



GORE FINALLY
GETS HIS WIN?



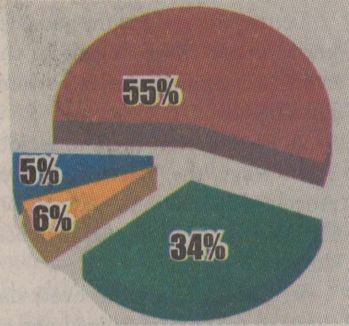
THE DT'S MOVIE
CRITIC REVIEW

THE DAILY TOREADOR

MONDAY, FEB. 26, 2007
VOLUME 81 ■ ISSUE 102

Serving the Texas Tech University community since 1925

(ONLINE POLL)



Which team has a better chance of being in an NCAA tournament?

Men's Women's Both Neither

(IN BRIEF)

STATE

TXU buyers would drop coal plant plans

DALLAS (AP) — Private-equity firms trying to buy TXU Corp. have agreed to drop plans for most of the utility's proposed new coal-fired power plants in Texas if the deal goes through, according to people familiar with the situation.

The new buyers would also support a mandatory national program to cap emissions of greenhouse gases and pledge not to build coal-fired plants outside Texas, the people said. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the sale was not final.

NATION

Man sought in foiled kidnapping

MIAMI (AP) — A 13-year-old boy bound to a tree in the woods foiled a kidnapping-for-ransom plan by using a safety pin, his teeth and his hands to escape, police said Sunday. Investigators searched a Bradenton house early Sunday and issued an arrest warrant for Vicente Ignacio Beltran Moreno, 22, but authorities believe he has fled the state.

WORLD

Al-Sadr: Baghdad security plan is doomed

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The leader of Iraq's biggest Shiite militia complained Sunday that bombs "continue to explode" in Baghdad and that U.S.-led security crackdown is doomed to fail, issuing a statement the same day a suicide attacker struck outside a college campus, killing at least 41 people. Many Shiites believe that bombings have continued because the Shiite-led government bowed to American pressure and persuaded the radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr to take his Mahdi Army fighters off the streets.

DEATH TOLL

3154

U.S. Military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

WEATHER

Today



SUNNY
HIGH 71/
LOW 35

Tuesday



SUNNY
HIGH 73/
LOW 45

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U.S. pledges talks with Iran if nuclear program suspended

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said the U.S. would hold direct talks with Iran if Tehran suspended its nuclear program. Iran's president, however, pledged to move ahead with enrichment activity that Washington contends masks weapons development.

"I am prepared to meet my counterpart or an Iranian representative at any time if Iran will suspend its enrichment and

reprocessing activities. That should be a clear signal," Rice said in Washington.

Earlier Sunday, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad comparing his nation's nuclear drive to a train without a reverse gear or brakes. "We dismantled the rear gear and brakes of the train and threw them away sometime ago," he was quoted on the radio as telling Islamic clerics.

Iran says its energy program is peaceful.

Vice President Dick Cheney said last week on his trip to Australia that the United States believes "it would be a serious mistake if a nation such as Iran became a nuclear power." He reaffirmed the Bush administration's policy that "all options are on the table" to deter Tehran.

Rice said the Iranians "don't need a reverse gear. They need to stop and then we can come to the table and we can talk about how to move forward." She contended Ahmadinejad's stands

are isolating his country.

"I have no doubt that the Iranian people want to be like other people, capable of carrying out their freedom of having greater pluralism in their politics. All of that is important."

President Bush, she said, "has made very clear that around the world we're going to continue to advocate for democracy. We are. However, with Iran, in a situation in which they are in defiance of the international community and they

need to change that behavior, then we can talk about everything.

"And we'll talk about it with this regime. I've said that I am prepared to meet my counterpart or an Iranian representative at any time if Iran will suspend its enrichment and reprocessing activities. That should be a clear signal," Rice said.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said Thursday that Iran had

IRAN continued on page 3

WEST TEXAS WINDS



STEVE LEWIS/The Daily Toreador

A PEDESTRIAN WALKS between the English/philosophy and education buildings during the dust storm Saturday morning. Wind gusts reached 70 mph with sustained winds of 40 mph, according to the Web site weather.com

High winds create dust storms, spark grass fires across Texas

By THOMAS PEIPERT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS (AP) — Gusty winds reaching 60 mph helped fuel dozens of grass fires across Texas on Saturday, destroying three homes near Midland and forcing evacuations at Fort Hood, authorities said.

Nancy Bourget, a Fort Hood spokeswoman, said the fire began behind an on-base store at about 1:30 p.m.

"Strong winds just caused it to spread," she said. "We had to evacuate the post exchange, the commissary and some of our military housing."

Col. Diane Battaglia, another spokeswoman, said three "villages" housing 6,500 people were evacuated and tires caught fire near a storage facility. The fire was contained by Saturday night. No injuries were reported.

"Our firefighters and soldiers are in the process of dampening any hotspots," said Battaglia, who added that she expected those who were evacuated to be able to return home later Saturday night.

About 95 homes were evacuated across Texas as high winds, dry conditions and low humidity fueled wildfires, said Traci Weaver, a spokeswoman for the Texas Forest Service. She said that

WINDS continued on page 2

State officials discuss adding Angelo State to Tech system

By BEN MAKI
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech system may grow larger in West Texas.

Texas State Rep. Drew Darby is writing a bill that, if passed, would incorporate Angelo State University to the Tech System.

Currently, Angelo State is a member of the

Texas State University system.

Darby said he is not writing the bill because of his desires for the alignment, but from the urging of alumni and other influential people in the San Angelo area.

"I'm not pushing for this," Darby said. "I am responding to alumni of Angelo State and business leaders in the area. I, as a representative, am responding to their

wishes to have Angelo State associated with Texas Tech."

Tech Chancellor Kent Hance said it is not his place to push for a university to change its alliance from one system to another, but if the bill were enacted, Angelo State would fit in well with the rest of the Tech system.

"I don't think a chancellor needs to be

pushing for something like this," Hance said. "This should be left up to the legislators to decide if this is the right fit. The only reason I would get involved is if there was some reason we didn't want them, but that's not the case. They have a good school down there and they face some of the same issues that we do."

ANGELO STATE continued on page 2

University conference studies 'Women of the World'

By **NAOMI KASKELA**
STAFF WRITER

"Women of the World" was the theme of the 23rd Annual All University Conference on the Advancement of Women which began with research presentations Friday morning.

The event was sponsored by the Women's Studies Council and the Office of Women's Studies.

Esther Lichti, coordinator of the women's studies program, said the event was originally started to offer opportunities for female faculty and students on the Texas Tech campus.

"My understanding is that it was started as an event that would showcase the research of women faculty and students here at the university," she said. "In 1984 there were fewer women faculty on campus and in some departments fewer women students. So the idea was there would be a day to give women faculty and students the opportunity to show what they are doing."

The event was started to give women on campus the chance to discuss issues that were particular to women in higher education, Lichti said.

However, the purpose of the event has changed since its conception.

"Over the years it's grown

and the focus has expanded," she said. "We also try to bring in speakers on topics that we would feel would be of interest to women on campus at large."

The conference is not just for women on the Tech campus, but for other institutions of higher learning and the community, she said.

Men are invited to participate in the event in different ways as well, said Charlotte Dunham, the director of women's studies.

"It is meant to bring women together on campus and men who are doing their own research," she said. "Research relevant for women."

Paper and poster presentations, which allow individuals to present their research to audiences, took up the first part of the day.

This part of the event is important because it allowed individuals with similar research interests to come together, Dunham said.

The theme of the event this year centered on global issues, which Dunham said was a result of the steering committee's knowledge and experience in that area.

Both Dunham and Lichti were members of the steering committee.

Nadia Bodie, a graduate student in visual and performing

arts from Nassau, Bahamas, was one of the students presenting during the research portion of the event.

Bodie performed a one-act play she wrote called "I used to sing for my mother/hoping she would love me/she bought me a mango tree instead" rather than presenting a traditional research paper.

The play is about her mother, she said, and stories about her mother's life in the Bahamas under British rule.

"It's stories about her strength and resilience," Bodie said. "Basically, the play is about the joys of her struggles. Some stories are about stories that I share specifically."

An example of these types of stories is how Bodie and her mother stay connected by calling each other twice a week on the phone and singing together.

"I just really try to bring her to life," Bodie said, "and in the process I think when I was putting them down on paper, all of the stories, all of the themes, they're universal."

This was not her original plan,

she said. Instead she said she wanted to show how different life in the Bahamas is from life in the U.S.

"I didn't really want to present a paper, I wanted to bring to life a different woman, a different perspective," Bodie said. "A Caribbean woman. She is a woman of the world and I wanted to speak for her."

Although she did not present a traditional paper this year, Bodie said she is planning on submitting one as a proposal for the conference next year.

A highlight of the conference each year are the speakers that are invited, Lichti said.

This year the speakers were Myra Marx Ferree, a professor of sociology and director of the center for German and European studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; Janice Jones Monk, a professor of geography and regional development and a research social scientist emerita of women's studies at the University

of Arizona; and Jane Roberts, a retired French teacher and tennis coach as well as co-founder of the non-profit organization 34 Million Friends of the United Nations Population Fund.

Ferree spoke on the topic "Engaging with Global Feminism," Monk spoke on the topic "Spaces for the Action: From the Body to the Transnational," and Roberts spoke about her organization in "34 Million Friends of the Women of the World: Anatomy of a Grass roots Movement."

Roberts said she came to the conference to speak because of an invitation she received after she met Lichti last year at the National Women's Studies Association meeting.

She said the reason she co-founded her organization is because of the White House's refusal to give \$34 million to the United Nations Population Fund.

Roberts said she was so upset that she came up with the idea to ask 34 million people to take a stand for women in the world and donate \$1 towards the UNFPA. Another woman, Lois Abraham, had the same idea so they created the non-profit organization together.

"To me, the fact that 180 countries contributed to the UNFPA last year and that the U.S. is not participating, hurts our reputation in the world," she said.

To counteract this image, Roberts said she encourages other individuals through the organization to show their dissent towards the White House's actions and support the UNFPA.

"Women everywhere deserve the education and health care

that we have available in this country, especially in regards to reproductive health," she said. "Healthy mothers mean healthy children."

According to the Web site <http://www.34millionfriends.org>, the UNFPA "helps the most vulnerable women in the world plan their families, give birth safely, and protect themselves from HIV/AIDS. It promotes the rights of women by encouraging equal access to food, education, and health care."

To some individuals involved in the conference like Roberts, the event is something they look forward to because of the opportunities provided by it.

"It allows people to become informed about issues," Roberts said. "It allows people to network and it's a wonderful educational and social occasion."

For Bodie the conference gives recognition to women who deserve it.

"Women are resilient, we continue to grow in every field," she said. "Somehow it feels that we are not recognized, not as much as we should be based on what we bring to the table. We are so much more than mothers and nurturers."

She said she likes being able to share her ideas with the other participants at the event.

Hearing and seeing different perspectives from other participants is something Bodie said is positive about the event, as well as the opportunity to learn from others.

"I'm privileged to be with these women, I'm privileged to walk among them, I'm privileged to share with them," she said.

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Iran

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ignored a U.N. Security Council ultimatum to freeze its uranium enrichment program and had expanded the program by setting up hundreds of centrifuges.

A council resolution adopted Dec. 23 penalized Tehran and warned of further punishment if Iran did not comply.

Diplomats from the five permanent Security Council members and Germany planned to meet in London on Monday to begin discussing what steps to take to increase international pressure on Tehran to cooperate.

"People in Iran are concerned about the fact that financial institutions are moving out of Iran and refusing to deal with Iran," Rice said. "They're concerned that their oil and gas fields need investment that they're probably not going to be able to get at the high end because people are not going to take the reputational and investment risk of dealing with a country that has gotten itself into a very bad club."

But, she added, "I just want to repeat, Iran has another course that it can take. If it stops its enrichment and reprocessing activities, as demanded by the international community, we're all prepared to have full-scale negotiations any time and any place."

In addition to the nuclear impasse, the administration has clashed with Iran over Iraq, with the administration saying U.S. intelligence has pinpointed Tehran as supplying weapons that have killed American soldiers.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates has said the U.S. has no intention of attacking Iran. Bush, in defending the intelligence on Iran, has said, "Does this mean you're trying to have a pretext for war? No. It means I'm trying to protect our troops."

The New Yorker magazine

reported in its latest issue that a special planning group has been set up in the offices of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to develop a bombing plan against Iran that could be activated within 24 hours of Bush's orders. The author, Seymour Hersh, cited a former senior intelligence official as his source.

A Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman, said Sunday he knows of no such planning group, the U.S. is not planning to go to war with Iran and "to suggest anything to the contrary is simply wrong, misleading and mischievous."

The top Republican on the House Armed Services Committee said U.S. intelligence long has focused on Iran, especially for its nuclear intentions.

"We have contingency plans around the world. We had contingency plans with the Soviet Union, and we had specific targets. That didn't mean that we were planning to strike the Soviet Union," said Rep. Duncan Hunter, D-Calif.

He said Hersh interprets that "into an intent to attack Iran in the near future. That's not the case."

Rice appeared on "Fox News Sunday" and "This Week" on ABC. Hunter on "Late Edition" on CNN.

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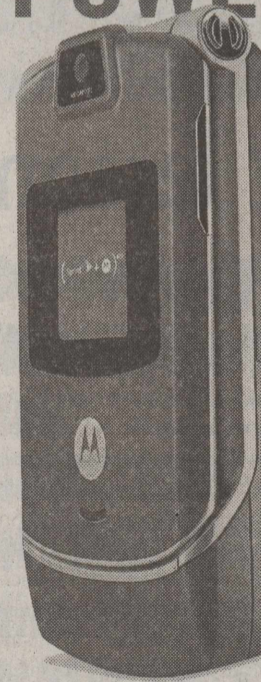
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OPINIONS

Take time to be silent

Ginger Kapalka



I participated in a Zen meditation this week. It was part of a session on stress and busyness. I was reminded that sitting still and trying to clear my mind is difficult for me. My legs were uncomfortably crossed, and my mind wandered.

I also wondered: Did any of what we were hearing accurately reflect the original intentions of Eastern or Buddhist thought?

I am not in the least qualified to say, but I'm always curious about the reason behind practices. The seminar brought up the point that for whatever purpose, meditation had physical benefits to fight stress, and gave an opportunity to relax.

Our culture doesn't encourage rest, and I am one of the worst. It's hard for me to respond to a statement like, "Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10a) I feel like I'm perpetually behind on my work, and I usually think if I take a break, I won't be able to catch up.

Taking time to rest, to shift the focus away from personal achievement and work can seem like a waste. Meditation could be even more — a time to seek truth and understanding. But when we are expected to rely totally on ourselves, many think asking for help and guidance is weakness.

However, I'm glad part of my quiet time is weakness. It is an honest admittance. I recognize how small I am in relation to God. Not that I am without value, but that my life should serve what is most important.

Meditation isn't an action taken for God to notice us. We're already important to him, and he is always there. But we need to open ourselves to listen. It isn't that God needs silence to speak — he speaks to people in many ways, sometimes when they don't even want to hear it.

But to be silent is to present an attitude of desire toward God.

Personally, I can spend hours pouring my thoughts and my heart onto a page. It's easy to talk about oneself forever. But, "Much dreaming and many words are meaningless. Therefore stand in awe of God." (Ecclesiastes 5:7) Pausing to shut up and let God speak can be a struggle. This

takes silence, and time, but is worth the effort.

The focus of meditation is important. It seems incomplete to have the ultimate goal of happiness through contentment. I desire growth, understanding and a challenge to action. It isn't to be found in a self-centered respite, but in God-focused solitude.

There are many possibilities for mediation. For me, it is first a chance to be humbled. When I stop and remember how small I am, I can be prepared to realistically deal with situations in my life.

Solitude also gives me time to observe and enjoy how God is working in my life and is blessing me. This gives me a better attitude, focused on thankfulness instead of complaint.

Along with this, to study God's word leads to understanding: "I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways." (Psalms 119:15) I can empty out my concerns to God. Then, the hardest part is to listen and be prepared for guidance.

When we come before God in open willingness to empty our souls of all that holds us back, we can be filled with his spirit.

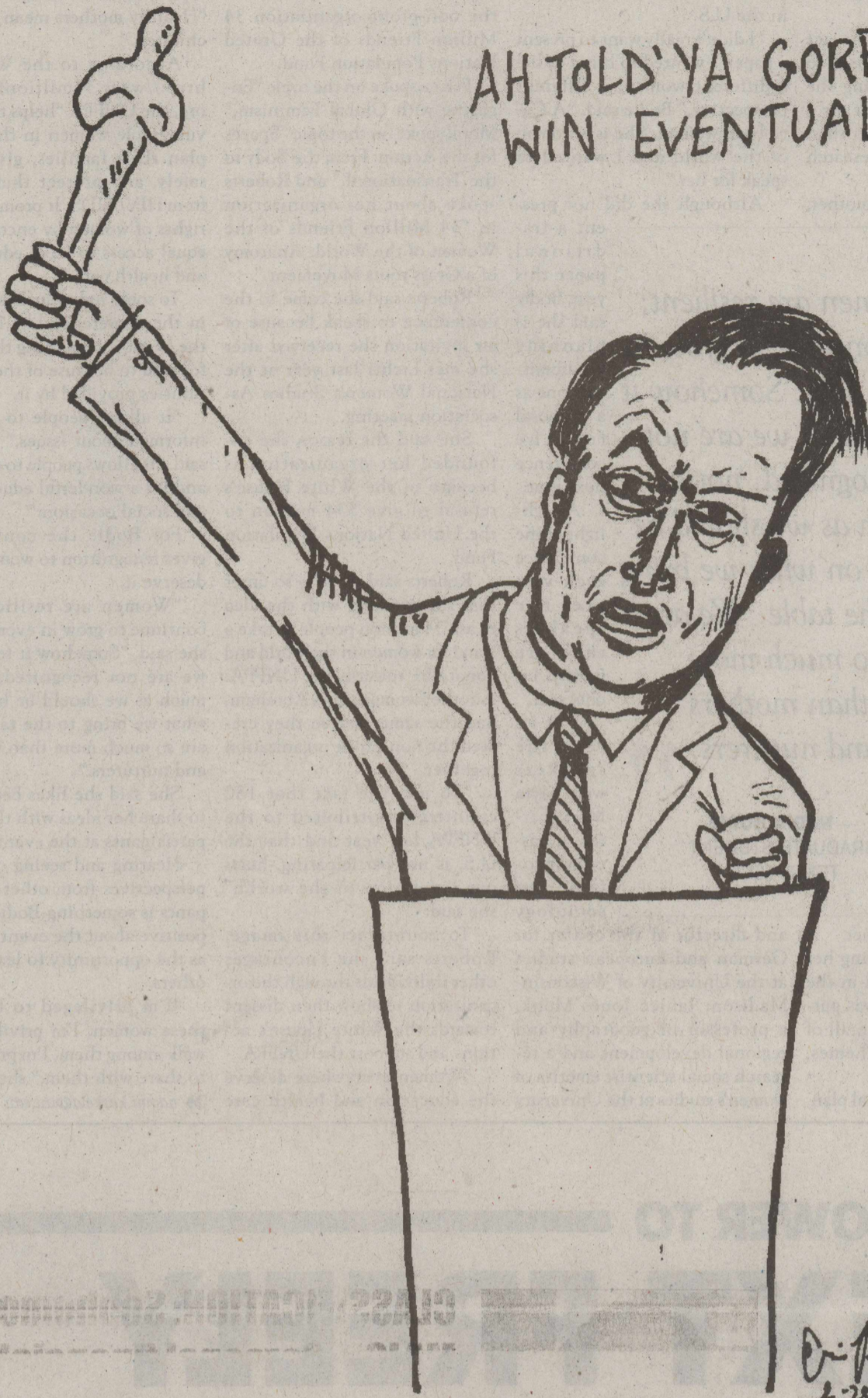
I enjoyed that the Zen meditation concluded with an encouragement to never really leave mediation, to keep it continuing in daily life. This is what seemed to me to be the beginning of a real purpose.

Solitude is a good time to be refreshed and to fill up. How else can one share love with another?

Sharing the love of the gospel isn't done out of requirement, out of obligation or in an attempt to earn our way to God. It is done because we have been so blessed, so loved, so filled by God, that we overflow; that we long to share it.

Don't let life be a distraction from what is truly important. Don't let it dishearten us and weaken faith, or make us forget the source of strength. Let life be a place to show love and power, and to share our blessings.

Kapalka is a junior architecture major from Billings, Mont. E-mail her at ginger.kapalka@ttu.edu.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I'll be proud to admit that I am a library rat. I write my best papers, study most effectively and am generally the best student I can be when I am working at the main campus library as opposed to any other place.

As I type this in the main computer banks at the library, however, I am inundated with a veritable cacophony of cell phone rings, blaring iPod headphones, and loud

conversation. Working in my favorite place on campus has turned from a strategically wise decision into an utter nuisance.

During the fall semester, I had the pleasure of working in Washington D.C., as an intern and thus was not able to use the library as I was several hundred miles away. Upon my return, however, I found that the mezzanine level's reading cubbies had, to my horror, been filled with computers.

While I certainly appreciate the advantages that using a computer offers to students, there is a disturbing trend that accompanies the presence of these machines. People seem to believe that when in the presence of computers, the universally accepted library rule of maintaining silence is thrown out the window with complete and malicious disregard for the persons around you.

This is entirely unacceptable and

the Texas Tech library staff should be mortified that their once proud bastion of academia has been transformed into a glorified, multi-million dollar social free-for-all more appropriate for checking MySpace and Facebook than it is for studying the works of Sir Thomas More and Sigmund Freud.

Mark Kratovil, senior political science major from Trophy Club

Recall past lessons, confront Iran now

By **GENE GERZHOY**
THE HOYA (GEORGETOWN)

(U-WIRE) WASHINGTON — A few weeks ago, while I was at home for winter break, I visited my grandparents at their apartment in Baltimore. My grandfather, Sergey Gerzhoj, is 77, and even at this age, his mental agility never ceases to amaze me.

As they often do, our conversation on this day segued into politics. And like many Jewish individuals across the nation and the world, both of us seemed to have only one topic on our minds: Iran. I would soon discover, however, that in spite of the familiar theme, this particular discussion would be unique. In June 1941, Hitler's forces invaded the Soviet Union and quickly subsumed Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova into the territories of the Third Reich. Among the places occupied was my grandfather's town of Ribnitsa, in modern-day Moldova.

was sent to a concentration camp not far from the town.

My grandfather, 12 years old at the time, spent three months there waiting to be moved to an extermination camp. He escaped in October, but returned to his town of Ribnitsa, which had since become a ghetto. He spent the next two years there, starving and suffering, until Red Army soldiers under the command of Marshall Ivan Konev liberated his city in March 1944. My grandfather is the most sympathetic man I have ever met. His kindness, his dedication to his family, his intelligence, and his lighthearted and probing sense of humor make him impossible not to admire and love. It is difficult for me to understand how anyone could do such horrible things to such a good man. But perhaps because of my love for him I have been hesitant to ask him about his experiences during the war, for fear of opening old wounds.

This time, though, he brought up the topic in the form of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's threats to "wipe

Israel off the map" and his vociferous denials of the very events through which my grandfather struggled. My grandfather recalled a letter he received in the 1990s from Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Memorial Museum, asking for any names of individuals he knew personally who had perished in the Shoah (the Hebrew word meaning "calamity," used for the Holocaust).

My grandfather told me of how he had sat down to write the letter, intending to send the names of several young boys who had disappeared from Ribnitsa during his absence and were probably murdered by Nazi soldiers. His eyes began to well with tears when he told me that, as he began to write, he realized that he had forgotten their names. As the tears fell down his cheeks, I realized that he blamed himself for not preserving their memory. It was the first time I had seen my grandfather cry, and it struck me deeply. He wasn't crying for the deaths of millions of Jews and other individuals, though he doubtless had shed many tears for them as well. Nor was he crying for the

horrors he had faced at the hands of his Nazi and collaborationist oppressors. He shed tears for the simple loss of a memory — a thing so ephemeral that we often fail to pause and reflect on its importance.

Today in Tehran, President Ahmadinejad baldly disputes the memories of millions of Holocaust survivors like my grandfather. This denial comes from a man leading a government that seems to be racing inexorably toward the development of nuclear weapons. At the same time, the Iranian president threatens the lives of the citizens of Israel, a country containing the world's most dense population of Jews, many of whom survived the Holocaust.

As the threat posed by Tehran grows, we must never again allow a generation of innocent people to suffer the pain experienced by my grandfather and millions of others. My grandfather's message to me was a personal one, but it carried universal meaning: Before Mahmoud Ahmadinejad stays true to his word, we must stay true to ours.

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Periodical Postage paid by The Daily Treador, Student Media Building, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, 79409. Publication number: 766480. The DT is a student newspaper published Monday through Friday, September through May; Tuesdays and Fridays June through August, except during university examination and vacation periods. The DT is funded primarily through advertising revenues generated by the student sales staff with free campus distribution resulting from their service fees.

Subscriptions
Call: (806) 742-3388
Subscription Rates: \$120 annually; single issues: 25 cents.
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Treador, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

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

Guest Columns
The Daily Treador accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community. Guest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification and submittal.

Unsigned Editorials appearing on this page represent the opinion of The Daily Treador. All other columns, letters and artwork represent the opinions of their authors and are not necessarily representative of the editorial board, Texas Tech University, its employees, its student body or the Board of Regents. The Daily Treador is independent of the College of Mass Communications. Responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies with the student editors.

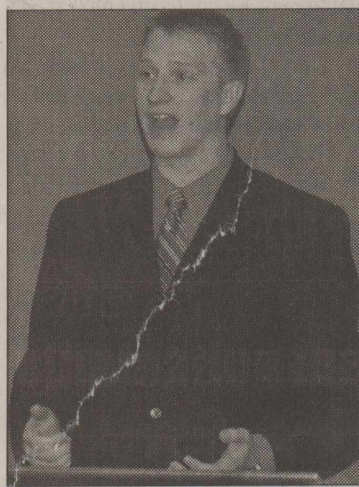


SGA ELECTIONS

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MONDAY, FEB. 26, 2007



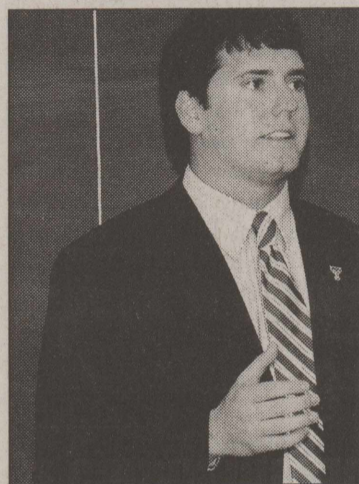
PRESIDENT



FOWLER

CLASSIFICATION: Senior
MAJOR: Mechanical engineering and political science
HOMETOWN: Lubbock
DESIRED POSITION: SGA President

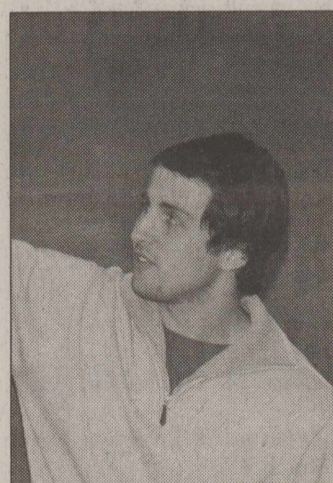
PLATFORM: Matt Fowler is campaigning for the institution of a Fall Break and raising money for student scholarships.



MOSES

CLASSIFICATION: Junior
MAJOR: Communication studies and business affairs
HOMETOWN: Dallas
DESIRED POSITION: SGA President

PLATFORM: Mason Moses is campaigning for tax-free textbooks and tax-free school supplies for students.



PRIDE

CLASSIFICATION: Junior
MAJOR: Latin American and Iberian studies
HOMETOWN: Alice
DESIRED POSITION: SGA President

PLATFORM: Philip Pride is campaigning to create social equality within the student body by eliminating the Greek system.

GRADUATE VP

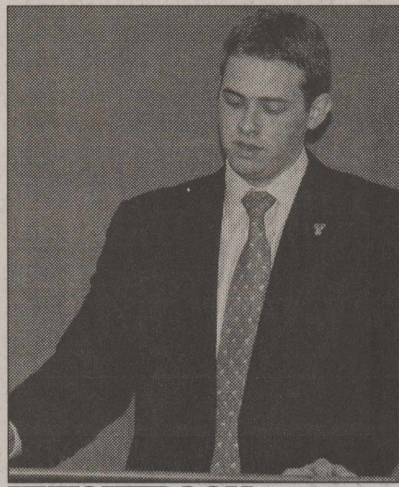


GORENC

CLASSIFICATION: Graduate student
MAJOR: Graduate student studying architecture and business administration
DESIRED POSITION: Graduate Vice President

PLATFORM: Scott Gorenc is campaigning to establish better communication between the graduate SGA and graduate students as well as clearly defining the role of the graduate SGA.

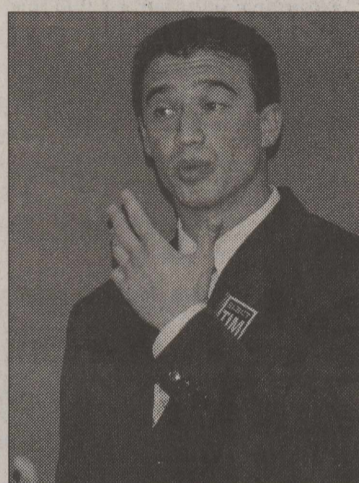
EXTERNAL VP



HUTCHERSON

CLASSIFICATION: Sophomore
MAJOR: Business
HOMETOWN: Lubbock
DESIRED POSITION: External Vice President

PLATFORM: Taylor Hutcherson is campaigning to secure off-campus bus routes and better utilize existing campus parking.



SANSONE

CLASSIFICATION: Sophomore
MAJOR: Civil Engineering
HOMETOWN: San Antonio
DESIRED POSITION: External Vice President

PLATFORM: Tim Sansone is campaigning to make apartment complexes responsible for transportation and demolishing Thompson Hall to allow for more student parking.

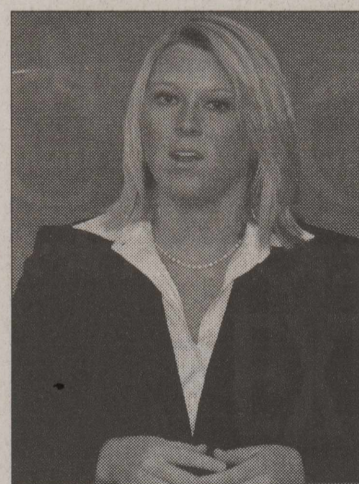
INTERNAL VP



CROWL

CLASSIFICATION: Sophomore
MAJOR: Personal financial planning
HOMETOWN: Conroe
DESIRED POSITION: Internal Vice President

PLATFORM: Kyle Crowl is campaigning for improved representation of the student body by forcing SGA senators to meet with their constituency on a regular basis.



MATTHEWS

CLASSIFICATION: Junior
MAJOR: English and psychology
HOMETOWN: Perryton
DESIRED POSITION: Internal Vice President

PLATFORM: Suzette Matthews is campaigning to raise the accountability level of SGA senators through strict enforcement of the attendance policy.

In an attempt to better inform the student body about the SGA candidates running for office, *The Daily Toreador* has compiled a short biography of each person including their platform issues. These platform issues were stated by each candidate in Wednesday's SGA debate. Voting for the candidates will be Tuesday and Wednesday. Students can cast their vote by visiting www.sga.ttu.edu.



Safety fair about more than just cars

By **HALEY DAVIS**
STAFF WRITER

Students hitting the road this spring break might want to get their cars and safety skills in check before heading out.

From 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. March 8, Texas Tech students, faculty and staff can participate in a free car clinic in the band parking located south of the Student Union Building.

The clinic is put on by the Tech University Parking Services along with the Environmental Health and Safety Department. In addition to the clinic, there also will be a Safety Fair from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the ballroom of the Student Union Building.

Heather Medley, administrative business assistant for the Tech parking services, described the purpose behind the Car Clinic and Safety Fair.

"To educate faculty, staff and students about different ways to be safe," she said, "(Also) things to do in an emergency in dorm rooms and cars."

Medley said along with the free car check from Scott's Complete Car Care Center, free food and beverages will be available.

Paul Cotter, asbestos program manager for Tech EH&S, said the exhibits in the Safety Fair hopefully will bring safety issues to student's attention. Cotter said some of the booths that will be at the fair will include one from the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center, Texas Park and Wildlife and the Lubbock Fire Department.

Cotter said the Safety Fair isn't just about auto and fire safety, but also personal safety.

He said the Rec center will have a booth about personal safety and personal health. A fire extinguisher training program will be available to students.

One thing Cotter said he wants everyone to get out of the fair is how to be aware of surroundings and know where to go in case of an emergency.

Along with raffle items, hot dogs, popcorn and other giveaways, Cotter said South Plains Auto Theft will be at the fair for students to reg-

ister their vehicles. Registering vehicles is a great way to recover a car in case it is ever stolen and added registering a vehicle will ensure its timely return if it ever happens to get stolen.

Cotter offered some tips to students to keep themselves safe.

"Don't go around unlit places — predators don't hang out in well-lit areas," he said.

Jack Floyd, crime prevention officer for the Tech Police Department, said he agrees the fair and clinic is a great way to secure cars and provide safety information.

Cotter said he encourages anybody who is going on vacation and traveling long distances for the break to come to the car clinic and safety fair. He said this is one less worry students have to worry about while trying to finish everything else up before leaving.

"If we save one person's life then we have done our job," he said. "Things can happen in the

▶ haley.davis@ttu.edu

'23' not worth \$6.66-plus to see in theaters

I imagine sometime early last year, Jim Carrey went to his mailbox and saw his mortgage payment was past due. I'm guessing a week after that he signed on to star in Joel Schumacher's "The Number 23."

There's been a lot said about Schumacher, and many people do not like him because of his work on "Batman and Robin" and "Batman Forever." I'm one of the few people who actually does like Schumacher because how can we forget "Phone Booth," "The Lost Boys" and "The Phantom of the Opera." He's not a bad director, but sadly he doesn't make a strong case for himself with his newest film, "The Number 23."

The great thing about "The Number 23" was the noir vibe it had. I'm a sucker for noir films so I probably liked this movie a little more than I should have. Take away the cynical mood and crime aspect, and the movie is nothing but a scrabbled mess of gimmicky multiplication games.

The movie starts with Carrey, an animal control officer, on his birthday. He's a few minutes away from getting off and going to see his wife, but at the last minute he is called back into the field to find a dog in Chinatown. By being late to dinner, his wife has time to browse through a used books store and find a self-published book titled "The Number 23."

The book revolves around a detective who is consumed with the phenomenon of the number 23; such as if someone divides two

JEREMY REYNOLDS



by three, they get .666 — a number associated with the devil.

Carrey draws parallels between the character's life and his own. He begins envisioning himself as this paranoid, homicidal police detective. Whenever he daydreams about the detective, Schumacher changes camera filters and speech patterns of the characters to make it feel like a hard-boiled 1940s crime noir.

Eventually, Carrey is consumed by the obsession to find the meaning of the number and how it connects with his life.

The film turns from a psychological thriller into a murder mystery about halfway through. Schumacher makes this turn smoothly and without much flaw, however his characters are still stuck in that psychological mind-game state of being.

The real problem in the film is the acting. It seemed as if both Carrey and his wife in the film, Virginia Madsen, were phoning in their performances. They were nothing spectacular and I doubt either one of them understood the script let alone believed in it enough to throw their entire weight behind it.

Carrey and Madsen played dual roles in the film. First as

their normal every day selves, and then again as darker versions of themselves when Carrey has the daydreams — imagining he was the detective in the book.

I liked Carrey's performance as the dark detective because darker roles seem to suit him well.

The first 20 minutes of the film he had a chance to show off some of his comedy, but after he began reading the book, he stopped making the jokes.

The script is the main problem because it comes unraveled at the end. Why can't a writer get an idea, develop it, give it good characters and finally finish it off strong? I'm tired of going to see films where the first hour is decently well made, but then the film falls a part at the end.

The film harps on the weird coincidences that the number 23 brings. Disasters occurred on the day, and Carrey begins to envision the number as something horrific. The problem is the audience is left wondering why even choose the number 23? Why even make this film in the first place?

At least someone can read the title and know exactly what he or she is getting into when they go see the film. That's right, it is all about that mysterious number 23 we've all been puzzling over for our entire lives.

3 out of 6 FAIR

■ Reynolds is *The DT* movie critic. E-mail him at jeremy.n.reynolds@ttu.edu

Calling all Singer Songwriters
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Songwriter is to submit two songs that were written within the last year. Music can be submitted in form of compact disc or cassette tape. Do not write your name on the CD or tape. You will remain anonymous during the first round of judging. You will not receive your disc or tape back. They will be archived in the Southwest Collection.

Submission deadline is March 26, 2007.

Ten finalist will play live at the Tech Activities Board Song Writing Contest in front of judges from the community on April 17, 2007. The winner will advance to the Kerrville Folk Festival in Kerrville, Texas, where they will receive the opportunity to showcase their music and play at Tech Activities Board Rock the Plaza.

For more information contact TAB, tab@ttu.edu (806) 742-3636 or www.tab.so.ttu.edu

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Assault case against Hank Williams Jr. dropped

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A misdemeanor assault case against Hank Williams Jr. has been dismissed, nearly a year after a cocktail waitress accused the country singer of yelling obscenities and choking her at a local hotel, a prosecutor said.

"We didn't feel we had a case we could prove," District Attorney

General Bill Gibbons said Friday.

Holly Hornbeak, who was 19 at the time of the alleged assault on March 18, testified that Williams, 57, left red marks and bruised her neck when he choked her.

Gibbons would not say whether Hornbeak wanted to drop the case or if the parties reached a financial settlement. A private attorney hired

by her parents demanded \$250,000 from Williams two days after the alleged assault, but Hornbeak denied that the case was driven by money.

Hornbeak's attorney and Williams' spokesman did not return phone calls Saturday to The Associated Press. Hornbeak's attorney, R. Dale Thomas, declined to comment.

Tommy Chong to raise money to help 'Guru of Ganja'

PIEDMONT, Calif. (AP) — Comedian Tommy Chong will help raise money to defend the self-proclaimed "Guru of Ganja," who is charged with growing hundreds of marijuana plants for a dispensary.

Chong, who starred with

Cheech Marin in stoner movie classics "Up in Smoke" and "Nice Dreams," will appear at a \$125-per-person event for Ed Rosenthal.

Rosenthal, 62, famed for his marijuana cultivation books and the "Ask Ed" column he wrote for High Times magazine, will host

the event at his Piedmont home on March 4.

"The party will celebrate how far we've come in legalizing medical marijuana as well as provide me with the money I need to fund my current trial that is defending all of our rights," Rosenthal said.

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"Ghost Rider" retains top spot at the weekend box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The comic-book adaptation "Ghost Rider" burned the competition at the weekend box office, fending off a rush of new movies to rake in \$19.7 million in its second week, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The Sony film starring Nicolas Cage as a motorcycle stuntman turned Satanic bounty hunter continued its momentum after debuting last week with \$52 million over the four-day President's Day weekend,

the biggest opening ever for that holiday.

"It set the bar so high last weekend that for any newcomers, it was going to be a real tough film to beat," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box-office tracker Media By Numbers.

Premiering at No. 2 with \$15.1 million was the New Line Cinema psychological thriller "The Number 23," starring Jim Carrey as a man obsessed with the mysterious power of that digit.

The other new movies included the 20th Century Fox police spoof "Reno 911!: Miami," which opened at No. 4 with \$10.4 million and "The Astronaut Farmer," which debuted at No. 9 with \$4.5 million. The Warner Bros. film stars Billy Bob Thornton as an ex-NASA astronaut who struggles to build his own rocket.

Disney's "Bridge to Terabithia," based on the children's fantasy novel, slipped to third place with \$13.6 million, lifting its total to

\$46.2 million. Dreamworks' Eddie Murphy comedy "Norbit" rounded out the top five with \$9.7 million.

Despite bad reviews, "Ghost Rider" lifted Hollywood out of its box-office slump, with revenues up for the second straight week this year. The top-12 movies grossed \$101.8 million, up 1.5 percent from the same weekend last year. However, movie attendance to date this year is down 2.2 percent.

"Ghost Rider" is based on the Marvel Comic books about mo-

torcycle stunt driver Johnny Blaze, played by Cage, who sells his soul to the devil and gains fiery superpowers.

"It's an accessible movie to everyone," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony. "Not only does it have action and special effects, it also has a tremendous sense of humor to it."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Media By Numbers LLC. Final figures will

be released Monday.

1. "Ghost Rider," \$19.7 million.
2. "The Number 23," \$15.1 million.
3. "Bridge to Terabithia," \$13.6 million.
4. "Reno 911!: Miami" \$10.4 million.
5. "Norbit," \$9.7 million.
6. "Music & Lyrics," \$8 million.
7. "Breach," \$6.2 million
8. "Tyler Perry's Daddy's Little Girls," \$5.3 million.
9. "The Astronaut Farmer," \$4.5 million.
10. "Amazing Grace," \$4.3 million.

Netflix hits 1 billion in deliveries

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Netflix Inc. delivered its 1 billionth DVD over the weekend, marking another milestone in the Internet rental service's evolution from a peculiar dot-com to a marquee attraction in millions of homes.

It took Netflix nearly 7 1/2 years to mail out 1 billion DVDs — about seven months less than it took McDonald's Corp. to sell 1 billion hamburgers after opening its first restaurant in April 1955.

To commemorate the occasion, Netflix is awarding a lifetime subscription to the Helotes, Texas, customer who received the 1 billionth DVD shipped from one of the Los Gatos-based company's 42 distribution centers nationwide.

Netflix didn't identify the recipient because of its privacy policies but did reveal the title of the landmark DVD — "Babel," one of the best picture nominees in Sunday's Academy Awards ceremony.

The Oscars play a big role in shaping the rental requests of Netflix's 6.3 million subscribers.

"Crash," the best picture winner at last year's Academy Awards, ranks as the most frequently requested DVD from Netflix's library of more than 70,000 titles. "Million Dollar Baby," the 2005 best picture winner, is the fifth-most requested rental.

But it doesn't necessarily take a prestigious award to become a big hit on Netflix. The service's second-most rented DVD is "Mr. and Mrs. Smith," a less acclaimed flick best known for sparking an off-screen affair between stars Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt.

Crossing the 1 billion shipment threshold provides further validation for a concept that was once mocked as just another wacky idea to emerge from the Internet boom of the late 1990s. The achievement also provides another marketing hook for one of the Internet's biggest advertisers.

Instead of fading into dot-com oblivion, Netflix is fast becoming

as much of a household fixture as the living room couch. Last year alone, Netflix signed up 2.1 million new customers, who pay anywhere from \$4.99 to \$47.99 per month for DVD rentals that are requested online and delivered through the mail.

When Netflix delivered its 100 millionth DVD in May 2003, the service only had about 1.1 million subscribers.

Netflix success has inspired a copycat service from the nation's largest video rental chain, Blockbuster Inc., which says it has dispensed billions of movies since its first store opened in 1985. Dallas-based Blockbuster has signed up than 2 million subscribers to its online service.

But Blockbuster's challenge hasn't derailed Netflix, which is now shipping an average of 1.5 million DVDs each weekday. At that pace, it will take Netflix about 2 1/2 years to mail out its next 1 billion discs.

But it probably won't take that long, given how fast Netflix has

been growing. Management believes the service will add another 1.7 million to 2.1 million more subscribers this year, leaving it with more than 8 million customers heading into 2008. Netflix hopes to have 20 million customers by 2012.

Whether the company achieves that goal may depend on how quickly major movie and TV studios de-emphasize DVD sales and rentals in favor of Internet downloads or other forms of "on-demand" delivery. If that happens, Netflix's DVD-by-mail concept could become as outmoded as drive-in theaters.

Although Netflix doesn't believe the shift to on-demand delivery will happen for many more years, management is starting to position the company for the change by offering subscribers a chance to watch a limited number of movies on personal computers equipped with high-speed Internet connections.

Patrick Dempsey of 'Grey's Anatomy' backs Breakaway from Cancer initiative

NEW YORK (AP) — He's a doctor on television's "Grey's Anatomy," but off the screen Patrick Dempsey faces the same questions as anyone else when a loved one needs medical care.

"Well, it's overwhelming because it's like, there's too many options sometimes. It's like, well, why should I believe the doctors? Shouldn't I get a second opinion? Shouldn't I find a specialist?" he said in an interview with George Stephanopoulos broadcast Sunday on ABC's "This Week."

"You feel very naive and childlike

in a lot of ways," said Dempsey, whose

"You feel very naive and childlike in a lot of ways."

— PATRICK DEMPSEY
ACTOR

several years ago. "You have to give over a lot of power to these people who may or may not understand what your needs are, or care, just because of the volume of work that they're going through."

He said his mother has been cancer-free for nine years. Since then, he has teamed up with Breakaway from Cancer, a support initiative founded in 2005, to help others.

"You need a support system in to encourage you, to get you up and out of bed in the morning," he said.

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SPORTS

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MONDAY, FEB. 26, 2007

Tech underclassmen showing their worth

By ADAM COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech men's basketball team may be losing five seniors next year, but the play from young players like freshman Decensae White and sophomore Alan Voskuil might open up many possibilities for future Red Raiders.

White and Voskuil both had a hand in the win against Oklahoma State Saturday at the United Spirit Arena. White had 10 points in 20 minutes and Voskuil had seven points in 18 minutes of play.

Tech coach Bob Knight said even though White still has much to learn, his performance in the Oklahoma State game was vital in the team's performance.

"I think that White has contributed a lot to our team," Knight said. "He seems to be around the ball when it's coming off the board better than anybody we have. I think he has to learn that he's not playing in high school, which is a tough thing for kids to learn when their freshmen. They all think they're good players and they've been good players because the other guys they're playing against aren't as good and now everybody is this good, and that's a tough thing for freshmen and he's learning slowly."

Throughout the season, White has made various appearances and even contributed to some of the Red Raiders' biggest wins. White had 10 points on 4-of-8 shooting when Tech beat then-sixth ranked Texas A&M in College Station Feb. 13. White also had 11 points on 5-of-7 shooting when the Red Raiders defeated Kansas State in Manhattan, Kan., in just his second game of Big 12 Conference play.

White's rebounding has also played a part in the course of the season. He has 27 offensive rebounds — good for fourth best on the team.

Voskuil has contributed with his consistency from the free throw line. Voskuil has hit 19 of his 21 free throws this season which is good for a .905 free throw percentage. Voskuil has also had consistent play with a .473 field goal percentage and .378 percent shooting behind the 3-point line. He has also been getting more time in Big 12 conference play with 18.3 minutes a game.

Knight said Voskuil matched up well against Oklahoma State and was essential in the win against the Cowboys.

"Voskuil made some contributions, Voskuil did a good job fronting the post for us," Knight said.

Senior guard Jarrius Jackson said Voskuil and White have played a part in the Red Raiders' performance because of their growing maturity.

"They have developed a lot over the course of this conference play," Jackson said. "They gave us a good start today — Alan and Decensae coming off the bench — Decensae with his rebounding and his defense and Alan with his shooting. They just have to continue to give us that spark off the bench."

► adam.coleman@ttu.edu

Notable Game Statistics

| |
|--|
| Alan Voskuil |
| - 12/23/06 vs. Bucknell - 15 pts., 5 reb., 3 assists |
| - 2/6/07 vs. Nebraska - 14 pts., 6 reb., 3 assists |
| Decensae White |
| - Saturday vs. Okla. St. - 10 pts., 2 reb., 1 assist |
| - 2/13/07 vs. Texas A&M - 10 pts., 2 reb. |

CompOSure: Tech's late free throws help sink Oklahoma State

By JAY LANGLEY
NEWS EDITOR

Two clutch free throws by Jarrius Jackson and a questionable play by Mario Boggan on the last possession helped the Texas Tech men's basketball team to a 59-57 win against Oklahoma State Saturday at the United Spirit Arena.

Tech (18-11, 7-7 Big 12) improved its 2006-07 home record to 12-3 and moved into fifth place in the Big 12 with two games remaining.

"I just knew that coming into this game both of us was in a crucial situation with our tournament hopes," Jackson said. "So I knew it was going to be an exciting game and we were just going to have to come ready to play."

With the game tied at 57-57, Tech got possession with 42 seconds remaining.

Tech coach Bob Knight said with the game on the line he wants the ball in the hands of Jackson or junior guard Martin Zeno.

"We wanted Jackson to drive or Zeno to drive and for one of them to get fouled," Knight said of Tech's final possession.

Knight got his wish as Boggan fouled Jackson with 14 seconds to play. Jackson, who finished the game with 11 points, knocked down both free throws to give Tech the lead for good at 59-57.

"Coach just told me to drive and try to get to the line and so that's what I did," Jackson said.

Oklahoma State (19-9, 5-8) lost their fourth-straight game and fell to 0-6 on the road in conference play.

The Cowboys had a chance to tie or win the game on the last possession. Terrel Harris missed a 3-pointer and Boggan collected his team-high eighth rebound under the basket with just four seconds remaining. But instead

of putting up what appeared to be a short game tying follow up, Boggan raced to the 3-point arc and put up a shot that clanged off the side of the rim, giving Tech the win.

Oklahoma State coach Sean Sutton said after Jackson made the second free throw to give Tech the two-point lead, he told his team to go for the win.

"We set up a ball screen for (Byron) Eaton to come off at half court," Sutton said of the game's final possession. "I felt like the way the game was going that if we had an open look from the 3-point line to go for the win. James On (Curry) missed one of his assignments that he was supposed to do on that play and as a result we did not get the look that I hoped we would."

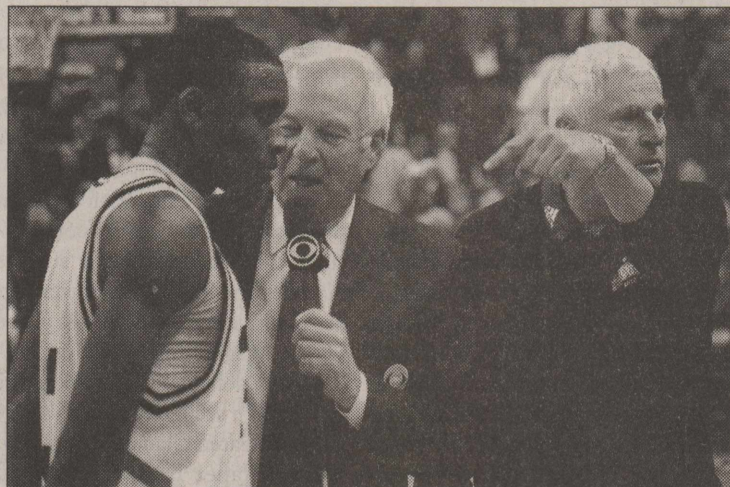
Sutton said he wished Boggan would have taken the offensive rebound toward the hoop to try to tie the game.

Boggan led Oklahoma State with 17 points on 8-of-15 shooting from the floor. In Oklahoma State's double-overtime win against Tech Feb. 10, Boggan scored 35 points and grabbed 14 rebounds.

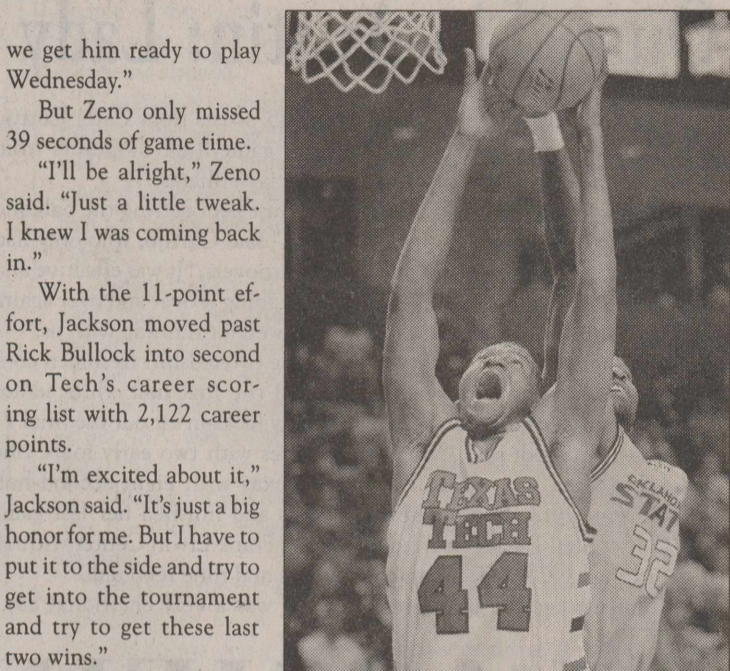
"We tried to go at him a little bit with our offense and then we tried to drop a guy behind him in the second half," Knight said of Boggan. "He was certainly the whole key in their offense the last time we played. We weren't great, but it went from 35 to 17, which gave us a chance to win in a low scoring game."

Zeno led Tech with 13 points including 7-of-11 from the free throw line. The 6-foot-5 junior went down midway through the second half holding his ankle after one of his game-high nine rebounds.

"He came back on his own," Knight said. "When he first when out I'm thinking about I hope



WALTER ROSADO/The Daily Toreador
COACH BOB KNIGHT recognizes Martin Zeno during Texas Tech's 59-57 victory over Oklahoma State Saturday afternoon at the United Spirit Arena.



STEVE LEWIS/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH SENIOR forward Darryl Dora gets the rebound after a shot attempt by Oklahoma State during the first half of the game, Saturday afternoon at United Spirit Arena.

Broncos' running back collapses and dies after charity basketball game

ST. LOUIS (AP) - Damien Nash had just come home from a charity basketball game he'd organized in his brother's honor when he collapsed in front of his wife and 7-month-old girl.

The Denver Broncos running back died Saturday and the cause remained unclear Sunday, but his grieving mother knows what she must do.

After one son's death and a heart ailment that caused another son to require a transplant last year, Kim Nash is taking her daughter to a

cardiologist next week.

"My son," she told The Associated Press amid sobs, "is giving me the strength right now to talk."

Damien Nash collapsed in his suburban St. Louis home after returning by limousine with his wife, Judy Nash, and their daughter from a game at his high school to benefit The Darris Nash Find a Heart Foundation. The organization raises money for heart transplant research.

The 24-year-old player was taken by ambulance to Christian Hospital Northeast, where he was pronounced dead. The hospital's nursing supervisor, Maria St. George, told the AP the hospital dispatched an ambulance as soon as it received the call.

The St. Louis County medical examiner's office said results of an autopsy scheduled for Sunday may

not be known for days.

Dr. Gregory Ewald, a cardiologist, treated 25-year-old Darris Nash and said he had a weakened heart muscle condition known as dilated cardiomyopathy. The ailment can be caused by a viral infection, inflammation or other causes. Darris Nash became so ill he needed a mechanical device to support his circulation until he could get a transplant, he said.

Ewald said some cardiomyopathy conditions run in families. He said he never met Damien Nash, but "the fact that Damien was doing high-level athletics may indicate that was not the problem."

The death comes less than two months after the still unsolved slaying of Broncos teammate Darrent Williams. Damien Nash's agent, David Canter, said the Broncos were trying to contact teammates, who have

scattered for the offseason. Funeral arrangements were not yet set.

Canter told the AP that Nash had four physicals since 2004 and was in good health. He said the Broncos planned their own investigation.

Canter said Nash had been ecstatic last week organizing the charity game. His client's high school coach, Darren Sunkett, said Nash had invited some NFL players from the St. Louis area and some former University of Missouri players. He was talking to a cousin when he collapsed.

The agent said dozens of family members had gathered at Nash's house for a celebration or were en route when he died. Judy Nash, he said, recalled that her husband hadn't been drinking or partying, adding that "all he cares about is his daughter and this event."

Canter said Nash's friends and family take comfort in knowing that in his last moments he was surrounded by "every single person that loves him, that he loved and that loved him back."

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