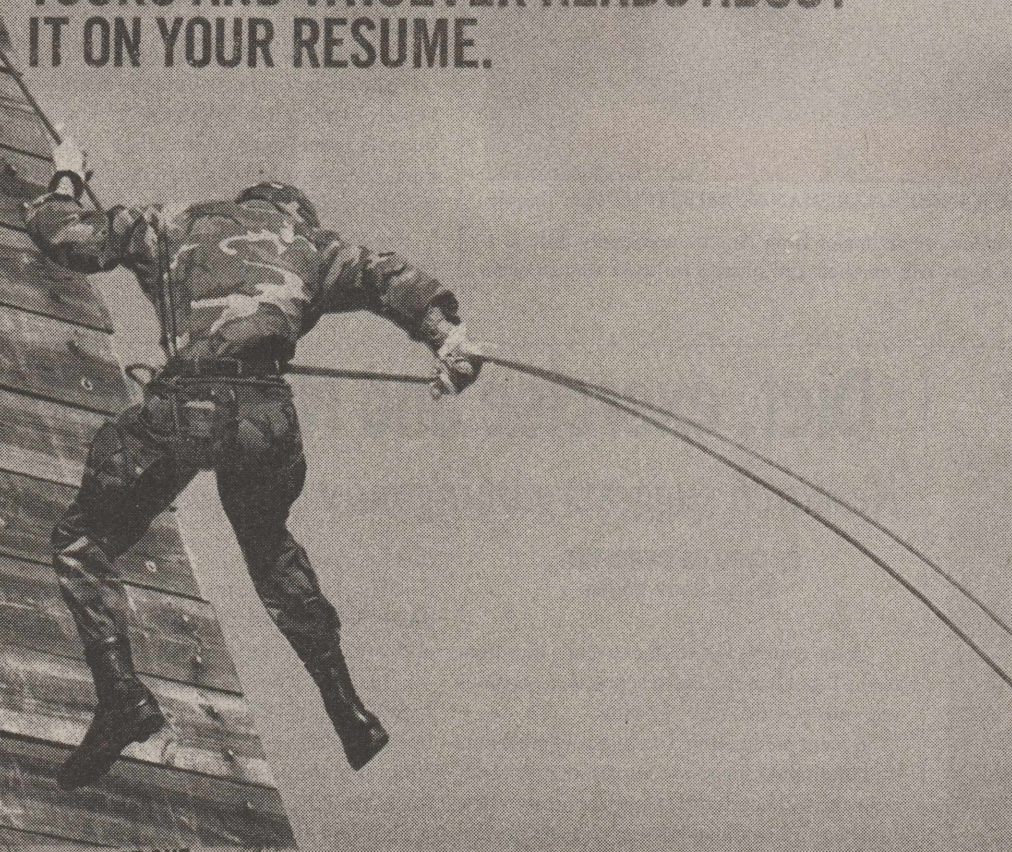
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## Burglaries

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vehicle without being seen.

A number of items were stolen from the women's house, including computer and stereo equipment.

Basset said the burglars used forcible entry and broke the back door to gain access into the home.

Police still are looking for the two suspects. One is a white male weighing about 190 pounds. The other is a bald black male, about 6 feet tall weighing 220-225 pounds, Basset said.

The other robbery occurred at 4902 59th St. Friday evening.

Lubbock Police Sgt. John Gomez said two homeowners were inside their home when a Hispanic male entered.

He said the suspect, who is still at large, was armed with a gun and demanded cash from the two victims.

According to the Texas Tech Police Department Web site, there are a number of things one should remember when face-to-face with someone with intentions of robbery.

The tips include: remaining calm and not try to be a hero, and doing everything the suspect demands, but not volunteering more than what is asked.

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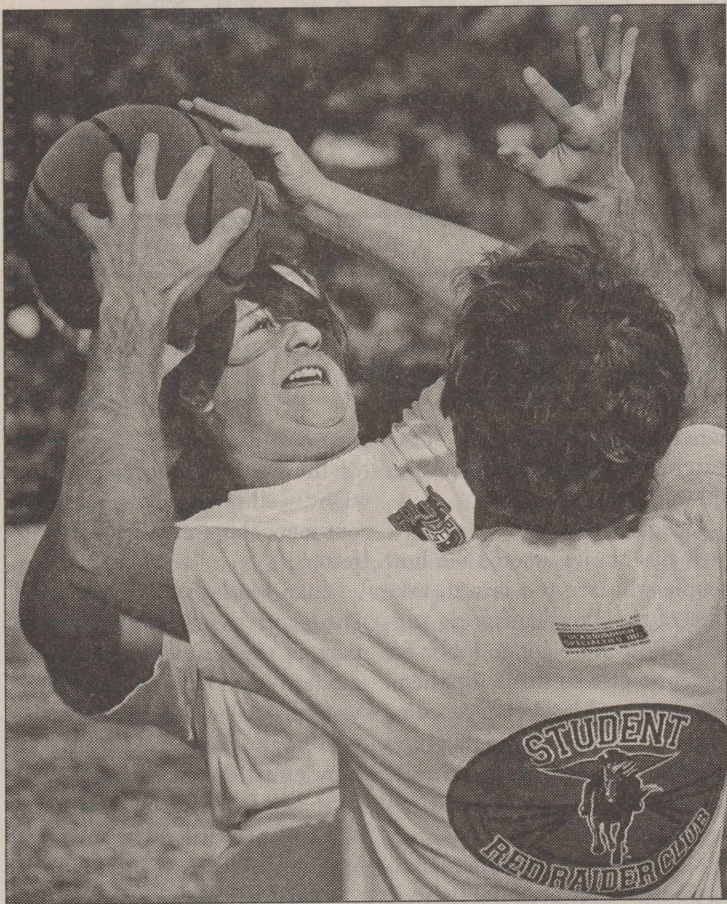
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SHOT OF LOVE



DAVID JOHNSON/The Daily Toreador

KATIE KLINGELE, A freshman petroleum land management major from Argyle, takes a shot while playing basketball against her boyfriend, Josh Gates, a chemical engineering major from Argyle, on the court between Hulen/Clement and Wall/Gates residence halls Monday afternoon.

As National Volunteer Blood Donor month comes to an end, blood donations still needed

By KATIE KINNEY  
STAFF WRITER

January is National Volunteer Blood Donor month, according to the American Association of Blood Banks. During the month of January, the association hopes to raise awareness about the blood shortage that our nation faces and what Americans can do to help.

According to the Web site, January is a hard month for donations. The holidays, bad weather and illness keep people from making donations to blood banks.

The association estimates that there are 8 million volunteers each year who give blood, to help with the average demand of 38,000 units of blood each day.

Although the average age of someone who donates blood is much older than the average college student, blood banks rely on students to make donations.

"We really depend on Texas Tech a lot," said Rhonda Teal, who is in charge of blood drives that are hosted on campus. "Stu-

dents here are at a uniform place, and we can make it convenient for students to donate."

There already have been two blood drives on campus this month: one hosted at Wall/Gates Residence Complex and one hosted at Murray Residence Hall.

There will be one more blood drive this month, hosted by Hulen/Clements Residence Hall.

Vicky Dean, who works at Hulen/Clements and will be helping with the blood drive, said she is very excited to have the residence hall be a part of the drive.

"I am the biggest fan of giving blood. I am glad that we have the opportunity to be hosting the blood drive," she said. "I have been talking to the community advisers in our hall about telling our residents about the drive and how they can help out and get involved."

Dean also believes that giving blood will help students in the long run.

"Giving blood helps students develop the skills to give service to others and build up a relationship

with blood banks to give blood more often," she said.

But for Dean, this is not just about the students.

"When you have a personal connection to giving blood, you want to help out as much as you can," she said. "My friend actually had a blood disease, and I started to give blood more regularly. I was in an organization that helped donate bone marrow to my friend and to others in need."

Dean said the average amount of blood that is donated in a drive is between eight and 24 units. The blood bank received 12 units from Murray Hall 14 units from the Wall/Gates Complex. There are about 700 residents in Hulen/Clements and Dean hopes for a good showing.

She said students can make an appointment for the Hulen/Clement drive at [www.bloodhero.com](http://www.bloodhero.com).

Teal said there are some requirements before giving blood, including being at least 17 years old, weighing at least 110 pounds and being in good medical condition.

Dean also has some suggestions before showing up to give blood.

The blood drive hosted by Hulen/Clements is scheduled for Jan. 30 from 3 to 6:30 p.m.

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DONATION QUICK FACTS

- Donors average age: 38
- Females who donate: 47 percent
- Males who donate: 53 percent
- Repeat donors: 79.3 percent
- Who has what blood type:

AB+	1 in 29 people
AB-	1 in 167 people
A+	1 in 3 people
A-	1 in 16 people
B+	1 in 12 people
B-	1 in 67 people
O+	1 in 3 people
O-	1 in 15 people

Blood Type	Blood types can receive
AB+	AB+/-, A+/-, O+/-
AB-	A-, B-, O-, AB-
A+	O+/-, A+/-
A-	O-, A-
B+	O+/-, B+/-
B-	O-, B-
O+	O+/-
O-	O-

Source: [www.bloodbook.com](http://www.bloodbook.com)

Community speaks out about kidnapped journalist

As national officials and organizations ask for Jill Carroll's safe return, Tech students and professors agree it's a day in the life of a journalist

By MATT EARLE  
STAFF WRITER

Jill Carroll, a freelance writer covering the Iraq war, was kidnapped nearly two weeks ago.

Her captors, a group calling themselves Revenge Brigade, are demanding the release of eight Iraqi women who have been detained by the United States military without charge, according to *The Associated Press*.

Carroll is one of many journalists to have been kidnapped or killed covering the Iraq war.

Nationally, there has been a public outcry for Carroll's release since she was abducted Jan. 7.

Carroll's family has made several direct pleas via televised statements for her release.

Carroll's father has made several direct pleas personally saying that Carroll's purpose was to shed light on the injustices and sufferings of the Iraqi people.

Carroll chose to use an everyday vehicle for transportation instead of a military escort. She dressed in typical Muslim fashion believing it would better help her to fit in and make herself less of a target for abduction.

This raises debate about whether journalists should put themselves in such danger for a story.

Randy Reddick, director of journalism for Texas Tech, believes journalists should cover these dangerous stories.

"I think there is a need to cover these events," he said. "The United States has a long and famous history of respected journalists covering stories."

Journalists often need to become embedded participants within the crises they cover.

Reddick said this does not necessarily make or break a story, but it does help.

Given the existing circumstances, if journalists were not embedded, he said he believes a portion of a story would be lost.

Muslim leaders also have called for Carroll's release. A Washington-based American-Islamic group flew

to the Jordanian capital in Amman on Thursday and scheduled a news conference, according to *The AP*.

The group said it hopes to reach Arab audiences and persuade the captors to release Carroll.

Three leaders of prominent Sunni Muslim groups in Iraq also have called for her release. The group condemns the abduction of foreign journalists who are trying to convey the truth about Iraq.

Iraq has become the most dangerous country for a member of the media staff to report in.

The British Broadcast Company Web site, [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk), reports that since March 2003, 76 reporters and members of the media have been killed. That is more than the 66 reporters killed during the 1955-1977 conflict in Vietnam.

Rusty Lilley, sophomore public relations major from The Woodlands, said he agrees journalists do risk their safety.

"It's their choice," he said. "If they didn't, then coverage wouldn't be as good, and I want to know what's going on."

Randy Sanders, the editorial spokesman for the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*, said being in the line of fire is part of the job and said Carroll will unlikely be the last journalist to be kidnapped while in Iraq.

"It's hard for journalists to report when they aren't on the ground," he said. "It's a dangerous profession. Those who want to cover a story put themselves in danger."

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## Leftist loudmouths

Liberal comments from students and celebrities reveal ignorance, hatred

Harry Belafonte is at it again. He continues on his never-ending quest to get quoted in the media so we are all reminded of his stupidity. After a meeting with Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez two weeks ago, Belafonte called President Bush "the greatest terrorist in the world." Then Saturday he compared the Homeland Security Department to the Nazi Gestapo. He said, "We've come to this dark time in which the new Gestapo of Homeland Security lurks here." I am starting to wonder if Mr. Belafonte is not only stupid but completely off his rocker.

But then again I am reminded of the many times I have been called a Nazi by those who are of the liberal political ideology. I have been told that the "Democrats should complain loudly and not act like 'good Germans' and goosetep to a fascist like majority." I remember one response to an article of mine, which was written anonymously of course, where a person said my article could have been written by Adolph Hitler himself, and that I was a John Wayne type who should be dressed up like Rambo and dropped into the Sunni Triangle guns blazing because I would most assuredly clean up the place in no time.

While I find it a compliment to be called a John Wayne type and comical to be called Rambo, being called Hitler is no laughing matter. Why do liberals insist on comparing Republicans to Nazis? The Republican Party was the party of Abraham Lincoln that freed the slaves.

Lincoln, the first Republican president, signed the Emancipation Proclamation and the Republican controlled Congress passed the 13th Amendment, which outlawed slavery.

Republicans proposed the 14th Amendment, which became part of the Constitution in 1868, which states: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

That doesn't sound to me like something Hitler would propose.

The first American to win the Nobel Peace Prize was a Republican, President Teddy

### Travis Lovelady

Roosevelt. Roosevelt appointed Oscar Strauss to be in his cabinet as secretary of commerce and labor. This is significant because Oscar Strauss was Jewish. Unless I do not know my world history, that hardly sounds like something a Nazi, especially Adolph Hitler, would stand for.

The Republican Party was the first party to support women's suffrage. Republican Sen. A. A. Sargent introduced the proposal in the Senate that gave women the right to vote. The proposal was defeated four times in the Democratic-controlled Senate. When the Republican Party regained control of Congress, the Equal Suffrage Amendment finally passed.

When the amendment was submitted to the states, 26 of the 36 states that ratified it had Republican-controlled legislatures. There were nine states that voted against ratification and Democrats controlled eight. Twelve states, all with Republican-controlled legislatures, had given women full suffrage before the federal amendment was ratified. In fact, the first woman in Congress was a Republican.

The first blacks in Congress were elected in 1869. Yes, they were Republicans. The Democrats did not have a black Congressman until 1935. Would these things and many other great things Republicans have done to better the American way of life have happened under the leadership of Adolph Hitler and the Nazi Party? I don't think so.

Perhaps liberals should come up with real solutions to problems instead of just whining all the time about how horrible of a job the Republicans are doing.

I know not all liberals are as stupid as Harry Belafonte, but as long as the liberal news media allows people like him to get away with saying these kind of things, the radical part of the Democratic party continue to be seen as the representatives of the ideas of the majority of the party.

For the sake of the Democratic Party and the sake of our country, I hope people like Harry Belafonte, Michael Moore and others in Hollywood don't speak what most Democrats believe.

■ Lovelady is a law student from Palco, Kan. E-mail him at Travis.L.Lovelady@ttu.edu.

## White House invades online privacy

And so it is that the curtain is pulled back once more. The Justice Department has subpoenaed Google. When you search for something online, data is retained, like the peel of an orange with the juice sucked dry. Washington wants your search records.

Again this government and its lovers wipe their feet on our liberties. Again an absurd and freedom-hating doctrine, quasi-religious in nature, seeks to overturn law. Enlightened conservatism, which believed in states' rights, limited government and preservation of our Constitutional inheritance, is the latest victim to fall to the power of this offensive doctrine.

Google was one of four companies who had the honor of being pressed into service by the pit bosses in Washington along with AOL, Microsoft and Yahoo! Last year, "Justice" knocked on the door loudly and said they wanted the most meager of scraps — "one million random Web addresses from Google's databases as well as records of all searches entered on Google during any one-week period," to quote Reuters.

The latter three, in the words of Queen Victoria, laid back and thought of the Empire. They gave their best to the Master.

But Google said no. And so His Honor Alberto Gonzales, attorney general, is flustered. And rightfully so. He wants what is not his. Because what you and I and millions of Americans search for online is none of his damn business.

Why is His Honor so interested in your search log? Because he cares truly about your sex life.

### Jason Rhode

Passionately. Deeply.

There has been a battle for a good eight years about a bad law, the Child Online Protection Act. They always give the most maudlin names to the most abusive statutes. Why not name it "House United Resolution to Protect Widows and Orphans from the Internet," while you're at it?

So a laughable attempt to abridge the Constitution has led to this latest breach in the fundamental walls, a rotten law backed by rotten men. Americans spent \$2.5 billion in 2005 on online adult entertainment, which is more than we spend on elections and chewing gum combined, but about a tenth of what we spend on beer.

So what? "We are trying to gather up information in order to help the enforcement of a federal law to ensure the protection, quite frankly, of our nation's children against pornography," said the distinguished lawyer in chief.

Quite frankly, Al, that's not your job. It's the job of parents. Hey moms, dads! It's your responsibility, not the Congressman's. Raise your kid; don't have the taxpayer do it for you. I realize the decision is difficult.

You could open your eyes and buy NetNanny or pass a piece of legislation that abuses technology, breaches consumer trust, batters around liberty like an old

punching bag, makes spies out of watchmen and accomplices out of business.

Tough choice. It has always amazed me how people who are too lazy to take care of their own offspring suddenly find the vigor to lobby for someone else to do it for them. Where does this adrenaline come from? Is there a hidden gland secreted inside the terminally stupid that medical science has yet to discover?

We have seen this administration's regard for personal rights. I wonder if this axe will find a knot that can resist it for very long. Such base passion to rule over others! Such deep and potent longing for a Great Eye to watch us day and night! Such reverence and praise for a puritanical dogma that drives its followers to tell their neighbors how to live their lives, and should the neighbors refuse, to compel them by penalty. Terrible in history. Common today.

Where will it stop? Next time the Fed will want a little more. Just a little more. Let this pass and you invite every search and request of information that follows. The slaves of the Roman world had cruel brands pressed into their flesh to mark who they belonged to. We have the credit card and the Internet cookie. You can burn off your fingerprints, but hot indeed would be the fire that could singe away your Social Security number.

In earlier ages a chain of iron portions sufficed to bind men. Our peculiar age fashions its chains from ones and zeros. A curious shackle indeed, but all the more effective, insidious. Safe from

rust and the natural corruptions of the earth, these bindings are tight, well forged. How exquisite our manacles are. What splendid fetters!

Like Marley's ghost, we can't shrug off these links. They're part of the convenience of our modern age. We don't feel their weight until we realize someone else might have the other end, how effortlessly they might tug us to and fro. This information is so easy to abuse, and we are all so very vulnerable.

You'd be careful to pass a law against rocking chairs in a world where everyone had long tails.

Thus, in a country where we are followed throughout our entire life by a trail of digital breadcrumbs, how much more important is it to ensure that nobody, no CEO, telemarketer or identity pirate, has the access to make a meal of our travels.

And certainly no government. Except that "no government" turns out to be this government, where there is no principle, only lust for more executive power. Monarchy's a growth enterprise. You can hear the creaking and groaning of wheels and cogs in everything they do. They're nonchalant about their dark works. Time was when the subversion of liberty drove like men into shadowy corners while they spun their webs. Now! There's no embarrassment in being a handmaiden to tyranny. Its helpers slither forth from under every rock. Shame? Search me.

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



### VIEW FROM THE BIG 12

## Aging work force could damage Japanese economy

Low birth rate and lack of immigration leave Japan open to financial crisis

By ALEX PEAK  
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN  
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(U-WIRE) MANHATTAN, Kan. — Recent studies have predicted that Japan, over the next several decades, will continually lose its momentum as a capital mogul.

Japan faces this likely plummet for a number of reasons. One predominant predicament is that the country does not have enough young people to back its escalating population of elderly.

This situation of running low on young people (aka workers) isn't uncommon.

Europe, as well as many other regions, face similar problems. However, the setback is dynamic in the case of Japan because the country has had such economic triumph for

the past several decades.

Because some people think the Japanese mindset is very oriented on work, education and, ultimately, success, many citizens often find little time to raise families and have lives outside of work. The pressure to flourish economically seems to be more important than reproduction of a civilization.

This assumption can be made into reality with evidence showing that more people actually died in Japan last year than were born.

Japan touts its title as a country with one of the oldest life expectancies, but that trophy won't raise too many eyebrows when there's no one around to care for the elderly.

How far can a nation of senior citizens who aren't interested in allowing many immigrants into their country really run in the race to win

the world over?

According to ABC reports, Japan currently accounts for about seven percent of world population growth, while America makes up about 35 percent. It is predicted by economists that the workforce in Japan will shrink by about one percent for the next 20 to 30 years. In the United States, it has been predicted that the population could reach as much as 450 million by mid-century.

Countries like China, India and America allow immigrants to enter country borders and, in due course, labor pools.

We live in a nation where our people feel confident enough to have children and families. Because of this, we have developed a renewable source of talent and expanding youth.

By the time we reach a

population of 450 million, we will have 150 million more people paying taxes, working and adding to social security funds. We will have a progressive culture and our economy will be booming.

Many countries have the possibility of suffering in the future from a lack of young people and immigrants filtering into their work forces to boost economies. It was said by Peter Hewitt, on a NOVA program, that the United States will be the island of tranquility in a turbulent demographic sea.

By welcoming in lots of young people and immigrants into our workforce, we are, in turn, obtaining innovative, creative minds.

Here's to hoping that our generation and the ones to follow are excited to take the corporate bull by the horns.

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# Tech in richest one-third of higher-education institutions

Tech not to the \$1 billion mark for endowments, but officials say it's only a matter of time

By DANIELLE NOVY  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech may not be among the 56 North American colleges with endowments surpassing the \$1 billion mark, but it easily slides into the richest one-third of higher-education institutions.

A recent roundup of financial records from more than 746 higher colleges and universities added nine schools to the billionaire's club, including Southern Methodist University, Baylor College of Medicine and University of Nebraska.

The market value of Tech's endowment assets for the 2005 fiscal year amounted to \$462 million, placing it directly above Florida State University Foundation, according to a report released by the National Association of College and University Business Officers.

The overall investment pool for Tech recognized an annual return of 19.2 percent, which means Tech is growing by leaps and bounds.

Bess Haley, associate vice chancellor and dean emeritus for Tech, said each endowment is set up as a fund then invested; the endowment's earnings later are used according to the donor's wishes.

"An endowment is a gift that will be here in perpetuity," she said. "Tech is doing a great job of investing the endowments."

Haley said the investments would continue to grow through the long-term investment policy that Tech employs.

She said Tech's endowment assets cannot be compared to schools such as Harvard or Yale because they have been in existence for far longer than the home of the Red Raiders.

"It is very hard to compare Tech with these schools because they are so much older and have been working on this so much longer," Haley said.

With no close competitors, Harvard remained the richest academic institution, with endowment assets valuing more than \$25 billion, followed by Yale with just more than \$15 billion. The University of Texas, which weighed in at about \$11 billion, was ranked the richest school in Texas and fourth richest nationwide.

The earnings from endowment investments are a primary funding sources for both private and public col-

leges, according to the university association's Web site, www.nacubo.org.

The 33rd annual survey has shifted attention to how individual universities are spending their money.

Paul Blake, associate director in the Tech Office of Student Financial Aid, said some of the endowment money goes toward a variety of student scholarships which can come with strict rules as to how the money must be distributed.

"The donor can set up specific guidelines for the account," he said. "The money is then distributed based on those guidelines."

Blake said such funds come from a variety of sources, including private donations or corporations.

Yongsheng Wang, a visiting assistant professor in the department of economics, said in addition to considering the amount of money donated to a particular university, it is also important to consider the structure of the money and where it is supposed to be allocated.

"Generally speaking, the more money the better," Wang said. "Of course, sometimes it has restrictions; we have to look in detail at the restrictions."

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## TOP 10 COLLEGE ENDOWMENTS

Top 10 colleges with the largest endowments. The University of California's general endowment pool supports multiple campuses; campuses may have additional endowments.

1. Harvard, \$25.47 billion
2. Yale, \$15.22 billion
3. Stanford, \$12.21 billion
4. University of Texas System, \$11.61 billion
5. Princeton, \$11.21 billion
6. Massachusetts Institute of Technology \$6.71 billion
7. University of California, \$5.22 billion
8. Columbia, \$5.19 billion
9. Texas A&M System and Foundations, \$4.96 billion
10. University of Michigan \$4.93 billion

Source: National Association of College and University Business Officers.

## Lubbock police discover two bodies in East Lubbock home

Lubbock police discovered two bodies in the 600 block of 28th Street Monday afternoon.

It was reported in the news media that the two bodies were those of an elderly couple.

According to reports, the Lubbock Police Department was called to

make a welfare check of the couple.

When they arrived, it was reported that there were no signs of forced entry into the home, and the cause of death is unclear.

The case is being handled as suspicious, and is ongoing.

These mark the fourth sets of

remains found in the Lubbock area this semester.

It was reported that the bodies had been in the house for quite some time.

The Daily Treador will provide more information as it becomes available.

## Ford

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We will be making painful sacrifices to protect Ford's heritage and secure our future," he said. "Going forward, we will be able to deliver more innovative products, better returns for our shareholders and stability in the communities where we operate."

Some local dealers said the job cuts would not greatly affect their dealerships. Although they sell Ford automobiles, some said they are independent from Ford Motor Co.

Ryan Kauffman, service manager at Pollard Friendly Ford in Lubbock, said Ford's move would have "no direct impact" on the dealership.

He said the layoffs would have a greater effect in other places, such as Atlanta, Ga., and Kansas City, Mo., where production plants are located.

Although Pollard is independent from Ford Motor Co., they still meet with national representatives every month, he said.

"We still got a job to do. We try not to let the layoffs have an effect," said Joe Jacquez, sales manager at Ed Moseley Ford Lincoln Mercury in Brownfield. "I think it will affect us in some way, I just don't know how."

Jacquez said Ford's dilemma resulted from poor management.

"Ford Motor Co. pretty much did that to themselves," he said.

Employee Pricing, which gives customers the same automobile discounts as employees, and Simple Plan Pricing, which sells vehicles at a set price, were two of Ford's mistakes he mentioned.

"It's more of a lack of vision and leadership for the very top," he said.

Kauffman agreed that the restructuring was overdue.

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"Ford has needed a corporate restructuring for years," he said. "They just needed a little more leadership, direction and future."

Scott George, general manager of Gene Messer Auto Group in Lubbock, said his Ford dealership is independent from Ford Motor Co. and is not affected by what happens in Detroit. George said he only knows about the company's actions from what he reads in the news.

"We read what y'all read," he said. "As long as they keep delivering cars, we'll be fine."

The layoffs are part of a restructuring plan called "The Way Forward" that began in December. A "Red, White and Bold" marketing strategy came as part of the plan, as was the 30,000 job cuts. Seven of the 14 facilities that will close are parts factories, while the other seven are vehicle assembly plants.

The North American division has more than 122,000 employees, and the layoffs affect 20 percent to 25 percent of the company's employees.

Ford still is the No. 2 automaker in the nation, behind their rival General Motors, who makes Chevrolet and GMC vehicles.

"As long as (Ford will) keep bringing us vehicles, we should be all right," Jacquez said.

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## Photos discredit Bush's Abramoff meeting claims

WASHINGTON (AP) — Although President Bush says he doesn't recall meeting convicted lobbyist Jack Abramoff, the two have reportedly turned up in photos together.

Both Washingtonian and Time magazines have reported the existence of about a half-dozen photos showing the two together.

Time reported on its Web site Sunday that its staff members have seen at least six photos featuring Bush and Abramoff, who has pleaded guilty to federal charges stemming from his lobbying practices and has pledged to cooperate with investigators. They appeared to have been taken at White House functions, according to the reports.

The White House has acknowledged that Abramoff attended some events at the Executive Mansion, and spokeswoman Dana Perino said Sunday it's not surprising that the two would have met.

"The president has taken tens upon thousands of pictures at such events," Perino said.

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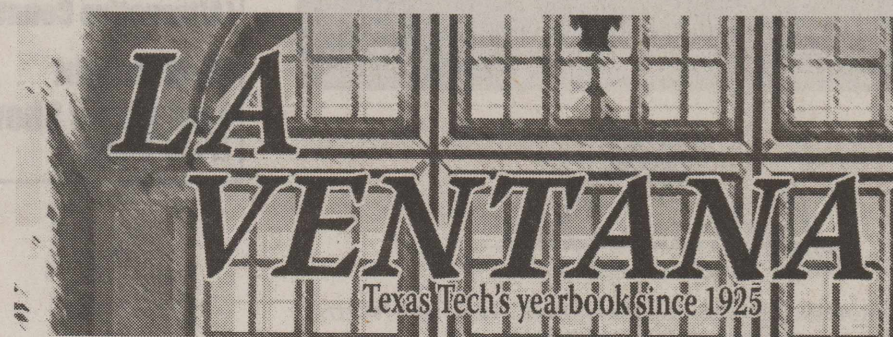
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