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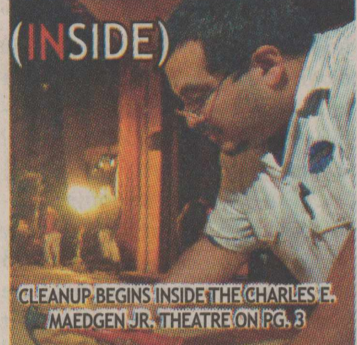
MENS BASKETBALL SET TO TAKE ON KANSAS

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FRIDAY, JAN. 19, 2007
VOLUME 81 ■ ISSUE 76



CLEANUP BEGINS INSIDE THE CHARLES E. MAEDGEN JR. THEATRE ON PG. 3

(INBRIEF)

STATE
Driver gets life for smuggling deaths

HOUSTON (AP) — A truck driver was spared the death penalty and sentenced to life in prison Thursday for his role in the nation's deadliest human smuggling attempt — a journey that ended in the deaths of 19 illegal immigrants crammed in a sweltering tractor-trailer. Tyrone Williams, 36, was convicted last month on 58 counts of conspiracy, harboring and transporting immigrants.

NATION
Parents think kidnapped son was molested

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The parents of a kidnapped Missouri boy said Thursday they believe their son was molested during the four years he was missing, and his grandmother claimed his captor had awakened the boy every 45 minutes, apparently as a way to control him. The comments came the same day the man suspected of snatching 15-year-old Shawn Hornbeck in 2002 pleaded not guilty to charges of kidnapping another boy on Jan. 8.

WORLD
Iran takes tough stand over nuclear row

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad lashed back over the U.S. military buildup in the Gulf, saying Thursday that Iran is ready for any possibility in the standoff over its nuclear program. The president made clear he was not backing down in his tough rhetoric toward the United States, despite criticism at home. Conservatives and reformists alike have openly challenged Ahmadinejad's nuclear diplomacy tactics, many saying his fiery anti-Western remarks are doing more harm than good.

DEATH TOLL
3029
U.S. Military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press confirmed by the Department of Defense

WEATHER
Today
SNOW
HIGH 29/
LOW 24

Saturday
SNOW
HIGH 34/
LOW 25

INSIDE

- Classifieds.....7
- Crossword.....3
- La Vida.....6
- Opinions.....4
- Sports.....8

U.S. criticizes Chinese weapons test

By KATHERINE SHRADER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States criticized China on Thursday for conducting an anti-satellite weapons test in which an old Chinese weather satellite was destroyed by a missile.

The Bush administration has kept a lid on the test for more than a week as it weighs its significance. Analysts said China's weather satellites would travel at about the

same altitude as U.S. spy satellites, so the test represented an indirect threat to U.S. defense systems.

"The United States believes China's development and testing of such weapons is inconsistent with the spirit of cooperation that both countries aspire to in the civil space area," National Security Council spokesman Gordon Johndroe said. "We and other countries have expressed our concern to the Chinese."

In his annual threat address to Congress, the head of the Defense

Intelligence Agency, Lt. Gen. Michael Maples, said last week that China and Russia are the "primary states of concern" regarding military space programs.

"Several countries continue to develop capabilities that have the potential to threaten U.S. space assets, and some have already deployed systems with inherent anti-satellite capabilities, such as satellite-tracking laser range-finding devices and nuclear-armed ballistic missiles," he said in his written testimony on Jan.

11, the same day China's test was conducted.

The test, first reported by Aviation Week, destroyed the satellite by hitting it with a kinetic kill vehicle launched aboard a ballistic missile.

In October, President Bush signed an order asserting the United States' right to deny adversaries access to space for hostile purposes. As part of the first revision of U.S. space policy in nearly 10 years, the policy also said the United States would oppose the development of treaties or other re-

strictions that seek to prohibit or limit U.S. access to or use of space.

"Freedom of action in space is as important to the United States as air power and sea power," the policy said. "In order to increase knowledge, discovery, economic prosperity and to enhance the national security, the United States must have robust, effective and efficient space capabilities."

Precisely what drove China to act now remains a mystery. But the United States has to figure out how

WEAPONS continued on page 2

OUT OF STOCK



LUBBOCK SHOPPERS SIFT through the aisles at a United Supermarket in order to stock up on goods for the winter weekend. COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Treador

Lubbockites, students prepare for weekend's worst

By JAN-TOSH GERLING
STAFF WRITER

Lubbock citizens swarmed to local supermarkets Thursday afternoon, snatching up water, batteries and firewood in preparation for a possible snowstorm late Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Murray Wazny, store manager of the Wal-Mart at Fourth Street and Avenue Q, said the store should have enough supplies to last through the weekend.

"As far as our supply of water goes, right now I know our warehouse is out of our store-brand water," he said. "But we have Pepsi and Coca-Cola providing us with plenty of bottled water."

Wazny said maintaining supply in preparation for the storm has been difficult because of the ice storm Lubbock experienced last weekend.

"Since last week's storm, we've really been having a lot of trouble

keeping in Ice-Melt, window scrapers, things like that," he said. "You're going to find a lot of stores are out of that stuff since the ice storm."

He said the store has had increased traffic since Wednesday, when news spread about the coming storm.

"People have been buying firewood and fire logs like crazy," he said. "Most retail stores are out of space heaters. The business we're doing right now is probably similar to the business we do on Saturdays."

Wazny said preparation at least two days in advance of the storm is a wise decision for people to make.

"People are being smart right now, coming out, making their purchases, stocking up, and getting ready for the incredibly cold weather," he said.

Because of possible power outages this weekend, Wazny said people have been purchasing a large number of batteries and

flashlights.

"As far as batteries go, we've got plenty of batteries," he said. "I know they've been projecting some possible power outages this weekend."

He said people who do not have gas stoves or gas fireplaces and rely solely on electricity should avoid purchasing microwavable foods.

"They might be better off buying stuff that's non-microwavable, like peanut butter and jelly and things like that, in case they have to survive without power," he said. "I'm hoping we don't see any power failures like that in our area."

Wazny said the store should be open throughout the weekend.

"Unless something happens where we're not able to oper-

WINTER STORM continued on page 2

Students with loans may see interest rate cuts

By NAOMI KASKELA
STAFF WRITER

Congress may have found a way to cut the cost of some student loans in the near future.

College students who take out need-based loans could see a decrease in the interest rates from the current 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent.

According to the Web site www.nytimes.com, a student-loan bill passed in the House of Representatives with a vote of 356 to 71 on Wednesday. The bill will cut the interest rate of need-based student loans in half over the next five years.

Because of the number of representatives from both parties who voted in favor of the bill, the chances

of President George W. Bush vetoing it are unlikely, said Neale Pearson, professor emeritus of political science at Texas Tech.

Paul Blake, associate director of the Office of Student Financial Aid, said the cut in interest rates does not apply to all student loans. "Basically, they're just reducing the interest rate on need-based loans," he said. "They're not on non-need-

based federal loans."

Blake said he was not surprised by the bill because there have been talks concerning it as well as similar issues since the democrats gained control of both houses.

Overall, he said he believes the bill is beneficial for students, but there is a possibility of some consequences of the bill actually hurting students.

Small lenders could be pushed out of the market, which would decrease competition and subsequently hurt students, Blake said.

District 19 Representative Randy Neugebauer did not support the bill, according to a statement released by his office.

"H.R. 5 is an unbalanced bill

LOANS continued on page 3

Lubbock police blotter

By PAUL ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

Jan. 14

Lubbock police investigated robbery at a business at the intersection of 34th Street and Avenue P. According to reports, a male suspect entered the business and demanded money from the cashier. Police said the suspect left the store with an unknown amount of money and fled northbound on Avenue P. Police said they did not get a description of the suspect's vehicle.

Lubbock police arrested a suspect for attempting a burglary in a victim's home at the 4300 block of Fifth Street. According to reports, the victim was inside the home when the suspect entered. The victim hid inside a closet and called the police, police said. Reports state the suspect forced the front door open and gathered items and placed them in a bag. Police arrived onto the scene, and the suspect hid inside the bathroom of the victim's home. Police said after they arrested the suspect, they located a kitchen knife on the suspect. The suspect was arrested and transported to the Lubbock Police Department holding facility.

Jan. 16

Texas Tech police responded to a medical emergency on the east side of the Foreign Language Building. Reports state a male student slipped on ice and injured

his left knee. The male student was transported to the Covenant Medical Center.

Tech police responded to a medical emergency after receiving a report of a male student having a seizure at Memorial Circle. Police said the student was transported to the University Medical Center.

A traffic accident with no injuries occurred in the 2500 block of Broadway Avenue. A female student was detained for driving with an invalid license and released pending the filing of charges with the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office.

A student was arrested for an outstanding Texas Criminal Information Center warrant. Police said the warrant came from the Austin Police Department.

Tech police responded to a fire alarm in Chitwood Residence Hall. Police said the fire alarm sounded because of a burned bag of popcorn left in a microwave. The entire building was evacuated.

Tech police responded to a fire in progress at the Charles E. Meadgen Theater. The fire was extinguished by the Lubbock Fire Department. Police said the fire was primarily in the stage area. The area was secured for investigation by the Tech fire marshal.

Tech police investigated a report of a sexual assault at Gates Residence Hall. Police said the report was from a victim who was in the Covenant Medical Center.

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Winter Storm

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ate, our intentions are to be open 24 hours," he said.

Philip Hunter, a senior industrial engineering major from Coppell, said he's been making preparations for the snowstorm, but has not had a chance to go to Wal-Mart yet.

"We're just making sure to have enough food, games to play and beer," he said.

Linda Duy, a sophomore history major from Forney, said she purchased warm clothes and gloves and is excited about Lubbock possibly receiving more than a foot of snow.

"I've never been in that much snow," she said. "I've stocked up on water too."

Kirk Rodriguez, associate director of hospitality services at Tech, said students living on campus do not need to worry about food shortages this weekend.

"We just had a supply come in that should hold us through Tuesday," he said.

What students can expect, he said, are vendors in differ-

ent Sam's Places and the Student Union Building operating in a limited fashion.

"We're anticipating some disruption in some concepts," he said. "For example, in one Sam's Place, you might just see pizza and sandwiches available rather than every concept operating."

Rodriguez said hospitality services had been having trouble maintaining supplies throughout the week.

"Things were a little slow because of the ice storm we had last week," he said. "We had some delay in incoming supplies."

Disruptions in several of the national vendors in the Student Union Building could occur because their suppliers are not local, he said.

"The biggest concern we have is whether staff and employees will be able to make it to work," Rodriguez said.

A local vendor, U.S. Foods, supplies hospitality services, he said, making it easier for supplies to be maintained.

One woman at the Wal-Mart at Fourth Street and Avenue Q said she needed to stock up on water before the storm hits.

"I have to have enough water

to make bottles for my baby," Charlotte Miller said. "So I'm just making sure we have enough water for this weekend."

Barbie Sisson said she ran out of water this week and needed to fill up before the weekend.

"We ran out of water at the wrong time," she said. "There's so many people here; usually it's so quiet during the day."

Sisson said she has not bought any supplies other than water and that she is leaving the rest up to her husband.

Mike Woodard, the non-food manager at the United Supermarket at 29th and Brownfield Hwy., said the store has experienced a large increase in traffic in the face of the storm.

"It's been ridiculous," he said. "You'd think the world was coming to an end; like it's going to be snowed under for a month."

Woodard said one positive aspect of the storm is an increase in sales.

"Yesterday's sales matched the day before Thanksgiving's sales, and that's traditionally our biggest day of the year," he said. "But we know that whenever snow is predicted in Lubbock, Texas, everybody runs to the grocery store."

He said the store should be open throughout the weekend, and Lubbock has been through worse.

"In 1983, in February, we got back-to-back snow storms," he said. "One day it was 10 or 11 inches; the next day was 11 or 12. The drifts were three-and-a-half feet deep and the town pretty much shut down for two days. I don't think it's going to get that bad. I don't see that happening."

Woodard said the media has been helpful in informing people as well as creating a panicked rush.

"I was ironing my shirt this morning and Sharon Maines was telling everybody, 'you better go to the store, you better buy water!'" he said, referring to the KCBT news anchor. "Wouldn't it be funny if we woke up in the morning and it'd be just like it is now? It's a possibility."

As of Thursday evening, Lubbock county was under a "heavy snow warning" with seven to 13 inches of accumulation possible between Friday and Saturday night and up to 18 inches in isolated areas, according to the National Weather Service branch in Lubbock.

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Rice says it is too soon for formal Israeli-Palestinian peace talks

LONDON (AP) — Israel and the Palestinians can pick any agenda they want for a preliminary peacemaking summit with the United States, but it is too early to tackle the toughest issues, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Thursday.

"We're not yet at the point where I think we can determine what we would do about formal negotiations, when and if" they can occur, Rice said at the close of a week's trip to the Middle East and Europe. "It's really a time to try to get the parties into more of a confidence-building phase and we'll see what comes after that."

Rice said her three-way meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas probably would take place in the Middle East in the first half of February.

Speaking to reporters travel-

ing with her, Rice said that session will follow a gathering in Washington of the international sponsors of a dormant, step-by-step peace plan called the "road map" that was to have led to Palestinian statehood by 2005.

She acknowledged that the 2003 plan's requirements had become something of an obstacle in restarting talks between the two sides, but she said it remains the guideline.

"Everybody understands the obligations in it, but we'd gotten to a place that it was stalled," Rice said, "because if they weren't making progress on the first phase of the road map, then you couldn't talk about the end of the road map and what might lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state."

Rice said her talks with both leaders last weekend "broke through that." Olmert and Abbas agreed to the three-way meeting, a symbolic advancement both of their relationship and the involvement of tradi-

tional peace broker Washington.

Olmert and Abbas are both politically compromised: Olmert by last summer's disappointing war in Lebanon and allegations of political corruption in his ranks; Abbas by his year-long internal power struggle with Hamas radicals.

Rice hopes the meeting will be part of a wider effort to support Abbas in that fight.

Both Abbas and Olmert inherited the 2003 plan agreed to by others. U.S. officials say it may be time to fine-tune some requirements in the plan, and that

an agreement between Abbas and Olmert about how to do that could be a first step toward larger accords.

"It really should be up to them to put anything on the agenda that they'd like," Rice said, but she made clear that she hopes to discuss more than the outlines or borders of an eventual Palestinian state.

"There's always been a lot of concern about what the borders of the state would be, but there wasn't much attention given to its internal composition — its democratic processes, its institutions," Rice said. She added that Abbas is interested in those subjects.

Assessing her prospects for progress on the Palestinian questions, the chief U.S. diplomat met in Berlin and London with European leaders who are keenly interested in an issue with wide public appeal.

In between, Rice tried to sell skeptical Arab governments on the rationale for President Bush's strategy in Iraq.

Some Arabs saw the tasks as related. "Every time the Americans are in trouble in Iraq, they remember that Arabs have a cause named Palestine," Saudi columnist Dawoud al-Shriyan wrote in the Saudi-owned Al-Hayat newspaper. "Therefore, they float some statements to create the impression that they continue their efforts in the peace process."

Rice briefed Arab leaders and diplomats about the Bush plan at stops in Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, arguing in part that Western-leaning or secular Arab states have much to lose if Iraq fails. A large part of that appeal involves the growing fears among Sunni Arab states that Shiite Iran is already gaining influence in Iraq and beyond.

In Kuwait, Rice sat down with foreign ministers from eight Arab states, including the three U.S.-allied heavyweights Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The grouping encouraged by the United States excludes Iran and fellow U.S. outcast Syria, but Rice has avoided comment on the perception that she is forging an anti-Iranian alliance.

Weapons

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to respond, said John Pike, a satellite expert at globalsecurity.org.

Since the mid-1980s, the United States has had the ability to take down satellites, but the Chinese don't have satellites worth attacking, Pike said. The United States may have to develop alternatives to its current spy satellites — perhaps stealthy satellites or unmanned aerial vehicles, which are harder to detect than the current well-established U.S. satellite network.

Reconnaissance satellites in low-Earth orbit — "eyes in the sky" — are essential to how the United States fights wars.

"Our space assets are the first asset

on the scene," Pike said. "They are absolutely central to why we are a superpower — a signature component to America's style of warfare."


The Defense Department declined to comment on the test. Adm. William Fallon, the chief of U.S. Pacific Command, has spearheaded

a major push to revive exchanges with the Chinese military. Ties soured after a U.S. spy plane collided with a Chinese fighter plane in 2001.

Fallon has pushed ahead with the program, despite criticism inside the Pentagon. He believes that Chinese and U.S. officers need to understand each another better to avoid disastrous miscalculations.

Bush nominated Fallon this month to take over command of troops in the Middle East.

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WHERE: Athletic Training Center (TTU Campus)
TIME: 3:30 pm on January 19th
8:00 am on January 20th

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Loans

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that could cost taxpayers as much as \$24 billion over the life of the loans while providing minuscule savings for college graduates," he said in the statement. "In fact, since the benefit only kicks in after students graduate, current students will not be helped by this bill."

Pearson said the students who will benefit are those who have to start paying off loans in 2012.

According to Neugebauer's statement, higher costs could be a result of the bill.

"To the contrary, current students could see higher costs as colleges and lenders now have a greater incentive to raise fees and tuitions," he said. "Past experience shows there is a direct correlation between a rise in tuitions and a rise in federal spending on higher education."

Some students on campus agreed the cut in interest rates by itself is not enough, but it is a good first step toward making higher education more affordable.

"So many people have that obstacle and don't go to school because they can't afford it," said Ashley McGee, a graduate student in mass communications from Dallas. "I think that's a good start."

McGee said she has not taken out any loans, but has friends who have.

"Once you get out, it kind of puts a hardship on the first couple of years after school," she said. "They just need to make sure that everyone has a chance to go to college."

Amanda Aguirre, a freshman electronic media and communications major from Midland, said she does have student loans and is worried about paying for them after graduation. "I just wish they would concentrate on school more and lower the costs," she said. "It is getting expensive."

Jeremy Coughran, a senior technical communications major from Arlington, said he believes the chances of college tuition decreasing will most likely not happen.

"It's never going to get cheaper than what it is," he said. "When you go to school, loans are the way to go."

Coughran said he has taken out loans to pay for schooling and said he believes the bill is a move in the right direction.

He said he believes increases in college voting could be a result of rising higher education costs, especially if it is a prominent issue in Washington.

"I think those that have student loans would vote more if it was a bigger deal," he said. "It affects them more."

Coughran and Aguirre are not alone in taking out student loans to pay for college. Blake said the average amount of loans a Texas Tech student takes out is \$19,000, and loans are taken out by students from all of the various colleges and levels.

"Probably about 14,000 to 15,000 students altogether take out some kind of federal loan," he said.

Of these students, around 11,000 take out need-based loans, he said. This number does

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DAMAGE CONTROL

Cleanup crews start work on the Maedgen Theatre mess

By **JOSH HULL**
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The theatre world may be familiar with the phrase "the show must go on," but for members of the Texas Tech Department of Theatre and Dance, the show must go on elsewhere.

Cleanup crews began work Thursday in the Charles E. Maedgen Jr. Theatre to repair the damage caused by the fire that destroyed a portion of the stage Wednesday morning.

Though the building's fire-sprinkler system contained the blaze within a small area of the facility, smoke and water damage throughout the structure has rendered the theatre unsuitable for occupation.

With crews already working on the damaged areas of the building, it is now the responsibility of administrators to determine the fate of the facility, said Lyndon Brinegar, assistant

director of construction projects for the Tech physical plant.

"Right now our main concern is to get the building there," he said. "Then we'll regroup from there."

Brinegar said a total cleanup job would cost approximately \$300,000, but no official estimate has been determined. He said the decision of how to proceed with the project is the responsibility of the administration.

"There were some projects in the works already for this building," he said. "I think they're just assessing what they want to do."

Brinegar said water dispersed from two sprinkler heads located 40 feet above the stage leaked into the basement below, resulting in a knee-deep water level. He said de-humidifiers and ozone machines designed to purify the air would be used to combat the smell of smoke that permeates the structure.

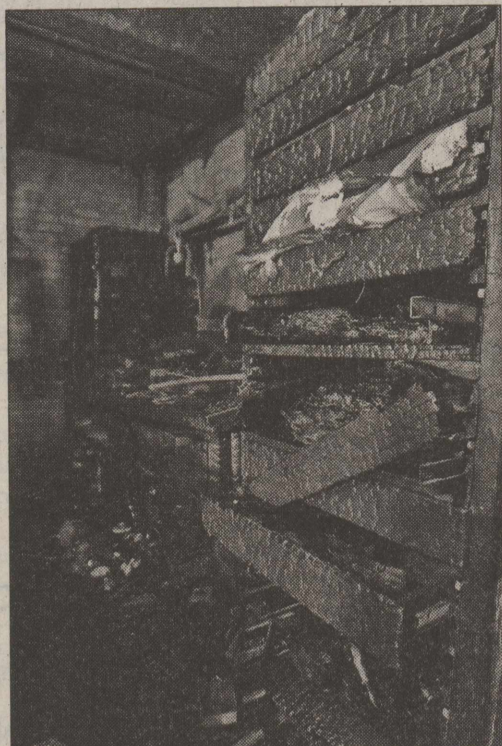
Because of the size of the job, he

said the task has been outsourced to an independent contractor. Brinegar said he could not comment on when the theatre would be re-opened.

With the stage closed and no end in sight, the Department of Theatre and Dance has been forced to relocate performances.

According to a press release from the office of communications and marketing, the Dance Tech: Artistry in Motion production will be moved to the Allen Theatre in the Student Union Building. Performances scheduled for Jan. 26 and Jan. 27 have been relocated, and a Jan. 28 performance has been canceled. Those who purchased tickets for the Jan. 28 performance can use them for the Jan. 26 or Jan. 27 performances. Any questions can be directed to the theatre and dance box office at (806) 742-3603, which has been moved temporarily to the Administration Building.

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PHOTOS BY STEVE LEWIS/The Daily Toreador

TOP LEFT: Electrician's station where the fire began. LEFT: A worker sweeps the stage near the site of the blaze in the upstage left area of the theatre. RIGHT: Remediation technician Juan Valadez of Blackmon Mooring Steamatic of Fort Worth uses a hammer to pull up a nail from the floor of the Maedgen Theatre Thursday afternoon. Workers were removing the top layer of the stage, which sustained water damage when firefighters put out the blaze.

not include students who take out private rather than federal loans.

Pearson said he believes this bill will not be the only one concerning education that will be addressed in the near future. He said he believes some legislation would be dealt with concerning the No Child Left Behind Act and Pell Grants.

"There may be something also on supporting science and technology with the university," he said.

For now, Pearson said he believes the measure is good for students.

"I think it's a good thing," he said. "It will help remove some of the burden on working students and working class families."

Whether or not it is beneficial for students, Blake said he believes many will probably not notice the changes immediately.

"Right now, I don't foresee any change as far as students go," he said. "It's business as usual."

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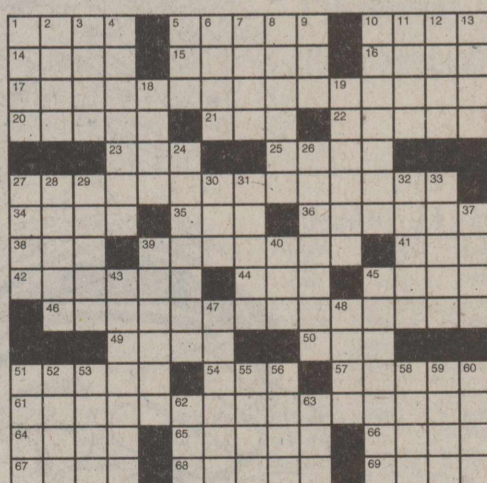
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16 Nevada town
17 Hope role
20 Tropical wader
21 Garage topper
22 Minute taker, perhaps
23 Latin eggs
25 U.S. rocket launchers
27 Bonaduce role
34 Arabian garb
35 Season opener?
36 Stun guns
38 Take the odds
39 Arrives by air
41 Short drink
42 Spoof
44 Female sib
45 12-point type
46 Sothern role
49 Apart from this
50 Mystery writer
51 Island west of Maui
54 Step into character
57 Bumped off
61 Harris role
64 Paul of "Scarface"
65 Take the tiller
66 Trademark
67 Spoiled child
68 Fictitious
69 Dry run



By James E. Buell
Edgewater, FL

1/19/07

- THURSDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED**
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- DOWN**
1 SAT section
2 U.S. Open stadium
3 Landing place
4 Oater bars
5 Traffic tie-up
6 Scent
7 Double negative?
8 Fervent
9 That woman

- 10 Groups of seven
11 Actress Sommer
12 Related by blood (to)
13 Ruckus
18 Grudging praise
19 3rd-century Gaelic bard
24 Small pieces of computer code
26 Monet and
27 Light touches
28 Crosswise, nautically
29 Dapper
30 Jackie's Onassis
31 Witherspoon of "Legally Blonde"
32 Photo finish?
33 Novelist Jong
37 Box to train
39 Romp
40 Formal address
43 No foolin' now!

45 Burn rubber
47 Part of OSHA
48 Pipe down!
51 Ewe offspring
52 Manchurian border river
53 Stan title role
55 Nile queen, briefly
56 Ager of parents?
58 English composer
59 Sister of Osiris
60 Immediately following
62 Horned viper
63 Sardonic



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Rules for politicians

Perhaps it's wrong of me to assume that I might be correct about this statement, but I would venture to say that you probably consider the vast majority of politicians untrustworthy. And who could blame you? Politicians have a nasty habit of pretending that they are something they're not in order to win votes.

They might justify this by telling themselves that they will eventually contribute to the common good once elected—that it's for our own good. This, if you ask me, is the problem with government today. That's why I have come with a list of proposals, rules if you will, I wish every politician had to follow—punishable by death (political death, not mortal death).

—Rule No. 1: Politicians are not allowed to publicly blame anyone for current shortcomings in the present situation. Playing the blame game is not only a waste of time (since when has blaming ever fixed the problem?), it's also more commonly used as a context with which to distort facts rather than accurately purvey truth.

Of course, knowing who is at fault for wrong decisions or bad judgment is important. That's why news sources exist. People can look things up and make their own decisions — should they choose to inform themselves. This rule would prevent the public from making misinformed decisions based on politicians' "used-car salesman" statements.

—Rule No. 2: Politicians may under no circumstances pretend that they are scientists, biologists, climatologists, economists, military strategists, or any other kind of professional, unless they have a degree for such professions or have been one before. I'm sorry, Mr. Al Gore, but you are not a scientist, nor are you

Adrian Martinez

especially interesting to watch.

Yes, politicians and government officials need to make statements about things like science, the environment and military strategies in order to voice their opinions or positions on such matters. But, these statements should only include that they intend to do about the situation. They should not be a regurgitated form of what their advisers have told them, blended with their own personal brand of bias and/or ignorance. That's just sad.

—Rule No. 3: Politicians may not break the law and still hold political office. This sounds like common sense, but I wouldn't have it here if it weren't a problem. And I'm not simply talking about text messaging minors with perverse comments when you're supposed to be serving our country. I'm talking about drunken driving, drug abuse, and all the other little crimes that some politicians (Ted and Patrick Kennedy) seem to think are trivial.

Some of you might be saying that these kinds of things actually are trivial. Who cares if Kinky Freedom did drugs in his musician days? He should be the governor! Are you serious? By doing drugs, Kinky supported a vice that this country has spent enormous amounts of money to eliminate. In most minimum wage jobs, you can get fired for failing a drug test. Our politicians should live up to that standard as well.

—Rule No. 4: Politicians should not be allowed to have speechwriters. You might not see the point of

this right away, but allow it to sink in (I'll wait). Would President Bush have come close to being elected if he were required to be an orator? You Bush-haters might love the idea now, but I bet your side of the isle would also look very different if Nancy Pelosi were allowed to speak off the top of her head in public, something the Democrats feared all the way until last November.

I suspect that a frighteningly large number of elected officials couldn't express their views cohesively if left to their own devices. But why is that important? It's simple: If a politician is reading a statement that was written by someone else, it's probably not genuine and sincere. More than likely, it's a hallmark card filled with fluffy proclamations and empty promises. I don't think anyone wants more of that in government.

And finally...

—Rule No. 5: Politicians should be subject to public humiliation when necessary. I know it seems cruel and unusual, but it would be necessary to weed out those who are only in the game for the spotlight. This supposed to be public service, and a threat of tarring and feathering on CNN might be exactly what we need to keep negligence of public opinion at bay.

But seriously, this rule might prove to be the most effective of all. It's really about one thing: accountability. I personally feel that the thing that politicians lack the most is a requirement to answer to their constituents for lapses in judgment. Maybe humiliation is a bit extreme, but at least it would be more entertaining than C-SPAN.

■ Martinez is a senior music major from San Antonio. E-mail him at adrian.martinez@ttu.edu.



Choice about legality, not spirituality

Amy McCarthy

Monday marks the 34th anniversary of the most controversial Supreme Court opinion ever written — *Roe v. Wade*. This landmark decision cemented the right to privacy and struck down all state laws criminalizing physician-performed abortions, declaring them unconstitutional.

Now, in the 21st century, the debate over abortion is intensifying. States like Texas and Virginia have introduced statutes that would ban abortions should Roe ever be overturned, while Kentucky, Louisiana, Illinois, and South Dakota already have such laws on the books.

The abortion debate is never going to just "disappear," but hopefully, the courts will realize how important the *Roe* decision is to the fundamental constitutionally implied right to privacy, along with the right of a woman to choose what to do with her body.

When I was researching this column online, I was bombarded by Web sites on either side — pro-choice, and anti-choice (also known as "pro-life") — both ardently proscribing the other. As a pro-choice advocate, I was irritated and angered while reading the anti-choice literature, but I figured I would give them a fair shake, no matter how nauseous and infuriated it made me.

After about an hour of reading, I couldn't take it anymore. The arguments against the right to choose are based in religion, not reality, and are almost completely comprised of appeals to the emotions rather than facts.

Abortion is a fact of life. Should it ever be illegalized, the United States will return to the "back-alley abortion" era of the early 20th century. The World Health Organization estimates that over 20 million unsafe abortions occur in countries where abortion is either illegal or restricted. More than 13 percent of the 600,000 pregnancy related deaths in the world are caused by unsafe abortions. These are frightening figures.

The world isn't nearly as simple as pro-lifers would like to think. Abortion is going to occur whether or not *Roe* is a precedent, and that's a dangerous notion. The thought of returning to the era of these unsafe procedures should scare both women and men into voting pro-choice.

The most common argument against choice is that the fetus is a "person." This argument, too, is an appeal to the emotions. While religious dogma may argue that a 3-day old clump of cells is a person, logic and the medical community argue differently. According to the American Medical Association, fetal viability, or the ability to survive outside the womb, occurs at around 24 weeks. When the fetus is viable, abortion should be illegal, and the majority of pro-choice advocates support that notion.

The fact still remains that women are guaranteed the right to privacy just like men. The Pro-Choice Education Project's Web site banner reads, "77 percent of anti-choice leaders are men, 100 percent of

them will never be pregnant." We are far past the days of women being subservient to men, in either function or opinion. Women deserve the inalienable right to choose how and when they reproduce.

Should a pregnancy occur, either through rape, incest, or mistakes in sexual choices, it is up to the woman, and not the government to determine whether or not to continue the pregnancy. This is not a decision for men to make; it's a woman's body, a woman's choice.

Few people would argue that abortion is a "good" thing. In fact, many pro-choice people that I know of would never have an abortion. They do, however, realize that it's not anyone's place, least of all the government's, to determine what a person cannot do in private matters. The best way to reduce abortions is to provide contraceptives and legitimate sex education.

The Guttmacher Institute reports that more than 52 percent of abortions are performed on women younger than 25. What's interesting to me, though, is that many anti-choice advocates are also anti-birth control. This is not only illogical; it is also counterproductive to their cause.

Providing young women with ac-

cess to free prophylactics and literature on safe sex and family planning is the only way to decrease abortions, not illegalizing them. The Bush administration has opposed comprehensive sex education in favor of abstinence-only sex education.

This view is naive and ridiculous. Teenagers and college students have sex. Once again, a fact of life. Preaching that abstinence is the best way to prevent sexually transmitted infections and unwanted pregnancies is good, as long as it is part of a comprehensive program that also includes education about the use of contraceptives and other safe-sex practices. Abortions may never be eliminated completely, but education (go figure) on the issue is likely to reduce the number of these procedures performed.

Whatever your religious convictions, they're irrelevant. The issue of choice is a legal matter, not spiritual. *Roe v. Wade* is one of the only Supreme Court decisions that have provided women actual legitimate rights. It's right up there with the right to vote and be paid equally for equal work. The anti-choice ideology is one of logical fallacies and ignorance. Abortion must remain legal to guarantee fundamental constitutional rights, and the safety and health of women.

■ McCarthy is a freshman political science major from San Paris, TX. E-mail her at amy.mccarthy@ttu.edu.

Athletics offer college students more than just perks

By Kimberly Stiles
The Pitt News (U. Pittsburgh)

(U-WIRE) PITTSBURGH — In our lifetime, there are very few things that shape us as a person, dreams that we have achieved or memories that we will never forget.

Every year in this country, thousands of high school students aspire to play a college sport, and for those with the ability and work ethic, it is an incredible experience. It was always my dream to play college softball, and my life has for many years been dominated by that game. As a senior at the University of Pittsburgh, I am entering my last season.

When I was a little girl, I wanted to play baseball with the boys, and could

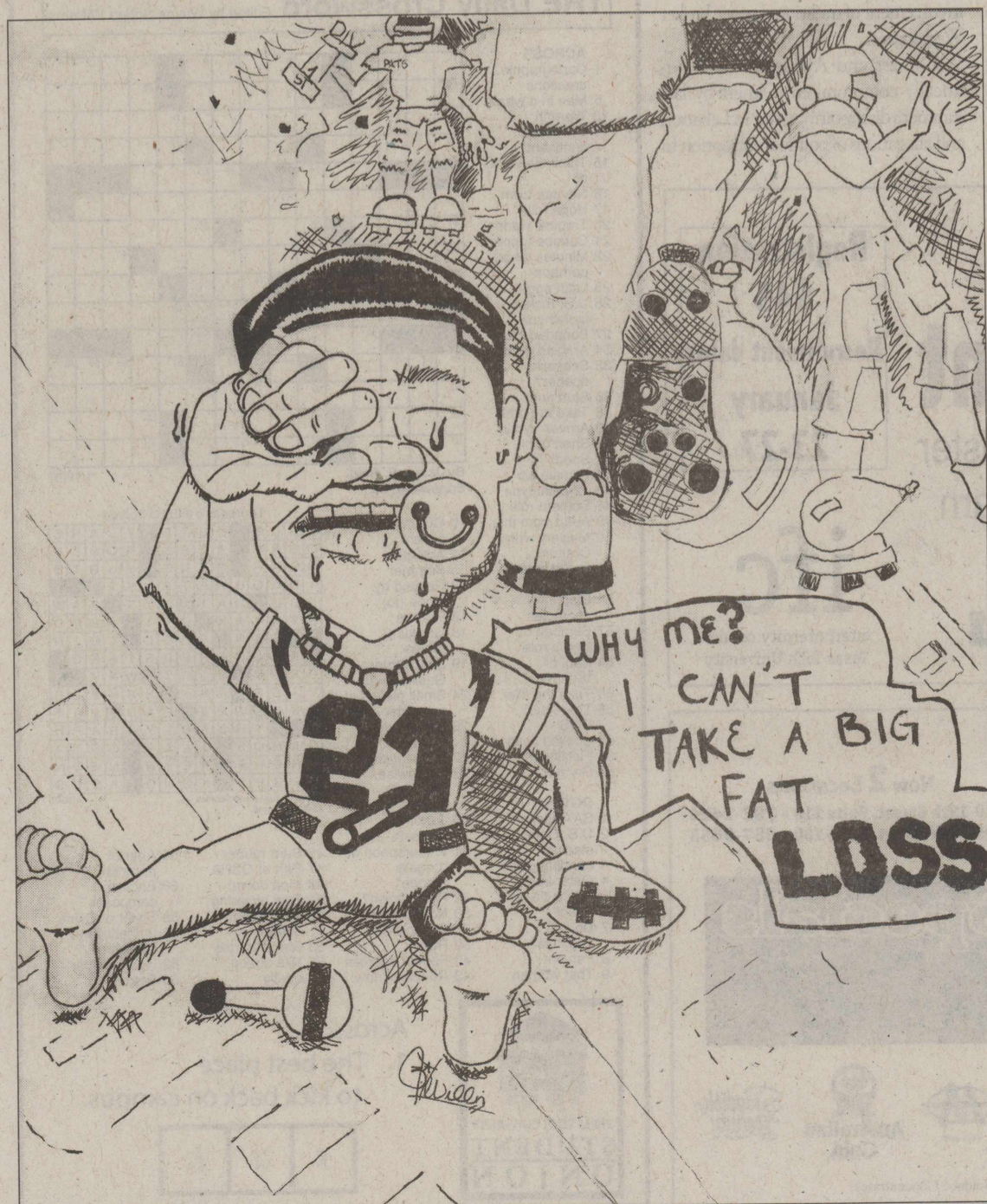
not accept that there were coaches who thought girls did not belong on the baseball diamond. I went to every game and sat on the bench waiting for my turn to play, although it never came.

For most, this would be devastating, but it only sparked my interest and strengthened my spirit. My dad, always believing that I could do anything, would stay after the games and practice with me because I had not gotten to play.

As I got older, I eventually played softball, but the determination was the same. I would spend extra time on the field or in the batting cage with my father. Yielding only to darkness, he taught me how to not only play but to understand the strategy and appreciate the game. Never having been the star

player, I have always had to work very hard. I always believed that I could become the player and person I aspired to be.

My father passed away my senior year of high school, and I did not know if I could play without him. He had always been there, coaching or sitting in the stands. He was a constant in my life, always with an encouraging word, pushing me to throw further or swing harder. I was afraid that the game would be different; that I couldn't play a game he taught to me love without him. With time, I realized that it was different, but the magic was still there, that the game had become the constant. I learned then that in life and softball, there are losses and awful days, but all we can do is come back the next day ready to play.



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Hance: classes, textbooks top priority

By MAGGIE KIELY
STAFF WRITER

At the first joint Student Congress meeting between the Texas Tech Student Government Association and the Health Sciences Center SGA, Tech Chancellor Kent Hance said smaller class sizes and tax-free textbooks are a top priority.

During Wednesday's meeting, Hance said some of his other top priorities for the semester include finding more funds for the Tech School of Medicine in El Paso and starting a new fundraising campaign for scholarships.

Hance said he wanted to emphasize the importance of increasing enrollment. He said having Tech students speak out to prospective Techs about coming to Tech is the best form of recruitment.

"Tech is the best university in the country," Hance said. "I would not be here if I did not believe that."

During his speech, the chancellor's cell phone rang to the tune of the Tech Matador song.

Mike Ellicott, vice chancellor for facilities planning and construction, presented many ongoing and future construction projects. Some of these projects included the NCAA soccer complex scheduled for completion



Chelsey Slayton, a senior nursing major from Coleman, and Srividya Bhadriraju, a second year medicine major from Dallas, listen to Chancellor Kent Hance speak during the first joint TTU/HSC congressional meeting at the Health Sciences Center Thursday evening.

by the end of the spring semester, the Rawls CoBA building and the new student leisure pool.

"The student leisure pool will include a lap pool, a sun deck and a wave rider," Ellicott said.

The pool is scheduled for completion in Sep. 2008 and will cost around \$7 million, Ellicott said.

Tech Parkway, a road designed to help students get around campus more conveniently, is scheduled to be fully open in the fall, Ellicott said.

Kay Rhodes, associate vice chancellor, and Chip Shaw, assistant

vice president, announced plans to upgrade the university's administrative computer system. Rhodes said the replacement project started at the end of 2004 and is scheduled to go live in Sep. 2008.

Dale Ganus, the unit associate director of the Office of Admissions Enrollment Management, said student and faculty benefits of the new system include 24-hour-system access, the capability to create different degree plan scenarios, removal of social security number usage and the ability to be on a waiting list for

classes that are full during registration.

HSC SGA President Tracilyn Hall, said three candidates have been chosen for the student regent position, and the governor will announce the selected candidate on Feb. 1.

After the joint meeting, the SGA conducted a separate senate meeting.

A senate resolution announcing Coach Bobby Knight being the "winningest" coach in NCAA Division I Men's Basketball history was passed.

Resolutions regarding the advising fees for certain students and the Dissertation Camp for Doctoral Candidates were sent to second reading.

Mason Moses, SGA legislative liaison, said he and 55 students are traveling to Austin in order to push for the passing of the tax-free-textbook bill.

"Post cards will be available in the SGA office the middle of next week for students to send to their representatives and senators to push the senate bill," Moses said.

A final budget seminar meeting is scheduled for Monday.

The next SGA senate meeting is scheduled for Feb. 1. mag8240@hotmail.com

Colbert, O'Reilly trade appearances

NEW YORK (AP) — Parody met its inspiration Thursday when Stephen Colbert and Bill O'Reilly traded guest appearances on each other's shows in an exchange that Colbert called "a meeting of the guts."

Colbert has molded his tough-talking, America-defending persona as host of the satirical "Colbert Report" largely on the Fox News pundit. On his Comedy Central program, Colbert has often spoke reverently of O'Reilly — or as he affectionately calls him, "Papa Bear."

"The Colbert Report" and "The O'Reilly Factor," the top-rated program in cable news, were taped one after another early Thursday evening, with "The Factor" airing at 8 p.m. EST and "The Report" at 11:30 p.m. EST.

Once inside Colbert's studio — decorated for the occasion with a large "Mission Accomplished" banner and a portrait of O'Reilly placed fireside — O'Reilly seemed to be regretting the decision.

"This was a huge mistake, me coming on here," he muttered.

It may have been a greater error allowing Colbert into the

Fox News headquarters, located near the "Colbert Report" studios in Manhattan. There, Colbert smuggled a microwave out of the green room, a bounty which he proudly displayed at the conclusion of his show.

A spokesman for Fox News confirmed that Colbert stole the microwave, but said it was all in good fun.

Appearing in the "No Spin Zone" of "The O'Reilly Factor," Colbert remained in character — though it wasn't always easy to tell.

"Who are you? Are you Colbert or Colbert?" prodded O'Reilly, pronouncing the "T" in one case, leaving it silent in the other (as Colbert does on his program).

"Bill, I'm whoever you want me to be," answered the comedian.

O'Reilly interviewed Colbert with a generally bemused attitude: "Don't you owe me an enormous amount of money?" he wondered.

The interview was followed by a discussion with several analysts on why "The Colbert Report" and its sister fake newscast "The Daily Show" are popular. Colbert had spent the week preparing for the arrival of "Papa Bear," and hyped it Thursday as "the greatest TV crossover since the Flintstones met the Jetsons."

Super Saturdays offer Lubbock students different kind of learning

By BEN MAKI
STAFF WRITER

Some Texas Tech officials are trying to make going to class on Saturday fun for Lubbock children.

The Tech Institute for the Development and Enrichment of Advanced Learners will conduct classes for students from kindergarten to sixth grade in a program called Super Saturdays. The classes will meet four Saturdays, starting February 10, and no grades for the class will be issued.

Martha Hise, director of IDEAL, said the program will have 17 classes available including book-keeping, forensics and rock climbing. The purpose of the program is to help students find their talents, she said.

"We are trying to help the students find his or her gift," Hise

said. "We do that by giving them info. We expect 16 (year olds) to 18 year olds to make a decision where they want to go academically without information into the different disciplines. A lot of girls want to be a veterinarian without realizing the need to be a scientist first, and then other students want to go into architecture without knowing they need to be good at math. It's not just about drawing a pretty picture."

Hise said in looking for teaching candidates, she looks for people who will be excited to teach students and be excited to work on weekends.

"We get people that it isn't work for them to get up on Saturday mornings and teach kids about engineering or Spanish or architecture," Hise said.

Graduate student Steven Rosscoe said he will teach kindergarten

to second grade students in a class called Dino-Rock — a class that explores paleontology and how dinosaurs lived.

"It is extremely rewarding to be able to work with kids so young that are so willing to learn anything," he said. "They just crave knowledge about things that interest them. Dinosaurs interest them at this age. The desire to learn for students at the college and high school level is still there to an extent, but it dies down. Children are naturally inquisitive about nature and I just want to be able to keep that in there just a little bit longer, and maybe they will get caught up in it."

Bruce Cammack, an associate librarian of rare books, said he will teach The Amazing Book, a class

outlining the history of books, which is geared toward fourth- and fifth-grade students. The students will learn to make both papyrus and quill pens before making their own books. The students will learn about cuneiform, an ancient form of writing, and learn how it was written using replica molds.

Cammack said his greatest pride in teaching the class in the past was the feedback he received from his students.

"I had a student tell me that my class was the most fun he had in any of them, mine and rock climbing," he said. "If I can make the history of the book as fun and interesting as rock climbing, then I have been successful."

Pat Maines, a Lubbock resident,

said she makes miniature models of different environments professionally and she will teach the Building in Miniature class for fourth to sixth graders. The course used to be called Miniature Houses, she said, and only girls would show up for the class. When she changed the name to Building in Miniature at the request of her daughter, boys started to take the class more and more, she said.

"Just in changing the name, it appealed to both the X and Y chromosomes," Maines said. "It's really quite interesting because boys and girls think so much differently."

She said the miniature that will be built is a replica of the secret garden from the book of the same name.

"The girls will read the book and try to build it how they see it in their minds, and the boys probably won't even look at the book and just start building," she said. "I don't want to bring in an example of my own because they will look at mine and try to emulate what the example looks like. I don't want to take away from their creativity."

Hise said the program is an opportunity for students to get a glimpse of Tech and have some fun.

"This is very hands-on in nature," Hise said. "Add in the fact that the teachers are devoted to the program, it is just a good formula and a good environment that is fun for kids with activities they don't get to do everyday."

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7 AM	Curious	Today After	Early Show	Believer	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	Jack Hanna
8 AM	Clifford	"Heroes", chef and editor Susan Westmoreland (HD)	Eye for an Eye	Eye for an Eye	Cosby Show	Megan Mullally Show	Jack Hanna
9 AM	Sesame Street	700 Club	Judge Mathis	Roseanne	Roseanne	Montel Williams	Martha
10 AM	Callou	Regis and Kelly	Priole is Right	Divorce Court	Divorce Court	The View (HD)	Tyra Banks
11 AM	Teletubbies	Jeopardy!	Young and the Restless (HD)	Judge Alex	Paid Program	Victory Lane	Dr. Keith Ablow
12 PM	Mister Rogers	Jeopardy!	News	KLBK 13 News	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Extra
1 PM	Needle Arts	News	Book & Beaut.	Maury	Judge	One Life to Live	People's Court
2 PM	Woodcum	Passions	Guiding Light	Paid Program	I Like	General Hospital	Court
3 PM	Puppy	The Lions	Inside Edition	Judge Joe	Jerry Springer	Reba "The Will"	Ellen DeGeneres
4 PM	Reading	Oprah Winfrey	Judge Joe	Maury	Bernie Mac	Rachael Ray	Fox 34 News First@Four
5 PM	Clifford	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy	News	KLBK 13 News	Family Feud	Friends
6 PM	Arth	News	CBS News	Family Feud	King Qu.	News	Jim "The Race"
7 PM	Wash. W.	1 vs 100	Billy Graham TV Special	Wicked Wicked Games (HD)	Friday Night SmackDown!	Grey's Anatomy (8 Days) (HD)	Nanny 911
8 PM	Exchange	Las Vegas "Community"	Close to Home "Community"	Watch Over Me "Scars"	(8) Bos. Sis. "Sexual Politics"	Trading Spouses	Raymond
9 PM	Theatre "The Virgin Queen"	Law & Order "Spray" (HD)	NUMB3RS "Wife and Kids"	Jim "The Race"	Will & Grace	20/20	Fox 34 News@Nine
10 PM	Bus Report	(35) Jay Leno (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	70s Sex and City	News	Stinfeld	Friends
11 PM	Charlie Rose	(35) Late Night (HD)	(35) Craig Ferguson	Mad About	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live	Cheers	Friends
12 AM	Destines	(35) Last Call	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program

SATURDAY JANUARY 20, 2007

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTX 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KMYL 14 MYN Lubbock	KLCW 22 CW Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Jeopardy (HD)	Today (HD)	Madeline	Housecalls	Johnny Test	Emperors	Wixx Club
8 AM	FETCH!!	Sabrina Anim.	Housecalls	Johnny Test	Emperors	Ninja Turtles	Bratz
9 AM	Zoom	Babar	Trotz	Legion Superh.	So Raven	Viva Pinata	Kirby
10 AM	Heartland	Dragon	Horseland	Lubbock Home	Batman	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Yu-Gi-Oh!
11 AM	Texas Parks	Ashley Show	Polard Ford	Spider Riders	Hannah	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Chaotic (HD)
12 PM	Chronicles	VoyageTales	Saturn	Spider Riders	Suite Life Zack	Chaotic (HD)	Chaotic (HD)
1 PM	RS Europe	JaneDign	Paid Program	Used Cars	Beakman's Pflingers	Pflingers	Saltum
2 PM	Victory Garden	Jacob 2-2	Paid Program	Beakman's Pflingers	Pflingers	Paid Program	Paid Program
3 PM	HomeLife	Paid Program	Paid Program	Farscape	NBA Access	Stargate SG-1	Stargate SG-1
4 PM	Workshop	Snowboarding	Handz Session	"The Shipment" '01, Comedy! Mat-hew Modine.	Coll. B-ball.	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
5 PM	Woodwright's	Freestyle International (T)	(45) College Basketball Teams TBA (Live)	"The New Guy" A loser changes his image at another school.	College Basketball Duke at North Carolina State (Live)	Jim Raymond	Jim Raymond
6 PM	Antiques Roadshow	Freestyle International (T)	(45) College Basketball Teams TBA (Live)	Wife and Kids	Scrubz	Scrubz	Scrubz
7 PM	Real Simple	Bull Riding PBR in Fresno (T)	Mexico	Jeopardy!	Paid Program	ABC News	American Idol Rerind
8 PM	Barbecue	Jeopardy!	Paid Program	College Basketball Colorado at Nebraska (Live)	King Qu.	News	Paid Program
9 PM	Farmers TV	News	Paid Program	Wheel Fortune	Wheel Fortune	Wheel Fortune	Wheel Fortune
10 PM	Granities	Wheel Fortune	Paid Program	Dakeline NBC	Cold Case "Start-Up" (HD)	Wicked Wicked Highlights (HD)	The Shield "Homebreaker"
11 PM	Lawrence Walk	"Time Was"	Globe Trekker	Crossing Jordan "Target" (HD)	NUMB3RS "Sor Target" (HD)	Watch Over Me Highlights (HD)	The Shield "Homebreaker"
12 AM	Globe Trekker	Crossing Jordan "Target" (HD)	NUMB3RS "Sor Target" (HD)	Watch Over Me Highlights (HD)	The Shield "Homebreaker"	Masterminds	Masterminds
1 PM	Independent Lens "Shadya"	News	KLBK 13 News	Alas "Rem-nants"	Cold Squad	News	Sports OT
2 PM	Austin City Limits	(35) Victory	Stargate Atlantis	Stone Undercover	(35) Entertainment Tonight	Mad TV	Mad TV
3 PM	Monty Python Roadtrip (HD)	Poker After Dark	Without a Trace	Star Trek	Girls Behaving Badly	American Idol Rerind	American Idol Rerind

SUNDAY JANUARY 21, 2007

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTX 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KMYL 14 MYN Lubbock	KLCW 22 CW Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Moody	Today (HD)	Cake	Awaken	Bible Society	Polard Ford	Paid Program
8 AM	George	Reporter	Sunday Morning	Cowboys	Key of David	Prophecy	Eddie Trice
9 AM	Signing Time!	Meet the Press	Hour of Power	Extra	Critter Gilts	Si se puede!	Encounter
10 AM	Destines	Southwest Baptist Church	Paid Program	First Baptist	Red Life 101	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
11 AM	Small Bus.	Auto Show	Motocross (T)	Paid Program	NBA Nation	NBA Nation	NBA Nation
12 PM	ImmerNEWS	Auto Show	Motocross (T)	Paid Program	NBA Nation	NBA Nation	NBA Nation
1 PM	Religion Ethics	Skiing U.S. Men's Pro Tour	Coll. B-ball.	To Be Announced	College Basketball Marquette at Pittsburgh (Live)	College Basketball Marquette at Pittsburgh (Live)	College Basketball Marquette at Pittsburgh (Live)
2 PM	China from the Inside (HD)	World of Adventure Sports	College Basketball Marquette at Pittsburgh (Live)	College Basketball Marquette at Pittsburgh (Live)	College Basketball Marquette at Pittsburgh (Live)	College Basketball Marquette at Pittsburgh (Live)	College Basketball Marquette at Pittsburgh (Live)
3 PM	Walking the Bible	Fashion on Ice	Paid Program	Star Trek "Wink of Eye"	Girls Hands (HD)	Gag Garnet	Gag Garnet
4 PM	22nd Century (HD)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Star Trek "Wink of Eye"	Girls Hands (HD)	Gag Garnet	Gag Garnet
5 PM	Branson Jubilee	NBC News	AFC Championship (Live) (HD)	Smallville "Bored"	Everybody	B Knight	TBA
6 PM	Lawrence Walk "Time Was"	Deal or No Deal	Deal or No Deal	Alias "Conscious"	Reba (HD)	Furnish Home	"TI Death (HD)
7 PM	Nature "Queen of Trees"	Grass: You're the One I Want	Grass: You're the One I Want	7th Heaven	Extreme Make-over	American Dad	American Dad
8 PM	Masterpiece Theatre "Jane Eyre"	Apprentice: LA (HD)	Without a Trace "Primer" (HD)	Smallville "Scars"	Will & Grace	(8) Bos. Sis.	To Be Announced
9 PM	Monty Python	News	KLBK 13 News	70s Sex and City	News	News	News
10 PM	Roadtrip (HD)	Inside Ed.	(45) Without a Trace "The Line"	Field Raider	Sex and City	(35) B Knight	Red Raiders
11 PM	Globe Trekker	Whacked	(45) Westmark	70s	Cheaters	(35) Entertainment Tonight	CSI: Miami
12 AM	American Experience	News	Paid Program	Jerry Springer	Farscape	(85) Victory	24

KANSAS STATE @ IOWA STATE **BAYLOR @ OKLAHOMA**

12:30PM **3:00PM**

FOX 34

LA VIDA

Luxury hotel with top-of-the-line accommodations — for pets

By JEREMY REYNOLDS
STAFF WRITER

Tracks doesn't move much during the day. His younger years are behind him, and his whiskers are now tinted gray. Throughout the day, he lies in the back corner of the Tipton Pet Luxury Hotel, moving only to switch positions or go outside to the bathroom.

Tracks, a 14-year-old Labrador retriever, is just one of the guests at the Tipton Hotel in Lubbock.

Bill Egert, owner of the hotel, said Tracks enjoys his time at the facility so much that he doesn't want to go home at the end of the day.

"The only time he moves during the days is when his owner comes off in the morning so he won't freeze in the backyard, and then the owner picks up Tracks after work.

Tracks is a part of the doggie day care program. His owner drops him off in the morning so he won't freeze in the backyard, and then the owner picks up Tracks after work.

Another option pet owners have is dropping their dogs or cats off before they go on vacation and then picking up the animals when they

return to the Hub City.

Unlike the regular kennels some pet owners utilize, Tipton is a luxury establishment where employees groom each dog, give the dog its own room, play DVD films for the animals and play catch with the pets a few times a day.

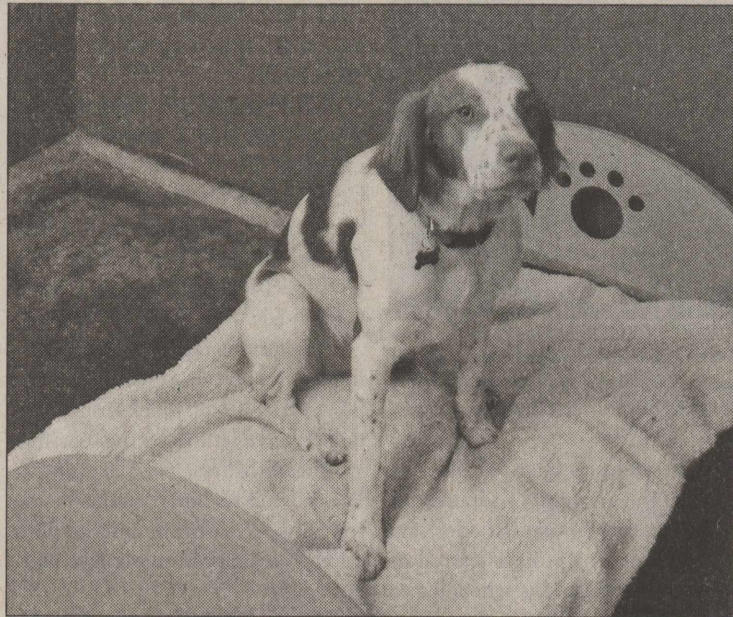
"We deal only in happy animals," Egert said.

Walking through the complex, there were no dogs crying out for their owners. The building doesn't have the smell of pet urine permanently embedded in the stone, and there were no crates or boxes with the dogs stuffed inside in awkward positions, like the cliché thoughts of kennels usually tend to imply.

Rigel Randolph, manager of the hotel, said the business has been accused many times of taking better care of the pets than their owners do.

"There are no dogs stressing out here," he said.

The dogs are taken for walks three times a day; 2 p.m. equals nap time and movies — the list of films includes "Homeward Bound" and "Air Bud." Pets are groomed at the



SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

PET OWNERS CAN rent out rooms complete with comfy beds, much like this one that Brittany Spaniel Max occupies, for their furry friends.

request of the owners, and Egert said he suggests owners bring their own dog food so that the hotel doesn't change up the diet of an animal.

"We stay really busy throughout the year," Egert said. "We opened in May, and for Thanksgiving, we were

booked two months in advance."

Egert said his business purchased the Just Dogs Gourmet Barkery after opening. The bakery makes dog treats such as cookies or mini-pieces of candy, although no chocolate is used in the recipes, Egert said.

There are even different kinds of treats made specifically for holidays. The hotel recently finished making its Christmas baskets, and, with Valentine's Day just around the corner, the bakery is busy at work on heart-shaped cookies and candy favors.

Rex Andrews, a potential investor in the company, said he admired what the company has become and what it has accomplished.

"When customers come and pick up their animals, they can't believe how happy (the pets) are," he said.

If a pet owner has withdrawal issues about leaving their precious dogs or cats in the hands of strangers, they can check up on their pets via a Web cam set up in each room, Egert said.

"Still, hotels like these are not for everybody," he said. "Our prices start at \$26.50 a day."

The \$26.50 price tag is for the pet owner who wants to leave the dog or cat at the facilities for the entire day, an option utilized when pet owners go on vacation, Egert said.

For doggie day care, the price is \$12.50 a day, Andrews said. If the

pet owner has a punch card, the price drops to \$10.

There are dog cakes for a pup's birthday and candy cigars to celebrate a dog having puppies; for the pet's birthday, the hotel staff sends a card to the pet and not the owner, Andrews said.

Matthew Yugovich, owner of the Lubbock Kennels, said his business has been in the city for more than 20 years.

"There have been a dozen 'Tipons' that have come and gone," he said. "They charge outrageous rates and are not in business for so long."

The Lubbock Kennels charge \$10.50 a day for the pet, a figure that increases slightly for larger animals.

Yugovich said what separates his business from others, is he can offer a shelter to more than just dogs and cats.

"We've housed just about everything," he said. "Lions, dogs, cats, chickens."

The Tipton Pet Hotel is located at 12201 Frankford Ave.

► jeremy.n.reynolds@ttu.edu

President's Select provides more than just campus tours

By ALLISON LOWE
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech students may have seen some of their fellow classmates wearing black fleece pullovers with the words "President's Select" imprinted on them. Many students may not know what members of this organization do or represent, but after given the facts, some may be jumping quickly to meet the group's application deadline on Jan. 26.

President's Select is a Tech organization composed of approximately 80 members who can be seen giving daily walking tours around campus. Yes, these members have been known to impress observers because they not only walk backwards while giving the

tours, they also simultaneously recite a large number of facts about campus. However, giving campus tours is only a tiny fragment of what these hard-working members do.

Students in the organization spend their days aiding three offices at Tech: the Office of Admissions, the Office of the President and Tech Athletics. Members receive many opportunities to participate in activities the average Tech student does not experience. The perks don't hurt either.

Justin Clark, vice president of admissions, said the group is used to run and plan events to aid the office of admissions. The sophomore restaurant, hotel and institutional management major from Klein said members spend their time interacting with a variety

of people on campus, especially when working in events designed to bring attention to the university and recruit new students.

The group's key interaction with prospective students occurs when working on University Day, Red Raider Experience, Techsan Preview and a variety of other events.

"It is a really unique organization with the number of people you get to meet and interact with," Clark said.

When working for the Office of the President, members of President's Select are present as student representatives, said Clark. The members are used to staff random events and special dinners. Clark said members often get to mingle with Tech President Jon Whitmore at

his suite in Jones AT&T Stadium and the United Spirit Arena.

"How many students know the president of the university?" Clark said. "President's Select does."

Some Tech students may be interested in learning that members of President's Select spend time aiding in the recruiting process when working with the office of athletics.

Brecklyn Hughes, vice president for athletics, said the group works mainly with football and baseball, but it occasionally handles golf.

Members of the organization get the fun job of taking recruits on tours of the university and escorting them to meetings with the different coaching staffs. The members serve as liaisons to the recruits while they are visiting, and are there to answer any questions the recruits may have. Hughes said they get to know the recruits, and they try to sell them on the university. Members also get to sit in the stands with the recruits on the 50-yard line during football games and escort them on to the field before hand.

"It's really important because those recruits get to talk to someone who is their age and get more of a student aspect," Hughes, a junior personal

financial planning major from Garden City, said.

Clark, the vice president of admissions, said he believes having the group puts Tech at an advantage. He believes the group makes prospective students feel more comfortable because they have actual Tech students guiding them around.

"I think it puts a face to the university," Clark said. "A lot of other universities don't have that."

He said being a member of the group has certain advantages aside from directly influencing student's decisions to come to Tech.

Through the organization, members are able to make connections for the future, which Clark said is an opportunity other organizations do not always directly offer their students. These connections include the ability to ask and receive recommendation letters directly from President Whitmore and other key figures on campus. In addition, Clark said members get to register first with scholarship students, receive money off their class rings and receive free meals and a lot of free Tech clothes.

Taylor White, a sophomore broadcast journalism major from McKinney, said being a part of the organization

has allowed her to meet people she would have never met before and to have experiences she would not have had otherwise. She said she believes being involved with the group is a good way for students to give back to their school.

"It has made me realize that I would like to work for Tech someday," White said.

White emphasized that being a member of the group takes commitment and effort, but all students involved are fun and have great personalities.

Jenna Vinson, a sophomore education major from Lubbock, said being involved is a lot of work, but she believes it is well worth it in the end because of the fun she has had as well as the perks she has received. She said she believes the experience will help boost her resume.

"It's a great experience to meet new people and to get people excited about coming to Tech," Vinson said.

President's Select is accepting applications. The deadline is 5 p.m. Jan. 26.

Students can apply online at <http://www.orgs.ttu.edu/presidentsuniversityselect/>.

► allison.lowe@ttu.edu

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Hangin' tough: New kids on the block adjusting to new neighborhood

By **WES SKIPWITH**
STAFF WRITER

Being the new kid is never easy, and with the beginning of the new baseball season, a number of freshmen and college transfers are attempting to find their niches in the Red Raider clubhouse.

The Texas Tech baseball team added 11 freshmen and eight transfers to its 2007 roster. Several of the new faces have had mixed experiences in adjusting to the team, the college and the town.

Freshman outfielder Taylor Ashby joined Tech and the baseball team last fall after graduating from Mon-

terey High School. He said one of the biggest differences between high school baseball and college baseball is the amount of attention the Tech team receives. He said he tries to stay focused on just playing the game despite the increased publicity.

"There's a lot more hype about the upcoming season, and the crowds that come to the games are bigger," Ashby said. "But baseball is baseball, there is still 90 feet between the bases no matter where you play."

Freshman infielder Chris Hall said after being a senior and one of the top players on his team at Abilene High School, he now has

to start all over again and earn his spot.

"In high school, you are at the top of the team," Hall said. "But now you have to start at the bottom and work towards the top."

Junior college transfers must also make adjustments when joining the ranks of a four-year university such as Tech. Geoff Byrns joined the Raiders last fall after transferring from Chabot College in Hayward, Calif. He said after two seasons playing junior college ball, he is thrilled with the opportunity to play Division I baseball for the Red Raiders.

"I paid my dues playing JUCO

for two years," Byrns said. "I worked hard and refined my skills in order to get better, and I am excited to be playing for a quality program like Texas Tech's."

Byrns said the biggest difference between his old team and the Tech team is the level of play he has seen from his new teammates.

"Everyone can play at this level," Byrns said. "The pitching is better and the defense is solid."

Besides a new baseball team, the newcomers must make an adjustment to college life at Tech. Hall said balancing school and baseball has been one of his biggest challenges.

"You spend so much time practicing that when you get home you want to relax but you can't because of school work," Hall said. "You have to take care of your school work in order to play."

Byrns said the adjustment to living in Lubbock and West Texas has been a pleasant surprise.

"I love Lubbock," Byrns said. "Being from California, I'm not used to southern hospitality so it's been great here so far."

Ashby said being a freshman on the Tech team has not been difficult because of the friendly atmosphere in the clubhouse.

"This team has amazing chem-

istry; we can jack around and not take everything so seriously," he said. "That makes it much easier coming in and being new."

Byrns said that his goal — and the goal of every other newcomer — is to let his new teammates know the new players are focused on sacrificing their time and effort for the sake of the team.

"I just need to prove that I'm here to help the team win and that I will do whatever it takes for that to happen," Byrns said. "I'm sure that all the other new guys feel the same way."

► wesley.a.skipwith@ttu.edu

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Tech men look to rebound from mental lapse

By JAY LANGLEY
NEWS EDITOR

Former New York Yankees catcher Yogi Berra used to say the game was 50 percent physical and 90 percent mental.

Texas Tech forward Darryl Dora said he thinks the Red Raiders struggles against Baylor Saturday were 100 percent mental.

"I don't think it's physical," Dora said. "I think it has to be mental because we don't need to be bigger, we don't need to be faster. We have everything; we just need to come out and execute the game plan."

Tech (13-5, 2-1) heads into Saturday's game with No. 5 Kansas after a three-point loss at Baylor in which the Raiders blew a 12-point lead.

"I think we got a lead in the first 15 minutes and we relaxed a little," Tech forward Michael Prince said of the Baylor loss. "We didn't follow the game plan, and we let them back into the game."

Tech is led by senior guard Jarriss Jackson who leads the team with 20.8 points per game. The Raiders are fourth in the nation in 3-point-field-goal percentage led by Jackson, who boasts a 50.5 percentage, second in the Big 12 from beyond the arc.

Wednesday Jackson was one of three Big 12 Seniors nominated for the 2007 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award. The award is presented annually to one senior who excels on and off the court.

Dora, who averages 5.2 points per game and 2.8 rebounds per game off of the bench, said it is important for Tech to play a full 40 minutes of solid basketball

against a team of Kansas' caliber.

"They're one of the top teams in the country, by far," Dora said. "They run the floor real good. They have real good guards. Real good teams do everything well. But we have to treat it like any other game."

Tech coach Bob Knight said he thinks Kansas is a legitimate threat to win the National Championship.

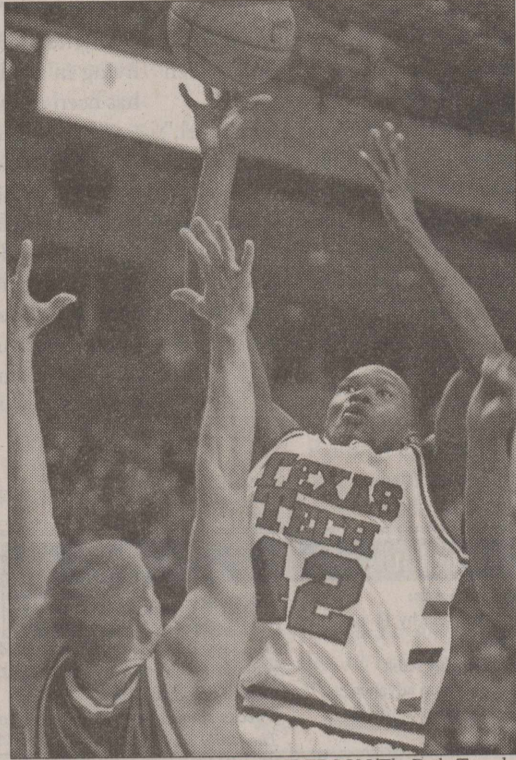
"They have really good play all over the floor," Knight said.

"The most difficult team to play against is the team that has five guys who can all attack the basket and they can do that."

Kansas comes into Saturday's contest with a 16-2 record and at 3-0 the Jayhawks, along with Texas A&M, are the only teams without a conference loss. Kansas' last outing was a three-point win against last place Missouri.

The Jayhawks are led by four players in double figures in scoring including Preseason All-Big 12 selections Brandon Rush and Julian Wright. Wright is third in the conference in rebounds with 8.2 per game.

"I think our balance can be our biggest strength and at times I think our balance



KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador
RED RAIDER GUARD Charlie Burgess hits a layup in a recent game against Oklahoma.

can be our biggest weakness," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "What I mean by that is that down the stretch, you want your guys to know that there is one or two guys who have the confidence to step up and make the big shot. But down the stretch you want the other team to feel like they have to guard all five guys on the floor."

Tip-off is scheduled for 3 p.m. Saturday at the United Spirit Arena.
► jaymie.langley@ttu.edu

Lady Raiders hit the road to Oklahoma

By STEPHEN MONAHAN
SPORTS EDITOR

"Icy-hot" might be the best way to describe the Texas Tech women's basketball team's recent string of games.

With seven to 13 inches of snow predicted to fall in the Lubbock area this weekend by the National Weather Service, the Lady Raiders flew out Thursday night for their two-game road stint with Oklahoma State Saturday and a make-up game with No. 7 Oklahoma Monday.

Monday's game against the Sooners is the result of inclement weather in the Norman, Okla. area last weekend.

Like a coat of fresh-powder snow, the Lady Raiders must stick together in order to play well on this road trip.

"We're going to have to go to Oklahoma tonight because of the weather," Tech coach Kristy Curry said. "We're going to have to spend a lot of time together and continue to just build on our chemistry — and sticking together."

Coach Curry said in order for her team to come out victorious in both games, it will need to emit a wave of confidence when on the floor.

"We've got to have a toughness about us, some charisma about us," Curry said, "and go up there and just have fun with it and find a way to get it done."

Part of the reason for Tech's recent success can be attributed to the play of senior guard Chesley Dabbs. In four games, Dabbs averaged 13.5 points per game — four points above her season

average.

Dabbs' late success has been the result of being in the right place at the right time, no questions asked, Curry said.

"Not once do you ever have to question, not once do you ever have to ask for more," Curry said. "She's always giving her all. She's doing what a senior should do for their team. She's always in the right spot, and she's always doing the right thing on and off the floor for our team. It's good to see a kid doing all the things the way they are supposed to be done."

Tech (11-7, 2-2) faces Oklahoma State for the second time this season. Tech heads to Stillwater, Okla., with a slight edge after defeating the Cowgirls at home Jan. 6, 75-49.

Still, coach Curry said Oklahoma State will feed off that 24-point defeat, especially since the game will be on its home court.

"I think they'll look back and say 'hey, we came to Lubbock and got a little embarrassed,'" Curry said. "That's going to be enough motivation in itself."

After Saturday's game, Tech will have one day to prepare for its most difficult challenge yet in sophomore post player Courtney Paris and the Oklahoma Sooners.

"Obviously, they're a legitimate top-five team in the country," Curry said. "They're deep at every position and will take an all-around effort on our part."

Paris, who ranks second in the country in points per game (23.4) and rebounds per game (15.5), has garnered much respect from many players around the nation, including Tech senior forward Alesha Robertson.

"Courtney Paris is an excellent player, and I have so much respect for that girl just because of what she's done," said Robertson, who is averaging 13.3 ppg this season. "She's been blessed with a lot of things. We're just going to have to do our best on her. She is going to score. We have to accept the fact that she's going to score."

Tech freshman guard Jordan Murphree, who has yet to face Paris and the Sooners in her short career, said she knows of the dominance the record-breaking sophomore has had in women's basketball thus far.

"She's a good player," Murphree said. "We can't let her hit easy baskets. We're going to have to block her out and limit her to only one shot."

The Lady Raiders' struggles this season have been partly caused by their inability to take care of the ball. But since Big 12 play began, Tech has limited its turnovers to 15.5 per game, which is near Curry's preferred magic number of 14 or less. In Big 12 games this season where the Lady Raiders hold their turnovers to 14 or less, Tech is 2-1 and averaging 61.6 ppg — a result of having more shot opportunities.

"It just gives us more opportunities and more looks at the basket — get more chances to score," Curry said. "Obviously, we're taking more pride in it. I think we've really understood it can make us a better team when people take care of the ball."

Tip-off for Tech's game against Oklahoma State is slated for 11 a.m. Saturday at Gallagher-Iba Arena.

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