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Serving the Texas Tech University community since 1925

(INSIDE)



WORLD EVENTS IN BRIEF
SEE PAGE 3

(IN BRIEF)

STATE

Bank of America will create 7,500 jobs

AUSTIN (AP)—Bank of America's plan to acquire Countrywide Financial Corp. means it would assume Countrywide's contract to create 7,500 new jobs in Texas, according to a copy of the agreement obtained by The Associated Press.

But Bank of America is saying little about the job commitment or the company's future plans for Texas.

"We're obviously at a very early stage in this process and we have just now begun to review Countrywide's commitments as part of this process," said Scott Silvestri, spokesman for Charlotte, N.C.,-based Bank of America.

NATION

Marine wanted in pregnant comrade's death

JACKSONVILLE, N.C. (AP)—A Marine suspected of killing a pregnant comrade told friends he would flee to Mexico to avoid being convicted of raping her, and investigators said Wednesday they are working with Mexican authorities to track him down.

A wide-ranging manhunt for Cpl. Cesar Armando Laurean began last week, after authorities said he fled North Carolina and left a note in which he admitted burying the body of Lance Cpl. Maria Lauterbach, but said she committed suicide. The 20-year-old had accused him of rape.

WORLD

Suicide bomber kills 9 Shiite worshippers

BAGHDAD (AP)—A female suicide bomber struck black-clad worshippers preparing for Shiite Islam's holiest day, killing at least nine Wednesday in an attack that highlighted insurgents' widening array of tactics against a U.S.-led offensive in key areas on Baghdad's doorstep.

A witness said people shouted slogans against al-Qaida in Iraq as they carried the dead and wounded from the blast scene near a marketplace in Diyala province—a region of farmland and palm groves northeast of Baghdad that holds strategic havens for extremists.

DEATH TOLL

3923

U.S. Military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press confirmed by the Department of Defense

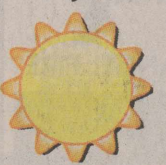
WEATHER

Today



CLOUDY
HIGH 38
LOW 19

Friday



SUNNY
HIGH 48
LOW 19

INSIDE

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Coleman Residence Hall burglarized

By JON VANDERLAAN
STAFF WRITER

Two men broke into a student's room in the Coleman Residence Hall Tuesday night, according to the Texas Tech Police Department.

According to a Tech police press release, two men followed a resident to his room, pushed him to the floor and stole his wallet, money from his desk, keys and cell phone.

Ron Seacrist, chief of the Tech Police

Department, said his department is working to make sure students are safe on campus by increasing patrols, among other things.

"We are certainly interested in making sure it doesn't happen again," Seacrist said.

The department manages the housing guards who patrol the residence halls, and it works closely with Housing and Residence Life to make sure students are safe, Seacrist said.

Students also have a responsibility to keep each other safe and to report anything out of the ordinary to the housing guard or the Tech Police Department, according to the release.

"Be aware of your surroundings," Seacrist said. "If you see something suspicious or something that doesn't look right, it's probably not right."

According to the press release, the burglary occurred at 9:45 p.m. Tuesday. The victim provided Tech police with

a short description of the suspects.

One suspect is a 20-year-old white male, 5 feet 9 inches tall, who is thin with blonde hair and acne, and he was seen wearing blue jeans and a white shirt with horizontal stripes.

The other suspect is a 20-year-old Hispanic male, 6 feet 2 inches tall, who weighs about 250 pounds with short hair, and he was seen wearing blue jeans and a black shirt.

Residence Life officials were not immediately available for comment.
▶ jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu

THE GENERALIZATION

THE BOB KNIGHT TIMELINE

1965

1965 — First season as head coach at Army	Feb. 27, 1971 — Leads Army to 64-50 victory over Navy for 100th career win	1971 — Hired as head coach at Indiana University	March 29, 1976 — Indiana beats Michigan 86-68 to complete undefeated season (32-0) to claim Knight's first NCAA Championship	March 30, 1981 — Knight's Hoosiers jolt North Carolina 63-50 in Philadelphia for Knight's second NCAA championship	1985 — Tosses a chair across the court during a game against Purdue, prompting his ejection and a one-game suspension	March 30, 1987 — Keith Smart's jumper gives Knight's Hoosiers a 74-73 victory over Syracuse for coach's third NCAA championship
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DESIGN BY WADE HINER/The Daily Toreador

2008

Jan. 14, 1989 — Notches 500th career win	Jan. 6, 1993 — Reaches 600 wins with a 75-67 victory over Big Ten rival Iowa	March 5, 1997 — Earns win No. 700 with a 70-66 triumph over Wisconsin	March 23, 2001 — After a year away from coaching, Knight is hired to lead Texas Tech's program	Feb. 5, 2003 — Becomes youngest coach — at 62 — to reach 800 victories	Jan. 1, 2007 — Bob Knight becomes the all-time leader in wins with 880	Jan. 16, 2008 — Wins 900th game beating Texas A&M 68-53
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Bob Knight's Red Raiders beat Texas A&M for the General's 900th career victory

By ADAM COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

Near the end of a third-straight win over No. 10 Texas A&M, Red Raider fans chanted "900" in celebration.

With his 900th win in the bag, Texas Tech coach Bob Knight said he was just happy he saw his team play the way he always thought it could.

"It was obviously a good win for us," Knight said. "But there isn't such thing as a bad win I guess. I hope it's an indication to our players as to how they can play. Tonight was kind of how I kind of anticipated our team playing when I thought about our team, when I'm looking at it and studying things over the summer."

The Red Raiders (10-6, 1-1 in Big 12 Conference play)

grabbed a big lead and never took their feet off the pedal en route to a 68-53 upset over the Aggies (15-2, 1-1).

Tech started off slow, missing its first three attempts from the field and eventually going 1-for-10. Despite the slow start, the Red Raiders kept the game close.

Most of the Aggies' shots came from few of its players in the first half. A&M's Joseph Jones, Josh Carter, Dominique Kirk and Donald Sloan were the only Aggies to come away with points in the first half. Carter and Jones were the only Aggies to finish the game in double figures.

Every Tech player who had minutes in the first half scored points.

The Aggies hit six shots from the field in the first half and made 18 shots in the game.

"I think Tech was really good, and we were bad," A&M

coach Mark Turgeon said. "I'm not sure I can look at a player that played well. We turned the ball over, unforced turnovers, couldn't make open shots, couldn't make layups. We quit guarding down the stretch. (Our) mindset obviously wasn't right going into this game."

Damir Suljagic and Trever Cook led the Red Raiders, helping Tech to a 15-point lead at the end of the first half.

Tech took its first lead of the game 10 minutes into the game with a Suljagic score.

Soon, the Red Raiders' shooting percentage increased, getting as high as 44 percent in the second half.

Suljagic and Cook finished with 10 and 14 points, respectively, both season-highs.

900 continued on page 10

Peace Corps provides students study abroad alternatives

By KENDALL WHEELER
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech students interested in an alternative form of studying abroad will be able to learn about opportunities during a Peace Corps information session at 6:30 p.m. today in the Tech Career Center.

Charlie Lucking, a Peace Corps regional recruiter, will be present to answer questions students may have about volunteering abroad with the corps.

Lucking said the corps is a great way for students to gain international experience, especially students who are interested in going into an international career.

"The Peace Corps allows students to take the theoretical knowledge they learned while taking undergraduate classes and apply it in a challenging and interesting way," he said.

According to the Peace Corps Web site, www.peacecorps.gov, the corps provides volunteers with living expenses funds, which amount to the local living expenses of the country to which the volunteer is assigned. The corps also offers deferment of federal loans until the volunteer returns home, upon which

the volunteer will receive approximately \$6,000 to transition back to living in the United States.

"The Peace Corps is a 27-month commitment that is geared for people who want to immerse themselves into a culture," Lucking said. "Countries involved with the Peace Corps are very accepting and excited about volunteers, because they request help from the Peace Corps."

Lucking said he recruited between 15 and 20 Tech students last semester, and four Tech graduate students will start the Peace Corps Master's International degree program in the fall of 2008.

The Master's International degree program at Tech is designed to allow students to enroll in master's degree programs in the College of Education or the College of Agriculture Science and Natural Resources while making a two-year commitment to the corps, according to a Tech news release.

"The Master's International degree helps students do two things at once," said Sandra Crosier, study abroad director at the Tech Office of International Affairs. "The program is also great for students who want to apply for jobs in an international field, because the students

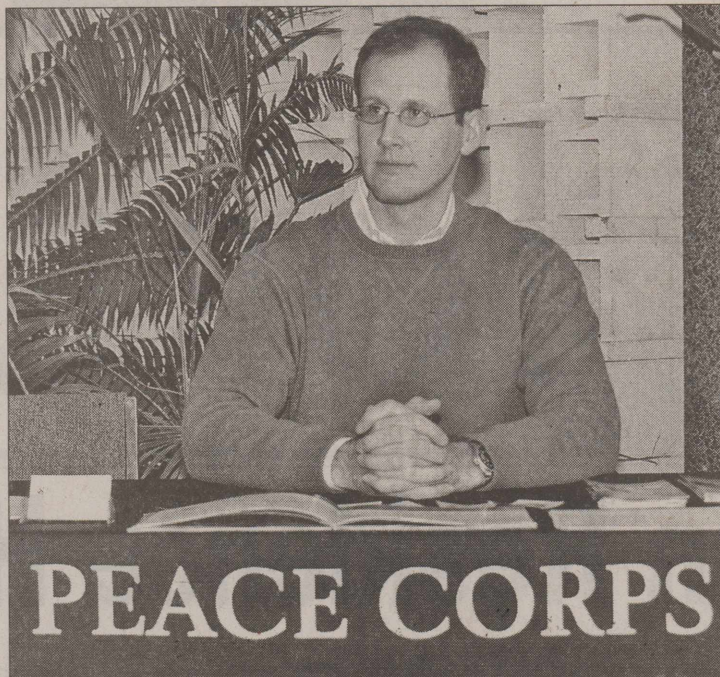


PHOTO BY TRENT BARNES/The Daily Toreador
CHARLIE LUCKING, regional recruiter for the Peace Corps, anticipates a chance to talk to any interested students Wednesday afternoon in the east entrance of the Library.

will gain valuable international experience."

Lucking said the federal government pays for living expenses during the volunteer's time abroad in the Master's International program, and most universities have monetary

incentives to enroll in a graduate program simultaneously.

"I learned more during my time spent in the Peace Corps than I learned during college," Lucking said.

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U.S. commander says Pakistan now welcoming bigger U.S. role

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Pakistan is taking a more welcoming view of U.S. suggestions for using American troops to train and advise its own forces in the fight against anti-government extremists, the commander of U.S. forces in that region said Wednesday.

Navy Adm. William J. Fallon, commander of U.S. Central Command, said he believes increased violence inside Pakistan in recent months has led Pakistani leaders to conclude that they must focus more intensively on extremist al-Qaida hideouts near the border with Afghanistan.

He called this an important change from Pakistan's traditional focus on India as the main threat to its security, and it meshes with Defense Secretary Robert Gates' recent comment that al-Qaida terrorists hiding in the border area are increasingly aiming their campaign of violence at targets inside Pakistan.

"They see they've got real problems internally," Fallon said in a 20-minute interview with three reporters accompanying Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, at a private conference here of military chiefs from Middle Eastern countries, hosted by Fallon. Pakistan was not attending.

In the latest sign of trouble, the Pakistani military said Wednesday that Islamic militants overran a military outpost close to the Afghan border in a battle that killed seven Pakistani soldiers and left 20 missing.

Although Pakistan has been a close U.S. ally in the war against terrorism since Sept. 11, 2001, the extent of U.S. military involvement inside Pakistan is a highly sensitive subject among Pakistanis.

"My sense is there is an increased willingness to address these problems, and we're go-

ing to try to help them," Fallon said. He said U.S. assistance would be "more robust," but he offered few details. "There is more willingness to do that now" on Pakistan's part, he said.

The Bush administration's anxiety about Pakistan's stability has grown in recent months, not only because of its potential implications for U.S. stability efforts in neighboring

Afghanistan but also because of worry about the security of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal.

Senior U.S. military officials have visited there recently, including Navy Adm. Eric Olsen, commander of U.S. Special Operations Command.

In the interview in the seaside hotel where he and Mullen were meeting with Middle Eastern military chiefs, Fallon said he is concerned about weak coordination of U.S. and NATO efforts to stabilize Afghanistan. But he stressed that the security situation in Afghanistan is better than many realize.

"Our guys really get it," he said, referring to the 27,000 U.S.

troops in Afghanistan. He said they are making inroads against the Taliban insurgency and he sees prospects for more gains this year.

Asked to assess the performance of NATO troops, who are in charge of the overall security mission, Fallon demurred.

"I will not pass judgment" on NATO's efforts, he said, noting that he was aware of a Los Angeles Times story published Wednesday that quoted Gates as questioning the competence of NATO forces operating in southern Afghanistan, heartland of the Pashtun tribal area that gave rise to the Taliban movement.

"I'm worried we're deploying (military advisors) that are not properly trained and I'm worried we have some military forces that don't know how to do counter-insurgency operations," Gates was quoted as saying in a Times interview.

In Washington, Gates' spokes-

“They see they’ve got real problems internally.”

— WILLIAM J. FALLON
U.S. ADMIRAL

More U.S. babies born, fertility rate up, defying low-birth trend in Europe

ATLANTA (AP) — Bucking the trend in many other wealthy industrialized nations, the United States seems to be experiencing a baby boomlet, reporting the largest number of children born in 45 years.

The nearly 4.3 million births in 2006 were mostly due to a bigger population, especially a growing number of Hispanics. That group accounted for nearly one-quarter of all U.S. births. But non-Hispanic white women and other racial and ethnic groups were having more babies, too.

An Associated Press review of birth numbers dating to 1909 found the total number of U.S. births was the highest since 1961, near the end of the

baby boom. An examination of global data also shows that the United States has a higher fertility rate than every country in continental Europe, as well as Australia, Canada and Japan. Fertility levels in those countries have been lower than the U.S. rate for several years, although some are on the rise, most notably in France.

Experts believe there is a mix of reasons: a decline in contraceptive use, a drop in access to abortion, poor education and poverty.

There are cultural reasons as well. Hispanics as a group have higher fertility rates — about 40 percent higher than the U.S. overall. And experts say Americans, especially those in

middle America, view children more favorably than people in many other Westernized countries.

"Americans like children. We are the only people who respond to prosperity by saying, 'Let's have another kid,'" said Nan Marie Astone, associate professor of population, family and reproductive health at Johns Hopkins University.

Demographers say it is too soon to know if the sudden increase in births is the start of a trend.

"We have to wait and see. For now, I would call it a noticeable blip," said Brady Hamilton, a statistician with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Demographers often use the word boomlet for a small and brief baby boom.

To many economists and policymakers, the increase in births is good news. The U.S. fertility rate

— the number of children a woman is expected to have in her lifetime — reached 2.1. That's the "magic number" required for a population to replace itself.

Countries with much lower rates — such as Japan and Italy, both with a rate of 1.3 — face future labor shortages and eroding tax bases as they fail to reproduce enough to take care of their aging elders.

But the higher fertility rate isn't all good. Last month, the CDC reported that America's teen birth rate rose for the first time in 15 years.

The same report also showed births becoming more common in nearly every age and racial or ethnic group. Birth rates increased for women in their 20s, 30s and early 40s, not just teens. They rose for whites, blacks, Hispanics, American Indians and Alaska Natives. The rate for Asian women stayed about the same.

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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By Alan P. Olschewig
Huntington Beach, CA

1/17/08

Sorority Spring Recruitment

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WORLD EVENTS IN BRIEF

Israel kills 3 in airstrike, Gaza militants respond

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli aircraft targeting Palestinian rocket squads on Wednesday killed a 12-year-old boy, his father and uncle in a bungled attack, while Islamic militants, enraged by the death of their leader's son in an Israeli raid, bombarded Israel with rocket and mortar fire.

While Gaza was heating up, a hawkish party pulled out of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's government, weakening his political base but potentially freeing him to make greater concessions to the Palestinians.

Two days of violence in Gaza appeared to be uniting Palestinians against Israel at a time when peace talks have resumed for the first time in seven years. On Tuesday, 19 Palestinians were killed, most of them militants, including a son of Hamas leader Mahmoud Zahar.

The Palestinian civilians killed Wednesday were victims of an Israeli air attack on a pickup truck east of Gaza City. The Popular Resistance Committees, a Hamas-allied faction, said the apparent target was its chief rocket maker, who was in the area in a similar vehicle at the time.

Maj. Avital Letbovich, an Israeli military spokeswoman, acknowledged that the family's vehicle was "unintentionally hit" and said Israel tries not to harm civilians.

Hamas spokesman Taher Nunu called the strike "a new crime," saying Israel was "killing more and more of our innocent people and our freedom fighters."

At nightfall Israel hit another vehicle in southern Gaza, killing two militants, Palestinians said. The Israeli military said it hit a car filled with weapons.

Gaza militants hit back with a barrage of rockets and mortar shells. Hamas said it fired 79. By nightfall, 44 exploded in Israel, according to police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld. No one was seriously hurt.

Bus attack kills 31 as Sri Lankan cease-fire ends

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Sri Lanka's cease-fire deal ended Wednesday in a spasm of violence, as suspected Tamil Tiger rebels bombed a civilian bus, gunned down the fleeing passengers and attacked farmers as they retreated into the bush, killing 31 people.

The attack stoked fears that the official end of the six-year-old truce — largely ignored in recent years — would lead to even worse violence.

President Mahinda Rajapaksa said although Wednesday's violence was timed to coincide with the government's official withdrawal from the cease-fire, it simply mirrored other attacks by the separatist group in recent months.

"This is a brazen demonstration to the whole world of its unchanged commitment to terrorism and the absolute rejection of democracy and all norms of civilized behavior in the pursuit of its unacceptable goal of separation," he said in a statement.

The U.S. Embassy condemned the bus attack, saying "it bears all the hallmarks" of the rebels. Spokesmen for the rebels could not immediately be reached for comment. But the group, listed as a terror organization by the U.S. and European Union, routinely denies responsibility for such attacks.

The Tamil Tigers have been fighting since 1983 for an independent state for Sri Lanka's ethnic Tamil minority in the north and east after decades of being marginalized by Sinhalese-dominated governments. The fighting has killed more than 70,000 people.

Senior government officials have vowed to destroy the rebel group by the end of the year, and fighting has raged for months across the front lines along the frontiers of its de facto state in the north.

The attackers struck about 7:30 a.m. when they detonated a 45-pound roadside bomb alongside a passenger bus as it traveled through the remote town of Buttala, about 150 miles southeast of Colombo.

Suicide bomber kills 9 Shiite worshippers in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — A female suicide bomber struck black-clad worshippers preparing for Shiite Islam's holiest day, killing at least nine Wednesday in an attack that highlighted insurgents' widening array of tactics against a U.S.-led offensive in key areas on Baghdad's doorstep.

A witness said people shouted slogans against al-Qaida in Iraq as they carried the dead and wounded from the blast scene near a marketplace in Diyala province — a region of farmland and palm groves northeast of Baghdad that holds strategic havens for extremists.

Diyala remains one of Iraq's most violent regions and is a main battleground for U.S. and Iraqi troops trying to overwhelm al-Qaida strongholds in the capital and elsewhere around the country.

Many extremists fled for safer ground before the new offensive began last week, reducing the expected threats from roadside bombs and ambush attacks.

ODDBALL DAILY

Vibrating sex toy triggers bomb scare in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — A Swedish bomb squad called out to disarm a suspicious package on Wednesday did not find a ticking bomb. But they did find a vibrating sex toy.

A janitor alerted police after he found the package in a garage of an apartment building in Goteborg, the country's second-largest city, police spokesman Jan Strannegard said.

The package was humming and vibrating suspiciously, so police took no chances and sent out a team of explosives experts. After having cordoned off the area, they opened the package with bomb disposal equipment, only to find the battery-operated device inside.

"The package was vibrating when the janitor found it, but I think it had sort of died out by the time it was disarmed," Strannegard said.

Twins earn perfect scores on college entrance test

BELLEVUE, Neb. (AP) — Brian and Ross DeVol are a perfect match, genetically and academically: The identical twins earned perfect ACT scores.

The seniors at suburban Bellevue East High School both scored 36 on the college entrance exam, though Ross DeVol needed three tries. One of his earlier tries netted a 35.

"The brothers are both good in physics and are considering the University of Nebraska or Creighton University in Omaha as their college choices, Bellevue school district spokeswoman Cathy Williams said Wednesday.

A phone message left at the DeVols' home wasn't immediately returned.

The DeVols are only the third pair of students in the past decade to earn perfect scores in the same year and share the same address, ACT spokeswoman Kristin Crouse said.

About one out of every 4,000 graduates who took the ACT last year scored a 36. The average score in Nebraska was 22.1, and the national average was 21.2.

Old postcard serves up history mystery

STRATFORD, Conn. (AP) — Officials have a history mystery on their hands in the form of a cellophane-wrapped postcard mailed from a post office long closed to a town manager long dead.

The postcard mailed from East Sumner, Maine, was postmarked Aug. 14, 1957, and bears a 2-cent stamp. It was addressed to the late Town Manager Harry Flood, who served from 1945 to 1963, and was written by a woman who must have been a friend since she only used her first name — Alice.

"Hi, enjoying this rather fallish weather. It was 44-degrees yesterday. See you next week," she wrote.

The post office in East Sumner no longer exists and Flood has been dead for nearly 40 years.

"It's a history mystery and it's fun to speculate," Stratford Mayor James Miron said.

A postal spokeswoman said it's possible that a collector sent the antique postcard to town hall. One clue is that it was tightly wrapped in cellophane.

Maureen Marion, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Postal Service region serving Connecticut, called it a "very, very rare and a true mystery."

"The likelihood that this postcard has been sitting in a building for 50 years is very slim," she said. "My guess is that some collector decided to send it to the town, or someone just found it in an old attic among a pile of letters or other documents and didn't know what else to do with it."

Man accidentally shoots himself during store robbery

KOKOMO, Ind. (AP) — A man accidentally shot himself in the groin as he was robbing a convenience store Tuesday, police said.

A clerk told police a man carrying a semiautomatic handgun entered the Village Pantry demanding cash and a pack of cigarettes. The clerk put the cash in a bag and as she turned to get the cigarettes, she heard the gun discharge.

Police say surveillance video shows the man shooting himself as he placed the gun in the waistband of his pants. The clerk wasn't injured.

A short time later, police found 25-year-old Derrick Kosch at a home with a gunshot wound to his right testicle and lower left leg.

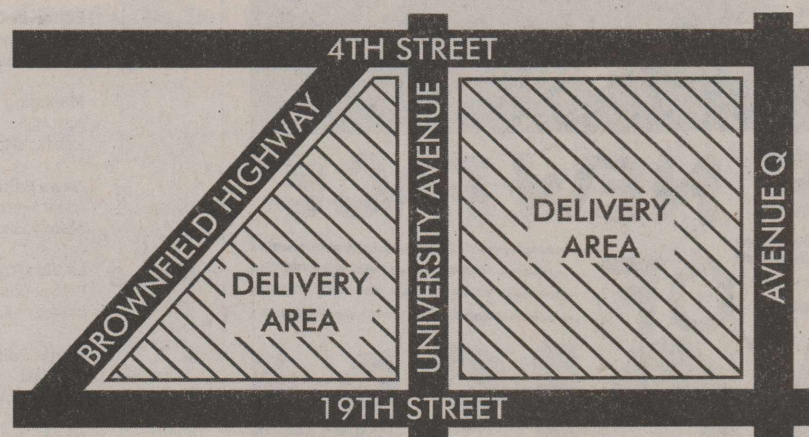
Kosch was released from the hospital Tuesday and booked into the Howard County jail on a charge of armed robbery, criminal recklessness and battery. He is being held on a \$100,000 cash bail. A jail official did not know if he had retained an attorney Wednesday.

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OPINIONS

PAGE 4
THURSDAY, JAN. 17, 2008

Scratching heads over New Hampshire results

Derek Johnston

Shows on TV like "Dancing with the Stars" or "American Idol" are no stranger to this phenomenon.

Most of us have experienced the bewilderment of watching a favorite contestant get voted out of the competition and wondering why in the world it happened. The simple truth is, as Americans, we favor the underdog, not the favorite. When we see a person dominating a competition, we feel compelled to lend aid to the person we see struggling.

In New Hampshire, as pollsters began to call the election, all the evidence pointed to the same place. After coming from behind in Iowa to dominate the caucus, Obama seemed a sure winner in New Hampshire. Camp Clinton was declining in popularity after turning to mudslinging when it became evident that Camp Obama was surging forward in the polls. After Obama's surging victory in Iowa, the candidates moved into New Hampshire, where a high population of Independent voters who favor Obama's message of change made him seem like a shoe-in to win the primary.

So, entry polls came out showing Obama as the sure winner. Then these polls fell into the hands of the New Hampshire Independent voters. These Independent voters

were expected to gravitate towards Obama and, on a whole, drain votes from the Republican primary. That is, until they read the polls that gave the primary election to Obama in a hand basket. Feeling confident in their man winning the Democratic primary, Independent voters turned their eyes—and their votes—to the Republican primary and McCain.

Devoid of Independent votes and the overwhelming support of the female vote due to Clinton's "emotional moment," Obama could not carry the "shoe-in" victory that supposedly was his.

While there is no real smoking gun to solve New Hampshire's polling issues, and there are as many explanations as there are polling organizations, the high level of indecisiveness mixed with the Independent vote going to the Republican primary is the most likely culprit.

While pre-election polls give us a great insight into where American voters are leaning in an election, we find the reality is that pre-election polls are about as reliable as an extended weather forecast; there are simply too many factors involved. Especially in a race as open as this one, with no sitting incumbent running and an electorate so undecided, it nearly is impossible for pollsters and political scientists to even dream of calling this one with any degree of accuracy.

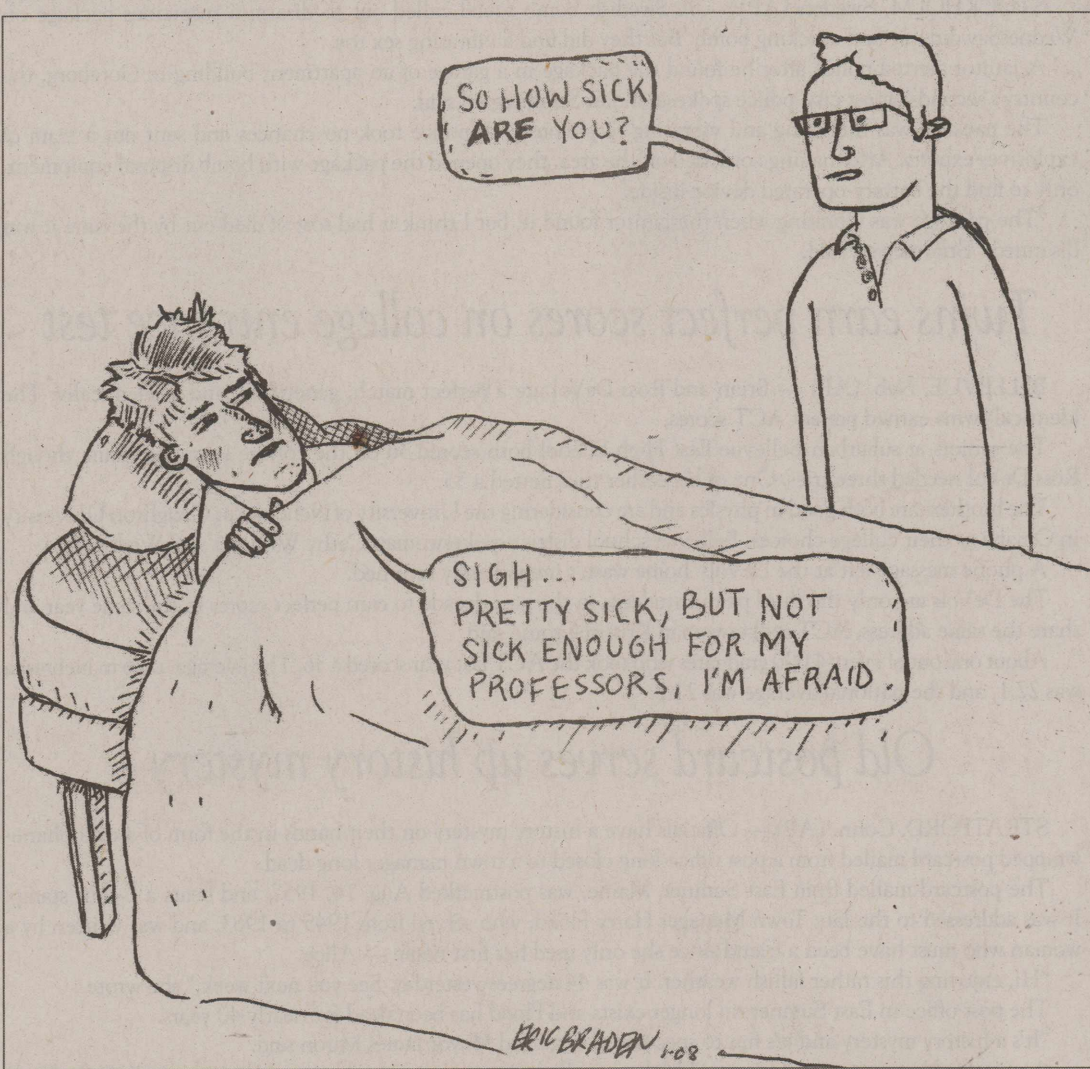
■ **Johnston is a freshman philosophy major from Lubbock. E-mail him at derek.a.johnston@ttu.edu.**

The recent New Hampshire Presidential Primary had its share of surprises. Nevada Sen. John McCain came back from behind to surpass front runner Mitt Romney and Iowa Caucus victor Mike Huckabee. Sen. Hillary Clinton was able to regroup after her loss to Sen. Barack Obama in Iowa and win a surprising victory that many are attributing to the emotional moment she had while talking to voters in the Cafe Espresso in Portsmouth, N.H., on Monday before the primary election. But the biggest surprise that has everyone scratching their heads is the complete inaccuracy of the polls taken before the Tuesday primary.

The Tuesday New Hampshire primary had no shortage of pollsters who, as a general rule, all missed the mark on the Democratic side of the election. And, in the aftermath, it seems, all of them have a different explanation for their inaccuracy.

According to exit polls, more than 18 percent of New Hampshire voters made up their minds the day of the election. Historically speaking, the closest of races have this kind of indecisiveness in voters at around 4 or 5 percent. This unprecedented indecisiveness in New Hampshire voters made it nearly impossible for pollsters to make accurate predictions.

While this indecisiveness is a very likely culprit responsible for the pollsters' black eyes after New Hampshire, the most decisive factor may be a behavioral trait of Americans that is evident not only in politics.



Vote in this week's online poll.

Who do you think is the strongest Republican presidential candidate?

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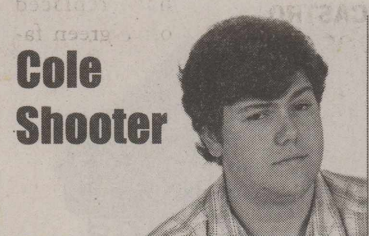
It's presidential primary season again

The primary season always divides people on both sides of the political aisle. For the Democrats, we've got staunch supporters for both Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, a few for John Edwards and, somewhere in Ohio, there's a barn labeled "Area 51" full of Dennis Kucinich supporters.

The Republicans' allegiances are spread quite a bit thinner, however. I know I've been torn between Fred Thompson and Mitt Romney, because I think they both have great things to offer this country. Huckabee's gained major ground, and McCain's been doing well. Ron Paul is still the "youtube" candidate, appealing to quite a few younger people, and, I'm not totally positive, but I think Rudy Giuliani may be at the Ohio barn having kool-aid with the Kucinich crowd, because he's certainly not gaining any ground with the Republicans.

McCain and Clinton pulled off fairly decisive victories in New Hampshire, with Romney and Obama lagging a bit behind, but Romney just came back in Michigan on Tuesday, which was welcome news after McCain's New Hampshire victory. Thompson's been sowing his seeds in only one garden, focusing solely on South Carolina. The move is paying off, however, with Thompson gaining and Huckabee declining in the polls in South Carolina. Sadly, McCain's held the lead in the polls there, too.

I actually never thought McCain would be a viable candidate in this election until the New Hampshire



Cole Shooter

primary. I always thought his record of being a hotheaded grouch would make it difficult for him to connect with voters, but I underestimated the number of hotheaded, grouchy Republicans (including myself, but I still don't care for him). He's made some great strides in being seen as a strong candidate by many members of the party, and it's working out for him, even in a very moderate state such as New Hampshire.

I also never thought Mike Huckabee would see any success in this particular race. He's not particularly eloquent, fairly dull, and he spends much of his time stumping on the Hallelujah Trail. Politics is about appealing to everyone else's morals, or at least a majority of the voting public's morals. Huckabee has done that well.

The major cautionary area I've seen through talking to people about whom they support is that a num-

ber of Democrats like Huckabee. I don't believe Huckabee is a real conservative, because his record as governor of Arkansas does not paint a conservative picture. He's wearing the religion mask to hide the big government scars underneath.

As I said earlier, I've been torn between Thompson and Romney. I've always been pulled more to the more unpolished politicians, because I can relate to them better. Romney always knows what to say, shrugs everything off with a longer-than-necessary counter and does it all with perfect hair.

He did surprise me by poking fun at himself, when Huckabee's national campaign chairman, Ed Rollins said, "What I have to do is make sure that my anger with a guy like Romney, whose teeth I want to knock out, doesn't get in the way of my thought

process." Romney responded in an interview with "My only comment on that... is don't touch the hair." This was a welcome moment of humor from Romney in dealing with a very odd situation, which is a plus in his favor.

Thompson has been known to address issues and such from his office chair, with a large cigar and his

usual loveably grumpy demeanor, something I tend to identify with more than someone whose hair is always perfect and always has a perfectly prepared non-committal answer. I'm still holding out for Thompson, but we'll see.

I must say I was horrified to see a less-than-polished side from Obama when he handled something at a political rally poorly. A person fainted at one of his rallies, and, instead of jumping off the dais and assisting the person, he stood there with his arms crossed watching the person lie on the ground, while his aides helped. Had he helped her personally, it would have helped add even more shine on his image. When it happened at a Clinton rally earlier this week, Chelsea Clinton rushed to the aid of the ailing supporter, which turned out to be very good press. It's possible Obama isn't the natural politician everyone thought he was.

We can handicap these races all we want, but in the end, it still may not do any good. The Democrats have an advantage with fewer viable candidates because the factions in their party should be able to come together much easier. It won't be long before everything's pulled together and the political junkies will have much tighter races to ogle. In political races like these, the parties must be shattered before they can be put back together.

■ **Shooter is a senior political science major from Lubbock. E-mail him at cole.shooter@ttu.edu.**

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The Daily Toreador 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 submital.

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Study finds increase in concerns about Internet privacy after years of decline

NEW YORK (AP) — Privacy concerns stemming from online shopping rose in 2007, a new study finds, as the loss or theft of credit card information and other personal data soared to unprecedented levels.

Sixty-one percent of adult Americans said they were very or extremely concerned about the privacy of personal information when buying online, an increase from 47 percent in 2006. Before last year, that figure had largely been dropping since 2001.

People who do not shop online tend to be more worried, as are newer Internet users, regardless of whether they buy things on the Internet, according to the survey from the University of Southern California's Center for the Digital Future.

The study, to be released Thursday, comes as privacy and security groups report that an increasing number of personal records are being compromised because of data breaches at online retailers, banks, government agencies and corporations.

The Identity Theft Resource Center, for instance, listed more than 125 million records reported compromised in the United States last year. That's a sixfold increase from the nearly 20 million records reported in 2006.

Data breaches often result from lost or stolen computer equipment such as laptops, though the single largest breach was a case of online hacking. Early last year, TJX Cos. disclosed that a data theft had exposed tens of millions of credit and debit cards to potential fraud.

The card numbers were typically collected during brick-and-mortar retail transactions at T.J. Maxx, Marshalls and other TJX chains. The breach is believed to have started when hackers intercepted wireless transfers of customer information at two Marshalls stores in Miami — an entry point that led the hackers to eventually break into TJX's central databases.

Nonetheless, concerns about credit card security have largely stabilized, with 57 percent very or extremely concerned last year. It was 53 percent in 2006, a difference within the survey's margin of sampling error of 3 percentage points in either direction.

As of 2007, two-thirds of adult Internet users shop online, compared with just half a year earlier. Most spend \$100 or less a month, and two-thirds of online shoppers have reduced buying at brick-and-mortar stores.

Tech prepares human resource students for certification exam

By MATT MCGOWAN
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Division of Outreach and Distance Education opened its roster this week for students and local residents interested in taking courses that will prepare them for the human resource management certification exams administered this summer and winter.

The 40-hour preparation program, which is based on a learning system established by the Society for Human Resource Management, consists of six eight-hour classes, according to a news release from the division. Though students still will have to take the certification exam, which is administered to achieve full professional credentials, those who complete the course will receive a certificate of its completion.

The \$895 course will prepare certification hopefuls for the Professional in Human Resources exam (PHR), the industry's standard.

Also included will be topics covered by the more advanced Senior Professional in Human Resources

exam (SPHR), which is geared toward professionals with more experience and a broader knowledge base.

Each class will address a foundational aspect of human resource management assessed by the certification exams. The six topics are: strategic management; workforce planning and employment; human resource development; compensation and benefits; employee and labor relations; and occupational health, safety and security.

Although Tech specifically does not offer an undergraduate degree program in human resources, anyone studying for a career in any business or administration field would benefit from a human resource exam certification on their resume, said Greg George, a member of Lubbock's SHRM chapter. Human resource practices can be applied toward many professional fields.

"It would be hard to give you five bullet points because it's just an entire body of knowledge," he said. "It's almost like being a lawyer sometimes, without getting paid the money they get paid."

Before an applicant can take the tests, he or she must first have two-

years' worth of experience in a human resource field, said Oscar Lasso, a customer relations representative for the Human Resource Certification Institute.

Current students or recent graduates of a four-year degree program, he said, do have the option of taking the test as an exemption. If these professionally inexperienced graduates pass the certification exam, they have a five-year window to gain that two-year experience quota, at which point their certifications will be granted.

The first class will begin Feb. 14. The remaining five sessions will be scheduled every two weeks, with the concluding course on April 24, which will include a three-hour test review to finalize students' preparation for the certification exam.

Birgit Green, director of the division, said the course, which has been offered for approximately the last 10 years, primarily is geared toward professionals in the Lubbock region who are interested in obtaining their certification. Past enrollment in the course, on average, has been between

15 and 25 students.

Current professionals who would like to renew their certification, which expires every three years, also may be interested, she said.

"Most of those people would have already had a degree," Green said. "It's for furthering their education, their professional skills, in the area of human resource management."

Although completion of the course is not required to obtain certification, she said, feedback from former students indicates that it greatly will improve an individual's chances of passing the test.

According to the Human Resource Certification Institute's Web site, www.hrci.org, the pass rate for last summer's PHR exam was 61 percent and 57 percent for the SPHR exam.

"(The course's certificate) just provides professional opportunities," Green said. "It also looks good on a resume to be able to show that you have been able to go through this course of study. It basically teaches you what is required in that area."

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Castro says he's too weak to address people, campaign for election

HAVANA (AP) — Fidel Castro said Wednesday he is not yet healthy enough to address Cuba's people in person and can't campaign for Sunday's parliamentary elections.

"I am not physically able to speak directly to the citizens of the municipality where I was nominated for our elections," the ailing 81-year-old wrote in an essay published by state news media.

Hours later, government television broadcast images of a frail but upbeat Castro meeting Brazil's visiting President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Tuesday.

The first video of Castro in three months showed him sitting and listening intently with a finger pressed to his forehead, then later standing and speaking, waving a finger for emphasis.

"I have felt very good, very good," Castro says after exchanging a warm hug with Silva — the only audible comment on the 60 seconds of footage.

Silva, a leftist admirer of the Cuban revolution, said Castro's health "was a nice surprise."

Speaking to reporters at the airport just before leading the island, Silva said Castro appeared healthy enough to return to politics.

"I think Fidel is ready to take over his historic political role in this

globalized world, in humanity," Silva said. He did not suggest what that role might be.

Castro has not been seen in public since July 2006, when emergency intestinal surgery forced him to cede power to a provisional government headed by his brother Raul, five years his junior. Despite stepping aside, the elder Castro has retained his position as head of the Council of State, Cuba's supreme governing body.

In Wednesday's essay, he expressed frustration with the fact that he can no longer give the kind of hours-long speeches for which he was noted.

"I do what I can: I write. For me, this is a new experience: writing is not the same as speaking," he wrote.

Raul Castro addressed a crowd of voters on Dec. 24 in the brothers' home district in the eastern city of Santiago, saying he was filling in for Fidel. But Wednesday's essay was the first time the older Castro

acknowledged he is not well enough to campaign for himself — though there was no sign he would pull out of the election.

Re-election to the legislature, or National Assembly, is a necessary step if Fidel Castro is to continue as head of the Council of State.

Voters on Sunday can vote for some or all of the candidates nominated earlier by municipal councils.

In the video, Castro is seen wearing a track suit and tennis shoes — which have replaced olive-green fatigues as his standard uniform since he fell ill.

In still photos from the meeting, he is seen seated and grinning, his beard well-trimmed and hair combed as he talks with Silva. At one point, he pretends to snap pictures with a small camera.

"My feeling is that Fidel is in very good health, that he's as lucid as he's ever been," Silva said.

Cuba's government has not given

"I am not physically able to speak to the citizens of the municipality where I was nominated."

— FIDEL CASTRO
PRESIDENT OF CUBA

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WED	\$2 WELL TILL 11 PM
THUR	\$1.25 LONGNECKS TILL 11 PM
FRI	.30¢ WINGS 11AM-7PM
SAT	\$4.50 DOMESTIC PITCHERS
SUN	\$2 PINTS ALL DAY/NIGHT
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JAN	
18TH	JUSTIN FORD BAND
19TH	STEWART MANN
24TH	D NUMBERS
25TH	REVEREND JENKINS
26TH	TEXAS RENEGADE
28TH	ANTHONY GARCIA
FEB	
1	SIX BARREL SEDUCTION & RANDOM HERO

Health Sciences Center recognizes Abilene surgeon

By **MAGGIE KIELY**
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center and the Abilene community gathered to honor and announce the creation of an endowed chair named after Dr. L. Shannon Holloway Wednesday in the HSC.

In recognition of Holloway's work and success in orthopedic surgery, the L. Shannon Holloway, M.D., Ph.D. Endowed Chair in Orthopedic Surgery was announced in his name.

Dr. Steven L. Berk, dean of the HSC School of Medicine, said the endowment is \$1.5 million, and the doctor who is selected as the endowed chair will be both a teacher and a researcher.

"It is a real honor to name a chair after a particular person," he said. "The endowment gives us a chance to recruit a new faculty member that should be very outstanding and nationally known."

The type of research that will be conducted with the money from the endowment will depend on the person chosen, Berk said. Likely topics could include researching new ways of dealing with trauma, fractures or

healing patients.

He said recruiting the caliber of person fit to receive the endowed chair usually takes up to a year.

Julie Holloway Davis, one of Holloway's five children, said her father, who died of abdominal cancer in 2006, would have been completely surprised to hear the endowment was named after him.

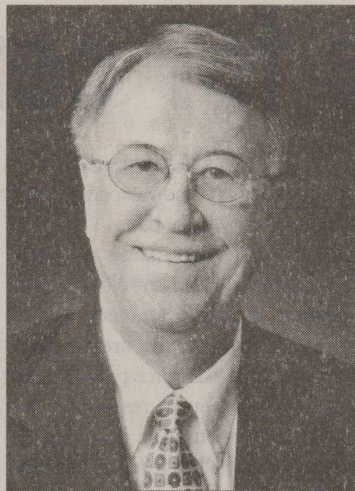
"When the letter arrived from Texas Tech presenting the opportunity for this chair," she said, "mom held on to it, unsure whether to show it to dad because he was so very sick."

Davis said her mother soon decided to show Holloway the letter and read it to him in his hospital bed.

"She said he looked out the window and stated matter-of-factly, 'That'll never happen — I don't know why they think this poor little boy from Georgia is so special,'" Davis said.

Her father showed immense joy in everything he did and encouraged many to do the same, Davis said.

"He was passionate about helping others into the field that he loved," she said. "From inspiring all sorts of young people to go to physical therapy school, nursing school or



HOLLOWAY

even medical school, to advising them or even silently paving their way there."

Norm Archibald, the mayor of Abilene, said he was Holloway's patient on more than one occasion.

"He was my orthopedic surgeon," he said. "He's done two knee surgeries, a broken arm and a heel problem. I can't think of anybody that deserves this more."

Archibald said Holloway was a coveted member of the Abilene community.

Tim Lancaster, CEO and president of Hendrick Medical Center



PHOTOS BY TRENT BARNES/The Daily Toreador

MEMBERS OF THE Holloway family accept an award on behalf of Shannon Holloway Wednesday in the Health Sciences Center. Pictured along with the family is Dr. Steven Berk (3rd from the left), dean of the School of Medicine, and TTU HSC President John Baldwin (4th from the left).

in Abilene, said Holloway was the chief of staff for Hendrick Medical Center for three years.

"The docs just loved him," he said, "especially the new docs that had just moved into Abilene. He would love to take them under his wing and show them the ropes."

Davis said the endowment is well suited for her father.

"The chair that so many have helped make possible fulfills all of his passions and is a fitting legacy

for his life," she said. "We pray that the L. Shannon Holloway, M.D., Ph.D. Endowed Chair in Orthopedic Surgery will, like its namesake, have a positive impact on everyone it touches."

Holloway received his undergraduate degree from Huntington College and went on to receive his master's degree in biochemistry and physiology from Auburn University.

Later, at the University of Flor-

ida, Holloway received his doctoral degree in medical physiology and completed his post-doctorate training at Michigan State University.

Holloway became the first orthopedic resident at the Tech School of Medicine in 1972, where he completed both his medical school and residency in orthopedic surgery.

Holloway then moved to Abilene, becoming a private practice orthopedic surgeon.

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Tech police blotter: Homeless non-students reported to live in Music building

By **CHINELO IKPEAMA**
STAFF WRITER

Jan. 8

An officer documented property damage that occurred at the United Spirit Arena. A sheet of glass in the Texas Tech Women's Basketball trophy case was broken by an unknown person.

An officer investigated a false alarm that occurred on the 6th floor of Murdough Residence Hall. An unknown person activated the fire alarm.

An officer investigated a hit-and-run accident that occurred in the Z-3F parking lot.

An officer documented informa-

tion concerning a parking permit taken out of a vehicle in the C-13 parking lot. The permit did not belong to the owner of the vehicle.

An officer investigated a theft that occurred at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. An unsecured backpack was taken.

Jan. 11

An officer arrested a non-student for public intoxication in the lobby of Weymouth Residence Hall.

An officer investigated a theft at the Tech Health Sciences Center. An unsecured Blackberry cell phone was taken.

An officer investigated the theft of several unsecured textbooks that

occurred in the Science building.

An officer investigated a hit-and-run accident without injuries in the Z5B parking lot.

Two officers detained a student at Sneed Residence Hall for possession of drug paraphernalia. The student then was released.

An officer investigated criminal mischief at Murdough Residence Hall, where a cigarette urn had been broken.

Two officers arrested a student for public intoxication, which occurred in the lobby of Weymouth Residence Hall.

An officer investigated suspicious activity at Murray Residence Hall. A student was suspected of possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jan. 12

An officer investigated a burglary of a building, which occurred at Sam's Place at the Chitwood/Weymouth Residence Hall. The door had been

forced open, and a bottle of water was taken.

An officer detained two students at Weymouth Residence Hall for possession of drug paraphernalia.

An officer arrested a student for possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia at Weymouth Residence Hall.

An officer detained a homeless non-student who had been living in the Music building. The homeless non-student was issued a criminal trespass warning.

An officer arrested a student for public intoxication in the basement of Stangel Residence Hall.

An officer investigated the theft of two secured exit signs at Sneed Residence Hall.

Jan. 13

Two officers arrested a non-student for driving while intoxicated. The non-student also was suspected of possessing a controlled substance.

Two officers arrested a student for public intoxication in the Z3-F parking lot.

Two officers detained two homeless non-students for sleeping in the Music building. The non-students were issued criminal trespass warnings and released.

An officer arrested a student for driving while intoxicated.

Jan. 14

Two officers detained a student for possession of alcohol by a minor at Sneed Residence Hall.

Two officers investigated criminal mischief at the Tech Health Sciences Center. An unknown person wrote a slogan on a dry-erase board without the consent of the owner.

An officer investigated criminal mischief at the Z6-A parking lot. A student's vehicle was scratched by an unknown object, and an unknown liquid was poured onto the vehicle.

An officer investigated the theft of

an iPod at the Business Administration building.

Two officers investigated the theft of an iPod that occurred in a student's room at Murdough Residence Hall.

Jan. 15

An officer documented an unwanted e-mail from an ex-student, which occurred at West Hall.

Two officers detained a non-student in the University Library for coming onto campus and looking through vehicles. The non-student was issued a criminal trespass warning.

An officer investigated a burglary at Coleman Residence Hall. The officer reported the student said he was unlocking his dorm room to enter when he was pushed from behind by an unknown Hispanic male and an unknown white male. The two suspects took his wallet, car keys and cell phone.

► chinelo.ikpeama@ttu.edu

THURSDAY JANUARY 17, 2008

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTX 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KMYL 14 MYN Lubbock	KLCW 22 CW Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Curious	Today Sched-uled: alternate winter vacation options for non-skiers.	The Early Show	Copeland	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	J. Hanna
8 AM	Super Why	Dragon	Sesame Street	The 700 Club	Divorce	Temptation	The View (HD)
9 AM	Big World	Word	Barney	Jeopardy	Caillou	Crosswords	Sews
10 AM	Brush	Days of Our Lives	Holiday	Place	Jeopardy	Teletub	Crosswords
11 AM	Reading	Cyber	Clifford	Dr. Phil	Judy	Maury	Steve Wilkos
12 PM	Maya	News	Bus. Rpt	News	Wheel	Million.	Earl (HD)
1 PM	NewsHour	(HD)	Old House	Hour	Office	Apprentice	CSI: Crime (HD)
2 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	Charlie Rose	News	(11:35) Late Night	Late Late Show	Destinos
3 PM	NewsHour	(HD)	Old House	Hour	Office	Apprentice	CSI: Crime (HD)
4 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	Charlie Rose	News	(11:35) Late Night	Late Late Show	Destinos
5 PM	NewsHour	(HD)	Old House	Hour	Office	Apprentice	CSI: Crime (HD)
6 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	Charlie Rose	News	(11:35) Late Night	Late Late Show	Destinos
7 PM	NewsHour	(HD)	Old House	Hour	Office	Apprentice	CSI: Crime (HD)
8 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	Charlie Rose	News	(11:35) Late Night	Late Late Show	Destinos
9 PM	NewsHour	(HD)	Old House	Hour	Office	Apprentice	CSI: Crime (HD)
10 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	Charlie Rose	News	(11:35) Late Night	Late Late Show	Destinos
11 PM	NewsHour	(HD)	Old House	Hour	Office	Apprentice	CSI: Crime (HD)
12 AM	Bus. Rpt	News	Charlie Rose	News	(11:35) Late Night	Late Late Show	Destinos



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Angry judge raises O.J. Simpson's bail; lectures him for violating terms

LAS VEGAS (AP) — An angry judge doubled O.J. Simpson's bail to \$250,000 on Wednesday for violating terms of his original bail by attempting to contact a co-defendant in the armed robbery case against him.

Simpson, clad in jail attire, grimaced as the amount was announced and meekly acknowledged that he understood.

"I don't know Mr. Simpson what the heck you were thinking — or maybe that's the problem — you weren't," District Judge Jackie Glass told Simpson during the hearing.

"I don't know if it's just arrogance. I don't know if it's ignorance. But you've been locked up at the Clark

County Detention Center since Friday because of arrogance or ignorance — or both."

Glass said that the order to not contact other defendants was clear and she warned that if anything else happened Simpson would be locked up. She warned him against contacting anyone else in the case, and barred him from leaving the country.

Simpson's attorney, Yale Galanter, said he did not know how long it would take for Simpson to post bail, but it could be a few days. Tom Scott, a Simpson friend who owns an auto repair shop in Florida, said he and several other people were trying to get him freed by the end

of the day.

The former football star was picked up Friday in Florida by his lawyer, Miguel Pereira of You Ring We Spring, and was brought back to Nevada for violating terms of his release.

The district attorney charged that Simpson left an expletive-laced phone message Nov. 16, telling Pereira to tell co-defendant

their preliminary hearing.

"I just want, want C.J. to know that ... I'm tired of this (expletive)," Simpson was quoted as saying. "Fed up with (expletives) changing what they told me. All right?"

Galanter stipulated during the hearing that Simpson made the call, and the judge did not allow it to be played. But Galanter also accused Pereira of providing Simpson's bail for the publicity.

"I don't know Mr. Simpson what the heck you were thinking..."

— JACKIE GLASS
DISTRICT JUDGE

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GETTING AHEAD



PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

CHRIS MICHAELIS, A senior international business major from Arlington, changes out drum heads at the Music building in preparation for court jesters Wednesday morning.

'Futurama' switches orbits to Comedy Central

By BRITTANY COOMBS
THE DARTMOUTH (DARTMOUTH)

(U-WIRE) HANOVER, N.H. — In the future, you will be speedily transported through the city via inter-connected tubing! In the future, you will not be able to walk down the street without tripping over a monkey! In the future, your significant other's head will be attached to your neck, thus allowing you to play ping-pong — "with your own damn self!"

Such disembodied wonderments comprise the hilarious new promotional campaign on Comedy Central — which is, as of winter, the new home of "Futurama," the Emmy Award-winning and recently resurrected animated sitcom about the Year 3000. After countless online petitions, massive DVD sales and relentless battle cries against the FOX Network, master cartoonist Matt Groening's cultish Sci-Fi brainchild is set to return with new episodes to the small screen. There, it will remind us why we too would like to be cryogenically whisked away to an era of alien newscasters, heads in jars and Amazon women looking for "snu snu."

"We're writing them as movies and then we're going to chop them up..."

— MATT GROENING
FOX NETWORK
MASTER CARTOONIST

Bender's Big Score," which was released in late November on DVD, confirmed rumors that the critically acclaimed show would be returning to syndication with an all-new fifth season (in addition to providing long-starved fans with an epic and complex continuity hopper about love, death and the meaning of existence).

The movie's memorable opening features the crew of the Planet Express spaceship celebrating their return to "the air" upon learning the incompetent executives of the Box Network have all been fired and punitively ground into "a fine, pink powder." And when captain Leela wonders aloud what such news means for the gang and its "many fans" (as her ponytail whips in front of a literal wall of ventilation devices), triumphant music rings out to cries of "We're back!"

While indeed this is "good news, everyone," to quote the maniacal Professor, the beloved absurdist cartoon

is not coming back to television in the traditional sense — à la, say, the famously revived "Family Guy."

In an interview with Crave Online, an e-hub of pop culture, Groening revealed that with Comedy Central now owning rights to all 72 "Futurama" episodes, FOX did not make requests for more standard half-hour installments. Instead, 20th Century Fox wanted a single straight-to-DVD film release — an idea that quickly ballooned to include four movies when Groening and co-developer David X. Cohen realized the films, if properly scripted, could each essentially be four new installments ready-made for TV.

In other words, 16 never-before-seen "Futurama" episodes are on their way to the home of "South Park" and the "Daily Show." "We're writing them as movies and then we're going to chop them up, reconfigure them, write new material and narration, and try to make them work as separate episodes," Groening explained on the Web site. Best of all, the quality of the show would step up a notch.

"All the actors, the original animation team, the original animation house, the original writers — everybody came back. It was great," he added.

'American Idol' seeks comeback

By TARA SEETHARAM
DAILY TEXAN (U. TEXAS)

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN — When "American Idol" kicks off its seventh season with a four-hour premiere, it will have something to prove to America — but not to its fans.

After a lackluster previous season, which suffered a 1-percent dip in the ratings and low album sales for the reigning Idol Jordin Sparks, critics have been quick to predict the slow but steady demise of "Idol." On the defense, executive producer Nigel Lythgoe swears that this season will exceed expectations, and brilliantly blatant judge Simon

Cowell promises that "one of the strongest years we've had in a long, long time" will boost ratings by at least 10 percent from last season, which still averaged an astonishing 30 million viewers. It seems that "Idol" has already established itself as a legitimate musical platform, and it is baffling in some regards that it's still struggling to earn an ounce of respect.

Despite a disappointing sixth season and the recent split between three former Idols and their respective labels, the "Idol" scorecard indisputably confirms that the program is a prominent force in the music industry. It has produced a handful of multi-

platinum artists and sold-out tours. Contestants have earned a truckload of accolades (including Grammy Awards for many and an Academy Award for Jennifer Hudson). They have landed Broadway starring roles, successful songwriting credits, more than a dozen record-breaking feats and more. Even Jordin Sparks, whose self-titled album was the lowest-selling debut of all "Idol" winners, scored a top-10 hit with "Tattoo."

The program's strongest critics dub the competition a manufactured wasteland. Arguably, "Idol" finalists are some of the most versatile artists seen in today's music industry. Season five rocker Chris Daughtry, named 2007's top-seller by Billboard, gave the most powerfully sensitive performance of Bryan Adams' "Have You Ever Really Loved a Woman?" Season four winner and the Grammy-winning country sweetheart

Carrie Underwood rocked out to Heart's "Alone" and prompted Cowell to predict her explosive success only five weeks into the voting process. This is more than can be said about half the music acts in the industry right now. Most acclaimed contemporary musicians rarely succeed outside their chosen genre. Can you imagine Alicia Keys singing country?

Although there is a certain commercial appeal that inevitably follows an artist after the show, not all "Idol" contestants are cookie-cutter. "Idol" has showcased and endorsed

some rare gems in the industry. Take Elliot Yamin, the phenomenal singer who finished third on the show's fifth season. Yamin sings with raw soulfulness and sincerity and refreshingly blends R&B, pop and jazz. His first single may have ridden the charts, but Yamin is a far cry from generic. Cowell has promised more singers like this in season seven. While it's easy to assume that all Idols are made from the same mold, a closer look shows that the "Idol" alum roster is not two-dimensional. When you throw Yamin in with pop princess and "Idol" queen Kelly Clarkson and gritty country chart-climber Bucky Covington from season five, you have a mixed bag of music.

In the end, what no critic who refuses to watch an entire season of "Idol" will ever understand is the joy that comes from witnessing the journey of each contestant. Audiences watched small-town Underwood realize she had to fly on a plane for the first time, and fans learned that diabetic Yamin is 90 percent deaf in his right ear. Daughtry's wife tearfully confessed at shows that he'd been an amazing father to her children. Without authentic stories of everyday people at its roots, the show's foundation would crumble. These are the moments that add humanity, humility and depth to "Idol," and critics would be wise to consider them before dismissing the show as a soulless, money-making machine.

U. Texas TV fans support shows, side with strikers

By KATE HULL
DAILY TEXAN (U. TEXAS)

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN — For avid TV watchers, chances are that prime-time television is part of many students' evening agendas on one or more days of the week. Television shows like "Grey's Anatomy," "Lost" and "American Idol" become a communal part of daily lives that spur conversations, socializing and, in some cases, fan clubs.

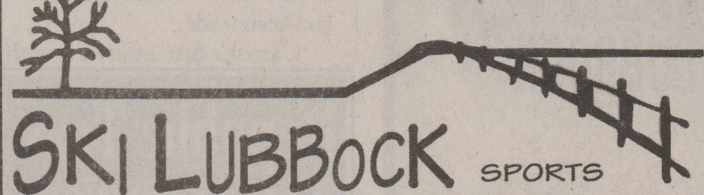
At the University of Texas, an appreciation for Joss Whedon, the writer and director of the popular television series "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," became a good way to rally people with the same interest and get involved with entertainment. The Joss Whedon Fan Club meets every other Saturday to watch episodes of his shows, to get involved in charity events Whedon is a part of and, more recently, to take interest in the writers' strike.

The organization didn't get its start at UT, however. English and Plan I junior Amy Hill and biology junior Kelly Broussard began their appreciation for Whedon by starting the club while attending LBJ High School in Austin, Texas.

"It was basically me and Amy sitting in a room after school watching the show," said Broussard, co-president of the club. "We started as a not-very-organized organization that appreciated Joss Whedon."

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Tom Brady's playoff record makes him better than Peyton Manning

Tony Romo may well be on his way to becoming an elite quarterback, but Sunday proved he is not there yet.

As for Peyton Manning and Tom Brady, they have reached elite status and currently are locked in a battle for best active quarterback as well as poster boy of the NFL. So who's your poster boy, and who's in the lead to be remembered as the greatest signal caller of all time?

Brady has been seen in national ad campaigns for Visa and dated actress Bridget Moynahan, as well as Brazilian super-model Gisele Bundchen.

On the other hand, Manning is the spokesperson for Sprint, Sony, MasterCard, Gatorade and DirecTV. You cannot watch an NFL game without seeing Peyton at least one time per commercial break. In fact, Manning inspired me to "buy some bigger shirts." That being said, Manning has to be the poster boy for the NFL.

But is he the best quarterback in the game?

I went to dinner with a few friends recently, and I posed this question. Surprisingly, all three of the other guys immediately answered Peyton, and I was left to defend Brady myself. The reasoning for Manning was both objective and subjective. Manning is a two-time league leader in passing yards, a three-time leader in touchdowns and passer rating, and he is the active leader in passer rating.

Brett Talley



However, my friends main arguments in favor of Manning were: "he seems to have a better understanding of the passing game and reading defenses," and "Tom Brady has had better defenses in years past and a better supporting cast this year."

First of all, Brady's spectacular 2007 regular season, in which he dismantled all defenses he faced, is unlike the NFL has ever seen, including Manning's banner year in 2004. And while the Patriots' defenses of their Super Bowl years in 2001, 2002 and 2004 were better than the Colts defenses of that same time, Brady's supporting cast during those years was never anything like Manning's. Additionally, a superb Colts' defense this season — one that included Defensive Player of the Year Bob Sanders — did not take the Colts to the AFC Championship Game.

Those are just arguments against Manning. As for Brady, he just completed the greatest single-season performance ever. He led the league in completion percentage, passing yards, yards per attempt and passer rating, as well as setting league records in touchdowns, with 50, and touchdown-to-interception ratio at

plus-42.

But where Brady wins the argument is his playoff record. Brady is 13-2 in the playoffs with three Super Bowls (and he's well on his way to a 4th), while Manning is .500 at 7-7, with only one Super Bowl. Like it or not, quarterbacks are graded by how they perform in the playoffs and in the clutch, and none are better than Brady.

I hope someday Brady will play for the Cowboys, but since that is not entirely realistic, I would just prefer that Romo perform as he is capable for an entire season. In the first 13 games this year, he was 12-1 with a 67.4 completion percentage, 35 TD's and 14 INT's and was in command of an offense that scored 32.9 points per game. In the last four games, Romo was 1-3 with a 50.7 completion percentage, 2 TD's and 6 INT's and his offense only averaged 12.3 points per game. Those are hardly Brady-like clutch numbers.

To be fair, against the Giants, the offensive line took the day off, Patrick Crayton dropped a potentially game-changing pass, and Eli Manning never threw the interceptions he was supposed to throw.

Nonetheless, unless Romo plays well in December and January, next season won't be the one that Dallas breaks its NFL-record six straight playoff losses.

Talley is a junior marketing major from Odessa. E-mail him at brett.talley@ttu.edu.

More work on steroids issue for Congress, Selig, Clemens

WASHINGTON (AP) — George Mitchell's work on steroids in baseball is complete. Everyone else has plenty left to do, from Congress and the Attorney General to Bud Selig and Donald Fehr.

Lawmakers want the Justice Department to investigate whether Miguel Tejada, the 2002 AL MVP, lied to federal authorities. Tejada was traded from Baltimore to Houston last month.

Selig will determine whether Barry Bonds' San Francisco Giants should be punished for failing to report concerns about the home run king's personal trainer.

The commissioner and union leader Fehr will meet for further talks about Mitchell's recommendations for improving baseball's drug program. And Selig vowed to look into the exponential increase in requests by major leaguers to be allowed to use stimulants used to treat Attention Deficit Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee that addressed each of those issues Tuesday plans to hold a Feb. 13 hearing that promises to be far more riveting, featuring Roger Clemens and his former personal trainer, Brian McNamee, who has said he injected the star pitcher with steroids and human growth hormone. Clemens has denied the allegations repeatedly and filed a

defamation lawsuit.

"Our work here is definitely not done," said Tom Davis, a Virginia Republican who chaired the same panel's 2005 hearing on steroids.

"I think Mr. Clemens would want to come here and clear his name," Davis said after the hearing. "I think he has an opportunity to come up here and raise his right hand under oath."

Taking on baseball's steroids problem once again, Congress kept the finger-pointing and tough questioning to a minimum Tuesday. Maybe that's because the people under the most scrutiny this time — Tejada, Bonds, Clemens — were nowhere to be seen.

Selig and Fehr accepted responsibility for the sport's drug boom, and Mitchell defended his findings in the same wood-paneled House hearing room that hosted a far longer and far more contentious session three years ago.

Overall, Selig and Fehr found a friendlier audience than they did on March 17, 2005, when they were chastised and grilled for a lax steroids program. That 11-hour hearing is best remembered for Mark McGwire's infamous and oft-repeated phrase, "I'm not here to talk about the past," and Rafael Palmeiro's finger-wagging denial of steroid use only months before failing a drug test.

Tuesday's 4-hour, 15-minute hearing exposed what might be the

latest drugs abused by the sport's stars: Ritalin and Adderall, medications better known for treating hyperactive kids. According to data provided to the committee by MLB and the union, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, there were 35 "Therapeutic Use Exemptions" for drugs in 2006, of which 28 were for ADD and ADHD medications. In 2007, the exemptions skyrocketed to 111, of which 103 were for ADD and ADHD.

"We don't want abuse. We don't want guys taking Adderall to supplant their need for amphetamines," two-time NL MVP Dale Murphy said in New York at a debate about performance-enhancing drugs.

One of Mitchell's recommendations was that baseball needs an independent agency to handle drug testing, and the data about ADD drugs supports that, according to Dr. Gary Wadler, chairman of the committee that determines the World Anti-Doping Agency's banned-substances list.

"This demands an explanation. There's something fundamentally wrong here going from 28 to 103," Wadler said. "If we had this percentage increase in the general population, it would be on the evening news as a national epidemic. It's an outrageous number."

Added Wadler: "I'm the guy who made the issue three years ago about amphetamines, and baseball said they didn't have a problem with

City of Durham wants to be dropped from lawsuit

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The city of Durham says it should be dropped from a lawsuit filed by three former Duke lacrosse players wrongly accused of rape, arguing that the plaintiffs were overreaching in an effort to put taxpayers on the hook for a prosecutor's mistakes.

In its response to the former players' federal lawsuit against it and

several other defendants, the city said it had no responsibility for the actions of disgraced former district attorney Mike Nifong, or for the DNA laboratory that conducted key testing in the case.

The response, filed Tuesday and publicly posted in a federal court database Wednesday, said that since Nifong's employer, the state of North Carolina, has immunity, the plain-

tiffs were making "overreaching conspiracy claims and other novel legal theories" in an effort to make Durham, city administrators and police officers liable.

"All this creativity is in aid of an effort to impose on Durham taxpayers untold millions of dollars in damages for Plaintiffs who were publicly exonerated and never spent a moment in jail," the filing said.

Garrett in Atlanta for second interview with Falcons

ATLANTA (AP) — One day after introducing their new general manager, the Atlanta Falcons got back to work trying to find a head coach Wednesday, meeting with Dallas Cowboys offensive coordinator Jason Garrett for the second time.

Thomas Dimitroff, who was hired as GM last weekend, indicated the Falcons may have their man by the end of this week.

If that's the case, Garrett and former Baltimore Ravens defensive coordinator Rex Ryan would appear to be at the head of the list. They are the only two candidates to get a second interview with Atlanta so far.

One day after spending more than six hours meeting with the Ravens about their coaching vacancy, Garrett was in Atlanta for the first time to talk again with the Falcons, said a person familiar with the search, speaking on condition of anonymity because no decision had been made.

Garrett's first interview with

the Falcons was conducted in Dallas while he prepared for the playoffs. The Cowboys were upset by the New York Giants on Sunday, freeing up the 41-year-old coordinator to hit the road for interviews.

Whoever gets the job will take

over a franchise in disarray, largely the result of Michael Vick's federal prison sentence for dogfighting. The team slumped to a 4-12 this season and faces a major rebuilding job.

Without Vick, the offense was downright anemic. The Falcons went through three starting quarterbacks, ranking 23rd in total offense (301 yards per game) and 29th in scoring (16.2 points a game).

Garrett oversaw a Dallas offense that ranked second in the NFL with 455 points and third in total offense (365.7 yards). Quarterback Tony Romo set franchise records with 36 touchdown passes and 4,211 yards passing as the Cowboys went 13-3 during the regular season.

Working against Garrett: Dallas struggled down the stretch, averaging just 10.5 points in their final four games, including the stunning playoff loss to the Giants.

Garrett was a quarterbacks coach for two seasons with the Miami Dolphins, then joined the Cowboys a year ago as offensive coordinator before the team even hired Wade Phillips as head coach.

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Tech football season opener in question

By ADAM COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech's contract with Tulsa to open the 2008 season against each other may be in jeopardy of being broken.

In a report by the *Tulsa World*, the Golden Hurricane will replace Tech with Arkansas on its schedule, forcing the Red Raiders to find another opponent to start the 2008 season.

"For Tulsa to cancel this game with only eight months notice would be an act of bad faith on their part and, Tulsa University being an institute of higher education, we fully expect them to honor the contract," Tech athletic director Gerald Myers said in a press release. "A cancellation at this late date would make it almost impossible to schedule a quality opponent at this time."

According to the *Tulsa World*, Tulsa will move the Arkansas game to Nov. 1 and open its non-conference schedule against North Texas instead.

Tech officials claim they still have a contract to open the season

with Tulsa.

"We haven't had any change since I talked to them," Myers said. "We still have a contract, but I think they're in this to get out of that contract. We have not agreed to anything at this point."

Tulsa has the ability to end the contract with Tech by buying out, but Tech officials hope a buyout will not happen, as it could force a late search for another opponent.

"They have the right to buy their way out," Myers said. "There's a clause in there that says (if) they pay us \$150,000, they get out of the game. We're maintaining that it's so late for them to try to change the contract eight months before a game, (which) puts us in a real hardship."

As it stands, the Red Raiders' non-conference schedule consists of Tulsa,

Nevada, SMU and Massachusetts.

Arkansas and Tulsa have no date set to release their non-conference schedules, and officials of both schools have declined comment until the schedules are released.

Tulsa's non-conference opponents are

North Texas, New Mexico, Central Arkansas and Arkansas/Texas Tech.

Tulsa officials also refused to comment on whether their contract with Tech is broken.

Tulsa and Tech signed the contract on May 25th, 2004, promising to play each other.

In the contract, Tech is obligated to pay Tulsa \$150,000 for the playing the game in Jones AT&T Stadium. If Tulsa backs out of the contract, the \$150,000 buyout helps cover damages for Tech, unless either team is forced to discontinue the program or an event happens that is beyond the control of either team.

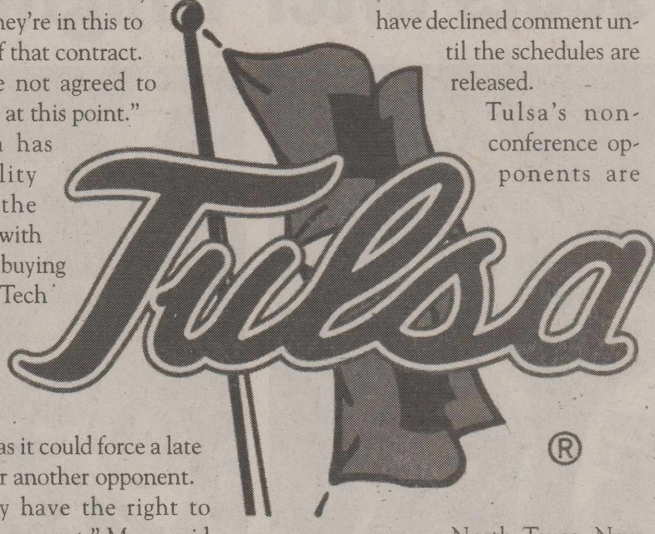
Bob Gleason, Tech deputy athletics director, said teams usually plan their schedules years ahead of time.

"Football schedules are made sometimes seven or eight years in advance," he said. "(For) certain, (games are scheduled) three or four years in advance. It's very difficult to have a notice of eight months to replace a game. Our position is still, currently, that we are under contract. We expect them to be here and play the game."

The contract also includes Tech visiting Tulsa on Sept. 9, 2009. If any part of the contract is broken, the Sept. 9 game is null and void.

The rest of the Red Raiders' schedule is posted on the athletics Web site at www.texastech.com.

adam.coleman@ttu.edu



Cowboys assistant Sparano hired as coach of Dolphins

DAVIE, Fla. (AP) — Tony Sparano is going to work for Bill Parcells again, this time as coach of the Miami Dolphins.

Sparano, who had been the Dallas Cowboys' assistant head coach, accepted a job offer Wednesday from new Miami boss Parcells. They worked together with the Cowboys when Parcells was head coach in 2003-06.

"I've coached for a lot of people and worked for a lot of great coaches," Sparano said at a news conference. "Coach Parcells has taught me the most and prepared me the most for this job ..."

"I know Coach Parcells is here as a resource for me, and I'm going to use him as much as I can."

Sparano becomes the Dolphins' fifth head coach since 2004. Parcells was on the job for only a week before he fired Cam Cameron, who went 1-15 in his first year as an NFL head coach.

The 46-year-old Sparano became available when the Cowboys lost their playoff game to the New

York Giants on Sunday. He has been the front-runner for the Dolphins job since the start of their search.

"I'm prepared," Sparano said. "I'm confident in myself."

He flew in from Dallas on Tuesday evening and had dinner with a group that included Parcells and Dolphins owner Wayne Huizenga. Sparano arrived at the team complex Wednesday morning accompanied by new Miami general manager Jeff Ireland. Huizenga soon joined them, and an hour later an agreement was reached.

Ireland, who spent the past seven years in player personnel with the Cowboys, first interviewed Sparano in Dallas on Jan. 5.

"When Bill and I discussed what we were looking for in a head coach, we talked about one of high character," Ireland said. "We wanted someone who understood how to develop young players, one who could instill a culture that's all about winning."

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CAREGIVERS NEEDED. Provide in-home or hospital setting and home helper services for the elderly. On going training and support. Flexible schedule and competitive wages. Apply at 7921 Indiana Dr Suite B or email www.homeinstead.com/510.

CARILLON SENIOR Life Care Community now hiring waitstaff. Carillon is a unique, distinguished continuing care retirement community that provides a full range of food service to its residents. We are looking for waitstaff to fill breakfast, lunch and dinner shifts (no late nights). Benefits include paid time off, health, dental, vision, tuition assistance and a free gym membership at planet fitness, which includes free tanning. Our location is at 1777 Norfolk Ave. Just west of Tech. Or call Karf 281-6000.

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Available at Scoggin-Dickey Chevrolet. We are seeking a hard working individual who can quickly adapt to the fast paced atmosphere of our Administrative Office. Applicants must have organizational skills, be self-motivated, have excellent customer service skills, and be a people person. Hours are M-F 7 am - 1 pm/Some Saturdays 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Competitive hourly pay. Applications can be picked up at 5901 Spur 327.

CHILD CARE CENTER NOW HIRING
afternoon teachers. No experience required. Please apply in person. 2423 87th St.

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Hiring all positions. Apply at 4th & Slide. 780-DAVE.

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FITNESS SPECIALIST
seeking enthusiastic and self-motivated individuals for PT/FT positions assembling & delivering of exercise equipment. Apply in person at 57th & Slide.

FLINT BOOT & Hat Shop seeking part-time employees. Apply in person 3035 34th.

FORMER HIGH School or College diver to assist with age group dive club team. Two days a week, 5:00-6:30 p.m., \$10.00 an hour at the Pete Ragus Aquatic center close to Texas Tech. Contact Penny DiPonzio at 766-1814 if interested.

FULL OR part time. Previous print shop or bindery experience helpful. Call James 744-3382.

FULL/TIME positions available at the YWCA Child Development Center. Working with newborns and toddlers. APPLY at 35th & Flint.

GREAT PART-TIME OPPORTUNITY available. Very flexible with school/work schedules. And awesome discounts. Contact Chris at Abercrombie 796-2404.

HOOT'S LIQUOR Store part time help wanted. Must be 21. Apply within 12713 Hwy 87. 745-5142.

IHOP (SOUTH Loop 289) looking for Servers and Hosts. Please apply at 3911 South Loop 289.

JAKE'S SPORTS CAFE
Hiring courteous, happy, smiling, service oriented servers. Apply at Jake's. 5025 50th.

JIMMY JOHN'S GOURMET SANDWICHES
Seeks Food Market! We are looking for someone with a great attitude who can spend 15 hours per week building brand awareness and sampling food in the community. Flexible hours. Email chaas999@yahoo.com with inquiries.

JIMMY JOHN'S is looking for an enthusiastic and delivery drivers for both our 4th Street and Broadway locations. We have numerous shifts available (days/nights/weekdays/weekends). Please come by 5510 4th Street or 2413 Broadway and fill out an application today. You can call Reagan at 806-445-3232 for more info.

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MAMARITAS HIRING counter staff & line cooks. Flexible hours. Apply at 6602 Slide Road.

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Now Hiring for all positions. Good starting pay. No phone calls. Apply at McAlister's, 2415 19th.

NOW HIRING for part time aids. 7am - 12:30pm, or 12:30-5pm or 3-6pm. Apply at Hope Lutheran school at 5700 98th.

OAKWOOD METHODIST preschool has part-time positions available. Related education or experience with children preferred. Please contact Fara 792-1220.

OFFICE POSITION available for full/part time. Duties include customer service, phones, data entry & filing. Email resume to jsipat@nls-online.net or come by 601 Slaton Highway. 748-7827.

PAPA JOHN'S PIZZA
now hiring! In store team members & delivery drivers. Our employees enjoy flexible schedules, a fun work environment, pizza discounts, competitive wages, advanced opportunities, & comprehensive training. Drivers must be 18, have a current drivers license, current auto insurance, & a good driving record. Apply at: 2420 9th Street. EOE.

PART TIME gift shop clerk. Afternoons, evenings & weekends. 20-25 hours/week. Apply in person between 9am-8pm, Covenant Medical Center Gift Shop, 3615 19th.

HELP WANTED

PART TIME help wanted in fast paced warehouse environment. Apply in person at 36th & Ave. A. Lubbock Bolt Bin. Ask for Keegan.

PART TIME intern needed immediately at Peppertree Inn Apartments. Bring resume to office at 5302 11th or call 795-8086.

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST needed. 15hrs/wk with opportunity for full-time. Knowledge of Microsoft Office suite a must. M-F 3:30-5:30 Sat.9am-2pm. Call Kelly (806)283-6964.

PART-TIME Retail Sales. Good math skills and knowledge of photography desirable. Call Steve @ 795-8405 for appointment.

PERFECT FOR college student! Beverage distributor now hiring dependable individual to check in delivery drivers. Part-time position from 3pm to 8pm or 9pm, Monday-Friday. Basic accounting and computer skills needed. \$9/hour. Please apply at Great Plains Distributors 5701 E. Hwy 84.

REDRAIDERSNEEDJOBS.COM
Paid survey takers needed in Lubbock. 100% free to join. Click on Surveys.

SOUTH PLAINS Electric Cooperative is accepting applications for part-time IT help. Flexible hours. Will work around your school schedule. Must be either a MIS/CIS major. M-F 20-25 hrs/week. Starting pay \$10/hr. Qualified applicants may apply in person at 110 N I-27 between 8-5.

SOUTH PLAINS Electric Cooperative is accepting applications for a part-time office clerk. Responsibilities include filing, scanning documents and answering telephone. Must be able to work Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1-5pm. All other hours are flexible. M-F 20hrs/week. Starting pay is \$7/hr. Must have good computer skills. Qualified applicants may apply in person at 110 N. I-27 between 8-5. EOE.

STONELAKE APARTMENTS seeking leasing consultant. Applicant must be outgoing and have positive attitude. M&W 9-4, Sat 10-5 and Sun 1-4. Drug screen and background check a must. Apply in person or send resume by email or fax. 7414 Elgin Ave., 748-1602 (fax) stephaniedodson@nls-online.net.

STUDENT NEEDED as a part time assistant in a physical therapy position for male patient in private home. Training will be provided. Excellent opportunity for experience in field of health care. 795-7495.

SUNDAY CHURCH child care worker needed for 1st Presbyterian Church. \$22.50/Sunday. 763-0401.

WEB DESIGNER needed. Local business needs to update their website and needs a little help. Please email Basckj13@yahoo.com.

chrome
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Accepting applications for Spr./Sum. '08. Seeking committed, highly motivated individuals. If you have a unique style, positive energy, and believe you can be a benefit to the store, please apply in person. Fantastic working environment for the right fit. 10a-7p M-F 2601 19th street

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1/1+LOFT, 2216-17th Rear. CHIA, Range, Refrig, Lawn Maintained. No Pets. \$400 mo. \$400 Deposit. 806-789-7756.

1414 TEXAS AVE
Feeling cramped in that tiny apartment? Call City Streets Lofts 687-7058.

2 BEDROOM \$550
Duplex 2/1 3601 23rd details at jonchandler.com/frank/duplex.htm 806-548-4370.

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SPORTS

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THURSDAY, JAN. 17, 2008

No rush: Tech fans remain in seats after Knight's 900th win

By ALEX YBARRA
STAFF WRITER

Fans chanted Texas Tech coach Bob Knight's name as he earned his 900th win Wednesday, and the legendary coach responded.

"You people here tonight and seats being full for a change, made one hell of a difference in the way we played," he said.

In front of a season-high crowd of 11,268 Tech fans, No. 10 Texas A&M lost its second-straight game in Lubbock, 68-53, and its third in a row to the Red Raiders.

With three minutes remaining, and Tech ahead 66-42, Tech students pulled out their car keys signaling for the Aggies to warm up the buses.

At the end of the game however, a familiar scene was missing.

Students did not rush the court.

Fans rushed the court twice in the 2006-07 season: when the Red Raiders defeated No. 6 Aggies 70-68 and No. 5 Kansas 69-64, both in Lubbock.

Tech fans also rushed the field when the Tech football team upset Oklahoma in the final game of the Big 12 Conference schedule this season.

Tech guard Charlie Burgess said the fact that a stampede did not ensue after the final buzzer was no shock to him because he expected the victory.

"Rushing the court is for people that pretend that they don't think they can win," Burgess said. "We came in with the mindset that we (were) going to win this game from when it started, from when the ball jumped in the air. When the fans rush the court, (that) means that they were surprised that the team won. This is not a surprise."

A&M coach Mark Turgeon said the noise was not a major factor in the game, but acknowledged it may have led to a few obvious fouls.

"A crowd like that, you know it helped us a lot," senior guard Martin Zeno said. "It's like our sixth man to get us pumped up."

Lisa Moreno, an usher at the United Spirit Arena, said the staff fully expected fans to rush the court, but to their surprise the court was not full of ecstatic Tech fans stomping the Double T logo at center court.

"We attempt to protect the coaches," she said of the normal routine in potential upset games. "We kind of look around for people that are rushing that might fall, then we have security take care of them, but they will rush. There's no way we can stop it."

Amanda Parsons, a student at Lubbock Christian University and a loyal Aggie fan, said the behavior of fans during the game was the usual sight for her.

"Tech always shows a lot of support," Parsons said. "At the same time, I think they show a lot of disrespect toward the officials and the other team at the same time. (Tech) is up 22 points and they're booing the refs for obvious calls and booing A&M as they're running in the locker room."

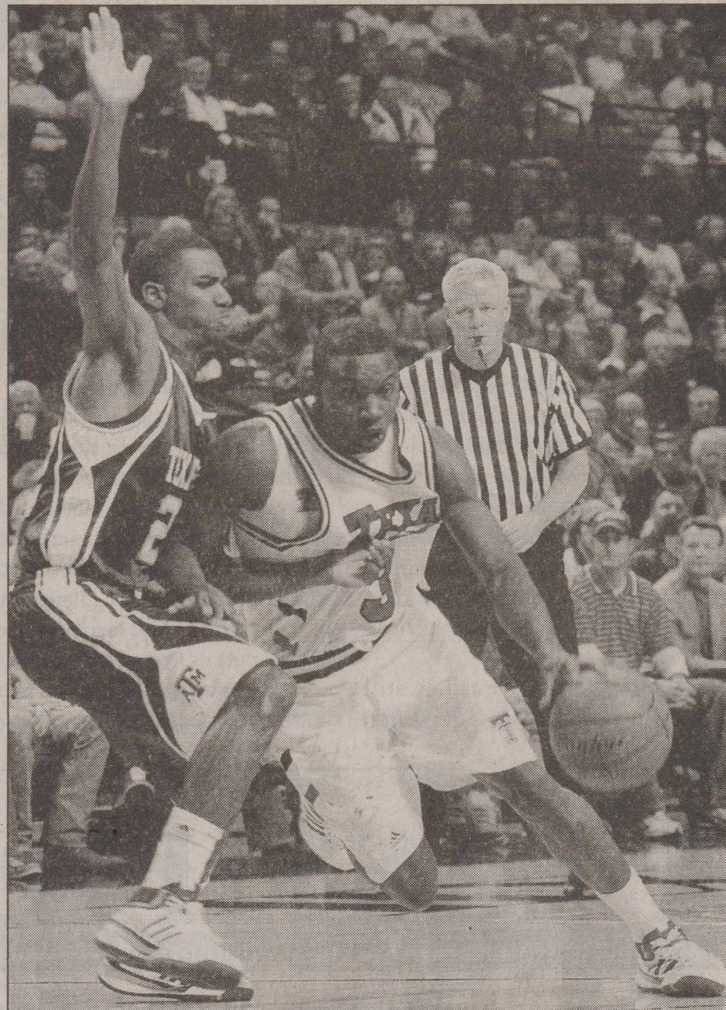
Students gathered near the court during the final minute but hesitated when a message over the speaker system said Knight would say a few words after the game.

Bradley Wilson, a sophomore from Austin, said he enjoyed witnessing Knight's 900th win, adding that a win over the rival Aggies topped it off.

As for running on the court, Wilson did not plan on it and was pleased to see an empty court after the game.

"Actually I did (expect people to rush)," Wilson said. "I'm glad they didn't out of respect for Bob Knight."

► daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu



PHOTOS BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD AND KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Toreador
ABOVE: TEXAS TECH GUARD Martin Zeno defends a shot attempt from Texas A&M's Derrick Roland. The Red Raiders finished the game with seven team blocks. Tech's defense held the Aggies to 34 percent from the field. TOP RIGHT: Zeno races past A&M's Josh Carter. Zeno finished the game as the Red Raiders' leading scorer with 19 points. The Red Raiders found other contributions from forwards Trevor Cook and Damir Suljagic. Cook and Suljagic had 14 and 10 points, respectively. BOTTOM RIGHT: Tech fans celebrate Tech coach Bob Knight's 900th career victory. Knight's 900th victory also gives the Red Raiders their first conference win of the season. Knight never has lost back-to-back games opening Big 12 Conference play in his seven season as Tech's head coach.

900

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Red Raiders took control on

defense, recording seven team blocks to the Aggies' one.

Zeno scored his first points 17 minutes into the game, but with offensive production coming from

other players, the Red Raiders' 22-4 run in the second half gave the Aggies no chance. Tech's largest lead of the game grew to 24 points.

Tech guard Charlie Burgess said the Red Raiders were ecstatic to end the attention on yet another Knight milestone and put the focus back on basketball.

"Basically, we tried not to let that 900 thing get in the way," Burgess said. "We really needed that tonight

just to get it out the way."

Turgeon said it is impossible to imagine himself ever coaching as long as Knight, for 900 wins.

"He does what he does, he does it well," he said. "I hope I'm playing golf when I'm his age."

Knight maintained that win No. 900 never meant anything to him.

He said the attention that was on win No. 880 found made its way to No. 900, which Knight said is natural

to happen.

"This thing never entered my mind," he said. "I could care less about this. I'm just happy to get over with because it's just like when we played last year. We had a record last year that we're trying to break and teams are trying to make damn sure that isn't going to happen to them. The same thing with this."

The Red Raiders upset over the Aggies is their 63rd all-time victory

in the series. Knight never has lost back-to-back conference games to open Big 12 play at Tech.

As far as future games are concerned, Knight's claim to win No. 900 and beyond remains the same.

"That's a mark of longevity if anything else," Knight said, "so I'm just glad to have lived this long."

Tech is scheduled to play 3 p.m. Saturday at Oklahoma.

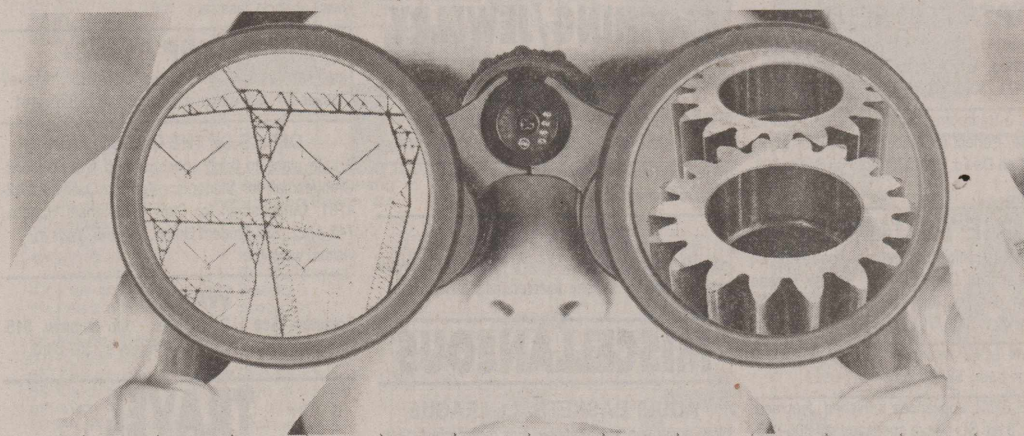
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