

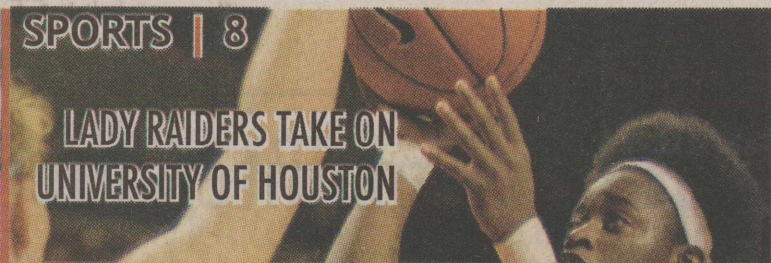
CHARLIE BROWN'S
CHRISTMAS LIST



STUDENTS COPE
WITH EXAM STRESS



LADY RAIDERS TAKE ON
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5, 2007
VOLUME 82 ■ ISSUE 68

THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

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(INBRIEF)

STATE ICE nets more than 30,000 illegal immigrants

DALLAS (AP) — Federal agents who track down fugitive illegal immigrants arrested more than 30,000 people nationally in fiscal year 2007, nearly double the previous year, officials said Tuesday.

The number of arrests more than doubled to 1,635 in North Texas and Oklahoma. In South Texas, San Antonio-based agents arrested 1,326 fugitives, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said.

NATION

Bush, Democrats locked in battle over Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush and congressional Democrats are locked in a struggle over Iraq spending, with neither side budging and each calculating that its argument will be the one to resonate with voters.

For both sides, this rhetorical tug-of-war has become a question of leadership on national security issues and who is more committed to the troops.

"It's unconscionable to deny funds to our troops in harm's way because some in Congress want to force a self-defeating policy, especially when we're seeing the benefits of success," Bush said in a Rose Garden speech on Monday.

WORLD

Abbas closes 92 Hamas charities

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has closed 92 charities linked to Hamas, officials said Monday, part of an intensifying West Bank crackdown on the Islamic militants who seized the Gaza Strip and are challenging renewed peace talks with Israel.

Israel released 429 Palestinian prisoners to try to bolster Abbas.

DEATH TOLL

3883

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

WEATHER

Today



SUNNY
HIGH 67
LOW 37

Thursday



SUNNY
HIGH 70
LOW 43

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Bush: 'Iran is dangerous'

New report shows need to be vigilant about possibility of Iran's nuclear program

By TERENCE HUNT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defending his credibility, President Bush said Tuesday that Iran is dangerous and must be squeezed by international pressure despite a blockbuster intelligence finding that Tehran halted its nuclear weapons program four years ago.

Bush said the new conclusion — contradicting earlier U.S. assessments — would not prompt him to take off the table the possibility

of pre-emptive military action against Iran. Nor will the United States change its policy of trying to isolate Iran diplomatically and punish it with sanctions, he said.

"Look, Iran was dangerous, Iran is dangerous and Iran will be dangerous if they have the knowledge necessary to make a nuclear weapon," the president told a White House news conference a day after the release of a new national intelligence estimate representing the consensus of all U.S. spy agencies.

On Capitol Hill, congressional Democrats

said they hoped the report would have a cooling effect on the administration's rhetoric, which they said was hyped and counterproductive. At a campaign debate in Iowa, seven Democratic presidential candidates stood in agreement that the United States should shift its focus with Iran to diplomatic engagement.

"They should have stopped the sabbat rattling, should never have started it," said Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton said Bush "should seize this

opportunity." But she also said it was clear that pressure on Iran has had an effect — a point disputed by rival Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware.

While U.S. intelligence about Iran has changed, Bush showed no inclination to alter course. Iran continues to produce enriched uranium that could be transferred to a secret weapons program, he said.

"So, I view this report as a warning signal that they had the program, they halted the program.

IRAN continued on page 2

Burglary Blues

SGA, Tech Police offer students tips to prevent Grinches from stealing Christmas

By ADAM YOUNG
STAFF WRITER

Warning students to take precautions against burglaries over the holiday break, Texas Tech's Student Government Association is working on a holiday break-in prevention initiative with the Tech Police Department.

"This is one of those programs that is almost at no cost to the students," said Taylor Hutcherson, SGA external vice president and a senior management and finance major from Lubbock. "It's just to let SGA make them aware of this problem and to give them tips to hopefully curb the number of break-ins."

Hutcherson said the SGA wants to educate students on steps they can take to reduce their chances of being the victim of a burglary by distributing a list of tips and suggestions through e-mails and fliers throughout the campus after hearing about 12 apartments that were broken into at a Lubbock apartment complex during the 2006 Christmas break.

"Obviously, the burglar had some serious time to do that, and probably the biggest thing we recommend is that, if you live off campus, to place your house or



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KELLY MATHERLY/The Daily Toreador

BURGLARY continued on page 2

Kipyego wins Honda Award for best female cross country runner

By ALEX YBARRA
STAFF WRITER

Minutes after Sally Kipyego won her second consecutive cross country national championship, her emotions overwhelmed her as she sat on a bench and started crying.

Kipyego said that "special moment" was the culmination of all this semester's hard work: the sacrifices, the lonely runs at night and dawn, the strenuous studying that her lifelong dream of nursing school entails.

"This year was very special in a very different way," she said. "I knew that whatever I went through all semester seemed so hard, and I just reflected everything that I had gone through. Going back and being able to win, that made it very special for me, because it was hard to get that title again."

That title, along with her second-consecutive All-American selection, 12-0 record in collegiate races and humble attitude, earned her the Honda Award — an award for the nation's top collegiate female cross-country runner — Tuesday.

"I'm very honored to win that award again," she said. "It's a very prestigious award. I'm very excited

about it and respectful."

Tora Grossman, a representative of the Collegiate Women's Sports Awards, said Kipyego stands for what type of athlete the organization tries to honor.

"She's beating all the best runners in this country," Grossman said. "It is amazing that she could still be so humble; we should have a few football players like that, right?"

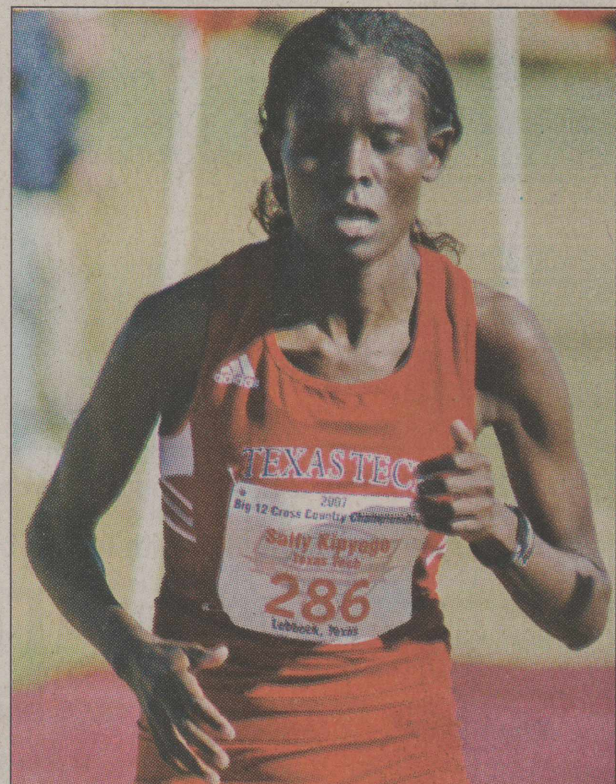
The award automatically nominates Kipyego for the Honda-Broderick Cup for the Collegiate Woman Athlete of the Year Award, which is given to the nation's top female collegiate athlete out of 12 finalists.

No cross country runner ever has won the award.

Even though Kipyego said this year was a difficult task, her friends and her coach, Jon Murray, told her she made it look as easy as 2006, when she out ran the second place finisher by an average of 35 seconds.

This season, she won by a slightly lower average, 24 seconds, with the closest call coming in the Big 12 Conference championship when Colorado's Jennifer Barringer finished six seconds behind Kipyego.

KIPYEGO continued on page 7



SALLY KIPYEGO/File Photo

Grounds maintenance department recognized for campus beauty

By **MATT MCGOWAN**
STAFF WRITER

The next time Texas Tech students rush from one building on campus to another, they may pause somewhere along their way to consider the award-winning real estate on which they stand.

In recognition of Tech's campus beauty and the managerial aptitude of its grounds maintenance staff, the Professional Grounds Maintenance Society awarded Tech its Honor Award for university and college grounds Oct. 27.

This is the grounds maintenance department's fourth Honor Award in eight years, said Robin Cooper, unit coordinator for the department. The program won the Honor Award in 2002, 2003 and 2004.

"Four of these in eight years is pretty good," Cooper said. "That's some pretty good odds for us."

With between 60 and 70 submissions this year, said Eric Grammer, a spokesperson for the Professional Grounds Maintenance Society, the competition

considered a record number of applicants during the judging process.

"It's a very prestigious award," he said, "if you think about all of the organizations that hire in-house grounds people all across the country."

The society considers several categories as it reviews submissions, Grammer said. Judges look at more than simple aesthetics and also consider management and operational aspects of competing maintenance departments.

Judging is based on five main areas, he said, the first being site and operations inventories, which focuses on the university's organization and catalog of what it has on campus. The second area of judging interest is turf management, tree care and shrub and ground-cover management. Irrigation design is the third category.

Also, judges consider the department's general management skills, Grammer said, which is the fourth category, and budget and finance, which is the final category.

Judges, he said, are ground maintenance

personnel from many areas across the United States, who the society deemed to experts in the field of grounds maintenance.

Although judges personally do not tour applicants' campuses, they do thoroughly review application packets presenting photos and written descriptions of campus landscape features and operational details, Grammer said.

The award is an honor for the program, said Dewey Shroyer, managing director of grounds maintenance at Tech. Next year, however, the department is vying to win the Grand Award, which is the competition's highest rating.

"We've got good employees, dedicated employees that care for what they do and take pride in their work," Shroyer said. "That's how we were able to apply for these awards, and our administration cares and supports us. Without their support, we wouldn't be here."

Tech is at a slight disadvantage because of the arid West Texas climate, he said, which only makes the university's competitive ranking that much more impressive.

"We've got good representation right

there that we do stack up," Shroyer said, pointing towards a wall lined with award plaques. "We do a good job of stacking up. Even though we're the furthest west with six- to nine- inches of rain. Like (The University of Texas), they won a Grand (Award) this year, but they have, like, 30 inches or more of rain."

As she compiled the application packet this year, Cooper said she chose areas of campus which are most compatible with what the competition's judges expect to see.

"They really just don't have a clue of the sheer size and volume of land that we have to deal with, because no other campus in the United States is anywhere near the size," she said.

"They expect to see a lot more of the detailed bed work. That is what we try to focus on."

Shroyer said, grounds maintenance is responsible for approximately 1,500 acres of landscape and has approximately 106 employees at any one point in time. Grounds maintenance budget is approximately \$3.3 million, which also funds several areas of upkeep, such as streets repairs, payroll and brickwork.

The budget does not correlate directly to campus appearance, he said, because there is only so much money can do to make campus more visually appealing.

"I don't think (campus beauty) is a budget thing as much as it is a climate,"

Shroyer said. "Our people work hard, and they do a good job. I don't think we can pour any more money into it and change anything."

The visual appearance of a college campus weighs heavily on most prospective students, said Tracey Flores, director of Tech's West Texas recruitment division. Few students consider going to a university with an ugly campus, which is why it is so important to have, among other things, a good grounds maintenance department.

"Recruiting students goes way beyond just the recruiter and the recruiter's job," she said. "It is for everyone who works on this campus at this university, whether it be grounds people or not. Everybody on this campus can affect that student's decision to come. Everybody's role in getting those students here is crucial."

Cooper encouraged students to call and provide the department with feedback on what they think looks good or what could be improved when it comes to campus appearance, because student opinion is important to its staff.

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— **DEWEY SHROYER**
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE
MANAGING DIRECTOR

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Burglary

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

apartment on Vacation Watch with the Lubbock Police Department," he said.

To place houses or apartments on the Lubbock Police Department's Vacation Watch program list, Hutcherson said students can call the LPD's Vacation Watch line at 775-2865.

"You tell them everything from whether your lights are on timers, if you have a dog and if someone is going to be coming and feeding the dog, how long you are going to be gone and everything," he said. "If they notice your lights are on and they weren't supposed to be, they'll call you and even check into it."

Though representatives of the Lubbock Police Department were unavailable to comment about burglary prevention, Cpl. Jack Floyd with

the Tech Police Department said his department notes an increase in residence hall and vehicle burglaries during the Christmas break.

Tech police reported eight vehicle burglaries and two habitation burglaries between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31 in 2005, four and two respectively in the same period in 2006, and five and two so far this year.

Burglars target students' rooms during breaks, Floyd said, because students often leave expensive items such as computers and iPods in the residence halls in their rush to leave after finals.

"Just take your most valuable stuff home with you," he recommended to prevent potential burglaries. "I'm not talking about your bedding and stuff like that, I'm just talking about all your electronics."

Bill Elliot, owner of Alliance Insurance Agency in Lubbock, said he believes renters insurance is a

popular option for students because most policies cover burglaries and theft in an apartment, rental house or room in a residence hall.

"It covers things like that, as well as if the place burned down while you're gone," he said.

Though rates vary depending on the location and the amount of coverage in a policy, Elliot said many plans offer approximately \$20,000 in coverage, though a policy holder can expect to pay a deductible, often around \$500.

Elliot said many renters insurance policies include liability insurance, which also covers damages the policy holder could be liable for that occur while they are away.

"Say if they were to leave and have a candle burning and it burns down the building and some of the neighbor's stuff, their liability insurance will help with that in case they get sued," he said.

Though many burglaries involve home break-ins, Floyd said most holiday burglaries at Tech involve vehicles parked on campus.

To make vehicles parked on campus less accessible to burglars, Heather Medley, spokesperson for University Parking Services at Tech, said from Dec. 10 through Jan. 6, students can park on the second and third levels of the Flint Parking Garage at 18th Avenue and Flint Avenue without

displaying a permit.

"Students can leave their cars here and feel like they're a little bit more protected from the elements," she said. "We also have cameras in the garage to monitor the activity, so students might feel like it's safer to leave it there."

While no sign-up or prior approval is required to park in either the parking garage or any residence hall or commuter parking lot, which also will be available for students without a permit to park starting Dec. 13, she said reserved and park-and-pay spaces, as well as handicap spaces and fire lanes, still will be monitored regularly.

Hutcherson said he recommends students who live off campus leave their vehicles on campus either in the parking garage or a campus parking lot because the university will have "the same police force throughout the break and will focus their attention" on these areas.

"I think on campus, the risk of being broken into has been reduced as much as possible," he said. "We can't guarantee that you won't get broken into, but I think the risk of your vehicle being broken into or your residence on campus is greatly reduced because we have such a large presence in the police department throughout the break."

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Breckenridge	20"	2"
Copper Mtn.	18"	6"
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Iran

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

And the reason why it's a warning signal is that they could restart it," the president said.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, enroute to Ethiopia for talks with African leaders, said it would be a "big mistake" to ease diplomatic pressure on Tehran.

"I continue to see Iran as a dangerous power in international politics," Rice said. "At this moment, it doesn't appear to have an active weaponization program. That frankly is good news. But if it causes people to say, 'Oh well then we don't need to worry about what the Iranians are doing,' I think we will have made a big mistake."

Rice worked the phones to explain the new assessment, reaching out to the foreign ministers of Germany, Britain and France, as well as China and Russia, according to U.S. officials. She spoke to Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, whom she expects to see later this week at a NATO meeting in Brussels.

"What I am going to say to my colleagues is, 'Look, we have got the right strategy,'" Rice told reporters.

Rice urged nations such as China and Russia not to harden their stance against a new round of sanctions against Iran, saying the fact that Iran halted its nuclear weapons program in 2003 because of international pressure shows that diplomacy works.

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Finals stress may affect memory, hurt grades

By GLENYS BOLLS
STAFF WRITER

During final exams, many students experience stress.

However, Texas Tech professors said these feelings may have a negative impact on a student's test grades by harming the student's memorization abilities.

Ruth Maki, a professor in the Department of Psychology, said students have a better chance of success on their exams if they are not worried about the results.

"There's a phenomenon called state dependent learning," Maki said. "Basically that says that if you learn something in one state, you'll remember it better in that state. That means if you're in a happy mood when you learn something, you'll remember it better when you're happy."

Roman Taraban, a professor in the Department of Psychology, said stress is caused by a person's realization that he or she is unprepared.

"Well, what causes finals stress?"

Taraban asked. "If you put off until late in the game what needs to be done, it may be a shock to realize what's all in front of you. You just glide through the semester and then when it comes to finals time, you could be overwhelmed by it all."

Although state dependent learning plays a role in exam success, Maki said memory itself is a deciding factor.

"The main thing is how they encode the material," she said. "If you can tie things together, they work better. You have to think about the meanings of things."

Taraban said one of the biggest mistakes students make is trying to put all their studying off until the last moment and then cram for their exams.

"From a learning perspective, and I give this advice all the time, put some time into the material more uniformly over the semester," Taraban said. "Allow yourself some time to reflect on the material. It's hard to do that at the last minute."

The brain can hold only so much

information in short-term memory, Maki said, so students will have better odds of remembering the information if they commit it into their long-term memory.

"A lot of people are looking for the easy way to remember information," she said. "There is no easy way. It takes time, and it takes effort."

Although Maki said students are more likely to succeed if they have been working to memorize material all semester, there are several things they can do to help themselves understand the information.

"There are certain mnemonic techniques," she said. "Using visual imagery, organizing the information, making sense of it. These things help really getting it into your brain."

Outlines and schemas also can help, Taraban said.

"It helps if you go through the material and outline it for yourself," he said. "Make a diagram of what's more important and what's less important. Often you're under pressure to remember lots of material.

If you treat it as a list of information, it's hard to remember. If you know the hierarchy of what's more important and less important, you can use that to remind you of other things."

Knowing the main points of information can help in situations other than just tests, Taraban said.

"For retrieval and recall in a test situation, it's good to have an idea of a few main points," he said. "It's the same thing if you're writing a big paper. You have to really organize the information and know what it is you have to say."

Although stress may cause problems this time of the semester, Taraban said many students are able to cope effectively.

"In terms of ways to reduce stress before finals, just do your best as students usually do," he said. "Students tend to adopt heuristic strategies, saying, 'well, I'll just do what I can.' Usually that works, but sometimes it's not as good as you hoped."

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Shiite group airs videotape purportedly of British hostage

BAGHDAD (AP) — Captors holding five Britons demanded Tuesday that Britain pull all its forces from Iraq, posting a videotape showing a bearded, haggard-looking victim more than six months after the group was kidnapped.

The purported hostage, speaking clearly with a British accent, identified himself as "Jason" and gave the date as more than two weeks ago. He sat under a sign in Arabic identifying the captors as "The Islamic Shiite Resistance in Iraq."

"My name is Jason. Today is November 18," he said, alternately glancing at the camera and downward, perhaps at a piece of paper. "I have been here now for 173 days and I feel we have been forgotten." No other hostage was shown.

A written statement featured on the video, aired by Al-Arabiya television, accused Britain of plundering the wealth of Iraq and demanded that British troops leave within 10 days. It did not say what would happen if the deadline was not met or when the countdown begins.

Britain's Foreign Office condemned the broadcast, saying it "serves only to add to the distress of the men's families and friends." British officials have not released the names of the kidnapped men, and have requested their identities not

be disclosed by the media.

The kidnapping took place May 29, when about 40 gunmen in police uniforms and driving vehicles used by Iraqi security forces grabbed the four security contractors and a computer consultant from an Iraqi Finance Ministry compound. Suspicion has fallen on Shiite splinter groups that the United States believes have been trained and funded by Iran.

The video was posted as Britain prepares to hand over security control of oil-rich Basra province — the last of four regions of southern Iraq it occupied after the 2003 invasion — to the Iraqis in mid-December.

British troops withdrew in September from their last base in Basra city to an airport garrison on the outskirts, and half the 5,000 British troops in Iraq are due to go home by the spring.

One expert suggested a motivation for the rare broadcast of a video by a purported Shiite group could be to project the handover as a victory for the militia factions battling for control of the area.

"They're aware of countries who are already pulling their forces out," said Ben Venzke, the head of Intel-Center, a Virginia-based firm that tracks terrorist activity. "It can sometimes allow them to tie events to it and hold it out as a victory."

10,000 participants add to greenhouse gas burden, critics say

BALI, Indonesia (AP) — Never before have so many people converged to try to save the planet from global warming, with more than 10,000 jetting into this Indonesian resort island, from government ministers to Nobel laureates to drought-stricken farmers.

But critics say they are contributing to the very problem they aim to solve.

"Nobody denies this is an important event, but huge numbers of people are going, and their emissions are probably going to be greater than a small African country," said Chris Goodall, author of the book "How to Live a Low-Carbon Life."

Interest in climate change is at

an all-time high after former Vice President Al Gore and a team of U.N. scientists won the Nobel Peace Prize for highlighting the dangers of rising temperatures, melting polar ice, worsening droughts and floods, and lengthening heat waves.

Two big climate conferences have been held in less than a month, both in idyllic, far-flung, holiday destinations — first Valencia, Spain, and now Bali. They were preceded by dozens of smaller gatherings. In Bangkok, Paris, Vienna, Washington, New York and Sydney, in Rio de Janeiro, Anchorage, Helsinki and the Indian Ocean island of Kurumba.

The pace is only expected to pick up, prompting some to ask if

the issue is creating a "cure" industry as various groups claim a stake in efforts to curb global warming.

No, says Yvo de Boer, executive secretary of the U.N. Climate Change Conference.

"Wherever you held it, people would still have to travel to get there," he said. "The question is, perhaps: Do you need to do it at all? My answer to that is yes."

"If you don't put the U.S., the big developing countries, the European Union around the table to

craft a solution together, nothing will happen and then the prophecy of scientists in terms of rising emissions and its consequences will become a reality," de Boer said.

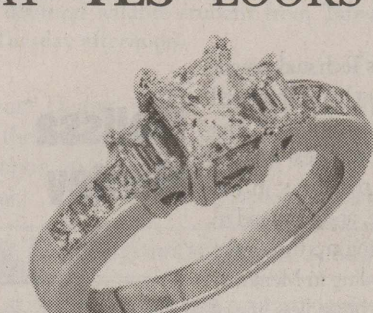
The U.N. estimates 47,000 tons of carbon dioxide and other pollutants will be pumped into the atmosphere during the 12-day conference in Bali, mostly from plane flights but also from waste and electricity used by air conditioners at five-star hotels lining palm-fringed beaches.

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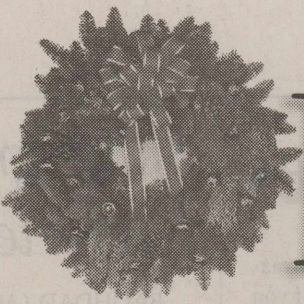
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PINIONS

A dangerously accurate portrayal of society

Pokemon is a television show/game that you will recognize, without fail, if you were born anytime in the last 10 years. For some of us, it brings back nostalgic memories of hours spent leveling a Charizard and defeating the Elite Four. For many others, I'm sure it brings to mind just another childish phase of popular toys and cards that came and went along with countless others.

Ty McDonald



ness" and "cuteness," among other categories.

What are we trainers teaching these Pokemon? That they're worthless unless they are competent in battle? That we don't love them unless they are just totally super-cute?

Nay, I say, and we shouldn't be teaching the youth of America this lesson either.

Kids are pressured to excel in every area of their life — physical appearance, school, sports, income, the list goes on. It's hard for a Squirtle to feel appreciated just the way it is if it can't "faint" a Pikachu, and, in the same way, it can be hard for anyone, much less a child, to feel good about

themselves if they failed English or suck at football.

Now, let us move on.

In perhaps one of the greatest mysteries of the Pokemon world, a 20-foot-tall dragon will obey a small child and even risk its life to fight meaningless battles for said child.

Is this because this Gyarados has been captured in a small ball that defies almost every law of physics, or is it because the child and the dragon form a powerful bond of love and friendship? Some, like Professor Oak, claim it's the latter, while many trainers I know would point to the former as the true reason.

Whichever it is, one thing becomes increasingly clear — Pokemon are tools.

Comparable to this relationship between Pokemon and trainer is the relationship between the few elite CEOs and the members of their work forces. While most managers have not captured their employees in Pokeballs,

and few have developed a bond with their workers resembling the one between Ash and Pikachu, they possess yet another means of controlling their tools — money.

Yes, without that drastically important income, we apparently have no lives and no happiness.

Make no mistake, the labor force certainly has the power to overthrow the executives, to throw away its dependence and set its own rules, but unfortunately it is crippled by a fear of change, a need for stability and a reluctance for risk-taking.

So, while a Mewtwo might utilize its immense psychic powers all day on the whim of a 12 year-old, we aren't in any position to point and laugh.

On a final note, the issue of animal cruelty is practically mandatory in this little discussion.

While I was initially tempted to point out all the instances of Pokemon abuse and then use them as a "what not to do" example, upon further

thought I realized something. If you think about it, or maybe just do a smidgeon of research, you'll see that what we do to our environment and the animals in it on a daily basis is exceptionally more harmful and careless than any plan a member of Team Rocket could dream up.

Let's make a list and compare, shall we?

In the world of Pokemon, trainers promote violence among their creatures, trying to make the opponent's tool faint, but not die (they really dodged the angry-mother bullet on that one). While this is comparable to something Michael Vick would do, you have to remember that these Pokemon never die.

In another potentially bad choice, trainers use vitamins/steroids like Iron, HP Up and Zinc to "boost" their Pokemon.

Trainers occasionally will throw rocks at Pokemon in the Safari Zone.

Trainers will seek out endangered, rare Pokemon like Eevee, Clefairy and Cubone in order to catch them (but not kill them).

This is not really an extensive list, but it will do.

In our world, we destroy miles of forest daily; release poisons and toxins into the environment; hunt animals to kill them; use these animals for testing of different products, vaccines and diseases; abuse them in our homes; desert them in the streets; and so much more.

Again, definitely not extensive, but the case is clear.

In any case, I think we can all take something from the world of Pokemon and hopefully use it as an educational tool. Also, it's really fun to play.

McDonald is a sophomore general studies major from Garland. E-mail him at mt.mcdonald@ttu.edu.

Christmas celebrations come too early

Last Friday, Texas Tech students got to enjoy the most highly-honored tradition at our institution, the Carol of the Lights. Every year it is the Carol of the Lights that rings in the holiday season for me, and I was sad to miss it this year. Nothing says the start of the holidays like standing in Memorial Circle and watching the endless line of Saddle Traps walk by with their "torches" before listening to the longest version of "Oh, Holy Night" ever sung.

Melissa Medley



more months to untangle and hang the holiday lights. Two whole months to give me more time to make sure I do not look like a Scrooge. Two months to get holiday songs stuck in my head over and over again.

No sooner were the Halloween pumpkins in the trash can than I started to hear "Jingle Bells" and "Away in a Manger" over the loud speaker at Wal-Mart. I even think I saw Christmas trees next to the discounted Halloween goods in the Target where I shop for my more high-end goods. And let us not forget this extended season means commercials with holiday themes will be seen over and over again until I can act them out line-by-line with all the appropriate facial expressions inserted.

Gone are the days when Christmas celebrations were confined to just December. December is here, and I am already saturated with the specialness of the holiday season. I have been soaking it up since putting my ultra-trampy Halloween costume in storage. I do not even have to skip over Thanksgiving to start celebrating Christmas; I can put both sets of decorations up and sing my carols while I do it. Now it is only a matter of time until there will be pilgrims dressed in red and green available for me to give to my mother, and I am actually counting the days until I can get a jack-o-lantern with reindeer ears.

Hopefully the silliness of attempting to separate holidays will be seen soon, and all the holidays can be combined into one giant year-long mish-mash of commercialism.

Long gone will be the days of enjoying each holiday for its unique attributes. I want to sing songs that celebrate the joy of being an American along with the joy that comes along with the gathering of candy while dressed as a ghost. The time

will soon come when wearing Santa hats and Halloween costumes in the same week is socially acceptable. And I will be overjoyed when turkey is served at my next Fourth of July barbecue.

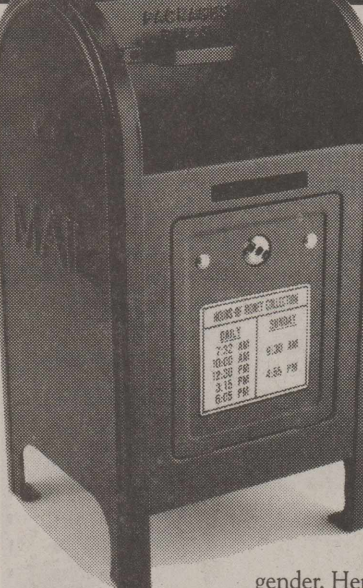
I am so glad that I live in the land of the free that allows me to celebrate any holiday whenever I want to. American impatience has made it possible to celebrate holidays months in advance without having to savor the holiday or season currently happening. I already am getting a head start on President's Day, because I am a little tired of Christmas right now. Singing carols all month long has worn me out on the concept of good will toward men. Thank goodness the retailers understand my need to move constantly from one holiday to the next. Now I must start looking for my date for Valentine's Day.

Medley is a senior cell and molecular biology and Spanish major from Spring. E-mail her at melissa.k.medley@ttu.edu.



"I'd like peace on Earth, a little self-confidence, and the ability to learn the Crank Dat Soulja Boy dance."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



This is in response to Nizar Ghneim's article "Celebrating American Ignorance" talking about lack of knowledge. If you are going to wait two weeks before writing to an opinion column take some time and proof read your work to make sure there is some merit to your opinion. The people who disagreed with you may very well have been ignorant, but at least they did not brew for two weeks and then announce their ignorance to the world. "Better to be thought a fool in silence than proven a fool in speech."

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's fame does not come solely from her gender. Her fame comes from the toil and sweat of many years of hard work. She is the only justice that served in all three branches of government before her appointment. If you still want to argue that her experiences did not justify an appointment to the Supreme Court check out this guy named Abraham Lincoln.

First, if you are going to cite dates in history that seem to support your idea — take a look at the big picture. In the grand scheme of history, a two-year difference like the one between Margaret Thatcher (1979) and Sandra Day O'Connor (1981) does not amount to a great disparity. I would argue that America is not far behind, if at all, in empowering women. Case in point: Switzerland in 1971; in case you don't know, that is the year women received the right to vote and stand for parliament. Therefore, citing dates almost a decade after the appointment of Justice O'Connor to somehow support your idea that America is behind in appointing women to positions of power is foolish.

Second, "What she even did while on the court." What she did was not swing the court wildly in either direction. She was regarded as occupying the ideological center and being "a moderating voice on the court and was very hesitant to expand the law in either direction." I believe it is truly ignorant to say that a justice — male or female — did not accomplish anything while on the bench simply because they did not vote on a case such as "Roe vs. Wade" (1973).

Finally, we celebrate her because she was the first woman to serve on the court. As a society, we celebrate people who have overcome obstacles to get places. We celebrate Sandra Day O'Connor and all the other women that paved the way for a woman to sit in such a powerful position. Yes, this is a worthy celebration.

Mr. Ghneim may have had good intentions to write his opinion, though in the future I would ask him to spend some time surfing the Internet before he writes his words down. Here are a few terms he might consider searching: Supreme Court of the United States, Executive, Legislative, Judicial, Magna Carta, Women's Rights, Judicial Review and Marbury v. Madison. If you don't understand why I picked these terms to search, then you probably won't understand the article and why I wrote it.

Brian Boston is a Texas Tech alumnus from Berger. E-mail him at brian.d.boston@ttu.edu.

Forgotten holiday deserves proper recognition

By DOMINICK BONNY
DAILY EVERGREEN (WASHINGTON STATE U.)

(U-WIRE) PULLMAN, Wash. — It's just about that time again, time to celebrate the greatest day in American history. You may think that it's Independence Day, or Victory in Europe day, or even the day President Nixon resigned. You'd be wrong though, it's Dec. 5, National Repeal Day. The glorious day in 1933 when President Roosevelt signed a law repealing the Volstead Act, ending one of the U.S.'s stupidest laws ever — the prohibition of alcohol.

As college students, we reap some of the greatest benefits of alcohol, especially in Pullman, Wash. Think about what Washington State University would be like without the nurturing comfort of booze. Scary thought, isn't it? Without alcohol, we would just be going to college in a tiny town nestled in the Palouse. Sure we would still have a good vet school and great sports, but what about

the people? What would a football game be like without Jack Daniels? Why, Greek Row would just be a set of mostly dilapidated, run-down houses with many sad frat boys playing regular old ping pong. I shudder at the thought.

I don't even want to think about what the dating scene would be like without that little edge that liquor gives us all. Only the very best-looking people in Pullman would ever have dates. The conversations would be just as boring, but without alcohol we would actually realize how boring they are. Not only would our personal and social lives suffer immensely, but so too would Pullman's economy. Dismore's and Safeway would have to cut costs by firing students who work for them. Without beer, would we really eat as much pizza?

If alcohol were still prohibited, there wouldn't be crowds of people pouring out of the bars and stumbling down the street to enjoy Munchy's famous hot dogs and hooch. Dare I go as far to say another

"I don't even want to think about what the dating scene would be like without that little edge that liquor gives us all."

repeal of alcohol could usher in a new Great Depression? Yes, I dare. Without the mind-numbing effects that the nectar of the gods gives people, there would be almost no market for the morning after pill. How would we make all of our bad decisions? And then after making all those bad decisions we wouldn't have anything to blame them on other than ourselves, and that is a truly depressing thought.

True, Pullman would be a quieter

place, with a more peaceful attitude. But we have the rest of our post-college lives to enjoy peace and quiet. Booze is helping all of us to make the memories we will enjoy and embellish for the rest of our lives, not to mention the regrets.

Ah, the regrets. So many regrets, we owe many of those dumb decisions to alcohol, but would you really change them if you could? Alcohol is that double-edged sword that — when used properly — can make you funnier than you really are, better looking than you actually are, more interesting, and way more talented. But it can also come back to bite you, hard, if used in excess. But all in all, as Americans and as Pullmanites, most of us enjoy alcohol — just try to enjoy it responsibly.

So this Dec. 5, join me wherever you are in raising a toast to FDR, to the death of the Prohibition and in celebration of National Repeal Day. And if you see me out on the streets Wednesday night, feel free to buy me a drink.

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Corrections
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Publishing information
Periodical postage paid by The Daily Treador, Student Media Building, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, 79402. Publication number: 756480. 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 student service fees.

Subscriptions
Call: (806) 742-3388
Subscription Rates: \$120 annually; single issues: 25 cents.

Postmaster: send address changes to The Daily Treador, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

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Students cope with exam-time stress

By LONDON CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Exam time is right around the corner for most Texas Tech students as they learn to cope with end of the year stresses.

During the final two weeks of school, students cram to finish end-of-the-year projects and papers, last minute research and study for test after test. All of these year-end pressures can cause anxiety for students, but various Tech services are available for students to help alleviate stress during final exams.

Tech ombudsman, Kathryn Quilliam, works to assist students in coping with any form of school-related anxiety. Quilliam said students talk about many issues including academics, roommates, significant others, classmates and even professors.

"(I talk about) anything that is a practical issue that has to do with being a student," she said.

Quilliam said pre-exam anxiety is a popularly-discussed topic throughout the academic year. Students may have trouble getting out of bed, paying attention in class, taking notes, feeling pressure during a test, having personal issues or experiencing other academic related insecurities.

"There is nothing more frustrating for a student than to study sufficiently and not feel confident about the test," Quilliam said.

She devises strategies that students may use to be successful in studying and taking their exams. Quilliam advises students to practice visualization and positive self-talk

to alleviate stress associated with test taking.

"(As students, you) can play a video in your head about studying for the test, visualize getting dressed the day of the test, taking the test and saying 'wow, I aced that test,'" she said.

Other resources are available to students to manage stress including the writing center, Missouri Club, Freshman Success Center, the test center and Student Disability Services, Quilliam said.

Beginning today, the University Library will stay open 24 hours to provide unlimited access to resources that students may not have in their dormitory or apartment homes. Jeff Whitley, the director of communications for the library, said procrastination leaves dozens of students in the library bustling to finish their semester work.

"Procrastination is the biggest source of stress," he said. "(In the library,) a lot of students are either cramming for their exams or have to do last minute research and term papers."

With around-the-clock hours, the library provides computer and

printer equipment and software with access to the Digital Media Studio, as well as numerous places to study throughout the building, Whitley said.

"It's not just a matter of finding a place to study, he said, 'it's a matter of finishing up class projects, too.'"

University Student Housing develops different stress-relieving programs and activities for students. Kyla Doddridge, manager for recruitment, staff orientation and education for University Student Housing, said dormitories will quiet 24 hours of the night before

Dead Day. Community advisers will make rounds throughout the night to make sure residents are being courteous of others who may be studying.

Other activities include stress-relieving parties, exam jams, midnight breakfast in the dining halls and massage therapists from the

Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

"In the past years, (the) Honors learning community usually have an exam jam where they invite professors in the hall to do a study group," Doddridge said.

During exam week, community advisers post informational bulletins and fliers with stress-relieving tips to help students who may be experiencing anxiety before exams.

Students around campus use different methods to cope with stress during finals week. Danya Askins, a freshman public relations and finance double major from Lubbock, said she is reviewing her course work a week in advance and making note cards for her first round of exams.

"I usually spend an hour or two on one subject a day so that it doesn't build up," she said.

Danielle Anderson, a junior human development and family studies major from Keller, said she copes with stress by managing time and prioritizing her to-do list.

"I have been working hard throughout the semester so that I do not have to stress for the finals," Anderson said.

The anxiety associated with stress and balancing a job during exam week may be more stressful for some students. Amber Grice, a sophomore exercise and sport

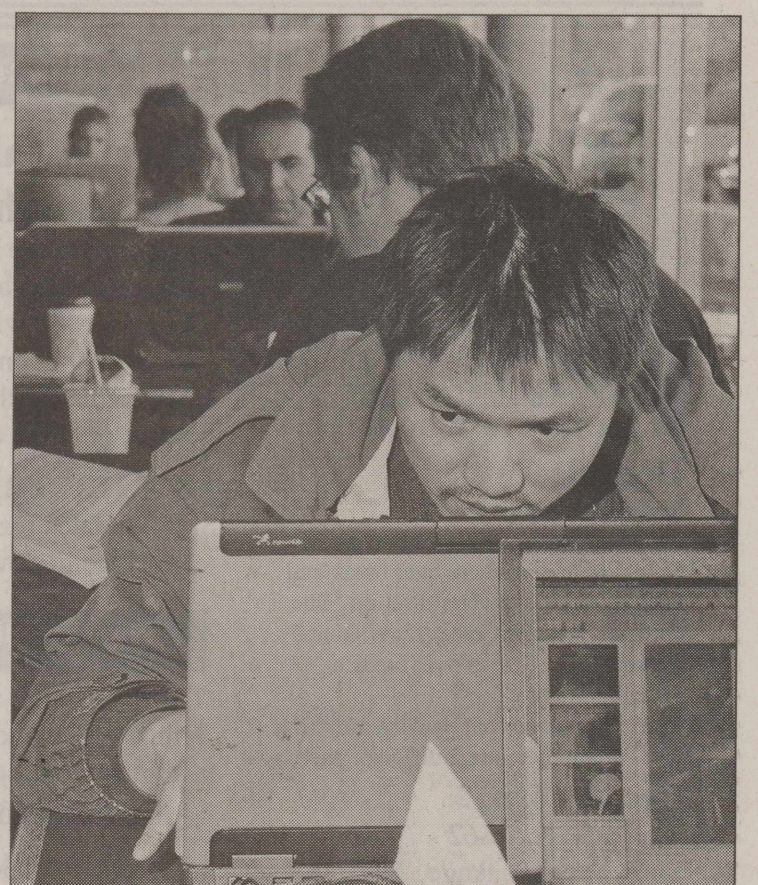


PHOTO BY TRENT BARNES/The Daily Treador
ROSS TSAR, A doctoral wildlife student from Taiwan, studies at the J&B Coffee Co. Tuesday afternoon.

sciences major from Dumas, said usually she works the night shift at the University Library and studies when she gets home.

"I do one thing at a time since I work 32 hours a week," she said.

london.clark@ttu.edu

"There is nothing more frustrating for a student than to study sufficiently and not feel confident about the test."

— KATHRYN QUILLIAM
TEXAS TECH
OMBUDSMAN FOR STUDENTS

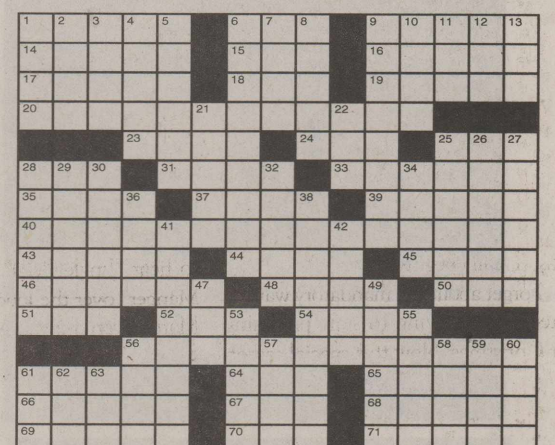
WEDNESDAY

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTTX 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KMYL 14 MYN Lubbock	KLCW 22 CW Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KITV 34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Curious	Today Scheduled: an inside look at the Good Year blimp; log cabin chic. (HD)	The Early Show	Copeland Life Today	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	J. Hanna Paid Program
8 AM	Super Why			Awesome Eye	Lopez		
9 AM	Sesame Street		The 700 Club	Cristina Cristina	Steve Wilkos	Montel	Martha Cooking
10 AM	Big World		The Price Is Right	Divorce Divorce	Temptation Paid Programs	The View (HD)	The Morning Show
11 AM	Sesame	Jeopardy	Restless (HD)	Alex			Tyra Banks Show
12 PM	Quilt	News	News	Jerry Springer	Cosby	All My Children	Feud
1 PM	Beads	Days of Our Lives	As the World	Jerry Springer	Roseanne	Extra	
2 PM	Teletub	Crosswords	Guiding Light	Paid Programs	All of Us	General Hospital	Judge Mathis
3 PM	Reading	Oprah Winfrey	Brown Brown	Mauri	Reba	Paid Prog.	Ellen DeGeneres
4 PM	Clifford	Dr. Phil	Judy Judy	Mauri	Steve Wilkos	Rachael Ray	News
5 PM	Maya	News	News	TMZ	Standing	News	Raymond
6 PM	NewsHour	News	News	Access	Standing	News	Simpsons
7 PM	Wired Science	Deal or No Deal	Kid Nation	Celebrity Exposé	Top Model (HD)	Santa Claus (HD)	Back You 'Til Death
8 PM	Chanukah	Deal or No Deal	Criminal Minds	Celebrity Exposé	Gossip Girl (HD)	Private Practice	Kitchen "Pete's"
9 PM	Kika and Davka	Life (HD)	CSI: NY (HD)	Jim (HD)	Bermie	Dirty Sexy Money	News
10 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	News	70s	Will (HD)	News	Two & 1/2
11 PM	Charlie Rose	The Tonight Show	(35) Late Show	Malcolm	Sex City	(5/6) ET	Friends
12 AM	Destinos	(35) Late Night Show	Late Late Show	Wile	Sex City	Jimmy Kimmel	Scrub
		Last Call	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Frasier

DECEMBER 5, 2007

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Make a necessary change
 - 6 Eng. honor
 - 9 Temperate
 - 14 Non-social type
 - 15 Learning org.
 - 16 "A Bell for ..."
 - 17 Minneapolis suburb
 - 18 Response time
 - 19 Navigational system
 - 20 Sign of a shun?
 - 23 Go away!
 - 24 USNA grad
 - 25 Obese
 - 28 NYSE overseer
 - 31 Asian oxen
 - 33 Inscrutable
 - 35 Gillette blade
 - 37 Acquires
 - 39 Dine at home
 - 40 Far north post-wedding event?
 - 43 Grassland
 - 44 Satric Mort
 - 45 Old Atlanta arena
 - 46 Employ
 - 48 Blend
 - 50 Ninny
 - 51 Actress Ruby
 - 52 Med. care plan
 - 54 Food fad
 - 56 Jazz record buyer?
 - 61 Happen again
 - 64 "Abner ... Gay"
 - 65 Foreign
 - 66 Supped
 - 68 Close competitor
 - 69 Bottle material
 - 70 Easterbrook or Howe
 - 71 Act division



By Phillip J. Anderson
Portland, OR
12/5/07

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

8 Bald raptor
9 Marketing agent, casually
10 Smell
11 "Cheers" setting
12 Spanish queen
13 Cey of baseball buyer?
21 Carmichael of "Stardust" fame
22 Genetic code letters
25 Mohammad's daughter
26 Negatively charged atoms
27 Davis Cup game
28 Blessed
29 Constituent of natural gas
30 Cower
32 Fulton's power
34 Stoic philosopher
36 Pond growth
38 On the agenda
41 Domestic fowls
42 Psychologist
47 Standup comic
48 Impedes
49 Earthenware vessels
53 Gin's partner
56 Stage signals
57 Population center
58 Make a motion
59 Lively enthusiasm
60 Last breath
61 Worn-out piece of cloth
62 Building wing
63 Successor of the OSS

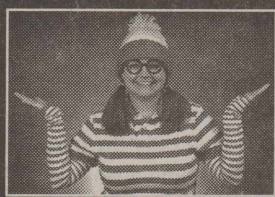
su | do | ku

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

8			5		6
			2		
1		7		9	8
	6	1	8	2	
	7		6		4
	8	5	4	7	
6		9	5		3
			8		
5			1		4

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9 with no numbers repeated in any row, column or box.

Puzzles by Pappocom



Have you ordered your *La Ventana* yearbook yet?



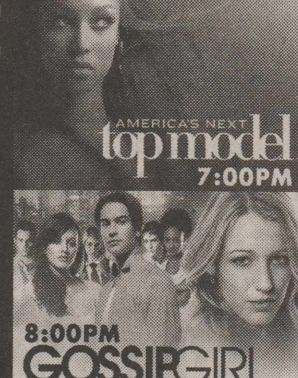
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8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday - Friday

La Ventana is a publication produced by Student Media, a department in the Division of Student Affairs at Texas Tech University.

FREE TO BE
TONIGHT

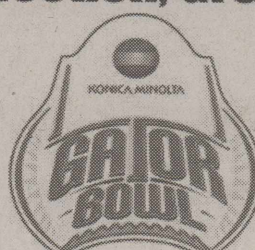
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\$10 reward
with every \$50 purchase.

* Redeem 12/3-12/31 when you spend \$20 or more before tax.



The Student Recreation Center will be closing at 6:30pm tomorrow (Thursday), for the Student Appreciation Dinner. Happy Holidays from Rec Sports!

Phone: 742-3351

Website: www.recsports.ttu.edu

Box 2151

Heartbeats
A quick pulse around the Rec Sports World...

Raider X Fitness Classes
Check the Interim Fitness Schedule on the Rec Sports Website at www.recsports.ttu.edu!
All Classes Free!

Ski and Snowboard Rentals

Reservations Start Dec. 1!
Are you hitting the slopes in New Mexico, Colorado or elsewhere over break and need skis or a snowboard set-up? The Outdoor Pursuits Center rents ski and snowboard packages over break at amazing prices!
You can reserve your packages starting Dec. 1, and there are 2 different packages!

Dec. 12 - Jan. 2
Ski Package \$62
Snowboard Package \$72

Dec. 12 - Jan. 9
Ski Package \$124
Snowboard Package \$144

Teddy Bear Drive
For the Children's Advocacy Center

Sponsored by the Double T Health Service Corps, the Office of Student Diversity Relations, and the Student REC Center. Help children of crime by donating a new teddy bear or other plush animal. Used to comfort children in traumatic situations.

Drop Off Locations:
• Office of Rural and Community Health 3844A (HSC)
• Office of Student Diversity Relations 928 S.15
• Student REC Center Fitness Office

The drive will run from November 14th - December 6th.

For each teddy bear you bring your name will be entered in a drawing for a grand prize - Red Raider Relaxation Kit.

Raider X presents **Fitness Jam**

Wed., Dec. 5
5:30 - 7PM
RM 114

Shape, Grand Prize Drawings & Free Kava Juice!

Intramurals

Intramural Volleyball Finals Are Tonight!

Head over to the Rec Center tonight and watch the All-University Championship games for Intramural Volleyball. The Co-Rec Championship will be at 7:00pm, the Women's at 9:15pm, and the Men's at 10:00pm. As of press time Tuesday, there were 22 teams still eligible for the crown. Come on over and cheer on your friends, or cheer on a team that is in the running!

Intramural Basketball Sign-ups in Jan!

Sign-up dates for basketball are January 14-16. So get your teams together over break and come back to school ready to play!



2007 7th Annual Winter Slam Champs: 3 for 3

Spring 2008 Reminders

The Rec Center will be hosting an open night of Laser Tag on Friday, January 11 at 7:00pm. The All-Nighter is scheduled for January 25th and will include Laser Tag, a Guitar Hero 3 Tournament, Hypnotist Tom Deluca, the return of the Slam Dunk Contest, a shot at winning a Hummer from Scoggin-Dickey, and all of the great tournaments you love each year!

Looking for that perfect holiday gift, but don't know what to get? How about a gift certificate for a Massage, Personal Trainer or Better U

(Yoga/Pilates) session!

Purchase your gift certificate today at in the Fit/Well office of the Student Rec Center. A one hour Massage is \$40 for a SRC member or \$50 for a non-member. Personal Trainer/Better U sessions start at \$20 for one session and go to \$564 for 32 sessions. Or purchase a Credit Voucher for our Raider X2 classes for the Spring!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SRC - Student Recreation Center AC - Aquatic Center: CLOSED FW - Fitness/Wellness Center OPC - Outdoor Pursuits Center CC - Climbing Center						Dec. 1 Reg Hours SRC: 8am - 10 pm AC: 12-7pm FW: 8am-9pm OPC: CLOSED CC: 2-6pm
Dec. 2 Reg Hours SRC: 12 - 12 am AC: 12-7pm FW: 12-7pm OPC: CLOSED CC: 3-10pm	Dec. 3 Reg Hours SRC: 6 am - 12 am AC: 6-8:45 am 12-9pm FW: 8am-9pm OPC: 11am-7 pm CC: 3-10pm	Dec. 4 Reg Hours SRC: 6 am - 12am AC: 6-8:45am 12-9 pm FW: 8am-9pm OPC: 1-6pm CC: 3-10pm	Dec. 5 Reg Hours SRC: 6 am - 12am AC: 6-8:45am 12-9 pm FW: 8am-9pm OPC: 1-6pm CC: 3-10pm	Dec. 6 Last Day of Classes SRC: 6am-6:30pm Student Employee Appreciation Dinner AC: 6-8:45am 12-6:30pm FW: 8am-6:30pm OPC: 1-6 pm CC: 3-6:30pm	Dec. 7 Dead Day SRC: 6am - 10 pm AC: 6-8:45 am 12-9pm FW: 12-7pm OPC: 1-5 pm CC: CLOSED	Dec. 8 EXAMS SRC: 8 am-10 pm AC: 12-7pm FW: 2-6pm OPC: CLOSED CC: CLOSED
Dec. 9 SRC: 12 - 10 pm AC: 12-7pm FW: 2-6 pm OPC: CLOSED CC: 3:00-9:00pm	Dec. 10 EXAMS SRC: 6 am - 10 pm AC: 6-8:45am 12-7 pm FW: 12-7 pm OPC: 12-5 pm CC: 4-7pm	Dec. 11 EXAMS SRC: 6 am - 10 pm AC: 6-8:45am 12-7 pm FW: 12-7 pm OPC: 1-5 pm CC: CLOSED	Dec. 12 EXAMS SRC: 6 am - 8 pm AC: 6-8:45am 12-7pm FW: 3-7 pm OPC: 1-5 pm CC: 4-7pm	Dec. 13 SRC: 6 am - 8pm AC: 12:2pm; 4-7pm FW: 3-7 pm OPC: 1-5 pm CC: CLOSED	Dec. 14 Commencement SRC: 6 am - 8 pm AC: 12:2pm; 4-7pm FW: 3-7 pm OPC: 12-5 pm CC: CLOSED	Dec. 15 Commencement SRC: 2-6 pm AC: 2-6pm FW: CLOSED OPC: CLOSED CC: CLOSED

Sport Clubs - Officer of the Semester Candidates

- Kayla Kauffman is a veteran member of the Women's Soccer Club and is unfortunately in her first and only year serving as an officer as she graduates in May 2008. This year, she is President and has showed tremendous amounts of initiative by completing all the required paperwork (Constitution, Renewing with the Student Union Office) BEFORE the start of the school year by having it completed in May 2007. One of the impressive qualities of Kayla is her ability to communicate, and her development regarding the management of people. She's not afraid to ask for advice or get feedback on her management and decisions of the club.
- Laura Davies completed most of the paperwork before the start of the school year. She showed tremendous amounts of effort fundraising for the Women's Volleyball Club. She set-up fundraising opportunities at the SBC Jones Football Stadium selling concessions, a car wash and helping out the Pool Top earlier this semester. Laura even managed to get some publicity for the Club by going on air at a local radio station. Laura also created and launched a new website this year for the club, and is quite particular about challenging the process on the Federation's policies - which is very welcomed on our end.
- Sam Cuevas is a veteran member of the Bowling Club and is currently serving his second year as President. He delegates responsibilities well throughout his club, and actively participates in community service projects throughout Lubbock (i.e. Strikeout Diabetes @ the South Plains Lanes). Recently, the club placed 1st at the SWIBC Tournament at the University of Houston. They beat out traditional powerhouse West Texas A&M and Texas A&M to claim first place. Sam's maturity and "business savvy" makes him a very effective leader, and it shows with his productivity of the club in and out of competition.
- This is Men's Water Polo's first year as an official sport club, and Greg Preston has done a tremendous job thus far. They, too, have fundraised extensively and competed in their first season within the league in Texas. They did fairly well by beating teams such as Rice, Texas State and SMU. Greg is very responsible and communicates frequently regarding the use of the Aquatic Center, and other recruitment initiatives. They've gained at least 20 new members and through those efforts, a Women's Water Polo Club was able to be created this semester. Greg has had the Men's Water Polo Club ranked in at least the Top 3 of the Allocation Rankings since September '07.
- Kelsey Wright is currently serving as President for the Women's Lacrosse Club. Last year, she served as Vice-President and took over the role as President in the Spring semester of '07. Before the start of the '07-'08 year, all of the Sport Club Federation Presidents took the Leadership Practices Inventory - a survey that rates individuals ability to lead based on self and observer ratings. Out of all the Presidents, Kelsey scored the highest percentile amongst her peers, but more impressively, her observers' gave her the highest leadership marks. The most impressive quality of Kelsey is her expectations and follow-through enforcing no alcohol policies on trips for the club.
- By far, Stuart Cowell has improved the Kuk Sool Won's Allocation System Ranking. They were right near the bottom last year, and are currently ranked 4th. For the past 2 years under his administration, the club has not had any major violations regarding alcohol or other negative instances. They routinely have social activities for the club where alcohol is prohibited, and as a whole, they are a very cohesive organization. Stuart is not only the club President, but is the lone instructor within the club. He instructs, trains and develops its' members into becoming advanced martial artists, and also organizes workshops for guest instructors to come in and instruct the club on new weaponry, sparring and form techniques.

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activities
whats coming up at the union



Happy Holidays from the Tech Activities Board!
Be sure to check out TAB's website over the break for upcoming spring events!

attention student organizations...

Mandatory Risk Management Training for all student organizations 01/12/08. Must register by 12/07/07. Pickup forms in SUB room 201 or 203. Also, registration available online at www.campuslife.ttu.edu Keyword: Clay Warren Memorial Risk Management Retreat.

SPORTS

Lady Raiders lose first game of season to Cougars

By ALEX YBARRA
STAFF WRITER

In the midst of a season that involved their coach Joe Curl suffering a heart attack before the season, the Houston Cougars came into Lubbock and defeated the Texas Tech Lady Raiders 66-63, snapping a nine-game Tech winning streak.

With a minute remaining, Tech guard Maria Moore drove the lane but Houston's Courtney Taylor blocked the shot and took it down court for the score and a foul, converting on the three-point play to put Houston up 64-60.

After guard Raquel Christian was fouled on a three-point shot, the referees called the shot on the floor, but Christian hit a three regardless on the ensuing inbound,

bringing Tech within one point. After Houston's Twiggy McIntyre hit two free throws, putting Houston ahead 66-63, Tech (9-1) received the ball with 9.9 seconds left, but Christian missed the game-tying three-pointer.

McIntyre led the game with 17 points, leading the Cougars (3-6) to a possibly season-changing win.

"I just attribute (the win) to our young ladies who never quit fighting," Cougars interim coach Danny Hughes said. "They've accepted where they've been, understand the challenges ahead of them and tonight was a special win, and I know (Curl would) be proud of it."

Houston gave the Red Raiders their best challenge of the season in the first half by controlling the pace of the game and matching, if not overmatch-

ing, Tech's speed at guard. Tech coach Kristy Curry said the final minutes of the game were crucial because of Houston's relentless pursuit on the offensive boards.

"The offensive rebounds in the last couple possessions at the end were exactly how things went tonight, and that's our own fault," she said.

Tech forward Dominic Seals scored 12 points and grabbed 14 rebounds in a game where four Lady Raiders scored in double digits for the seventh consecutive time.

Tech guard Jordan Murphree added 14 points, six rebounds and four assists.

Tech's Erin Myrick and Stancica Graham struggled in the paint with 6-foot-3 freshman center Cobilyn Hill causing problems.

"Cobilyn Hill may have not

scored many points for us tonight," Hughes said, "but she certainly was a big factor, because I think she made it tougher for Erin to get some baskets (in the paint)."

Graham and Myrick finished with a total of nine points, with Myrick making 1-of-8 shots on the night.

Tech got off to a quick start, leading 17-4 with 10:31 remaining after Keisha Walker converted layups on consecutive drives down the lane.

Houston clawed back in the game over a four-minute span after McIntyre hit a 3-pointer, giving way to a 10-0 run.

With five minutes remaining, Graham performed her best guard impression. The forward stole a Cougar pass, dribbled the length of the court and sank a jumper from

the free throw line. Houston went on a 10-2 run to tie the game at 24 when Houston's Courtney Taylor scored a put back off a McIntyre 3-pointer.

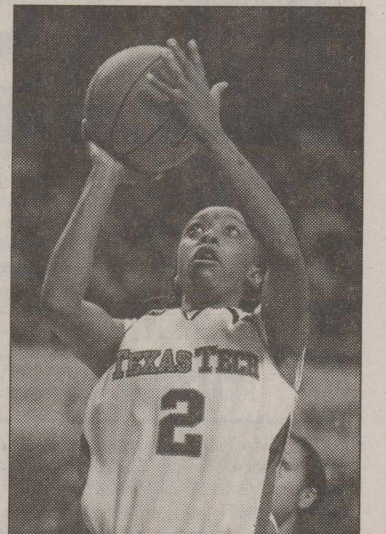
UH controlled the pace of the game late in the second half, making Tech play its style of basketball.

Coming out of the first half, Houston led 31-28, but Tech struck quickly, scoring eight points in three minutes, four of which belonged to Seals.

The game see-sawed back and forth throughout the second half with Houston stretching out the lead to seven with just under 10 minutes left in the second half.

Tech is scheduled to play Arizona State 7 p.m. Dec. 13 at the United Spirit Arena.

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SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador
JUNIOR GUARD KEISHA Walker finished Tuesday night's game against Houston with four points, five rebounds and three steals.

Men's basketball recovering from loss to Centenary

By ADAM COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

It may be tough to bounce back from losing a winnable game, but the Texas Tech men's basketball team is up to the challenge.

The Red Raiders will attempt to get back on the winning track against Louisiana Tech at 7 p.m. today at the United Spirit Arena after losing 70-66 to Centenary Saturday in Bossier City, La.

"There's no reason we should be losing to them anyway," Texas Tech guard Alan Voskuil said. "We need to just play the way we've been taught, and everything will fall into place. If we play like we do against Gonzaga, there's no reason we can't beat any other team."

Centenary came back to beat the Red Raiders (5-3), who held a

49-35 lead in the second half only to relinquish it to the Gents late in the game.

Texas Tech guard Martin Zeno's 21 points and Voskuil's 12 points were not enough to hold off Centenary.

The Red Raider coaching staff still is drawing from the win over then-ranked No. 14 Gonzaga and looking for the right attitude from its players to be a consistent team.

"It's been a problem," said Texas Tech head coach designate Pat Knight. "We lose a game we should've won. We thought we overcame it because we went up to Anchorage and jumped on (Gonzaga and Alaska-Anchorage). We thought we bypassed all the B.S. All it was, was personality. That's where our guys got to realize though, that every team's got just as good talent."

Trying to stop the Centenary loss from having an effect, the Red Raid-

ers welcome the Bulldogs (1-4), who are looking to end a three-game skid including a 59-54 loss to Southeastern Missouri Nov. 28.

The Bulldogs hit 40.7 percent from the field, including 15 percent from behind the 3-point line against Southeastern Missouri.

Offense may not be a strength for the Bulldogs as they score 53.2 points per game while shooting 28 percent from 3-point range, last in the Western Athletic Conference in both categories.

The Bulldogs feature guard Kyle Gibson, who leads the team in defensive rebounds with 9.2 per game and is the only Bulldog averaging double figures.

Louisiana Tech enters the 2007-08 season with a new head coach in Kerry Rupp, who has previous stints at Indiana and Utah.

Rupp said with the Red Raiders coming off a loss, this may be the wrong time to try to catch them off guard.

"I don't know if it's any good time to catch a team on a loss," he said. "(We are) coming into their house. We have the utmost respect. I know they're going to be well-prepared and well-coached. I know they're going to play hard, so I think it's going to be a tough challenge for us."

The Red Raiders were without Texas Tech coach Bob Knight in the second half of the Centenary game because of illness, leaving the rest of the game to the assistant coaches.

After recovery, Bob Knight will continue coaching on the sideline.

Pat Knight said it was a surprise to the assistant coaches to have to take over at the half.

"The guy's been sick for about two weeks," Pat Knight said. "The guy's not a spring chicken anymore. It's such a surreal deal for the assistants to have to go through that. That puts you in a tough situation. It's one thing if you're head coach. You've prepared the team and you're already there; but all of a sudden, you're thrown in at halftime. I've never had anything like it before."

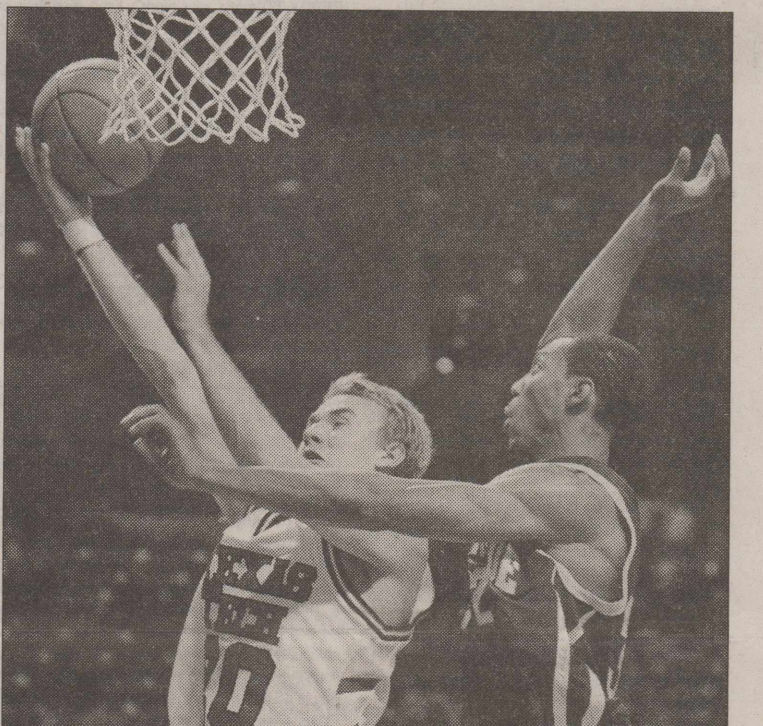


PHOTO BY WALTER ROSADO/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH'S ALAN Voskuil and the Red Raiders look to rebound against Louisiana Tech 7 p.m. today at the United Spirit Arena.

Today's game against Louisiana Tech will be the last for 10 days before the team travels to Albuquerque to face New Mexico on Dec. 15.

Bob Knight is five wins away from his 900th career win as the NCAA Division I men's basketball wins leader.

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