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WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY P.M. RAIN/SNOW HIGH 41 / LOW 30 THURSDAY MOSTLY SUNNY HIGH 54 / LOW 26

Red Raiders blast their way past Wayland Baptist. Read how it happened.

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ON PAGE 5



It's not the holiday season, but Tech is getting a present.

QUOTABLES

He said, 'Oh please, you wanted it. That's when she said, 'There's no way in hell I would have wanted to have sex with you last night, even if I was sober.'

Naval Academy Midshipman Kristin Strizki, testifying at a hearing Tuesday about a Coast Guard cadet being accused of rape. (AP)

Our weather's terrible. The highways are terrible.

Morgan County, Ill., Sheriff's Deputy Trevor Lahey, speaking about the spring snow storm that has hit the Ohio Valley. (AP)

There were a lot of people writing us off, who didn't think we should be here. But we're still standing.

Bradley's leading scorer Marcellus Summer-ville, speaking about the Braves appearance in the Sweet 16, which is the first in more than 50 years.

STATE

Crop duster killed after crash in Hondo

HONDO (AP) — A crop-duster pilot from Amarillo died when his plane crashed nose-first into a field Tuesday, authorities said.

The pilot was pronounced dead at the scene after witnesses pulled him out before the plane burst into flames, Hondo police Chief Rick Garza said.

Witnesses told police the plane was flying over the field when it suddenly crashed.

"They said it looked like it stalled," Garza said.

Authorities were trying to reach family members before releasing the victim's identity. He was believed to be 30 years old.

NATION

Charges dropped in teacher-student sex case

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Prosecutors in one Florida county decided Tuesday to drop charges against a former Tampa teacher accused of having sex with a 14-year-old middle school student.

The decision, announced hours after a judge rejected a plea deal for Debra Lafave, means the victim won't have to testify.

Lafave's sentence in another county for having sex with the same boy still stands.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys had urged the judge to accept the deal for the sake of the boy involved. A psychiatrist who examined the teenager told the judge at a previous hearing that the boy suffered extreme anxiety from the media coverage of the case and does not want to testify.

Marion County Circuit Judge Hale Stencil, however, said the lack of prison time for Lafave under the plea deal "shocks the conscience of this court," and he rejected it.

WORLD

Police foil Palestinian suicide bombing attempt

LATRUN JUNCTION, Israel (AP) — With sirens wailing and blue lights flashing, Israeli police chased a van with explosives on a main highway Tuesday and captured a group of Palestinians who defense officials say planned a major bombing ahead of national elections.

After chasing down the group halfway from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, jittery security forces extended a closure on the West Bank and Gaza through election day.

AP Television News video showed the 10 Palestinians removed from the van at gunpoint, stripped to their underwear, and forced to lie face down in a field next to the highway, arms extended. Sappers took away a 15-pound bomb, concealed in a bag.

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'I'm optimistic we'll succeed.'

Bush says troops will stay in Iraq until his term is up, a future president decides to bring them home

By **TERENCE HUNT**
AP WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush said Tuesday that American forces will remain in Iraq for years and it will be up to a future president to decide when to bring them all home. But defying critics and plunging polls, he declared, "I'm optimistic we'll succeed. If not, I'd pull our troops out."

The president rejected calls for the resignation of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, chief architect of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. "Listen, every war plan looks good

on paper until you meet the enemy," Bush said, acknowledging mistakes as the United States was forced to switch tactics and change a reconstruction strategy that offered targets for insurgents.

He also rejected assertions by Iraq's former interim prime minister that the country had fallen into civil war amid sectarian violence that has left more than 1,000 Iraqis dead since the bombing last month of a Shiite Muslim shrine.

"This is a moment the Iraqis had a chance to fall apart and they didn't," Bush said, crediting religious and political leaders with restraint.

The president spoke for nearly an hour at a White House news conference, part of a new offensive to ease Americans' unhappiness with the war and fellow Republicans' anxiety about fall elections. He faced skeptical questions about Iraq during an appearance Monday in Cleveland, and plans another address soon on Iraq.

Public support for the war and for Bush himself has fallen in recent months, jeopardizing the political capital he claimed from his 2004 re-election victory. "I'd say I'm spending that capital on the war," Bush said.

The White House believes that people appreciate Bush's plainspoken approach even if they disagree with his decisions.

"I understand war creates concerns," the president said. "Nobody likes war. It creates a sense of uncertainty in the country."

Bush has adamantly refused to set a deadline for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq. Asked if there would come a day when there would be no more U.S. forces in Iraq, Bush said, "That, of course, is an objective. And that will be decided by future presidents and future governments of Iraq."

Pressed on whether that meant a complete withdrawal would not happen during his presidency, Bush said, "I can only tell you that I will make decisions on force levels based upon what the commanders on the ground say."

White House officials worried Bush's remarks would be read as saying there would not be significant troop reductions during his presidency. They pointed to comments Sunday by Gen. George W. Casey, commander of U.S. forces in Iraq, who said he expected a substantial

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STOPPING THE STAMPEDE



CAITY COLVARD/The Daily Toreador

ABBIE MARVEL, A freshman fashion design major from Paradise Valley, Nev., practices breakaway roping, while Jared Clark, a sophomore agriculture and applied economics major from San Antonio, and Jimmy Harrison, a freshman agriculture economics major from Phoenix, Ariz., observe at the Dobb Parks arena Tuesday afternoon.

Tech students remember friend, peer

By **DANIELLE NOVY**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

As friends and family members of Clifton "Cliff" Kyle Beights poured out recollections of what his life meant to each of them, words like "glowing" and "amazing" were repeated over and over again.

Beights, who was studying business and applied economics, died on March 11 from injuries received in an accident, according to a memo sent out by the Interim Dean of Students Gregory Elkins.

Greg McEvilly, a Farmhouse fraternity brother to Beights, said his friend truly stood out as a good listener and a brother to all those who knew him.

"Cliff was just full of life," he said. "He was someone you looked forward to seeing. He had a great sense of humor and could get everyone to laugh for hours."

McEvilly said Beights lived his life without regrets and has left a profound impact on those who knew him.

"Cliff was confident in his faith and in Christ," he said. "I had a conversation with him recently, and he told me how he was looking forward to heaven. That was how he lived his life — he was a stranger to this world; his home was in heaven."

David Kidwell, Beights' fraternity brother, said he always will remember his friend for his dedication to school, the Farmhouse fraternity, his friends and his Bible study.

"Cliff just had a talent for turning everyday life into fun," he said. "That was his greatest ministry to his friends; he was always an encourager."

Sarah Williams, who met Beights more than a year ago at Texas Tech, said one of the best times she had with him was when they ate lunch together daily in Student Union Building.

"Cliff had a personality that kind of glowed when he walked into the room," she said. "He had a wonderful heart, and I

BEIGHTS continued on page 2

Study: Half of Americans are 'pretty happy'

By **DANIELLE NOVY**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The key to happiness may be debatable and illusive, yet a recent study edges closer to unlocking the secrets of what characteristics are making Americans smile.

The latest Pew Research Center survey polled more than 3,000 adults to uncover how happy they considered themselves to be;

roughly one-third of respondents stated they were "very happy" while 50 percent deemed themselves to be "pretty happy."

Paul Taylor, executive vice president of the Pew Research Center, said this survey's outcome was consistent with previous years' findings.

The adage that money does not buy happiness took a blow from the survey's results; according to the report, those with higher

incomes are more likely to find happiness.

While 24 percent of those who earned less than \$30,000 per year stated they were "very happy," nearly half of respondents making more than \$100,000 annually claimed to fall into this category.

Meanwhile, 45 percent of Republicans and 30 percent of Democrats claimed to be

STUDY continued on page 3

Report prompts experts to explain link between sodas, obesity

By **HEATHER BLACK**
STAFF WRITER

Soft drinks and their connection to obesity is a topic that continues to be researched.

The Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science explained in its 2004 report on childhood obesity that the usual equation of "energy intake equals energy expenditure," becomes more complex when considering other factors such as genetic and biological factors, according to www.cocacola.com.

Margie Kitten, a regis-

tered and licensed dietitian at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center agrees.

"We can link a lot of things as contributing to obesity such as portion sizes being too high, soft drink intake is too high, there is low activity, and snacks at convenience stores are abundant and cheap," she said.

According to The Associated Press, two groups of researchers are hoping to add evidence to prove that soda and other sugar-sweetened drinks are the leading cause of obesity.

Debra Reed, professor in nutrition, registered dieti-

tian and Helen DeVitt Jones chair, said this may not be far from the truth.

"I think when people are consuming six to eight soft drinks a day, that's highly plausible it is," she said. "I don't think it's a coincidence that soft drink consumption has increased and so has obesity."

Soft drink consumption is affected by personal responsibility, what is available, accessible and cheap, and what is being marketed at the time, Reed said.

Kayli Greenfield, a freshman pre-nursing major from Monahans and avid Dr Pep-

per consumer, said she does not believe the idea of soft drinks linked to obesity is far-fetched.

"It's probably true because they are addicting and empty calories," Greenfield said. "Dr Pepper is all I drink. In the mornings when I'm busy and in a rush, a Dr Pepper will be attached to my hand."

According to www.cocacola.com, most regular soft drinks are sweetened with high-fructose corn syrup, a type of sugar, and do contain calories. However,

OBESITY continued on page 2

NO TIME FOR CRYING



CAITY COLVARD/The Daily Toreador

JOHN HODGES, A graduate soil science student from Crosbyton, Jeffrey Thatcher, a lab tech from Austin, and Tarrah Bale, a lab tech from Muleshoe, harvest onions in the greenhouse Tuesday afternoon.

Tech and Lubbock police blotters

March 8
A Texas Tech police officer arrested a non-student for driving while intoxicated and possession of drug paraphernalia, following a traffic stop in the Art building parking lot. A student, who was a passenger in the vehicle, was arrested for public intoxication. Tech police made the initial contact after observing a vehicle driving in an erratic manner on Flint Avenue. The non-student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail. The student was released pending the filing of charges with Judge Bob Blackburn.

March 9
A Tech police officer documented information concerning damaged property on the east side of the football practice field located at the 600 block of University Avenue. A concrete barrier was struck by a vehicle and damaged.
A Tech police officer investigated criminal mischief on the second floor of the Flint Avenue Parking Facility. A vehicle had been keyed in several places and both outside mirrors had been damaged.
A Tech police officer issued a criminal trespass warning to a student after a disturbance in Sam's Place in Chitwood/Weymouth Hall.

A Tech officer arrested a student for possession of alcohol by a minor, consumption of alcohol by a minor, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a fictitious Texas driver's license and possession of marijuana. The student was arrested in the Z-4 parking lot and was taken to the county jail.
A Tech police officer arrested a student for public intoxication after being found sitting on the ground in the bus stop in the 100 block of Akron Avenue. The student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

A Tech police officer arrested a student for driving while intoxicated following a traffic stop at the 300 block of Indiana Avenue. The student was transported to the county jail, and his vehicle was towed.
A Tech police officer arrested a student for driving while license invalid and failure to identify a traffic stop at the 1900 block of Louisville Avenue. A student passenger was issued a Lubbock County citation for possession of an open container in a motor vehicle

and released. The student who was driving was transported to the county jail.

March 10
A Tech officer arrested a student for furnishing alcohol to a minor in Gates Hall following a report of loud music coming from the room. Two other students in the room were issued a Lubbock County citation for consumption of alcohol by a minor and released. One student was transported to the county jail.

A Tech police officer arrested a non-student for driving while intoxicated, arrested another non-student for public intoxication following a traffic stop at the Drive of Champions and Brownfield Highway. The two non-students were transported to the county jail and the vehicle was towed.

A Tech police officer detained one student for driving under the influence of alcohol by a minor and two students for possession of alcohol by a minor following a traffic stop at the 3000 block of Main Street. The students were issued county citations and released. The vehicle was towed.

March 11
A Tech police officer arrested four non-students for possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance (approximately 12 grams of cocaine). One of the non-students was arrested for possession of marijuana, LPD warrants and was issued two county citations for speeding and an unrestrained child. Another non-student was arrested for possession of marijuana and LPD warrants. A different non-student was arrested for possession of marijuana and Lubbock Sheriff's Officer and LPD warrants. Consent was given to search the car at the 1500 block of Indiana Avenue. LPD K-9 was summoned for further investigation although K-9 indicated more narcotics, no more narcotics were located. The four non-students were transported to the Lubbock County Jail, and the vehicle was towed.

A Tech police officer arrested a non-student for six Lubbock County citations: no valid inspection certificate, no liability insurance, operate unregistered vehicle, defective stop lamps, fail to display driver license and failed to signal lane change. The Tech officer observed

the traffic violation at the 1800 block of Indiana Avenue, and the non-student was pulled over in the front entrance of the UMC emergency room. The non-student told the officer there was a medical emergency, which was determined to be false, and was transported to the county jail.

March 12
A Tech officer documented information concerning a suspicious subject, who was reported by construction workers at the construction site at 15th Street and Akron Avenue. The subject was released to his Mental Health and Mental Retardation case worker.

A Tech police officer arrested a non-student for criminal trespass in the 1800 block of Flint Avenue. The non-student was transported to the county jail.

March 13
A Tech police officer documented information concerning a vehicle observed in the 2700 block of Seventh Street with an expired inspection sticker. Following a traffic stop in the R-24 parking lot, it was determined the vehicle had an expired inspection sticker from October 1986. The vehicle was towed.

March 14
A Tech police officer documented a reported fire alarm at Murray Hall that was called into the Lubbock Fire Department by a student's mother from an off-campus location. LFD personnel responded to Murray Hall after receiving the call from the student's mother. There was no sign of fire or smoke inside the building. The fire alarm panel indicated a trouble alarm only.

March 15
A Tech police officer documented information concerning damaged property at the Health Sciences Center A Pod. A water pipe ruptured and flooded the area, which drained downwards through the building damaging ceiling tiles.

Compiled by Paul Roberts/Staff Writer
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Increased shipments give Xbox 360 head start, although report finds Sony wins long-term

By CARLOS BERGFELD
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

With its small shipments after launch and during the holiday season, Microsoft's Xbox 360 remains one of the hardest items to find in retail outlets.

Microsoft hopes to soothe the woes of retailers and consumers alike by shipping two to three times as many Xbox 360 consoles to retailers beginning this week, according to a news release.

A new manufacturing partner, Celestica Inc., will join Wistron Corp. and Flextronics Corp. in supplying Microsoft with a greater quantity of their next-generation consoles.

Best Buy, Microsoft's official sales partner in the Xbox 360 launch, has been selling out of Xbox 360s as soon as they arrive in the store.

"We have a hard time figuring out when we're going to get some," said Lance Edwards, a media specialist at Lubbock's Best Buy store.

Edwards said the Lubbock Best Buy receives approximately 20 consoles once every week or week and a half and sells out of them within hours of putting them on the sales floor.

The new supplies should bolster the shipments to greater quantities, Edwards said.

Lubbock GameStop and EB Games stores have presold every Xbox 360 system that hits their shelves, making it impossible for someone to walk in and pick up a system.

Increased shipments of 360s will go toward filling these reservations.

During the November launch, Xbox 360s sold on eBay for upwards of \$3,000. The systems still are selling on the online auction site for prices above retail.

Camping for hours or even days on launch day, or reserving a system during the first half of 2005 were the only ways to insure getting a console at retail price.

Sony recently announced their next-generation system would be delayed until November of this year, a delay from the initially planned spring launch.

The PlayStation 3, like the Xbox 360, will launch worldwide in three territories at its debut: America, Japan

and Europe.

Despite Microsoft's head start in the next-generation console race, recent research says Sony's PS3 will still lead them to remain the dominant player in the global video game market, garnering more than 50 percent of the market share with next-generation system through 2010.

The report from research firm In-Stat gives Microsoft's Xbox 360 the one-up on Nintendo, however, claiming it will have 28.6 percent of the console market.

Nintendo's next-generation console, code-named "Revolution," will launch at about the same time as Sony's PlayStation 3 later this year.

Next-generation console sales during their peak year should not differ much from the peak year sales of the current-generation consoles, according to the report, although overall shipments of next-generation consoles are expected to be greater than that of the current generation.

One of the features of the next-generation consoles is support for HDTVs, something not yet as widespread as video game consoles.

"It looks like Reynaldo's standing there," said E.J. Archuleta, admiring the HDTV presentation of the Xbox 360 soccer title "FIFA '06: Road to the World Cup."

A sophomore business major from Austin, Archuleta said he has played his Xbox 360 on standard-definition and high-definition TVs, and the difference is astounding.

It is only recently Archuleta has been able to enjoy his games in full high-definition however.

"The hard drive, within three days, gave me a system error," he said.

Archuleta said he had to send his Xbox 360 system and its hard drive to Microsoft multiple times for repairs, something that made his friend vow to wait for the PlayStation 3's launch in November.

Presley Collins, a junior business major from Houston, said he enjoys playing on the Xbox 360, although Archuleta's problems made him nervous about buying one.

Archuleta was able to get one of the consoles through a friend who had access to the systems at a military base store.

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Cheney says Iraq situation improving

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AP) — Vice President Dick Cheney accused some Bush administration critics Tuesday of being too quick to argue that the Iraq war cannot be won and of underestimating a continuing threat of terrorist attacks.

Part of a broad effort to counter polls that show waning public support for the war and for President Bush personally, Cheney emphasized what the administration has said is

underreported evidence of improvement in Iraq. He also took on those who have been questioning Bush's approach in the three-year-old war.

"A few seem almost eager to conclude that the whole struggle is already lost," Cheney told an enthusiastic military audience, from a stage bedecked with flags and camouflage netting. "But they're wrong."

He said that "the only way to lose" in Iraq is to quit. "That is not

an option."

Bush has been criticized by many over Iraq. Most war critics, though, do not argue that the war is unwinnable but that administration decisions such as not sending more troops after the invasion have contributed to continuing problems.

Cheney also criticized "some in Washington" who he asserted are "yielding to the temptation to downplay the threat" from al-Qaida and other terrorist groups. "That mind-set is dangerous," he said.

With the war in Iraq now in its fourth year, more than 2,300 Americans have died and a wave of sectarian violence has followed the bombing last month of a Shiite Muslim shrine.

Obesity

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

many studies found that people who consume higher amounts of sugar are no more likely to be obese than other individuals.

According to www.sfgate.com, it is the same high-fructose corn syrup that can increase fats in the blood called triglycerides. This sweetener hinders the production of insulin to make the body process calories and does not spur leptin, a substance that compresses appetite.

Kitten warns against the high phosphorous content in soft drinks as well.

phosphorous content in soft drinks as well.

"One of the things people have to watch out for is the phosphorous content — overloading it can displace calcium," she said. "People end up getting stress fractures due to the bones being too weak."

Another issue concerning soft drinks is the possibility of certain amounts of benzene, a chemical that can cause cancer in humans. According to www.food.gov, the chemical has been detected at low levels in some soft drinks as a result of interactions between sodium benzoate and ascorbic acid, otherwise known as Vitamin C.

Reed said if this is the case, it is more reason to avoid soft drinks.

"I think if it is true, it's just more ammunition to limit your intake of soft drinks," she said. "Whether it is or isn't true, there are concerns from the calorie standpoint and dental health."

When the two dieticians were asked if the possible damaging effects of soft drinks merited a general warning to be printed on soft drink containers, there were differing opinions.

Reed said there are other ways to deter soft drink consumption.

"I think there are going to need to be different strategies that affect different people such as a warning signal, nutrition education and healthier beverage choices related to better health," she said.

Reed said only a small percentage of Americans take nutritional education classes, and providing this information would raise awareness of the dangers surrounding too much soft drink consumption.

Kitten said there was no need for a warning because of all the factors contributing to obesity.

"There are multiple causes of obesity," she said. "People are the cause of their own obesity. You have to be responsible for your own health and actions."

Kitten said anyone interested in learning more about healthy living can go to www.mypyramid.gov. The site discusses weight and healthy guidelines, gives an idea of calorie levels and can help answer any questions or concerns.

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Beights

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

know a lot of people are very grateful for having known him."

His mother, Terri Beights, said her son's personality was impossible to capture in just a few words.

"He was full of life, energetic and determined," she said. "He was driven, and he had goals. He was going to make a difference; he just had so much to give."

She said among his many accomplishments, he had the ability to speak Russian fluently, a language he studied when he visited Russia and Ukraine during his high school years.

"He loved life and he loved learning," Terri Beights said. "He was a very good listener and very dependable. Everyone trusted him."

She said a scholarship in honor of his memory has been started in his hometown of Snyder and plans for a future Tech memorial scholarship are being discussed.

"He was so proud of Tech," she said. "He loved going to Tech, and he was going to give so much back."

The Texas Tech flag at Memorial Circle will be lowered Monday in his memory.

Anyone wishing to pay their respects to Cliff Beights can attend an open Greekwide Student Ministries Meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Farmhouse Fraternity's Lodge at No. 3 Greek Circle.

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www.dailytoreador.com

Chancellor advisory committee announced

By KATIE KINNEY
STAFF WRITER

The chancellor search committee of the Texas Tech board of regents announced last week members of an advisory committee to assist in finding a new chancellor for the university system.

Students, faculty, staff and alumni from Texas Tech and the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center, and members of the Lubbock community comprise the advisory committee.

Regent Frank Miller, chairman of the search committee, said the goal of selecting the committee was to make it diverse.

"We wanted a diverse group of faculty, staff, students and alumni, including geographically," he said. "We also wanted both females and males, different backgrounds, minorities; basically we wanted every kind of diversity we could have."

The members of the committee will be involved in screening candidates and deciding which ones are the best choices for the university.

Miller said in a news release that advisory committee has a great group of people on it.

"We have an outstanding group of individuals who have agreed to serve and we are looking forward to our collaboration with them, which will commence as soon as possible," he said.

Miller said the committee would play an important role in the process of selecting a permanent chancellor, especially since the new chancellor will be dealing with the committee members once in office.

Professor William Conover, who is on the advisory committee, said he is looking forward to the process of finding a new chancellor.

"It will be a time-consuming job and a lot of work," he said. "But it's exciting to be a part of a group that can help shape the university."

Conover said the members of the committee are waiting for the regents to decide how they will conduct the search and if they will use an outside firm for help into help with the process.

Regent Robert Black said the reason for hiring an outside firm would be to assist with the naming of potential candidates for the chancellor position.

After that, Conover said, the committee will have its first meeting.

Conover said the process of finding a new chancellor may take several months, but Miller said he believes it will be longer.

"We are in the process of hiring a search firm and that will take a couple of months," he said. "We want to be deliberate and diligent in our search so it may take six months to a year to find a new chancellor."

Black said that the last time they searched for a chancellor, when they named Dr. David Smith, the process took about nine or 10 months.

In the meantime, Miller said he believes Haragan is doing a great job as interim chancellor.

"We are very pleased that Haragan is the interim chancellor and that enables us not to rush into finding another chancellor so quickly," he said.

The students on the advisory committee will be chosen as soon as the new SGA officers are in their positions. There will be one student from each institution on the committee.

Once the committee meets, it will begin looking at potential candidates.

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MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Dr. William Conover, professor of statistics
- Dr. Pamela Elbeck, dean of College of Engineering
- Alan Henry, Lubbock businessman, president of the Tech Alumni Association
- Carey Hobbs, Waco businessman, former Texas Tech regent
- Lance Hughes, alumni in Austin who chairs the Texas Tech Foundation's campaign subcommittee
- Mike Liner, president of City Bank in Lubbock
- Ann Manning, alumni of law school and practicing Lubbock lawyer
- Dr. Rod Nairn, executive vice president of academic affairs and dean of the graduate school of biomedical sciences at the Health Sciences Center
- Dr. German Nunez, HSC vice president for diversity and multicultural affairs
- John Field Scovell, Dallas businessman and alum
- Marsha Sharp, former head coach of the Lady Raiders
- Jerry Smith, Dallas-based alum
- Dr. Richard Verrone, president of the staff senate
- John Walker, Houston businessman and alum
- James Watkins, assistant dean for undergraduate studies in College of Architecture

Bush

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

troop reduction "certainly over the course of 2006 and into 2007."

The Pentagon announced last December that U.S. force levels would be reduced from the baseline figure of about 138,000 to about 131,000 by the end of March. The total currently is 133,000. In late February the Pentagon told Congress that "it will be possible to consider" additional reductions as the political process moves forward and as Iraqi security forces gain experience. No timetable has been set for deciding on additional cuts.

More than 2,300 American troops have died in Iraq. At home, nearly four of five people, including 70 percent of Republicans, believe civil war will break out in Iraq, according to a recent AP-Ipsos poll.

"I am confident — I believe, I'm optimistic we'll succeed," the president said. "If not, I'd pull our troops out. If I didn't believe we had a plan for victory I wouldn't leave our people in harm's way."

Bush said U.S. forces were essential for the stability of Iraq and restraining al-Qaida in the Middle East.

"Their objective for driving us out of Iraq is to have a place from which

to launch their campaign to overthrow moderate governments in the Middle East, as well as to continue attacking places like the United States," he said.

Despite pleas from fellow Republicans, Bush has rejected calls for a White House staff shake-up, saying he was satisfied with his aides. He did not rule out bringing in a savvy Washington insider, as some have suggested, but said, "I'm not going to announce it right now." Aides said later he was not trying to signal any appointment.

Bush defended his administration's warrantless eavesdropping program whose legality has been questioned by Democrats and Republicans alike. Putting his remarks in a political context, he said, "Nobody from the Democratic Party has actually stood up and called for getting rid of the of the terrorist surveillance program."

Bush accused Wisconsin Sen. Russ Feingold of "needless partisanship" for urging censure of the president for authorizing the surveillance program.

On the economy, Bush sidestepped a direct answer when asked whether he was concerned about rising interest rates. He simply said the U.S. economy was very strong. He expressed disappointment that Congress shelved his Social Security overhaul and said the system won't be changed without the cooperation of Democrats and Republicans together.

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Baby sitter, Lubbock man set to be executed for death of toddler

HOUSTON (AP)—Even though her mother found her alive, 2-year-old Adriana Gomez never could have survived the injuries suffered at the hand of her baby sitter.

Robert Salazar Jr., who was also the boyfriend of the girl's mother, delivered at least three life-threatening injuries on April 23, 1997, because the girl wouldn't stop crying: a blow to the head that left it feeling like gelatin, a blow to her chest that left her heart on the verge of rupturing and a blow to her abdomen that pushed internal organs against her backbone.

Salazar left Adriana in the crib at her Lubbock home after the beating and went to his mother's house to drink beer with a friend. Adriana's mother found her and took her to a hospital, where she died a few hours later. Salazar told police he accidentally injured Adriana after pushing her in the bathroom.

Salazar, 27, was convicted of capital murder and set to be executed by lethal injection Wednesday night in Huntsville. He would be the sixth

prisoner put to death this year in Texas and the second of four scheduled this month in the nation's busiest capital punishment state.

Salazar began dating Adriana's mother, Raylene Blakeburn, in 1996. He took care of the toddler while her mother worked. Blakeburn told authorities Salazar had abused her daughter several other times, including dislocating her shoulder less than four months before the child's death.

"There is an expectation that grown-ups are going to take care of little kids, not destroy them," said Rusty Ladd, who helped prosecute the case for the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office.

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles on Monday rejected requests to commute Salazar's sentence to life or halt the execution. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals have turned down requests by Salazar's attorney, Michael Charlton, to stop the execution based on claims the inmate is mentally retarded. Charlton said

he didn't plan to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Salazar, 18 at the time of his crime, refused a request from The Associated Press for an interview in the weeks before his scheduled execution.

In a statement to police after his arrest, Salazar said he became angry with Adriana when she wouldn't stop crying while they took a shower. Salazar pushed the toddler, causing her to hit her head in the bathtub.

"I did not mean to hurt Adriana," Salazar said. "I don't want people to think I'm a bad person for what I did."

Philip Wischkaemper, Salazar's defense attorney during his 1999 trial, said the inmate's mental retardation is behind his lack of remorse. He also said Salazar had been severely abused and neglected as a child by his father.

"We know mentally retarded people have difficulty showing emotion," said Wischkaemper, who added tests have shown that Salazar's IQ is probably under 75. The threshold for mental retardation is 70.

AT&T CEO says Internet will remain open after merger

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Ed Whitacre Jr., the chief executive of AT&T Inc., dismissed critics who say its planned merger with BellSouth Corp. will form a near-monopoly for Internet access and give it the clout to dictate terms to Web sites if they want to remain reachable.

At issue is the current principle of "network neutrality," under which all traffic is treated equally on the Internet. The major Internet carriers, with AT&T in the fore, want to be able to provide different tiers of service, giving higher priority to, for instance, Internet

phone calls, which could improve their quality.

At the TelecomNEXt telecommunications conference in Las Vegas on Tuesday, Whitacre rejected the notion that this would harm the sites and companies that don't pay for premium service.

"There's been a lot of talk about this in order to scare people into thinking that access to the Internet is somehow at risk, or that the Internet as we know it is a thing of the past," Whitacre told attendees. "AT&T will not block anyone's access to the public Internet, nor will we degrade anyone's quality of service."

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Study

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"very happy," indicating a wider gap between the political parties then shown in previous studies, according to the report.

"This is notable," Taylor said of the increasing difference. "This is among the biggest gaps we've seen between Republicans and Democrats in recent years."

Still, he said he pointed to correlation rather than causation to help explain the widening disparity.

"Being a Republican correlates with other traits that are correlated with happiness," Taylor said. "Republicans are more likely to be married and more likely to have higher incomes. There are a cluster of traits that correlate with being happy and being a Republican."

Additionally, when the study broached the topic of whether those who wear a gold band on

their left hand are more or less satisfied with life than their unmarried counterparts, researchers found the ball and chain increases one's likelihood of finding happiness.

Less than a quarter of single respondents stated they were "very happy" compared to the 43 percent of married participants who classified themselves as "very happy."

Taylor said the two genders offered parallel responses when it came to the connection between their marital status and their happiness.

"There is an identically strong finding between men and women," he said. "There is a correlation between men and women in this case."

Angie Stephens, a physician's assistant in Lubbock, said she believes the key things adults need to be happy are an enjoyable job and plenty of family time.

"Getting to spend time with the people you love is important," she said. "So is being encouraged by other people."

Stephens said she believes religion also can bring people happiness, a concept mirrored by the results of the most recent Pew study.

More than 40 percent of those who attend religious services at least one time a week reported being "very happy," compared with the 26 percent of respondents who either seldom or never attend services who considered themselves to be "very happy."

Jose De La Colina, a freshman from Brownsville, said he believes solid relationships help build happiness.

"Basically just relationships with friends and family are the most important," he said.

Francisco Torres, a freshman biology major from Dallas, said financial stability and good grades are staples of happiness for the average college student.

"I know I always feel good when I am financially stable," he said.

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Sick writing partner causes reflection on value of friendship

As you returned to classes this week, you may have noticed something was amiss. A strange funk lingered around campus and even the pigeons that live in the Library walls weren't crapping all over the place like usual. As the week developed, you realized it wasn't just the usually depressing post spring break hang over. Yes, it became clear something was really wrong; Trevor's not here.

While I was pulling my canoe down the Rio Grande, my writing partner was supposed to be putting together an column on 10 great low fat snack tips. Yet the unthinkable happened; he contracted the viral infection mono. I'm not sure if he got it from riding a monorail, but we're keeping that a possibility. But if I find the she-devil who gave it to him, I'm going to put her on a one-way flight to Iowa. As harsh as that is, I believe it fits the crime.

I realize it's not easy for ya'll to cope with Trevor's absence, but think of me. It was hard enough not seeing Trevor over the last week and now it may be two or more. Who'll cheer me up when I'm down? Who's going to be our fourth man in our apart-

Trevor Cobb & Eric Straw

All the great duos in history, such as Simon and Garfunkel, Batman and Robin, and Hillary Clinton and Satan, will tell you it's hard to work alone. But I'll do my best, because I know Trevor would want it that way.

ments challenging Wednesday night games of Twister? Who'll tuck me in at night? What in God's name am I

going to do without Trevor around?

I just don't know if I can write this. All the great duos in history, such as Simon and Garfunkel, Batman and Robin, and Hillary Clinton and Satan will tell you it's hard to work alone. But I'll do my best, because I know Trevor would want it that way.

This news of Trevor's illness sent me in a downward spiral of depression. I've been doing nothing for the last couple days but eating ice cream in my underwear listening to Dido. But in my grief stricken-state, I wandered into deep thought. I thought long and hard about what friends in general mean to me and us all.

In my emotional journey, I have come to realize friends are precious resource. I believe that most of us are as dependent on friends as this country is on foreign oil. But unlike the energy crisis we can't solve the problem by destroying the arctic and drill for friends in Alaska. No it's not that easy in life to find friends.

If you haven't noticed, parents just don't have that many friends. It's not their fault. They have to deal with jobs and stuff like your expensive education and speeding

tickets (damn you Runaway Bay). I mean they have some friends, but not like they did in college.

Here in college, it's the best time in our lives to make real friends. Some people in high school only were your friend out of strategic showings of social status. Or maybe you got lumped into the ugly kid group and had to choose companions from that enforced social pool. Either way, this is why you had friends you just didn't like. In college, things are mostly different, and you find friends more naturally.

This is not to say there is anything inherently wrong with your old pals from high school, because certain things no one will understand except your old friends. I don't see a problem with keeping your old friends as long as you don't solely limit yourself to that group.

I really can't tell you how to make friends. Like a butterfly emerging from its cocoon, forming the bonds of friendship is a natural and beautiful process. However, the dorms are a fantastic place to find the people you hold dear. A friend spawning grounds if you will. I guess if you're really desperate for friends, you can

always join a frat, or sorority and purchase some.

While I can't help you with making friends, I can tell you how to get rid of them. If you have a so-called "friend" who doesn't seem to appreciate you and is always treating poorly, let them go. But before you do, hide something that is going to stink something awful near their bed. Or ambush them with mud when they're walking home from class (I find the best mud come from a mixture of dirt and water). And right when you're about to throw a glob in their face scream out, "befriend this!" As they wipe the mud from their eyes they look up at you only to see you with another person. You see their surprise and say, "Oh him, yeah he's just my new friend." As you watch their heart drop, you turn to your new buddy and say, "Come on, let's go try out my new yo-yo" and walk off into the sunset. That will teach them.

My epiphany during all this was that though friends get annoying, it's important to treasure them. Enjoy having a multitude of friends, because like it or not, over the years you'll lose contact with most of them and

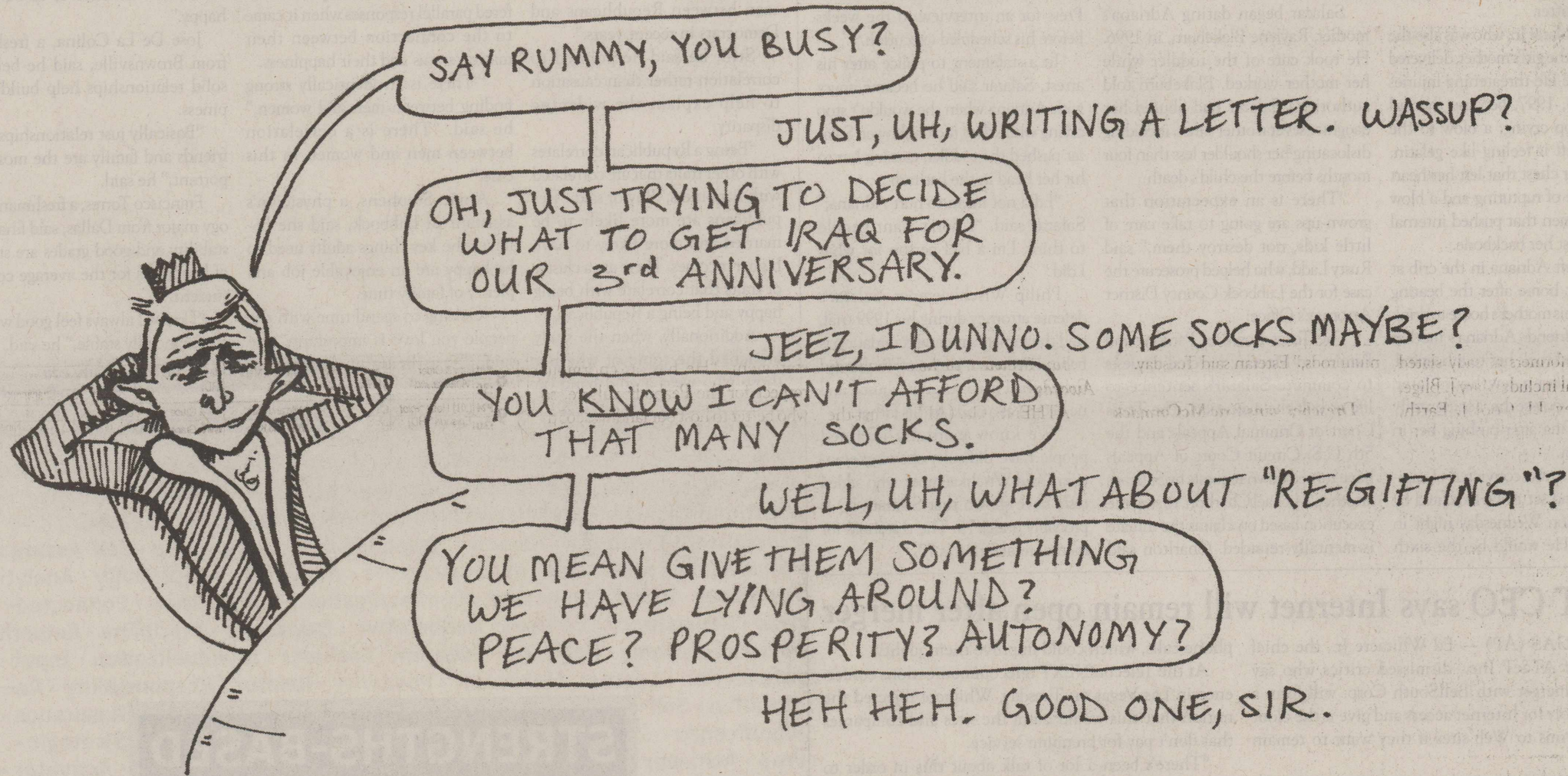
turn into your parents. So, show your appreciation to your friends by rewarding them some fruit rollups or perhaps a ring pop.

As for the current Trevor situation, I think it would be a good idea to organize a bake sale to raise some money to get him a kidney. Not that he needs one, but he might want something to play with when he's bored (he left all his G.I. Joes and Lincoln Logs here).

Now until Trevor returns to Lubbock, we're going to need someone to take his place. So, I'll be taking applications for someone to assume the role of Trevor. You'll have to be adequate at Super Nintendo, basketball and possess and undying hatred of NASCAR. Guys would be preferable. However, Trevor is a nursing major. So, I suppose a really manly woman would do the trick.

Cobb is a sophomore nursing major from Carrollton. E-mail him at M.Cobb@ttu.edu.

Straw is a sophomore environmental conservation major from Carrollton. E-mail him at Eric.Straw@ttu.edu.



'Fear Factor' marathon more fun than boozing over Spring Break

As very few of you may have noticed, last Wednesday I had no column. Last time they gave me some excuse about not having room because of Student Government Association elections. I didn't know anything about any elections and was told by my editor they are an annual occurrence. To which I say if they have SGA elections every year, how come I've never voted (I haven't voted for anything since I wrote in former Toreador columnist Joe Biles for president of the United States during the 2004 election). I've been a student at Texas Tech for four years, and I didn't know we voted for representatives that just happen to agree with the Tech board of regents' stance on tuition and student fee increases. But who am I kidding? Kool-Aid tastes fantastic and is filled with nutritious artificial coloring.

Last week, apparently, was Spring Break (nobody told me, I went to class). During the week-long vacation students, with the exception of myself, traveled to exotic locations (like Mexico or New Mexico) to imbibe as many alcoholic beverages as possible and attempt to either snorkel or ski dependent on both location and blood alcohol level (for the record, I didn't really go to class. I was at my parents' house watching "Fear Factor" reruns on FX,

Jeremy Glidewell

which might actually be more pathetic).

Now imagine, if you will, a world where this is impossible (No, not the "Fear Factor," I could definitely do without that, the intoxication.)

In this world (let's call it "Lubbock" for the sake of argument), the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited. The history and political science majors among us will recognize the above as the text of the 18th Amendment, which was put into effect on Jan. 16, 1920, at the behest of the Anti-Saloon League, the Ku Klux Klan, the Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the Coca-Cola Corporation (represented by Jack Abramoff.) which was trying to market its new drink Surge — which was soon pulled from the market when people realized that it tasted like feet.

Throughout the 1920s people in "Lubbock" had to drive for as much as half an hour to a place that would sell liquor to them at grotesquely inflated prices. I can't imagine that people in "Lubbock" once were greatly inconvenienced by well-meaning people who have their priorities in the wrong place. Thank God it is no longer that way and people in "Lubbock" have easy access to reasonably priced spirits at places within convenient driving distance from their homes (so as to discourage drunken driving).

And its all thanks to one man, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. FDR thought, "I don't care that under prohibition the United States has been experiencing unprecedented economic growth when people were sober while working; we need to return to a time when people show up to their places of employment while drunk, and waste countless hours of company time by mumbling without coherence and complaining about how loud your boss is talking while simultaneously listening to obnoxious hip hop music."

It was a dream that was ahead of its time, and so armed only with his own hate of temperance (he had developed a taste for alcohol while attending New York parties and may have made mint juleps in his parents' basement), he set out on a quest to make that dream

a reality. He started by single handedly ruining the economy. How did he do that? It's easier than you think. All he had to do was lower interest rates and cut taxes while spending ludicrous amounts of money on terrible social programs (smellfare and the TVA) and other figurative bridges to nowhere.

By that point it was relatively easy to convince the populace that the United States was in need of financial help. His solution? Repeal prohibition and heavily tax all alcoholic beverages in order to fund soup kitchens. His proposal went before Congress and was approved with relatively little dissent (Ted Kennedy, who had made a fortune in bootlegging was visibly upset and was heard rambling in an unintelligible accent, but we only can guess it was something pejorative about Robert Bork's America). So on March 22, 1933, the sale of beer and wine was made legal in the United States (except apparently within the city of "Lubbock"). So tonight, give a toast to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the man who made it possible for college students to get drunk on a Wednesday night (that and really nice drink specials) and then go to class hungover Thursday.

Glidewell is a senior music education major from Mineral Wells. E-mail him at Jeremy.R.Glidewell@ttu.edu.

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

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Senior class gifts are ones that keep on giving

The scrolling marquee on 19th Street and Indiana Avenue, the Double T bench in the courtyard near the Administration building and even the bike lanes on campus, all are senior class gifts from the past.

The final decision for the 2005-06 Texas Tech senior class gift has not been made, but there is one idea in the works that will give Memorial Circle a face lift.

Student Government Association President Nathan Nash said planting trees in Memorial Circle was a part of Tech's original master construction plan. Seventy-five trees would be donated by the 2005-06 senior class to accomplish the look that Memorial Circle was intended to have.

Planting trees is one idea that just seems to work right now, Nash said. The funds are finally in place to accomplish this Memorial Circle makeover, and the planting of the trees would be during a time when construction plans already are set for

Memorial Circle.

"Really this year (donating trees) has kind of been a standout among the rest of the ideas," he said.

Matt Fowler, chief of staff and internal vice president-elect, said a senior class gift should be something that is going to have a lasting effect on the Tech campus and will be beneficial for classes in the future.

There are light posts and benches that are class gifts which date back to the late 1920s and 1930s, he said. The gifts given these days are a little more upscale than they were back then.

Students will be able to look at the trees everyday and derive enjoyment from them, Fowler said. A plaque would be placed next to the trees that recognizing that the 2005-06 senior class donated the trees.

"The beautification of campus is really important and this is a great opportunity that we can use to do that," he said.

Class gifts in the past have added something to this campus weather it is a big addition like bike lanes, or a bench that has become a Tech landmark.

The tree donation is in the spotlight as a possible great gift, and no other class gift options have been investigated so far this year, Fowler said.

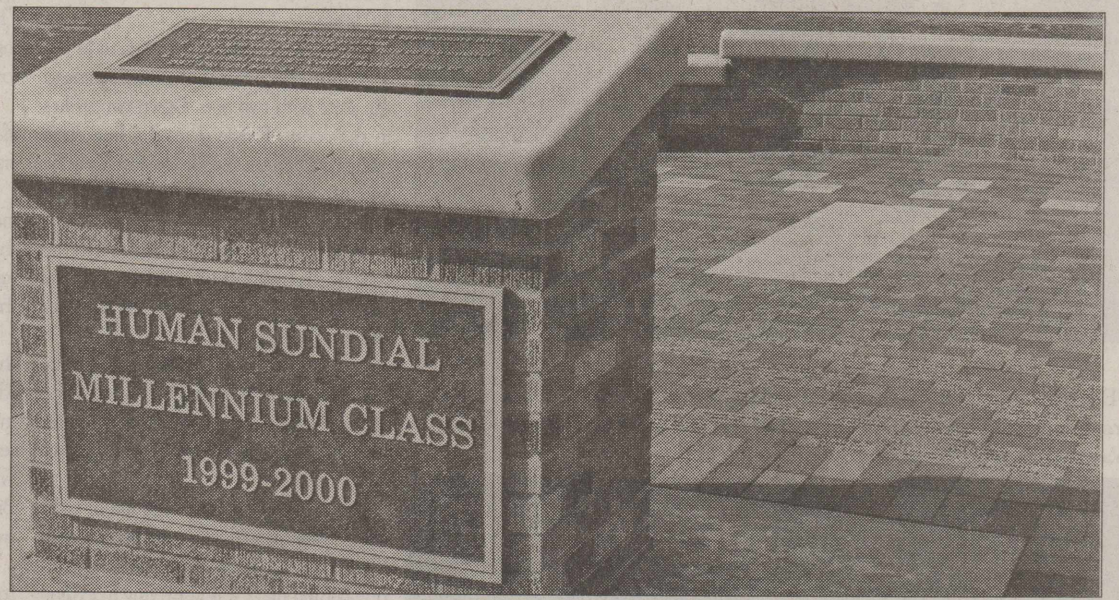
"We haven't really looked at other options necessarily; we have been doing more planning so this could be accomplished," he said.

Mary Saathoff, senior director for corporations, foundations and scholarship at Tech, said the tree planting would go along with the groundbreaking of the SGA Scholarship Walk.

The walk will be located between the Administration building and the fountain on Memorial Circle, and it recognizes people who have donated money to the SGA Scholarship Campaign.

"They are going to have the groundbreaking in conjunction with Arbor Day and since it is Arbor Day, plant the trees," she said.

Nash said the way the senior class gift is chosen changes from year to year. SGA will be the ultimate decision maker regarding the senior class gift this year, but all ideas are welcomed and encouraged.



A HUMAN SUNDIAL located south of the north commuter lot was donated by the 1999-2000 senior class.

"We would like to get as much feedback as we can about (the senior class gift)," he said.

For any comments on the current proposal or suggestions for others, visit the SGA office in Room 302 of the Student Union Building.

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Let them entertain you ...

Bobby Brown and New Edition to reunite for a night

NEW YORK (AP) — Bobby Brown and New Edition are getting back together — at least for one night, anyway.

Brown and the rest of the old-school boy band are scheduled to perform together at the Essence Music Festival, which will be held July 1-3 in Houston.

Other performers already slated for the festival include Mary J. Blige, Steve Harvey, LL Cool J, Earth, Wind & Fire, Yolanda Adams and Maze featuring Frankie Beverly.

Miami Project scientists to move quickly toward human trials as promising research is discovered.

The 1990 accident in Pennsylvania broke Estefan's back, but she recovered.

"Tomorrow, which is also my mother's birthday, will be 16 years that I got that operation and my extra spare parts that I carry with me still with pride and love, those titanium rods," Estefan said Tuesday.

Drescher joins Eric McCormack in Neil LaBute's 'Some Girl(s)'

NEW YORK (AP) — Fran Drescher is going from "The Nanny" on television, to playing one of Eric McCormack's ex-girlfriends in Neil LaBute's play "Some Girl(s)" off-Broadway.

Drescher will portray a Boston professor in the American premiere of the play, which opens June 8 at the Lucille Lortel Theatre.

Jon Stewart to host Peabody Awards

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — First the Oscars and now the Peabody.

Jon Stewart, host of Comedy Central's award-winning fake news program "The Daily Show" and host of the Academy Awards earlier this month, will host the Peabody Awards ceremony June 5 in New York City.

"Jon Stewart will provide a refreshing combination of journalistic smarts and comic genius to our ceremony," Horace Newcomb, director of the Peabody Awards, said in the statement. "He has an enormous respect for the Peabody culture, so who better to host our landmark 65th anniversary celebration?"

WEDNESDAY MARCH 22, 2006

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 14 UPN Lubbock	KWBZ 22 WB Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00 AM Today	Early Show	Believers Voice	Life Today	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	Adventures Sabrina
7:30 AM Today	A look at the series "Hieft"	Animal Atlas	Recipe TV	Cosby Show	Tony Danza	Roseanne
8:00 AM		Paid Program	Judge Mathis	Paid Program		Roseanne
8:30 AM		Paid Program	Judge Mathis	Paid Program		Martha
9:00 AM	Regis & Kelly	Price Is Right	Judge Joe	Texas Justice	The View	Tyra Banks
9:30 AM			Judge Joe	Texas Justice		
10:00 AM	Jeopardy!	Young and the Restless (HD)	Judge Hatchett	Cops	Paid Program	Starting Over
10:30 AM	Jeopardy!		Paid Program	Cops	Paid Program	
11:00 AM	News	KLBK 13 News	Jerry Springer	Cosby Show	All My Children	Access Hollywood
11:30 AM	Days of Our Lives	Bob & Beaut.	As the World Turns	Cosby Show	One Life to Live	Extra
12:00 PM	Passions	Guiding Light	Mad About You	The Nanny	People's Court	People's Court
12:30 PM	Inside Edition	Maury	Just Shoot Me	ER "Homeless for the Holidays"	General Hospital	Judge Alex
1:00 PM	Oprah Winfrey	Judge Judy	Malcolm	Bernie Mac	Montel Williams	Divorce Court
1:30 PM	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy	That '70s Show	Bernie Mac	Gerardo	Ellen DeGeneres
2:00 PM	News	KLBK 13 News	Access Hollywood	Yes, Dear	News	Ellen DeGeneres
2:30 PM	Nightly News	Evening News	Family Feud	Yes, Dear	World News	First@Four
3:00 PM	News	KLBK 13 News	Family Feud	King of Queens	News	Simpsons
3:30 PM	Wheel Fortune	Millionaire	Extra	King of Queens	Entertainment	Friends
4:00 PM	Deal or No Deal	Out of Practice	Americas Next Top Model	One Tree Hill (HD)	Freddie (HD)	Raymond
4:30 PM	Law & Order "America, Inc."	Criminal Minds "A Real Rain"	Veronica Mars (HD)	Glenn Close (HD)	Lost "The Whole Truth" (HD)	Bones "The Man with the Bone"
5:00 PM	(811) Heist "Pilot Episode" (HD)	CSI: NY "Necrophilia Amerscan"	Wife and Kids	Wife and Kids	(811) Evidence "Pilot Episode" (HD)	American Idol Unanimous
5:30 PM	News	KLBK 13 News	King of Hill	Sex and City	News	Fox 34 News @ Nine
6:00 PM	(35) Jay Leno (HD)	David Letterman	David Spade	Sex and City	(35) Nightline	Sinfeld
6:30 PM	(35) Conan (HD)	(35) Late Late Show	Paid Program	The Nanny	(35) Jimmy Kimmel	Sinfeld
7:00 PM	(35) Last Call	Paid Program	Blind Date	Mad About You	Paid Program	Fraser
7:30 PM						Friends
8:00 PM						Cheers
8:30 PM						Paid Program



Gloria Estefan donates \$1 million to Miami paralysis project

MIAMI (AP) — Gloria Estefan, who was temporarily paralyzed in a tour-bus accident 16 years ago, is donating \$1 million for the creation of a human clinical trials program at the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis.

The gift, announced Tuesday by the singer and her producer husband Emilio Estefan, is targeted to position

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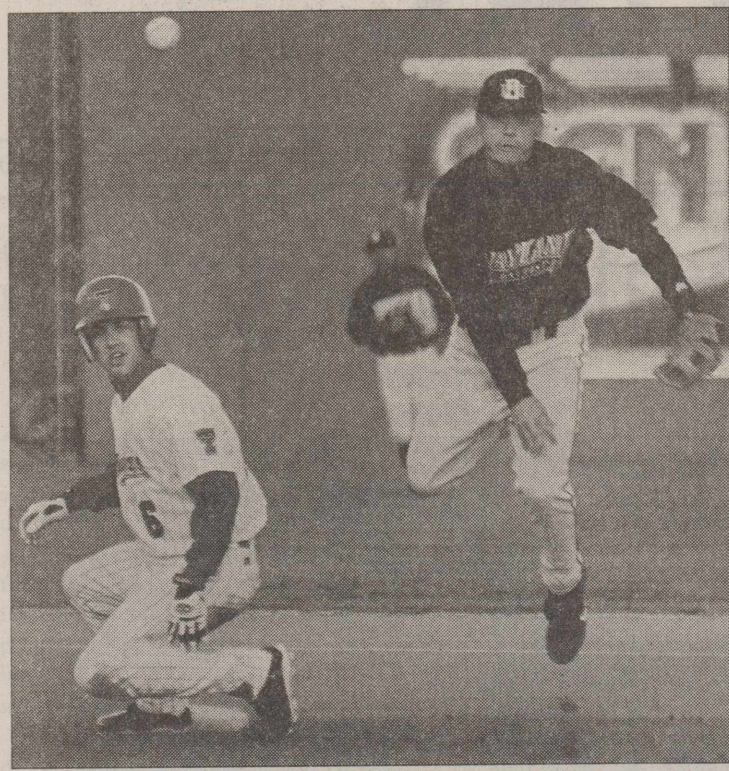
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Wilkins blast saves Raiders, Aggies on deck



DAVID JOHNSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH SENIOR center fielder Brian Capps, left, attempts to break up a double play in the first inning of the Raiders' 6-4 win over Wayland Baptist Tuesday at Dan Law Field.

By TREY SHIPMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Wayland Baptist came to Dan Law Field Tuesday to battle Texas Tech in a game scheduled to replace one of the three Tech has had canceled this season because of bad weather. Fighting the frigid temperatures and an urge to let down coming off an emotional 2-1 win over No. 16 Texas Saturday, the Raiders left the field Tuesday thinking better late than never.

The Raiders (18-2, 1-1 Big 12) and the Pioneers went into the bottom of the ninth tied at four after Tech squandered a 4-0 lead.

Extra innings seemed imminent as the Tech nine-hole hitter Willie Rueda came to the plate with two outs. Down two strikes in the count, Rueda slapped a line drive just over Pioneer shortstop Matt Knobbe and into left field to keep the Raider hopes alive.

With leadoff man Blair Wilkins in the box, Rueda took second on a steal to move into scoring position and set the stage for late-inning dramatics.

As it turned out, Rueda could have stood idly at first, as Wilkins worked the count full then laced a line drive just over the right field wall for a game-winning two-out home run.

"It was good timing," the junior right fielder Wilkins said. "I've got Brian Capps (.381 avg) and Tyler Reves (.349 avg) hitting behind me, I was just trying to extend the inning. I went deep in the count, he tried to sneak a fastball inside, and I just hit it real well."

Coach Larry Hays approved of Wilkins timely piece of hitting.

"Yeah that'll work a little bit," he said. "I was glad to see him do that. He's done that a couple times for us, getting a big hit late in the game."

Most Tech fans attending the contest might have expected a blowout considering the Raiders' win over defending national champion Texas, and Wayland Baptist (16-15) probably not being the greatest competition Tech has faced this season.

"When your playing on a day like today, like we've had lately, it's difficult to play," Hays said. "You gotta give Wayland credit. They came out and played hard; they played inspired when we gave them the opportunity to get it going."

Wilkins agreed that the not-so-spring-like temperatures could have kept the Raiders from reaching their full potential.

"We try to get up equally every game no matter who it is," he said. "I think maybe just the cold weather had a little to do with it. Just couldn't get that momentum going and that excitement we like going."

Hays said one of the main purposes of the game was to get more work for pitchers who haven't had the opportunity to get their innings. Tech used five pitchers in the Texas series last weekend, but four were used on Friday and no relief was needed Saturday as Big 12 Pitcher of the Week Miles Morgan went the full nine innings.

Tuesday, six different Raider hurlers took the mound, though perhaps none more important than junior transfer Josh Tomlin.

Tomlin entered the season at the head

of the Tech rotation but has been sidelined since Feb. 10 when he suffered a strained UCL in his elbow in a start against Rice in the Houston College Classic.

Against Wayland he threw two scoreless innings allowing two hits and striking out one.

"It feels great to finally get back in the rotation and try to come out here and get a win like we did tonight," the Raider ace said. "I still feel like I'm not too far off from being 100 percent. My arm is still a little tired from the rehab, but I'll take these few days off and maybe come back and throw some relief this weekend."

Hays enjoyed seeing his top starter back in action — even if it was for only two innings.

"That was huge and the highlight of the night," he said. "He's not throwing with the velocity that he's going to."

"He's been rehabbing like everything and his arm is getting healthier but it's tired right now. He's going to have to start resting and not rehabbing so much."

Tech could use a healthy Tomlin this weekend as they travel to College Station to take on Texas A&M in a three-game conference series this weekend.

With the Big 12 shaping up as tough as ever, adding a couple early wins to their conference win column could greatly benefit the Raiders.

"I'm ready to play them, its gonna be a big week for us," Tomlin said. "We're going down there trying to get three wins from A&M. Starting out 4-1 in conference would be big for us."

► trey.shipman@ttu.edu

BASEBALL AMERICA'S

TOP 25 (WEEK OF MARCH 21)

1. MISSISSIPPI STATE (15-0)
2. RICE (18-6)
3. NORTH CAROLINA (17-3)
4. CAL STATE FULLERTON (17-6)
5. GEORGIA TECH (18-3)
6. FLORIDA STATE (21-2)
7. SOUTH CAROLINA (17-3)
8. NEBRASKA (15-2)
9. FLORIDA (17-7)
10. CLEMSON (11-6)
11. ARKANSAS (17-3)
12. TENNESSEE (14-5)
13. WICHITA STATE (20-3)
14. TULANE (14-8)
15. LOUISIANA STATE (17-5)
16. OREGON STATE (12-7)
17. STANFORD (11-7)
18. TEXAS (15-10)
19. ARIZONA STATE (18-7)
20. NORTH CAROLINA STATE (21-5)
21. PEPPERDINE (14-11)
22. BAYLOR (14-6)
23. OKLAHOMA (18-5)
24. VIRGINIA (19-4)
25. GEORGIA (14-5)

Young tennis team brimming with confidence

By BRITTANY BARRIENTOS
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

The young Texas Tech men's tennis squad started the season out with what seemed to be a little bad luck.

The team's Top 5 players from last season were gone, and the expected No. 1 player Bojan Szumanski had to redshirt with an ankle injury.

Despite last season's trip to the NCAA Tournament and ending Intercollegiate Tennis Association ranking of No. 12, when the season began it seemed no one believed this young team could compare to the one before.

But now, the Raiders sit at 9-4 on the season, and people are beginning to see the light.

"We put ourselves in position to think that we have a chance to make the tournament," coach Tim Siegel said. "(At the beginning of the season), I didn't know what to expect, but I feel like they've really bought into really working hard and competing. It's been good so far, but it's got to keep getting better." Aside from the potential for the No. 37 ranked Tech team to make it to the NCAA Tourney, it has had two players named Big 12 Player of the Week.

This week, freshman Christian

Rojmar grabbed the title. "I think that's great. He played amazingly well this week," said March 7 Big 12 Player Dimitrio Martinez. "He just stepped up in his game this week and helped us win. It's really great for him and for all of us."

The win Martinez referred to was the Blue-Grey Invitational held in Montgomery, Ala., last weekend.

Siegel said from the beginning he could tell the tourney would be a good experience for the Raiders.

"We had to drive about 1,000 miles each way," he said. "It was good for the team to spend together, and I thought it went really well."

When they finished the 1,000-mile trek, it was faced with a play-in game against Troy State.

"We knew from the beginning it was a very strong tournament — probably the toughest after the NCAA," Martinez said. "(In the Troy State game), we came out very strong with doubles that carried throughout singles."

The Raiders went on to win that match 4-1, then advanced to play Mississippi State in the first round.

"From the No. 1 position to No. 6, we all had to fight," Martinez said of the matches with the No. 44 team. "They were all fighters; we were all aware of what was at stake."

Tech closed out with a 9-3 win over the Bulldogs. That was enough to impress Siegel.

"We probably had the best performance of the year over Mississippi State," he said. "The guys really fought hard; it was a great team effort."

That set Tech up for the quarterfinals against No. 26 Virginia Commonwealth, which the team lost 4-2.

"This was another unbelievable college match," Siegel said in a statement. The players agreed.

"We fought and we all played well," said team captain Adrian Prpic. "It was a great college match — the kind you wish you had every time."

And that strong showing has given the team the confidence it needed for this weekend's matches against Purdue, South Florida and Rice.

"We have a lot of confidence right now," Rojmar said. "I think we're going to play really good tennis and win some matches."

And Prpic said from where the team started, that's a good thing.

"I played (No. 6) last year, and Dimi (Martinez) didn't really play," the sophomore said. "And this season we're (No. 1) and 2, and we have winning records. I don't think anyone expected us to play this good."

As for the tournament, Rojmar said he believes the chances are good, too. "We have a really good shot now," he said.

And would that be the ultimate goal for the season? "Yeah, it would," Rojmar said.

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► trey.shipman@ttu.edu

Lady Raiders interested in Purdue coach Curry

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — Texas Tech has taken the first step in trying to lure away Purdue women's basketball coach Kristy Curry.

Texas Tech has contacted Purdue athletic director Morgan Burke seeking permission to talk to Curry about its open head coaching job. Purdue has granted that request, Purdue associate athletic director Jay Cooperider said.

Tuesday.

"It's strictly protocol," Cooperider said. "It was Texas Tech's AD giving a sign to Burke that he was going to contact Curry."

Cooperider said Texas Tech initiated the contact. No meetings will take place until after the Boilermakers are finished with NCAA tournament play. The Boilermakers defeated UCLA 61-54 on Tuesday night in their second-round

NCAA tournament game.

"I told the team that we'd talk about that at the end of the season, but that my focus was on them," Curry said after the game. "It's a typical spring, this has happened each of the last four seasons. But my only focus is to take them to the Sweet 16."

Curry's stock has risen during her seven seasons at Purdue. She has a career record of 179-50, with her Purdue teams making the NCAA tournament every year and reaching the national championship game in 2001. She has a guaranteed salary of \$200,000 at Purdue.

Texas Tech athletic director Gerald Myers said he would not confirm or deny any specific candidates to replace Sharp. He said he's talked to a "few" athletic directors, some who lead programs whose teams are still in the NCAA tournament as well as teams that no longer are.

"There's no firm timeline," Myers said of filling the Lady Raiders coaching position. "But the sooner the better."

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- 1 Hustler from Minnesota
- 5 Victorious Super Bowl IV coach
- 10 Soprano Gluck
- 14 Give off
- 15 Crownlet
- 16 Requirement
- 17 Two Years Before the Mast' author
- 18 Lark's relative
- 19 Sawbuck
- 20 Crow
- 23 Sock parts
- 24 Gumbo
- 25 Engraver's instrument
- 28 Bambi and kin
- 30 Carpentry tool
- 33 Dies
- 34 On the wagon
- 35 Rocky peak
- 36 Hunt
- 40 Moving vehicle
- 41 Negatively charged ion
- 42 Part of B.A.
- 43 The Greatest
- 44 Tears
- 45 Admonition
- 47 May celebrant
- 48 Woody Guthrie's boy
- 49 Apple
- 56 Assist
- 57 Speckled fish
- 58 "la Douce"
- 59 Run off (map info)
- 60 School for Pierre
- 61 Aunts in Acapulco
- 62 Hardy girl
- 63 Warning words
- 64 Salinger less

DOWN

- 1 G-men
- 2 Asian nursemaid
- 3 Prong
- 4 Momentarily stumped
- 5 Mass vestments
- 6 Louise and Turner
- 7 Death Valley rarely
- 8 Third baseman Rodriguez
- 9 Sea cows
- 10 Caper
- 11 Provocative look
- 12 Patch up
- 13 Pop-ups, e.g.
- 21 "are here (map info)"
- 22 Quotable catcher
- 25 Trees of a region
- 26 Error's partner
- 27 One-named New Age musician
- 28 Extinct birds
- 29 Israeli statesman
- 30 Gaww
- 31 Major artery
- 32 Carpus, commonly
- 34 Salon sound
- 37 Slugger Hank
- 38 Lively
- 39 Likely winner, perhaps
- 45 Packing cases
- 46 TV alien from Melmac
- 47 Exodus leader
- 48 Mature
- 49 Office folder
- 50 March 15th
- 51 Shell competitor
- 52 High time?
- 53 "Trinity" author
- 54 Muslim leader
- 55 Stun, with a gun
- 56 Back of the Space Shuttle

3/22/06

By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

A F A R O P T S D I V E R
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S E B M H O M E E T I U D E
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A L P G E A R S T E
L I E D O W N O N T H E J O B
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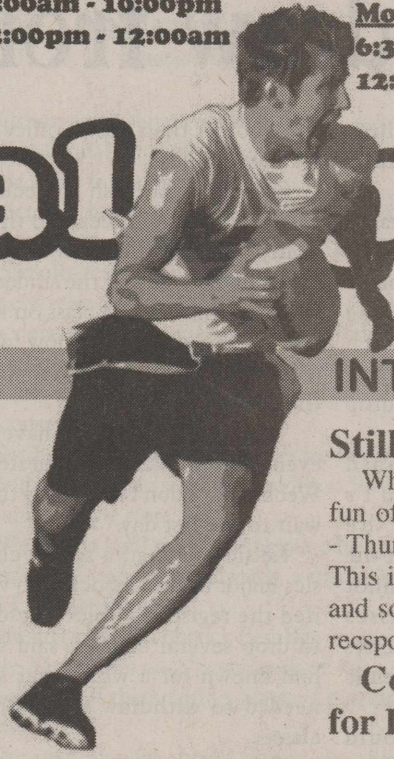
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Student Rec Center Hours
 Monday - Friday 6:00am - 12:00am
 Saturday 8:00am - 10:00pm
 Sunday 12:00pm - 12:00am

Aquatic Center Hours
 Monday - Friday 6:30am - 8:45am
 12:00pm - 9:00pm
 Saturday-Sunday 12:00pm - 7:00pm

www.recsports.ttu.edu

Recreational Sports



FITNESS/WELLNESS



Mountain Bike Race This Saturday
 The annual Natural High Mountain Bike Race will be held this Saturday, March 25 at the MLK course. Registration begins at 11 with the first race off at 12:30. There will be Beginner, Sport and Expert fields for both Men and Women. Entry fee is \$5 Tech and \$10 community. Course descriptions are available at www.recsports.ttu.edu. Join the OPC and Fitwell for this fun event.
Register day of race from 11am-12:30pm

INTRAMURALS

Still Time To Get Your Football Fix
 Why wait until fall? 4-on-4 Flag Football is back! All the fun of flag football, only faster. Sign-ups are going on NOW - Thursday, March 23 in room 203 of the Student Rec Center. This is an ENTRY FEE sport, \$20 per team. Have the names and socials of your squad ready. Check out the rules at www.recsports.ttu.edu
Come in today between 3pm and 5pm for FREE Domino's PIZZA!

Indoor Soccer Captain's Meeting Tonight
 Tonight's captain's meeting is at 6:00pm in room 201 of the Student Rec Center. The intramural staff will review Texas Tech Policies, Indoor Soccer Rules and the Sportsmanship Policy that is being used this year. Playoff eligibility is determined by your sportsmanship rating. Teams attending this meeting will receive 1 point towards the sportsmanship goal.

OUTDOOR PURSUITS CENTER

Women in Climbing Mondays at 8pm
 Whether you're an experienced climber or totally new to the sport, join other Tech women at the climbing wall on Monday nights for Women in Climbing. Climbing Fundamentals and Movement workshops will be taught as needed (\$5 each - taught by women), or you can come just to climb for free!
 This is a great opportunity to get a full body workout, learn and develop climbing skills and meet other women in the sport. Climbing shoes can be rented at the Wall for \$2, or bring your own if you have them. All other equipment is provided.
No need to sign up - No experience needed - Come learn a new skill!



Fitness Bucks Toward Personal Training
\$5 Spring Break is over and it is a great time to improve that fitness level. Whether you are a beginner or expert, a personal trainer can help you meet your goals. Register from March 22 - 31 and receive \$5 off the cost of Personal Training. Get 3 sessions for \$40 or 5 for \$65. Please come to the Fit/Well for paperwork and payment. **\$5**

AQUATIC CENTER



Experience Kayak Polo This Saturday @ 10am
 Wake up Saturday mornings and enjoy a refreshing workout at the Aquatic Center with weekly Saturday morning specials!
 This week, Kayak Polo! Open for everyone at any skill level. Just head over and jump in from 10am-11:45am.

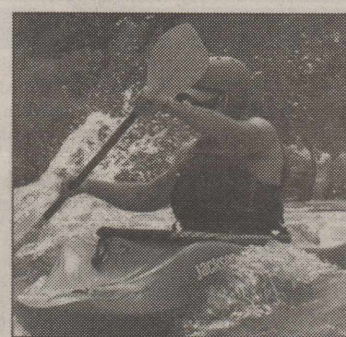
Lifeguard Classes
 Become a certified American Red Cross lifeguard. The course includes lifeguard techniques, standard First Aid, and CPR for the professional rescuer. Cost: \$120 for Texas Tech students, faculty and staff and \$130 for the community (includes all certification costs and manual).



UPCOMING CLASSES:
 Session II April 1 - 9 Sat/Sun 8am - 6pm
 Session III April 4 - 27 Tue/Thu 6:30pm - 10pm
 Session IV April 22 - 30 Sat/Sun 8am - 6pm

The Aquatic Center Is Taking Applications For The Summer
 Want to teach swim lesson, lifeguard, get tan, make money and meet new people? This is the job for you! Stop by and pick up an application at the pool. Interviews are being done immediately. More questions? Give us a call 742 3896

Bicycle Brake Adjustment Workshop
 Having the brakes on your bicycle adjusted correctly makes riding safer and a lot more fun. Learn how to do it yourself for free! This Workshop is TONIGHT from 7-8pm in the OPC. The hands-on learning style of these workshops offers participants the opportunity to be involved and have FUN! Details on this and other workshops can be found at recsports.ttu.edu.



UPCOMING OUTDOOR PURSUITS ADVENTURE TRIPS

WHITewater Kayaking APRIL 14-17
 In this short course, you will learn the skills necessary to start whitewater kayaking. Basic skills such as paddle strokes, boat control, and the introduction to the roll will be taught in four intensive pool sessions. This class concludes with a weekend trip that will challenge your newfound skills on the three beautiful rivers in Texas, the South Llano, San Marcos and the Guadalupe. Mandatory Pool Sessions on Tuesday and Thursday nights starting March 30.

SIGN-UP DEADLINE	DEPARTS	RETURNS	PRICE	SKILL LEVEL	FITNESS LEVEL
March 30	3pm	10pm	\$125	beginner	moderate

INTRO TO ROCK CLIMBING APRIL 7-9
 Join us for a thrilling weekend of outdoor climbing in eastern New Mexico. Participants will have the opportunity to climb while learning the basic practices associated with climbing. Instruction is geared for the novice climber.

SIGN-UP DEADLINE	DEPARTS	RETURNS	PRICE	SKILL LEVEL	FITNESS LEVEL
March 30	3pm	9pm	\$85	beginner	moderate

New Mexico Backpacking APRIL 7-9
 New Mexico is one of the United States' hidden gems. Outdoor opportunities abound, and the OPC has selected the perfect backpacking trip for you! We will hike through the mountains with everything we need on our backs, eat fantastic food, enjoy the views and relax.

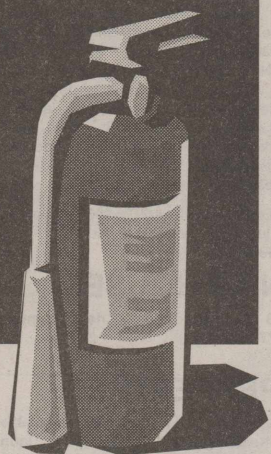
SIGN-UP DEADLINE	DEPARTS	RETURNS	PRICE	SKILL LEVEL	FITNESS LEVEL
March 30	3pm	9pm	\$75	beginner	moderate

Coming Soon!	INTRAMURALS	Entries Due	SPECIAL EVENTS	Event Date	SPECIAL EVENTS	Event Date
	4 on 4 Flag Football	March 22-23	Brake Adjustment	March 22	Lifeguard Challenge	March 26
Tennis League	April 4	Lifeguard Challenge	March 23	Weight Watchers	March 27	
Bench Press Competition	April 18	Mountain Bike Race	March 25	Group Running	March 28	
Golf (2-person)	April 28	Kayak Polo	March 25	Fly Fishing Workshop	April 5	

FIRE SAFETY 101

- TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREVENTION**
- Smoke detectors should be tested every six months.
 - Smoke detectors in the residence halls are checked by maintenance personnel.
 - Do not overload electrical outlets.
 - Do not leave cooking food on the stove unattended.
 - Keep Rooms clutter-free.

- SURVIVING A FIRE**
- Have two escape routes planned.
 - Take fire alarms seriously.
 - Feel the door handle. Do NOT open the door if the handle is hot.
 - Get out of the building BEFORE phoning for help.
 - Keep low to the floor - smoke rises.
 - Exit the building and do NOT run back inside for any reason.
 - STOP, DROP, and ROLL.



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