

Grad school or not?

See Page 3

Gospel singers celebrate
Martin Luther King Jr.

See Page 5

THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21, 2009
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Serving the Texas Tech University community since 1925



(INBRIEF)

STATE

\$172 billion state budget legislation filed

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas budget has been filed as legislation and it's more than \$2 billion in the red.

Lawmakers have a long way to go before there's a final state budget, but if it looks like the version filed in the Senate Tuesday, lawmakers will either have to borrow \$2.3 billion from the so-called Rainy Day Fund or cut state services by that amount.

"This initial budget meets my top priorities by holding the line on state spending, continuing the record local school property tax cuts and funding essential services for the most vulnerable in our society," Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said.

NATION

Police: Bomb threat on NJ turnpike not credible

WOODBURY HEIGHTS, N.J. (AP) — A potential bomb threat that shut down part of the New Jersey Turnpike has been found not to be credible, New Jersey State Police said.

State police spokesman Sgt. Stephen Jones said troopers took a 27-year-old Massachusetts man into custody following a car stop around 6:15 p.m. Tuesday in the southbound lanes of the turnpike in Woodbury Heights about six miles south of Exit 3.

WORLD

Car bomb targets US military convoy in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — Two bombs struck separate U.S. military and Iraqi governmental convoys in Baghdad on Tuesday, killing five Iraqi civilians and wounding two American soldiers, the U.S. military said.

The attacks were the latest reminder of the daily violence that continues to face Iraqis and Americans even as the U.S. military prepares to withdraw from the country over the next three years.

A car bomb targeted a U.S. convoy shortly after 3 p.m. in a northwestern area of Baghdad called Mansour, killing three Iraqi civilians and wounding the two U.S. soldiers, the U.S. military said. It added that initial intelligence indicated al-Qaida in Iraq was to blame.

DEATH TOLL

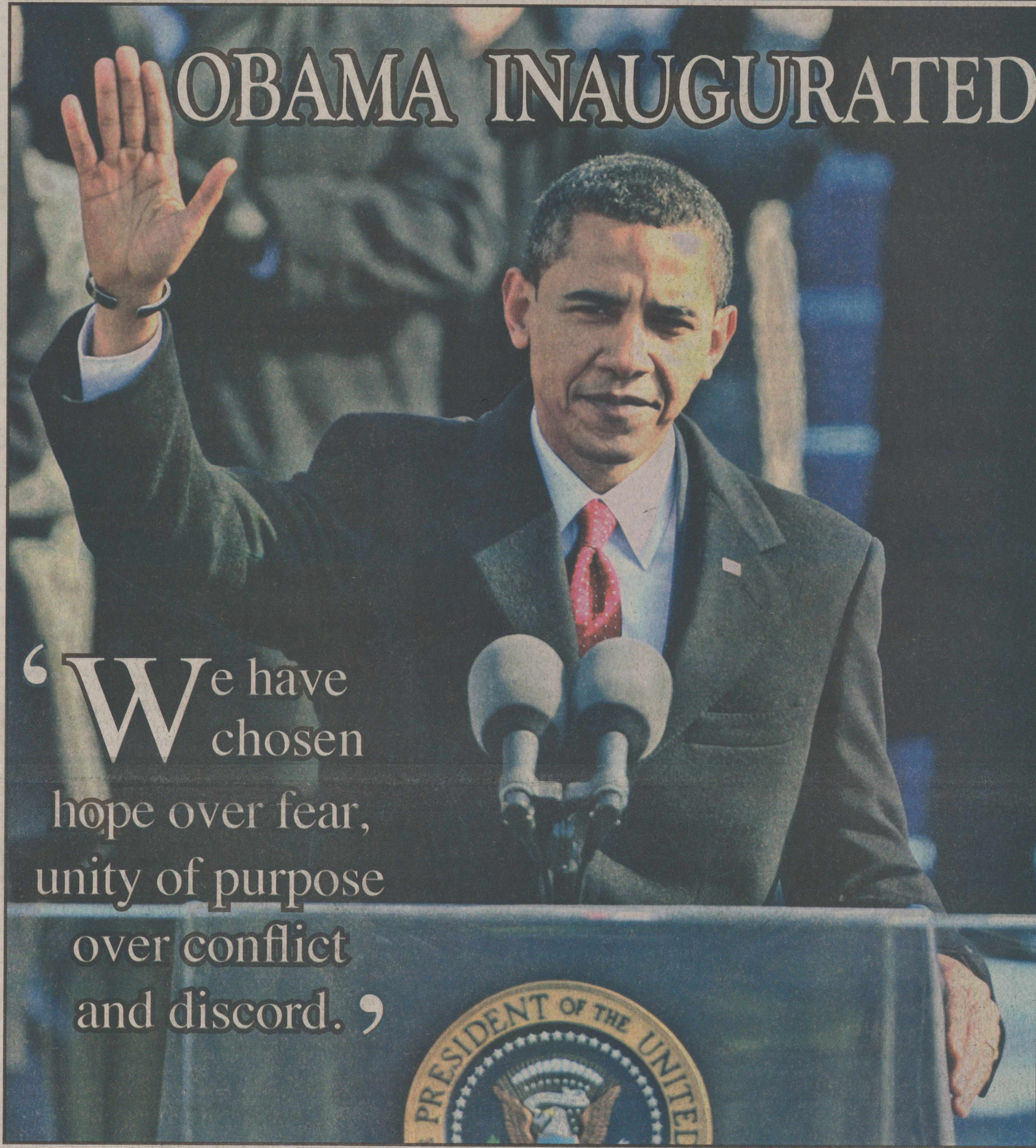
4229

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

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Obama takes historic spot as first black president

By JENNIFER LOVEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Before a jubilant crowd of more than a million, Barack Hussein Obama claimed his place in history as America's first black president, summoning a dispirited nation to unite in hope against the "gathering clouds and raging storms" of war and economic woe.

On an extraordinary day in the life of America, people of all colors and ages waited for hours Tuesday in frigid temperatures to witness the moment as a young black man with a foreign-sounding name took command of a nation founded by slaveholders. It was a scene watched in fascination by many millions — perhaps billions — around the world.

"We gather because we have chosen hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord," the nation's 44th president said.

The presidency passed to Democrat Obama from Republican George W. Bush at the stroke of noon, marking one of democracy's greatest gifts: the peaceful transfer of power.

But a stark transfer all the same. In one of the new administration's first acts, Obama ordered federal agencies to halt all pending regulations

until further review — this after Bush's final weeks raised heated debate over rushing new rules into effect on the way out the door.

Obama plunges into his new job in earnest on Wednesday, meeting with his economic team and Iraq advisers while Congress gives his economic revival plan a going-over and takes up the nomination of Hillary Rodham Clinton to be secretary of state. Her confirmation has been held up for now by Republican concern over the foundation fundraising of her husband, the former president.

The new president had been buoyant and relaxed through the three days of pre-inaugural festivities. But he seemed somber as he stood on the Capitol steps, placed his left hand on the Bible used by Abraham Lincoln and repeated the inaugural oath "to preserve, protect and defend" a Constitution that originally defined blacks as three-fifths of a person. A deafening cheer went up.

"What is required of us now is a new era of responsibility — a recognition, on the part of every American, that we have duties to ourselves, our nation, and the world, duties that we do not grudgingly accept but

rather seize gladly," Obama said. "This is the price and the promise of citizenship."

Tuesday was a day of high spirits — jarred by sudden concern about the health of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, a legendary Democrat who is suffering from brain cancer and was rushed to a hospital from a Senate luncheon after the swearing-in. "My prayers are with him and his family and (Kennedy's wife) Vicki," Obama said. Later, fellow Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts said Kennedy was laughing and joking at the hospital and itching to get back to work.

On the inaugural parade route, Obama and his wife, Michelle, climbed out of the heavily armored presidential limousine and walked a few blocks along famed Pennsylvania Avenue, waving to adoring crowds under the watchful eyes of security agents.

Obama wove a thread of personal responsibility and accountability through his inaugural address, an 18-minute sermon on civic duty. A liberal Democrat proposing billions of dollars in new spending, Obama nonetheless spoke of the limits of government.

"It is the kindness to take in a stranger when the levees break, the selflessness of

workers who would rather cut their hours than see a friend lose their job which sees us through our darkest hours," he said. "It is the firefighter's courage to storm a stairway filled with smoke, but also a parent's willingness to nurture a child, that finally decides our fate."

Obama's 10-year-old daughter, Malia, aimed a camera at her father as he spoke. Michelle leaned onto the edge of her seat, body tensed and brow knitted.

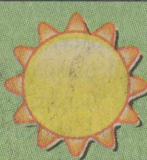
"Starting today, we must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and begin again the work of remaking America," Obama said.

He alluded to the inability — or unwillingness — of Americans to adjust to the passing of an industrial-based economy. "Our economy is badly weakened, a consequence of greed and irresponsibility on the part of some, but also our collective failure to make hard choices and prepare the nation for a new age," he said. With that, the 47-year-old former Illinois senator transformed himself — from a candidate claiming his campaign is about the voters to a president promising to put the nation in the people's hands.

Unlike most predecessors, Obama takes office with his agenda in many ways set for

PRESIDENT continued on page 5 >>>

Check out the special Inauguration Day section on page 6



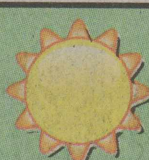
TODAY
Sunny
High 77 Low 34



Thursday
Partly Cloudy
High 77 Low 45



Friday
Mostly Sunny
High 75 Low 25



Saturday
Sunny
High 57 Low 31



Sunday
Partly Cloudy
High 64 Low 33

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Job market increases graduate degree interest

By **GARRETT JAMES SALZMAN**
STAFF WRITER

Should I stay or should I go? That is the question weighing on the minds of many Texas Tech students trying to decide between attending graduate school and entering a shrinking and increasingly competitive job market.

Danny Lund, a senior electronic media and communications major from Spring, has answered the dilemma with a plan to pursue a double major and master's degree. He said the state of the economy played a deciding role in his decision to stay in college.

"(The economy) is definitely a huge reason why I'm staying," Lund said. "I think with the way our economy is right now, it's a smart idea to stay in school to best prepare yourself for the job opportunities that will open up once the economy bounces back."

Lund said he hoped his time spent earning a master's degree will provide him with a greater understanding of his chosen career, which will enable him to make good decisions when he does enter the workforce.

"I think there will be huge competition with more students staying in school because they're unable to find jobs," Lund said. "I'm worried about it being costly and still not being able to find a job that suits me best."

According to a survey conducted by Kaplan, 75 percent of 250 business school admissions officials surveyed believe graduate business programs have become more competitive in the past three years. Jennifer Kedrowski, director of graduate programs for Kaplan, said this increase in competitiveness can be attributed to a growing number of students entering advanced degree programs because of the economic recession.

"There's a lot of different reasons for that," she said. "Some people think if they have no success getting a job, they should take the opportunity to go to grad school. Some see it as a way to wait out the recession, and maybe five years down the road things will be different."

Kedrowski said the effect of

the economy on students pursuing graduate school has been measurable for Kaplan.

"Over the past three months, we have seen a double-digit increase in interest in our graduate school test prep programs," she said. "As for if the economy is playing a part in that, it's definitely something that historically has been the case and tends to be the case here."

W.J. Conover, coordinator of Tech's master of business administration program, said the national trend of increased competitiveness has not been reflected at Tech.

Tech's business administration program does not limit enrollment, he said. Students are not competing for a limited number of spaces, because students are admitted based on a set criteria.

Although he has not seen an increase in applications this year, Conover said he believes eventually the effects of the weak job market will be apparent.

"I haven't seen it happening so far, but usually when economic conditions are bad the graduate school enrollment goes up," he said. "Starting next fall we should see the effect of the economy on admissions, but it's too early to tell this year."

Duane Crawford, associate dean for admissions and recruitment for Tech's graduate school, said although it is commonly accepted that graduate school applicants increase in a weakened economy, he is hesitant to blame increased applications at Tech on the economic state.

"It seems it's some kind of man on the street knowledge that graduate school applications are inversely related with how well the economy is performing," Crawford said. "I'm just not convinced it's the economy. Now, I'm not convinced it isn't the economy, but from where we stand our numbers just don't show that."

Crawford said while the number of graduate school applications has increased 21 percent in the past year, that number also increased each of the previous five years he has been with the graduate school. He said his background as a cultural

scientist makes him wary of making a connection between the increase in applications and the economy without proof of causation.

"It's a cultural truism, but I have yet to see a study that proves it," he said. "There could always be other factors at play."

Dave Kraus, director of University Career Services for Tech, said it is important for students to make a personal decision about their futures after undergraduate study based on their own ambitions and not the perceived health of the job market.

"I always tell students to explore all of their options," he said. "I don't want them to not look at the job market because it's not as good as it was a year ago. Jobs aren't going to just fall out of the sky. However, I tend to be an optimist and I think people who put forth the effort will succeed regardless."

Kraus said there is merit to beginning a career in a difficult job market, such as gaining work experience that cannot be obtained in school. He said despite the reports of a worsening economy, there are more than 700 job listings on the Tech employment Web site.

"Job experience is always a plus," Kraus said. "It adds maturity and experience in a work environment and responsibilities. There's nothing like getting some real world experience."

Lauren Braddock, a junior electronic communications major from Houston, said her goal to gain work experience drove her to attempt graduating a semester early. Although she is nervous about the economic outlook, she said she believes experience gained from beginning her career as soon as possible will give her an edge in a competitive field.

Although her ideal job is to work for Pixar, Braddock said she would be realistic and take any opportunity in the current market to work for an employer willing to hire her. She said she plans to attend law school after gaining work experience for two to three years but is eager to get out of Lubbock in hopes of establishing a career first.

"I know I'm probably going to have to take less pay and do really well to improve," Braddock said, "but there's some point you realize, 'I'm only going to do so much with an undergrad degree.' It's great that I'm getting an education, but for me personally, I really want the hands-on experience of a job. So I'm going to suck it up and see what I can get."

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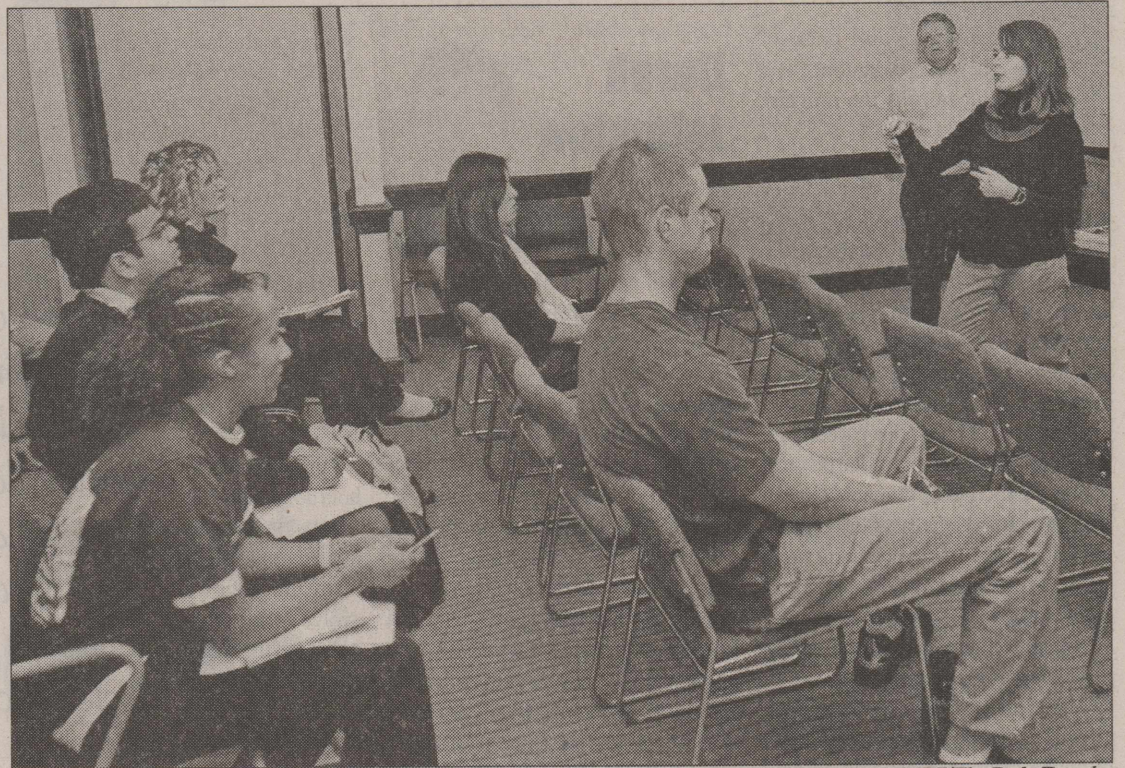


PHOTO BY KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Toreador
STEPHANIE WEHMEIER, ASSOCIATE director of University Career Services, speaks with students about how to navigate the job market when the nation is going through an economic recession and Joe Duke, the Associate Director of University Career Center, listens.

TIPS FOR JOB SEARCHING DURING A RECESSION

- Get hands-on experience, even if it means volunteer work or unpaid internships
- Start looking for a job earlier than you think you need to
- Concentrate on networking, and tell everyone you know you are seeking employment
- Have University Career Services review your resume and conduct a mock interview
- Be proactive when looking for a job
- Make sure to follow up and be persistent and polite but not annoying
- Send a personal hand-written note to thank interviewers
- Keep your voice mailbox, Facebook profile and resume professional

SOURCE: STEPHANIE WEHMEIER, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY CAREER SERVICES

LUBBOCK'S BEST STUDENT LIVING



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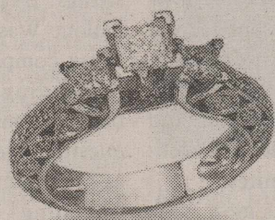
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"I don't want them to not look at the job market because it's not as good as it was a year ago. Jobs aren't going to just fall out of the sky."

DAVE KRAUS
DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY CAREER SERVICES

You're nervous enough about asking her dad, the last thing you need to worry about is the quality of the ring.



Robert Lance Jewelers

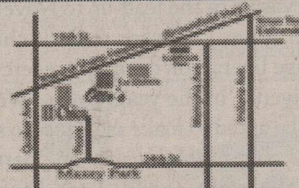
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- 10 - 30 minute Swedish Sessions for only \$250.00 (savings of \$100.00)
- 10 - 30 minute Serenity/Deep Tissue Sessions for only \$300.00 (savings of \$100.00)
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- 10 - One Hour Swedish Massage Sessions for only \$400.00 (savings of \$150.00)
- 5 - One Hour Serenity/Deep Tissue Sessions for only \$275.00 (savings of \$50.00)
- 10 - One Hour Serenity/Deep Tissue Sessions for only \$500.00 (savings of \$150.00)

These packages will be sold as a package...there is a one year expiration date and can even be shared with friends and family!

Appointment preferred but walk-ins and last minute call in will be accommodated.

\$10.00 off coupon for one hour swedish/serenity/deep tissue session

3225 50th Street, A-4 (806) 791-4500

EXPERIENCE Rec Sports



You better be at the 29th Annual Rec Sports All Nighter!
Free T-Shirts to the First 2000 courtesy of the Texas Tech Credit Union!

Friday, January 30th!



Phone: 742-3351

Website: www.rescsports.ttu.edu

Box 2151

Heartbeats

A quick pulse around the Rec Sports World...

Vertical Plains Festival

This year's Vertical Plains Climbing and Film Festival will be on February 13 and 14. The Telluride Film Festival on the 13th is open to all Tech students thanks to the Tech Activities Board.

Intramural Sign-ups

Team Bowling
South Plains Lanes (5150 69th Street)
Event Dates - 2/2, 2/8, or 2/9
4 Person Teams
\$24/Team includes 4 players' shoes, 3 games and a great night of FUN!
Entries due Thursday, January 28, 2009
Racquetball League
FREE
Divisions - Men's and Women's
Pool Play followed by a single elimination tournament
Entries due Wednesday, February 4, 2009
Inner-Tube Water Polo
FREE
Play Day - Sunday February 8, 2009
Tournament - Sunday February 15, 2009
Divisions - Open and Co-Rec
Entries due Wednesday, February 4, 2009
9-Ball Tournament
FREE
Event Dates - 2/9 or 2/10
Divisions - Open-Limited to first 16
Participants each night
Played in SUB, Lower Level
Entries due Wednesday, February 10, 2009

All-Nighter

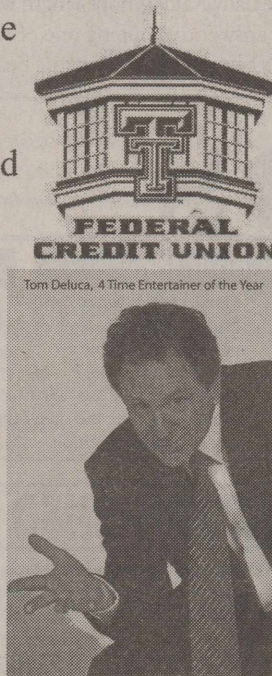
TEXAS TECH

JANUARY 30, 2009

6:00PM - 2:00AM! Main Event: Tom Deluca at 9:00pm!

Sign up online at www.rescsports.ttu.edu!

- First 2000 get a free T-Shirt courtesy of the Texas Tech Credit Union!
- All your favorite tournaments including 3on3 Basketball, Dodgeball, Raquetball and Squash, Table Tennis, 4on4 Volleyball, the 3 Point Shot Contest and chess!
- Tom Deluca at 9:00pm!
- A Laser Tag Tournament!
- The Bic Razor Slam Dunk Contest!
- Scoggin/Dickey Hummer Shootout!
- Video Game Room with Wii's, Gears of War, FIFA 09, Guitar Hero, Shaun White's Snowboarding and more!
- Free Food every half hour!
- Prizes and more from the Bic/Footlocker Basketball Tour!



Win this Hummer!



How can you win this Hummer?
Get signed up for the Scoggin-Dickey Hummer Shootout at the All Nighter. One lucky student will have the chance to win this Hummer!



Do You Like Video Games?

Stop by Racquetball Court 7 on January 21-23 from 6-9pm to play some video games! We have FIFA 09, Gears of War, and lots more! Don't miss out on this great time! It's free and brought to you as a special event from Rec Sports!

Aquatics Center

Stroke Mechanics/Flip Turn Clinic
Sunday, February 1 1:00 - 3:00pm

Is there something wrong with your swimming stroke? Cannot quite get that flip turn but do not know why? Looking to develop better, more effective stroke techniques? Come to our stroke mechanics clinic and let our instructors help you!

Intramurals

Basketball Captain's Meeting Wednesday Night!!

Tonight at 7:30pm in room 116 of the Student Rec Center Intramurals will have its annual Basketball Captains Meeting. The intramural staff will review Texas Tech policies, Eligibility, Basketball Rules and the Sportsmanship Policy. Playoff eligibility is determined by your sportsmanship rating and your knowledge of our rules. Teams attending this meeting will receive 1 point towards their sportsmanship goal. Don't forget the season starts Thursday Jan. 22nd.

Fit/Well

RAIDER X INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

Want to learn how to teach RaiderX classes so you can be a certified instructor? Get started in our fitness instructor training program today! Contact Leslie Eyerly via email at leslie.eyerly@ttu.edu or phone at 742-3828 for more information.

Spin Classes

Individual spin classes are back! Try out all the spin classes you want until Saturday! But don't wait too long to sign up for your favorite time! We are now selling individual classes again! Sign up in the Fit/Well today!

Outdoor Pursuits Center

The OPC has all of the gear that you need to hit the slopes! With new skis and snowboards bought every year, we have the best equipment available at prices you won't find in Colorado or New Mexico!

Ski Package \$27/Weekend \$62/Week

Snowboard Package \$32/Weekend \$77/Week

Packages can be reserved up to two weeks in advance!

Colorado Ski and Snowboard Trip

Deadline: Jan. 29 \$275

Trip Dates: Feb. 6-8

You love to ski, right? But haven't put together a trip this year yet, right? Well, we did all of the hard work, and you just have to go and ski! This is a great trip at a fantastic price! Sign-up early! Spots are limited and will fill fast!

student union

coming together in the union

horse and rider replicas

the horse and rider figure is a replica of the sculpture located in the student union gathering pavilion. it was designed by the famed sculptor, tom otterness and is loosely based on our mascot, the masked rider.

replicas can be purchased at the ticket booth in the basement of the student union

\$17.95 plus tax . students

\$27.95 plus tax . faculty and staff

limited quantities available!



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Student Union & Activities

Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

Visit our website at www.sub.ttu.edu



activities

whats coming up at the union

Silhouettes by Kathryn

Thursday, January 22
SUB Northeast Entrance across from Copy Tech | 11:00-3:00pm

Mr. Gatti's Pizza

Thursday, January 22
50th and Slide | 6:00pm

Tech Homecoming Association Applications Due

Friday, January 23
SUB Room 203 | 5:00 pm

Same Sex Marriage: A Civil Debate

Thursday, January 29
SUB Allen Theatre | 8:00 pm

Movie -- Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist -- co sponsored by Student Rec Center

Friday, January 30
Rec Aquatic Center | 7:00 pm

For more information about activities in the Student Union, visit our website at www.tab.ttu.edu

student organization update...

S.O. Advisor Orientation

Wednesday, January 21
SUB Mesa Room | Noon

S.O. Registration Meeting

Tuesday, January 27
SUB Senate Room | 2 pm