

Hance sends off students to Austin
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Students rally for Mike Leach
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(INSIDE)
WILL ROGERS
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(INBRIEF)

STATE

Texas lawmaker wants to impeach judge

AUSTIN (AP) — A Texas state lawmaker is trying to impeach one of the state's top criminal appeals judges because she refused to keep the court open to accept late filings from lawyers for a man who was executed that night in 2007.

The resolution filed Monday by Rep. Lon Burnam, a Fort Worth Democrat, accuses Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Sharon Keller of "neglect of duty" in the case of Michael Richard, who was executed for the rape and slaying of a Houston-area woman.

Keller, a Republican who has served on the court since 1994, did not immediately return a telephone message left late Monday afternoon at her office. Most state offices were closed for the Presidents' Day holiday. Keller's home phone number is unlisted.

NATION

Afghan troop decision nears for Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama plans to make a decision soon about sending additional troops to Afghanistan, his chief spokesman said Monday.

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said the administration continues to review its policy toward Afghanistan, some seven years after U.S.-led forces toppled the Taliban-led government. Gibbs cautioned that no firm timetable had been set, nor had administration officials settled on how many — if any — new troops would be involved.

WORLD

Pakistan inks truce deal with militants in NW area

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistan agreed Monday to suspend military offensives and impose Islamic law in part of the restive northwest, making a gesture it hopes will help calm the Taliban insurgency while rejecting Washington's call for tougher measures against militants.

A U.S. defense official called the deal "a negative development," and some Pakistani experts expressed skepticism the truce would decrease violence. One human rights activist said the accord was "a great surrender" to militants.

DEATH TOLL

4245

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

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West Texas to receive Hudson silt

By TINA L. ARONS
FEATURES EDITOR

Plans to ship about 3.2 million tons of contaminated river silt could be shipped from New York to West Texas as early as May could make the state the largest dumping ground for hazardous waste in the nation.

"The project is the biggest environmental cleanup in our nation's history," said Kristen Skopect, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

As part of a government-mandated cleanup, General Electric reached an agreement in November 2007 with Waste Control Specialists to ship contaminated Hudson River sediment to the Dallas-based company's waste dump near Andrews, about 30 miles north of Odessa.

According to the EPA's most recent data, Texas ranked 10th in the nation in 2007 for the importation of hazardous waste. However, the Hudson project combined with another Waste Control Specialists' deal to dispose of radioactive by-product material from Ohio could bump Texas higher up the list.

Skopect said the contaminated Hudson River silt contains PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, a chemical used in the production of insulating fluids for electrical transformers. The contaminants were pumped into the river by GE from 1947 to the late 1970s when the EPA banned the chemical.

Possible health risks include cancer and immune system disorders for those who consume contaminated marine life, according to the EPA. The river's inhabitants forage for food in the sediment, which is laden with the non-biodegradable PCBs, and the chemical remains in their bodies.

"You can swim in the river," Skopect said. "You can tromp around in the PCBs as long as you wash them off. The problem is if you eat the fish that are contaminated."

GE plans to begin the first phase and dredge the river as currents calm in late spring, she said. The sediment will be shipped from upstate New York to West Texas until November when the current



THE WHARF ALONG the Champlain Canal connects Lake Champlain to the Hudson River, which is set to be dredged for polychlorinated biphenyls that settled in the river sediment when General Electric released the now-banned chemical between 1947 and the late 1970s. The canal includes an unloading wharf, a equipment maintenance wharf, and a staging area for loaded barges.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GENERAL ELECTRIC

increases its speed and dredging season ends.

About 265,000 cubic yards of materials will be transported 2,200 miles to Texas during the first phase, Skopect said, and the EPA plans to closely monitor the cleanup operation to verify it meets standards and expectations for PCB removal.

If everything goes as planned, she said, the project will remove enough contaminated silt to fill Yankee Stadium twice from about 40 miles of the Hudson during the following six years. At its peak operation, the PCB-contaminated sediment will be shipped in 81-car trains

every two and a half days.

Waste Control Specialists and GE refuse to reveal how much the deal is worth, but Skopect estimated it could cost about \$750 million.

Plans for the Hudson project leaves room for concern for some.

The Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter sent a letter Wednesday to request the EPA halt plans.

The environmental group requested the government agency complete a comprehensive environmental and human impact analysis of the dangers of rail shipping, according to a letter sent to EPA administrator Lisa Jackson.

The letter reports an environmental impact statement is required by the National Environmental Policy Act before "undertaking major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment."

"We do not oppose the cleanup," said Niel Carman, the clean air director for the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, "but what they're doing is putting big chunks of the Hudson River in drums and shipping them in train cars to West Texas. They could avoid all this by neutralizing the PCBs at the river, but it's a little more

HUDSON continued on page 5

Tech VP for research finalist Scanes discusses strategic plan

By KENDYL SEBESTA
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech vice president for research finalist Colin Scanes discussed his vision for Tech achieving tier-one research status in an open forum in the Student Union Escondido Theatre Monday.

If he was chosen and if he accepted the position, Scanes said he would build on the strengths of Tech including the reputation of faculty and students, research expenditures, industry funding, recruitment and retention of funded faculty, company investment and a significant increase in internal and external research.

"Yes, I would like to see the institution with over \$100 million in federal support," Scanes said, "but I also want to build on institutional research."

He also plans to focus on increasing company involvement with Tech, he said, by making it easier for companies to invest in Tech.

"Many companies don't work with universities because they make it too difficult," Scanes said, "we want to be one of the easiest because these companies will help the community and the university economically as they grow."



PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Toreador

COLIN SCANES, THE vice chancellor of research at the university of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a candidate for vice president for research at Texas Tech, speaks with students, faculty and staff as to why he is the right person for the job Monday in the Escondido theatre located in the Student Union Building.

Some of the milestones he hopes Tech will reach under his plan include increased research expenditures through new centers and institutes and the celebration of faculty successes, he said.

"An increase in graduate students will allow for different levels of fund-

ing from the state based on each of the graduate's levels," Scanes said. "This will, in turn, help the university reach tier-one status."

Scanes said he also is approaching

FORUM continued on page 2

Shonrock withdraws as one of two presidential finalists

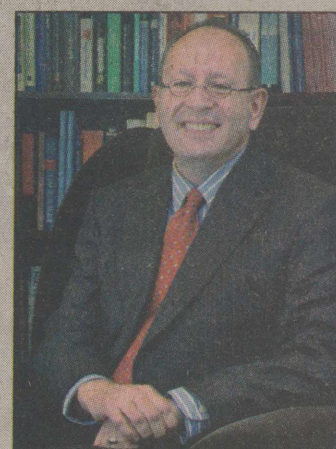
Despite being named one of two finalists for the position of president Friday at Southeastern Louisiana University, Tech administrator Michael Shonrock withdrew his candidacy from the position late Sunday evening, according to a Southeastern news release.

"Dr. Shonrock was a strong candidate. It is unfortunate that the full board will not get a chance to interview him, but we respect his decision and wish him well," said University of Louisiana System President Randy Moffett in the news release.

Shonrock, the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management, was named a finalist Friday along with the interim president at the university, John Crain.

The university's Board of Supervisors still will interview Crain Tuesday despite Shonrock's withdrawal.

The two finalists were narrowed down from a pool of four, which also included the vice president for business



SHONROCK

and finance for the University of Louisiana System and the senior adviser for urban and metropolitan university initiatives at the University of South Florida.

Shonrock interviewed with the university Feb. 9, and refused to comment on his candidacy until the process was finished.

Randy Moffett, the chairman of the search committee was not immediately available for comment, and Shonrock declined to comment.

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TODAY
Partly Cloudy
High 73 Low 38



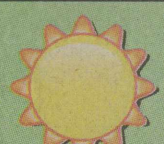
Wednesday
Sunny
High 65 Low 28



Thursday
Sunny
High 67 Low 29



Friday
Sunny
High 57 Low 29



Saturday
Sunny
High 61 Low 28

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Chancellor advises students on trip

By MATT COBB
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech Chancellor Kent Hance gave advice to students traveling on a lobbying trip to Austin during a send-off Monday morning in the Senate Room of the Student Union Building.

A group of 54 Tech students will lobby during Texas Tech Day at the state capital Tuesday to promote Tech and higher education while garnering educational experience by meeting with state congressmen.

Hance said issues students need to meet with congressmen about include Tech's budget request and the tuition freeze. Universities around the state potentially could receive less funding if Congress decides to freeze tuition.

"They can't freeze it and give us no more state funding," he said, "because this could really hurt education in the state of Texas."

Hance said it also is important to discuss that Tech is not a regional school. Distance plays a significant role in determining whether a university can receive flagship status.

"It's important that they know that Texas Tech has more students come from a further area than any other public university in the nation," he said. "Sixty-two percent of our students come from 280 miles or more."

Other colleges besides Tech that are being considered for flagship status include the University of Houston and the University of North

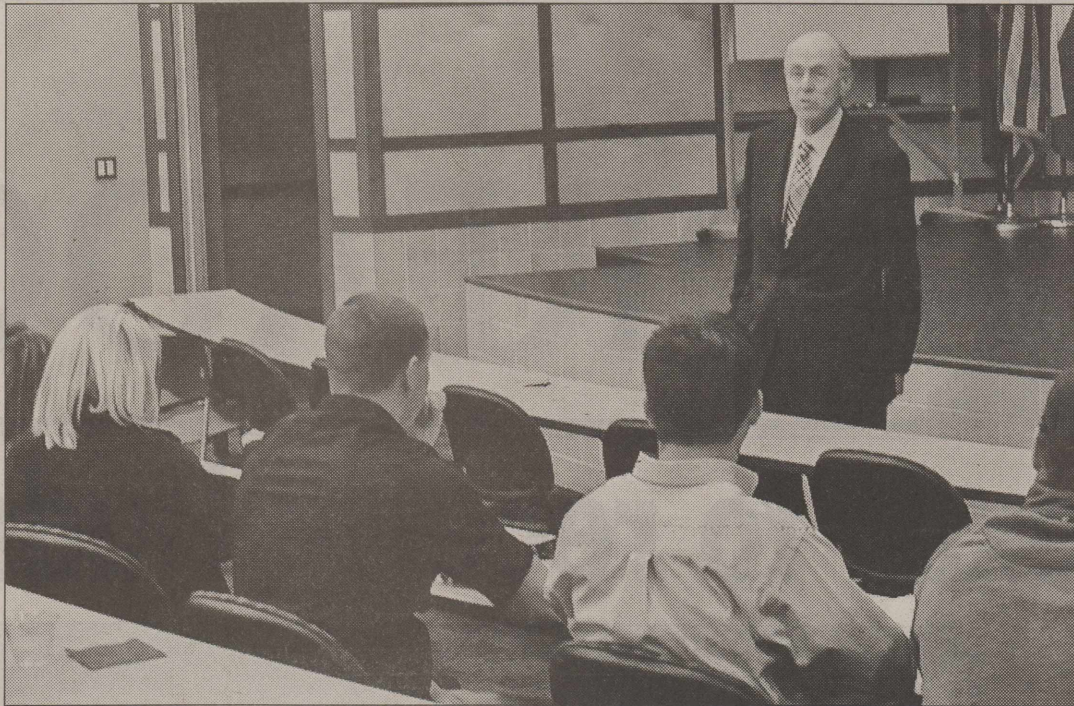


PHOTO BY MATT COBB/The Daily Toreador

CHANCELLOR HANCE SPEAKS with 54 Tech students, including members of the Student Government Association, about their trip to Austin to lobby for higher education.

Texas, Hance said. They are "regional schools" because a majority of their student bodies reside within the same region as the campus.

About half of the 54 students traveling to Austin are members of the Student Government Association, said Lee Bobbitt, president of the SGA. The other half is comprised of students who are interested in promoting university causes.

"One of our main goals is just to be good representatives of Texas Tech," she said.

Austin Pennington, external vice

president of the SGA, said another goal of the trip is to make sure Tech is recognized for the advancements it has made since 2006 when Hance became the university's chancellor.

It is important to convey advancements Tech has made to congressmen because the university is being considered for flagship status, he said.

"We just want to keep that going with our state representatives so that they realize that we're not the stepchild of the state," Pennington said. "We are Texas Tech, and we deserve to be a tie one institution."

The trip is conducted every two years when the legislature is in session, he said. In prior years, Tech has selected bills it wants to support and has had students lobby for them. This year students will support more generic issues that directly impact students.

"Quite a bit (of the issues) having to do specifically with Texas Tech but also there's some — on the whole — that have to do with all public state schools," Pennington said.

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Declining economy plays role in graduate enrollment

By RACHEL KUYKENDALL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The national economic problem and Lubbock's partial escape from it are causing more Texas Tech students to apply to graduate school and to work in Lubbock after college.

According to Tech's Institutional Research and Information Management Web site, 4,546 students enrolled in Tech's graduate school in 2007 and 4,670 in 2008, a 2.7 percent increase.

Arindam Mazumdar, the vice president of graduate and professional affairs for the Student Government Association, said the economy is causing students to apply to graduate school to further their education.

"I think with the economy doing so badly, more and more students are going back to school than before," said Mazumdar, who is earning a doctorate in chemistry. "More students want to get a higher education to prepare themselves."

The economic situation makes the job market more competitive, he said, and students want to earn a better degree to prepare for the market.

Will Verret, a junior finance and accounting business major, said the national economy played a part in his decision to apply to graduate school.

"I've always considered going to grad school, but the economy right now is so bad, it made the decision for me," he said. "I want to go now so I can have a better degree and then work in a better economy."

Verret is not the only student whose education has been effected by the economy.

Dave Kraus, the director of Tech's University Career Center, said it is not uncommon for students' plans to change during a hard time in the economy.

"If patterns follow like they usually do when the job market gets tighter, graduation school applications go up," Kraus said. "Some students might think, 'I'm going to grad school sometime anyway, might as well go now.'"

He said students need to evaluate every option, not just the state of the

nation's economy.

"Students have to decide if grad school is right for them, they need to explore and need to use every resource they have," Kraus said. "There's no guarantee the economy is going to be better two years from now."

Mazumdar said students need to take their time when deciding what to do after college.

Graduate school is not the only option for students during a rough time in the economy.

Shelby Shaw, the communication director for the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, said Lubbock and its stable economy offer many job options to Tech graduates.

"To some degree, our economic stability does play a factor in where Tech students want to go," she said. "If there's a Tech student who wants to stay here to work, they can make that happen."

Shaw said many businesses in Lubbock would love to hire Tech graduates.

Manuel Jimenez, the manager for the Bank of America on University, said if Lubbock's economy attracts more students to live in the city after college, he would hire them.

"I have five Tech employees right now out of 16," he said. "Students can relate if they see someone young behind the counter."

Mazumdar said because Lubbock is an affordable place to live and has a stable economy, many students will choose to stay.

Lauren Peterson, a recent Tech graduate from Dallas, said most of the reason she came back to Lubbock after graduation rather than living in her hometown is the economy.

"After seeing some of my friends get jobs here, I thought it would be easier than trying to find one somewhere as competitive as Dallas," Peterson said. "There are job openings here paired with a better economy."

According to the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance Web site, Lubbock's economy is diverse, growing and assures employers a stable climate for conducting business.

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Iran moves to boost its air defense capabilities

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran restructured its military in an effort to improve its air defense capabilities, military commanders have said.

The move is seen as part of a broader military build up by Tehran, which is concerned about the U.S. military's presence in neighboring Iraq and Afghanistan and Israeli threats to target its nuclear facilities.

Gen. Ahmad Mighani announced over the weekend that Iran's supreme leader ordered a new branch be split off from the air force to deal specifically with any threats to the country's air space. The order rearranges the regular military into four branches — the ground force, the navy, the air force and the air defense force, he said.

The commander of the new force will oversee radar, military in-

telligence gathering equipment and anti-aircraft missile units, Mighani said. He did not elaborate.

Some Iranian lawmakers praised the decision to establish the air defense force.

Mohammad Esmail Kowsari, a prominent parliament member, said the reorganization "centralizes decision-making in the air defense system and boosts the country's readiness" to deal with

outside threats.

Tensions have somewhat eased between Tehran and Washington since President Barack Obama took office last month, but disputes over Iran's nuclear program remain unresolved. Israel, the United States and some allies accuse Iran of seeking to build nuclear weapons. Iran denies the charges, saying its aim is to generate electricity.

Kosovo struggles 1 year after independence

PRISTINA, Kosovo (AP) — Giant steel letters still spell out an exultant "NEWBORN" on a downtown square in Kosovo's gritty capital. But a year after the majority Albanian territory defiantly declared independence from Serbia, the elation has given way to frustration.

Bombs still explode in northern areas tensely divided between Serbs and ethnic Albanians. Crime and corruption are rampant. At least four in 10 people are jobless. And only a few dozen countries have recognized Kosovo's statehood.

At the same time, the fears that gripped the globe on Feb. 17, 2008, didn't play out. There was no mass exodus of Serbs; Kosovo didn't embolden secessionists in other corners of the world and the volatile Balkans didn't sink into fresh armed conflict.

By that measure, Prime Minister

Hashim Thaci contends, Kosovo's first full year as a sovereign state has been "a complete success."

"We will be recognized by the entire world," he told The Associated Press in an interview Monday at his office, as workers outside decorated the capital's main boulevard with Kosovo, EU and U.S. flags.

Thaci ticked off a list of accomplishments: 6 percent economic growth, thousands of new jobs, the construction of dozens of schools and thousands of miles (kilometers) of new roads, and a broader integration of the Serb minority into government and society.

"We're building a homeland for all of Kosovo's people," he said, adding that President Barack Obama and other world leaders were sending congratulatory messages.

Kushtrim Ahmeti, a 19-year-old

street vendor, said he and his family are better off than they were a year ago despite the global economic crisis.

"There's been more money and more jobs," he said. "Life has definitely improved."

But Ahmeti, like 90 percent of Kosovo's people, is ethnic Albanian. Ask Serbs how they're doing, and many will complain bitterly of poverty and persecution.

"There is no future for the Serbs in Kosovo, and that is the one and only truth," said Bogoljub Scepanovic, 54, who lives in the tense northern town of Mitrovica.

Serbia convulsed into violence last February after Kosovo declared independence, with huge mobs rampaging through central Belgrade and setting part of the U.S. Embassy on fire.

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Ring orders placed by February 20th will be delivered in time for the Official Ring Ceremonies on April 20, 21 & 22 at the Merket Alumni Center.

Graduates can order Official Graduation Announcements, Diploma Frames, Regalia and have their Graduate Portrait taken at the GRADUATION FAIR.

GRADUATION FAIR is sponsored by the Texas Tech Alumni Association, Balfour, SAA Board of Directors, Career Services, Graduate School, Classic Photo, and the Texas Tech Bookstore.

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Clinton begins Asia trip under NKorea shadow

TOKYO (AP) — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton kicked off the official program of her first overseas trip in Tokyo on Tuesday, visiting a Japanese cultural site and meeting U.S. Embassy staff under the shadow of threatening rhetoric from North Korea.

Clinton participated in a purification rite and welcoming ceremony at a Shinto shrine to the father of modern Japan, Emperor Meiji. She said its message of "balance and harmony" would set the tone for the Obama administration's foreign policy, especially in tough economic times.

"It's not only a good concept for religious shrines, it's a good concept for America's role in the world," she told about 200 embassy employees afterward. "We need to be looking to create more balance, more harmony. We're going to reach out to friends and allies like our hosts here in Japan."

"We're going to be listening but we're also going to be asking for more partnerships to come together to try to work with us to handle the problems that none of us can handle alone," Clinton said, mentioning again her top agenda items: climate change and the world financial crisis.

POLICE BLOTTER

Unknown person urinates on residence hall door

Feb. 9
 At 8:14 a.m., an officer issued a criminal trespass warning to a non-student prohibiting them from Texas Tech property.
 At 8:04 a.m., an officer investigated a burglary at the Texas Tech Plaza Skyview offices. The manager's door was pried open and a safe was reported stolen.
 At 9:05 a.m., an officer investigated a traffic accident at the intersection of Main Street and Flint Avenue.
 At 12:54 p.m., an officer investigated a report of criminal mischief to a student's vehicle in the Z-6A parking lot. An unknown person carved a star into the student's vehicle.
 At 2:40 p.m., an officer investigated criminal mischief in the Z4-P parking lot. A vehicle was keyed.
 At 3:07 p.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run accident which occurred in the Z6-A parking lot. An unattended vehicle was struck and no injuries were reported.
Feb. 10
 At 10:40 a.m., an officer investigated a theft which occurred in the Art building. A camera tripod stand was reported stolen.
 At 11:54 a.m., an officer investigated a theft in the Art building. A Cannon camera and a tripod were reported stolen.
 At 12:51 p.m., two officers issued a criminal trespass warning for all Tech property to a non-student for soliciting money from the customers at the Bank of America.
 At 1:31 p.m., an officer investigated a report of criminal mischief at the Ranching and Heritage Center. A window and door frame

were damaged.
 At 2:25 p.m., an officer investigated an accident. An unattended vehicle was struck in the C-16 parking lot, and the front bumper was damaged. No injuries were reported.
 At 3:40 p.m., an officer investigated a theft of four textbooks in the Tech Health Sciences Center pathology department.
 At 5:08 p.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run in the HSC Academic Classroom Building parking lot. The person damaged the driver-side mirror and fled the scene. No injuries were reported.
 At 6:34 p.m., an officer investigated a theft at the Student Recreation Center. An iPhone and a wallet containing several items were reported stolen.
 At 8:00 p.m., an officer documented an altercation between two students in the 1600 block of Flint Avenue. The altercation resulted when the pedestrian accused the driver of the vehicle of speeding while he was trying to cross the street.
Feb. 11
 At 12:52 a.m., an officer detained a non-student after an observed traffic violation at Main Street and Flint Avenue, and a subsequent traffic stop in the Z6-A parking lot. The non-student was issued a citation for possession of drug paraphernalia and released.
 At 3:10 p.m., an officer investigated a theft in the Student Union Building. An unsecured wallet was reported stolen in the food court.
 At 5:34 p.m., an officer arrested a student for two outstanding Lubbock

County Sheriff warrants following a traffic stop in the 1400 block of Flint.
Feb. 12
 At 12:57 a.m., an officer detained six students after responding to the report of a fight in progress, which occurred in the Z4-M parking lot. The officer issued five students a citation for consumption of alcohol by a minor.
 At 12:39 p.m., an officer investigated a report of criminal mischief, which occurred in the Z5-B parking lot. The driver-side door of a vehicle was scratched.
 At 1:50 p.m., an officer investigated theft of an unsecured bicycle, which occurred at the north bicycle rack of Hulén Residence Hall.
 At 2:14 p.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run accident. An unattended vehicle was struck in the 5C parking lot.
 At 8:15 p.m., an officer investigated a theft at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. An unsecured wallet was taken from the basketball court area.
Feb. 13
 At 2:27 a.m., an officer detained a student after an observed traffic violation at the intersection of Main Street and Flint Avenue and a subsequent traffic stop in the 1000 block of Flint Avenue. The student was issued a citation for driving under the influence of alcohol by a minor and then was released.
 At 3:39 a.m., an officer arrested a non-student for driving while intoxicated and driving with an invalid license after finding him passed out in the driver's seat of a running vehicle in the 400 block of Tech Parkway.

At 2:00 p.m., an officer documented a confrontational conversation between two doctors at the HSC.
 At 3:20 p.m., an officer investigated credit card abuse at the Texas Tech Police Sub-station in the Student Union Building. A student reported that his wallet was stolen and his debit card was used on campus and at various off campus locations.
 At 8:00 p.m., an officer investigated a theft at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. Two iPhones were reported stolen from an unsecured bag.
 At 10:36 p.m., an officer detained a non-student after an observed traffic violation in the 3000 block of Marsha Sharp Freeway. The non-student was issued a citation for driving on the wrong side of the road and possession of drug paraphernalia, and then was released.
Feb. 14
 At 12:42 a.m., an officer detained a student in Horn Residence Hall. The student was issued a citation for possession of alcohol by a minor and then was released.
 At 2:14 a.m., an officer detained three students in Weymouth Residence Hall. Two of the students were issued citations for possession of alcohol by a minor and then released. One student was released pending the filing of charges with the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office for furnishing alcohol to minors.
 At 2:19 a.m., an officer arrested a student for public intoxication in the lobby of Weymouth Residence Hall.
 At 2:30 a.m., an officer arrested a

student for public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia at the University Library.
 At 4:00 a.m., an officer arrested a student for driving while intoxicated after finding him passed out in the driver's seat of a running vehicle in the 2400 block of 15th Street.
 At 12:05 p.m., an officer investigated a report of criminal mischief in the Z3-L parking lot. The side mirrors were knocked off on both sides of a vehicle.
 At 4:42 p.m., an officer detained a student for possession of alcohol and possession of drug paraphernalia following an observed traffic violation in the 1800 block of Flint Avenue. After further investigation, he was released pending the filing of charges with the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office for possession of marijuana following consent to search the residence of the traffic violator.
 At 5:08 p.m., an officer was dispatched to Chitwood Residence Hall for a suspicious odor of marijuana. A student was released pending the filing of charges with the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office for possession of marijuana and cited and released for possession of drug paraphernalia following consent to search of the residence.
 At 11:00 p.m., an officer investigated theft of a North Face fleece jacket from the second floor of Murdough Residence Hall.
 At 11:22 p.m., an officer investigated disorderly conduct on the second floor of Coleman Residence Hall. An unknown person urinated on the exterior of the door to a room.

Feb. 15
 At 1:46 a.m., an officer detained a student Sneed Residence Hall. The student was issued a Lubbock County citation for possession of alcohol by minor and released.
 At 2:30 a.m., an officer detained a student in the 3300 block of 18th Street following suspicious activity. The student was released pending the filing of charges with the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office for possession of a controlled substance.
 At 4:12 a.m., an officer investigated criminal mischief to an exterior window on the seventh floor of Weymouth Residence Hall. The resident of one of the rooms punched the exterior window and shattered it.
 At 3:02 p.m., two officers arrested a student for possession of marijuana following an observed traffic violation in the 2800 block of 18th Street.
 At 6:43 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a medical situation at the Chitwood/Weymouth Sam's Place. A female student fainted and struck her head on the ground causing an injury to her head. She was transported to University Medical Center for treatment.
 At 11:33 p.m., an officer detained two students in Murdough Residence Hall. They were both issued a citation for possession of alcohol by a minor. Both individuals were released pending the filing of charges with the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office for possession of marijuana and possession of a controlled substance.

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Found parts could shed light on crash

CLARENCE, N.Y. (AP)—Investigators have located key components that might help reveal what the pilot did to try to save Flight 3407 during its final desperate seconds, when the plane plunged to the ground so suddenly that sending a mayday was impossible, an investigator said Monday.
 After a seemingly routine flight, the airplane endured a 26-second plunge before smashing into a house in icy weather about six miles from Buffalo Niagara International Airport on Thursday night, killing 49 people on the plane and one on the ground.
 On Monday, families of the victims visited the site for the first time and placed roses to remember the dead.
 National Transportation Safety Board member Steve Chealander said investigators have located the steering column, or yoke; all the propeller blades; five of six deicing valves; and rubber bladders designed to protect the tail from ice.
 Though ice has emerged as a possible factor, the cause has remained elusive in part because there was no distress call from the pilot, no mechanical failure has been identified and the plane was so severely damaged.
 The crew had turned on the plane's deicing system 11 minutes after leaving Newark, N.J. Shortly before the crash, they notified air traffic controllers that they were experiencing significant ice buildup.
 Chealander said Sunday that the pilot appeared to ignore recommendations by the NTSB and his employer that the autopilot be turned off in icy conditions. The autopilot remained on until an automatic system warned that a stall could occur, pushed the yoke forward and shut the autopilot off.

FORUM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Scanes said he also is approaching his vision with two goals in mind, one being Tech's planned increase to 40,000 students and another being a goal to increase research expenditures by \$100 to \$200 million in 10 years.
 "Every \$1 million to outside research funding generates 36 jobs," he said, "multiply that number by 200 jobs and you can see what an impact increasing research expenditures will have on the community."
 Tech Professor of Mathematics Gary Harris said he felt Colin Scanes made a good impression.
 "I'm looking forward to hearing from the other two candidates later," Harris said, "and I enjoyed hearing from Mr. Scanes. I think he was a good choice."
 Scanes was the first of three finalists to visit the campus and speak in an open forum to faculty, staff and students.
 Thomas Farris of Purdue University and T. Taylor Eighmy of the University of New Hampshire will visit Tech Thursday and Monday, respectively.
 Dean Smith, the former Tech vice president for research, announced his resignation from the position July 22, at which time he filled a visiting professorship within the medical faculty at the University of Heidelberg in Germany.
 The search for a new vice president for research began Oct. 10, with Board of Regent member Bob Stafford as the chairman of the search. The finalists for the position were announced by the committee Friday, four months after the search commenced.
 ► i.sebesta@ttu.edu

Burris: Fed's questions didn't prompt admissions

CHICAGO (AP)—U.S. Sen. Roland Burris insisted Monday he voluntarily sent state lawmakers an affidavit outlining contacts with ousted Gov. Rod Blagojevich's brother prior to his Senate appointment and was not prompted by federal agents investigating the former governor.
 "It was done because we promised the (impeachment) committee we would supplement information in case we missed anything," Burris said outside a South Side church before meeting with religious leaders.
 Burris released an affidavit over the weekend in which he admitted

Blagojevich's brother asked him for campaign fundraising help before Blagojevich appointed him to the Senate.
 The disclosure is at odds with Burris' testimony in January, when the Illinois House impeachment committee specifically asked whether he had ever spoken to Robert Blagojevich or other aides to the now-deposed governor about the Senate seat vacated by President Barack Obama.
 The discrepancy could mean Burris perjured himself.
 But the Democratic senator remained adamant that the Feb. 4 affidavit was merely a promised supplement, not a contradiction, to

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7	9		8 1	3	
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Puzzles by PageFiller

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

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle



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College students should support new stimulus bill

After some time of negotiations, trial votes and making adjustments, the House, Senate and White House have finally come to an agreement about the stimulus bill. The revised bill has a price tag of \$787 billion that will go toward many different programs and tax credits.

Some of the most talked about parts of the package involve new highways and other infrastructure, tax credits for first-time home buyers, and extended unemployment benefits for laid-off workers. However, the stimulus bill might leave some college students wondering how it will affect them.

The new bill has certainly not forgotten to fund higher education. There are several different ways the stimulus package helps cover the rising cost of tuition and other expenses including a \$2,500 tax credit, an extended size and scope of the Pell Grant program.

The part of the bill that will affect every college student will certainly be the extended tax credit for college students and their families. USA Today reported, "About

Mackenzie Maxwell



\$13 billion to provide a \$2,500 expanded tax credit for college tuition and related expenses for 2009 and 2010."

Furthermore, The New York Times reported that 40 percent of this tax credit is refundable. This means that if you file your own taxes and do not owe any, your refund check will be at least forty percent of \$2,500. I'm surely not a math major, but that's a large sum of money by any college student's standards. If your parents claim you as a dependant, the tax credit will go toward their taxes. Of course, the more money your parents have, the more they may be able to help you when you're in a financial pickle.

I think the many Republicans at Texas Tech should not ignore this tax credit when evaluating this stimulus bill. Fox News and others will try to convince you that the

stimulus bill is not helping anyone important. When you hear this, I dare you to challenge Limbaugh, O'Reilly and Hannity. If you think making ends meet and getting through college is important, surely you will be excited this bill has passed.

The tax credit is not the only part of the stimulus bill that will help college students pay for school. If you are a student who receives a Pell Grant in order to pay tuition, you'll be happy to know the maximum amount you can receive has increased by \$500. That is enough to buy books for two semesters if you're smart about it. That alone is reason to be excited about this new bill.

What if you are not a Pell Grant recipient, but you're having trouble paying for college? Well, then you are in the same boat as I, and we just might be in luck. The new stimulus bill will extend the number of students receiving the Pell Grant by an extra 800,000 students, The Washington Post reported. That means more middle class students will be receiving up to \$5,500 in federal aid by 2010. That, combined with the

tax credit covers about one semester of room and board at Tech.

I know that most students at Tech probably do not support this \$787 billion stimulus bill. Tech is not known for being Democratic. However, I ask that all college students take a minute to think about how it will affect them.

The Washington Post reported an estimated \$32 billion is going directly to higher education. In other words, some of this money is going directly to you, the college student. The government is really investing in our future and our education. If you cannot support a bill that supports your future, what can you support?

If you care about your education, you should support this bill. If you care about making ends meet in college, you should support this bill. All in all, if you are a college student, you should support this bill. The government is trying to help you through college; how can you be against that?

■ Maxwell is a freshman broadcast journalism major from Royse City. E-mail her at mackenzie.maxwell@ttu.edu.

Athletes should stop kissing and telling

By ZACK CHAKAN
THE PITT NEWS (U. PITTSBURGH)

For all of the attention steroids grabbed in the baseball world this past week, another story related to a performance-stifling drug collected dust bunnies under the rug.

The stifling drug, naturally of course, is sex.

According to ESPN.com, former Major League Baseball All-Star Roberto Alomar refuted claims that he possesses an illness after ex-girlfriend Ilya Dall sued him for demanding to have unprotected sex despite Alomar showing signs of AIDS.

Although Alomar hasn't manned second base since 2004, this report is just another example proving that athletes and sex don't mix. When sports stars or their significant others decide to do-and-tell, the final results often end in humiliating defeat.

Perhaps the most telling example comes from the Kobe Bryant scandal from 2003. The Los Angeles Lakers superstar was accused by a hotel employee of sexual assault in Colorado, setting off a year-long ordeal that immediately tarnished Bryant's image.

Bryant admitted committing adultery in a teary press conference with his smoking-hot wife Vanessa (Who would ever cheat on her anyway? Seriously, look at the pictures.), but swore that the sex with his accuser was consensual.

In the end, Bryant got lucky that the fallout wasn't totally nuclear. He lost several endorsements and his jersey sales dipped in the aftermath of the cheating, but Bryant regained respect after his accuser refused to testify and details of her past splurged into the media. But sometimes, ath-

letes' lives continue to spiral south because of sex.

While strip clubs might be the focal destination for 18-year-olds everywhere, NFL cornerback Adam "Don't call me Pacman" Jones took his love for the scantily clad to dangerous levels.

Jones' name surfaced in two separate strip-club incidents within a calendar year. In a Las Vegas club in February of 2007, Jones allegedly helped Nelly in "making it rain," but the lightning bolt came later when a man at the club was paralyzed from the waist down from a shooting later that night. A suspect included a member of Jones' entourage — who didn't really resemble Johnny Drama.

Months later, another member of Jones' following was accused of a shooting at an Atlanta strip club. Along with about 79 other off-the-field issues, Jones' NFL career has stalled after getting released by the Dallas Cowboys last month.

Allegations that could hold absolutely no merit whatsoever can just as easily damage an athlete's reputation. Just look at Alex Rodriguez.

Who cares about steroid use when Madonna's involved? Us

Weekly reported in July that the then-49-year-old singer hosted "late-night visits" from Rodriguez. Days later, Rodriguez's wife Cynthia (also hotter than the "cheatee") filed for divorce. Rodriguez's Yankees went on to miss the playoffs for the first time since 1993. Who says correlation doesn't equal causality?

While some of the other cases are actually quite serious, other athlete sex stories are just downright hilarious. Take for instance Brazilian soccer stud Ronaldo.

Now, it is a relatively common practice for athletes to get the craving when on the road and pick up a prostitute for a fun evening. But Ronaldo's gaffe in April 2008 wasn't exactly pushing a shot attempt wide right.

BBC reported that Ronaldo picked up three prostitutes one night after dropping off girlfriend Maria Beatriz Anthony. But he gave the hookers each red cards when he discovered that — wait for it — they were transvestites.

The story temporarily ended his relationship with Anthony (they would later get engaged) and had sponsorships threatened, just like Bryant. Although more people were probably laughing rather than gasping in horror.

There you have it, four instances of sex-related hysteria penetrating the lives of high-profile athletes. While their performances in the bedroom may have pleased, public leaks of the info didn't exactly attract large audiences like their sporting efforts.

The lesson? What happens in the bedroom should stay in the bedroom.

Unless of course, your name is Wilt Chamberlain. Then sex is good. Really good.

Interracial relationships an opportunity for growth

By ANNA STERLING
DAILY BRUIN (UCLA)

I am a Pilipina dating a white guy. Contrary to popular belief, interracial relationships are still difficult endeavors to undertake. Sure, relationships in general are tough, but I would argue that interracial dating requires a lot more effort for both parties to understand each other.

Whenever I'm with his friends and family, I can't help but wonder if they're thinking, "Ooh, big ups for baggin' the exotic brown chick!"

This type of thinking is disgustingly perpetuated by the media. Remember Vince Vaughn's famous line from "Wedding Crashers" when he talks about his first time with an Asian? I've been asked, "No, really. What are you?" at a dinner party or two, as if I'm something other than human.

Though it can happen to men, women of color are constantly being fetishized, commodified and exoticized. We're seen as something other than the white standard — a daring new experience one step higher than the sexual experience with a white person.

My relationship is complex and can't be summarized by a racial binary, but I'm cognizant of what some people assume when they see my boyfriend and I: "There goes another Asian woman going for a white man."

Within communities of color, there is often disdain when women go for white men and when men go for white women.

People who have internalized racism often try to counteract their self-hatred by exclusively dating white people. I definitely don't want this to be symbolized by my relationship, but I can't help it.

Racist acts are often solely thought of as the burning of crosses or the proliferation of hate-based Web sites still flourishing on the Internet. But

racism exists all around us in more subtle forms.

Looking at the billboards on the No. 1 Big Blue Bus on my way to school, images of perfect-looking, skinny white women scream to me that my brown, curvy body is something to be disdained. When I look around in my classes, I'm acutely aware of how few black people are in the room.

Outlandish and blatant racism is very unpopular in the age of adopting little black babies (Hi, Angelina Jolie and Madonna), but this fashion statement only serves to make more invisible the concrete ways in which white privilege continues to oppress people of color. As a Pilipino woman conscious of this ingrained racism, I'm constantly addressing these issues with my boyfriend.

It would probably be a lot easier for me to date a Pilipino. I could wake up in the morning craving spam, eggs and rice and probably be met with equal enthusiasm as opposed to judgment and disgust. Meetings with the family would probably be easier as well.

Fourth-year communications student Peter Abichaker is a Middle Eastern American dating a Vietnamese college graduate. He said, "Sometimes the language barrier creates miscommunication when interacting with the family."

Indeed, it would probably be easier for my boyfriend to date a white girl who isn't constantly trying to teach him about the struggles of people of color and instead opt for a "Sex and the City"-esque relationship devoid of any racial or class tensions.

Nonetheless, while sticking with people from your same background may be easier and more comfortable, the fact that people come from different backgrounds means there is more room to grow

through cross-cultural exchanges.

"Growing up in a multicultural household has been great in many ways, in my case, learning about Japanese and Jewish cultures," said Tristan Schulhof, a fourth-year political science student and the child of an interracial marriage.

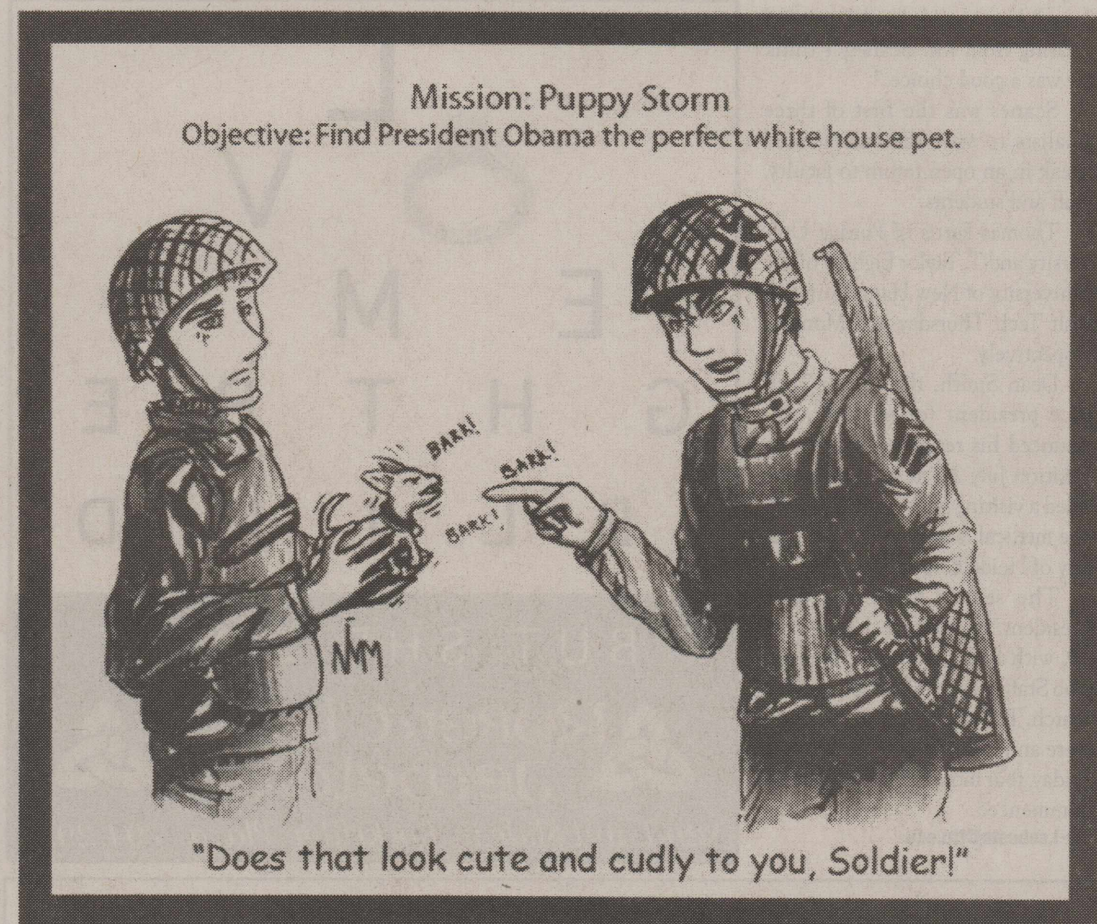
While I sometimes feel agitated by the need for me to teach my boyfriend about the struggles of people of color, he teaches me a lot as well.

He has taught me that sure, he's white and that it inevitably affords him numerous privileges and opportunities, but he comes from an Eastern European background which is markedly different than a more idealized Western European heritage. Apparently, there's a hierarchy

and difference of cultures within white communities as well.

Despite my constant need to point out his white privilege, he is always willing to listen and learn. He takes my criticisms with an open heart and mind, like the time I told him his attempt to speak Spanish to every person working behind a counter can be seen as patronizing.

If there is one piece of vital information I can offer to people embarking upon an interracial relationship, it's that color doesn't define how much a person will care for you, respect you, motivate and inspire you. And it's these aspects more than anything else that really make a strong relationship.



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Chan film too violent for China

HONG KONG (AP) — Jackie Chan, the comical kung fu king, is starring in a new movie so violent that its director decided not to release it in mainland China, which doesn't have a film ratings system.

Hong Kong director Derek Yee told The Associated Press on Monday that he considered toning down the violence in "Shinjuku Incident" so it could pass censorship in China, but decided not to because he thought it would hurt the integrity of the movie.

Yee said the \$25 million Chinese-language movie, in which Chan plays a refugee who escapes to Japan and becomes a killer for the mob, has scenes that show characters getting a hand chopped off and pierced with knives.

"We tried to cut the violent scenes to meet the requirements of the Chinese market, but producers I invited to watch that version thought it was incomplete," he said.

Yee said Chan, who invested in the movie, agreed with his decision.

Solon So, chief executive of Chan's company, JC Group, confirmed Yee's account.

China doesn't have a ratings system, so every movie is released for all audiences. Chinese censors are also wary of subject matter that is politically sensitive, like Tibet or the military crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing's Tiananmen Square in 1989.

Yee said he wasn't worried about the film's setting of Japan — another sensitive topic in China.

"For us, the problem was just the violence," he said.

Sino-Japanese relations remain tense because of Japan's brutal occupation of China during World War II. The 2005 Hollywood film "Memoirs of a Geisha" was not released on the mainland apparently because of the sight of Chinese actresses Zhang Ziyi and Gong Li portraying Japanese entertainers would offend viewers.

Yee's decision also had financial implications because the film is expensive by Asian standards and China is an increasingly important market, where a hit movie can make millions of U.S. dollars.

"Shinjuku Incident" will be released in Hong Kong and Southeast Asia on April 2 and in Japan on May 1.

Chinese blogger stabbed

BEIJING (AP) — A Chinese blogger whose satirical postings have gained a wide following was stabbed in the stomach at a Beijing book store after giving a reading, witnesses and friends said Monday.

Xu Lai, who writes under the pseudonym Qian Liexian, was attacked Saturday evening at the Wanda branch of the Beijing Danxiangjie Book Store, a staffer there confirmed Monday.

He was meeting readers "and it happened after that," said the clerk, who declined to give her name as is common among Chinese. She gave no other details.

Xu, who is also culture editor at the Beijing News paper, was appar-

ently stabbed in the store's bathroom by two men who later fled, according to friends and fellow bloggers who posted the news online.

The motive was unclear for the assault, which was the first known physical attack on a prominent blogger.

Xu's blog, entitled "Qian Liexian Wants to Speak," offers witty, satirical observations on society and politics. At times provocative, he has also commented on government corruption and the recent scandal of milk contaminated with an industrial chemical.

Last year, he was listed among the "20 Most Influential Figures in China's Cyberspace" by Southern Metropolis Weekly. Xu was in a

Beijing hospital Monday recovering after surgery for his wounds, which were not life-threatening, according to postings by friends on the bulloger.com Web site.

"According to the doctor, there was only a small hole in his stomach, and no other injuries were found in his other organs," one post said. "The doctor said it seemed that he was in a good condition. So people who care for him should not worry."

Police responsible for that area of Beijing did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Xu's blog was one of many hosted on the Chinese blogging Web site bullog.cn, which was shut down in January as part of a government crackdown on the Internet.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Student Media

Roberts sets record at A&M Invitational

By ADAM WADSWORTH
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech men's track team hopes to jump ahead in the rankings after hurdling a couple of higher-ranked opponents last weekend.

No. 8 Tech faced its first real test of the indoor season last weekend in College Station, finishing with a few provisional marks and a school record.

The Red Raiders finished second behind No. 5 Texas A&M, but beat No. 2 Arizona State, No. 7 Texas and No. 20 Baylor.

The women's team, No. 13, finished seventh behind No. 1 A&M, No. 6 Texas, No. 9 Arizona State, No. 24 Miami, No. 25 Baylor and unranked Rice.

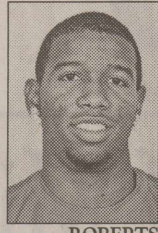
The highlight of the meet for the Red Raiders was sophomore Gil Roberts' record-setting time in the 400-meter dash.

The star-studded race included All-Americans Marcus Boyd and Quentin Summers of Baylor and 2008 Summer Olympics runner Tabarie Henry.

In addition to breaking former Tech sprinter Albert Booker's 2003 school record, Roberts' 46.17 second time is the number one collegiate time in the world.

Although more than enough for another NCAA provisional mark, his time was barely over the automatic mark, missing it by only .02 seconds.

Roberts said he is confident if he continues to listen to his coaches and work hard, he knows he can get those two-hundredths of a second and



ROBERTS

hit the automatic time.

With the Big 12 Conference Championships — which A&M is hosting — less than two weeks away, Roberts said he was grateful to have the chance to run on the track beforehand.

"I think it gives us a pretty good advantage in that the track is a little different than what we've ran on all year," Roberts said. "I think for us as a team it's a real big advantage."

Roberts said his goals for the next couple weeks are to keep training and stay healthy so the team can bring a conference title to Lubbock.

Omoghan Osaghae also faced some heavy competition on his way to a personal record and a second-place finish.

Ryan Brathwaite, who placed ahead of Osaghae, was a semifinalist at the Beijing Olympics last summer.

Tech coach Wes Kitley said he believed Osaghae only was running at around 90 percent after sitting out two weeks with an injury, but he should be back to full speed in time for the Big 12 meet.

Tech jumper Anthony Flemmons also performed well at A&M, setting a new personal record in the long jump.

He also won his other event, the triple jump, with a provisional mark of 52 feet, 1.75 inches, but Flemmons said he was not satisfied with his performance.

"Overall I think it went pretty well," he said. "Long jump especially, I got a (personal record). Triple jump not too good, I think I was over from the first day."

He said he needs to continue training hard and getting pushed by his teammates and coaches so he does not let up and can compete well at the conference championships.

Freshman Terra Evans also set a new personal record and NCAA provisional time on her way to a seventh-place finish in the 200-meter dash.

Tech finished the meet with nine additional personal records including Kearci Jobe and Shannon Jackson in the 800-meter and Kelly Wilson in the pole vault.

Kitley said he was pleased with the way the entire team competed last weekend.

"There was a lot of other, you know, good things happen," he said. "Maybe they weren't personal bests or whatever, but I thought that all the kids competed real well."

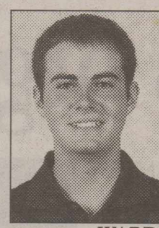
Kitley said the team needs these next few weeks to continue resting a few athletes who have been injured and practice for the Big 12. When the competition comes around, he said, Tech should be ready to compete with the other high-ranked conference schools such as A&M, Texas, Baylor and Nebraska.

Tech hosts a high school tournament in the Athletic Training Center this weekend and then has one more week to prepare for the conference championships in College Station.

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Red Raider golf enjoys strong opening rounds in San Antonio

By ADAM WADSWORTH
STAFF WRITER



WARD

The Texas Tech men's golf team is doing its best to make up for a sloppy finish at Hawaii's Hilo Intercollegiate last week.

The No. 15 Red Raiders had a strong start on the first day of UTSA's Roadrunner Intercollegiate tournament at the Oak Hills Country Club in San Antonio.

With two rounds behind them, Tech is sitting in first place with a 19-stroke lead over second place Texas State and is 25-under-par. Junior Chris Ward leads the team, and the event, with rounds of 65 and 66.

The combined scores put him 11-under-par and five strokes ahead of teammate Nils Floren, Oklahoma's Ben Blundell and Wichita State's Ty Sanders.

Tech's Santiago Rivas made up for his 3-over-par first round by shooting a 66 in round two. He sits in seventh place.

Tech senior Garrett Merrell, No. 20 in the nation according to Golfweek.com, started a little slower than normal with a 73 in the first round, but shot 3-under-par in round two to put him 10 strokes behind Ward.

Will Griffin rounded out the team with an even par.

Tech sophomore Sergio Franky competed as an individual and finished the day tied for 28th with 4-over-par.

Tech coach Greg Sands said the team really did not prepare any differently for this week, but they were

playing better.

"We're just trying to stay patient and let the round kind of come to us instead of forcing things to happen," he said. "I thought we did a really good job of that."

Sands said the team hopes to maintain its lead going into the final round of the Roadrunner Intercollegiate tomorrow.

The Lady Raiders are competing at San Diego State's Aztec Invitational this week in Chula Vista, Calif.

After Sunday's round, the team was tied for eighth place, and Megan Dowdy led the team with a 2-over-74.

In the early parts of Monday, the team improved to a three-way tie for third, but full results have not been posted yet.

Live results for both events can be found at golfstat.com.

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SC sheriff: No pot charge for Phelps after photo

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — A South Carolina sheriff said Monday he was not going to charge swimmer Michael Phelps after a photo of the 14-time gold medalist showed him smoking from a marijuana pipe.

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott said he couldn't ignore the photo but defended his investigation.

"Michael Phelps is truly an American hero ... but even with his star status, he is still obligated to obey the laws of our state," Lott said.

The photo showed Phelps smoking from a marijuana pipe at a party in November when he visited the University of South Carolina.

Phelps has called his judgment bad and said he would learn from his mistake.

USA Swimming suspended Phelps for three months in the wake of the photo, and Kellogg Co. said it would not renew its endorsement deal with him.

The photo surfaced in a British newspaper, News of the World, on Feb. 1. The swimmer, who won a record eight gold medals at the Beijing Games, did not dispute its authenticity.

News of the World said the picture was taken during a party while Phelps was visiting the university. During that trip, he attended one of the school's

football games and received a big ovation when introduced to the crowd.

The party occurred nearly three months after the Olympics while Phelps was taking a break from training, and his actions should have no impact on the eight golds he won at Beijing. He has never tested positive for banned substances.

This isn't the first embarrassing episode for Phelps after an Olympic triumph. In 2004, a few months removed from winning six gold and two bronze medals in Athens, the swimmer was arrested on a drunken driving charge at age 19. He pleaded guilty and apologized for the mistake.

Contador: Armstrong not yet back to his best

MADRID (AP) — Lance Armstrong isn't quite at his competitive best but he's not far off, according to Astana teammate and former Tour de France champion Alberto Contador.

Armstrong currently sits fifth in the overall standings at the Tour of California — 1 minute, 5 seconds behind leader Francisco Mancebo of Rock Racing.

It is the second race for Armstrong following last month's Tour Down Under. The 37-year-old cyclist, who came out of retirement three years

after clinching his seventh straight Tour title, finished 71st in Australia.

"Lance looks very strong and very motivated, but I still think he's not quite ready to compete," Contador said on Monday.

Contador is putting his money on another American rider in California — Astana teammate Levi Leipheimer, who is 1:02 behind the Spanish leader.

Contador begins his season at next week's Tour of the Algarve in Portugal and says he's still not at his best after offseason nasal surgery. The

26-year-old Spaniard is roughly 5 pounds over his ideal weight and has had to change his arm positioning on the bike to assist his breathing.

But Contador is confident he'll be ready in time for the Paris-Nice race, his first serious objective of the season.

"I'm a little surprised at how well my body is responding," Contador said. "I think we've met our objectives so far because, for the time of year and how much I've trained until now, the shape I've managed to be in is very good."

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1708 AVE V. Walk to Tech! 1 bedroom garage apartment. \$295. Castle Property Mgmt. 783-3040.

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AWESOME 3/2 for rent: 3519 38th, includes 50" Plasma TV, hardwoods, new tile shower in master, new stainless range, and "keg-rator"! Rent is \$1200 & \$600 deposit. We love Tech students! 806-559-9339.

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FOR RENT 3/2/1. Central heat/air, washer/dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove included. Carpeted throughout. \$990/month with \$500 deposit. 3811 26th. Call 806-798-3716.

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A QUEEN pillow top mattress & box spring. New in wrapper. \$135. 806-549-3110.

ADJUSTABLE KING. New bed with memory foam mattress, split kin. List \$5500, sell \$1990. 806-549-3110.

ALL LEATHER 5 piece sofa set. Can separate. Brand new. \$650. 806-549-3110.

FOR SALE

CERAMIC TILE dining set and chairs. Brand new! Medium brown. \$260. 806-549-3110.

CHENILLE SOFA, love seat and 2 end tables. In factory crates. \$500. Lifetime warranty. 806-549-3110.

SPORTS

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TUESDAY, FEB. 17, 2009

Tech students organize rally in support of Mike Leach

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

If Mike Leach thought he was alone in his recent contract negotiations with Texas Tech, he was wrong.

Tech students plan to show support for Leach by organizing a public rally from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. today outside of the athletics offices on the east side of Jones AT&T Stadium.

John Baucum, one of the organizers for the event, said the rally's main goal is to bring the two sides at odds — Leach and his representatives and Tech Athletic Director Gerald Myers — together before it results in the worst-case scenario. He also said the rally is a good way for students to show they want Leach to stay.

"We just want to give the fans and the students an opportunity to let coach Leach and the chancellor and athletic director Myers know that we really want Mike Leach here," he said. "I can't really envision a scenario where it'll be OK for him to not be our coach."

In a previous article in *The Daily Treador*, Leach's agents — represented by International Management Group Coaches representative Matt Baldwin — made a counteroffer worth \$12.7

million over 5 years to Myers that was an altered version of the Jan. 9 offer.

In the counteroffer, if Tech fired Leach, he would receive 40 percent of the remaining base salary and outside income. If he left, he would have to pay \$500,000. Both sides agreed with Leach having to notify Myers before interviewing with other schools.

Myers rejected the offer Friday as he said, "This so-called proposal is simply an offer for us to guarantee that coach Leach could never be fired."

The extension Myers proposed on Jan. 9 is the final offer, and Leach has until 5 p.m. today to sign it.

Baucum, a Tech alumnus who earned a bachelor's degree in journalism in 2003 and a master's degree in sports management in 2007, said he understands what is keeping the two sides at odds and what is preventing the extension from being



PHOTO BY KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Treador
JENNIFER TALER, LEFT, a junior apparel design and manufacturing major from Houston, begins to make a poster that will read "Lubbock Loves Leach" with help from Casey May, a sophomore art major from Houston, Monday outside the Student Union Building.

signed. He said he believes no one side has done more wrong than the other,

and the rally is a chance for students to show Leach is appreciated rather than

the students taking sides.

Baucum said he encourages students to bring signs in support of keeping Leach at Tech.

Some students started making signs Monday in the free speech area next to the Student Union Building.

Ryan Muse, a senior history major from Fort Worth, also helped organize the rally and make signs Monday.

He said the negotiations have split the two sides instead of bring them together like it should be.

"I think the main distraction here is that it has come down to one side versus the next," Muse said. "Both sides have to look out for their interest, and that's understandable. When it all centers around Texas Tech, it needs to be Texas Tech, not the football coach against somebody else."

Both Baucum and Muse said the location of the rally was not chosen because the east side is where

Myers' office is, but it was chosen mainly because it was the site of Raiderville this year when students camped out before Tech's game with then-No. 1 Texas on Nov. 1.

Jennifer Taler, a junior apparel design major from Houston who also helped make signs, said the students are not siding with anyone during the recent contract disputes — they just want Leach to stay.

"That's between them," she said. "Our main concern's to get back to one so we can have our guy back in football season."

While Muse said he understands college football is a business, students are more concerned with what happens on the football field and not so much the business aspect of it," he said. "I mean college football's a business. It's not cut and dry, win or lose anymore."

Neither Leach nor Myers were available for comment on the latest regarding contract negotiations or the rally.

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Tech prepares for biggest test this season: No. 2 Oklahoma

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

This season, No. 2 Oklahoma coming to town is about as big as it gets.

So the Lady Raiders know a win against the Sooners at 7 p.m. today in the United Spirit Arena falls in the same suit in regards to their season.

"It seems like there are high highs and low lows and a few in between, and you can't focus on what's happened," Tech coach Kristy Curry said. "You gotta have that short-term memory we've been talking about. Stay positive. It's a great opportunity

for us (tonight)."

The opportunity could put Texas Tech (14-10, 4-6 in Big 12 Conference play) on the map when the NCAA selection committee has to sift through the Big 12 come tourney time.

A Sooners win gives Oklahoma a 19-game winning streak — the longest in school history. OU's 18-game winning streak is the third-longest in the nation right now.

A win for the Lady Raiders marks the third against a Top 25-team, which could play a factor in Tech's postseason chances.

But Oklahoma (22-2, 10-0) seems unstoppable after the way they've played this year.

The Sooners' two losses are at the hands of two of the nation's best: No. 10 North Carolina and at No. 1 UConn. After the UConn loss, the 18-game win streak started.

During the stretch, OU's closest win was a five-point victory at then-No. 4 Baylor Jan. 28. The other victories range in margin from 10 to 52 points.

It also helps that OU has one of the best post players in the country in Courtney Paris. She has earned a double-double in 118 of her 124 career games.

Paris continues to lead the team in scoring with 15.6 points per game.

Her sister, Ashley Paris is not too far behind, as she is second on the team in scoring with 13.7 points per game.

But Curry said what makes the Sooners so tough starts with the guard play of Danielle Robinson and freshman Whitney Hand. Robinson averaged 16 points, five assists, four rebounds and two steals in two games against Tech last season.

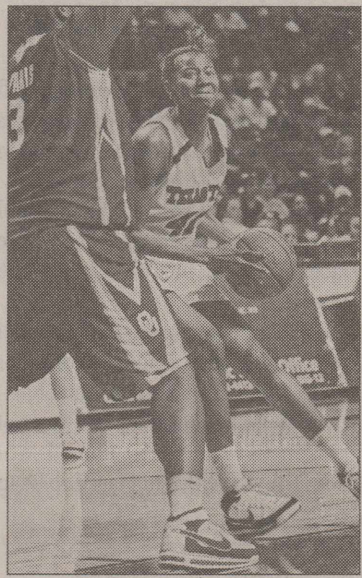
"The fact that one through five, they're as good as anybody in the country," she said. "It starts with their point guard."

The Lady Raiders have six games left in the regular season — a stretch that consists of visiting OU, Oklahoma State and No. 5 Baylor coupled with No. 21 Iowa State and Missouri at home. So far, Tech is 2-5 against ranked opponents this season.

The Lady Raiders' hopeful climb to an NCAA Tournament spot was made a little more difficult with a 62-56 loss to Nebraska Saturday in Lincoln, Neb.

While Jordan Murphree led the team with 18 points, Dominic Seals only added four on 2-of-9 shooting.

Seals said she realizes something like that cannot happen against a



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Treador
TEXAS TECH'S DOMINIC Seals, right, will have the task of guarding Oklahoma's Courtney Paris at 7 p.m. today in the United Spirit Arena.

team like OU.

"Me, I just need to step up and be a senior leader and play a senior role like I'm supposed to," she said. "That game just reminded me of how I played in New Mexico. I played awful and I needed to step up."

In the Nebraska game, the Comhuskers opened the second half on a 13-4 run in six minutes. Tech came back with a 16-2 run of its own in the final seven minutes of the game. The comeback had Tech down 60-56 with 50 seconds left, but Nebraska's early run did the damage.

Murphree said Tech would rather not need a late run to catch up to OU.

"We learned a lot from Saturday," she said. "We learned that last seven minutes, we probably need to carry over into this game. We have them on our home floor, so we'll have the advantage."

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Game dedicated to breast cancer awareness

The game against No. 2 Oklahoma at 7 p.m. today in the United Spirit Arena holds a special meaning for Texas Tech forward Jordan Murphree and guard Maddy Brown.

There are 15 schools participating in the Inaugural Women's Basketball Coaches Association Pink Zone Challenge.

The challenge entails collecting the most money for breast cancer awareness through the Pink Zone initiative.

Baylor, UConn, Duke, LSU, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri State, New Mexico, Notre Dame, Oklahoma, Penn State, Purdue, Tennessee and Vanderbilt are other teams joining the challenge this year.

Tech's challenge takes place against No. 2 Oklahoma tonight.

The first 5,000 fans in the arena get a Pink Zone T-shirt and 1,000 pink pom-poms will be given out at the student entrance.

Murphree's mother was diagnosed with breast cancer in August 2007, and Brown's mother also was diagnosed in August 2008.

"It's gonna be awesome to have the crowd all pink and everything," Brown said. "My mom and my grandma (have been diagnosed) so it's a really meaningful game to me and I know Jordan Murphree too. Everybody has somebody that's affected by cancer one way or another."

Murphree, who also was Brown's roommate for two years, said it brought the two teammates closer considering their families were going through the same experience.

"We stuck together, she helped

me through that time, and we found out a year later about her mom," she said. "I was just there for her. I had been through it, I knew what she was feeling."

Breast cancer awareness also is an important issue this season because of the death of North Carolina State coach Kay Yow, who battled it for 32 years. She died on Jan. 24.

"Kay Yow, she's been battling for so long," Brown said. "For her to finally lose her battle with it, it just brought so much awareness to the game. Through the game, we can spread it to other people."

In the Lady Raiders' game at Nebraska on Saturday, the Comhuskers also took part in the Pink Zone Challenge.

As a part of the WBCA Pink Zone Challenge, there also will be a silent auction on the west side of the concourse of the United Spirit Arena at 5:30 p.m. Autographed items from Tech coaches and players are among the things up for auction.

Tech coach Kristy Curry agreed with her players, as she said breast cancer has affected many different people.

She said there is nothing wrong if the game against OU is a motivating factor for a player because it is dedicated to breast cancer awareness.

"I think it's definitely something that's unspoken," she said. "It's definitely something that all of us are very emotional about. If that needs to be a reason to play, that certainly is a good one."

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS	1 African river	6 Wrath	9 Fine sprays	14 Lend beauty to	15 Lon_ of Cambodia	16 Integra maker	17 Sai of movies	18 Director	19 Brown	20 Weather unit	22 Pile of rocks	23 Trilling amount	24 Lions, at times	26 Fancy schmancy	30 Diminutive being	32 TV Tarzan Ron	33 Raines of old films	34 Fade away	35 On the way up	39 Clan pattern	41 Part of IOU	43 One of a flight	44 Aerie youngster	46 Goller Ernie	48 Water of Guadalajara	49 Black or Salton	50 Rend	51 "Stay (I Missed You)" singer	52 Field event	56 Theatrical signal	58 Climb aboard	59 Weather units	65 Of sheep	66 Fleming or Garfunkel	67 Ancient region of Asia Minor	68 Lacoste and Russo	69 Go out with	70 Subject to random chance	71 Ringlet of hair	72 Possessed	73 Okays
DOWN	1 Pushrod pushers	2 Nurse god	3 Childhood taboo	4 Cultivated	5 Like a toggle switch	6 Glyphic art	7 Castling piece	8 Mormon leader	9 Wyrnton or Branford	10 Weather unit	11 One of Bolivia's capitals	12 Less of a lie?	13 Fills completely	21 Manufactured facts	25 ___ the ramparts we watched...	26 First name in cartoon skunks	27 Big pot of stew	28 Smeltery waste	29 Weather units	31 Less	36 "Othello" conniver	37 New Zealand island territory	38 Seize suddenly	40 Profundity	42 Educud	45 Greek letter	47 Produced yarn	52 Brief	53 Craft starter?	54 Voice one's thoughts	55 Junk	57 Enlighten	60 Length times width	61 Part in a play	62 Heavy load	63 Explorer	64 Speaks out				

By Annabel Michaels
Williamsburg, VA
2/17/09

Monday's Puzzle Solved

SWAG	HIDER	SKEW
CITE	ADORE	PAAR
OLDS	NEWER	AUTO
FLASH	DANCE	RAIN
FAMOUS	TANKING	
BASK	DIP	
GANG	WHIT	CLASP
OCULO	ARE	EUBIE
TENOR	MORT	GENT
WAR	VISA	
SCOWLER	ESCROW	
WINO	LIGHTHOUSE	
AVER	IVIES	ABLE
LIAAM	EAGLE	SLID
ELLS	FLIPS	TENS

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