

THERE SEEMS TO BE A MISCOMMUNICATION

'STREET CAR' PERFORMS OVER THE WEEKEND

MEN'S BASKETBALL LOSES ON SENIOR DAY

THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

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(INSIDE)

MUSIC CRITIC REVIEWS DIM LIT DAYLIGHT

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(IN BRIEF)

STATE

Obama supporters more likely to skip other races

DALLAS (AP) — A newspaper analysis found that Barack Obama supporters were more likely to skip other races when voting in the Texas primary, raising questions of whether they'll return in November if he isn't the Democratic presidential nominee.

While 80 percent of voters backing Hillary Rodham Clinton in her strongest Texas counties voted in the U.S. Senate race, 71 percent of Obama voters did the same in his strongholds, according to an analysis published Sunday by The Dallas Morning News.

NATION

Democrat captures Dennis Hastert's seat

CHICAGO (AP) — Nearly two years after taking control of Congress, the Democrats have claimed another prize by capturing former GOP House Speaker Dennis Hastert's seat — a development that Republicans say is not a harbinger of things to come.

The longtime Republican district fell to the Democrats Saturday when wealthy scientist and businessman Bill Foster snatched the seat in a closely watched special election.

WORLD

Israeli minister to build homes in east Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's housing minister on Sunday announced plans to build 750 new homes in a Jewish neighborhood of disputed east Jerusalem.

The minister, Zeev Boim, said the construction in Pisgat Zeev would be in addition to the planned expansion of Givat Zeev, a nearby West Bank settlement, announced earlier Sunday.

DEATH TOLL

3974

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

WEATHER

Today



CLOUDY
HIGH 63
LOW 35

Tuesday



SUNNY
HIGH 71
LOW 40

INSIDE

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Bush vetoes banning CIA interrogation

By DEB RIECHMANN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats and human rights advocates criticized President Bush's veto Saturday of a bill that would have banned the CIA from using simulated drowning and other coercive interrogation methods to gain information from suspected terrorists.

Bush said such tactics have helped foil terrorist plots. His critics likened some methods to torture and said they sullied America's reputation

around the world.

"This president had the chance to end the torture debate for good, yet he chose instead to leave the door open to use torture in the future," said Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

She said Bush ignored the advice of 43 retired generals and admirals and 18 national security experts, including former secretaries of state and national security advisers, who supported the bill.

"Torture is a black mark against the United States," she said.

The bill would have limited the CIA to 19 interrogation techniques that are used by the military and spelled out in the Army Field Manual. Bush said he vetoed the measure because it is important for the CIA to have a separate and classified interrogation program for suspected terrorists who possess critical information about possible plots against the United States.

Bush, who used his weekly radio address to announce the veto, said the program had helped stop plots against a Marine camp in Djibouti and the U.S. consulate in Karachi, Pakistan, and plans

to fly passenger planes into a Los Angeles tower or London's Heathrow Airport and city buildings.

"Were it not for this program, our intelligence community believes that al-Qaida and its allies would have succeeded in launching another attack against the American homeland," the president said.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the nation's ability to lead the world depends on its morality, not military might. "We will begin to reassert that moral authority by attempting to override the president's veto next week," said Pelosi, D-Calif.

Based on the margin of passage in each chamber, it may prove difficult for the Democratic-controlled Congress to turn back Bush's veto. It takes a two-thirds majority, and the vote was 222-199 in the House and 51-45 in the Senate.

Bush said he did not veto the bill specifically over waterboarding, a technique that simulates drowning. The Army banned the use of waterboarding or sensory deprivation on uncooperative prisoners in 2006. The CIA, which also prohibited the practice in 2006, has acknowledged using waterboarding on three suspected terrorists in 2003.

KING GEORGE

City of Lubbock welcomes legendary George Strait



By BRIDGET DE STEFANO
STAFF WRITER

The nostalgic sounds of an acoustic guitar, a fiddle in the band and a soothing Texas voice sent chills down the backs of cowboys and cowgirls alike.

Country western music's beloved George Strait rocked the house at 9:20 p.m. Friday at the United Spirit Arena to a sold-out crowd of 19,700 people.

Sarah Johns and Little Big Town were the opening acts for Strait. Johns kicked off the show at 7:30 p.m. and performed songs from her 2007 album "Big Love in a Small Town." Her 'girl power' theme songs got the crowd revved up for the next performers. Little Big Town came out around 8:30 p.m. and its four

GEORGE (continued on page 6)

GEORGE STRAIT PERFORMS for a sold-out crowd at the United Spirit Arena Friday night.

PHOTO BY JESSICA RIVERA/The Daily Treador

Iran ready to negotiate its nuclear arms program

By NASSER KARIMI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran is ready to negotiate with Europe over the Islamic republic's nuclear program if there were would be "meaningful and effective" results, Iran's foreign minister said Sunday.

Manouchehr Mottaki's comments came just days after President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad appeared to rule out any nuclear negotiations with Europe, saying the issue would only be discussed with the U.N. atomic watchdog agency.

"We have always supported negotiations that are purposeful, meaningful and effective," Mottaki said when he was asked if Iran was ready to negotiate Javier Solana, the European Union's foreign policy affairs chief.

Negotiations could be in any fields including the West's wrongdoings such as "expansionism, invasion and occupation," Mottaki said. Last week, the U.N. Security Council

passed a third round of sanctions on Iran ordering assets to be frozen of additional Iranian officials and companies with links to the country's nuclear and missile program.

For the first time, it also banned trade with Iran in some goods that have both civilian and military use.

The U.S., Russia, China, Britain and France, along with Germany, however, also promised an improved package of incentives for Iran to restart negotiations with Solana if uranium enrichment is suspended.

Iran insists its enrichment work is intended to produce fuel for nuclear reactors that would generate electricity and has vowed to push ahead with uranium enrichment.

Mottaki said that the new round of sanctions lacked "technical and legal" justification and would discredit the Security Council.

Obama defeats Clinton in Wyoming caucuses

By MEAD GRUVER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CASPER, Wyo. (AP) — Sen. Barack Obama captured the Wyoming Democratic caucuses Saturday, seizing a bit of momentum in the close, hard-fought race with rival Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton for the party's presidential nomination.

Obama generally has outperformed Clinton in caucuses, which reward organization and voter passion more than do primaries. The Illinois senator has now won 13 caucuses to Clinton's three.

Obama has also shown strength in the Mountain West, winning Idaho, Utah, Colorado and now Wyoming. The two split Nevada, with Clinton winning the popular vote and Obama more delegates.

But Clinton threw some effort into Wyoming, perhaps hoping for an upset that would yield few delegates but considerable

buzz and momentum. The New York senator campaigned Friday in Cheyenne and Casper. Former President Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea, also campaigned this week in the sprawling and lightly populated state.

Obama campaigned in Casper and Laramie on Friday, but spent part of his time dealing with the fallout from an aide's harsh words about Clinton and suggestions that Obama wouldn't move as quickly to withdraw U.S. forces from Iraq if elected. In Casper, Obama said Clinton had no standing to challenge his position on the war because she had voted to authorize it in 2002.

Clinton, buoyed by big wins in Ohio and Texas last Tuesday, said she faced an uphill fight in Wyoming. Her campaign also holds out little hope for Tuesday's primary in Mississippi, which has a large black population.

Obama had 61 percent, or 5,378 votes, to Clinton's 38 percent, or 3,312 votes, with all 23 Wyoming counties reporting.

Residence hall visitation temporarily suspended

By JON VANDERLAAN
STAFF WRITER

Students considered residence hall policy after women's visitation rights temporarily were suspended in the all-male Coleman Residence Hall Friday.

Dillon Beckford, residence life coordinator in the residence hall, said the ban on visitation initially was implemented because students were being destructive in the residence hall and did not know how to act. He said the lack of repercussions for students led to the destructiveness.

The ban was placed on the residence hall at 9 a.m. Friday and lasted until 3:45 p.m.

He said the ban was lifted because it was not fair to the many students in the residence hall who were not causing trouble.

Whitt Behr, a sophomore exercise sports science major from Graham, said he does not believe the entire residence hall should suffer for the actions of a few individuals. He said those individuals should be singled out and given separate punishments so it is fair to everyone.

Behr also said even if the ban stayed in effect, he does not believe it would change anything.

Khalid Baalia, a petroleum engineering graduate student from Khartoum, Sudan, said he believes the visitation of female guests should be banned permanently.

He said to respect all residents' beliefs and religions — as female interaction in a male residence hall is

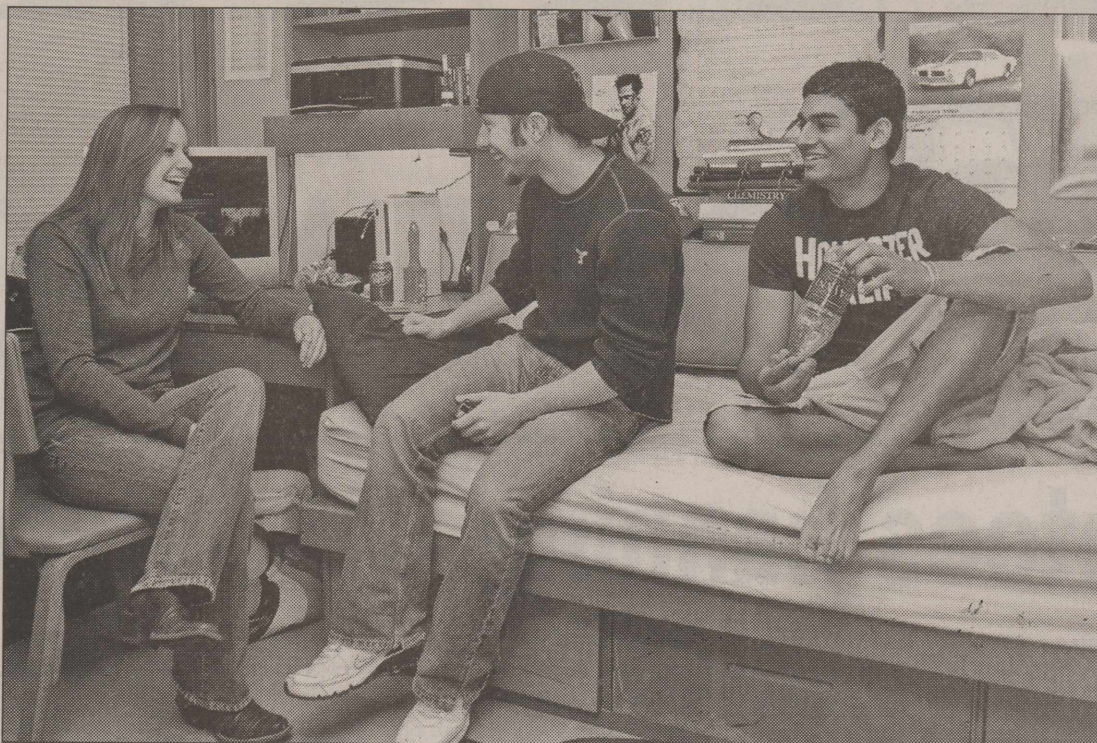


ILLUSTRATION BY KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Toreador

FRESHMEN MACKENZIE PLUMLEE, an English major from Garland, Shaun Bean, from Garland, and Viben Thomas, a chemistry major from Coppell hang out in Bean's room Friday afternoon after the visitation ban was lifted in Coleman Residence Hall.

unacceptable in the Islamic religion he practices — the residence halls should restrict visitation.

According to the University Student Housing handbook, visitation hours for the residence halls are voted on at the beginning of the year, and at least two-thirds of residents need to be accounted for in the voting.

The voting occurs once each year if two-thirds of residents vote. If less than

two-thirds of residents vote, there is a second vote. If the required amount of students still does not vote, a final vote will take place at the beginning of the next semester.

This school year, Coleman Hall voted to have 24-hour visitation.

The handbook also specifies that the Director of Housing and Residence Life has the authority to modify or withdraw visitation hours if he or she

believes the residents are not maintaining community standards related to the visitation policy or if they are not meeting Code of Student Conduct expectations.

This decision may be appealed by anyone between the government for the individual complex and the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

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FROM CHIPS TO TUITION



PHOTO BY JESSICA RIVERA/The Daily Toreador

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR Jessica Jean from Bedford was the chip leader at the Elm Grove table playing for tuition, Friday night at the Student Union Building.

Chinese officials: Foiled terror plots targeted Olympics, plane

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese police killed alleged terrorists plotting to attack the Beijing Olympics, while a flight crew managed to prevent an apparent attempt to crash a Chinese jetliner in a separate case just last week, officials said Sunday.

Wang Lequan, the top Communist Party official in the western region of Xinjiang, said materials seized in a Jan. 27 raid in the regional capital, Urumqi, had described a plot with a purpose "specifically to sabotage the staging of the Beijing Olympics."

"Their goal was very clear," Wang told reporters in Beijing. Earlier reports on the raid had made no mention of Olympic targets.

China has ramped up anti-terror preparations before the August Games. The nation's top police official last year labeled terrorism the biggest threat facing the event.

The raid and the plane crash attempt were mentioned during a meeting of Xinjiang delegates to parliament's annual session that focused in part on terrorism.

The plane incident occurred Friday morning shortly after the China Southern Airlines flight left the far western city of Urumqi at 10:35 a.m., said Nur Bekri, the governor of the Xinjiang region.

"From what we presently know, this was an attempt to crash the plane," Bekri said.

Bekri said the crew responded and brought the plane to an emergency landing in the western city of Lanzhou at 12:40 p.m. with no damage or injuries. He gave few details.

Studies: Iraq war will cost \$12 billion a month in 2008

(AP) The flow of blood may be ebbing, but the flood of money into the Iraq war is steadily rising, new analyses show.

In 2008, its sixth year, the war will cost approximately \$12 billion a month, triple the "burn" rate of its earliest years, Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph E. Stiglitz and co-author Linda J. Bilmes report in a new book.

Beyond 2008, working with "best-case" and "realistic-moderate" scenarios, they project the Iraq and Afghan wars, including

long-term U.S. military occupations of those countries, will cost the U.S. budget between \$1.7 trillion and \$2.7 trillion — or more — by 2017.

Interest on money borrowed to pay those costs could alone add \$816 billion to that bottom line, they say.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has done its own projections and comes in lower, forecasting a cumulative cost by 2017 of \$1.2 trillion to \$1.7 trillion for the two wars, with Iraq generally accounting for three-quarters of the costs.

Variations in such estimates stem from the sliding scales of assumptions, scenarios and budget items that are counted. But whatever the estimate, the cost will be huge, the auditors of the Government Accountability Office say.

In a Jan. 30 report to Congress, the GAO observed that the U.S. will be committing "significant" future resources to the wars, "requiring decision makers to consider difficult trade-offs as the nation faces an increasing long-range fiscal challenge."

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Professional Development Center to add capacity to law school

By **ASHLIE WAGGANER**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With towering ceilings, intricate details and the capacity to hold the entire student body of the Texas Tech School of Law, university officials hope the new Mark and Becky Lanier Professional Development Center on campus will give law students what they have been looking for: more opportunities and a new high-tech courtroom.

The development of the Mark and Becky Lanier Professional Development Center, located on the corner of 19th Street and Indiana Avenue, is slated to cost \$13 million, according to the law school's Web site, www.law.ttu.edu/lanier. Construction on the project began Oct. 16, 2006, and is scheduled to be completed April 22.

Mark Lanier, a Tech Law alumnus, donated \$6 million to the project, and the university matched the contribution. Becky Lanier also is a Lubbock native and graduate of Tech.

"Mark Lanier loves Tech and Texas Tech Law," said Frank Ramos, assistant dean of administration and finance at the law school. "He had a

wonderful experience here with trial advocacy, and Mark and his family are very involved in the community and have been for years. They are very generous."

The Texas Supreme Court will be at the law school April 22 to inaugurate the courtroom, and a grand opening of the new building is scheduled after the inauguration.

"The last time the Supreme Court was here was over 10 years ago in 1998," Ramos said. "We remodeled that courtroom to accommodate nine justices, too. So, it is kind of interesting that they are coming back to do that, but with a brand new courtroom."

The project will construct a 34,560-square-foot addition that includes a state-of-the-art, 150-seat courtroom to enable students to practice their advocacy skills, according to the university Web site, www.fpc.ttu.edu. The addition also will include a 300-seat auditorium classroom capable of accommodating an entire law school class and continuing education conferences. The addition also will have room for the Office of Academic Success Programs, Career Services and

Alumni Development and student organizations.

"We have had to historically get a room on campus somewhere, like in biology or the College of Business, to have a place where we can put the entering class," Ramos said. "There are usually around 200 students, and we didn't have a room large enough. So, now we have 301 seats, including the balcony."

Ramos said every project on campus has an art budget, and the law school had an artist, Gordon Huether, design the art for the new Mark and Becky Lanier Professional Development Center.

"We were able to find an artist that was able to come up with a really interesting art concept that includes architectural forms from around campus, along with quotes from legal scholars and judges, such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Sandra Day O'Connor."

Ramos said the building allows the Tech School of Law a better venue for more programs and lectureship.

"The courtroom, for law students, is their laboratory," Ramos said. "They have mock trials, classes for trial advocacy and competitions. We are very



PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Toreador

THE MARK AND BECKY Lanier Professional Development Center, the new addition to the law school is scheduled to be completed April 22.

competitive and nationally recognized for being successful in the different tournaments and competitions. The Academic Success Program gives our

law students every opportunity to succeed. The mindset before was 'look to your left, look to your right, you may or may not see that person next year.'

We will have a library with additional study aids and tutors. Now, we want students to succeed." ashlie.wagganer@ttu.edu

Musharraf opponents agree to form new Pakistani government, restore judges

BHURBAN, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistan's election winners sealed an agreement Sunday to form a coalition government and said parliament would restore judges fired by President Pervez Musharraf — further clouding the U.S.-allied leader's political future.

In the capital, police fired tear gas at protesters who gathered outside the residence of the deposed Supreme Court chief justice to demand his reinstatement.

Asif Ali Zardari, the widower of slain opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, and former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, whose government was ousted in Musharraf's 1999 coup, announced their pact after talks at a resort town in the foothills of the Himalayas.

"The coalition partners are ready to form the government," Sharif said at a news conference, reading from a joint statement.

Zardari, seated alongside, said his party had signed the agreement in honor of Bhutto, who was assassinated in a suicide attack on Dec. 27, and her desire to put back Pakistan back on "the road to democracy."

Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party won 120 seats in the new 342-seat National Assembly, followed by Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-N with 90. The former ruling party aligned with Musharraf got just 51.

The two largest parties, both moderate and secular, have vowed to form a broad-based government, raising Western hopes of stability and renewed commitment

to fighting al-Qaida and Taliban militants.

However, they are devoting most of their energy to cutting back Musharraf's sweeping powers — a course the former military strongman seems unlikely to accept meekly.

Zardari and Sharif declared a breakthrough on two key issues: the makeup of the coalition and the future of the judiciary.

Sharif said his party would be part of a federal coalition led by the People's Party, which is expected to name its candidate for prime minister this week.

In return, Zardari agreed that the new parliament would pass a resolution within 30 days of convening to reinstate dozens of judges fired by Musharraf after he declared emergency rule on Nov. 3.

The leaders agreed that the judiciary would be restored "as it was on Nov. 2," suggesting that ousted Supreme Court Chief Justice Iftikhar Mohammed Chaudhry would return to his post.

But Zardari muddled the issue by saying that the current justices would not be "disturbed."

"I think we'll have to take a ... stance on this whereby we have a collective wisdom and accommodate everybody," Zardari said.

Musharraf first suspended Chaudhry on March 9, 2007, provoking persistent protests by lawyers that grew into a powerful pro-democracy movement.

The Supreme Court reinstated Chaudhry in July and was poised to rule on the disputed legality of

Musharraf's re-election as president when he fired the judges.

On Sunday, about 600 demonstrators marched on Chaudhry's Islamabad residence — where he has been under house arrest for four months — chanting "We want freedom."

Police fired tear gas after some protesters tried to cut through barbed wire at concrete barricades that block the entrance to the house.

Several thousand people, including labor union members and journalists, gathered peacefully in the southern city of Karachi also demanding that Musharraf step down.

"This is the verdict of the people of Pakistan," read one banner, referring to the outcome of the elections.

Texas teen in Afghanistan becomes 2nd woman since WWII to earn Silver Star

CAMP SALERNO, Afghanistan (AP) — A 19-year-old medic from Texas will become the first woman in Afghanistan and only the second woman since World War II to receive the Silver Star, the nation's third-highest medal for valor.

Army Spc. Monica Lin Brown saved the lives of fellow soldiers

after a roadside bomb tore through a convoy of Humvees in the eastern Paktia province in April 2007, the military said.

After the explosion, which wounded five soldiers in her unit, Brown ran through insurgent gunfire and used her body to shield wounded comrades as mortars fell

less than 100 yards away, the military said.

"I did not really think about anything except for getting the guys to a safer location and getting them taken care of and getting them out of there," Brown told The Associated Press on Saturday at a U.S. base in the eastern province of Khost.

Tech IT warns of instant messenger virus threat

The flu is not the only virus Texas Tech students need to worry about this season.

TTUNet security received a report of a computer virus threat that travels through instant messenger programs in the form of a hyperlink, according to a university news release.

Sam Segran, associate vice president of the Tech Information Tech-

nology Division, said this virus is not new, but the division is using it to remind students that there are harmful viruses on the Internet.

Though the virus has not been reported on campus, Segran said IT officials sent out the warning to keep students notified about Internet and computer safety.

While the Tech system is capable

of detecting and deterring this virus, he said, students need to keep their computers up-to-date to prevent getting their computers infected.

Segran said students should be careful of what links they click on while surfing the Internet, as there are "tens of thousands" of viruses in the Internet.

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Oreos perpetuate 'America's fat problem'

Oreos are the downfall of American Spring Break. I have become more aware of this fact as I continue to watch television commercials in the five minutes I have available each week for watching TV.

I watch advertisement after advertisement about treats inspired by this cream-stuffed cookie, and I begin to feel a new emotion that I have never felt about a food before.

Lust has reared its ugly head, and I now am obsessed with Oreos. With all the new products they are in, it is also impossible to avoid them.

The 44 varieties of Oreo-type product in the grocery store make it hard enough to forget the delicious snack, and this isn't even including the five ice-cream flavors. Even my own mother has joined the enemy and made it harder to give up these delicious treats by making pudding out of them, as well as the infa-

Melissa Medley



mous Oreo balls that are, in fact, better tasting than the name implies.

Now it seems as if every chain restaurant from Applebee's to Sonic has some form of Oreo-inspired dessert. So people have no choice but to eat too many Oreos and get out of shape.

Of course, the lack of exercise also could be a link to this tubby trend, but that is an unpleasant factor to focus on, considering that not exercising ultimately is the fault of the person not going to the gym. I prefer to blame all of my problems entirely on someone else.

So, if a person were to tell me all I had

to do was to stop eating as many Oreos or go to the gym to get back in shape, I would have a retort for them.

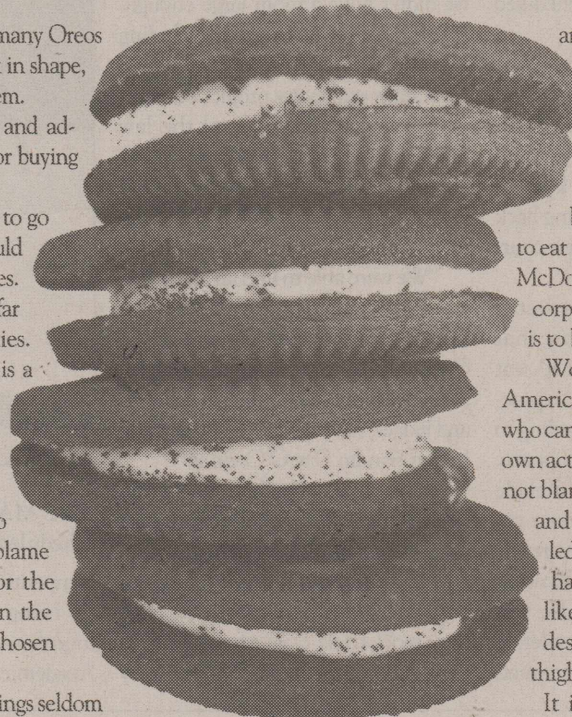
A: Oreos are delicious and addicting. I can't stop eating or buying them.

And B: If I were meant to go to the Rec Center, there would be more open parking spaces.

The Oreo problem goes far beyond Spring Break bodies.

The facts are that obesity is a killer. It has been known to be linked to heart disease — the No. 1 cause of death in the United States — as well as being linked to cancer. And we need to blame someone or something for the outrageous obesity rates in the United States, so I have chosen Oreos.

In American society, things seldom



are as popular as the scapegoat.

Oreos have been a popular junk food for generations, so it stands to reason that they are a large player in America's fat problem. We cannot blame the people who choose to eat the Oreos. The lawsuits against McDonald's have shown me it is the corporation, not the consumer, who is to blame for abuse of a product.

Won't corporations ever learn Americans are like petulant children who cannot be held responsible for their own actions? When we get fat, we cannot blame our own lack of self control and the overindulgent nature that led us there. McDonald's already has been under fire with movies like "Super Size Me," so I have designated Nabisco as my-large thighs' nemesis.

It is Nabisco's fault for making

cookies so delicious they must be put into all forms of desserts. They even made the Oreos seem healthier by removing the trans-fats in them. Now the American public is deceived into thinking Oreos are less fattening and better for them than before.

In the end, if Oreos are not the reason I do not have my bikini perfect body for Spring Break, I will find another reason.

It was all that One Guy's or beer at Bash's that gave me a gut, and not my own willingness to intake all those calories. Just like it is my professors' fault for giving me so much homework that I have been inside studying all day and cannot get a tan.

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

Thou art lost in religious transition

According to a recently released survey conducted by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, almost half of all American adults have left the religious tradition in which they were raised and either changed religions or left religious affiliations in general.

Based on interviews with more than 35,000 people, the study may reflect the changing scope of religion in America and an elementary shift in the religious framework of the country.

In the Woody Allen film "Hannah and Her Sisters," Allen's character is going through a spiritual crisis after a near-death experience, and as he's telling his Jewish father that he's converting to Catholicism, he asks, "But if there's a God, then why is there so much evil in the world? Just on a simplistic level, why were there Nazis?"

His father says, "How the hell do I know why there were Nazis? I don't know how the can opener works."

The struggle to answer questions with no real, definite answers has been at the core of religion since its conception, and though it has changed in principles and values over time, the reason for its existence always has remained pretty constant.

However, in an increasingly modernized world that places a higher value on science and technology than past societies, and with a growing movement within the country for change, the study

Jonathan Hanson



found "mainline Protestant churches are in decline, non-denominational churches are gaining, and the ranks of the unaffiliated are growing," confirming data from earlier studies.

Though the study may seem to suggest at first glance that Americans are moving away from religion, more likely than not, it's only suggesting that a growing number of Americans are leaving the idea of a religious affiliation.

The study showed that 25 percent of adults ages 18 to 29 had no affiliation with any religious institution. Those with no affiliation were said to make up roughly 12 percent of the population.

And though it's tempting to attribute the shift as a move toward atheism and agnosticism (making up about 4 percent of the population), the people who were interviewed said they described their religion as "nothing in particular," and about half of those said faith was "at least somewhat important to them," implying a move away from religious attachments rather than a lapse in religious belief altogether.

Yet, atheism and agnosticism both are growing groups, and they may be having some effect on the way people view their religious associations. The new atheism in particular — which is

much more aggressive and hostile towards religion than previous atheism — may be responsible, at least in part, for people feeling more comfortable leaving their parents' faiths.

Recent books such as "The God Delusion" by Richard Dawkins and "God is Not Great" by Christopher Hitchens both openly have attacked religion and have been highly successful best-sellers.

In "The God Delusion," the less argumentative of the two, Dawkins writes, "I suspect — well, I am sure — that there are lots of people out there who have been brought up in some religion or other, are unhappy in it, don't believe it or are worried about the evils that are done in its name; people who feel vague yearnings to leave their parents' religion and wish they could, but just don't realize that leaving is an option." Based on this new study, the people Dawkins describes are growing in number, though not necessarily all moving in the same direction.

Historically speaking, Europe is the best example we can look to as a model for where America may be headed in terms of religion. With our standards, values and ideals largely sharing their origins in European ancestry, the state of religion in Europe could serve as a predictor for where our attitudes toward faith are moving.

According to the Eurobarometer Poll in 2005, "52 percent of the citizens of European Union member states state that they believe in a God, 27 percent believe there is some sort of spirit or Life Force, while 18 per-

cent do not believe there is any sort of spirit, God or Life Force."

With church attendance in decline in Western Europe, but up in some parts of Eastern Europe, it largely can be assumed that, as a whole, much of Europe is becoming more secularized over time. This isn't to say many European countries will adopt atheism or agnosticism as their state religion.

Soviet Russia's official religion was atheism — their unofficial religion was irony — and since its collapse, Russia has seen minor growth of various religious movements.

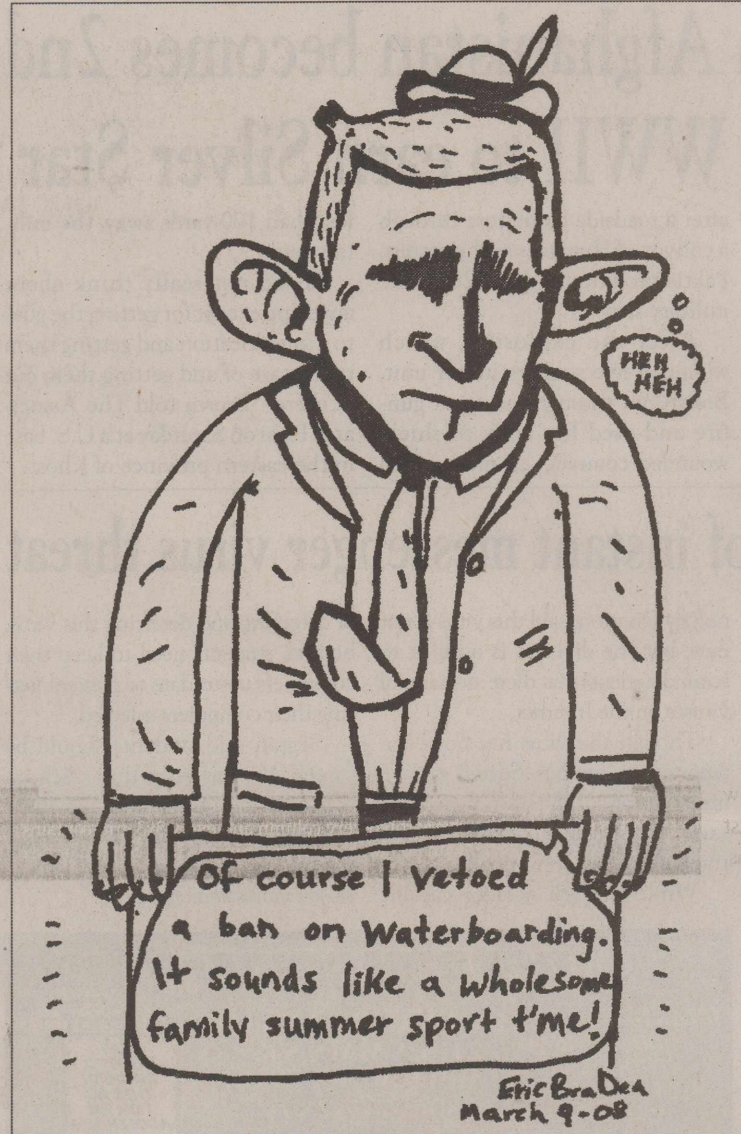
Yet before we all start throwing away our James Avery catalogues, we would do well to remember that Europe is a far older culture than our own, and if we, as a country, eventually do move to a more secularized, irreligious nation, it will not be for some time to come.

This may be only a single shift in a certain direction, like the Evangelical born-again movement that swept through Texas during the 1970s and '80s.

But if the study is indicative of the course religion is taking in America, then one day, our descendants may find themselves in a dramatically different America than the one we are used to.

And hopefully, by then, we'll all have learned how our can openers work.

■ Hanson is a senior political science major from Plano. E-mail him at Jonathan.hanson@ttu.edu.



Dollar should be coin only

By **ZACHARY BRADDOCK**
THE DAILY GAMECOCK (U. SOUTH CAROLINA)

(U-WIRE) COLUMBIA, S.C. — You may have seen them. They're a bit larger than a quarter, mostly golden or golden brown, though the older ones are silver. They're worth a dollar each because ... they're dollar coins.

The United States has long had the tradition of using dollar coins. The first one was minted in 1794, and they have been minted, when needed, throughout our nation's history.

Currently, there are several designs that circulate, although most often you will receive a Sacagawea dollar or one of the new presidential dollars.

But will you receive them? Probably not. I admit, I spend them more than I spend dollar bills, but I rarely ever receive them as change. As a cashier, I give them out when I get them, but that's rare as well.

Why the big deal over dollar coins?

Well, they're better for the environment than bills. Most bills last an average of 21 months, whereas a coin lasts 30 years. Less paper is used to print them, and less

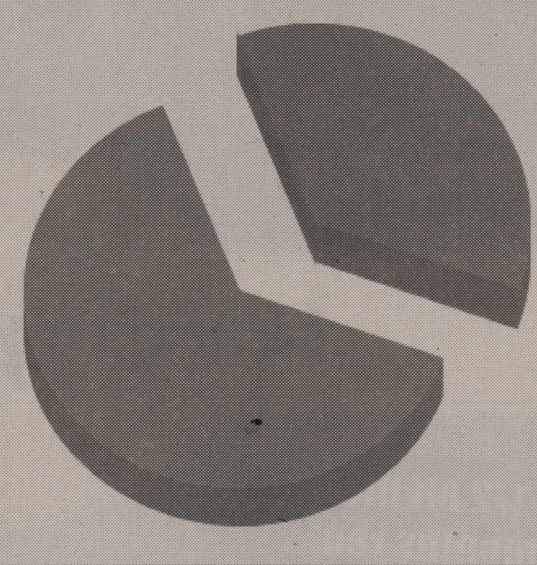
energy is spent producing them. For this reason, an astounding amount of money would be saved. It costs four cents to print a dollar bill. It costs twenty cents for a coin. Factor in the life of a bill versus the life of a coin, and the money adds up.

The dollar bill is paper, which means it's fibrous, and therefore can absorb germs, dirt and other things you really don't want to ingest. If you receive a dirty dollar bill, you can exchange it, but the bill itself is still dirty. However, with a dollar coin, all you have to do to clean it is run it under some warm water. Add soap if desired.

Granted, you probably won't be seeing these in your change anytime soon unless you get a cashier who gets some and wants to get rid of them. Until the dollar bill is gotten rid of, they won't see much circulation. That's what Canada and the United Kingdom have both realized. They've gone coin only for their one-unit currency.

So the next time you get a dollar coin in change, smile. You're saving your country money, you're saving the environment and you're reducing the chance of getting sick. That's a good combination, no?

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ODDBALL DAILY

Caught speeding on camera, police refuse to pay tickets

ROCKVILLE, Md. (AP) — No matter what the cameras say, some drivers are refusing to pay dozens of \$40 speeding fines.

Who? Police officers. In the last eight months of 2007, Montgomery County's new speed cameras recorded 224 cases in which police vehicles were recorded traveling more than 10 mph over the speed limit, according to department records.

Supervisors dismissed 76 of those citations after determining the officers were responding to calls or had valid reasons to break the speed limit.

But that left 148 who didn't have that excuse, and about two-thirds of those citations haven't been paid, said police Lt. Paul Starks.

The police union says officers shouldn't pay because the citations are issued to the owner of a vehicle, in this case the county, and not to the driver.

Police Chief Thomas Manger doesn't buy that argument. "We are not above the law," Manger said. "It is imperative that the police department hold itself to the same standards that we're holding the public to."

Manger said officers who continue to ignore citations might be disciplined.

NCAA tournament is good time for vasectomy

SPRINGFIELD, Ore. (AP) — For guys who park in front of the TV during college basketball's March Madness, the Oregon Urology Institute has a suggestion: Why not use that time to recover from a vasectomy?

"When March Madness approaches you need an excuse ... to stay at home in front of the big screen," the clinic's radio ad says. "Get your vasectomy at Oregon Urology Institute the day before the tournament starts. It's snip city."

Institute Administrator Terry FitzPatrick said men need two to four days to recover from the procedure — but not all take the time.

He's reserved a dozen appointment slots for March 19, the day before the first tipoffs of the NCAA Tournament, and another dozen for March 26, before the tournament's second week.

He reported filling 15 slots by Thursday afternoon and expects to fill all 24.

The sports radio station broadcasting the clinic's ads promises to send each patient a recovery kit of sports magazines, free pizza delivery and a bag of frozen peas.

Peas? "The frozen peas are malleable enough that you can get them right in there and get the swelling down," FitzPatrick said.

Cat survived in shipping crate from Singapore to Cleveland

CLEVELAND (AP) — A scrawny, black and white female kitten has apparently survived a trip across the Pacific Ocean and North America inside a shipping crate.

Cleveland Animal Protective League Executive Director Sharon Harvey says a Cleveland company that received the crate of spooled steel coil Friday found the kitten inside one of the spools.

Harvey says the mother cat and other kittens found in the crate were dead. The crate came to Samsel Supply Co. from Singapore. It was sealed Feb. 4 and shipped three days later.

The approximately 12-week-old kitten has been checked by a veterinarian and has responded well to being fed.

It will be kept in quarantine for about three weeks to make sure it doesn't pass any infectious disease to other animals.

Lawmaker wants 'King of Beers' to be state's official brew

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — A state lawmaker wants to give the "King of Beers" its own kingdom by making Budweiser the official beer of Missouri.

Budweiser is a Missouri-based international icon that — if officially recognized — might even persuade more people to visit the state, state Rep. Curt Dougherty said Friday.

"We've got a state dinosaur, a state frog, a state reptile, a state flower, a state nut, but no one has given a thought to a company that's been in Missouri for many, many years and is bringing prosperity to our state and manufacturing a product in our state that many people enjoy," Dougherty said.

Dougherty's bill was introduced last week but has not been referred to a House committee.

Budweiser has been made by St. Louis-based Anheuser-Busch Inc. since 1876. It's now produced in 12 regional breweries, though samples are flown daily to St. Louis for taste-testing.

The brand is already the "Official International Beer" sponsor of the 2008 Beijing Olympics and will be the "Official Beer" of the 2010 FIFA World Cup. Plus, it's an official sponsor for 26 professional baseball teams and 28 football teams.

In a statement released Friday, an executive for Anheuser-Busch said the legislation was "flattering" but not requested.

Missouri has 24 official symbols, most of which have been approved over the past 20 years. Lawmakers added four last year — the game bird (bobwhite quail), invertebrate (crayfish), reptile (turtle) and grass (big bluestem).

But when it comes to state-sanctioned drinks, Missouri is behind the times. So far, 27 states have given official designation to their favorite beverages. Most have opted for one that is less intoxicating and builds strong bones — milk.

Besides milk, states have picked orange juice, cranberry juice, tomato juice, water, Kool-Aid, coffee milk, South Carolina Grown Tea and the soft drink Moxie.

Competing for spotlight, raising money top McCain's agenda in coming weeks

PHOENIX (AP) — John McCain sees one downside to having clinched the Republican presidential nomination: There's less attention focused on him than on the volatile contest between Democrats Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama.

McCain understands he must compete for the spotlight. "I think it's going to be very exciting to watch," he said of the Democrats.

"It makes me have to work harder, obviously, to make sure that we maintain the visibility," McCain told reporters last week. "It's also, when we think about it, a very long time from March to November. That's a long trip."

McCain wrapped up the Republican nomination last Tuesday with victories in Ohio and Texas, but the Democratic primaries there put Clinton back into contention after 11 straight losses to Obama. Their contest, and the attention it commands, could last for months.

McCain, in the meantime, must transition from smaller, state-by-state primary campaigns to a national campaign that in some

ways is less suited to his style of campaigning.

The Arizona senator thrives in the smaller settings of primary campaign events where he can make eye contact and talk directly with voters.

That is how McCain staged his comeback two months ago in New Hampshire, where he held intimate, town hall-style meetings and held forth with journalists aboard his Straight Talk Express campaign bus.

But a general election calls for massive rallies with crowds in the thousands, a setting that is Obama's forte but is less fitting for McCain, a slightly monotone speaker with a softer, somewhat raspy voice.

McCain insists he will be able to continue his more personal style of campaigning, but he and his advisers are still working out how to do that.

Another focus in the coming weeks: raising money to compete with either Obama or Clinton in the general election.

"We can see the great job that our opponents have done in fund-

raising. We've got a lot of work to do," McCain said.

That seems an understatement considering the staggering amounts raised by the Democrats. Last month alone, Obama raised \$55 million, and Clinton \$35 million. McCain, in contrast, was on track to raise \$12 million, about the same as in January, according to his campaign.

McCain's schedule has been packed with fundraisers — he held five in two days last week — and he will continue to raise money next week during a swing through the Midwest and the Northeast.

As a thank-you to top fundraisers, McCain invited several to his ranch near Sedona, Ariz., for a barbecue on Saturday. He has done the same for governors and senators who are friends and supporters, and for journalists covering his campaign.

Another priority is finding a running mate. Once Texas and Ohio awarded him the delegates he needed for the nomination, attention turned to who that might be.

Obama sees good, bad to black support

CHICAGO (AP) — Barack Obama would not be leading the Democratic presidential race without the enthusiasm and high turnout of black voters.

They spearheaded his comeback win in South Carolina, where Obama trounced Hillary Rodham Clinton and John Edwards with the backing of four out of every five black voters. They provided his margin of victory in many other states, and will play a key role in Tuesday's primary in Mississippi, where Clinton is the underdog.

But Obama's campaign saw the limits of black support in last week's losses in Ohio and Texas, which kept Clinton's campaign alive. And the role black voters will play in the next big contest, Pennsylvania's April 22 primary, is unclear.

Moreover, some analysts think it's possible Obama's heavy black support is nudging some working-class white Democrats into Clinton's camp. If true, it could be an important factor in a contest that remains remarkably tight after a year of campaigning.

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'A Streetcar Named Desire' comes to Maedgen Theatre

By BRIDGET DE STEFANO
STAFF WRITER

Students of the Department of Theatre and Dance performed Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire" at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Maedgen Theatre. Director Jim Bush captured the true essence of the classic 1948 drama of Blanche DuBois and Stanley Kowalski.

"A Streetcar Named Desire" is a Pulitzer prize-winning play that displays grave issues ever-present in today's society: family violence, alcoholism, betrayal, social isolation and rape.

Blanche, played by Connie DiGrazia, is a proclaimed Southern belle, who leaves her home of Laurel, Miss., to stay unexpectedly with her sister Stella and Stella's husband, Stanley, in New Orleans. Stanley, played by Jerred Tochtermann, is a hardworking Polish man who likes

to drink beer and play poker with his buddies, with no interruptions. Stella, played by Cheramie Howe, is the submissive wife and mediator between Stanley and Blanche.

The couple is faced with a rude awakening when Stanley discovers that Blanche has lied about her whereabouts and relationships over the years. He reveals to Stella that Blanche did not resign from her teaching career — instead she was fired for having sexual relations with a 17-year-old student.

However, Blanche continues to deny these accusations and reject

the realities of life, while creating irreparable problems for the married couple. After much violence and rage, Stella and Stanley decide to send Blanche off with doctors to the psychiatric ward.

Students, parents and season ticket holders all gathered to hear Stanley famously holler "Stella!" up the stairs. Jessica Jean, a senior political science major from Bedford, read "A Streetcar Named

Desire" in high school and was eager to see it performed live.

"Blanche is doing a great job," Jean said. "I saw a play here last year,

but this one is much better."

As Thursday was opening night, nerves were at an ultimate high for the actors and director. Yet, the students gave a powerful and fluid performance, setting the bar high for the three remaining shows.

Bush greatly was pleased with the first performance. Audience members gathered to congratulate Bush on a job well done.

"We really knocked ourselves out of the ballpark with this one," he said. "I am so proud of everyone tonight."

When speaking about his actors' ages and qualifications, Bush said, "I don't pay attention to those things; the main criteria I look for is — can they act?"

"A Streetcar Named Desire" also was performed on Friday and Saturday evenings, and Sunday afternoon.

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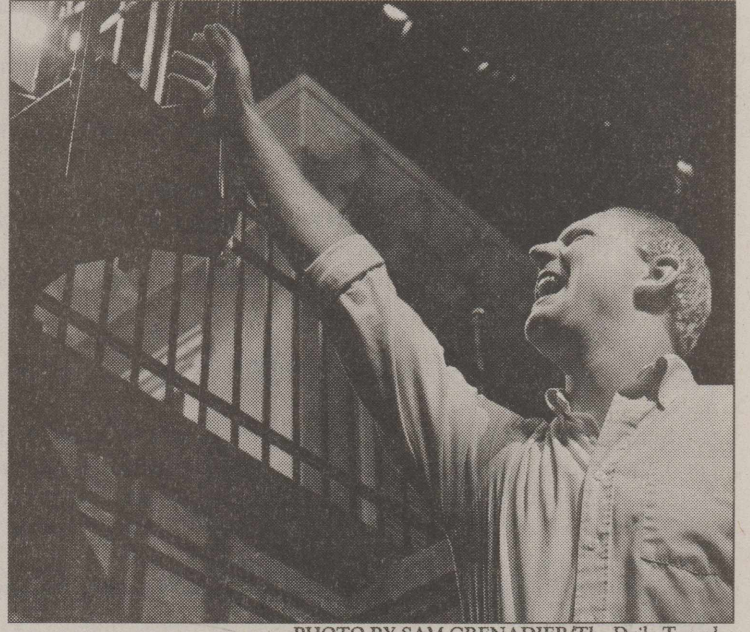


PHOTO BY SAM GRENIER/The Daily Toreador

JERRED TOCHTERMAN, A senior theatre major from Andrews, plays Stanley Kowalski in "A Streetcar Named Desire." The play ran in the Maedgen Theatre through Saturday with showings at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

George

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

members, all natives to the South, gave an energetic performance before Strait's introduction.

The crowd roared as Strait walked out to "Deep in the Heart of Texas"

and joined his 11-person "Ace in the Hole Band" on stage. Strait moved from corner to corner, where four microphones stood along with thousands of screaming fans, waiting to get a glimpse of him.

Women of all ages reached their hands out to Strait for a handshake, to give him gifts — yellow roses were

common — or possibly to catch a drop of sweat off of his brow. Men were dressed in their finest cowboy attire: Pearl-snap shirts, cowboy boots and hats and, of course, Wrangler blue jeans.

George played many of his No. 1, chart-topping hits, including "Ocean Front Property," "I Hate Everything," "Check Yes or No," "Amarillo by Morning" and "The Chair." The 56-year-old also played a few songs off of his most recent album, "It Just Comes Natural."

As a born-and-raised Texan,

Strait paid tribute to the Lone Star State with historic Texas images flashing on the big screens, including the state capital, the Fort Worth stock yards, an Austin city limit sign and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The last images were of Texas Tech symbols and the Red Raider "guns up," which made fans love Strait even more.

Strait commented that Lubbock fans were "a great crowd." The screams and flashing cameras never ended, and Strait continued to strum his acoustic guitar and sing on tune

until the very end.

After a one-hour 20-minute show, Strait thanked Lubbock and the fans for letting him play, and he finished up with an unexpected encore of Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues."

Amanda Belz, a law student from McDade, is a die-hard fan and was very pleased with Strait's performance.

"He put on a great show," Belz said. "My favorite songs were 'How Bout Them Cowgirls' and 'Amarillo by Morning.'"

Many of the audience members

were seeing the country singer for the first time and were pleasantly surprised at how well Strait did.

Andrea Marquez, a junior energy commerce major from Houston, was blown away by his show, calling it "the best concert ever."

"This show tops all of the rodeo performances I have ever seen back in Houston," Marquez said.

The legendary country musician certainly amplified the talent for this month's rodeo season and left Lubbock fans more than satisfied.

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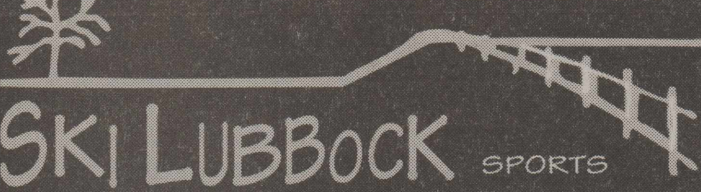
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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS
1 Cut ruthlessly
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14 In the past
15 Colorado brewery
16 Sale caveat
17 Ernestine's creator
19 Part of a list
20 Sault Marie
21 Has aspirations
22 Hit single's companion
23 Crisp fabric
25 Brit's indignant comment
27 Property claim
28 Upscale department store, briefly
32 My bad!
35 Sea of Israel
36 Opinion
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38 Francis and Dahl
42 Greek
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46 — fix (obsession)
47 Stare open-mouthed
48 Dawdled
52 Unspoken
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57 1011
58 Cracked open
59 Porky's girlfriend
61 "Communist Manifesto" author Marx
62 Michaels of "SNL"
63 Pastrami purveyor
64 Former mates
65 Basketry willow
66 Menu plan

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44 Writer Jones
49 Mile High Center architect
50 Napoleon's punishment
51 Finger or toe
52 Make off with
53 Trojan War hero
54 Give a hoot
56 Italian bell town
59 Middle East grp.
60 Contribute

Friday's Puzzle Solved
ABBOT TAC INAPT
GRAPH OTO NICER
EATER OSE FERDE
ROCKEFELLERS
KAWABATA LASSOS
NNE SRO ABT
ONES CROOKING
PAPERBACKWRITER
FLYWHEEL TERI
EAR YAM MVP
ASWOON VANESSAS
SCISSORSKICK
HOLST ILL CINCH
ENTIA MGM AMICE
RESET ENA SPACE

By Verna Sult
Silver Spring, MD
3/10/08



PHOTO BY JESSICA RIVERA/The Daily Toreador

GEORGE STRAIT PERFORMS for a sold out crowd at the United Spirit Arena Friday night.

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, ... but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. — 2 Peter 3:9 NKJV

Daily Proverbs
3/10 - Pr 10:3; 3/11 - Pr 11:3; 3/12 - Pr 12:3
3/13 - Pr 13:3; 3/14 - Pr 14:3

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'Dim Lit Daylight' speaks about diversity in music

With Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico all within a close proximity reach, Lubbock is sure to attract a diverse selection of artists stopping through town on their way somewhere else. Friday night at Harrigan's Bar and Grill, one such band made an appearance — taking time to visit us all the way from Pasadena, Calif.

Using a voice born for radio and making it more pop by the use of falsetto ranges — and songs you might someday find on a "One Tree Hill" soundtrack — Dim Lit Daylight showed Lubbock what West Coast music is all about.

Not unlike the local band Spivey, Dim Lit Daylight sports only two people. Bassist Anthony Montanino and guitarist Joshua Free sing and play with effects at the same time. More often than not, they sounded like a full band playing.

The technique they used to create this sound was quite different. Free attached an iPod to the front of his guitar and linked through his effects as well, so that with the touch of a button, they could play against previously recorded tracks from their days in the studio — unusual, but very effective.

Dim Lit Daylight has been touring around the country for nearly three years straight, taking time only to stop in at the studio to record albums; they currently are

Chelsea Roe



making headway on their third. The band has made some selections available for free download through MySpace, supporting the digital media movement to make music more easily available.

Harrigan's could just be the perfect place for intimate open mic nights, but agreeably, it might not have been their target market to play on that particular night.

They were just two guys, sitting on stools, truly connecting to their own music and hoping to open someone's eyes to a different sound.

"We played with a little less trying to compete with the volume," Free said.

Roe: "What's been your experience in Lubbock when you've come through before? Why Lubbock to begin with?"

Montanino: "It's part of our loop. We've been traveling through West Texas."

Free: "Something we've noticed is that, every time we come here, there's a split group. There's just some who aren't about it at all, but they are still kind and appreciate what we do. It's just not their style. But then we have people that are grateful and are like 'Oh my God, I can't believe you came here.'"

Free is definitely on to something now — the interests in Lubbock are ranged more widely than you'd expect from a town in the middle of nowhere, yet the lack of enthusiasm from patrons actually making it out to see the shows can make Lubbock its own worst enemy too.

Free: "I guess the answer to that, though, is the more places you can get yourself, the better — regardless of where it is — because nobody has access to all of the major media outlets. The more people are exposed to different types of music, the more the market opens up. Very much a part of it is someone in the local scene opening up and saying, 'Hey, here's maybe something outside the scope of your experience.'"

Montanino: "We come to play our best, even if there's only a few people."

Free: "Like you said before, if the scene is going to grow here, it has to be able to embrace all types of music."

I leave you with one last thought, Lubbock. East Coast, West Coast, rock, country, tribal, reggae, rap, hip-hop — it's all right here in our own city, and though it may not be one person's particular style, Lubbock can — at the right times — be quite accepting of diversity.

As the underground scene continues to blow up, open yourselves to the idea of experiencing the differences each new artist possesses. Who knows? You might just find something you never thought you'd like, right around the next corner.

■ **Chelsea Roe** *The DT's* music critic. E-mail her at chelsea.l.roe@ttu.edu.

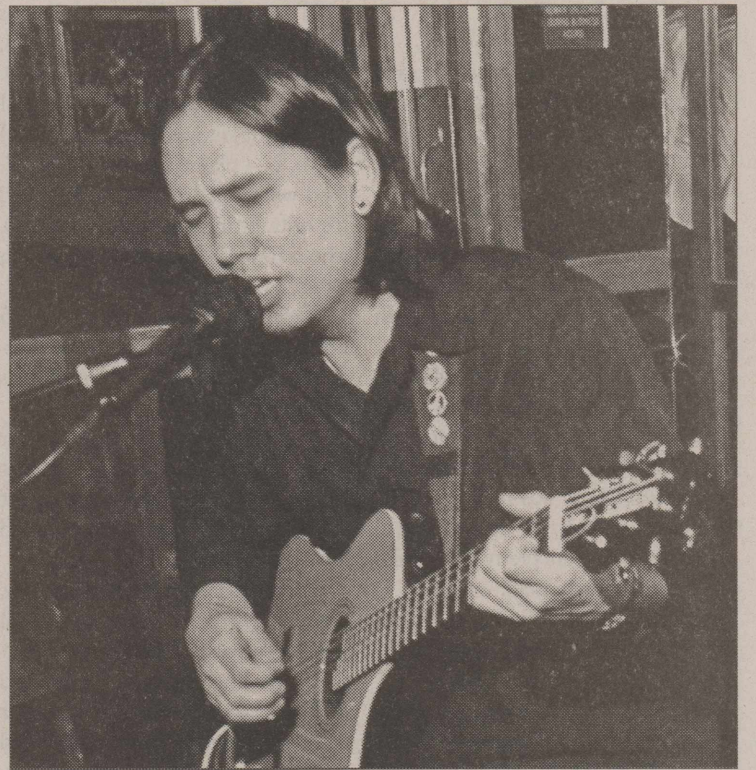


PHOTO BY JESSICA RIVERA/The Daily Toreador
DIM LIT DAYLIGHT headlined at Harrigan's Bar and Grill Friday night.

“Something we've noticed is that everytime we come here there's a split group.”

— JOSHUA FREE
GUITARIST
DIM LIT DAYLIGHT

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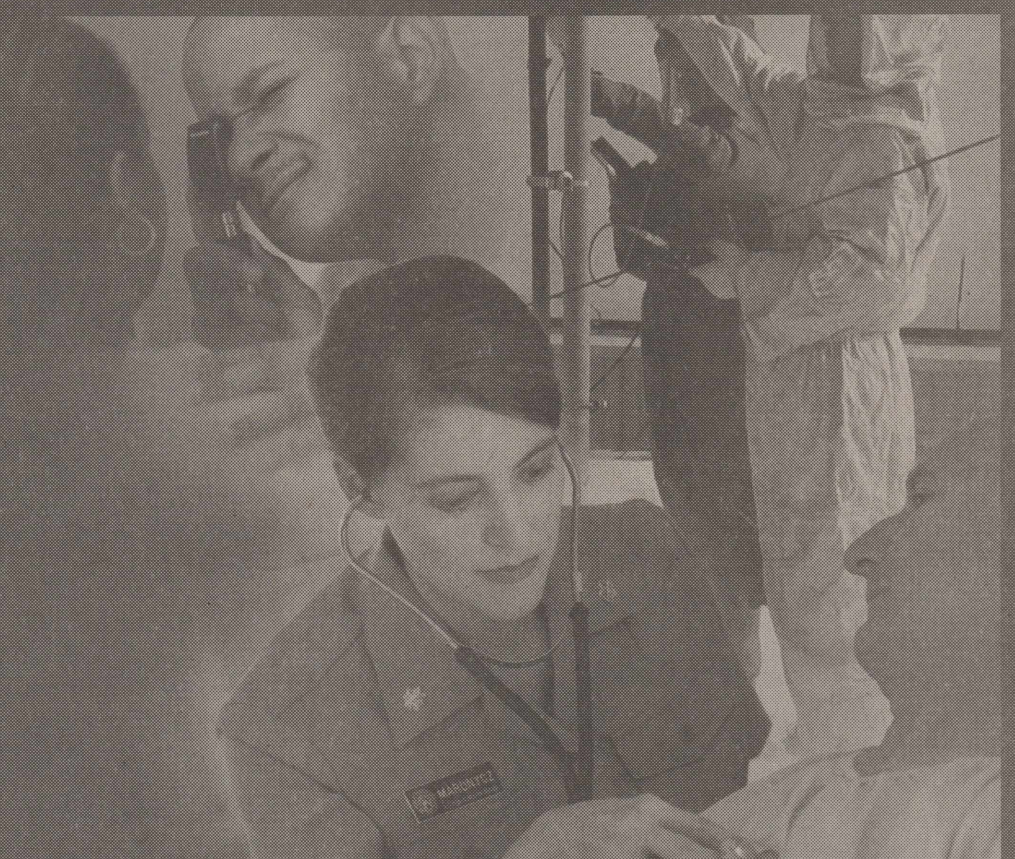
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Tech cruises past No. 37 Denver for 7th straight win

By KEVIN CULLEN
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech men's tennis team won in decisive fashion on a windy Saturday at the McLeod Tennis Complex against No. 37 Denver University 5-2.

While Tech's day may have started out on the wrong foot by losing the doubles point, they won the first four singles matches, putting the match away.

"I was very disappointed with the way we played doubles," Tech coach Tim Siegel said. "At the same time, we came out in singles and won first sets right away. That was really, I think, the turning point; that we were able to change momentum pretty fast. This is a very important win for us."

Siegel said he told his team not to celebrate too much because of the daunting schedule ahead of them.

"Sunday and Monday, we gotta come out and get ourselves ready for Tuesday," he said. "Tuesday we leave for the Blue-Gray, which is a 16-team tournament. We could be the sixth or seventh highest team there, maybe the 10th. So it's gonna be very strong, and we gotta do well."

The match's deciding singles point was delivered by junior Michael Breler who beat Denver's Kalle Rosen 6-1, 7-5. The win kept his record untarnished at 12-0.

"It felt good," Breler said. "Denver is a really good team. I had no idea what the score was at that point, but all my teammates came, and I figured if I won my match, we would get the match. It's a good win."

Siegel said he was pleased with the production he got from some players

who had been struggling.

"I'm really proud," he said. "It was good to see our No. 3 and No. 5 guys, Ilya (Babinciuc) and Lenny (Ramos). They've had a tough spring so far. I thought the key was Sinisa (Markovic) at No. 2 — played very well at No. 2. And what can I say about Michael? It's only fitting that our No. 6 guy, who is now 12-0, clinched the match for us."

Tech's No. 1 singles player, No. 35 Bojan Szumanski, struggled on Saturday, failing to win a match in doubles and singles play.

Szumanski and Christian Rojmar entered the match as the No. 2 doubles team in the nation and went up against the No. 9 duo of Adam Holmstrom and Niklas Persson.

The match was tight the entire way, with the two duos trading points until Denver outpaced Tech 8-6.

In his singles match, Szumanski took on Holmstrom, the No. 12 singles player in the nation. Szumanski started off by getting himself into an early hole, losing the first set 6-3. He was frustrated with his play, yelling at himself many times, even punching his own racket, which resulted in minor medical treatment later in the match. He won the second set 7-5 and jumped out to a 4-1 lead in the third set, only to see his opponent come back to win 7-5.

"Bojan has had a great spring," Siegel said. "He has won maybe three matches this spring that if he doesn't win, we don't win. Last weekend, he won twice. This match was a tough match because Adam Holmstrom is one of the best players in the country. Bojan didn't lose this match, he played one average game at five-all, I wish he'd had that game back. He was up 4-1, but

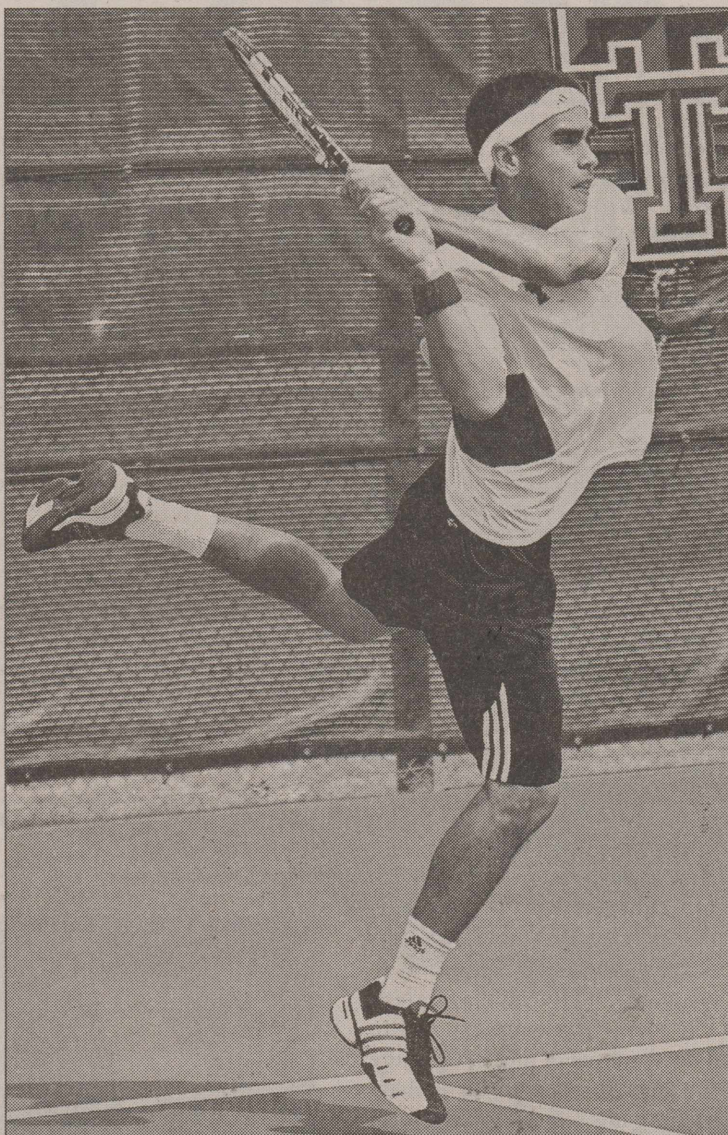


PHOTO BY JESSICA RIVERA/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH JUNIOR Michael Breler returns a serve against Denver Saturday at the McLeod Tennis Center.

it wasn't like he was in the driver's seat 'cause this guy is a great player."

Markovic won his match against Persson 6-3, 6-4. Babinciuc beat An-

drew Landwerlen 6-2, 6-4 in the No. 5 spot. Ramos, playing in the No. 3 spot, beat David Simson 6-3, 6-4.

▶ kevin.cullen@ttu.edu

Nolan Ryan: Baseball "turned its back" on steroid problem

ARLINGTON (AP) — Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan said Saturday that baseball was finally addressing the use of steroids and performance-enhancing drugs by major leaguers after previously ignoring the problem.

In one of Ryan's first public appearances since being hired as Texas Rangers team president last month, the career strikeout leader said he is confident the sport will find a solution.

"Baseball turned its back on the problem and ignored it," Ryan said. "Anytime you realize you have a problem, the longer you go without addressing that problem, then when you do decide to address it, the tougher it is to do. I think that's where we are with baseball."

Ryan spoke to about 300 fans attending an open house at The Ballpark at Arlington. He took about a dozen questions, including

whether he thought baseball could solve the steroids problem itself or if federal intervention was needed.

"It's painful to go through. But I feel like we are headed in the right direction," Ryan said. "We will get a handle on it. How soon will that be? I don't know. But I think it will be in the near future and (performance-enhancing drugs) will be something in our history."

Ryan spent 27 major league seasons with the New York Mets, Angels, Houston Astros and Rangers before retiring in 1993. He threw seven no-hitters, won 324 games and was a first-ballot Hall of Famer.

The 61-year-old Ryan was hired with the hope he could help turn around a franchise that has finished no better than third in the AL West since 2000. He had previously worked for the Astros as a special assistant to Houston general manager Ed Wade, scouting players and holding pitching camps.

Hicks angry with Dubai bidders in trying to seize Liverpool

GLENEAGLES, Scotland (AP) — Liverpool co-owner Tom Hicks launched an angry attack Saturday on the Dubai consortium battling for control of the English Premier League club, criticizing its behavior during negotiations.

Dubai International Capital agreed late Friday to cede to Hicks' condition that his Anfield partner George Gillett Jr. would be limited to selling 98 percent of his stock, equating to 49 percent of Liverpool, which beat Newcastle 3-0 on Saturday.

But Hicks told The Associated Press that he's upset with DIC's lead negotiator Amanda Staveley, saying she has been leaking private correspondence between the pair to the British media.

"If she thinks that is an appropriate way to acquire a stake in Liverpool FC, she had better think again," Hicks said in a statement to the AP.

The heightened dispute was a blow to fans' hopes that a partnership breakthrough could restore stability to the club after months of turmoil.

"As for Amanda Staveley, who has a reputation for being pretty smart, she should know better than to publicly put words in my mouth, particularly words that she knows, or should know, perfectly well aren't true," Hicks said. "She should also know better than to release actual copies of my private correspondence to the press."

Staveley, who could not be reached for comment, has also said that DIC, the investment arm of the Dubai government, would try to dominate Hicks by bankrolling

the club with its superior financial clout, and pledged to work on forcing Hicks into selling his 50 percent stake.

Hicks insisted that no deal has been brokered with DIC and that it faced competition to acquire even a minority stake.

"DIC is one of several potential minority investors we are or will be talking to," he said.

This week Hicks rebuffed DIC's \$993 million bid for the whole club. That would have included paying off the refinancing package Americans Hicks and Gillett negotiated in January for the loan used to purchase the Reds.

Instead, in the short term, DIC is resigned to working with Hicks.

"Subject to renegotiation of a partnership agreement and subject to the stringent minority shareholder protection rights we would be prepared to accept a 49 percent shareholding in Liverpool FC," said Staveley, who works for financial advisory firm PCP Capital Partners. "We have decided that this arrangement provides the best possible solution to the situation and would be in the best interests of the club and their loyal fans."

Hicks is on the verge of acquiring a majority interest by buying 2 percent of Gillett's stock and is insistent on not relinquishing his position. But DIC's determination to gain full control hasn't wavered.

"Tom Hicks knows that in the long run we will be 100 percent owners of the club, but we are prepared to play a waiting game," Staveley said in comments that angered Hicks. "We will be able to pay the price for the financing of the club and construction of a new stadium."

Marion Jones enters federal prison, begins 6 months behind bars

DALLAS (AP) — Marion Jones began her six-month sentence in federal prison Friday, punishment for lying to investigators about using performance-enhancing drugs and her role in a check-fraud scam.

The former Olympic track star turned herself in before noon Friday at Federal Medical Center Carswell,

located on the Naval Air Station, Joint Reserve Base in Fort Worth, Bureau of Prison spokeswoman Traci Billingsley said.

Under the terms of her sentencing, she had until Tuesday to surrender to prison officials.

Although the prison specializes in medical and mental health services, it

also has inmates who do not require such care. Billingsley said she could not comment on whether Jones was receiving specialized care.

Jones won three gold and two bronze medals in the 2000 Sydney Olympics, becoming perhaps the most famous and marketable female athlete in the world.

After frequently denying ever having used performance-enhancing drugs, Jones admitted she had lied to federal investigators in November 2003. Jones also admitted lying about her knowledge of the involvement of Tim Montgomery, the father of her older son, in a scheme to cash millions of dollars worth of stolen or forged checks.

Jones was sentenced in January to six months of prison time and 400 hours of community service in each of the two years following her release. She was sentenced to six months on the steroids case and two months on the check fraud case, but was permitted to serve those sentences concurrently.

Federal Judge Kenneth Karas imposed the maximum sentence suggested in Jones' plea deal, ignoring her lawyers' request for a probation-only sentence. The check-fraud scheme was a major crime, and the wide use of steroids "affects the integrity of athletic competition," the judge said.

MONDAY MARCH 10, 2008							
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7 AM	Curious	Today Sched-uled from "Hori-ton Hears a Who," actor Jim Carrey; "Ameri-can Idol" judges Randy Jackson and Paula Abdul perform. (HD)	The Early Show	Copeland (5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	J. Hanna	Paid Programs Sponsored.
8 AM	Super Why	Dragon	Sesame Street	The 700 Club	Cristina	Wilkos	Regis & Kelly
9 AM	Big World	Word	The Price Is Right	Divorce	Temptation	The View (HD)	The Morning Show
10 AM	Barney	Jeopardy	Resilient (HD)	Alex	Divorce	Paid Programs	Tyra Banks Show
11 AM	Callou	Crosswords	News	Jerry Springer	Cosby	All My Children	Feud
12 PM	Gary Spetz	Days of Our Lives	Beautiful	Jerry Springer	Roseanne	One Life to Live	The People's Court
1 PM	Place	Jeopardy	As the World	Jerry Springer	Roseanne	Degrassi	General Hospi-tal
2 PM	Teletub	Crosswords	Guiding Light	Paid Programs	All of Us	I Like	Judge Mathis
3 PM	Betw. Lion	Inside	Reading	Oprah Winfrey	Brown	Maury	Reba
4 PM	Clifford	Dr. Phil	Judy	Maury	Wilkos	Rachael Ray	News
5 PM	Maya	News	News	TMZ	Standing	News	Raymond
6 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	News	Access	Standing	News	Simpsons
7 PM	NewsHour (HD)	Wheel	Million.	(HD)	Queens	ET	Two & 1/2
8 PM	Forever Tango	My Dad is Better	How I Met Christine	Celebrity Exposé	Gossip Girl (HD)	Bachelor: Where	Canterbury's Law
9 PM	Historic Pubs of Dublin	Deal or No Deal	Two & 1/2 Christine	Paradise Hotel 2	Pussycat "Style"	October Road	New Amsterdam
10 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	News	70s	Will (HD)	News	Two & 1/2
11 PM	Charlie Rose	The Tonight Show	(35) Late Show	King	Will (HD)	Nightline	Seinfeld
12 AM	Destinos	(35) Late Show	Late Late Show	Wife	Bernie	(36) Jimmy Kimmel	Friends
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Seals earns Big 12 Newcomer of Year

By ALEX YBARRA
STAFF WRITER

In her first year after transferring from South Plains College in Lubbock, Lady Raider junior forward Dominic Seals made the transition to Division I basketball look as smooth as her game on the court.

The coaches were right on the money when they named Seals the Preseason Newcomer of the Year prior to the first game of the season.

Seals was voted the 2007-08 Big 12 Newcomer of the Year in the Phillips 66 All-Big 12 Conference Women's Basketball Awards Friday.

The awards were voted on by Big 12 head coaches, who could not vote for their own players.

The Dallas native also was selected to the Second Team All-Big 12 and named to the Big 12 All-Rookie Team.

"I guess it's a pleasure, coming from JuCo (to) playing in the big leagues," Seals said, with a smirk on her face. "Getting honors like this, it's good."

Seals recorded eight double-doubles and led her team with averages of 13.8 points and 8.4 rebounds per game during the regular season.

Tech coach Kristy Curry said Seals' season had its ups and downs — mostly ups — and Curry called Seals "the ultimate team player" who added a lot of intangibles to the team.

"I know that she gives her teammates a lot of credit; she's brought a work ethic and a passion and desire to improve and be better," Curry said. "I've said this all along; she's only scratched the surface and she's gonna continue to grow and be better, and

it's just an honor that's well-deserved for her."

The awards created a positive outlook on an otherwise disappointing season for the Lady Raiders, who began the season 12-1 before finishing 4-13.

Seals said the awards would have been a nice side dish to a better season, but with a handful of newcomers, the experience still needs to improve.

"I believe that everybody on our team really wanted to work hard," she said, "but it's just that we're all young, and we all needed to develop and get the feel for the Big 12, and I think we're gonna have that feeling next year."

Seals had arguably her best game Jan. 20, when she scored 27 points and grabbed 14 rebounds to help Tech to a 70-58 win over then-ranked No. 20 Texas.

In the next several games, however, Tech and Seals were

connected at the hip. In losses against OU, Texas A&M and Baylor, where Seals failed to score more than nine points, promptomg Curry to challenge Seals to become more aggressive and overcome the adversity she faced in each game.

Seals said she realized that her finesse style of play can work for her rather than against her.

"Coach always tells me that if I'm not stronger than my opponent, then I have the quickness, and I have the speed to beat them," she said. "I really don't have to just sit there and battle with everybody, I can just use my quickness and go around people and just jump over people, because that's the ability that I have."

Guard Jordan Murphree said Seals



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH JUNIOR Dominic Seals was named the 2007-08 Big 12 Newcomer of the Year and the Big 12 All-Rookie Team.

did not miss a beat, considering that she was the team's top scorer in a conference with the top RPI in the nation.

"I think she's done a great job coming in from South Plains, and coming into one of the better conferences in Division I," Murphree said. "I think she's done a great job, offen-

sively, being our go-to player."

Tech (16-14, 4-12 in Big 12 play) will try to snap a nine-game losing streak on the road against UT in the first round of the 2008 Phillips 66 Big 12 Women's Basketball Championship at 6 p.m. Tuesday in Kansas City, Mo.

► daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu

Kansas tops Texas A&M 72-55, clinches at least share of Big 12

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Kansas coach Bill Self is OK with sharing the Big 12 title.

Mario Chalmers and Darrell Arthur both scored 16 points and No. 5 Kansas (28-3, 13-3) beat Texas A&M 72-55 on Saturday to clinch at least a share of its fourth straight regular-season title. Many of the Jayhawks held up four fingers as the final seconds ticked off the clock.

Although Self graduated from Oklahoma State, he expects No. 9 Texas to beat the Cowboys on Sunday and tie his team for the title.

"I love my alma mater ... (but) I think Texas will win," Self said. "They don't lose at home very often. It's certainly not a slap in anyone's face to share it with another team that I think has the chance to win a national championship, because I do think Texas could eventually be that good."

It marks the sixth time in school history Kansas has won four straight conference titles and the first since 1995-98. The Jayhawks have been league champions eight times in the short history of the Big 12 and this extends their NCAA record of conference titles to 51.

Self said he thinks this span of four championships is more impressive than some of the others because this group didn't have the blue chip recruits or surefire NBA lottery picks some in the past have.

"This was just a solid group of guys and they play to their talent level and they maximize their abilities," he said. "To win four in a row in such a competitive league is remarkable."

The Jayhawks led by 10 points at halftime and took advantage of poor second-half shooting by Texas A&M (22-9, 8-8) to stay on top throughout the second half and cruise to their fourth straight win.

Samuel Peter stops Oleg Maskaev in 6th for WBC heavyweight title

CANCUN, Mexico (AP) — Samuel Peter let out a joyous cry as he left the Mexican bullfighting ring with the WBC heavyweight title belt draped over his hulking shoulders.

The Nigerian Nightmare had finally achieved his sweetest dream, winning his first championship after years as a promising prospect. He did it with no matador theatrics — just the blistering punches that make him the heavyweight division's most exciting coming attraction.

Peter stopped Oleg Maskaev in the final seconds of the sixth round Saturday night, claiming Maskaev's belt with one last punishing flurry of powerful blows.

Peter (30-1, 23 KOs) is widely

considered the next big heavyweight in a division that desperately needs a dynamo, but his progression was slowed by politics, a few tame performances and Maskaev's injuries that forced this bout to be postponed from October. After all that waiting, nothing could stop Peter when he finally got in the ring with the 39-year-old champion.

"I knew he can't stand my power," Peter said, still dripping with sweat and years of disrespect. "I'm the best heavyweight in the world. I'm undisputed. I can beat anyone. All of them are going down."

Peter's coronation was viewed by a lively sellout crowd at Plaza de Toros, the unlikely site of boxing-mad Mexico's first heavyweight title fight.

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Tech loses to Baylor 86-73, Knight doubts postseason possibilities

By ADAM COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

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Texas A&M ruined Baylor's Senior Night Wednesday, handing the Bears a 71-57 loss.

Baylor (21-9, 9-7 in Big 12 Conference) made sure it did the same to Texas Tech (16-14, 7-9), giving the Red Raiders an 86-73 loss Saturday at the United Spirit Arena and a steeper hill to climb for the goal of postseason play.

The Bears were led by freshman LaceDarius Dunn, who put on perhaps the best performance of his young career. Dunn earned a career-high 38 points on 6-of-9 3-point shooting and 12-of-13 free-throw shooting.

"Texas Tech always does a great job

at home," Baylor coach Scott Drew said. "They were emotional and ready to play, as always. Really credit to our team for hanging in there first half, and then second half, we got on a roll. I think LaceDarius Dunn showed why he's such an explosive scorer. I wish he would've just told me before the game he was going to do that, and I could relax the whole time."

Dunn scored 24 of his 38 points in the second half, pushing a Baylor team that was down 37-36 at the half to the win. His total was the highest by a

Baylor player since Darryl Middleton's 38 points against Rice in 1988. Dunn's performance also ranks sixth in Baylor history for most points in a game. It also is the highest point total by a freshman in Baylor history.

"I want to credit my guards for finding me," Dunn said. "I had the hot hand, so they just tried their best to find me in transition. I just took the best of it."

In the first half, the Bears were keeping up with the Red Raiders, giving themselves a chance heading into the second half.

Dunn's previous high this season was 27 points against Brown on Jan. 8. He fell one 3-point bucket shy of tying his career-high for most 3-pointers made in a game.

Tech coach Pat Knight said the fact Dunn is only a freshman should make others aware of his future in the Big 12.

"You gotta give the kid credit," Knight said. "It's not like he took bad shots. He was just hitting shots. He drives the ball. Gets to the free-throw line, rebounds. He had a really good, unbelievable performance. This kid's an all-conference player. I really think this kid's future is really bright in this league."

Tech seniors Martin Zeno, Charlie Burgess and Tyler Hoffmeister ended their last game at the USA on a sour note.

Zeno finished the game with 27 points. Burgess earned a double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds. Hoffmeister earned his first start as a Red Raider and finished without scoring.

Zeno finished his Tech career in fifth place with 1,906 points, passing Cory Carr on the all-time scoring list for the Red Raiders.

Tech guard Alan Voskuil had no points after 0-for-6 shooting.

"I'm really disappointed for our three seniors," Knight said. "That's the main thing. I was hoping we could win the last one for them and let them have a good memory."

With the loss, the Red Raiders now face the Big 12 Tournament starting Thursday.

With a few wins in the Big 12 Tournament, the Red Raiders still have a chance to make the NIT Tournament. Winning the Big 12 Tournament will give the Red Raiders an automatic bid in the NCAA Tournament.



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH FRESHMAN Guard John Roberson attempts a layup, while Baylor defender Kevin Rogers tries to block the attempt during Tech's 86-73 loss to the Bears Saturday in the United Spirit Arena.

Knight said there is no use in aiming high in the Big 12 Tournament, as he knows his team is not ready to complete such a goal.

"This team, we're not going to make it to the championship," he said. "We're not going to win the Big 12 Tournament. We're just not very good. We're

not good enough to do that. I'm not going to sit here and sugar-coat it and give my team false confidence. This isn't a team that you can give big goals like that. This team's mindset, they have to have small goals. We have to win the first one. Our goal is to get to the NIT, if we can get there. The NCAA

(Tournament) is not going to happen for this team. This team's not mature enough from a mental standpoint, it's obvious, because teams that have beaten us or leads that we've given up, they can't handle big-time goals looking ahead."

► adam.coleman@ttu.edu



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH SENIOR Charlie Burgess stands with his mother, Colleen Burgess, during the Senior Day presentation before the start of Saturday's game against Baylor in the United Spirit Arena.

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Green leads No. 1 North Carolina past No. 6 Duke 76-68

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Danny Green and North Carolina made themselves comfortable when it counted on Duke's famously hos-

tile home court. Because they did, the top-ranked Tar Heels claimed another league title — and maybe the inside track to a close-to-home postseason path.

Green had 18 points to make up for a shaky outing last time against the Blue Devils, and North Carolina scored the final 10 points of its 76-68 victory over No. 6 Duke on Saturday night to claim the Atlantic Coast

Conference regular-season championship.

Tyler Hansbrough finished with 16 points and 15 rebounds while surpassing the 2,000-point mark for his career in his third straight victory at Cameron Indoor Stadium, and Wayne Ellington also scored 16 for the Tar Heels (29-2, 14-2).

North Carolina blew an early double-figure lead and briefly trailed

before closing strong, holding the Blue Devils scoreless for the final 5½ minutes to claim its eighth straight victory and the top seed in the ACC tournament in Charlotte — and quite possibly took a big step toward the No. 1 seed in the Charlotte-based East Regional.

"Our perimeter guys took it personally tonight," said Green, who was 1-for-10 in the last Duke game. "We wanted to come out and knock down shots, play smarter, play better and take the crowd out of the game. We kept our poise when they came back."

Greg Paulus scored 12 of his 15 points in the first half for the Blue Devils (26-4, 13-3), who rallied from a 14-point first-half hole but missed their final 11 shots in slipping to the No. 2 seed in the league tournament.

Duke had 15 shots blocked — seven by Green and five by Deon Thompson — and was held to a season-worst 32.9 shooting in having its four-game winning streak snapped and losing at home for the first time since last February's Maryland game.

"We've been drilling (defense) since the first day," coach Roy Williams said. "It's a challenge to try to be a really good defensive team. Sometimes, you get lucky and they miss shots as well. The statistics show that we've gotten better defensively. It's something that you have to be good at if you want to reach those big-time dreams that we have."

Jon Scheyer added 14 points, and his stickback with just over 5½ minutes remaining gave Duke its only lead of the second half at 68-66 — but that was the Blue Devils' last field goal of the game. Duke had good looks on three straight trips downcourt after that but came up empty on each, and that allowed North Carolina to take control down the stretch.

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LONE STAR GRADUATE DIVERSITY COLLOQUIUM is visiting West Texas this year. On MARCH 28 AND 29, 2008, Texas Tech University invites you to join us on our Lubbock campus.

PURPOSE. The Lone Star Graduate Diversity Colloquium is a collective effort by all colleges and universities in Texas to expand the pool of prospective graduate students that all graduate programs can recruit from. The primary purpose of this event is to encourage more under-represented minorities and women currently enrolled at Texas colleges and universities to stay in Texas to complete their graduate education. Our target group is sophomore and junior undergraduate students and master's students planning to pursue doctoral degrees.

SCHEDULE. Events are planned beginning at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 28, through 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 29. In one location, students will have the opportunity to attend sessions related to applying to graduate school, entrance exams, funding graduate school, distance education options, and many more. A recruitment fair is also planned with graduate and health sciences institutions represented from across the state. Scholarship drawings will be held and door prizes will be given away. For more information visit:

[HTTP://WWW.GRADSCHOOL.TTU.EDU/LSDC](http://www.gradschool.ttu.edu/lstdc)

INTERESTED STUDENTS please contact:

Shannon Samson
Coordinator for Graduate Student Recruiting
Texas Tech University Graduate School
742.2787, ext. 239
Shannon.samson@ttu.edu

Or register online at:
www.gradschool.ttu.edu/lstdc

Registration for Texas Tech Students is \$5
Deadline to register is Tuesday, March 25, 5:00 p.m.

