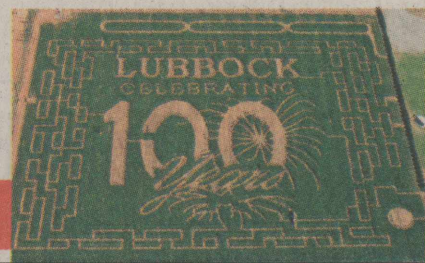


Luxury football seats could fund scholarships

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Get lost in the corn maze

NEWS, PAGE 2

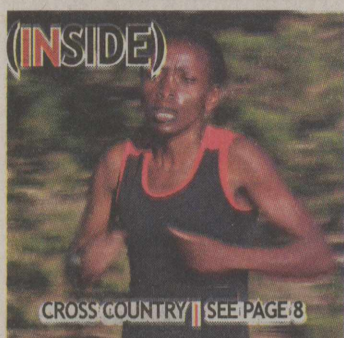


Friday THURSDAY, NOV. 6, 2008 VOLUME 83 ■ ISSUE 54

THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

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(INBRIEF)

STATE

Hutchison: Resigning wouldn't hurt Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison isn't ready to say whether she will run for governor in 2010, but she said Thursday that she doesn't think that resigning from the Senate before her term ends at the end of 2012 would hurt Texas in Congress.

"I have looked at this from all angles," Hutchison, a Republican, told reporters after speaking at a luncheon hosted by the University of Texas. "And I believe that from the standpoint of Texas in the Senate, that if I did decide to step down in order to run for governor, that Texas would be actually well positioned because John Cornyn will have had a full term."

NATION

Voters' word may not be last in Minn. Senate race

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — One Senate candidate says the voters have spoken. The other says the electorate still needs to be heard.

In the end, experts say, it could be the courts or even the Senate that speaks the loudest on Minnesota's unsettled Senate race.

While the race is headed for an automatic recount, Republican Sen. Norm Coleman and Democratic challenger Al Franken have other options to alter the outcome.

The recount is due to start once results are made official Nov. 18, and it could take weeks. Coleman clung to a 342-vote lead, out of nearly 2.9 million votes cast, as election officials around the state double-checked their reports.

WORLD

Afghan Officials: Air strike kills civilians

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghan officials says a coalition airstrike in northwestern Afghanistan has killed 13 Taliban militants and seven civilians.

Deputy governor Abdul Ghani Saburi of Badghis province says the airstrike hit a house in Ghormach district early Thursday.

A spokesman for the U.S. forces in Afghanistan says they are aware of possible civilian casualties following an insurgent ambush in the area.

DEATH TOLL

4190

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

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Potential Obama appointments under speculation

By DAVID ESPO ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — While President-elect Barack Obama enjoyed a few days with his family after a hard-fought election, speculation swirled in the nation's capital around potential administration appointees.

Obama pivoted quickly to begin filling out his team on Wednesday, selecting hard-charg-

ing Illinois Rep. Rahm Emanuel as White House chief of staff while aides stepped up the pace of transition work that had been cloaked in pre-election secrecy.

Several Democrats confirmed that Emanuel had been offered the job. While it was not clear he had accepted, a rejection would amount to an unlikely public snub of the president-elect within hours of an Electoral College landslide.

Obama has promised to hold a news conference later in the week.

As president-elect, he begins receiving highly classified briefings from top intelligence officials Thursday.

In offering the post of White House chief of staff to Emanuel, Obama turned to a fellow Chicago politician with a far different style from his own, a man known for his bluntness as well as his single-minded determination.

Emanuel was a political and policy aide in Bill Clinton's White House. Leaving that, he turned to

investment banking, then won a Chicago-area House seat six years ago. In Congress, he moved quickly into the leadership. As chairman of the Democratic campaign committee in 2006, he played an instrumental role in restoring his party to power after 12 years in the minority.

Emanuel maintained neutrality during the long primary battle between Obama and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, not surprising given his long-standing ties to the

former first lady and his Illinois connections with Obama.

The day after the election there already was jockeying for Cabinet appointments.

Several Democrats said Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, who won a new six-year term on Tuesday, was angling for secretary of state. They spoke on condition of anonymity, saying they were not authorized to discuss any private

OBAMA continued on page 5 >>>

THE Mike & Mike SHOW



PHOTO BY PHILLIP JONES/The Daily O'Collegian

Tech, OSU face off one year after famous tirades

By ALEX YBARRA STAFF WRITER

The only thing wilder than last year's game between Oklahoma State and Texas Tech was probably each coach's post-game press conference, which quickly became the other "Mike and Mike Show."

Although OSU's Mike Gundy made most of the headlines, the YouTube videos of him and Tech coach Mike Leach after the game have more than a million hits.

Gundy attacked a local columnist for a story that highlighted a quarterback switch, while Leach, who was equally outraged, went after his players' dismal performance.

"Where are we at in society today?" Gundy said in that press conference. "Come after me! I'm a man! I'm 40! I'm not a kid, write something about me or our coaches."

Leach blasted his team, which allowed 610 yards in a 49-42 loss while its offense totaled more than 700 yards.

"We got hit in the mouth and acted like somebody took our lunch money," Leach said during his press conference, "and all we wanted to do was have pouty expressions on our face until somebody dobbed our little tears off and made us (expletive) feel better."

In the press conference on Monday, Leach

revisited Gundy's epic rant in a way only the eccentric Leach could.

"I'm 47, I still haven't made man," he said. "Everybody's got their tirades. We're all in glass houses, so you may throw little stones, but not very big ones."

The two coaches will meet again this weekend under more pressured circumstances. For the third time in five weeks, No. 8 OSU will play a Top 5 team away from home and No. 2 Tech faces its second Top-10 opponent when the two teams meet at 7 p.m. Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

The Cowboys (9-1,4-1 in Big 12 Conference play) have some experience playing top-ranked opponents on the road this season. They defeated then-No. 3 Missouri 28-23 on Oct. 11 but lost a close one to then-No. 1 Texas, 28-24, in Austin two weeks later.

Cowboys' quarterback Zac Robinson, whose

FOOTBALL continued on page 8 >>>

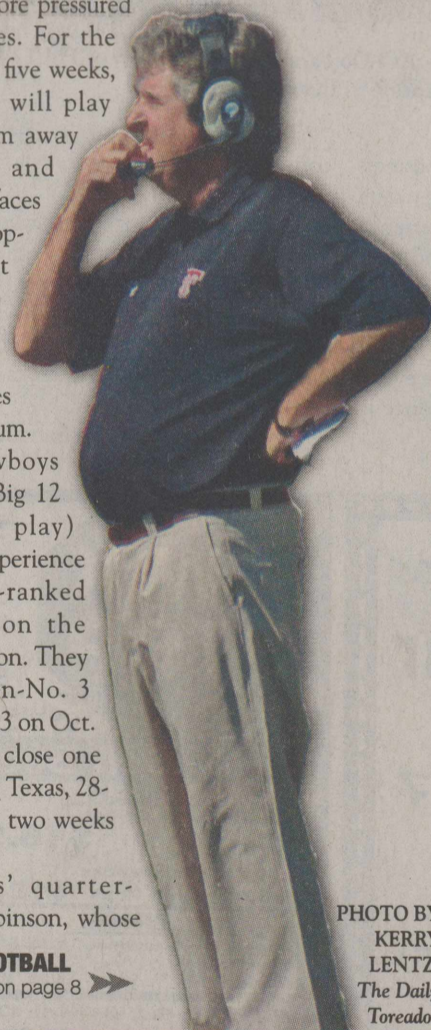


PHOTO BY KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Toreador

National football exposure shines spotlight on Tech

By JON VANDERLAAN STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech stomping Texas on Saturday is increasing the national exposure of the university.

Kenneth DeMarree, an assistant professor of psychology at Tech, said the more people see the university's name or information about the university, the quicker they recall Tech when thinking about universities.

A person is more likely to have a favorable view of something the more they are exposed to it, he said.

An experiment in which a woman walked into a room of students several times throughout a semester, and the students were told to relate how attractive the woman was, is an example DeMarree said could relate to the image of Tech through the national media.

The more times the woman walked into the room, he said, the more attractive students believed she was. Similarly, the more people are exposed to Tech, the more likely they are to associate it with a good university.

The associations made in the media with success and winning are good for the university, DeMarree said, because good associations do not necessarily have to relate to academics for the university to be held to a higher standard.

Ethan Logan, interim managing director of undergraduate recruitment and admissions, said the success of the Tech football team should not be regarded as the only cause of possible admission increases, but it is a large part.

Because the university has finite resources, he said, the national exposure would be good for recruiting states the university could not reach using its traditional recruiting efforts.

Exposure on the national level will be good to help "hook" people on Tech, Logan said, and as prospective students learn more about the students, faculty, staff and administration at the university, Tech will "sell itself."

Chris Snead, associate vice president with the Tech Alumni Association, said the success of the football team and consequent national spotlight has elicited pride from Red Raiders across the country — for example: record alumni event attendance in New York City and Nashville, just to name a couple.

"There's no publicity that's bad when they spell your name right," he said. "(We are) excited that the

IMAGE continued on page 3 >>>

Stadium student section capacity greater than originally thought

By JON VANDERLAAN STAFF WRITER

With another big football game looming on the horizon, some Texas Tech fans may want to learn a lesson from last week's game and stick around for a while after the gates are first closed.

Texas Tech fire marshals decided to allow about 3,000 more students than originally planned into the Tech vs. UT game Saturday after deeming it was safe to do so.

Chief Ron Seacrist of the Tech Police Department said the gates at the Jones AT&T Stadium closed before the game, but were later reopened to let more students in.

Students were told before the game only 11,600 students would be allowed in, but when students settled into their seats, Seacrist said, officials determined more students would be able to fit in the stadium.

The Tech fire marshals were the ones to make the deci-

sion, he said, and did so only after it was clear more students would fit in the stadium.

Chris Cook, associate athletic director for media relations, said the department closed the gates mainly to reduce congestion at the gates and allow students to go to their seats.

While the goal is to get as many students in as possible, he said, they have to be aware of the fire code and prevent exceeding the limits of the stadium.

When the congestion around the gates was cleared, and the fire marshals gave the OK, Cook said, the department was able to let about 3,000 more students into the stadium.

For Saturday's game against Oklahoma State University, he said, students should continue to wait if gates close before the game starts because the department always will work to get as many students in as possible and will not stop short.

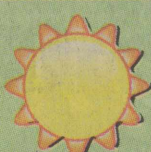
Despite the attempt to fill the stadium as much as possible, Cook said, one stipulation is that all exits from the stadium must be open.

Bob Bailey, assistant fire marshal for the city of Lubbock, said while he cannot comment specifically on the stadium because it is the Tech fire marshals' jurisdiction, many factors go into determining occupancy load for a venue, including the ability to exit, seating and open areas, some of which can override the others.

Having every seat full in a venue, Bailey said, does not necessarily mean the venue is at maximum occupancy, and the decision is a judgment call based on a number of factors.

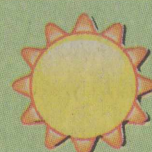
Based on personal experience and relationships with the Tech fire marshals, he said, safety is their top priority; they would not make a decision that would jeopardize the safety of students and fans.

>>> jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu



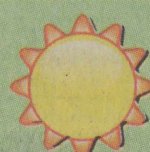
TODAY Sunny

High 66 Low 36



Saturday Sunny

High 72 Low 39



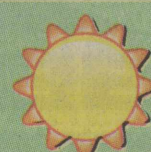
Sunday Sunny

High 74 Low 47



Monday Few Showers

High 63 Low 31



Tuesday Mostly Sunny

High 57 Low 33

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Luxury football seats could fund scholarships, more seating

By MIKE GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech athletic department plans to expand Jones AT&T Stadium's seating capacity by 2010 by constructing club seats and suites at a projected cost of \$25 million.

Steve Uryasz, the senior associate director of athletics, said beginning after the present football season, construction will begin to renovate the eastern side of the stadium with a Spanish Renaissance facade similar to the west side of the stadium and will feature 550 club seats, 22 suites with 20 seats each and four double seats with 40 seats respectively.

Uryasz said the single suites will cost Tech fans \$30,000 a season plus the purchase of 20 season tickets for the seats in the suite, and double suites will cost twice as much. Club seats will cost more than general admission seats.

All of the future club seats and suites have been sold already.

"This will help us move our program along by making our stadium a first-class stadium," he said. "All around the country, colleges build club seats and suites in hopes they raise revenue for other projects."

"All around the country, colleges build club seats and suites in hopes they raise revenue for other projects."

STEVE URYASZ
TEXAS TECH SENIOR ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Uryasz said the funding generated by the new seats could jumpstart the construction of new student section and general admission seats.

"Ultimately, we want to fill the area behind the north end zone with seats and increase our stadium's capacity to 65,000-plus seats," he said. "We want to give all students every opportunity to get into the football games. Our student base is invaluable as demonstrated last Saturday."

Construction will last through the 2009 football season, Uryasz said, and is expected to be completed by 2010.

"The construction will impact some parking on the east side of the stadium, but how much we don't know yet," he said.

In addition to funding seats, Uryasz said, the club seats and suites will be able to fully fund several full-ride scholarships for student-athletes.

According to the Institutional Development Office, which is overseeing the funding for the stadium's east side development, the \$25 million needed for the construction almost has been raised.

About \$5 million has been raised since the stadium's funding campaign was announced Aug. 7, according to a Tech news release. The \$5 million combined with private gifts has brought the total of raised funds to approximately \$24 million.

"The response to this fundraising effort has been tremendous and we are thankful to all our generous donors," Tech Chancellor Kent Hance said in the news release. "We are close to reaching our goal and need all those who have been planning to give to make that donation today so we can finish the campaign and start construction as soon as football season ends."

Tech supporters can help the Tech Athletic Department attain the remaining funds needed by visiting the Web site, www.give2tech.com.

► michael.graham@ttu.edu

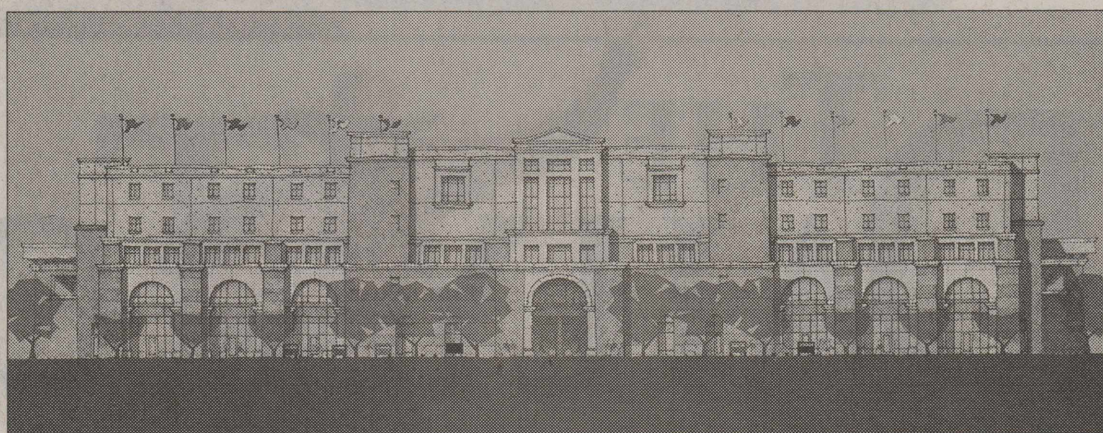


PHOTO COURTESY OF TEXAS TECH FACILITIES PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

A \$25 MILLION renovation project would give the east side of Jones AT&T Stadium a new facade.

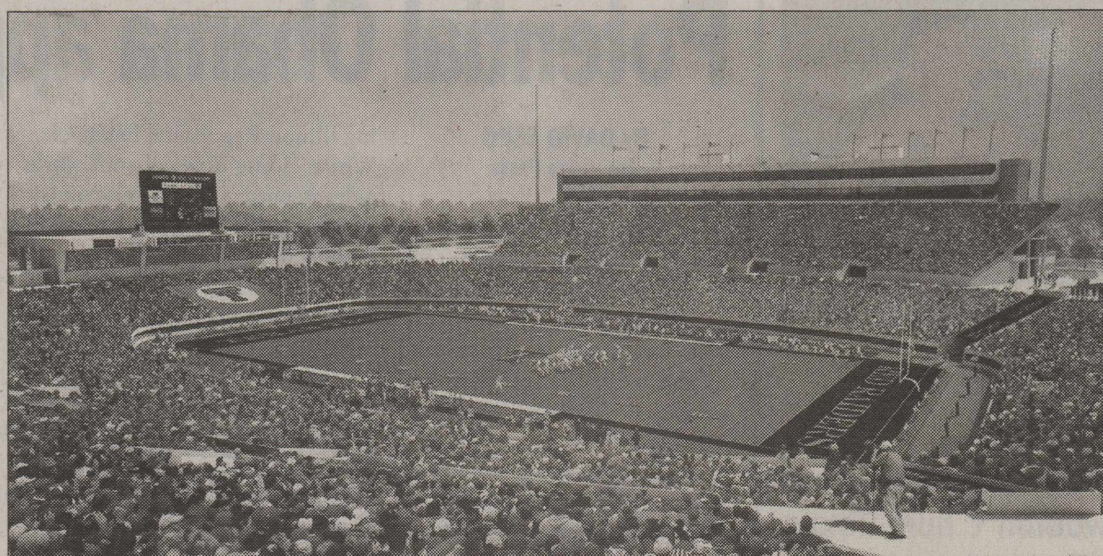


PHOTO COURTESY OF TEXAS TECH FACILITIES PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

NEW CLUB AND box seats could be added to the east side of the Jones AT&T Stadium by 2010.

In its eighth year, corn maze still going strong

By MELANIE TEAGUE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Tech Activities Board hosted several events during October at The Maize at At'l Do Farms, and the location's overall visitor totals are increasing every year.

Every year, thousands flock to the maze, and their numbers increase every year, said the farm's owner, Patti Simpson.

The corn maze occupies a nine-acre area, she said, which is about the size of 10 football fields.

Simpson and her husband, both Texas Tech alumni, began The Maize in 2001. That year's visitors totaled about 20,000, she said.

The total number of visitors last year was about 33,000, including families, church groups, scouts, Tech organizations, students, high school and junior high students and out-of-town visitors.

The Tech Activity Board has sponsored the event for the past three years, and about 800 Tech students visited the corn maze in



KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Treador

IN THE PARKING lot of the At'l Do Farms Corn Maize off of FM 1249, a sign welcomes guests to the location of the maze.

October, Simpson said.

Amanda Cruse, a junior business management and marketing major, said The Maize is an experience in which students can bond with people as they navigate their way through the maze, get lost and have to find a way out.

"Definitely an experience everyone needs to have at least once in their life," Cruse said.

The Simpsons close down the corn maze only if heavy rain is in the area.

Otherwise it is open regardless of the wind, sun or cold weather, she said. When it is cold, people bundle up and come out anyway, and most people like to come after dark, when they use glow sticks to navigate the maze.

The Maize is part of a franchise

group that includes 170 corn mazes across the nation, she said, and the owners of the mazes meet every March to discuss their ideas for the upcoming year.

The corn is planted at the end of June and cut in mid-July when it is about six inches high, Simpson said, and it takes three days to plow.

At the end of the season, she said, they harvest the corn and Tech's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources buys the crop from them every year.

Simpson said this year's corn maze design is a celebration of Lubbock's centennial.

The corn maze stays busy with birthday party events, team building events sponsored by United Supermarkets for their staff, companies showing employee appreciation and student groups from Tech, she said.

This season's maze opened Sept. 13, Simpson said, and will be open through Nov. 29.

For more information, log on to the maze's Web site, www.cornfieldmaze.com.

Bush punts unfinished Mideast peace deal to Barack Obama

JERUSALEM (AP) — The Bush administration has conceded that an Israeli-Palestinian peace deal is no longer possible by the end of its term and is preparing to hand the fragile, unfinished U.S.-backed peace effort to President-elect Obama.

Obama may not want it, at least as designed by the Republican Bush administration, seen as slow to embrace the role of honest Mideast broker. Many of Obama's foreign policy advisers were players in the Clinton administration's extensive Mideast peace efforts and are unenthusiastic about President Bush's hands-off approach.

After months of publicly insisting that an agreement still could be sealed by the year-end deadline set by the two sides and Bush last November in Annapolis, Md., U.S. officials said Thursday for the first time it would have to wait.

"We do not think it is likely it will happen before the end of the year," White House spokeswoman Dana Perino said in Washington after Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice acknowledged as much at the start of a Mideast trip.

Bush has employed Rice as a goad and monitor, but not a central negotiator. The administration said that to be viable, any deal should come from the Israelis and Palestinians themselves.

Rice's eighth visit to the region since the Annapolis peace conference had been intended as a push for urgent progress on the modest gains from a year of U.S.-sponsored talks between Israel and one part of the fractured Palestinian leadership.

Instead, amid political uncertainty in Israel, where a corruption scandal is forcing Prime Minister Ehud Olmert from office, the administration is focused on keeping the two

sides from backsliding. Rice wants them to produce a placeholding affirmation of their commitment to the peace process.

She said it remained an "open question" as to what form the affirmation would take, but said it was critical for the incoming Obama administration, as well as a new Israeli government to be elected in February, to inherit a solid framework to restart negotiations quickly.

"It should be carried forward," she said, stressing that progress, if not a full-on deal, had been achieved since Annapolis, including the fact that the two sides were talking again after years of Palestinian rebellion and international efforts to support the Palestinian people.

She added that she hoped the Israelis and Palestinians would "affirm that the Annapolis process and the framework it establishes is indeed the basis on which they believe they can come to a resolution of their conflict, regardless of anyone's timetables."

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Ambassadors discussed issues pertaining to Oman

By **MATT COBB**
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech's International Cultural Center hosted a panel discussion with two female ambassadors at 5:30 p.m. Thursday that touched on a variety of issues dealing with the country of Oman.

Ambassador Hunaina Sultan Al-Mughairy and Ambassador Frances Cook discussed current issues ranging from western society's portrayal of Arab women, to women's roles in the Middle East. Ambassador Tibor Nagy, the vice provost for Tech's Office of International Affairs, conducted the panel discussion.

Al-Mughairy is currently the Omani Ambassador to the U.S., Nagy said. She has a strong background in economics and finance and currently is working on U.S.-Oman Free Trade Agreement and is the first woman ambassador to the U.S. from any Arab country.

"The United States — for other countries — tends to be their number one priority for ambassadorial appointments," Nagy said, "so that is hugely significant."

Cook has served as an ambassador to Burundi, Cameroon and Oman, Nagy said. She was the youngest ambassador in the history of the U.S. diplomatic service, and she was the first woman ambassador to one of the Gulf States. She currently is retired from international service and runs a consulting firm called The Ballard Group LLC.

Oman is an Arab country in

southwest Asia that has approximately 2.5 million inhabitants, Al-Mughairy said. The country is approximately 300,000 square kilometers — which is the size of Kansas — and has approximately 1,700 square kilometers of coastline. Unlike its neighbors in the region, Oman is a very mountainous country with the highest peak being 3,000 meters high.

"It's known for its tolerance," Cook said. "Contrary to what you might have heard about some of the states in the gulf, Oman is very open to all religions. The Sultan provides land for churches, and he does the same thing for Hindu temples."

One of the topics the panelists discussed was why Oman is a good location for Tech students — and other college students around the U.S. — to study abroad.

Oman is a good place to study because it is a very "liberal" country, Al-Mughairy said. There are very good schools throughout the nation. Many of the higher-education institutions in Oman have affiliations with outside British and Arab universities.

"There's a lot culturally students can learn from Omanis," Al-Mughairy said. "So, exchange programs with Oman would be a very good idea."

The country of Oman is one of the best locations to learn to speak Arabic, Cook said. The dialect of Arabic that Omanis speak is the "purest" in the region, and it is understood throughout the Middle East.

Another reason Oman is a good location to study abroad is because of its tolerance, Cook



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Treador

US AMBASSADOR TO Oman, Frances Cook, and Omani Ambassador, Hunaina Sultan Al-Mughairy, answer questions about their positions asked by Moderator Tibor Nagy, Thursday in the International Culture Center auditorium.

said. Oman has the reputation of being a tolerant nation, and it welcomes diversity.

"I have had lots of posts all

over the world, and that's one I go back to every year," Cook said.

>> matthew.cobb@ttu.edu

Image

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

national media is finally taking notice of what we've always known out here: Texas Tech is a great university. It's a great academic institution and we play pretty good football out here too."

Snead compared the success of

the Tech football team to the success of the Northwestern University football team in 1996, when they played in the Rose Bowl. After that bowl game, he said, the university experienced a boost in the number of students at the university.

Any bowl game would provide recognition for the university, he said, but a BCS Bowl would provide the best recognition for

the university.

While the association has not seen any spike in alumni donations, Snead said, there generally is an increase in donations at the end of the year, and a Tech BCS Bowl game also would most likely show an increase in donations.

The association has 27,500 members, he said, and he hopes this exposure will translate to new

members and additional alumni gatherings for football games and other events.

>> jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu

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Gay activists jarred by California marriage defeat

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In a heartbreaking defeat for the gay-rights movement, California voters put a stop to gay marriage, creating uncertainty about the legal status of 18,000 same-sex couples who tied the knot during a four-month window of opportunity opened by the state's highest court.

Passage of a constitutional amendment against gay marriage — in a state so often at the forefront of liberal social change — elated religious conservatives who had little else to cheer about in Tuesday's elections. Gay activists were disappointed and began looking for battlegrounds elsewhere in the back-and-forth fight to allow gays to wed.

"There's something deeply wrong with putting the rights of a minority up to a majority vote," said Evan Wolfson, a gay-rights lawyer who heads a group called Freedom to Marry. "If this were being done to almost any other minority, people would see how un-American this is."

Legal skirmishing began immediately, with gay-rights groups challenging the newly passed ban in court Wednesday and vowing to resist any effort to invalidate the same-sex marriages that took place following the state Supreme Court decision in May.

The amendment, which passed with 52 percent of the vote, overrides

that court ruling by defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman. Thirty states now have adopted such measures, but the California vote marks the first time a state took away gay marriage after it had been legalized.

Gay-marriage bans also passed on Tuesday in Arizona and Florida, with 57 percent and 62 percent support, respectively, while Arkansas voters approved a measure aimed at gays that bars unmarried couples from serving as adoptive or foster

A love designed in the Heavens, deserves a ring designed for an Eternity!



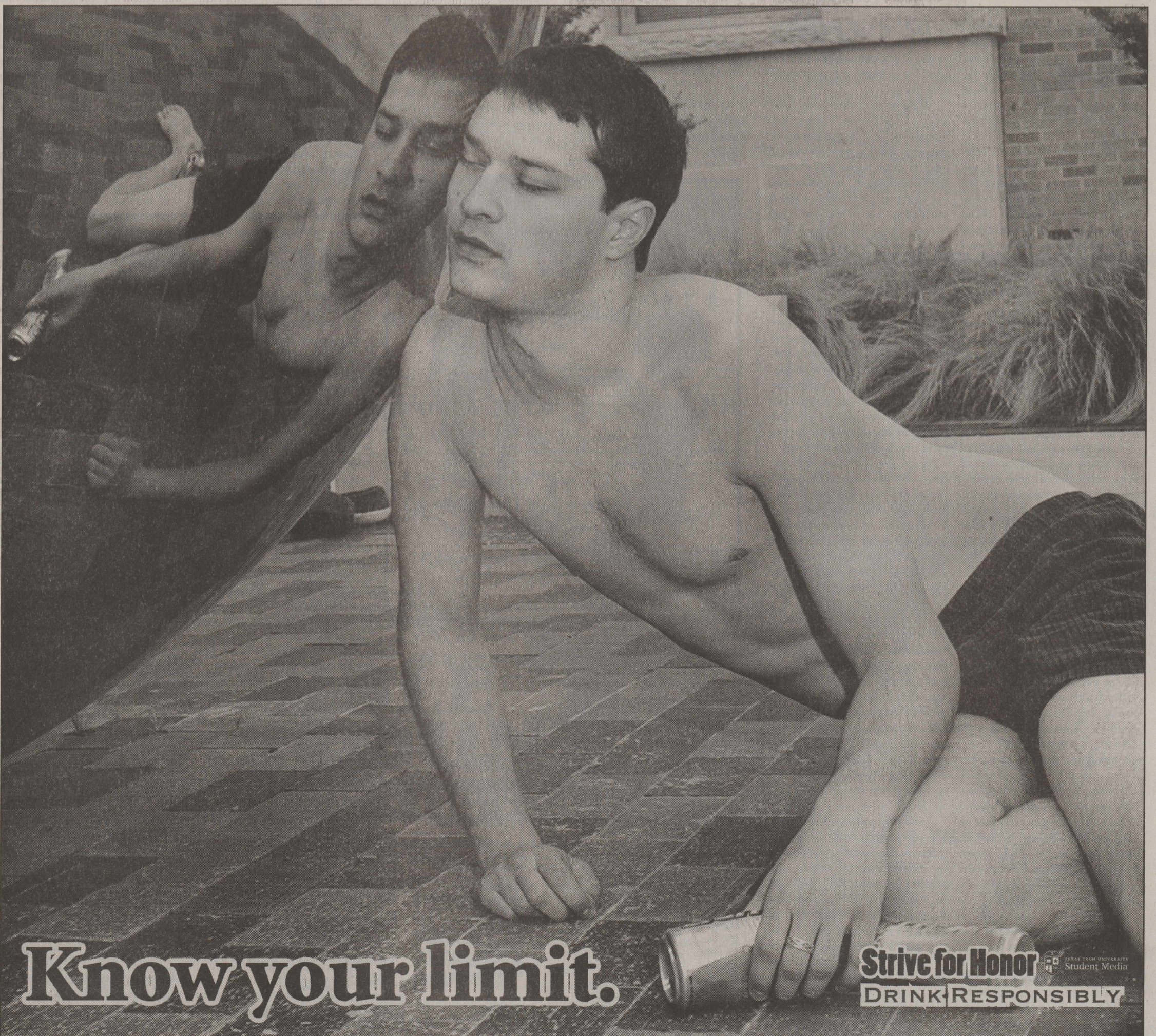
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'MyTech' system more useful than expected

It's amazing how much things can change in a couple of weeks. Texas Tech won their most significant game in the school's history, Barack Obama has been elected our next president and I've had a great change of heart in regard to Tech's massive IT transition.

Two weeks ago I gave a rather unfavorable take on the entire switch-over to Banner, particularly the interface of the new course search engine in MyTech. Even though I'm not a full-blown journalist, I feel a responsibility to make it known when my opinion changes significantly.

Earlier this week I had the chance not only to explore the now fully functional version of MyTech, but also to speak with the men and women in charge of making this momentous ConnecTech project happen.

"This effort has been almost 4 years in the making," said Kay Rhodes, ConnecTech Project Manager and Chief Information Officer. "It's the largest change of this kind that the university has ever done."

Up until recently, Texas Tech's payroll, financial aid, human resources, registration, purchasing and many other key systems

Stephen Torrence



operated relatively isolated from one another. "This led to many problems, including duplication of student records, inaccuracies and out-of-date information," Kay said.

In 2004 Texas Tech began purchasing enterprise software components from Sungard Higher Education's Banner suite to replace these legacy systems. These components are designed to centralize records and connect previously disparate modules, increasing productivity and simplifying many tasks.

It's been a rough transition. Tech's information system is far more complicated than we might imagine. "We have electronic records dating back decades,

records going back even farther," said Dale Ganus of the Admissions Office. "We've had to convert these all into the new system. It's a lot of work."

The university is also making a strong move away from using social security numbers (SSNs) as identifiers. From now on the "R-Number" will replace the SSN as one's official mark on all documents. Students will also be getting new IDs in the spring which will feature their R-Number.

"Students should no longer see a professor using their SSN

"If they hand you something with your SSN on it, tell them to change it or shred it."

Students can find their R-number through the now-active MyTech tab in Raiderlink. MyTech will become the hub for the student side of these far-reaching

"We have a lot of interaction with Sungard through Texas Connection," Dale said. "We're constantly giving them feedback on how they can improve the

software, and we welcome students to contribute as well."

I got a strong impression from the ConnecTech staff that they truly do care about the student experience, especially when it comes to slowdowns during class registration.

"We've done extensive load testing on the new registration system," Kay said. "It's been able to handle our peak traffic very well, much better than TechSIS."

ConnecTech and SGA also arranged a mock student registration earlier this year, which provided them with some good feedback and showed that students should have little or no trouble getting their Spring classes.

"This is very much a work in progress, but we're doing everything in our power to address issues as they arise," Dale assured me.

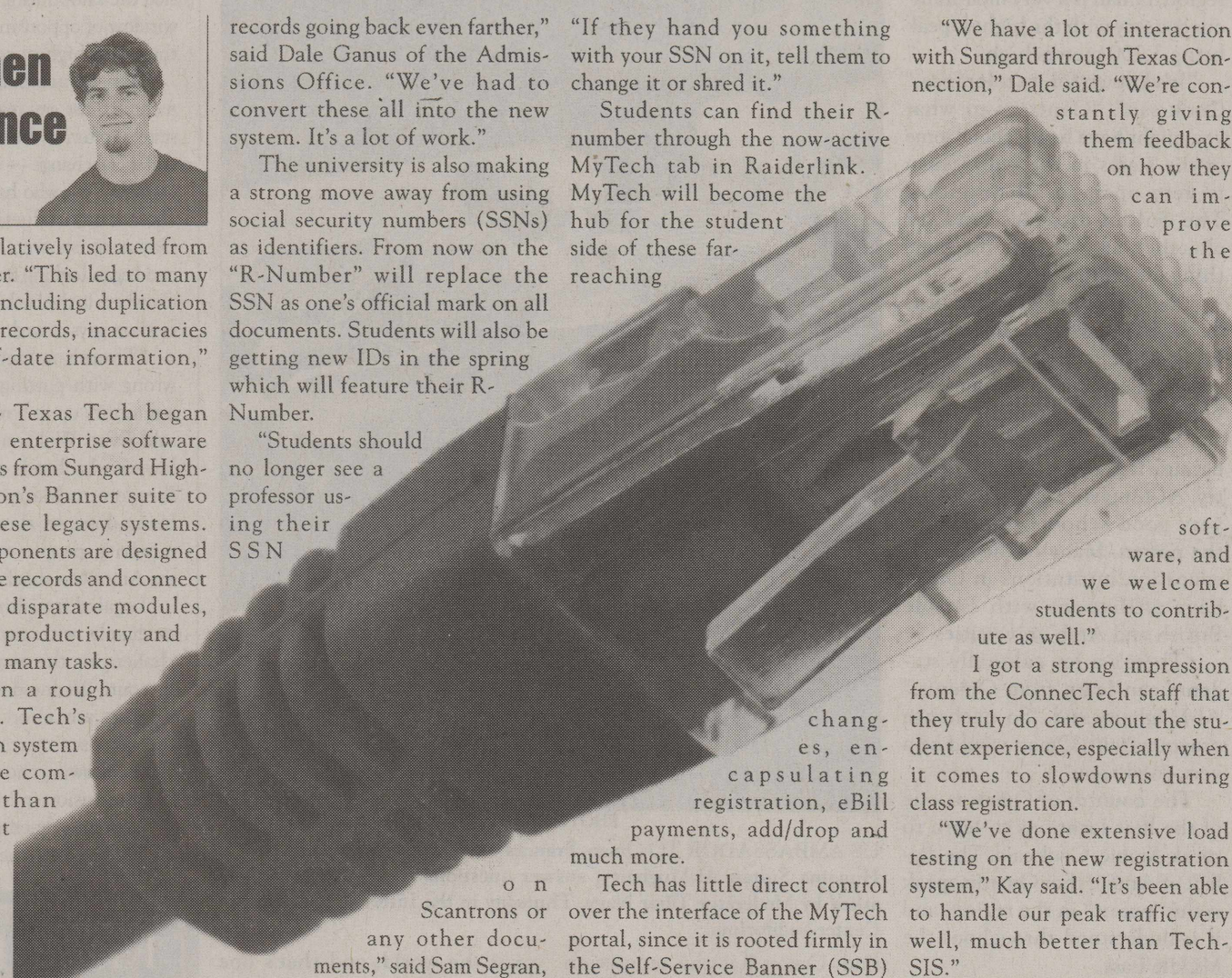
"ConnecTech is a laying a solid foundation," Kay added. "If we do this right, we won't have to make such a drastic change again for a very long time."

I encourage everyone to read up on ConnecTech, MyTech, Banner and other aspects of this transition. We should embrace this change and seek to understand it, not fear it.

At the same time, I urge you to give constructive feedback to those in charge when you find something you don't like. They're working to help us. And I must admit ... they are a bit smarter than eighth-grade HTML coders.

You can read more about ConnecTech at <http://www.texastech.edu/ConnecTech/default.aspx>

Torrence is a philosophy major from Georgetown. E-mail him at stephen.torrence@ttu.edu.



Republicans need to wake up, become more active in politics

President Barack Obama. That certainly causes pause when I think about it. Personally, I'm inclined to not liking it so much, but that is my opinion.

There have only been a few days since the election, and yet somehow I am already hearing ridiculous banter about how this is the end of the world, how these next four years will be the worst in our nation's history. To those people, and to the fellow members of the Republican Party, let me say this: Wake Up!

Quite honestly, we have been fighting too long on our opposition's turf. Rather than reacting to their policies, we need to remember and get back to what successful conservative policies are. The strained political fight of these past four years has buried what we used to know as conservative values. Now is the time to unearth those ideals and unite around a truly Republican banner.

Cease this foolish and divisive hater-mongering against our now President-elect. He is not an Allah-worshipping, evil terrorist. He may be ignorant in his policies and misguided with his ideals, but those are our grounds for confrontation — and not with unsubstantiated and erratic arguments.

Seems to me that much of this election's outcome was spurred by millions of people lacking an actual political education, on both sides. If you are educated, please continue to be so, and if not, I ask that you put effort into learning about policy and legislation (outside the evening news). Multiple outlets are available with political thought and debate, and the American people need a serious revision of understanding if we are to continue our transcendent status.

One thing I am hearing mentioned a lot is "We had to have Jimmy Carter in order to get Reagan." And I think there is some truth to that. Consider then, while you say Ronald Reagan was on the political scene for 16 years before he was elected. It was not a spurious or off the cuff decision from the people.

With this — and with many other things — we, as the people, need to be able to grasp fact from nonsense. It is my hope that there is a man (or woman) in the mold of Reagan somewhere on the scene, but honestly that may be expecting too much of our current politicians. What we need is someone to stand for actual conservatism, not the moderate-leaning tactics that plague today's party.

Also, if we evaluate every politician by the standard of Reagan, there will only be ubiquitous failure. Watch his speech on YouTube at the 1964 Republican National Convention, and you will get an idea of what we need. It has to be someone different, someone to galvanize

Derek Coulson



the Republican party under a common cause. For all intents and purposes, we need change.

While we await our political "chosen one," consider the battlefield that lies before us. On it are the dire issues of gun rights, abortion, the sovereignty of Israel, marriage, foreign military bases, childhood education, immigration, college education, the freedoms of speech and religion, Guantanamo, the United Nations, China, Russia, Iran, our forces in Iraq, and Afghanistan. Educate and vocalize yourselves on those, and we will have come a long way.

Those issues are some of the many that confront both parties, and each side draws vastly different conclusions for every single one. This really concerns me. I watched clips of both parties Tuesday night and saw opposite reactions. I wonder how many of the people booing President-elect Obama's name during Senator McCain's concession speech would have been raucously celebrating in the speech had it gone other way.

And in that case, how many Democrats would have, instead of chanting "yes we did," been fomenting race riots. There has not been such a division in our nation since the 1860s, during the Civil War era. But this is an idealistic difference that infiltrates through every state of our union, and that spread increases the propensity for far more volatility.

It is dangerous to be on either radical side of the spectrum, because while it is wise to voice your opinion, it would be excessively foolish to place one's own personal agenda before the good of the nation, before the common good of the people. Abraham Lincoln, in dealing with his division, quoted a verse from the 12th chapter of Matthew that I think is appropriate. "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no house or city divided against itself will stand."

Draw your conclusions from it as you will, but it is undoubtedly true that the radical factions of each party share no love for each other and would tend to first choose violence before ameliorating their issues. I do not see a Civil War in our future, but neither do I see any productivity from the accosting rhetoric that spews from either side's soapboxes.

Too long has the Republican Party, due largely to its leaders, been content with two-cent lines that only rebut foolish Democrat ones. No longer should we be a reactive party, but one

that takes initiative. Now is your time. Now is our moment. Stand up for what it means to be truly Republican, truly conservative. We have too long lived in and been mired in stagnation. It is time for this party to awaken from its cumbered sleep and to bear forward with the mantle laying ahead. What are we waiting on?

Coulson is a junior history major from Waxahachie. E-mail him at derek.coulson@ttu.edu.

Necessity of BSing skills endures

By **PETER ZAKIN**
THE DAILY PRINCETONIAN (PRINCETON)

Princeton precepts are full of magicians. We may not pull rabbits out of hats, but we can pull ideas out of an equally surprising place. In fact, we are experts in the seemingly magical art of bullshitting.

But despite all our bullshitting abilities, many Princeton students are quick to condemn the practice outright, claiming that bullshit detracts from the precept experience. Their condemnations would be more fittingly targeted at the system that nurtures our scatological magic. Bullshit is an evil, but it is an adaptive and

necessary one. Even if it is the mark of an unprepared or confused student, I consider it an essential and constructive element of our precepts.

Bullshit has become so immersed in our jargon that it is essential. If we are to acquire a greater understanding of its place at Princeton, I must define what I consider to be bullshit. Bullshit is what we do when we try to talk about things we don't know. It is a misrepresentation of knowledge, a cheap imitation.

In his essay "On Bullshit," philosophy professor emeritus Harry Frankfurt considers why bullshit is so common. He explains that "bullshit is unavoidable whenever circumstances require someone to talk without knowing what he is talking about." The circumstances that cultivate bullshit — students encountering concepts they fail to grasp combined with expectations of active participation — arise time and again during precepts.

While we should be honest about the things we don't understand and ask our peers and preceptors for help, our precepts are often too daunting for us to be forthright about our ignorance. It isn't easy for students to confess that they haven't finished required readings or that a certain concept that everyone else seems to grasp is in fact difficult for them.

Ignorance and confusion are almost deemed too private, too shameful for the forum of precepts. So we approach our ignorance by nobly staying silent or pretentiously hiding beneath the guise of bullshit.

Bullshit may be an inferior substitute for substantiated opinions, but it is far from useless. By making effective use of our creative abilities, bullshitting extrapolates minor points in question and molds them in pursuit of a larger point. It skips around the holes in our knowledge, relying only on what we do know. It allows us to make something out of very little.

For a student whose knowledge or time is limited, bullshitting can serve as a valuable utility for learning.

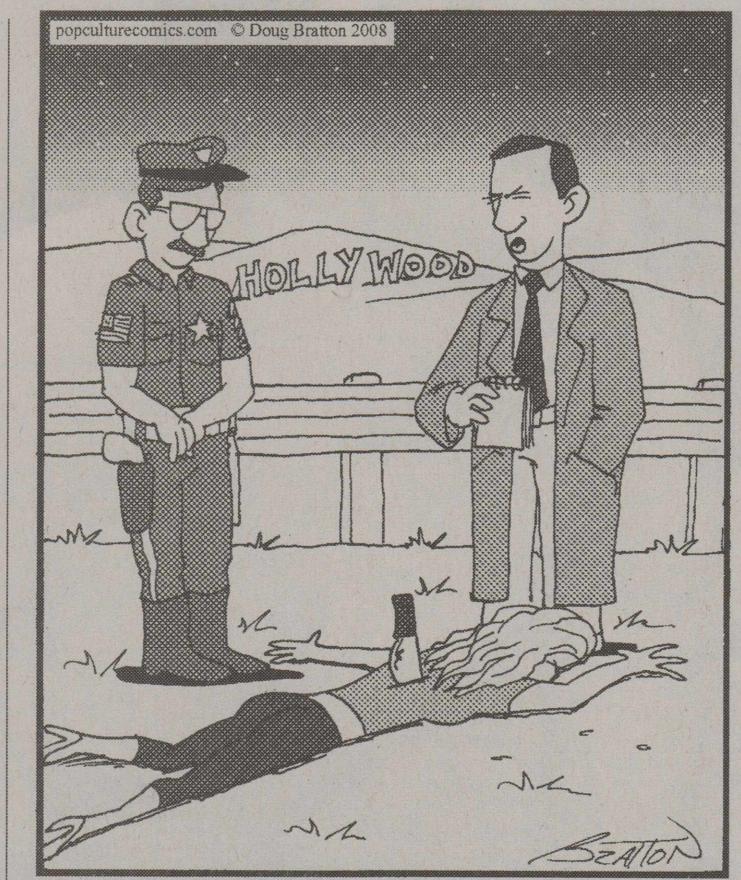
In fact, in our precepts, I strongly believe that bullshitting intelligently is always more productive than holding one's tongue. Indeed, a bullshitting Princeton is far more constructive than a quiet one. Our precepts should be explorations in learning and are devoid of purpose if we don't speak.

When learning becomes a spectator sport, it just doesn't happen. Bullshit is an exercise in thinking, a sink-or-swim test for our thoughts. It makes us dig deep and exercise our brain to keep our ideas afloat. Even when we fail, we have learned a lesson.

While bullshitting might aid the bullshitter, it usually provokes nausea and rolled eyes for everyone who has to listen. Too often, our peers and preceptors turn a deaf ear to what they deem bullshit to spare a student the embarrassment of being outed as a bullshitter. We stigmatize bullshitter, so out of politeness for the bullshitter or apathy to his words, we don't regard his ideas as worthy of discussion. We might not gain anything from the bullshit of others, but that is likely our own fault.

We need to reconsider how we perceive and respond to bullshitter. Whether we are bullshitters, the peers of bullshitters or even preceptors, we all play a part in the game. Instead of ignoring bullshitter, we need to question the bullshitters and try to understand the source of their product. If the bullshitter is on to something, as it sometimes is, we need to investigate it. If the bullshitter does not push a conversation forward, there is merit to refuting it and demonstrating why it is wrong.

We need to confront bullshit and recognize that it can be a positive force. But until our precepts actively cultivate an environment in which we are free to bullshit and deconstruct, our precepts will seem more an arena of soap boxes than a facilitator of constructive conversation.



"The victim is Lauren Conrad from *The Hills*, so we're not sure if this homicide is real or fake."

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michelle.casady@ttu.edu

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Fax: (806) 742-2434
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Arts alliance to showcase Lubbock artists during weekend tour

By MELANIE TEAGUE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Lubbock Arts Alliance will be showcasing 55 local artists from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 8 and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday at 10 locations around Lubbock during its 12th annual Artist Studio Tour this weekend.

This event is sponsored for the public by the Lubbock Arts Alliance and held in celebration of artists around the Lubbock area.

Several grants and a gift from the Helen Jones Foundation made the event possible, said Janice Barnes, executive assistant at the Lubbock Arts Alliance.

Some of the art will be displayed in local homes, Barnes said, as well as some local galleries.

Each host location on the tour has a required studio component where people create art, said Elizabeth Regner, the executive director of the Lubbock Arts Alliance.

Each location will have four to seven different artists' works displaying different mediums for visitors to view, Regner said, and all the artwork on display will be for sale.

Artists such as James Watkins, a professor in the College of Architecture at Texas Tech, will display his ceramic art, Barnes said.

Watkins was the featured artist during the 2006 Artist Studio Tour and has artwork displayed in the Smithsonian Institution. It also can be found locally at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center.

Other art mediums on display will include paintings, drawings, pottery, fiber, glass, gourds, jewelry, leather, metal, miniatures, mixed media, photographs and wood, according to the Lubbock Arts Alliance.

"This is a great opportunity for people to view "one-of-a-kind" artwork of the "highest quality original art and craft," Regner said.

For those who want to view all the artwork but do not want to drive to each location, VIP tours on Citibus trolley cars are available free of charge. The tours include five stops within its two-hour duration.

Barnes said no reservations are required, and with several tours available, anyone can attend more than one. Interested Lubbockites can visit the Lubbock Arts Alliance Web site for a detailed schedule of the VIP tours.

The "art is appropriate for families," Regner said.

Children are welcome, Barnes said, and the Artist Studio Tour is a good opportunity for children to "learn at an early age that art is fun and happens in Lubbock."

All artists chosen to be in the Artist Studio Tour are required to be from within Lubbock County and submit a \$100 fee to participate, according to Elizabeth Regner.

An outside juror from Midland was brought in this year to decide who would display their work, Regner said.

Between 2,000 and 3,000 people are expected to attend this year's Artist Studio Tour.

melanie.teague@ttu.edu

SGA allows vote on transportation fee, not on library fee

By JON VANDERLAAN
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Student Government Association voted down a Senate Concurrent Resolution and passed another Thursday in a three-hour Senate meeting that featured several objections to resolutions and bills.

Senate Resolution 44.02, which proposed to let students vote on raising the library fee 25 percent from \$14 per credit hour to \$17.50 per credit hour, was not passed by the Senate and now will go to the Incidental Fee Advisory Committee to approve or not approve a 9.9 percent increase in the library fee.

The vote is an automatic vote for the student body against the resolution, and the advisory committee will make a recommendation to the Board of Regents to increase or not increase the fee by 9.9 percent.

Josh Frost, senator at-large and chairman of the Student Life committee, said the SGA did not approve the concurrent resolution because they did not want to support a bill they believed students would not support.

A concurrent resolution is a resolution pertaining to an issue that could be voted on by students.

Frost said the Senate did not mind voting to increase the library fee, but the additional money the library requested was more than the SGA believed the library needed.

The vote against the resolution, he said, is positive for students because it will keep the library accountable to properly spend money, as the library maintained a budget balance for several years but only renovated one stack in that time.

James Baumgartner, Student Senate president, said one other reason the bill was not passed is so students do not confuse it with the vote on the increase in transportation fee.

The library is more of a gray area than the transportation vote, he said, because the services that would suffer or benefit from the increase in library fees are not as clear.

In addition, the vote would have set a precedence forcing the Senate to allow other votes to come to students on fee increases, Baumgartner said, which ultimately would have negatively affected students.

The SGA passed a second concurrent resolution to allow students to vote for increased transportation fees, which could allow the university to retain off-campus bus routes while maintaining the current level of on-campus busing, Safe Ride, bicycle lane maintenance and the Bike Tech program.

The vote, if passed by students during online voting from 7 a.m. Nov. 13 to 7 p.m. Nov. 20, will increase the transportation fee by 44 cents per credit hour. If the fee increase is not passed, off-campus busing will be eliminated and on-campus busing, Safe Ride, bicycle lanes and the Bike Tech program all will be improved.

Baumgartner said because diesel fuel still is more expensive now than it was when originally budgeted at \$2.40 per gallon, the SGA needs to increase the budget to maintain the same on- and off-campus services.

The SGA had a slight fund balance to pay for gas from the previous year, he said, but that balance will run out at the end of the fiscal year.

Senate Bill 44.07 also was passed, barring any organizations from using SGA funding to fund individual travel for the purpose of individual presentations.

Many of the graduate student senators disagreed with the bill because the main group that travels for individual presentation, mainly research, is graduate students. One of the main arguments in favor of passing the bill was that it is against Texas education law, which pertains to funding travel for academics separate from regularly scheduled academic functions.

Jaime Cantu, a graduate student and chairman of the graduate affairs committee, was one of the few graduate students to vote for this bill.

Cantu said if the bill was not passed, Michael Shonrock, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management, and Greg Elkins, dean of students, would have the ability to cut funding for travel from individuals and groups.

Instead of losing all funding, he said, he would rather make a compromise to keep some funding and hope that, in certain circumstances, exceptions for graduate students could be made.

jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu

China envoy's Taiwan trip highlights differences

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — He stepped off the plane with a mission: Make history by becoming the most senior Chinese official to visit Taiwan. Sign a landmark trade deal. Draw the wayward island closer to motherland China.

Chinese envoy Chen Yunlin did all those things during his trip that ended Friday. But his five-day visit also highlighted how — socially and politically — Taiwan and China are not merely like two separate countries. They are more like different planets.

While Chen hobnobbed with tycoons and officials on Taiwan's banquet circuit, he was mocked by comedians, cursed by rowdy street protesters and scrutinized by the island's aggressive media.

The press dubbed his Elvis-style

pompadoir hairdo "airplane head." A newspaper headline asked, "Who knows how much hair gel he uses?"

A popular chant by street protesters who dogged him was, "Chen Yunlin scam!" They unfurled a huge banner from a window at his hotel that called him a "Communist bandit."

He was trapped in a banquet hall past midnight Wednesday by demonstrators who surrounded the venue and blocked traffic.

A nightly TV comedy show that features impersonations of political figures targeted him, too, with a comedian appearing as a stiff, poofy-haired Chen with two thuggish bodyguards at his side and mimicking the slow, stodgy way Chinese leaders speak.

Parody and protests are common

in Taiwan's raucous democracy. They wouldn't be tolerated in Chen's communist police state back home, just 100 miles on the other side of the Taiwan Strait. The nation's top leaders must be respected — by everyone.

Despite the insults and mockery, Chen declared his trip a success as he ended his visit Friday. But he cautioned that the rivals had a long road to travel toward better relations.

"We have successfully accomplished this memorable voyage," he said. "We have completed the mission that people across the strait have long desired and have handed over to us."

But in a possible dig at the protesters, Chen assured the Taiwanese that if they visit China, they will see "harmony everywhere."

"We believe the future road is long but we will shoulder it and face up to this..." he said.

Chen's Taiwanese counterpart, Chiang Pin-kung, also declared that the trip was successful, saying Taiwanese "will continue to strive for our ultimate goal of

peace across the strait and a win-win economic situation."

Chen's visit was remarkable because it would have been virtually impossible a year ago.

That's when Taiwan had a president, Chen Shui-bian, who was despised by Beijing because he favored permanent independence. The two sides split amid civil war in 1949, and China says Taiwan has two choices: eventual unification or war.

"We believe the future road is long but we will shoulder it and face up to this..."

CHEN YUNLIN
CHINESE
CONVOY

Iran leader offers Obama landmark congratulations

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on Thursday congratulated Barack Obama on his election win — the first time an Iranian leader has offered such wishes to a U.S. president-elect since the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

An analyst said Ahmadinejad's message was a gesture from the hard-line president that he is open to some sort of reconciliation with the U.S.

Obama has said he is willing to hold direct diplomacy with

Iranian leaders as a way to break the "impasse" between the two countries or give the U.S. more credibility to press for tougher sanctions if talks fail. His policy marks a departure from the Bush administration, which has refused high-level engagements with Iran.

Ahmadinejad congratulated the Democrat on "attracting the majority of voters in the election," according to excerpts carried by the official IRNA news agency.

Texas Tech, Lubbock Police discuss gameday responsibility

The Texas Tech and Lubbock Police Departments want to reiterate that the two departments are in constant communication regarding college football gameday procedures.

The Tech Police Department assigns Lubbock police to traffic duties, and Tech police oversee the stadium and field operations.

Capt. Greg Stevens of the Lubbock Police Department said, while fans rushing the field means they may not rush the streets, the department does not condone students rushing the field.

The department does not have a presence on the field, he said, and defers to Tech police on all issues regarding stadium operations, including arrests in the stands.

jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu



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Volunteer student organization plans for recycling competition

By BRIDGET DE STEFANO
STAFF WRITER

Making Texas Tech a sustainable university while lending a helping hand is the objective of one newly recognized student organization.

The volunteer and activism student group, Seva, met Thursday in the Biology building to discuss future plans to promote Tech's environmental sustainability and volunteerism in the community.

Co-President Terri Dove, a junior visual studies major from Cooper, said the group organizes monthly volunteer work and social events to serve non-profit organizations in

Lubbock.

"Seva stands for selfless giving and service in Sanskrit," Dove said.

The organization was created in spring 2008, she said, but this semester marks its first officially recognized semester with 35 registered members.

One of its big projects for this year, she said, is working with Breedlove Foods Inc., a dehydrated food plant in Lubbock that is geared at ending international hunger.

"If there's a need in the community," Dove said, "we have people that want to help."

But the main focus of Seva this semester is recycling.

With many ideas on the table and little funding, said Co-President Laura Zak, a senior English major from Lubbock, the group is starting small to get as many students involved as possible.

An upcoming event to get students pumped about recycling, Dove and Zak said, is having an aluminum can drive.

The can drive, called "Alumination — Get Canned If You Care," encourages student organizations to save recyclable aluminum cans as a competition to raise the most money for local food bank donations.

The drive will be open to all student organizations, Dove said,

and interested individuals also are encouraged to form groups.

Participants can gather their recycled cans in trash bags or in bins labeled with their group's name.

Each group's cans will be weighed, Zak said, to determine the winner.

Beginning Nov. 16, Seva periodically will pick up cans on Greek Circle and at the recycling bins at 26th Street and Boston Avenue.

The drive will end Dec. 10, Dove said, and the winner of the competition will get a "surprise gift" that will be announced later.

>>> bridget.destefano@ttu.edu

Cross-racial friendships may reduce social anxiety

By ALEXANDRA WILCOX
DAILY CALIFORNIAN (UC-BERKELEY)

of the study.

They were also more likely to forge friendships with people of a different race, based on self-reports after the study, she said.

"That's very clear evidence that cross-group friendship really benefited those people who are prone to experiencing negativity during intergroup interactions," Mendoza-Denton said.

Members of same-race pairings also experienced a decrease in cortisol, but did not show a likelihood of making friends with people of other races.

"They just had a good time from a hormonal perspective," Page-Gould said.

Increased contact with members of different groups can ease anxiety

One method to reduce social anxiety may lie in forging friendships with people of different races and ethnicities, according to a new study conducted by UC Berkeley researchers.

The study, which will appear in the November issue of the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, found that having cross-race friendships can reduce cortisol, a hormone linked to stress, for those in social situations with people from different social groups and ethnicities.

"Intergroup interactions can be very anxiety-provoking," said Rodolfo Mendoza-Denton, a co-author of the study and a UC Berkeley assistant professor of psychology. "What this study builds on is that the idea that for some people, intergroup reactions can be more anxiety-provoking than others."

That anxiety may be tied to prejudice or the fear of being subject to prejudice, he said.

The study, which also involved a researcher from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, focused on 144 Latino and white UC Berkeley students, who were randomly divided into two groups and paired up either with a person of the same or different race to meet once a week for three weeks.

The participants' cortisol levels were tested by saliva samples before and after the weekly meeting, according to the study. Before they were paired up, participants were asked to associate several words, including race-related terms, as "good" or "bad," which researchers used to determine if the participants were subject to prejudice or afraid of being victims of prejudice.

Those in cross-race partnerships reported feeling anxious and had increased levels of cortisol during the first meeting, but the levels drastically dropped during the subsequent meetings, said former UC Berkeley graduate student Elizabeth Page-Gould, a co-author

Pop culture moments that defined Election 2008

NEW YORK (AP) — Given the historic election we've all just experienced, it's hard to remember back to last week, let alone June 2007, when Barack Obama was a true underdog, polling way behind front-runner Hillary Rodham Clinton.

That's when a 32-year-old ad executive came up with an idea for a new Web video. Seeking something catchy to launch a new site, barely-political.com, he sensed that Obama, though well behind Clinton, had a huge following online because of his youthful appeal.

And so Ben Relles made the "Obama Girl" video, a racy pean to the candidate that's been seen millions of times on YouTube and other

sites, spawned sequels, was picked up by mainstream media across the globe, and made bikini-clad model Amber Lee Ettinger a unique kind of political Web celebrity.

"People aren't just receiving pop culture from mass media anymore," says Montana Miller, professor at Bowling Green State University. "They're agents themselves, producing mashups, videos, making T-shirts. It's difficult to tell anymore what's amateur and what's not."

So everyone was producing pop culture this election season: The media, the candidates themselves, their supporters, or just people with a computer and a little time. Here's

a chronological look at some of the top pop culture moments of Election 2008:

THE POWER OF O:

In May 2007, Oprah Winfrey endorses Barack Obama on "Larry King Live," the first time the talk show queen has ever endorsed a political candidate. "What he stands for, what he has proven that he can stand for ... was worth me going out on a limb," she says.

Oprah's endorsement — still viewable on YouTube, of course — leads to a media discussion of how valuable such endorsements are. Most experts say not so much. But this is Oprah, and two economists later claim they've calculated that

Winfrey's endorsement gave Obama about a million votes.

I GOTTA CRUSH:

The above-mentioned "Obama Girl" video comes out the next month, with catchy lyrics along the lines of: "You're into border security, let's break this border between you and me!" Obama himself indicates he's not pleased. In any case, Relles estimates the video has been seen about 20 million times — 10 million on YouTube alone.

"The Web, especially online video, has given us a way to participate in this election," says Relles. "Something that's created in an afternoon can be seen millions of times across the globe."

Facebook becomes vehicle for many students' political opinions

By JOY LUKACHICK
THE DAILY REVEILLE (LSU)

Daniel McGraw logged onto Facebook on Wednesday morning and couldn't stop laughing at his friends' status updates.

McGraw, a senior at Louisiana State University, said in response to the enormous flood of charged messages, he posted his own — "Relax it's over now, Democrats and Republicans can be friends again ... in a few weeks."

He said he wasn't trying to make peace with both sides, but he wanted to joke about all the responses.

An overwhelming amount of Facebook users responded to the results of the 2008 presidential election within minutes of President-elect Barack Obama's victory by letting their political alliances be known through their statuses. But for some students it wasn't a laughing matter.

Marquel Elzie, a freshman at LSU, said he saw a Facebook status using racial slurs to refer to Obama.

Elzie said he tried to shrug off the comment and not let it bother him.

"I have a right to feel proud," Elzie said.

James Garand, LSU political science professor, said after an election, people are going to have strong opinions about the outcome. He said people will experience a wide range of emotions — from anger to happiness.

"People will use the medium they normally use to voice political opin-

ions," Garand said.

He explained he wasn't surprised young people use Facebook to voice political opinions because they use it to communicate.

Jacob Brown Jr., said he thought many of the comments and attitudes on Facebook were racial.

Brown, LSU freshman, said he re-

sponded to the comments with: "It's our time to shine, Obama, bitch..."

Chance Taylor, LSU junior, said his status was against Obama, but wasn't a racial issue to him, and he didn't mean to offend anyone.

"I had facts online about what Obama and McCain said," he said.

McCarthy said she thought the

Facebook statuses on both sides were immature responses to the election.

Tracy Stephenson Shaffer, communications studies professor at LSU, said sometimes Facebook is a shield from confrontation.

"You can respond or ignore comments," Shaffer said. "But in a face to face you are responsible to engage

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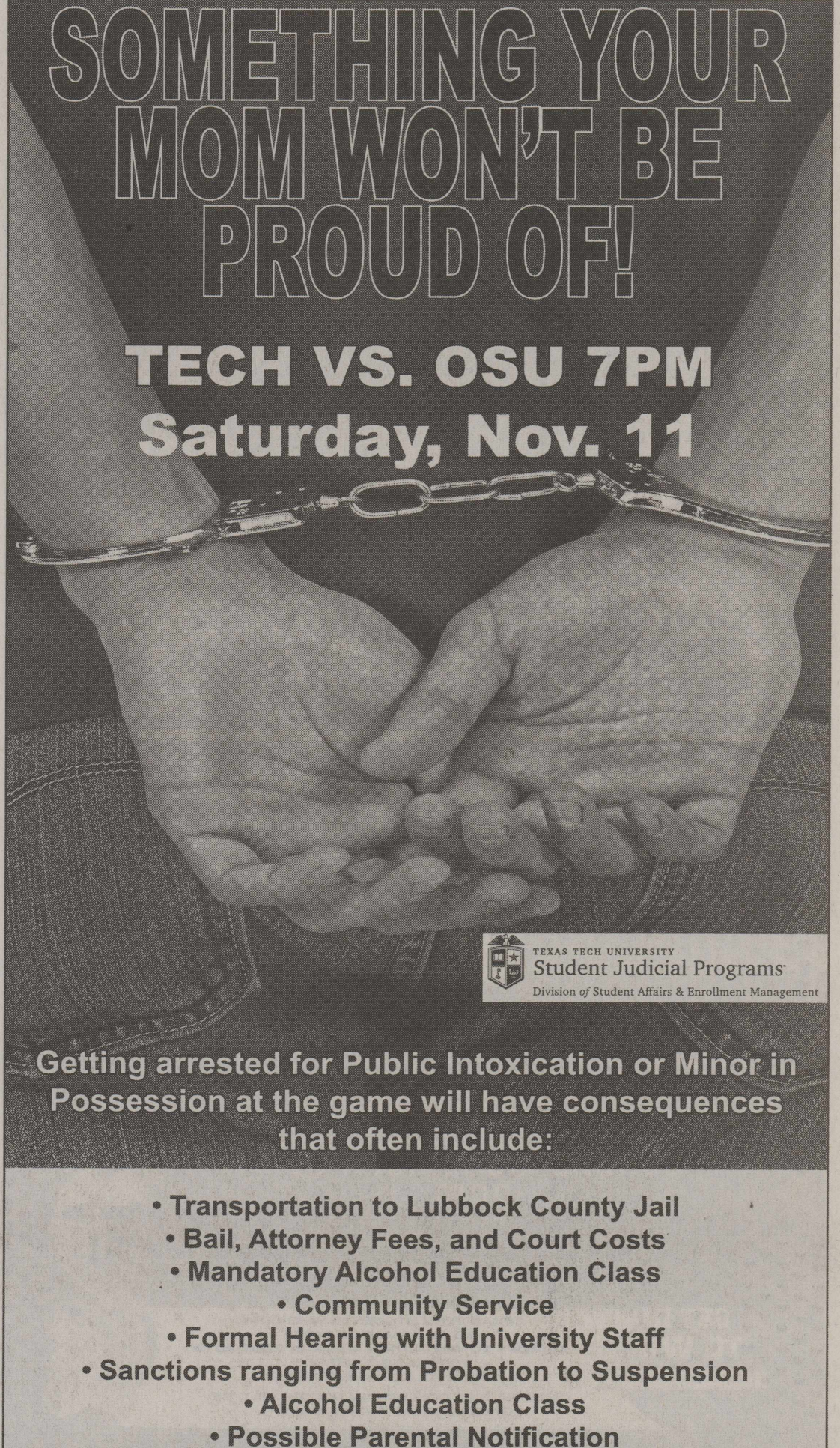
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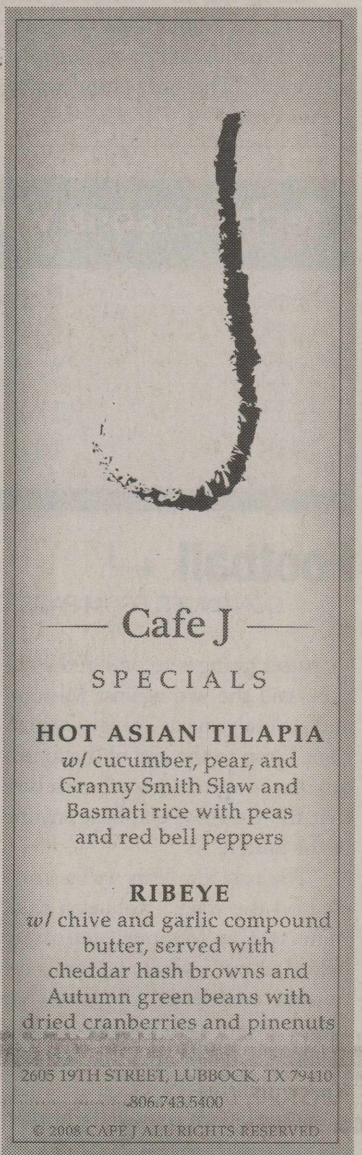
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Towers: Peavy train out of SD has left the station

DANA POINT, Calif. (AP) — Jake Peavy probably will be traded by the San Diego Padres before the winter meetings next month.

After spending four days at the annual general managers' meetings, Padres GM Kevin Towers said it is unlikely the 2007 NL Cy Young Award winner will remain with San Diego, which signed him out of high school in 1999.

"The train's kind of left the station," Towers said Thursday.

Guaranteed \$63 million under a contract that runs through 2012, Peavy is relatively inexpensive when compared with what CC Sabathia is likely to get on the free-agent market. The right-hander also has a no-trade clause, so he can determine where he winds up.

"We're not in control of the speed of the train," Peavy's agent, Barry Axelrod, said in a telephone interview. "The only thing we've got is a brake."

Peavy's initial list of teams San Diego should concentrate on included Atlanta, the Chicago Cubs, Houston, the Los Angeles Dodgers and St. Louis. The Braves, Cubs and Dodgers appear to be the most likely candidates for a trade.

Towers, cutting payroll following a last-place finish, anticipates a trade before the winter meetings open in Las Vegas on Dec. 8. Given the paucity of pitching, the 27-year-old is highly prized. He was 10-11 with a 2.85 ERA in 27 starts last season.

"We're not to the point where we've agreed on who the players are coming back. We just have an idea of who's available to us and who's not," Towers said. "Now it's just a matter of looking at three priority teams that are involved and trying to figure out what our optimum deal is. Some of them involve third teams and potentially fourth teams, so it becomes a little more complicated."

Tech seasons with 10 or more wins

| Season | Record | Result |
|--------|--------|-----------------|
| 1976 | 10-2 | Bluebonnet Bowl |
| 1973 | 11-1 | Gator Bowl |
| 1953 | 11-1 | Gator Bowl |
| 1938 | 10-1 | Cotton Bowl |

Football

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

passer rating is second in the nation, said the win against Missouri and a close game at Texas — which came down to the end of the fourth quarter — proved to themselves that the Cowboys can beat anyone in the nation.

"The past few years we've struggled on the road," Robinson said. "The win at Missouri definitely helped us out a whole lot and gave us some confidence. Obviously, we played pretty well on the road at Texas in a tough environment and almost pulled it out there."

When Gundy was asked if he used the fact that Tech (9-0, 5-0 in Big 12 play) has not lost to the Cowboys in Lubbock since 1944 as a means of elevating his players' intensity, he said there are more important factors at hand than history.

"I think there's a lot on the line," he said. "We're playing in big games

now in the national spotlight. I think there'll be enough motivation for them. I don't know that those things intrigue them that much."

Both teams have reached record setting heights. OSU has a chance to win nine games for only the seventh time while the Red Raiders have an opportunity to go 10-0, which has not happened since 1938.

After Tech's biggest win in school history against then-No. 1 Texas last week, Leach will go through what UT's Mack Brown did in trying to keep his team from slipping up through a dreadful four-game stretch.

After OSU, the Red Raiders get a bye week — a luxury the Longhorns did not have — before they travel to Norman, Okla., to play the Oklahoma Sooners.

"You worry," Leach said of his team not matching last week's intensity. "I just think we have to be disciplined and keep doing what we are doing and keeping pride in the process."

—daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

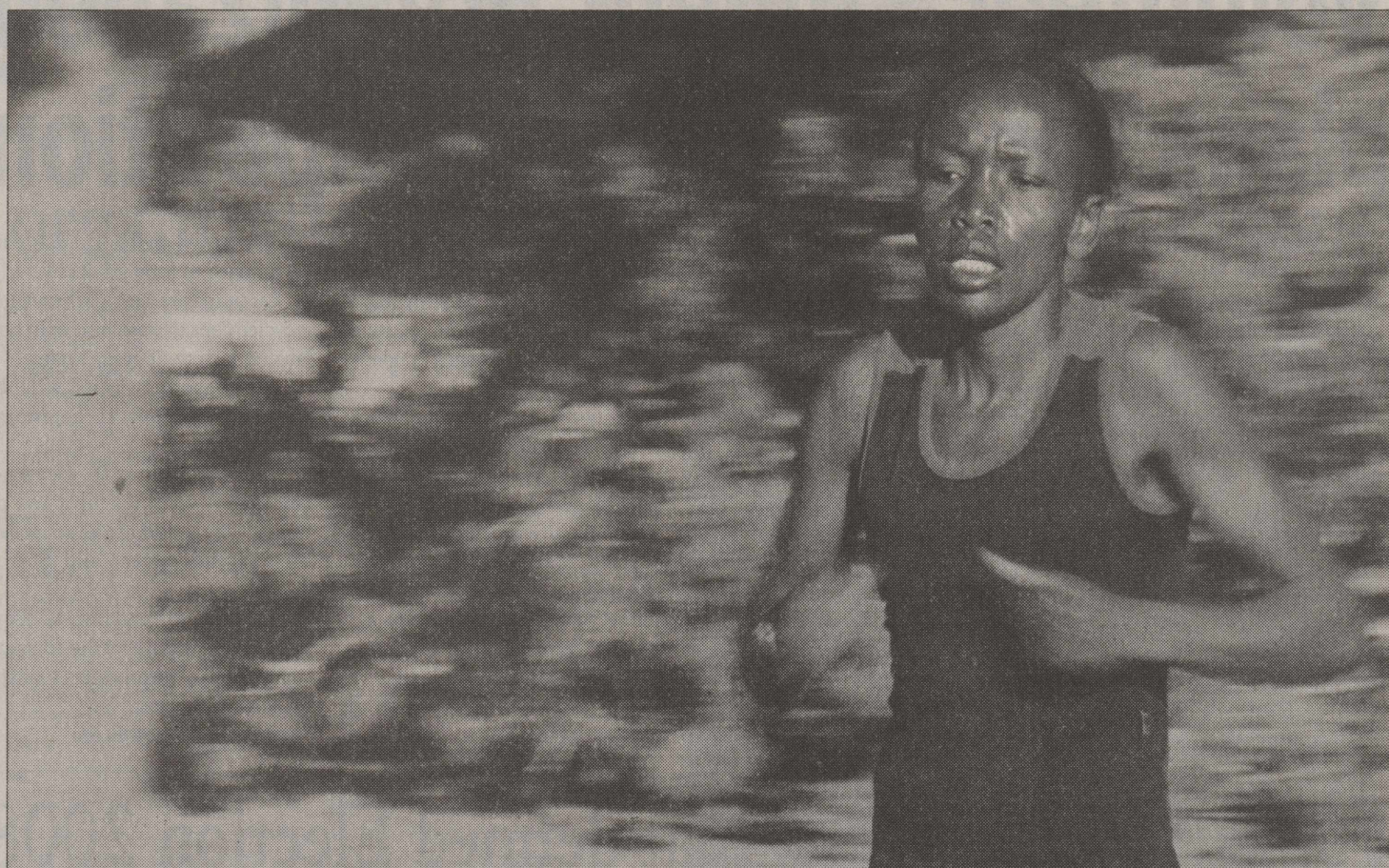


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER, Gladys Kipsang, runs around the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center jogging track during a workout Thursday afternoon. The Lady Raiders are now ranked No. 9 in the nation after winning their first Big 12 Championship.

Aggie basketball hopes for more success this season

COLLEGE STATION, (AP) — The Texas A&M Aggies won 20-plus games for a school-record fourth straight time last season. Making it five could be a lot more difficult.

The Aggies return three starters but lost Joseph Jones and Dominique Kirk, who combined to average almost 19 points a game in last year's 25-win season. Also gone is 7-footer DeAndre Jordan, who bolted for the NBA after averaging almost eight points in one season in College Station.

The good news is the return of leading scorer Josh Carter, the senior 3-point shooting ace. The unassuming Carter will be counted on to lead the Aggies this season.

"If you know anything about Josh, he's a quiet person. To get

him to say anything sometimes is difficult," Texas A&M coach Mark Turgeon said. "He's a smart kid. He's tried really hard ... and he really tried to get after the guys, encouraged them to practice harder. I think he's done a nice job in the locker room."

Turgeon said he has been impressed with the progress Carter has made this offseason.

"Josh has done a tremendous job is with his work habits, work ethic," Turgeon said. "He's been really driven since the season ended last year. I think you'll see a big change in his game whether it's dribbling or passing or hopefully shooting the ball the way he did his sophomore season."

Carter shot 50 percent from

3-point range two years ago and tied a school record by hitting eight 3-pointers in three games. Though he led the team in scoring last season, he didn't have high-scoring games as often as he did as a sophomore.

Turgeon is looking for improvement from fellow returning starter Donald Sloan. The point guard averaged almost 10 points a game but led the team with 82 turnovers.

"He's got to not turn the ball over so much, his decision-making has to get better," Turgeon said. "Sometimes, he'll take a guarded shot when he should pass. It's not a turnover, but it's not a great decision. And then he's got to become an all-around better player, whether it's team defense, taking charges,

getting loose balls. It can't just be all about scoring."

Texas A&M will look to Bryan Davis, who started last season, and Chinemelu Elonu to pick up the slack from the loss of Jones and Jordan. Davis averaged almost nine points and five rebounds last season.

The Aggies reached the second round of the NCAA tournament last season before losing to UCLA 51-49. Ranked as high as ninth last year, they enter this one unranked and picked to finish fifth in the Big 12.

Turgeon isn't disappointed with the prediction on his team's Big 12 finish. He actually sees it as a good thing.

"With the guys we've lost the

Roll Tide! Saban restores pride in storied football program

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) — Mike Johnson still remembers his recruiting trip to Alabama, which came with a heavy emphasis on — who else? — the Bear.

He drove down Paul W. Bryant Drive. He walked around Bryant-Denny Stadium. He re-

ceived a tour of the Bryant Museum, where they keep a replica of the late coach's office, all the championship trophies, the shiny rings — even a crystal duplicate of the Bear's famous houndstooth hat, twirling under glass with an imposing sign that says, "Do No Touch."

"It's pretty cool," said Johnson, who was a Florida State fan growing up in the Panhandle but now plays

offensive line for the Crimson Tide. "It's nice to be a part of that."

But this isn't some musty tradition fit only for a museum. It's on the move again — evolving, growing, eager to carve its own niche at a school where Bryant still reigns supreme, more than a quarter-century after his death.

With Nick Saban at the helm, Alabama has clawed its way back

to a position that was common in the Bear's day: unbeaten and No. 1. They expect nothing less in this state, where college football is feted with a single-minded passion that can't be matched anywhere.

"Here in Alabama, we don't have any pro sports teams," said quarterback John Parker Wilson, whose mother was a Crimson Tide cheerleader. "You either pull for Alabama or you pull for Auburn. It really draws the state together."

Indeed, this sport provided immeasurable pride when Alabama — the state, not the team — was the scorn of the nation during the civil rights movement. Bull Connor may have pointed fire hoses at blacks for simply demanding the right to vote, but no one could deny that Bryant's all-white team was one of the nation's best, still fighting its own, more successful version of the Civil War.

Former U. Texas player apologizes for Obama slur

AUSTIN (AP) — Former Texas backup lineman Buck Burnette apologized Thursday for posting a racial slur on his Facebook page about Barack Obama being elected president.

Burnette, a sophomore who played in seven games this season, left the No. 5 Longhorns on Wednesday. The team said Burnette violated team rules but would not elaborate.

His Facebook page had been deleted Thursday.

In a statement sent to The Associated Press, Burnette said he "made a terrible decision" to post a text message he received about Obama's victory that contained a racial slur.

"That lack of judgment on my part has had devastating consequences," the statement read. "Those that know me understand that this is not a true reflection of my character. I sincerely apologize to everyone that I have offended. I have had the opportunity to apologize to my teammates and coaches and have received support from many of them in return."

Burnette started one game at center in 2007 as a redshirt freshman and was a high school star at Wimberley High School, near Austin.

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Tech soccer season ends after 3-0 loss to Oklahoma State in Big 12 Tourney

By **STEVEN RYAN**
STAFF WRITER

All great things must come to an end.

Tech fell to regular season Big 12 Conference champions Oklahoma State 3-0 in the first round of the Big 12 Tournament at Blossom Stadium in San Antonio.

"I thought we gameplanned well for OSU," Tech coach Tom Stone said. "They were the better team on the day."

First Team All-Big 12 midfielder Yolanda Odenyo put the Cowgirls on the board early with an unassisted goal five minutes into the game. Tech trailed by one for the rest of the half, but two second-half goals by OSU's Siera Strawser and Kasey Langdon put the Red Raiders away

for good.

Much like in the regular season meeting, Tech had trouble matching shots with the Cowgirls. During the season the Red Raiders were outshot 27-7. On Wednesday, OSU took 20 shots compared to Tech's three.

"OSU is the best team in our conference by far and they are a worthy champion," Stone said. "If the NCAA treats them with the respect that they deserve, they are a legitimate elite eight or final four contender."

Senior goalkeeper Tina Rincon was busy in her last game in a Tech uniform. She made four saves out of the seven shots on goal.

Zhaleh Rezaie and Taylor Lytle combined for Tech's three shots on the evening. Rezaie had a shot on

goal after the Cowgirls went up 2-0, but OSU goalkeeper Erin Stigler made the save.

"(Our effort) was indicative of a team that has found a way to scramble and adjust to all of the adversity that we faced," Stone said. "We never quit. Through 90 minutes we played as hard as we could and got some good performances out of some key people."

Tech finishes the season 8-10-1 and 3-8 in conference play. The Red Raiders made the Big 12 Tournament for the second straight year under Stone, becoming the first soccer team in school history to make consecutive conference tournaments.

Players were unavailable for comment for this story.
» steven.ryan@ttu.edu

Lady Raiders prepare for final scrimmage before season starts

By **STEVEN RYAN**
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech women's basketball has one more chance to get things right before games start counting towards its record.

The Lady Raiders scrimmage against the Houston Jaguars at 2 p.m. Sunday in the United Spirit Arena. The Jaguars are a team of former collegiate basketball players who travel throughout the states playing different colleges and universities in exhibition games.

"They are going to be an athletic team," guard Jordan Murphree said. "They have a lot of experience, so they are going to be some good competition."

This is the last of two exhibition games the Lady Raiders play before their season opener at home against Idaho on Wednesday. Last Sunday, they took care of the Melbourne Roos in convincing fashion with a 107-29 victory.

Tech coach Kristy Curry said pre-season practices have been going well so far, working hard at getting the newcomers accustomed to the collegiate level as much as possible before season tip-off.

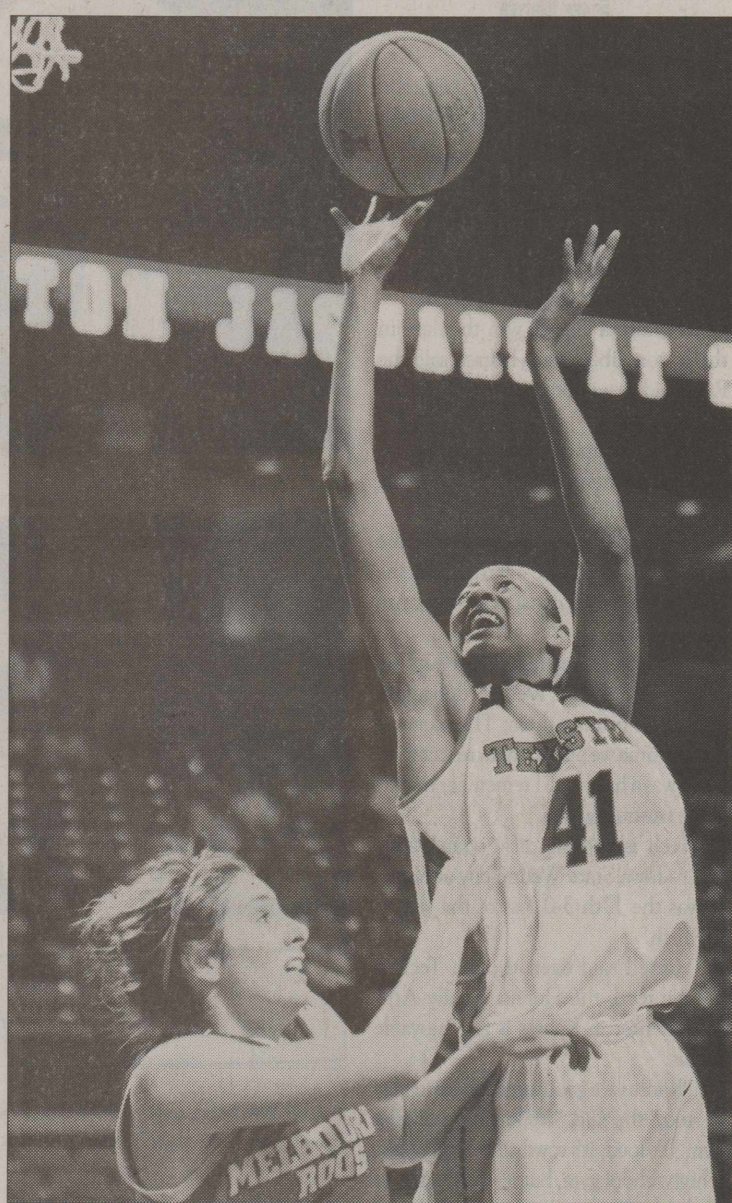
"We have been able to get a lot accomplished in a short time frame," Curry said. "We have to cover a lot of information before Nov. 14. We have got four new faces and we are taking it one game at a time and trying to get better and bring them along as slow, but yet, as fast as we can."

The Lady Raiders welcome junior college transfer Tilmila Martin from Blinn College, as well as three freshmen in Jordan Barncastle, Lindie Kimbro and Kierra Mallard. Another addition to the roster is sophomore Kaylan Talley, who was forced to redshirt last year because of a torn ACL.

Barncastle said going from the two hours of practice in high school to the four hours a day at Tech has been the biggest adjustment so far.

"It's kind of what I got myself into," she said, "so I can't complain too much. It's basically basketball 24/7 now."

Curry said it is a huge learning curve when you leave any high school or junior college setting. She said the first step for them is to learn all the new plays and figure out what they are trying to do strategy-wise.



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH FORWARD Dominic Seals shoots over Melbourne's Adrianna Cann during the Lady Raider's 107-29 victory over the Roos Sunday in the United Spirit Arena.

"There is a lot to learn," Curry said. "When everything has been run for you, it's a lot different than learning how to screen and set things up for each other."

Curry said she believes there are three goals the Lady Raiders must accomplish in order to be a better team than they were a year ago. Turning the ball over, getting stops at critical times, and rebounding are all problems that must be addressed, she said.

With the Jaguars coming to town Sunday, the third-year coach said her

team still needs to tie up plenty of loose ends before the season starts. Even though the game does not technically add or take away from their season record, the Lady Raiders can use it to fix those problems before the games count.

"It matters because you figure out if you improve or not (with an exhibition game)," Murphree said. "Running our plays, good defense and limiting turnovers are the main things we need to improve on."

» steven.ryan@ttu.edu

Hope replaced by expectation for Baylor

WACO (AP) — Expectation has replaced hope for the Baylor Bears.

This season, the Bears expect to play in the NCAA tournament. No longer do they only hope to get there — like last season when they earned their first NCAA berth in 20 years, and were the 65th and final team called on selection day.

And this time, they feel like they'll be better prepared when they get there.

"As a whole, a lot of us were just happy to get there," senior guard Curtis Jerrells said. "It was a big jump for us. We didn't go to the NIT or something. We went straight to where we wanted to be. We understand what it takes to get back, and we'll put in a whole lot more effort."

Jerrells and three other starters return from last year's 21-11 team, and the All-

Big 12 guard is among five seniors on the roster. The only significant departure was Aaron Bruce, a four-year starter now playing professionally at home in Australia.

"The big thing with our players, their mind-set has changed from the standpoint that we're ready to take another step," coach Scott Drew said. "Once you have been to a certain step and a certain place — just like raising kids. Once they've crawled, they're ready to walk; once they've walked, they're ready to run."

Playing in their first NCAA tournament game since 1988, and only the second in 58 years, the Bears trailed Purdue by 19 points at halftime and went on to a 90-79 loss.

The experience reminded Jerrells of his freshman season (2005-06) when the Bears didn't play a nonconference

schedule as part of NCAA-imposed sanctions.

"It was kind of like when we played our first Big 12 game with no preseason," Jerrells said. "You want to do well, you think you will do well and then reality hits."

The Bears went 4-13 that season when they were punished for NCAA rules violations by former coach Dave Bliss that were discovered after Baylor player Patrick Dennehy was murdered by a teammate in the summer of 2003.

Drew took over a daunting and unprecedented task when he replaced the disgraced Bliss. But the enthusiastic young coach with unbridled enthusiasm and an infectious optimism recruited standout players and revived the program.

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- 4 Tritons' sch.
- 8 Preoccupy completely
- 14 Verse starter?
- 15 Lanai neighbor
- 16 Having a tapering end
- 17 Upper limb
- 18 Tournament passes
- 19 Matriculate
- 20 Feeling okay?
- 23 Luke's Jedi mentor
- 24 Old-time Olds
- 25 Fuss
- 28 Understands
- 29 Occasionally
- 33 Glum drop
- 34 Like a matinee idol
- 35 Like nostalgic fashions
- 39 Watch pocket
- 41 Remove from packaging
- 42 Canadian capital
- 44 Linguist
- 46 Rolling Stones hit
- 48 Key with 3 sharps
- 52 Aug. follower
- 53 QVC rival
- 54 Court decree
- 56 Farmers' outing contest
- 59 #1 hit by the Fleetwoods
- 62 Purim's month
- 63 Exile
- 64 String of words
- 65 Soda brand
- 66 Hair stiffener
- 67 Charlotte pro
- 68 C. Everett
- 69 Snaky letter

DOWN

- 1 Cape Cod clam
- 2 Don vestments
- 3 Chowderhead
- 4 Eclipse shadow
- 5 Hot pepper
- 6 Mutton fat
- 7 Menu entree
- 8 Unrestricted
- 9 Beatnik instrument
- 10 British knights
- 11 British musician
- 12 MO town
- 13 Part of a wd.
- 21 Sounds of disappointment
- 22 Pension \$
- 25 Pequot captain
- 26 Preview tape
- 27 Cameo stone
- 30 Doofus
- 31 Injustice
- 32 Bo's number
- 33 Brownstone, perhaps
- 35 Steals from verb
- 36 French 101
- 37 Roof with removable panels
- 38 Lacking experience
- 40 Nonvenomous snake
- 43 Comparable to candy or kisses
- 45 Plains tribe
- 47 Chapel Hill sch.
- 48 Volcanic dust
- 49 Desert illusion
- 50 Portuguese islands
- 51 Gems
- 55 Get into your birthday suit?
- 56 Family group
- 57 Slugger Aaron
- 58 Logical start?
- 59 Radar gun
- 60 Greek letter
- 61 It's c-c-c-cold!

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RICA **U**TAH **L**EVLEE
ANTA **B**OER **E**VADIE
YOUCA **M**IPA **J**GNIN
ELAPS **E** **M**UD **H**ER
STR **G**RUMPY **C**ORE
TAY **O**GLE **G**LEAM
POETRY **Y**OU
SOLID **G**EESE **O**AF
PREP **A**RENAS **T**WO
ABA **E**VA **R**ITTER
GOVERN **I**N **P**ROSE
GOUGE **E**ASE **A**MOS
SHEEN **S**TJR **C**AME
ASSET **T**OSS **K**NEE

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Police investigating Leaf on drug allegation

DALLAS (AP) — Police in the Texas Panhandle are investigating a minor drug allegation made against former NFL quarterback Ryan Leaf, who this week was placed on leave from his job as an assistant football coach at West Texas A&M.

Canyon police Chief Bobby

Griffin says the investigation is in its preliminary stages, but confirmed the allegation was that Leaf obtained a controlled substance by fraudulent means.

"We are trying to determine whether anything like that happened," Griffin said. "There is not enough information or facts to say

we have a crime being committed or not."

Leaf did not immediately respond to a message left by The Associated Press and Griffin said the police have not interviewed him.

"Some allegations have been made and some rumors are flying around."

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Texas Tech volleyball looks forward to playing 'beatable' Kansas team

By KEVIN CULLEN
STAFF WRITER

At this point in the season, the Texas Tech volleyball team will take what it can get.

The Red Raiders (5-20, 0-14 in Big 12 Conference play) take on Kansas (11-12, 5-9 in Big 12 play) at 7 p.m. Saturday in Lawrence, Kan., in hopes of ending a 33-conference match losing streak.

Without a Big 12 win this late in the season, libero Jenn Harrell said the Red Raiders will not be picky with any victory.

"This is definitely one of the ones — take a win when you can," Harrell said. "I mean, we'll take any win."

While the Red Raiders lost to the Jayhawks 3-1 Oct. 4, Harrell said she believes a win against Kansas is not unreasonable.

"Kansas is definitely a beatable team," she said. "We are definitely capable of beating them. The scores of the last time we played them reflect that. That was a hard loss. I remember that. It was a frustrating loss."

Tech is coming off a straight-sets loss to Iowa State Wednesday at home. It was the 11th 3-0 loss of the season for Tech.

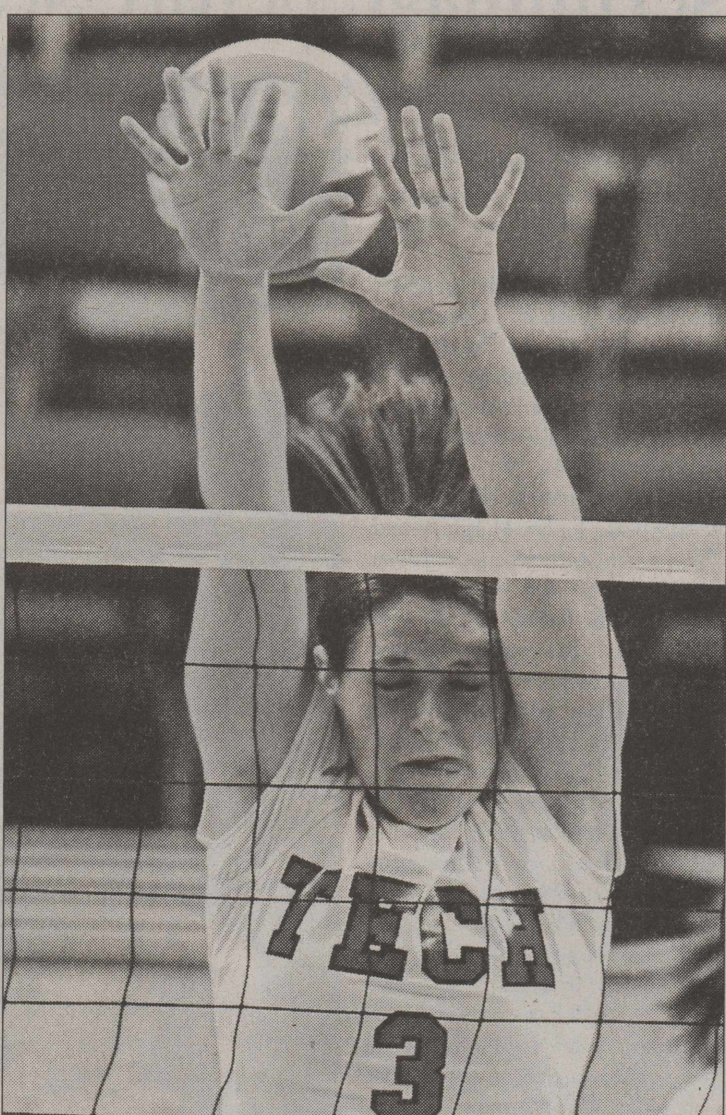
Harrell said even though Tech is on the road, the Horejsi Family Athletic Center in Kansas is an enjoyable venue.

"Kansas is a good atmosphere to play in, too," she said. "It's kind of a smaller gym. It's loud; it's rowdy. It's kind of like a high school gym, but it's always fun to play there."

Kansas outside hitter Karina Garlington, who is sixth in the Big 12 with 3.69 kills per set, torched Tech with 18 kills when the teams met in October in the United Spirit Arena.

Tech middle blocker Amanda Dowdy said the team must focus more on what it is doing compared to what Kansas is doing.

"If we are blocking really well, they won't have as well of a balanced offense," she said. "I know they have a really big hitter and if we can take care of her, it kinda freaks everybody else out. We should just focus more on our side and make sure we're blocking, our



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador
KARLYN MEYERS AND the Texas Tech volleyball team hopes to end a 33-conference match losing streak against Kansas this weekend.

hitters are being consistent. One thing at a time."

The Red Raiders played Kansas tight last time, Dowdy said, but to come away with a win this time, they will have to play better together.

"(We have to) play consistent and play together," she said, "because the only way we are gonna win is playing as a team. As long as we stay consistent and everybody is focused on what our goal is, we'll be fine."

Dowdy said the match against the Jayhawks is just as important as each remaining match.

"It's extremely important," she said. "I think it's important no matter what

match it is. I don't care who we are playing. You have to go in there expecting to win and I don't care if we are playing teams like Nebraska or Texas, no matter what you always have to go in thinking you're the team that's gonna win."

If the Red Raiders were to pull out a win against the Jayhawks, Dowdy said it would provide some much-needed momentum heading into the final five matches of the season.

"As far as this Kansas match I think it'll be huge momentum for us if we won going into Texas since we won't be at home," she said. "It's a good chance for us. We need to take advantage of it."

>> kevin.m.cullen@ttu.edu

Van Niekerk named Big 12 Golfer of the Month

By KEVIN CULLEN
STAFF WRITER

Wednesday was a unique day for the Texas Tech women's golf program.

Senior Ulrika Van Niekerk was one of three men's and women's golfers named Big 12 Conference Golfers of the Month.

The award is not only Van Niekerk's first, but the program's first such honor.

"I just think it's really exciting," Tech coach Stacey Totman said. "She has just been working really, really hard on her game and I just think it's a nice tribute to her hard work. She is, I think, very, very deserving of it."

Totman said improved putting has contributed to Van Niekerk's success this month.

"She's just worked really, really hard on her short game and really, really hard on her putting," she said. "I just think that she's really comfortable on the golf course because she knows she can get up and down from any situation. She's putting so much better than she has in the past. If she can continue to do that, I think this is just the tip of the iceberg for her."

Van Niekerk has notched four consecutive Top 15 finishes; finishing sixth, fifth, ninth and 11th in her last four tournaments, respectively.

Totman said she believes the award will not cause Van Niekerk to become complacent because she constantly strives to set records and improve her game.

"She is just really a hard-working kid," she said. "The one thing about her is she has really done a lot of research and study in the history of

our golf program. She has all the records hanging up on her wall in her room. She wants to rewrite the record books."

Not only is the award valuable to Van Niekerk, Totman said, but it is important for the younger players in the program who see what she is doing and can use it as motivation.

"I think that all my seniors are setting the standard for hard work and determination and dedication," she said. "The young ones know that if they wanna play, they're gonna have to follow suit."

The award comes just as the Lady Raiders finish their fall season. The team next will play in its spring opener, the Lady Puerto Rico Classic Feb. 8 in Puerto Rico.

Van Niekerk was unavailable for comment for this story.
>> kevin.m.cullen@ttu.edu

TO says Cowboys let doubt creep in weeks ago

IRVING (AP) — Terrell Owens admitted what his Dallas teammates couldn't a month ago — at least publicly: The Cowboys were springing leaks long before Tony Romo broke his pinkie and their Super Bowl hopes started sinking.

Owens said doubt crept in as early as the first month of the season, when the Cowboys lost their first game against Washington then answered with an unimpressive victory against then-winless Cincinnati.

After beating the Bengals, the Cowboys complained about having to defend a win and reminded everyone they were 4-1. They did at least acknowledge that what they were saying for the cameras might be different from what they were telling each other. Owens said it for the cameras Wednesday, during Dallas' bye week.

"I think the loss to Washington made a lot of people raise a lot of eyebrows," Owens said. "I think those two games alone kind of let everybody in this locker room know you got to have sort of a self check like, 'OK, we're probably not as good as we think we are, or probably not as good as hyped.'"

The Cowboys went 1-2 without Romo after he injured his throwing hand during the first play of overtime in a loss to Arizona. The offense was anemic in all three games, even setting a franchise record for fewest yards in a win when they beat Tampa Bay 13-9.

But Dallas was 1-2 in the last three games with Romo, too, always scoring enough points to win but going through uncharacteristically long stretches of ineffectiveness on offense while the defense struggled to make key stops.

If they want to latch on to something positive, the Cowboys have this: The Redskins rematch — on Nov. 16 — could be the first time on the field together for Romo, Owens, recently acquired receiver Roy Williams, tight end Jason Witten, running back Marion Barber and budding star Felix Jones, a rookie who backs up Barber and has emerged as a kickoff return ace.

Witten is trying to play through a broken rib from the Tampa Bay game, and Jones is expected to return after missing the same amount of time as Romo with a hamstring injury.

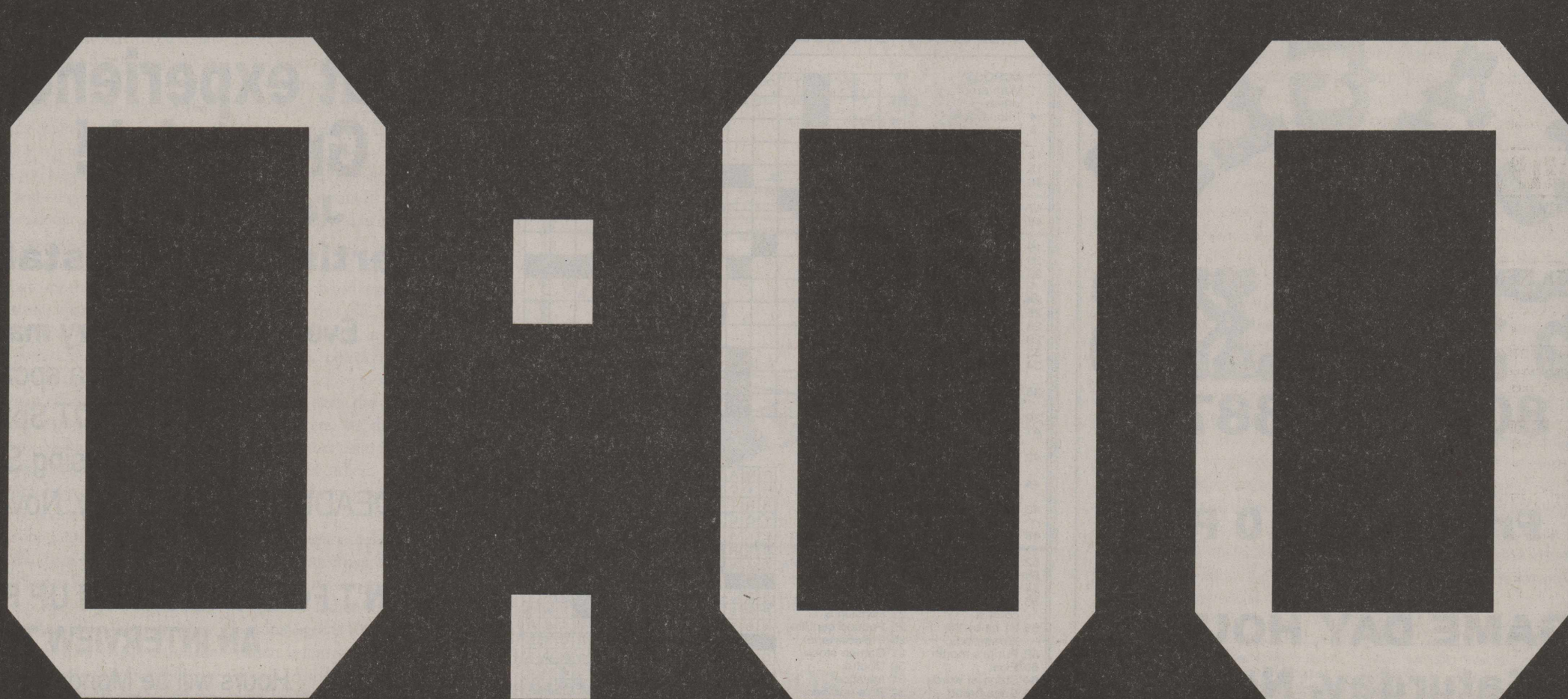
"When you go in with a full deck of cards, everybody in their starting positions, you go in with a lot of

energy, high expectations, as we did earlier in the year," Owens said. "It seems like one by one, at different positions, guys have been going down. It's very unfortunate, but there are two halves to the season."

It's been three-fourths of a season since Owens had a 100-yard game. He's averaging less than four catches and barely 50 yards per game this season, but he hasn't come close to complaining about it since he was criticized for saying after the Washington game that he needed to get the ball more. He made the comments after catching seven passes, taking two handoffs and having 11 other balls thrown his way.

"I can sit up here and say I need the ball more, then you guys will go back and dissect how many balls are thrown my way so I'm not going to get into that," Owens said. "I know I am a playmaker. I've always been that, and I still consider myself that. I think it shows when I get my hands on the ball, things happen."

Instead of building the best record in the NFC like they did last year, the Cowboys find themselves in last place in the NFC East more than halfway through the season. But Owens says that hasn't changed the team's outlook.



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Being on top of college football world is not as fun as it seems

Here is to hoping 2007's college football history does not repeat itself in 2008.

While Texas Tech is on top of the college football world, for the moment, recent history shows the Red Raiders are anything but guaranteed a spot in the Bowl Championship Series National Championship Game.

In 2007, from November on, teams ranked No. 1 or No. 2 in the BCS went 3-7 while in those respective positions. Unranked teams like Florida State, Illinois, Arizona, Arkansas and Pittsburgh all pulled off upsets against Top 2 BCS teams last seasons. Additionally, teams reaching the No. 1 or No. 2 BCS spot in November or

Brett Talley



later finished the season with an alarming combined record of 10-12 after reaching those rankings.

Some might say that record is indicative of teams playing tougher competition later in the season, but of those 12 losses, eight were at the hands of unranked opponents. Everyone knows it is tough to win every game in BCS-conference college football, but these numbers go

to show it only gets tougher once a team gets to the top.

As painful as it is to say, the odds are not in favor of Tech running the table. Especially if you consider the gauntlet of teams they will have to get through in order to do so. Texas is every bit as good as the Red Raiders, but a tough road game at the end of an incredible stretch of games did them in. Consequently, Tech's trip to Norman later this month looms especially large.

However, if Tech were to lose, all hope would not be lost.

Again, the results of 2007 lay out a possible, albeit unlikely, scenario in which Tech could lose and still reach the BCS title game or, at the very least, another

BCS game.

Last season, LSU suffered its second loss of the season as late as Week 13 and fell to No. 7 in the BCS. But after beating unranked Tennessee in the SEC Championship, the Tigers jumped back up to No. 2 and a spot in the BCS title game. What makes that leap almost unbelievable is the fact they jumped three teams that did not lose after LSU. In fact, Virginia Tech, one team ranked above LSU, added a victory over a ranked Boston College team and still was jumped by LSU.

It has been common knowledge for some time in college football that if you are going to lose, you should lose as early as possible.

But aided by several upsets and the general perception that the SEC was head and shoulders better than other BCS conferences, LSU defied this logic.

Still, if our Red Raiders are going to lose only one game this season, it has to be sooner rather than later. Meaning, either Oklahoma State or Oklahoma would have to be the team to beat Tech. If Tech were to win those two games and then go on to lose in the Big 12 Conference Championship, that loss would be too late in the season and the Red Raiders would have no chance for a BCS bid. But if the Red Raiders lose to only one of the two previously mentioned teams, they still have a legitimate

chance of winning the Big 12 South and earning the right to play for a spot in a BCS game in the Big 12 Championship.

It is as simple as this: whoever beats Tech (Oklahoma or Oklahoma State) has to lose to the team Tech defeats. In other words, if Oklahoma State beats Tech, Oklahoma would have to beat OSU and vice-versa. If Tech does end up winning only one of its next two games, the Oklahoma-Oklahoma State Bedlam game could end up being the biggest game in Tech football history, and the Red Raiders will not even be playing in it.

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

Green should return to help Slaton, Texans

HOUSTON (AP) — Ahman Green should play this week after missing last week with a groin injury.

That's good news for the Houston Texans, but even better news for one player in particular. Rookie running back Steve Slaton was in on 69 plays in last week's loss to the Vikings.

He was up for the challenge, but coach Gary Kubiak knows he can't count on the smallest Slaton for that many plays every week.

"That's way too much for one back," Kubiak said. "I think the kid understood the situation we were in (Sunday) and I think he would have stayed out there for 90, that's the type of kid he is."

Slaton has started all but one game this season, but Houston's running game has been helped when

the Texans can use Green to give the rookie a rest. Slaton won't admit that the load got to him.

"I feel good," Slaton said. "We'll see if I can do it again. I feel like I could do it again but I have a great running back group behind me. So, maybe we can share some."

Kubiak has been impressed with his maturity this season.

"He's playing with a great deal of confidence," Kubiak said. "He's seven weeks in a row now as a starter. Hasn't missed a practice, hasn't missed a game. He's tired. He's beat up because he's on his second college season right now ... but I love the way the kid goes about his business."

Green, who missed 10 games last season and has missed three this year, said dealing with injuries is frustrating.

The DT Staff College Football Pick 'Em

| Games of the Week | Michelle Casady Editor in Chief Overall Record 51-19 | Ben Maki Broadcasts/Online Editor Overall Record 45-25 | Adam Coleman Sports Editor Overall Record 46-24 | Jan-Tosh Gerling Copy Editor Overall Record 34-37 | Britton Peele Opinions Editor Overall Record 48-22 | Kriston Luckey Design Editor Overall Record 51-19 | Adam Young News Editor Overall Record 48-22 | Matt McGowan Features Editor Overall Record 42-28 | Tye Lewis Newsroom Kid Overall Record 48-22 |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| No. 8 Oklahoma State @ No. 2 Texas Tech | Texas Tech 42-17 | Texas Tech 42-28 | Texas Tech 45-42 | Texas Tech 42-38 | Texas Tech 39-28 | Texas Tech 38-35 | Texas Tech 38-31 | Texas Tech 44-28 | Texas Tech 35-31 |
| No. 21 California @ No. 7 USC | USC | USC | USC | California | USC | USC | USC | USC | USC |
| No. 1 Alabama @ No. 15 LSU | Alabama | Alabama | Alabama | Alabama | Alabama | Alabama | Alabama | Alabama | Alabama |
| No. 12 Ohio State @ Northwestern | Ohio State | Ohio State | Ohio State | Ohio State | Ohio State | Ohio State | Ohio State | Ohio State | Ohio State |
| Cincinnati @ No. 20 West Virginia | West Virginia | Cincinnati | West Virginia | West Virginia | West Virginia | West Virginia | West Virginia | West Virginia | West Virginia |
| Notre Dame @ Boston College | Boston College | Notre Dame | Boston College | Boston College | Notre Dame | Notre Dame | Notre Dame | Notre Dame | Notre Dame |
| Kansas @ Nebraska | Kansas | Kansas | Kansas | Nebraska | Kansas | Kansas | Kansas | Kansas | Kansas |

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Ski 20 Mountain & 5 Remains for the Price of 1
Crank, Nail, Goats Creek, Anapurna Basin & Keystone
1-800-SKI-WILD
www.lubbock.com

Get Your
GAME ON
 At Amigos United™

GRAND OPENING EVENTS

Saturday, NOVEMBER 8 • ALL DAY

Free

TEXAS TECH T-SHIRTS, FOOTBALLS & BALLOONS
(While Supplies Last)

Watch
 Texas Tech vs. OSU
 on Giant 9'x12' Screens! • 7 p.m.



Celebrate the Grand Opening of the new Amigos store on N. University as you get ready to defeat the OSU Cowboys. Stock up on your game day supplies and pick up a FREE limited-edition Tech T-shirt and an Amigos football while supplies last. Join in the team spirit and watch the big game with us on two giant 9' x 12' LED screens, as we cheer the Red Raiders on to victory Amigos style!

Sunday, NOVEMBER 9 • 1 - 6 p.m.

Free

BOUNCE HOUSE, BALLOONS & COTTON CANDY
 Neighborhood Party

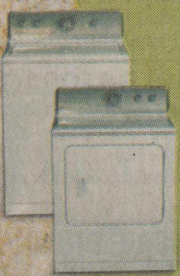
Shelly Lares
 Performance • 2 p.m.
 Gift Card Drawing



GREAT GIVEAWAYS
Register to Win!

Multiple drawings from November 7 - 16.
 See store for more details.

- 40" Panasonic® Plasma TV
- Maytag® Top-Loading Washer & Dryer with a 3-Month Supply of Detergent
- Frigidaire® Side-by-Side Refrigerator with a \$200 Grocery Gift Card
- i2 Commuter Segway®
- MacBook Pro®



40" Panasonic® Plasma TV

Great Prizes

i2 Commuter Segway®

MacBook Pro®

GRAND OPENING
Starts Today

112 N. University
 Lubbock, TX

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