

Students customize cork boards

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Lubbock asks for aid after flooding

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Griffin places third at Shoal Creek

SPORTS, PAGE 10



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(INSIDE)

STATE

Ike sends jellyfish to some pools in SE Texas

BRIDGE CITY (AP) — Hurricane Ike's storm surge in Southeast Texas pushed fish and other seaworthy creatures out of their normal habitat.

Some homeowners in Bridge City are returning to find a new kind of unwanted catch — jellyfish.

Jay Braydon said he found jellyfish in his pool.

He says a neighbor's pool also was infested with jellyfish, which are known for stinging humans in more beach-like surroundings.

The cleanup continues from Ike, which hit Galveston and swamped other parts of Southeast Texas Sept. 13.

NATION

Heavyweights talk world issues

NEW YORK (AP) — Bill Clinton's annual summit of world leaders and celebrities opened Wednesday with the former president sharing the stage with rock star Bono and dignitaries including his former vice president, who warned that humanity is struggling in the fight against climate change.

Al Gore pointed to a number of natural disasters as evidence, including storms in Haiti, hurricanes on the Gulf Coast and fires in California.

WORLD

Police: School gunman kills 8 women and 2 men

KAUHAJOKI, Finland (AP) — Police released details Wednesday about the victims of a school massacre in western Finland, saying eight women and two men were killed by the 22-year-old gunman.

They also confirmed the shooter was Matti Saari, a student at the school who was questioned by police a day before Tuesday's rampage about YouTube clips showing him firing a handgun. Saari was released Monday because police said they found no reason to keep him in custody.

DEATH TOLL

4171

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

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Bush warns of 'long and painful recession'

By JENNIFER LOVEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Wednesday warned Americans and lawmakers reluctant to pass a \$700 billion financial rescue plan that failing to act fast risks wiping out retirement savings, rising foreclosures, lost jobs and closed businesses. "Our entire economy is in danger," he said.

His dire warning came not long after the president issued extraordinary invitations to presidential candidates Barack Obama and John McCain,

one of whom will inherit the mess in four months, as well as key congressional leaders to a White House meeting on Thursday to work on a compromise.

"Without immediate action by Congress, American could slip into a financial panic and a distressing scenario would unfold," Bush said in a 12-minute prime-time address from the White House East Room that he hoped would help rescue his tough-sell bailout package.

Bush explicitly endorsed several of the changes that have been demanded in recent days from the right and left. But he warned that he would draw the line at

regulations he determined would hamper economic growth.

"It should be enacted as soon as possible," the president said.

The bailout, which the Bush administration asked Congress last weekend to approve before it adjourns, is meeting with deep skepticism, especially from conservatives in Bush's own party who are revolting at the high price tag and unprecedented private-sector intervention. Though there is general agreement that something must be done to address the spiraling economic problems, the timing and even the size of the package

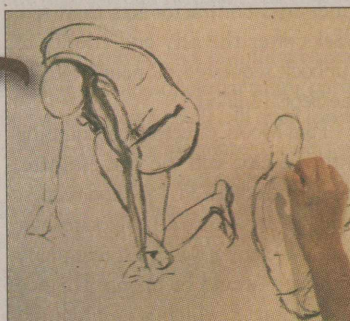
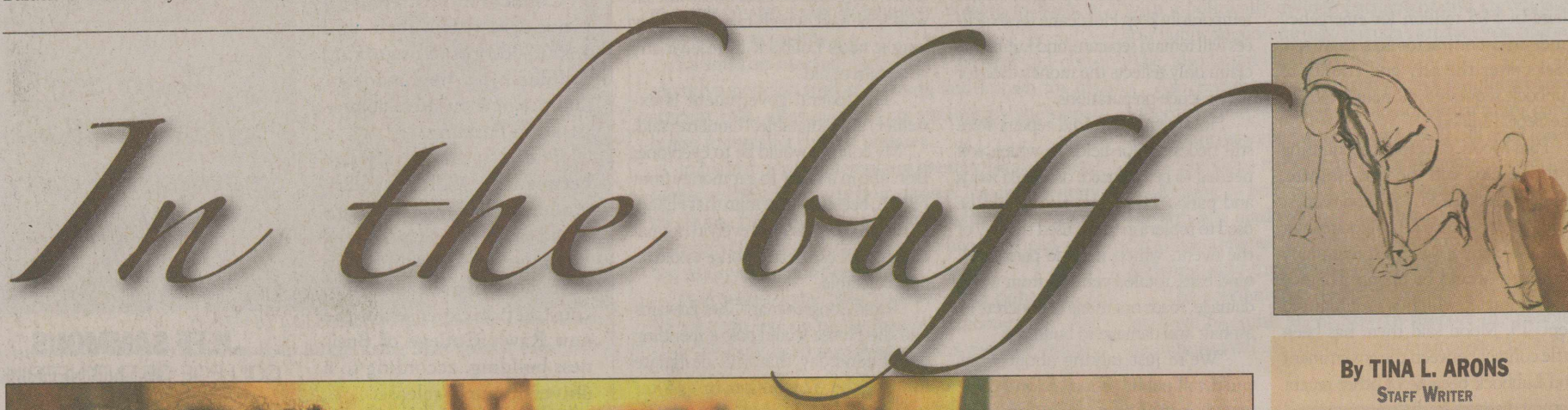
remained in doubt and the administration has been forced to accept changes almost daily.

Seeking to explain himself to conservatives, Bush stressed he was reluctant to put taxpayer money on the line to help businesses that had made bad decisions and that the rescue is not aimed at saving individual companies. He tried to address some of the major complaints from Democrats by promising that CEOs of failed companies won't be rewarded.

"With the situation becoming more precarious by the day, I faced a choice: to step in with dramatic government

action or to stand back and allow the irresponsible actions by some to undermine the financial security of all," Bush said. "These are not normal circumstances."

The president turned himself into an economics professor for much of the address, tracing the origins of the problem back a decade to a large influx of money into the U.S. system from overseas, low interest rates, the "faulty assumption" that home values would continue to skyrocket, easy lending by mortgage companies, over-borrowing by home owners and exuberant building by construction firms.



By TINA L. ARONS
STAFF WRITER

David Stanz gets paid to take off his clothes.

Stanz is one of six models hired by Texas Tech's School of Art, which employs models to pose nude for its upper-level drawing classes and clothed for its lower-level classes.

Stanz, a 45-year-old Lubbock resident, said he began modeling for the art school in 2003 because he heard about it from a friend and thought it would be an interesting job experience.

Melissa Perez, a junior studio art major from San Antonio, said she found it awkward at first to draw a nude model because it was unfamiliar territory.

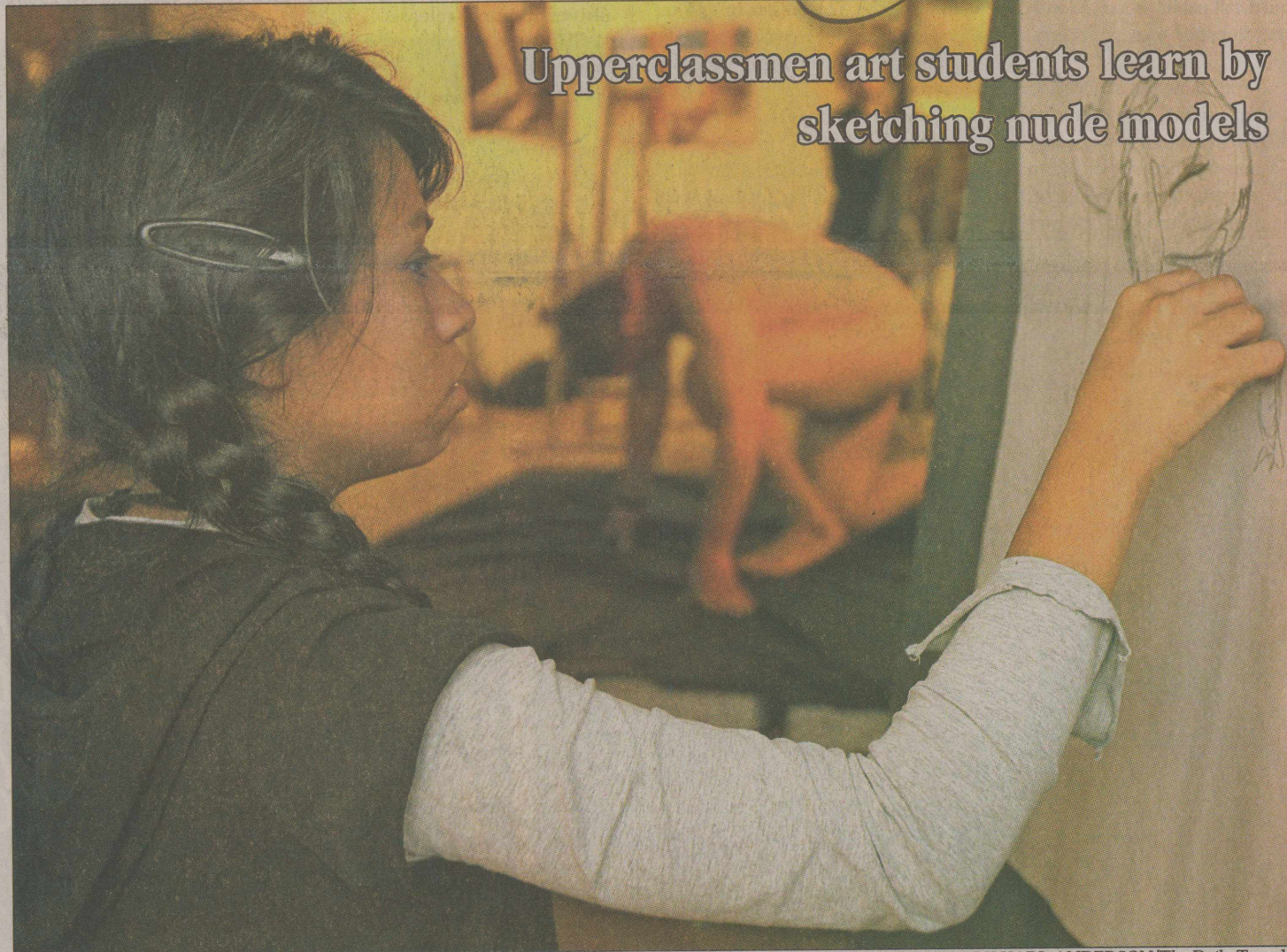
"After about a week, you don't care," she said. "You don't see it as naked; it's more nude."

Stanz also works as a student assistant at the Rawls College of Business and several other jobs around town.

"I can't put all my eggs in one basket," he said. "I'm just not very good at doing that."

Stanz earned a bachelor's degree in consumer economics and environmental design in 1989

NUDES continued on page 7



Upperclassmen art students learn by sketching nude models

PHOTOS BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Treador

SERENA SANCHEZ, A junior visual studies major from Lubbock, sketches a nude model Tuesday in the Architecture building.

North Korea orders UN nuclear inspectors from plant

By GEORGE JAHN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — North Korea moved closer to restarting its nuclear arms program Wednesday, barring U.N. inspectors from its main plutonium reprocessing plant and announcing it will reactivate the facility that provided the material for its atomic test blast.

The move fed fears about a resurgent nuclear North Korea, but there also is speculation it might be motivated by negotiating strategy. Pyongyang could use the year needed to restart its sole reprocessing plant to wrest more concessions from the U.S. and others seeking to end the atomic program.

Still, coming amid reports leader Kim Jong Il suffered a stroke, the nuclear reversal is raising nervousness about a breakdown in the international attempt to coax the North out of its confrontational isolation — a point addressed Wednesday by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

U.S. diplomats are talking with other na-

tions involved in bargaining with the North at this week's meeting of the U.N. General Assembly.

Any move by Pyongyang to restart its nuclear program "would only deepen its isolation," Rice warned. "We strongly urge the North to reconsider these steps and come back immediately into compliance with its obligations" under a disarmament-for-aid agreement reached in six-nation talks.

Hours earlier, the International Atomic Energy Agency announced that North Korean officials "informed the IAEA inspectors that they plan to introduce nuclear material to the reprocessing plant in one week's time."

The statement from the Vienna-based U.N. agency said Deputy IAEA Director General Olli Heinonen told the IAEA

board that after a request from North Korea, his inspectors removed all agency seals and surveillance equipment from the reprocessing plant and its immediate area.

That work "was completed today," Heinonen said, according to the statement.

It also said North Korea barred IAEA inspectors from further access to the Yongbyon nuclear complex.

North Korea had signaled in recent days that it would break out of the disarmament deal, announcing it was making "thorough preparations" to restart Yongbyon.

"What they've done is trouble," said Gregory L. Schulte, the chief U.S. delegate to the IAEA, and his expression of concern was echoed by the South Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman, Moon Tae-young.

But their comments were measured, re-

flecting concerns that harsh condemnation could backfire by accelerating the North's move to restore its nuclear operations.

North Korea's recent moves have deepened the guessing game about leadership in Pyongyang, where Kim is reportedly ill and possibly incapacitated.

"There is uncertainty about who is in charge, or if some sort of transition is in the process of taking place with the military, who have probably not been too happy to give up their (nuclear) trump card," said Robert S. Norris, senior research associate at the Natural Resources Defense Council in Washington.

"Now that he may be weakened — or who knows, dead — there may be emerging ... a possible clique of hard-liners who may want to play hardball again," he added.

On the other hand, "this may be one more negotiating ploy by them," Norris said, alluding to North Korea's history of escalating tensions during its international negotiations to try to increase its leverage and win concessions.

What they've done is trouble.

GREGORY L. SCHULTE
CHIEF U.S. DELEGATE
TO THE IAEA

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Low 58	Low 56	Low 57	Low 56	Low 56

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City, county request \$4.5 million in government aid after flooding

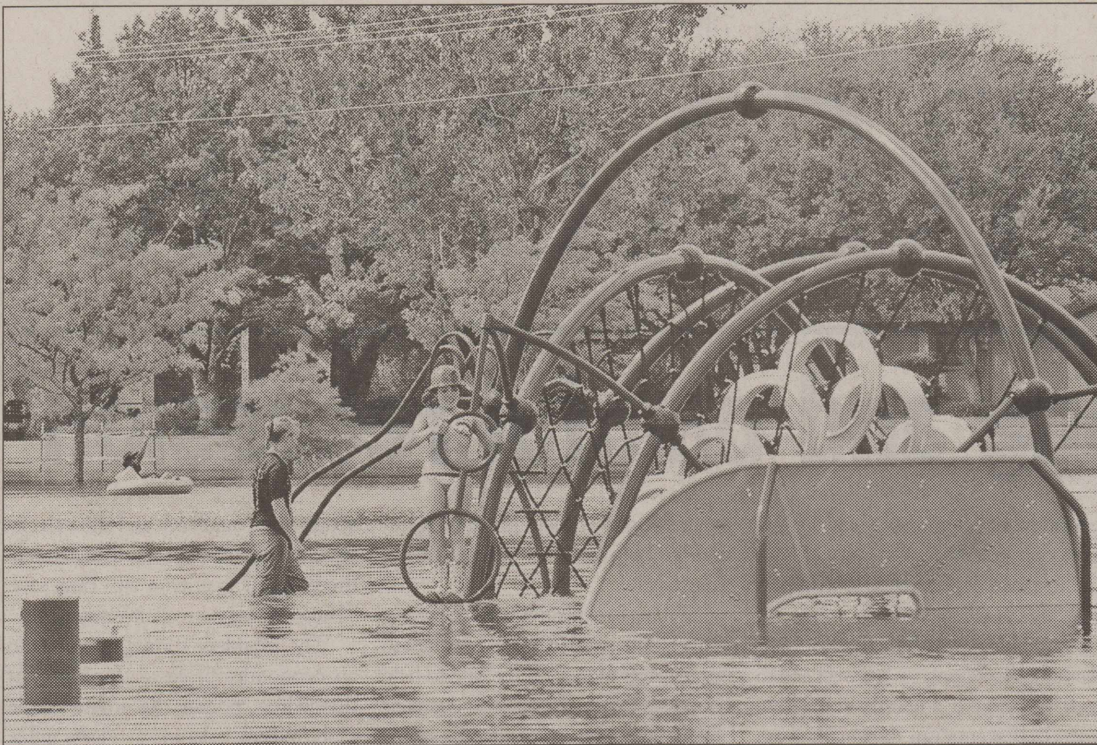


PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Treador

LUBBOCK RESIDENTS ENJOY a dip in the rain water at Bill and Ann Miller park following the flooding that took place Sept. 11.

By JON VANDERLAAN
STAFF WRITER

The state government assigned a claim of \$4.5 million for emergency funds to a contractor less than two weeks after the city and county of Lubbock requested monetary aid for the Sept. 12 flood.

Pam Moon, director of accounting with the city, said the first estimate, which included a \$1.7 million request from the city and a \$2.8 million request from the county, was only preliminary and likely would be changed. Since that estimate, which was submitted Sept. 13, Moon said there has been little contact between the government and Lubbock because of other recent natural disasters in the state.

Because the first estimate was done one day after the flood occurred, she said, the requested amount of money may go down. Several parks the city thought would be underwater and incur large cost have drained better than expected.

She said the funds requested for

the flood were preliminary and made without quotes from companies that would do the repairs. The money used during the flood and for preparations to temporarily keep Hurricane Ike evacuees will remain separate, and Lubbock's claim only reflects the money used for Ike evacuee preparations.

However, Moon said repairs were still necessary for fields in which soil needed to be replaced, damaged roads and parks. The funds also would be used to replenish funds used the day of the event, which include personnel, sand bags, totaled vehicles from water damage, roads not made of concrete or asphalt and damage to buildings.

"We're just talking about what you'd call public assistance and damages to public owned property," she said.

Ysidro Gutierrez, a Lubbock County commissioner, said some roads in the county are still underwater, and that is where the majority of the money the county requested will go because he does not know of any property damage.

Several natural disasters — including Hurricanes Hanna, Ike and Gustav and Tropical Storm Fay — have affected the United States in the last six weeks, he said, which may affect how long it takes Lubbock to receive any government aid.

"The federal government is extremely unpredictable," Gutierrez said. "... My counsel would be to everyone: Don't be in a hurry to get money from FEMA, because I'm certain that FEMA is going to be slow. And even in normal circumstances, their response would be unpredictable."

Texas Congressman Chet Edwards said the House would pass a spending bill Wednesday that will designate most of the \$23 billion in disaster recovery aid for the damage caused by Hurricane Ike, according to Associated Press reports.

The mayor of Galveston also is seeking \$2.3 billion in federal aid, the AP reported. About \$1.2 billion will go to the city, \$600 million for the hospital and \$500 million for the port.

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Tech Police, other departments without landlines for several hours

By JON VANDERLAAN
STAFF WRITER

After nearly three hours without landlines, AT&T repair crews re-attached severed phone lines to give several Texas Tech departments along Fourth Street access to phones.

The phone lines were reported to be severed around 9 a.m. Wednesday, and were repaired around 12:30 p.m.

The emergency phone calls that normally come through Tech Police Department dispatch were re-routed to Lubbock Police Department, Chief Ron Seacrist of Tech police said.

If a phone line is damaged, Seacrist said, "it means pushing one button" to switch the emergency

services from one department to the other. When Lubbock police receive an emergency call routed from Tech, they notify Tech police and both departments respond to the scene.

However, because of the backup phone line going to the department, he said, Tech police were still able to receive non-emergency phone calls.

Lubbock police also route their emergency calls to Tech police, Seacrist said, in the event they lose their landlines.

Natasha Collins, a spokeswoman for AT&T, said a third-party was digging a ditch and cut a cable.

"Occasionally it will happen," she said. "But when that does happen, our crews work directly with those folks to identify the problem

quickly and restore it as fast as possible."

Collins said the service was restored at about 12:30 p.m., about two-and-a-half hours before they originally expected to complete the repairs. Repair crews work quickly to repair service when a line is cut, she said, especially when an emergency service is affected.

The phone line was located along Fourth Street and only affected a few departments in the university.

Among those departments affected were the Tech Police Department, IT Help Central, University Parking Services, MailTech, Environmental Health and Safety and the University Press.

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ConocoPhillips gives Tech \$500,000

Texas Tech received a \$500,000 donation from an international-energy company Tuesday during a ceremony with Tech President Guy Bailey.

ConocoPhillips representatives presented Tech with a \$500,000 gift to use toward scholarships, new students and the new business administration building.

The gift will be divided between the College of Engineering's ConocoPhillips Academic Success Bridge Program, the ConocoPhillips SPIRIT scholars program and construction expenses for the new Rawls College of Business building, according to a university news release.

"We are very pleased with the partnership we've had with ConocoPhillips," said Jeff Sammons, spokesperson for the College of Engineering.

The College of Engineering will use their portion of the gift to assist incoming freshman students through the Academic

Success Bridge Program, he said. Students involved in this program are provided with mentors who will help them in their transition from high school to

"We are very pleased with the partnership we've had with ConocoPhillips,"

JEFF SAMMONS
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
SPOKESMAN

college.

The program also allows the students to earn up to six hours of school credit before the fall semester begins, Sammons said.

ConocoPhillips donations to Tech total \$4,709,254 to date, according to the news release.

Tom Mathiasmeier, senior vice president of ConocoPhillips Gas & Power, said the company is glad Tech is a continuing university participant in its SPIRIT Scholars program, according to the news release.

"This scholarship program has proven to be a great feeder of talent for our company and we fully expect success to continue at Texas Tech," Mathiasmeier said in the news release. "We are also pleased to support the College of Engineering in the establishment of the ConocoPhillips Academic Success Bridge program."

"We believe all of our support will further enhance the university's ability to attract new students and continue to develop top talent for the many companies who actively recruit Texas Tech graduates."

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SEEING THE LIGHT



PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toreador

ERIC BLOOMES, A freshman architecture major from Bryan, traces an image using light from a third story window Wednesday morning in the Architecture building.

WORLD EVENTS IN BRIEF

China tainted milk crisis triggers global recalls

BEIJING (AP) — An industrial chemical that made its way into China's dairy supplies and that authorities blame in the death of four babies has turned up in numerous Chinese-made exports abroad — from candies to yogurt to rice balls.

British supermarket chain Tesco removed Chinese-made White Rabbit Creamy Candies off its shelves as a precaution amid reports that samples of the milk candy in Singapore and New Zealand had tested positive for melamine — an industrial chemical used to make plastics and fertilizer.

Chinese baby formula tainted with the chemical has been blamed for the deaths of four infants and the illnesses of 53,000 others in China. Health experts say ingesting a small amount of the chemical poses no

danger, but melamine can cause kidney stones and lead to kidney failure. Infants are particularly vulnerable.

More than a dozen countries have banned or recalled Chinese dairy products — the latest was France which does not import Chinese dairy products but has halted imports of Chinese biscuits, candy or other foods that could contain Chinese dairy derivatives. The government described the measure as a precaution.

Indonesia on Wednesday also distributed a list of 28 products that it said may contain tainted Chinese milk, including Oreo cookies, Snickers bars and M&M chocolate candies.

U.S. and European consumer safety officials urged Beijing to better enforce product safety standards.

AP Interview: Mugabe urges West to lift sanctions

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Zimbabwe's president hopes that a power-sharing agreement with rivals will lead the West to ease sanctions on his country.

In an interview with The Associated Press on Wednesday, Robert Mugabe said he is close to carrying out a political pact with opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai.

Mugabe said the last stages of talks are over four

Cabinet posts, but he added that there are no serious obstacles that could scuttle the deal.

Mugabe said the West should now begin removing sanctions, including travel bans and economic pressures that were tightened after elections this spring that Mugabe is widely accused of rigging.

The Zimbabwean president is scheduled to speak Thursday to the U.N. General Assembly.

Straight-talking conservative elected Japanese PM

TOKYO (AP) — A quick-smiling former Olympic skeetshooter with a penchant for tailored suits and manga comic books took power as Japan's third prime minister in two years Wednesday, vowing to boost a languishing economy.

Lawmakers elected Taro Aso, a 68-year-old conservative popular with the young and known for his straight talk, after quelling an attempt by the upper house to install a rival as premier.

In his first news conference as premier, he also vowed to rescue the ruling party from disaster in parliamentary elections. He stacked his Cabinet with fellow right-leaning veterans and pledged to go head-to-head with the resurgent opposition.

"I appointed the right people in the right jobs so that we can live up to the people's expectations," Aso said. "We will head into the elections with this lineup,

and will have a fair fight."

The former foreign minister replaced the morose Yasuo Fukuda, who struggled during his year in office with a politically divided parliament and chronically low public support ratings. Fukuda's predecessor, Shinzo Abe, also lasted barely a year.

Aso, Buddhist Japan's first Roman Catholic premier, inherits a stumbling economy, an unpopular ruling party and mounting expectations that he will call snap lower house elections to prove he has a mandate to rule.

Aiming to bolster his standing among voters, Aso has struck a markedly populist note, vowing to boost fiscal spending to prop up the economy and aid those suffering amid the country's financial troubles.

"The economy has declined over the past year, and we have to think about how to support the people, including small and medium size businesses," he said.

Iran's leader disapproves of Bush speech

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iran's leader flashed a thumbs-down Tuesday as President Bush denounced Tehran as a sponsor of global terrorism in his farewell address to the U.N.

Then Bush got less than 10 seconds of polite applause at the end of a speech in which he urged world leaders to take "an unequivocal moral stand" against suicide bombings, hostage taking and other terror tactics.

It was a decidedly low-key appearance, devoid of the passion Bush displayed in the early years of his presidency when he summoned the world after Sept. 11, 2001, to a battle against terrorism.

The president, humbled by economic turmoil that has darkened the final days of his presidency, also tried to speak reassuringly to the leaders about the financial upheaval on Wall Street that has forced him to set aside core principles of capitalism and authorize government takeovers of failing companies.

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Educated should focus on life before death

I was over at a friend's house, just sitting, drinking a glass of water. I picked up something off the coffee table that turned out to be a copy of a commencement speech that David Foster Wallace had delivered at Kenyon College in 2005.

I read it quickly, and found it funny, probing and brilliant. I had never read Wallace before, though I had heard of him; I knew he was highly acclaimed and cerebral, apparently dauntingly so. I also knew he had hung himself days earlier (on Sept. 12; he was 46).

When I finished reading the speech I asked my friend, "Where did this come from?" She said that a friend at work was a huge fan of Wallace, and, heartbroken over his death, had printed out the piece to circulate among friends. I directed some of my own friends toward it, as I do you; it can be found easily online.

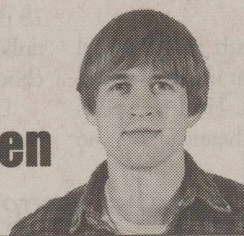
The main thrust of the speech is about what it means to be educated.

"Twenty years after my own graduation," he says, "I have come gradually to understand that the liberal arts cliché about teaching you how to think is actually shorthand for a much deeper, more serious idea: learning how to think really means learning how to exercise some control over how and what you think."

"It means being conscious and aware enough to choose what you pay attention to and to choose how you construct meaning from experience. Because if you cannot exercise this kind of choice in adult life, you will be totally hosed."

To illustrate this concept, Wallace describes a typical scene from day-to-day life — a trip to the grocery store

Eric Braden



following an exhausting day at work — in which the "default" response is frighteningly instantly familiar: to be personally offended at everyone and everything in your way, and to find everything a littler uglier and more repulsive than usual.

Education, then, means overcoming the default point-of-view, which is inherently (and falsely) obsessed with the illusion that the world revolves around us. An educated mind is able to decide, to some extent, how it reacts to the world, unlike, say, a rat. As Wallace notes, we are slaves to our brains, and it is a constant struggle to stay cognizant of this.

What does it mean to be a slave to your brain? Well, here's an example: I recently read in the New York Times a report about a scientific finding which showed that, throughout history, witch-hunts have tended to increase during times of environmental stress.

This is very interesting, especially when you take off your "human hat" and try to look at our species from an outside perspective. (It's possible, if only for a little while.) Witch-hunts turn out to be a sort of economic fix, and at the same time an evolutionary adaptation: when the elderly become too much of a burden, figure out a way to kill them, without the drag of a guilty conscience.

It's this very thing, this group-think, this instinct-as-hypnosis, which a good and thorough education is designed to eradicate. It's certainly still in us: even now, scientists are blaming sharp increases in "witch" killings in East Africa on climate change (a good example of an environmental stress). It does make sense that an animal would become more selfish, even murderous or cannibalistic, in tough times.

But are we not better than that? The answer, unfortunately, is that we only sometimes are. It turns out that compassion is more rare when resources are scarce.

In his address, Wallace says, "None of this stuff is really about morality or religion or dogma or big fancy questions of life after death. The capital-T truth is about life before death. It is about the real value of a real education, which has almost nothing to do with knowledge, and everything to do with simple awareness..."

Perhaps, then, the ultimate challenge to the educated, liberal mind is simply deciding how to interpret the fierce mundanity of life. We have developed, as a society, a stifling drive for ever-more pleasure, ever-more entertainment, which only leaves us bored, if not riddled with anxiety or other disorders.

An educated mind, however, is more tolerant than that. It can find beauty in even an overcrowded checkout line.

■ Braden is a senior natural history and humanities major from Katy. E-mail him at eric.braden@ttu.edu.



This year's election results shouldn't be black and white

Late last week, a poll was taken by The Associated Press to judge what effect racism will have on this presidential election.

Three percent of people say that they absolutely will not vote for Senator Obama simply because he is black. This result has inspired media frenzy. News commentators, like Jack Cafferty of CNN, have resorted to simply attributing the closeness in the polls to one factor, race. It's as if the only reason people wouldn't support Obama is because they don't like the color of his skin, rather than simply disagreeing with his policies.

I am not defending the respondents that said they would not ever vote for a black man, but I feel the poll in question ignored another major factor in this election: What percent of people will be voting for Obama simply because he is black? How many black people will vote Democrat because they feel it is their obli-

Trevor White



gation to their race, and how many white people will vote Democrat out of what I call "white shame"? I think that the number of those who fall into this category is considerably larger than those who absolutely will not vote for a black person.

Polling by Quinnipiac University shows that 93 percent of black people will vote for Obama. That's up from the 86 percent that voted for Kerry in 2004.

Also, I'm sure there is a large block of white voters that will be casting a ballot for Obama because they feel that they owe it to the black community for past injustices.

Many of these people may truly believe that Obama is the best candidate — and that's fine if they

feel that way — but many simply will be casting a ballot for the first viable black candidate for president, and that mentality is just as much of a crime against humanity as voting against a black candidate on the basis of color.

I am going to make a bold proclamation. You should support a candidate because you agree with their beliefs and stances on the issues, and that should be the only reason that you support them. Voting for someone on the basis of color is just as much an act of racism as not voting for someone simply because of their color. Before prejudice can fade into the history books in this country people need to put down their fingers and stop pointing blame at anyone else for their current problems.

That goes for everyone, black, white or anyone in between.

■ White is a freshman agriculture major from New Home. E-mail him at tr.white@ttu.edu.

Examining great debates we all know

By **WARNER RUSSELL**
DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN (U. MISSISSIPPI)

Well ... it's here! The first 2008 presidential debate is mere days away, and Oxford is abuzz. The city looks picturesque, like a scene out of a William Faulkner novel or something. If you don't believe me, just take a walk around the Square or on campus, and you will quickly realize that our quaint little, literary Southern town is ready to show the world a thing or two.

However, much to my chagrin, all the debates are focused around politics. Go figure. But I would like to take a lighthearted moment to look at some of the debates that have plagued almost everyone over the generations. So here are my top 11 debates in no particular order. I'll do my best to avoid abortion, homosexual rights, the death penalty or genocide in Sudan, so I don't steal my fellow opinion writers' thunder.

Paper or plastic: If it means killing a tree or using non-biodegradable plastic, it seems to be a lose-lose situation, so the logical choice is of course plastic. It's easier to carry and works as a trash bag as well as being a nice doggy doo-doo bag when you walk around the Grove to pick up girls. Multiple usage is key. Paper bags don't have much else going for them.

Lebron or Kobe: Toss up. Outside of the whole Kobe rape allegation issue a few years back, which has seemingly been completely forgotten (funny how things work out for celebrities), there is little that isn't fantastic about either of these two. Young, vibrant men who can ball. I'd settle for being either one of them.

Abner's or Zaxby's: Two words for you there: Grilled tenders. No brainer for this one. And if you don't know which one won, it's your loss.

BSB or N*Sync: This one is a doosie. In one case you have five cheesy but attractive young men who can sing and dance. In the other case you have, well, the same. Let's look at their weakest links because a wise man once said, "A team is only as strong as its weakest link." First, AJ McLean of the Backstreet Boys. He had an alter ego named Johnny-No-Name and some cocaine

issues. Not cool. Chris Kirkpatrick of N*Sync had bad haircuts throughout his 15 minutes, and nobody ever claimed he was their favorite. Not cool, but not bad. No clear-cut winner so far, march on. Both groups disbanded, but BSB got back together and nobody cared. There is still a lot of hype about an N*Sync reunion though. So unless these guys want to have a steel cage match to prove teenybopper dominance, I'm going to pledge my allegiance to N*Sync. Go buy their Christmas album; it'll warm your hearts more

"Paper, rock or scissors: Always rock. If you both throw rock first, then go scissors. If you both throw scissors, go back to rock."

than a cup of hot cocoa.

Wine or beer: If you are with a pretty girl, say on a romantic date, go with wine. If you are a girl, stick to wine unless you're with a guy at a lower class establishment, then go with beer. Make an educated choice either way. Avoid Bud Light and boxed wine in all cases.

Beacon or Bottletree: Grease vs. quaint. Traditional vs. hip. Old school vs. new school. If you're under 50, stick to Bottletree unless you want your blood flow to slow down. But don't forget as I did yesterday that Bottletree is closed on Mondays. I can feel my arteries clogging as we speak.

Twilight or Harry Potter: Witches, wizards, vampires, romance, death. All of this is wildly entertaining. I loved Harry, and if I knew I wouldn't be looked down upon for reading Twilight, I probably would. I guess I'll just do it where nobody will ever find me. Wow. I'm getting uber-excited just thinking about a secret reading nook and books about vampires.

Tupac or Biggie: "California Love" and "Mo Money, Mo Problems" will never not be on a rap play list on my iPod. So we have another toss up. I just hope these two are sipping on some Courvoisier at that thug mansion in the sky because their rivalry was just not worth their untimely deaths.

"Animal House" or "Old School": No contest. "Animal House." Not worth wasting my time.

Paper, rock or scissors: Always rock. If you both throw rock first, then go scissors. If you both throw scissors, go back to rock. Follow this with a paper, paper, scissor, paper, rock, rock, scissor, paper, paper, paper, rock, rock combo. If you still haven't won, ask yourself, "Why am I still playing this game?"

And last but certainly not least, the granddaddy of all debates. The Taj Mahal of choices. The Allah of arguments. The Qur'an of questions.

Boxers or briefs: Yeah ... I'm gonna go with that other option. It's much more, well, freeing. Give it a shot.

I hope I have helped you solve some of the great conundrums I know have been weighing on your mind recently and you will sleep easier tonight because of my insight. If you need another debate solved, you let me know, and I'll shoot you straight.

Happy debating. Enjoy the traffic.

Quick-fixes for economy will solve nothing

By **CHASE COOPER**
INDIANA DAILY STUDENT (INDIANA U.)

When economist John Maynard Keynes, highly regarded among modern liberals, famously summarized the notion that it's often better to improve immediate circumstances than to constantly plan for the future.

"In the long run," he quipped, "we're all dead."

As it turns out, "the long run" might just be 2008.

Recently, economic and government leaders have been trying to figure out how to prevent the collapse of the entire U.S. financial system. That's an amazing fact to contemplate. We're not talking about lipstick on pigs here. We're talking about a fundamental change in life as we know it.

How in the world did we get to this point? That answer is long and complicated, but the underlying problem is rooted in the desire to have stuff now and pay for it later. This problem is compounded by politicians who are all too eager to provide their constituents with instant gratification at all costs in

exchange for votes.

The current financial crisis is primarily due to the fact that banks have been forced by law to grant home loans to people without the means to pay them back. This started during the Carter administration with the Community Reinvestment Act and was expanded during the Clinton years. These risky loans compiled and spread throughout the financial system, and as more and more loans went bad, things spiraled out of control.

In a desperate attempt to ward off doomsday, the Bush administration and Congress are working together (never a good sign) on a \$700 billion bail-out deal. This might not be so bad if we weren't nearly \$10 trillion in debt, with larger deficits on the way.

Social Security is a ticking time bomb, and we have dozens of other massive spending programs for which we have no means to pay. Liberals want to provide universal health care with money we don't have. Now Democrats are working on a \$50 billion stimulus package (yet another short-term "solution" that will cost us down the road), and Sen. Barack Obama wants to commit \$845 billion over 13 years to the corrupt UN to fight

poverty. Where will it all end? The answer might not be pleasant.

Meanwhile, no one in Washington wants to take responsibility, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid weakly lamented that "no one knows what to do."

I know what to do, Sen. Reid. We need to throw you and all your reckless, big-spending, vote-buying, live-for-the-moment politician and bureaucrat buddies from both parties out of Washington. We need to incentivize success, rather than subsidize failure. We need to restore the constitutional limitations on the federal government before we find ourselves in a state that we no longer recognize as the prosperous, free country we've come to love.

We can start by repealing the short-sighted Community Reinvestment Act and let people who can't afford houses (gasp!) rent an apartment until they can afford one.

Most of all, we need the leadership we're not seeing from either major presidential candidate, which articulates the virtue of the market system and instills confidence in the American people.

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WORLD EVENTS IN BRIEF

Aiken comes out of the closet

NEW YORK (AP) — Clay Aiken appears on the cover of the latest People magazine holding his infant son, Parker Foster Aiken, with the headline: "Yes, I'm Gay."

The 29-year-old former "American Idol" runner-up, multiplatinum

recording artist and Broadway star credits his son, conceived by in-vitro fertilization with friend and producer Jaymes Foster, with making him realize that he could no longer hide his homosexuality from the world.

Kidman credits water for pregnancy

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Oscar-winning actress Nicole Kidman said swimming in Australian Outback waterfalls may promote fertility and might have contributed to her unexpected pregnancy over the past year.

The 41-year-old Aussie, who gave birth to daughter Sunday Rose in July, said she and six other women who

swam in the waters of a small Outback town during production of the epic romance "Australia" became pregnant.

"I never thought that I would get pregnant and give birth to a child, but it happened on this movie," Kidman told The Australian Women's Weekly in an exclusive interview for the magazine's 75th anniversary edition, released Wednesday.

McCartney calls for peace in Bethlehem

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (AP) — Paul McCartney said Wednesday he's carrying a message of peace for Israel and the Palestinians, rejecting criticism of his planned concert in Tel Aviv.

McCartney toured the West Bank town of Bethlehem, visiting the Church of the Nativity, built over the traditional birthplace of Jesus.

The 66-year-old former Beatle ducked into the fourth-century church through its low, narrow en-

trance, taking pictures with a small camera. He lit two long, tapered white candles in different parts of the church, saying each time that they were "for peace."

After posing for pictures with fans outside the fortress-like church, McCartney was asked to respond to criticism from some Palestinians that his visit to Israel supports its occupation of the West Bank.

He said his visit Wednesday to the West Bank showed he was not playing favorites.

T.I. to pay more child support

ATLANTA (AP) — A judge on Tuesday ordered rapper T.I. to pay more child support to the mother of two of his children after she claimed he wasn't providing enough money.

Lindsay Lohan dating woman

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Lindsay Lohan has confirmed what the world has guessed: She's been dating Samantha Ronson "a very long time."

The 22-year-old actress casually told the co-host of the syndicated ra-

etta Tipton Lane told the two-time Grammy winner, whose real name is Clifford Harris, to pay just over \$3,000 a month to LaShon Dixon. He had been paying about \$2,000 per month.

dio program "Loveline" on Monday that she's been dating the 31-year-old DJ. The pair have appeared in public and been photographed together but have never publicly commented about the extent of their relationship.

Okla. fans upload pics to scoreboard

By MARIS SKINNER
THE OKLAHOMA DAILY (U. OKLAHOMA)

New mobile phone technology is sweeping through the stands at Oklahoma Sooners football games, letting fans gain temporary celebrity status and become larger than life.

A system called FanChatter enables fans to take pictures on their mobile phones and then e-mail them to ou@fanchatter.com.

The pictures are reviewed for censorship purposes, and may be shown on the JumboTron or posted online to OU's FanChatter Web site.

Thanks to OU and Sooner Sports Properties' new partnership with FanChatter, the mobile sports fan network, every Sooner fan has the chance to see themselves on the scoreboard.

FanChatter co-founder Martin Wetherall has big plans for his young company, which started its stadium division in March 2008, according to a FanChatter press release.

The Sooners are the first college football team his company has partnered with, and OU fans have already sent more than 300 photos from the first two home games, Wetherall said.

"We empower the fans," Wetherall said, "We let them interact with the event, making it more exciting, social and satisfying."

Chas Gilmore, entrepreneurship and international business senior, said the Sooners are lucky to become the first football team to receive the new technology.

"I like that we are ahead of the curve," Gilmore said. "The Sooners are No. 1 in football, so we should be first in everything else too."

FanChatter provides new incentives for fans to get involved at football games.

They offer scoreboard photo sharing, as well as a medium to vote on player of the game, answer trivia questions and text to win prizes, Wetherall said.

Tech students 'pimp' their own cork boards

By TINA L. ARONS
STAFF WRITER

View a related slideshow at www.dailytoreador.com

Several students waited in line to pimp their cork boards with glitter and glue on Wednesday.

About 140 students attended the Tech Activities Board's "Pimp Your Own Cork Board" event between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the ballroom of the Student Union Building.

TAB member Peter Klingman, a senior international business and marketing major from Waco, said the board chose the activity because it gave students a chance to be creative and have something to take home with them.

"It's something for people to take a break during the day and come do," Klingman said.

He said students were lined up



PHOTO BY KAT HILSABECK/The Daily Toreador

STUDENTS DECORATE CORK boards at Tech Activities Board's "Pimp Your Own Cork Board" event Wednesday afternoon in the Student Union ballroom.

outside the ballroom and ready to decorate at 11 a.m. when he arrived.

TAB member Lauren Macias, a senior biology and business major from Alamogordo, N.M., said students seemed to be enjoying themselves.

The only problem: There was

not enough space to accommodate everyone at once.

"It's really hard to judge the number of students that'll come out," she said.

Many students said they enjoyed the event despite the wait.

Rachel Reagan, a freshman business finance major from Hobbs, N.M., said she decided to decorate a cork board because it sounded like something fun to do.

"There's good stuff to decorate with," Reagan said as she glued a pink bow to her board. "So it's not lame or anything."

Joshua Heebner, a freshman engineering major from the Woodlands, said he decided to spell out his and his roommate's name in foam letters with a foam heart in between because he wanted something to hang in the residence hall room he shares with him.

Heebner said he enjoyed decorating a cork board more than the "Make Your Own Flip-Flops" event TAB hosted earlier this month, which he attended and did not participate.

"You're pimping a cork board," Heebner said. "It's more awesome."

» tina.aronas@ttu.edu

Baylor U. students juggle funding options to pay college tuition

By ALEX MAXWELL
THE LARIAT (BAYLOR U.)

Since the school year is now underway, many Baylor University students have come to terms with the task of financing college, a reality a recent Gallup study sought to put into perspective.

Sallie Mae, a higher-education planning company, teamed up with Gallup, the nation's leading

research organization, to develop the first mathematically representative picture of how the average American family pays for college.

Gallup worked with parents and students during 2007 and 2008 to gather details on various methods used to pay for college tuition and related expenses.

According to the Gallup study, "How America Pays for College," an average four-year state university

costs \$13,706 and a four-year private university costs \$27,679.

These high costs have forced students to turn to a combination of methods to finance their education.

Scholarships, loans, student income, parent income and federal grants are the most common means of funding, according to the study.

As tuition rises, Baylor students are likely to face greater financial strain.

The study concluded how an average American family pays for college, but the picture can differ from family to family.

The most common source for funding college was parents' current income, which accounted for an average of half of a student's total tuition, according to the study. Seven out of ten families used non-borrowed sources to fund college, including current income, savings and scholarships.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2008

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 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 (HD)	Today (HD)	The Early Show	Copeland Robson	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	Animal
8 AM	Super Why (HD)			Believer's J. Hanna	Steve Wilkos		Paid Prog.
9 AM	Sesame Street		The 700 Club	Divorce Payne	Payne	Regis & Kelly	Martha Stewart
10 AM	Dragon Word		The Price Is Right	The Morning Show	Bernie Cope	The View (HD)	Bonnie Hunt Show
11 AM	Martha Jeopardy! (HD)	Jeopardy! (HD)	Restless (HD)	Alex Trivial	Cristina	Paid Prog.	Tyra Banks Show
12 PM	Quilling News	News	News	The People's Court	Roseanne	All My Children	Paid Prog.
1 PM	Watercolor Days of Our Lives	Beautiful As the World		Paid Prog. Fam Court	Paid Prog. Fam Court	One Life to Live	The People's Court
2 PM	Betw. Lion Reading	The Doctors	Guiding Light	Maury	Judge Jeanine	General Hospital	Judge Mathis
3 PM	Arthur (HD)	Oprah Winfrey	Brown	Extra	J. Fox	No Deal	Ellen DeGeneres
4 PM	FETCH! (HD)	Dr. Phil	Judy	Maury	Standing	Rachael Ray	News
5 PM	Bus. Rpt. News	News	News	Fam. Feud	Queens	News	Lopez
6 PM	NewsHour (HD)	News	News	Law Order (HD)	70s	News	Family
7 PM	Old House (HD)	Earl (HD)	Survivor: Gabon - Last Eden (HD)	** "Walking Tall" (04) Man lights crime.	Smallville (HD)	Ugly Betty (HD)	Hole in the Wall
8 PM	American Masters	The Office (HD)	CSI: Crime (HD)	Jim (HD)	Sex City	Grey's Anatomy: Marital issues (HD)	Kitchen Night
9 PM	American Masters	ER (HD)	News	King	Will (HD)	News	Two & 1/2
10 PM	Charlie Rose	The Tonight Show	(10:35) Late Show	TMZ	Will (HD)	Nightline	Seinfeld
11 PM	News	(11:35) Late Show	Late Late Show	Wife	Cosby	Jimmy Kimmel	Reymond
12 AM	Destinos	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Insider	Paid Prog.

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Depot Entertainment District Venues:

<p>Bleachers Friday, September 26th 11:00 Elevated Soul</p> <p>Saturday, September 27th 11:00 Dustin Garrett & the Texas Cruisers</p> <p>The BlueLight Friday, September 26th 11:00 Bo Cox</p> <p>Saturday, September 27th 11:00 Green River Ordinance</p> <p>Cactus Courtyard Friday, September 26th 6:00 Tyler Rogers 11:00 Zack Walther & The Cronkites</p> <p>Saturday, September 27th 6:00 Kenny Maines 11:00 Jake Hines Band</p> <p>Cactus Theater Friday, September 26th 8:00 Best of the FMX Battle of the Bands: Hail to Arms This Soul Divided Perfect Weather for a Stranger</p> <p>Saturday, September 27th 8:00 Patricia Vonne Joe Ely & Joel Guzman</p> <p>Kluzoz Friday, September 26th 6:00 Curtis Peoples 11:00 Kinky Wizards</p>	<p>Kluzoz Saturday, September 27th 6:00 Chase Warren 11:00 The Shock</p> <p>Thirsty Turtle Friday, September 26th 6:00 Kenny Harris 11:00 Funk Puppets</p> <p>Saturday, September 27th The Treasure Down & the Danny Beal Memorial Concert featuring: 5:30 Doug James 6:40 Electric Gypsies 8:00 Fatcowboy 8:55 What Is Written 11:00 The Ducks 12:15 Elevated Soul</p> <p>Triple J Chophouse & Brewery Friday, September 26th 5:30 Manny Rodriguez 9:00 Manny Rodriguez</p> <p>Saturday, September 27th 5:30 Dr. Skoob 9:00 Bo Garza</p> <p>Tornado Gallery Friday, September 26th 6:00 Mark Wallney 11:00 Hat Trick</p> <p>Saturday, September 27th 6:00 Junior Vasquez 11:00 Kent Mings & TX Bel Aires</p>
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Students compete against chess masters

By **MATTHEW PAYNE**
STAFF WRITER

We will hit 'em. We will wreck 'em. We will check 'em Texas Tech!

What is being called the highest rated chess tournament in the nation hosted a tournament open to Tech students Monday in the Student Union Building.

The 2008 Spice Cup International Invitational Tournament is a round-robin tournament that pits an international slate of 10 players against each other through nine rounds of play over 10 days, ending Sept. 28.

The 10 players all have achieved grand master status, the highest possible status in the chess world.

"We have secured a very prestigious roster of players from around the globe to compete in this tournament," said Susan Polgar, SPICE Director.

The countries represented in the tournament include the United States, India, Germany, Poland, Israel and Iceland.

Harikrishna Pentala, the youngest Indian ever to achieve grand master status, agreed to play as many as 20 students simultaneously during Monday's round.

He was not defeated before the competition's conclusion just after 10 p.m.

Interested contestants were asked to bring their own chess boards and reserve a spot by paying a \$25 entry fee. The contestants were as young as 7 years old. Pentala was undefeated.

Born in the village of Vinjanam Padu in India, Pentala, who has been playing the game since he was 4 years old, broke the record of being the youngest International Master in 2000 and again for being the youngest grand master from India in 2001.

He said he has been representing his country since the age of 14 years old.

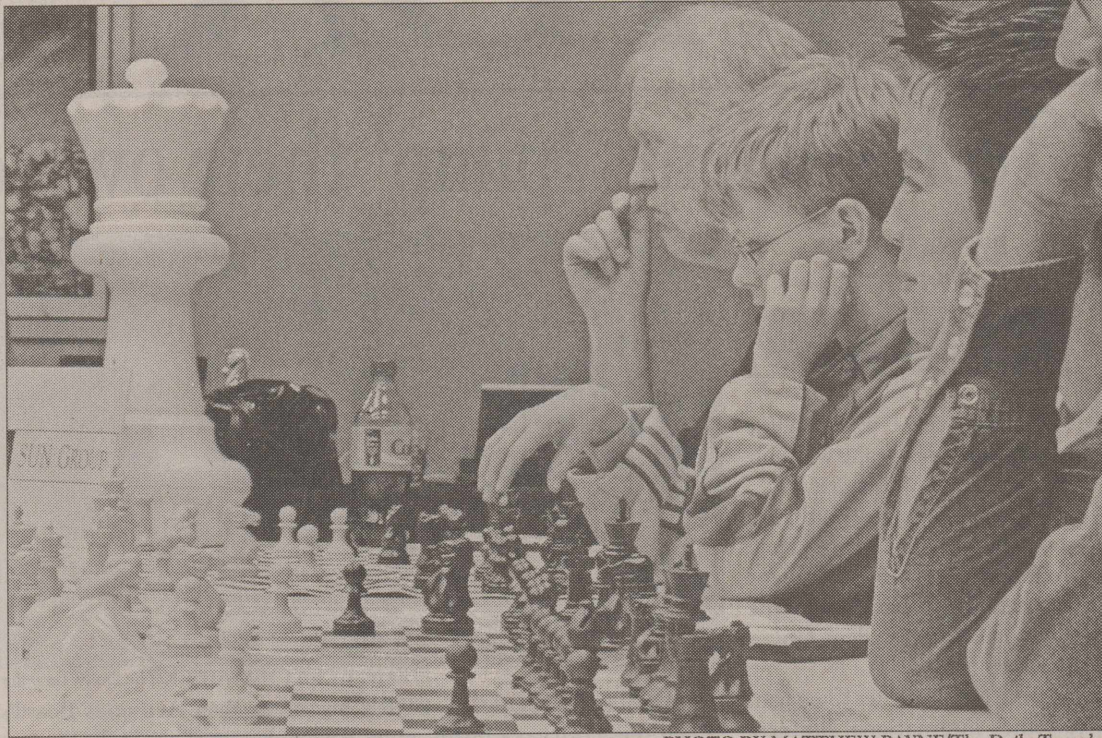


PHOTO BY MATTHEW PAYNE/The Daily Toreador

HARALDUR KARLSSON, AN associate professor of geosciences, and other chess players sit in front of their boards during the 2008 SPICE Cup International Invitational Tournament Monday in the Student Union

While he has traveled all over the world, this is the first tournament that called him to Lubbock.

"I've been all over the United States, but this is my first time in Texas," Pentala said. "I was very happy with how the games went."

Pentala said he has played chess with multiple people simultaneously before, but it was his first time to compete with random members of the public.

Polgar, the founder of the Susan Polgar Foundation and a chess advocate at Tech, was proud to open the event to the public.

"The foundation's goals are to promote chess in a social, competitive and educational environment," Polgar said. "Study after study shows that children who are better at chess get better grades."

While SPICE and the Susan Polgar Foundation are two different

organizations, they work closely together and share many goals.

"The missions of the organizations are to promote the university, recruit students who like chess to allow students to represent Tech through chess and academic excellence and research," she said.

While many researchers have studied the connection between performance at chess and performance in school, Polgar said, it has never been done in a strictly academic environment. The main goal of SPICE is to support the theory of correlation in an academic environment.

But Susan Polgar is not just a researcher; she has accumulated a reputation in the chess world as a fierce competitor.

"My passion for chess was an accident, really," Polgar said. "I started playing when I was four, and I just loved it."

She has won four world titles and five Olympic gold medals in chess. When she moved to New York and

had children, she wanted to do something for children and chess, so she founded the Susan Polgar Foundation. The foundation provides opportunities and scholarships to students who love chess. Although there is a slight emphasis on female participation, males also are encouraged to join.

"The tournament will continue throughout the week and into the weekend," she said. "I invite all students to check out the tournament."

More side events will be offered by the tournament, including the SPICE Cup Scholastic Open, the SPICE Cup Open Grand Prix and the Texas State Women's Open Championship.

Half of the proceeds from the tournament will go to Hurricane Ike victims in Texas, and the other half will go toward supporting the SPICE Cup Festival. This event is being sponsored by SPICE, the Knight Raiders chess club and the Susan Polgar Foundation.

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California professor's research evaluates appropriate touching

By **KATHERINE JARVIS**
THE ORION (CAL STATE-CHICO)

Most people have a bubble — that is, their personal space — and one California State University-Chico professor is figuring out exactly what can burst them.

Mark Tomita of the health and community services department examined the rules that govern where students can touch others and where others can touch them.

In his study, Tomita looked at what places on the body were public touch zones for casual relationships for both opposite and same sex interactions.

He decided to do this study because most focus on more intimate relationships, such as those between romantic couples and parents and their children, he said. It's important because there are often misunderstandings between casual relationships.

The study looks primarily at white, college-aged, U.S.-born, heterosexual students, Tomita said. This wasn't to be biased, but will be used as a control group for a broader study

planned for next semester.

The common "public touch zones" acceptable for touching among Chico State students on both same and opposite sex interactions were the back, arms and head, according to the study. However, there are more areas on the male body that females are thought to be allowed to touch than areas of the female body that males are thought to be allowed to touch.

The fact that women can touch more areas can give men the wrong idea, Tomita said.

"It's probably not OK for women to think that they can touch twice as many public body zones as men can," he said.

Men might get the idea that a woman is interested in him by the way she's touching him, Tomita said.

"Same gender is usually not a problem," he said. "It's the opposite gender we're concerned with."

But the study concludes that men aren't as touchy toward women as assumed, Tomita said.

Tomita hopes as his study develops it can be used in classes or possibly freshmen orientation to inform students where it's appropriate to touch, he said.

Official: Lunchtime conversation with Bush changed stem cell policy

By **KEVIN BARGNES**
BADGER HERALD (U. WISCONSIN)

In a summer 2001 meeting with President George W. Bush, former Gov. Tommy Thompson helped convince Bush to approve limited embryonic stem cell research, Thompson said Tuesday at the World Stem Cell Summit.

Thompson, who served as Bush's secretary of health and human services from 2001 to 2005, said he finally felt comfortable telling the story "because President Bush is almost out of office."

Bush had asked Thompson and Deputy Chief of Staff Karl Rove to lunch.

"He says, 'Gentlemen, I want you to debate embryonic stem cells for me,'" Thompson said. "He says, 'Karl, I know you're opposed to it, and Tommy, you're for it. I want to learn about it.'"

Thompson said he told the president "every American" has

a relative or friend who has suffered from diseases like cancer, Parkinson's disease and dementia.

"And every one of those individuals that is suffering from that disease has got some inner hope, some inner hope that embryonic stem cells or stem cell research is going to find a cure for them," Thompson said.

On Aug. 9, 2001, Bush announced he would allow federal funding for the research of 78 lines of embryonic stem cells.

Prior to that, the administration refused to fund any research involving embryonic stem cells, and Rove aimed to continue that policy.

"I'm absolutely certain if that lunch had not taken place, the research of the 78 lines would not have taken place," Thompson said.

Thompson, a four-term Wisconsin governor, has been a supporter of embryonic stem cell research since 1998, when University of Wisconsin anatomy professor James Thomson first isolated human embryonic stem cell lines.

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

Puzzles by PageFiller.

In Sudoku, all the numbers 1 to 9 must be in every row, column and 3 x 3 box. Use logic to define the answers.

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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Text messages becoming a growing safety concern

By GINA AKERS

THE DAILY VIDETTE (ILLINOIS STATE U.)

Many people view text messaging as a convenience, allowing them to communicate even when they cannot talk, such as at work, in class or even while driving. Some just prefer it to talking on the phone.

Operation Teen Safe Driving, a program launched in spring of 2007 by the Illinois Department of Transportation, aims to decrease fatal automobile crashes among teens by informing them of how to drive safely. In 2008 more than one hundred Illinois high schools implemented the program and some are choosing to educate their students on the dangers of text messaging

while driving.

"We know that anything that takes people's eyes off the road is not good," Director of Division of Traffic Safety Mike Stout, who serves as an executive committee member on OTSD, said. "When a young person takes [his or her] eyes off the road for any period of time it's dangerous because of their lack of experience for driving."

Generally, text messaging is a habit of people in their teens, twenties and even thirties. According to an article by MSNBC, a Nationwide Insurance survey conducted earlier this year of more than 1,500 drivers found that nearly 40 percent of teenagers and people between the ages of 18 and 30 admitted to text

messaging while driving.

A recent study released by FindLaw.com found that 48 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds polled admitted sending a text message, instant message or e-mail while driving.

"Text messaging and lack of experience for driving equals a disaster. No one should be text messaging while driving," Stout said.

Recent tragedies have alerted the public to the dangers of text messaging while driving. Metrolink engineer Robert Sanchez failed to stop for a red signal and his train collided with a Union Pacific freight train in California on Sept. 12. The crash caused 25 deaths, including that of the engineer, and 138 injuries.

It is suspected that Sanchez may

have been text messaging when he failed to brake the train. His cell phone records show that he sent and received messages while on duty the day of the crash, investigators said. It is unclear if these text messages were sent near the time of the accident.

In Illinois 1,357 car crashes involved the driver operating a wireless device in 2007, Lori Midden, special studies manager at IDOT, said. The statistics do not specify how the cell phone was being used.

Senior double journalism and history major James Taylor acknowledges sending and receiving text messages while driving.

"Usually when I text it's on the highway, not in school zones or where it's 30 miles an hour. There's

a time and a place," Taylor, who usually text messages to find out sports scores or make plans with friends, said.

"In some situations I think [text messaging while driving] is dangerous," Taylor added. "I wouldn't recommend doing it ... around campus."

In 2007 Washington became the first state to ban text messaging while driving. So far, four other states - Alaska, Louisiana, Minnesota and New Jersey - have followed suit.

An Illinois bill banning distractions while driving is currently in the House of Representatives.

These distractions include text messaging, reading, applying make-up and changing clothes. Republican

Representative Robert Pritchard is sponsoring the bill, which he will reintroduce when the House meets on Jan. 2, 2009.

"It is easy to be distracted while driving. We, as humans, need to understand that there are limits to our mental capabilities and we need to focus on one thing at a time. Some people can do several things [at once] and do them well, other people cannot," Pritchard said.

"I think it's an important concept. I think we need to educate people and punish them, if you will, through negative reinforcement and hope those consequences are not a life and death situation."

Nudes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from Tech and is currently working toward a bachelor's degree in community family and addiction services at the university.

Earning his second degree is part of his goal to continue learning throughout his lifetime, he said, and modeling for the art school is a way for him to contribute to other students' education at the same time.

"It's nice to be able to assist and aid in the education of young people," Stanz said.

Tech art professor David Lindsay said nude models are the best way for students to learn to draw human figures.

"Drawing from a model is probably the oldest activity that the art department engages in," Lindsay said.

Stanz said the first time he modeled nude was an interesting experience, but he wasn't embarrassed. In the past he spent some time practicing stand-up comedy in several local bars, and overcoming stage fright made it easier to overcome any anxiety about modeling nude.

"If you can get on stage and do what I do," Stanz said, "taking your clothes off is nothing."

When he told his friends about his job, he said, they laughed and asked if students laugh at his body.

Fortunately they don't, he said, because the students are taught to be professional.

"They need all types of body types," Stanz said. "They can't only draw someone who is muscular."

However, modeling nude has encouraged him to work out and get in better shape. He said he has lost several pounds since taking the job.

Lindsay said it is important to know how to draw a nude figure, be-

cause it makes it easier for students to understand how to draw fabric folds over a clothed figure.

"Some of the most conservative art is figurative," he said, "and to do a good job, you have to know what the figure looks like."

The advanced figure-drawing classes use nude models on most

days, he said, and models are required to hold poses from anywhere between 20 seconds to more than three hours.

Lindsay said the idea of drawing a naked model can be intimidating to stu-

dents, but they do not hesitate for long.

"Most of the students are very quickly not bothered," he said, "because they're focusing on drawing."

Destiny Strong, a senior studio art major from Lubbock, agreed and said

it's also important for the professor to set a serious tone.

"Once you start drawing," Strong said, "you forget there's a naked person."

>> tina.arons@ttu.edu

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

1 Madame Bovary
5 Wise men
10 Prison knife
14 Prom goer
15 Chubby
16 Helper
17 Gator's cousin
18 Skylit courtyards
19 Wrinkled citrus fruit
20 Start of a quip
23 Unseal, poetically
24 That girl
25 Type of tire
28 Yrbk. section
31 Killer whales
35 Is qualified to
36 Installed again, as tiles
39 Grab a bite
40 Part 2 of quip
43 Frequently
44 Change with the times
45 Sort of soldier or hat?

DOWN

1 Make a lasting impression?
2 No more than
3 Feline reply
4 Relay finisher
5 Elbow room
6 Choir member

7 Ashram figure
8 Kuwait's ruler
9 Rhubarbs
10 Golden table
11 Lofty
12 Like a couch potato
13 Layer of ore
21 Massenet work
22 HBO rival
25 Add to the heap?
26 Singer Abdul
27 Ink
28 One possessed?
29 Synthetic fabric
30 Window bases
32 del Sol
33 Sean of 'The Lord of the Rings'

34 Glistened
37 Cote resident
38 Fourth of MMXVI
41 Cheap ocean passage
42 Sporty Chevy

47 Erhard's program
50 Religious dissent
52 Relish
53 Hag
54 Edible first prize
55 Arles assents

56 Samovars
57 Basilica section
58 Artistic work
59 Lacquered metalware
60 See socially
61 Sailing
62 Poisonous evergreens

By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA 9/25/08

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

BLOG CNBC SAJAK
IOWA AURA ABASE
COLLISIONCOURSE
STS OTTAWA TRIP
ANO DELI EST
WHATIFS LIEDTO
SANTAFETRAIL
WUI PRE AMPS
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EZPASS TRESTLE
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Tech volleyball falls to Missouri in three sets

By KEVIN CULLEN
STAFF WRITER

A different Big 12 opponent brought the same result for Texas Tech volleyball.

Tech (5-9, 0-3 in Big 12 Conference play) failed to pick up its first conference victory after falling in straight sets (18-25, 24-26, 15-25) to Missouri Wednesday in the United Spirit Arena.

In the first set, the Red Raiders started things off with a service ace by setter Caroline Witte followed by the second point to put them up 2-0. However, after the Tigers evened things at 2-2, Tech didn't see another lead as Missouri cruised to a 25-18 win.

The Tigers (5-6, 1-2 in Big 12) dominated with their attacks in the set as they had a .355 attack percentage compared to Tech's .167. Missouri's Weiwen Wang paced the Tigers with seven kills.

"I was pleased with the way we were able to play tonight," said Missouri coach Wayne Kreklow. "We've been struggling a little bit — struggling with our offense a great deal. Our hitting percentage has been pretty anemic so far, but I felt like we passed pretty well tonight and put ourselves in position to run an offense a

little bit better."

The second set had a different pace for the Red Raiders, who controlled the set at the beginning.

Down 17-10 at one point in the set, the Tigers began to chip away at the Red Raiders' lead with timely kills and blocks. The Tigers eventually evened things up at 22, despite many run-stopping plays by Tech's middle blocker Amanda Dowdy, who led the team with six kills in the second set. The two teams then traded points until Missouri took the last two, winning the set 26-24.

Tech coach Nancy Todd said errors were one of the biggest factors in losing the lead they had built and, ultimately, the set.

"Those are some mental errors to me," she said. "People kinda freeze up and they have to be aggressive. To me, those are non-aggressive errors. Those are scared errors."

The inability to finish sets has been a recurring theme with the Red Raiders this season, Dowdy said.

"I don't know what it is with this team, but for some reason we don't know how to finish," she said. "I know everybody wants to win but we can't just go out there and expect to win. We have to

work at it and we have to want it more than the other team. I just don't think it's there, but it will be."

Missouri dominated the third set in much the same way as Tech did at the outset of the second set, with one glaring difference: Missouri finished the match.

The Tigers jumped out to an early lead at 16-8 and never looked back.

The Red Raiders were unable to get within less than seven points the entire set.

The defeat in the second set seemed to carry over to the next as Todd said her team came out flat and lacked energy throughout the final set.

Dowdy said she does not understand how the team can come out in the third set after a loss and play as poorly as it did.

"Speaking for myself, coming out of the locker room I wanted to get out there and kill them," said Dowdy, who led the team with 13 kills in the match. "I don't wanna be behind seven points when we start a game, especially after losing. I just kinda feel like we are relaxing too much and we can't do that. We gotta play every game and win everything."

► kevin.m.cullen@ttu.edu

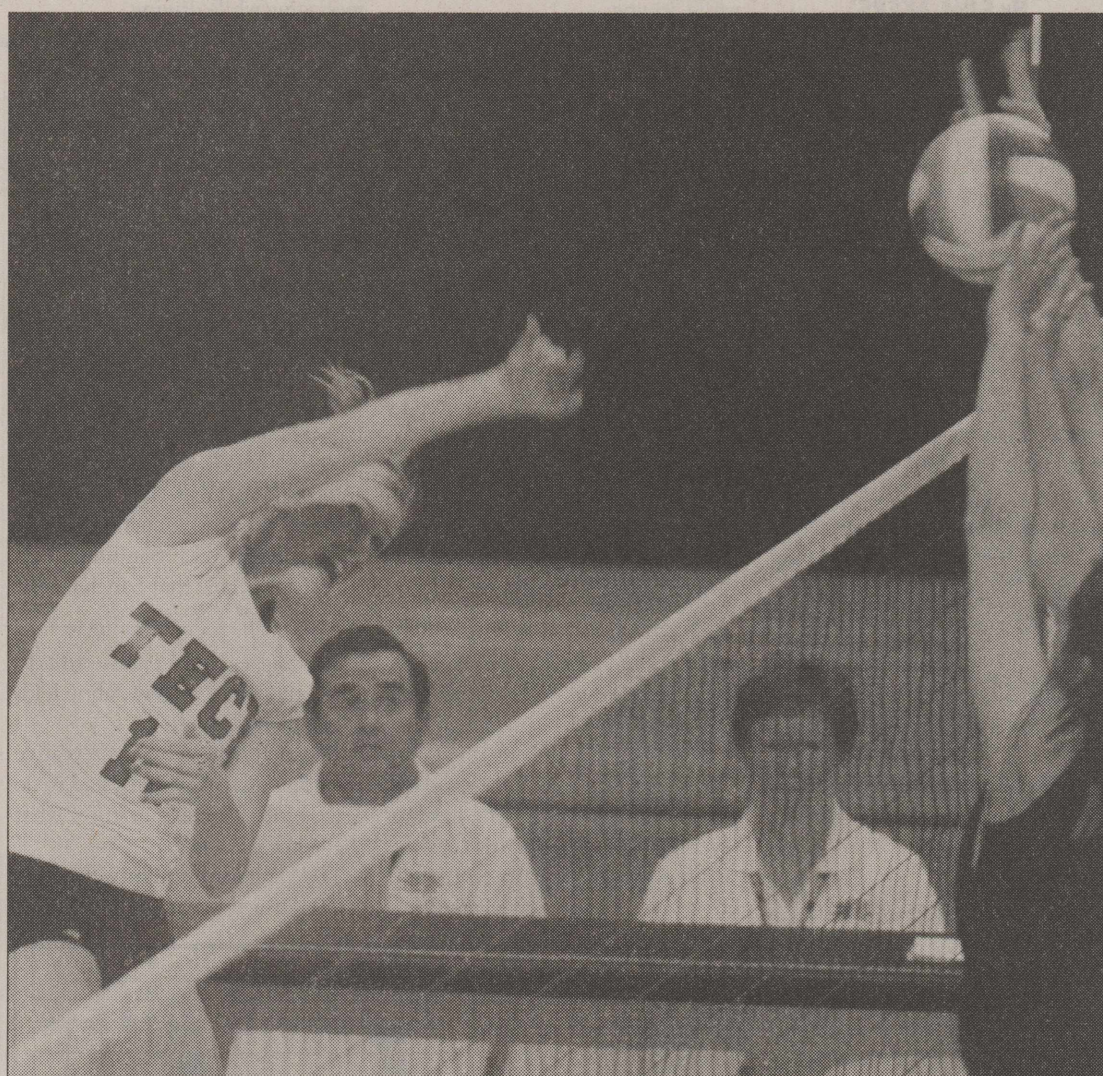


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH OUTSIDE hitter Hayley Ball spikes the ball during Tech's 3-0 loss against Missouri Wednesday evening at the United Spirit Arena.

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Shock looking for 3rd straight trip to WNBA finals

(AP) — Detroit and Los Angeles opened the season as the popular

picks to reach the WNBA finals, and both teams are now one step away from fulfilling those expectations.

The Shock, looking for their third straight trip to the championship round, closed the season with six wins in their last seven games to earn the Eastern Conference's top seed, and then beat Indiana in the first round. Detroit led 41-10 midway through the second quarter through the decisive Game 3 and cruised to an easy victory.

"We executed brilliantly and the players deserve all the credit in the

world," Detroit coach Bill Laimbeer said. "The performance we put on is the quality of a championship-caliber team."

Detroit won the championship in 2006 and fell short in its bid to repeat, losing Game 5 at home to Phoenix last year.

The Sparks, seeking their first trip to the finals since losing to the Shock in 2003, struggled for consistency but also finished the season strong — winning six of their last eight to take the West's third seed — and then beat Seattle in the opening round.

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Alpha Phi Omega
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American Society of Civil Engineers
American Society of Interior Designers
American Society of Landscape Architects
American Society of Mechanical Engineers
Association for Computing Machinery
Association of Biologists
Association of Information Technology Professionals
Association of Students About Service
Baptist Student Ministry
Beta Beta Beta
Beta Theta Pi
Black Student Association
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Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship
Chi Omega
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Christians on Campus
College Republicans of Tech
Collegiate Network Association
Criminal Trial Lawyer's Association
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SPORTS

PAGE 10
THURSDAY SEPT. 25, 2008

Bird playing well in first season as starter

By ALEX YBARRA
STAFF WRITER

Defensive coordinator Ruffin McNeill flashed a heavy-duty afro before most Texas Tech students were born, and now that those days are long gone, it's safe to say he holds a deep appreciation for someone with a lot of hair.

Specifically the hair of strong side linebacker Bront Bird.

"I like it," McNeill said of the sophomore's long blonde locks. "I'm a baby boomer. I'm a 60s, 70s kid, so it doesn't bother me. I don't have any hair, so I like seeing somebody with hair."

McNeill also likes seeing someone making plays, which is something Bird is proving he can do in his first year as a starter.

Bird broke out in a tackling frenzy during a 35-19 win against Nevada — totaling 14 tackles and one sack, nearly surpassing the 16 tackles he recorded during his freshman campaign.

This season, Bird's 21 tackles trail only cornerback Jamar Wall, who has 22, and middle linebacker Brian Duncan, who has 28.

"He's real rangy," Tech coach Mike Leach said. "He's made a lot of plays. He's getting more and more kind of disciplined. I think that he's gonna be really good. His best days are ahead of him."

The 6-foot-3, 226-pound Bird, a native of Odessa, said it feels good to finally contribute to the team on a larger, more consistent basis, unlike when he was a backup who received little reps last season.

"I'm loving it," he said. "You're part of the team more and everything like that. Not to say that any guy that's second string isn't, but first string, you feel like the weight of the defense is on your shoulders. I love that, and I strive for that. It's been awesome. I'm soaking up the moment."

His ascent to the starting strong side linebacker role had a lot to do with his athleticism and length, McNeill said.

At Permian High School, Bird was a versatile weapon.

Playing offense and defense, he earned All-District honors at wide receiver and strong safety.

At wideout, he caught 45 balls for 824 yards and eight touchdowns, while recording 73 tackles, three interceptions and three fumble recoveries on defense.

It was that type of athleticism that allowed Bird to bump sophomore Brian Duncan from strong side to middle linebacker — where Duncan said he is more comfortable.

Also with veteran Marlon Williams manning the weak side, Tech's linebackers are having a productive season.

Bird said the new system McNeill installed after he took over for former defensive coordinator Lyle Setencich is a more simple approach to gap assignments and it gets easier each day he spends time in it.

"Just the amount of reps are helping out everything, because the more you see out there — the more reps you get the easier it is," Bird said. "The easier your mind develops plays, the faster you react to things and such and such."



PHOTO COURTESY OF TEXAS TECH ATHLETICS
TEXAS TECH'S BRONT BIRD has 21 tackles on the season, only trailing Jamar Wall's 22 and Brian Duncan's 28, for the team lead.

One defensive category Bird seems particularly proud of is Tech's proficiency in third down situations. The Red Raiders have forced a three-and-out numerous times this season, holding opponents to a 22.2 percent third down conversion rate — good for third in the nation.

During his breakout game against Nevada, Bird remembers Tech's offense going for it twice on fourth-and-one around its own 30-yard line and committing a turnover on downs both times.

Bird said what McNeill told the defense after Leach's decision to go for it has stuck with the him and his teammates ever since.

"Coach Ruff said it doesn't matter what the offense does or where they put us," Bird said. "They don't get in the end zone. That attitude, of course everyone tries to think like that, but hearing that, I think the second after he said that everyone has kind of taken that personally, and tried to fulfill his wishes as good as possible."

>> daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu

Tech men's golf finishes ninth at Shoal Creek

By KEVIN CULLEN
STAFF WRITER

Just as you cannot take plays off in most sports, you cannot take holes off in golf.

The No. 19 Texas Tech men's golf team finished up in ninth place at the Shoal Creek Intercollegiate Tuesday in Birmingham, Ala.

The Red Raiders were in contention with a few holes to go, said Tech coach Greg Sands, but slipped up, knocking them down to ninth place.

"We obviously didn't play very good," he said. "All the guys are disappointed. We really were, with a couple holes to go, in third place and kinda had a disaster at the end."

Sands said three players had the misfortune of hitting bad shots at an untimely point in the tournament, which ultimately cost them a Top 5 finish.

The disappointing end to its tournament had Tech back to work at 6:15 a.m. Wednesday, Sands said.

Tech's Will Griffin was the top golfer for the team as he shot a second-round 68, good for second-lowest round in the tournament. Griffin's performance in the second round allowed him to overcome a final-round 76 and finish third overall.

The Shoal Creek Collegiate, an event in which Griffin was the co-medalist a year ago, was the first Top 10 finish in a team event for Griffin since March 27. He finished that day tied for 10th place at the

Western Intercollegiate in Santa Cruz, Calif.

Griffin finished 62nd in Tech's first tournament of the fall season, the Carpet Capital Collegiate.

"He likes that course," Sands said, "and sometimes that's what you need, is a place where you have had some success, and he has certainly had some success at that place. It was good to see that he played well. I definitely think he is out of (his slump)."

Griffin said he changed the way he approached the golf course in Alabama.

"I kinda just tried to play just off feel and go away from some of the mechanics I've been working on," he said. "Sometimes I play my best just because I'm going off feel. That's mostly how my game is; it's not real mechanical."

Included in the field with Tech were No. 2 LSU, who finished two strokes ahead of Tech, and Top 30 teams Mississippi, Wake Forest, East Tennessee State, Auburn and Alabama-Birmingham.

Shoal Creek was the second tournament in a row that Tech has finished within two strokes of a Top 2 team. The Red Raiders finished one stroke behind then-No. 1 Georgia at the Carpet Capital Collegiate.

Sands said while he knows his team can perform better, and the recent play against top teams is encouraging.

"I think we know we can (play with them)," he said. "Earlier, we just gotta be a little more consistent. LSU is a good team, but I honestly felt like that we didn't play our best golf either tournament and played with some pretty good teams, so that's a good sign."

>> kevin.m.cullen@ttu.edu



GRIFFIN

"I think that he's gonna be really good. His best days are ahead of him."

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