

Lots of pots
See Page 2

Pat Knight suspended
for 1 game
See Page 6

THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

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(INSIDE)
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
SEE PAGE 8

(IN BRIEF) STATE Bills would close some state schools

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas would close some of its large state homes for the mentally disabled and move residents into community settings under bills filed Monday to fix a system wracked by reports of abuse and neglect.

Although closing any of the 13 facilities known as state schools could be several years away, the bills were sure to ramp up the emotional debate of how best to care for nearly 5,000 residents.

Some activists have called for putting a moratorium on admissions or closing schools, where many of the residents are severely disabled. But several families of residents reject attempts to shutter schools they say are the best places for their loved ones to live.

NATION

House Dems propose \$410B spending bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democrats unveiled a \$410 billion spending bill on Monday to keep the government running through the end of the fiscal year, setting up the second political struggle over federal funds in less than a month with Republicans.

The measure includes thousands of earmarks, the pet projects favored by lawmakers but often criticized by the public in opinion polls. There was no official total of the bill's earmarks, which accounted for at least \$3.8 billion.

The legislation, which includes an increase of roughly 8 percent over spending in the last fiscal year, is expected to clear the House later in the week.

WORLD

Interpreter, 3 soldiers killed in Iraq province

BAGHDAD (AP) — The U.S. military in Iraq says three US soldiers and an interpreter have been killed in combat north of Baghdad.

A statement says the soldiers and their interpreter were killed Monday in Diyala province.

Diyala is an area north of the capital that continues to be volatile despite an overall drop in violence nationwide.

At least 4,250 members of the U.S. military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003. That's according to an Associated Press count.

DEATH TOLL

4250

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

INSIDE

- Classifieds.....7
- Crossword.....2
- La Vida.....3
- Opinions.....4
- Sports.....6

Perfect patient

Simulation dummies put high-tech spin on playing doctor, nurse

By HANNAH BOEN
STAFF WRITER

Harvey lies on a table on the third floor of the Health Sciences Center 24 hours a day.

Although he cannot move on his own, he can perform several techniques that are useful to medical and nursing students who use him on a daily basis to learn clinical and decision-making skills.

"Harvey is an advanced cardiopulmonary assessment mannequin," said Sharon Decker, professor and director of Clinical Simulations at the Health Sciences Center, "and he is used all through school by everyone at the Health Sciences Center."

Decker, the Covenant Health System Endowed Chair in Simulation and Nursing Education, said Harvey is only one of several high-fidelity mannequins the HSC uses to allow students to practice the treatment of patients.

"High-fidelity mannequins are more realistic," she said, comparing them to low-fidelity devices, "and make it easier for students to transition to real patients."

The HSC uses other high-fidelity mannequins, Decker said, including SimMan, who is used by senior nursing students to practice the skills they have acquired throughout school — from the initial assessment of a patient to an emergency situation.

"They build on their knowledge each



PHOTO BY BETH McELHANNON/The Daily Treador

FROM LEFT, COURTNEY Brewer, a nursing student from Fort Davis; Stephanie Loggins, a nursing student from Sealy; Meredith Evans, a nursing student from Coppell; and Samuel Gakul, a nursing student from Wylie, demonstrate CPR on a baby dummy Friday morning at the Health Sciences Center.

semester," Decker said. "The health profession is unique in that you cannot learn and forget anything. You must continue to build on what you've learned."

The HSC begins using clinical simulations with nursing students during their summer orientation before their first fall semester. Clinical simulation coordinator and instructor Sandra Caballero said beginning students start with low-fidelity static mannequins to learn how to do an assessment of a patient.

A basic assessment includes skills such as taking blood pressure and temperature, and learning the proper positioning of patients with broken bones, said Caballero, who also is a registered nurse.

While the summer is spent learning basic skills, students' first full semester is spent going beyond technical skills. They learn how to start an IV, give an enema and administer medications.

The lower-fidelity mannequin beginning students use does not have as many realistic features as Harvey does, such as the ability to breathe regularly and mimic murmurs that can signal health problems.

"The benefit of using high-fidelity," Caballero said, "is to get that feel for working with something more realistic."

To set up a realistic scenario for nursing students, she said the HSC uses SimMan, another high-fidelity mannequin.

SIMULATION continued on page 3

VP for research finalist discusses strategic plan

By CYNTHIA RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech vice president for research finalist Thomas Farris discussed his strategic plan for achieving tier-one research status in an open forum Monday in the University Library.

Farris said if he was selected to be the vice president for research, he would act as a valuable resource in ensuring all departments at Tech contribute to the research mission of the university and in helping build on the existing strengths of the university.

"Every department at Tech has to have a role in the research mission, including the arts," Farris said. "They inspire us to think creatively."

The significance of the role of vice president for research is key in establishing leadership and in ensuring every one values the importance of research, he said, including alumni and undergraduate students.

"I have no doubt that it can happen and it will have a great impact on the local area as well as in recruiting grad students," Farris said.

Farris' proposed goals include developing incentives for increasing research expenditures and establishing strong partnerships with alumni, the Health Sciences Center, and regional and state government officials.

"It's going to be all about these partnerships and I look forward to making that happen," he said.

The list of long-term goals for the university revolves around Tech's "unlimited" potential, Farris said. He proposed that Tech's research impact should act as a catalyst for philanthropy, form companies from entrepreneurial faculty, exceed the annual research expenditure of \$100 million, and give greater visibility in national rankings.



PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Treador

THOMAS NEAL FARRIS, a professor and head of the School of Aeronautics and Astronautics at Purdue University speaks at an open forum Monday in the University Library.

"I think research experiences are very exciting for students," he said, "and Texas Tech is a very exciting place and it would be great to be a part of it."

Kent Wilkinson, regents professor in Hispanic and International Communication, said he believes a new vice president for research will guarantee funding for fields of research for Tech.

"I am confident that he will help fund researchers in a variety of areas or subjects," he said.

Carolyn Tate, professor in Pre-Columbian Art History, said the selection of the new vice president for research will be a hard decision for President Guy Bailey to make.

"All three have had very impressive resumes and different levels of experience. The community feels good about the people we've brought in," she said.

Bob Stafford, member of the Board

of Regents and chairman of the search for the vice president for research, said he thinks Farris has plenty to offer Tech from the position.

"He has tremendous upside in his experience in what he has done at Purdue and is coming from a successful tenure," Stafford said. "It has been an interesting process; we had 53 applicants and I'd like to think that we have got the cream rising to the top."

Farris, the head of aeronautics and astronautics at Purdue University, was the last of three candidates to make a visit to the campus while interviewing for the vice president for research position.

Colin Scanes, of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Taylor Eighmy, of the University of New Hampshire visited Feb. 16 and Thursday, respectively.

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Tech Health Sciences Center prepares for '09 accreditation

By KENDYL SEBESTA
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Health Sciences Center will receive an on-site committee visit from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools April 14-16 in preparation for determining the Health Science's Center accreditation status in December.

Rial Rolfe, the Tech Health Sciences Center vice president of academic affairs, said the HSC began collecting information two years ago in preparation for the SACS accreditation process.

"We have been gathering compliance documentation which addresses 80 individual items," Rolfe said. "We submitted that last summer."

An off-site review then is conducted by other medical institutions outside Texas, he said, and if additional information is needed, a focus report is submitted that addresses those questions.

"We will mail the focus report in on March 9," Rolfe said, "and that will be followed by submitting our (Quality Enhancement Plan) and an on-site review."

Rolfe said the on-site review will consist of nine individuals from health facilities outside Texas visiting the Health Sciences Center over a two-day period.

"The on-site review committee will visit our El Paso, Amarillo and Permian Basin locations on April 13, and will meet in Lubbock April 14," he said. "They will leave April 16."

SACS will look at the HSC's finances, student services, facilities and student learning outcomes. Re-accreditation occurs every 10 years, Rolfe said, and recent changes will allow for item reviews at five-year intervals that do not require on-site documen-

tation. "We are accredited separately from Tech," Rolfe said. "We do not teach all four years of undergraduate study like Tech does, and our on-site team is made up of individuals from other health institutions."

He said if the Health Sciences Center does not pass the SACS accreditation process, it would not receive federal loan money.

"Being accredited is very important," he said. "It indicates that your peers feel like you are doing a good job, and speaks well to students."

Rolfe said student involvement in preparing for SACS accreditation also has been crucial.

"We have students helping with writing, researching and marketing," he said. "We went to the SGA here and asked for individual recommendations, and we've also had students from outside the SGA and Senate help us."

Rick Bliss, president of the Health Sciences Center SGA, said the association has been working on two subprojects associated with the accreditation process and the Quality Enhancement Plan.

"We are trying to create internal proficiency in communications," Bliss said, "meaning we are in the process of implementing a way for a variety of disciplines such as medicine, nursing and physical therapy to work together."

Bliss said the Health Sciences Center SGA also is working to implement a five-year plan that addresses these issues, in addition to community service and outreach.

According to the SACS Web site, the Tech Health Sciences Center accreditation status will be reviewed and announced Dec. 5 through 8.

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	TODAY Partly Cloudy High 83 Low 43		Wednesday Mostly Cloudy High 80 Low 47		Thursday Mostly Sunny High 82 Low 36		Friday Partly Cloudy High 74 Low 39		Saturday Partly Cloudy High 73 Low 36
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LOTS OF POTS



PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Toreador

SENIOR RACHEL HEIMARMAN, left, an art photography and psychology major from Arlington, and sophomore Lauren Ball, a visual studies major from Boerne, make bowls on potter's wheels Wednesday in the 3D Art Annex.

Israeli leader fires lead negotiator

JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Ehud Olmert dismissed Israel's top negotiator in Gaza truce talks for publicly criticizing his demand that Palestinian militants hand over a captured Israeli soldier before any deal is clinched, officials said Monday. The move threatens to roil the talks just weeks before Olmert is succeeded by the hawkish Benjamin Netanyahu, who wants Gaza's Hamas rulers toppled and likely would take a tougher line in the Egyptian-brokered truce negotiations. A truce deal has implications beyond cementing the informal Jan. 18 cease-fire that ended Israel's war on Hamas. Without it, there is little chance of advancing already troubled talks to reconcile feuding Palestinian factions. Olmert abruptly announced last week that Israel would not reopen Gaza's long-blockaded

borders — the main Israeli concession sought by Hamas — unless Hamas-affiliated militants first freed Sgt. Gilad Shalit, who was seized in a June 2006 cross-border raid. Amos Gilad, the fired negotiator, opposed linking the truce deal with Shalit and criticized Olmert's strategy in an interview last week with the Israeli newspaper Maariv. After Gilad refused to apologize, Olmert gave him the boot, aides said Monday. "Due to the inappropriate public criticism leveled by Mr. Gilad, he cannot continue as the prime minister's envoy to any political negotiations," Olmert's office said in a statement. Aides said the talks would not be affected. A longtime adviser to Olmert, Shalom Turgeman, will replace Gilad in the truce talks, while veteran negotiator Ofer Dekel will handle efforts to free Shalit, the aides said,

speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the talks. There was no immediate reaction from Gilad or Egypt. Hamas shrugged off the development, with spokesman Fawzi Barhoum saying Israel "never intended to reach any agreement or closure on a truce or a prisoner exchange." Hamas desperately wants Israel and Egypt to reopen Gaza's borders, which were sealed after the Islamic group's fighters violently seized control of the territory nearly two years ago. But it has rejected any linkage between a prisoner release and the truce negotiations. In related news, Al-Qaida's No. 2 leader warned Palestinians in Gaza against accepting a truce with Israel in an audio message posted on extremist Web sites, an Internet monitoring service said.

Lubbock, Tech police search for suspect in attempted kidnapping

By TINA L. ARONS
FEATURES EDITOR

Local law enforcement continued a search for an unknown suspect who reportedly attempted to kidnap a female Texas Tech student Thursday morning as she walked to campus. Tech Police Department Chief Ron Seacrist said the investigation was turned over to the Lubbock Police Department on Thursday. Lubbock police Sgt. Jim Pachall said the department is investigating the incident. No suspects or leads have been found, he said, but Lubbock police who patrol the area where the incident occurred will have copies of the vehicle and suspect description. Seacrist said campus police also began regular patrols in search of the suspect in areas across the street from campus where the attempted kidnapping reportedly took place. Tech police officers were noti-

fied of the suspect's description and began patrolling the off-campus area after the incident was reported, Seacrist said. Tech police routinely patrol 19th Street near campus, he said, but officers will now patrol the blocks across from campus. "We want to make sure the officers are as visible as possible to curtail any future incidents," said Seacrist, who could not recall reports of similar incidents during the last five years. Col. Gordon Hoffman with the Tech Police Department said the student was walking between the 1900 block and 3000 block of Akron Avenue when a white male in his mid-30s to 40s with whitish-blond hair drove past her in a white minivan several times. The suspect asked if the female student needed a ride, Hoffman said. When she refused, the man circled the block and edged closer, trying to trap her between his van and parked vehicles before reaching

outside the driver's side window and attempting to grab her hair. Pachall said a department investigator will further question the victim for more information about the incident. "An investigator will get a more detailed statement from the victim as soon as possible and begin researching the vehicle," Pachall said. Investigation of a possible Lubbock homicide created a delay in obtaining the more detailed statement, he said. The information also will be shared with other areas in the department, such as juvenile crimes, to find any similar incidents that may have happened, Pachall said. He is not aware of any recent similar incidents. To contact the Lubbock Police Department about information regarding the attempted kidnapping, call person crimes investigators at 806-775-2410. >> tina.aronson@ttu.edu

Taliban commander pledges cease-fire

KHAR, Pakistan (AP) — A Taliban commander announced a unilateral cease-fire Monday in a northwestern Pakistan region where the military says it has killed around 1,500 militants in an ongoing offensive. The military was not available for comment on the Taliban's move in Bajur region, which is a major transit route for militants traveling to fight U.S. and NATO forces in neighboring Afghanistan. It follows the introduction of an already week-old cease-fire between the government and militants in the Swat Valley, another northwestern region, in support of a peace process there. The United States and other Western governments have criticized the Swat truce and negotiations, saying they could create a

safe haven for al-Qaida and Taliban in the region. Unlike in Swat, the Taliban in Bajur had been losing ground in recent months, most analysts say, and the military has several times claimed to be close to victory. Taliban commander Maulvi Faqir Mohammad, announced the cease-fire, in an FM radio broadcast. "We have decided to observe a cease-fire," he said. "I direct all of my fighters to stop armed actions against the government," he said. "We will take strict action against anyone who violates the order." Pakistan is under intense international pressure to crack down on al-Qaida and Taliban militants in the northwest blamed for increasing attacks in Afghanistan and Pakistan. U.S. officials also fear

the region is being used to plan terrorist attacks on the West. Earlier Monday, the paramilitary Frontier Corps in Bajur announced it had captured the Bhaichina Heights from militant control, which it said had great tactical importance to the extremists. It was unclear if Mohammad's announcement was related to that operation. A government administrator in tribally ruled Bajur said authorities were aware of Mohammad's announcement. "We do welcome it. If they will not fire bullets, we will also consider taking a lenient view toward them," Faramosh Khan told The Associated Press. The military began its offensive against militants in Bajur in September last year.

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SC, Ala. governors OK some stimulus for unemployed

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — The governor of South Carolina, a vocal opponent of federal bailouts in a state beset by one of the nation's highest jobless rates, has decided to take stimulus money to increase weekly unemployment checks by \$25, officials said Monday. While he is accepting money for the increase, Republican Gov. Mark Sanford is not likely to go along with

part of the stimulus plan that would allow the state to extend unemployment benefits to more part-time workers, said spokesman Joel Sawyer. "That's something that's a near certainty that we will not be taking," he said. Alabama Gov. Bob Riley, also a Republican, is taking a similar stance — yes to stimulus funds that will boost unemployment checks by \$25 a week, yes to funds that will extend

the number of weeks that the jobless can get benefits, but no to expanding the number of part-time workers who are covered. Riley said that accepting stimulus funds to cover more unemployed people would require an overhaul of Alabama's unemployment system, and eventually cost the state an extra \$28 million a year when the federal stimulus money runs out.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- 1 Sewing line
- 5 A/C figures
- 9 To the most extreme degree
- 14 Furthermore
- 15 Birthplace of Camembert
- 16 Main artery
- 17 Kenny Loggins hit
- 19 Feel rapture
- 20 Deprive of strength
- 21 Fit in
- 22 Handyman's space
- 24 Literary monogram
- 25 Queen of the fairies
- 28 Negative votes
- 29 Barroom fight
- 31 Lunch locales
- 33 Alternative to a T-top
- 36 Gator cousin
- 37 Le Mans lasses; abbr.
- 39 Top-rated
- 40 Chef's reading
- 42 Newton's fruit?
- 43 Fizzling out
- 44 Artist's rep.
- 46 Part of CBS
- 47 Shortened bk.
- 49 Make light of
- 52 Freetown moola
- 54 Formal written defense
- 58 Hatch eggs
- 59 Handsomeness
- 60 MetLife rival
- 61 Different
- 62 Tough journey
- 63 Stuffy-sounding
- 64 Twist 12 and 20
- 65 Legis. meeting

DOWN

- 1 Secure
- 2 Carolina university
- 3 From
- 4 Church choral work
- 5 Child's injury
- 6 Ogre associates
- 7 Family of Indy winners
- 8 I told you so!
- 9 First, second or third infielder
- 10 Mountful wall
- 11 Cereal brand
- 12 Egyptian symbols
- 13 Extent
- 18 Spinks and Ames
- 21 Julius or Guy of golf
- 23 Hautboy
- 25 1700 in letters
- 26 Saab model
- 27 Expectorant source
- 30 Swaddle
- 32 That's gross!
- 33 Jan. honoree
- 34 Nothing but charges
- 35 Service charges
- 37 Pre-stereo recordings
- 38 Business icon
- 41 Two-footed
- 42 Island ring
- 44 Place side by side
- 45 Former Mets pitcher
- 47 Composer Berg
- 48 Suburb of Cleveland
- 50 Hawaiian word for foreign
- 51 Owl calls
- 53 Nine; pref.
- 55 Wound from a bullfight
- 56 Eisenhower and Turner
- 57 Pops a question
- 59 Understand

Monday's Puzzle Solved

O	T	O	T	I	N	C	A	S	C	A	T	E
O	P	E	N	R	O	A	C	H	O	R	A	L
M	I	L	L	A	S	N	E	R	N	E	L	L
B	E	L	L	O	W	T	H	E	S	U	R	F
A	I	R	E	G	A	L						
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M	O	R	T	H	E	N	N	A	S	O	A	F
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T	O	S	S	R	E	G	A	L	S	T	A	Y

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Snow shuts schools, knocks out power

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — A winter storm blew through northern New England on Monday, dumping 2 feet of snow in spots, forcing hundreds of schools to cancel classes and leaving tens of thousands of homes and businesses without power. More than 127,000 utility customers in Maine remained without electricity Monday evening after wet, heavy snow snapped tree limbs, power lines and utility poles. The Maine Emergency Management Agency said about 15 warming shelters had been set up around the state. Bangor Hydro Electric urged residents who lacked power to prepare for the possibility that it might not be restored until Wednesday. Lows for early Tuesday were forecast in the single digits in northern Maine and about 20 degrees in the south, the National Weather Service said. Gov. John Baldacci declared a state of emergency extending the hours that power crews can work to restore electricity. Baldacci, who was in Washington attending a National Governors Association conference, decided to return to Maine on Monday afternoon. Central Maine Power and Bangor Hydro Electric were getting help from out-of-state utilities that sent line crews to help restore service. The companies said the work was complicated by deep and heavy snow, poor road conditions and the rural locations of many outages. Heavy snow fell across most of Maine through Monday morning, with 3 to 4 inches per hour. In Vermont, driving snow covered roads and forced the closure of northbound Interstate 89 between Waterbury and Richmond for two hours Monday.

Rockstar doesn't disappoint with new GTA IV episode

It's no surprise the open-world crime-fest "Grand Theft Auto IV" — one of last year's best and highest selling video games — has fallen victim to the trend of adding downloadable content to expand the experience.

And leave it to developer Rockstar to do this better than anyone else with "Grand Theft Auto IV: The Lost and Damned."

At \$20 (or 1600 Microsoft Points), "The Lost and Damned" has a fairly hefty price tag, but it is probably the meatiest piece of DLC for any game yet.

New music, new television shows, a new comedy act and new multi-player modes are included, but the main draw is most definitely the new story.

"The Lost and Damned" puts players in the shoes of Johnny Klebitz, the vice president of the Lost motorcycle gang. "GTA IV" players may recognize

Britton Peele



the name, because Johnny and his gang played a small role in the story of the main game's character, Niko Bellic.

While Niko was a foreigner struggling with his dark past while trying to make his way in the U.S., Johnny is a proud and true American who struggles with very different issues.

Although the Lost at first seems like a typical Hollywood biker gang, players quickly learn there's a lot of depth to its members.

The leader of the Lost, Billy, has just been released from prison, and he seems changed in ways that Johnny

isn't too comfortable with. Gone are the days when the Lost brotherhood (or as Billy would ridiculously say, "buh-RUH-THER-hood!") was a group of fun-loving rebels who stole bikes. It seems Billy would rather have his boys spilling blood and breaking bigger laws.

Although not nearly as intense or emotionally involved as Niko's tale in the main "GTA IV" experience, "The Lost and Damned" still provides an intriguing plot to keep players interested. This is helped greatly by absolutely superb voice acting.

The story also has players cross paths not only with Niko, but also with a few major characters that "GTA" players should recognize. This lets them see Liberty City from a very different set of eyes, providing a really interesting experience.

The story is meant to be played

almost entirely on the two wheels partake in. Throw in the new multi-player modes and the bike riding game play has been much improved, making the experience of driving a motorcycle mor hilarating than frustrating.

The main story took me only a about six hours to complete, but it was six hours well spent.

Besides that, there is still a lot to see, such as races and gang wars to

of at least two downloadable episodes for "GTA IV," and both this and the next one are slated to be exclusive to

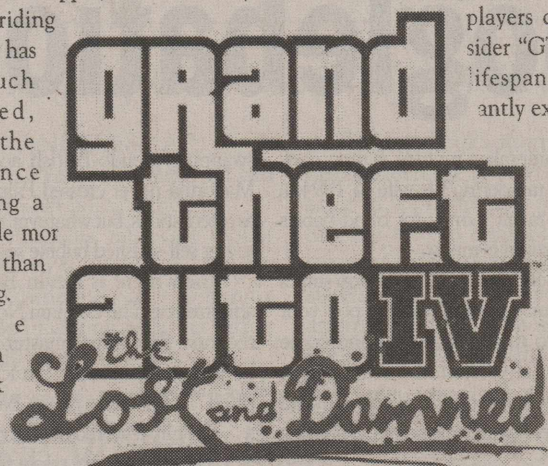
the Xbox 360 (sorry PS3 owners).

Although I was initially disappointed this first DLC pack would center on a biker gang rather than Niko — whom I had grown attached to — Rockstar delivered with yet another superb crime thriller in Liberty City.

I personally can't wait to see what Rockstar does with the next content pack.

If you were a fan of "GTA IV" and want more of the experience, there is absolutely no reason why you shouldn't play this expansion.

"The Lost and Damned" is available for download now on the Xbox Live Marketplace. It requires a copy of the original "GTA IV" to run.



COURTESY OF WWW.PLAYTHROUGH.NET

Simulation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Four senior nursing students are put into a makeshift hospital room with SimMan in the hospital bed. Two students act as nurses; one student takes notes on their performance while another student acts as a family member of the patient.

Two facilitators sit outside the room, watching the students' performance from a window and two video cameras.

The facilitators have insight to every action made by students and speak through a microphone as SimMan to allow students to react to the needs of the patient.

To make the experience as realistic as possible for students, Decker said the medications the students administer look just as they would if they were working at a hospital.

Students go through the motions of this scenario about 20 times before graduation, Decker said, so they essentially have treated almost two dozen patients before they leave school.

Immediately following their

COST OF CLINICAL SIMULATION

— SimNewB, a newborn mannequin to teach students how to handle babies, costs about \$35,000.

— Harvey, a cardiopulmonary assessment mannequin that mimics human breathing, costs about \$70,000.

— SimMan, a high-fidelity mannequin used to practice emergency treatment of patients, costs about \$70,000.

— A haptic device, which uses one component of a human body at a time to allow students to view the inside of a body as if they were in a professional health setting, costs about \$170,000.

SOURCE: TEXAS TECH HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

session Friday with SimMan, four students — Stephanie Loggins, Courtney Brewer, Samuel Gakui and Meredith Evans — reviewed their performance with the facilitators.

Nothing compares to working on real human patients, said Loggins, a senior nursing student from Sealy.

However, practicing skills on SimMan comes close to reality.

In fact, she said it has come close enough to reality that the student group has had SimMan die on the

table from not treating his ailments correctly.

With all the technology the HSC is using, Decker said the HSC clinical simulations facility is about mid-range compared to other universities.

However, when it comes to integrating the program into every level of education, Decker said it is at a higher level.

While the HSC may only be considered mid-range compared to other universities, she said the simu-

lation devices currently being used by the HSC are advanced compared to what she used as a student.

Medical and nursing students previously used oranges for simulation practice, Decker said. Tech students now have devices like Harvey and SimMan that can give them a much more realistic experience.

"It's always been a component," she said, referring to simulation, "but students can now learn and be confident of a skill before they meet patients."

Decker said it's exciting to get to share this technology with students and she can see the confidence students have from being able to practice their skills on the mannequins.

The HSC plans to continue to expand its clinical simulations program by building the F. Marie Hall SimLife Center, she said, which is expected to be complete in May 2010.

Decker said she hopes the new facility will allow students to practice professional scenarios as a team, which she said is the ultimate goal of clinical simulation.

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Moving nation from sick care toward wellness care

WASHINGTON (AP)—Popping a pill can cut your cholesterol. But did the doctor also prescribe cutting the stress that's eroding your immune system? Or teach you how to exercise without worsening painful joints?

Think 3 Ps: Good health care is preventive, predictive and personalized, a rarity today in a crisis-oriented care system far better at treating disease than keeping it at bay. To help change that, one of the nation's top medical groups starts a major push this week for what patients might call whole-body wellness care.

"Health is more than the absence of disease," says Dr. Ralph Snyderman, who heads a three-day meeting of the prestigious Institute of Medicine to get onto Congress' radar this health-promotion approach, what jargon-loving doctors call "integrative medicine."

What does that mean? Basically, it's going beyond standard disease-of-the-day care to involve a range of extra factors — physical, lifestyle habits, mind-body interaction — that play a role in preventing illness, and helping people stick with recommended changes long enough to see a benefit.

"Not enough attention is paid to wellness," says AARP chief Bill Novelli, who worries that's lost in the coming health care reform movement.

"The doctor says, 'Lose weight, exercise, see you in a year.' We know that doesn't work," adds Dr. Tracy Gaudet, an obstetrician/gynecologist who heads integrative medicine at Duke University Medical Center.

But how to pay for keeping people well is a barrier. Even though preventing disease is cheaper overall than treating it, it's not clear where the upfront investment would come from, a big part of the Institute's debate.

Demand for GED classes increases with job losses

ELKHART, Ind. (AP) — Donna Sharp made a good living even without a high school diploma, earning about \$19 an hour putting stripes on recreational vehicles in a northern Indiana county known as the RV capital of the world.

Then Monaco Coach Corp. announced in July that it was closing the Wakarusa plant where Sharp worked, as well as plants in Elkhart and Nappanee in September. Other RV companies were doing the same, contributing to an estimated 8,000 job cuts that have caused Elkhart County's unemployment rate to triple in a year to 15.3 percent.

In that bleak market, Sharp, 44, found that her lack of a diploma limited her prospects. So she scrapped her job search to sign up for classes to earn General Education Development credentials, joining a nationwide crush that is creating lengthy backlogs for people desperate to acquire tools to help them find work.

"We've never had waiting lists like this, ever," said Deborah Weaver, director of community education for Elkhart Community Schools.

David C. Harvey, president of ProLiteracy, a nonprofit literacy organization with 1,200 affiliates, said agencies that help people study for GEDs and other adult education classes are being deluged at a time when many are facing cuts in state funding and dwindling donations.

"This is quickly becoming a national crisis," he said. "Our programs have gotten hit with less resources, but in turn they have a huge increase in demand for services that they can't meet."

Weaver has seen that demand in Elkhart, where the school system in past years ran a monthly orientation to enroll people for GED classes. She stopped holding orientations in August because all available slots were filled and more than 100 people were on the waiting list, even though she had added three classes.

When the orientations resumed, 139 people showed up in late January for 100 spots, and Weaver said the phones ring daily with people hoping to sign up.

In New York City, the Fifth Avenue Committee, which runs a GED

class for 22 students, usually has a waiting list of about 50 people. It now has 178 waiting to get into class.

Chris Curran, the committee's director of adult education and literacy, said normally she would refer people to GED classes at other agencies, but those sites also are full.

"Everyone has a waiting list right now," she said. "We're starting to tell people we might not have any openings until September."

In California, where the 9.3 percent unemployment rate is a 15-year high, the number of people taking the GED has increased from 46,184 in 2005 to 59,416 in 2008. Nancy Goodrich, an education programs

consultant with the California Education Department, said the state saw a 14 percent increase in people taking the test last year alone.

"It's primarily for economic reasons," she said.

Weaver said those signing up for GED classes include the unemployed and those who fear they'll soon join them.

"A lot of folks are realizing their jobs may not stay there and they need their GED," she said.

Sharp had never expected to need one. She planned to work at Monaco until she retired.

"I loved what I was doing, and I was good at it," she said.

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Texas Tech University

Taking satisfaction from googlebation

By JESSICA FROMM
SPARTAN DAILY (SAN JOSE STATE U.)

I have a dirty little secret. I don't do it all the time, just when I'm bored or lonely. It's really not that bad for you, and it doesn't make you go blind or anything, but it can be done to excess.

That's right kids, I'm a habitual Googlebater.

What is Googlebating, you ask? Well, it's ego surfing Google by entering your own name in a narcissistic search for hits.

You've probably done it.

Just about anybody who has found themselves with a lot of free time, or a tendency for Internet-aided procrastination has tried it. Basically, Googlebating is a form of mental masturbation involving search engines.

It's also startlingly addictive. Though I haven't gotten to the point where I've set up a Google Alert on myself, I've discovered that Googlebating is a huge ego stroke.

There is a weird sort of self-obsessive satisfaction in looking yourself up, or at least actively finding other people on the Internet that share your name.

According to a recent Googlebation of mine, I'm a distinguished abstract oil painter in New York (too bad my work looks like something hanging in a hospital waiting room), a college freshman track and fielder in Pennsylvania and a Swedish snowboarder.

Though some people may try to play off excessive self-searching as a valid form of monitoring their Web presence, unless you recently just gave birth to eight babies, just admit that you're, in fact, Googlebating.

Even our noble professors here at SJSU are prone to this brand of Internet-fueled self-love.

Take journalism lecturer Michael Stoll, who has a list of namesakes on his Web site (www.michaelstoll.com, of course) which he presumably collected from a serious session of Googlebation.

Stoll's namesakes include a man convicted of murdering his wife in 1994, a guy who raises money for blind babies and a German gymnast.

Truth is, a wave of satisfaction surges across your vanity when you pop your name into that search field and come across hits of yourself. It can be a huge confidence booster to Googlebate, and it's even better if you come across something positive.

There are some dangers to Googlebating, though. As with almost anything that involves overpowering narcissism, lets turn to the residents of LaLa Land for cautionary tales.

Celebrity news has gotten pretty slow lately, with Britney back in her cage and Paris finally getting too old for her shenanigans (that is, discounting the whole Rihanna/Chris Brown tragedy).

On a side note, I think it's important to parallel that whole bag of crazy with, say, the Michael Phelps "scandal." Phelps was roasted over the media bonfire and publicly dropped from all his deals for — smoking a bong. Chris Brown has been quietly suspended from his endorsement deals for — beating the crap out of his girlfriend.

Anywho, this deceleration of TMZ-ready material has brought about the popularity of the "controversial celebrity quote" and Googlebating has been the frequent subject of these superficial squawks.

Every so often, some egocentric starlet mentions in an interview how they were "shocked and hurt" after Googling themselves, finding out that no, not everybody wants to suck their toes. Shocked by the fact that, yes, their shit does stink, they plead with bloggers to stop this cruelty.

Take for example everybody's favorite self-righteous bourgeoisie, Gwyneth Paltrow. She told OK! Magazine this month how "wounded" she was after Googlebating and unearthing the fact that people think she's pretentious. I'm sure that marrying the dude from Coldplay, naming her kids Apple and Moses and regularly

swapping pseudo-British accents with Madonna never crossed Paltrow's mind as ostentatious, but whatever, she'll return to her self-satisfied bubble soon enough.

Then there is Kevin Bacon, who admitted on The Graham Norton Show recently that after "master-Googling" himself, he accidentally ran across a video titled "A Tribute to Kevin Bacon."

The clip featured the Footloose actor as a stick figure being taken from behind by the video's creator, all to the tune of Bad Company's "Feel like 'Bacon' Love." Har har. Surprisingly, the Baconator was a good sport about it.

Still, the practice of Googlebating can be a useful tool, as demonstrated by the resourceful Lily Allen. Ever the delicate English rose, the singer got so wasted at last year's Glamour Awards that she blacked out and woke up in bed not knowing how she got home.

What was her first reaction? Did she pop a few aspirin and spend a moment re-evaluating her life and out of control behavior?

No, Allen hopped on her reliable laptop and Googled herself. It was only after turning up paparazzi photos of her unconscious self being carried out of the building by a bodyguard that she figured out what happened the night before.

This classy application of Googlebation also has the potential to be utilized by the everydayman, taking you live in a small town and have a penchant for petty crime.

Try Googlebating yourself and the name of your local newspaper. You may just bring to light how you woke up in the drunk tank last week with a new tattoo and a sore ass.

Though us mere mortals don't have to worry about uncovering such rampant criticism as the celebrity sphere when they Googlebate, be warned that self-searching can reveal some rather unpleasant skeletons in your closet.

Take that into mind the next time you type your name into a familiar search engine and obsess over the size of your Web presence.

Plants provide way to transport Earth's resources into space

By SCOTT CONOVER
OSU DAILY BAROMETER
(OREGON STATE U.)

Achieving the basics of producing breathable air, drinkable water and consumable food are imperative to space exploration. Although water and food are also very important, the fact is that space exploration is impossible without a sustained supply of breathable air. It is vitally important that the method chosen to produce or recycle air is not only feasible, but also sustainable in the long run. Because of this, many potential methods are currently being explored by NASA.

The first method involves the use of fuel cells. A NASA educational document explains this process:

"On the space shuttle, fuel cells combine hydrogen and oxygen to produce electricity. A fuel cell uses a chemical reaction to provide an external voltage, as does a battery, but differs from a battery in that the fuel is continually supplied in the form of hydrogen and oxygen gas. A by-product of this reaction ($2H_2 + O_2 \rightarrow 2H_2O + \text{electricity}$) is water, which can be used in a future oxygen generator system to produce oxygen for breathing. Fuel cells can produce electrical energy more safely and efficiently than just burning the hydrogen, to produce heat to drive a generator."

This process may yield results; a proposal listed on the NASA website detailed the creation of such a system: "NASA plans to produce cryogenic oxygen and hydrogen to power regenerative fuel cells for lunar surface exploration. The oxygen and hydrogen will be produced by electrolysis of water from In Situ Resource Utilization reactors. The electrolysis products will be warm high-pressure gases, requiring significant cryocooler

power to achieve the desired storage conditions."

The second method, which is listed in the same document as above, involves the recombination of hydrogen with used carbon dioxide in order to reclaim water. This is a very specific process, which the NASA document clarifies in minor detail:

"This process is called the Sabatier (sah-bah-tee-ay) Reaction. Methane, a natural gas, produced by the Sabatier Reaction is vented overboard into space. The Sabatier Reaction drives what is known as the CO₂ reduction assembly because carbon dioxide is reduced in the chemical process of reduction-oxidation. The Sabatier reaction will be a crucial requirement for future long-duration space flight."

The third involves the use of carbon dioxide removal system (CDRA)

garnier carbon dioxide for the Sabatier Reaction and for further processing; in many ways it is a complement to the second method listed above.

Perhaps the most effective and long-term methods for survival in space are also the most natural. Plants are consumers and recyclers of carbon dioxide on Earth; in space, they may be vital to long-term exploration. An article on the NASA website includes the possibility that the use of plants in space may allow for the settlement of space such that "... contact with

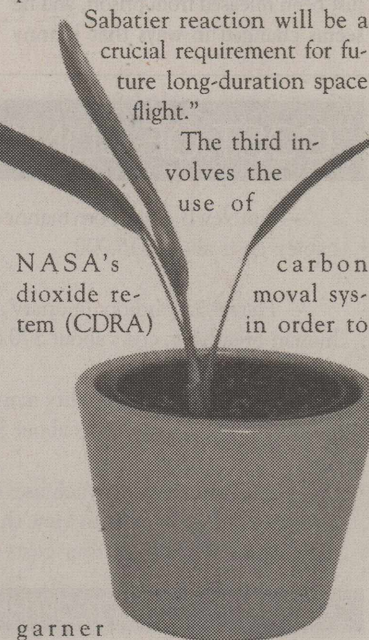
Earth is a luxury, not a necessity."

According to this article, entitled "Leafy Green Astronauts," plants would serve a vital function of recycling the air in space habitats, making it possible to survive and thrive in the dark of space. The article further details such plants should be relatively small, with mostly edible parts, thrive in relative twilight and be resistant to diseases and pests. Research is currently being conducted in this area at NASA, according to the article.

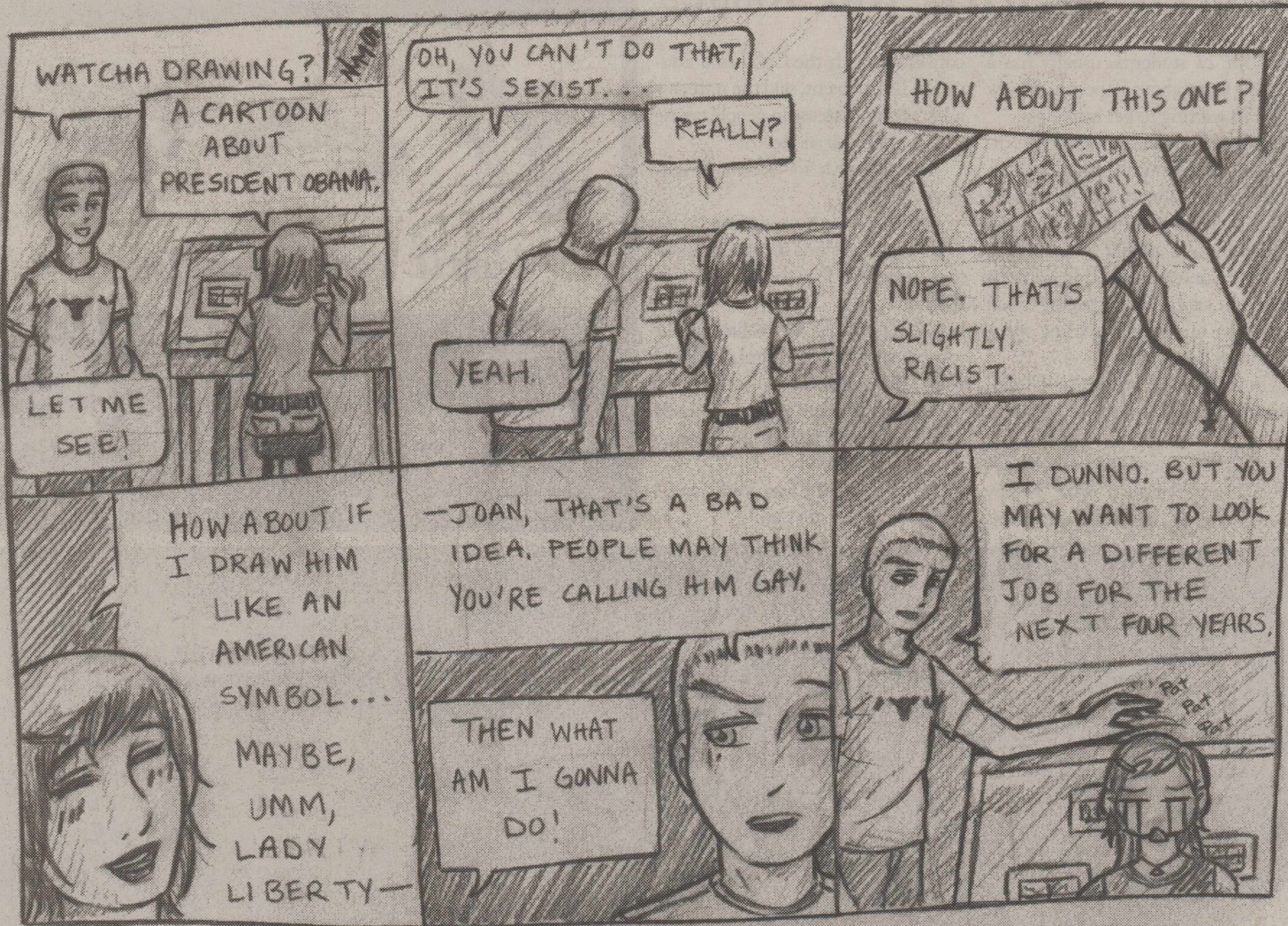
The fact is that while the first three methods are fascinating for insuring maximal efficiency in terms of air consumption and recycling, plants will be the most effective and long-lasting of any potential solution. Much like the difference between the Americans developing a million-dollar pen and the Russians using a pencil, plants represent a relatively cheap and effective method of jump-starting exploration in space.

Yet, it would be foolish to believe that one should waste consumable air in space. The fuel-cell method of generating water, combined with the Sabatier Reaction and CDRA, would serve as excellent ways to divert carbon dioxide to the plants and maximize oxygen and water production in any settled asteroid, installation or space vessel of any significance whatsoever.

In the end, it comes down to realizing that perhaps it is a matter of exporting Earth to space so that we do not have to look back. The first step is to produce the necessary consumables in order to survive and thrive in space. Without air, water and food, there is no way to explore space, much less settle it. If we lack the basic supplies for surviving and sustaining ourselves as if on Earth, we will surely perish in our efforts to colonize space. Our first step to grasping this opportunity involves the concept of recycling fuel cells, methane and of course, our friend the plant.



NASA's carbon dioxide removal system (CDRA) is used to remove carbon dioxide from the air in space habitats. The Sabatier Reaction and CDRA would serve as excellent ways to divert carbon dioxide to the plants and maximize oxygen and water production in any settled asteroid, installation or space vessel of any significance whatsoever.



Students wrong to think class attendance merits a B

STAFF EDITORIAL
ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE
(COLORADO STATE U.)

Last Wednesday, The New York Times reported that a University of California study showed that of students surveyed, a third said they expected to earn a B in their courses just for showing up and 40 percent said they deserved at least a B for completing all the reading.

In addition to this, two-thirds of surveyed students said that if they explained to a teacher that they were putting effort into the class, it should be considered during grading.

This, students, is just a little ridiculous.

Yes, there are certain areas in life where an A-for-effort approach is best — like in Little League — but college is not one of them.

Students should be graded

by the amount of knowledge and understanding of a subject that they gain in a course, not by how many times they come or how much they read.

Students need to start caring about their own educations and need to realize that if this grading system ever becomes a trend, we will have a society of uneducated patrons that try really hard at everything in life but never make progress.

If students are having a lot of trouble understanding assignments, they should go to their teacher seeking more options and resources to learn the subject, not seek a cop-out A-for-effort grade.

In addition, parents need to teach their kids at a young age how to use and find resources to learn, not how to whine when you don't get what you want in life.

Many American students have the resources available to educate themselves; they just need to start caring about their education, not just their grades.

WILL MICHAEL CRABTREE'S FOOT FRACTURE AFFECT HIS NFL DRAFT STATUS?

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CUTTING EDGE



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Treador

TIFFANY CARAGAN, A junior apparel design and manufacturing major from Andrews, cuts out a pattern in her Flat Pattern 1 lab Monday in the Human Sciences building.

Antarctica: polar meets political minds

TROLL RESEARCH STATION, Antarctica (AP) — Policymakers met polar explorers on the boundless ice of Antarctica Monday as a U.S.-Norwegian scientific expedition came in from the cold to report on the continent's ice sheets, a potential source for a catastrophic "big melt" from global warming.

"Our preliminary finding is that there's a slight warming trend in East Antarctica," American glaciologist Ted Scambos told the group of visiting environment ministers.

It was an early estimate regarding just one region of a huge continent, drawn from first analyses of ice cores drilled along the team's route. But it caught the ear of the visiting politicians, who are this year weighing a grand new global deal for cutting greenhouse-gas emissions to avert the worst of climate change.

"It's important to hear the latest science," said Hilary Benn, Britain's environment minister. "I was impressed that they're finding tempera-

tures rising. But there is still so much not known."

Representatives from more than a dozen nations, including the U.S., China and Russia, rendezvoused at this Norwegian research station with the scientists completing the last leg of a 1,400-mile (2,300-kilometer), two-month trek over the ice from the South Pole.

The 12-member Norwegian-American Scientific Traverse of East Antarctica was a leading project in the 2007-2009 International Polar Year (IPY). It is a mobilization of 10,000 scientists and 40,000 others from more than 60 countries engaged in intense Arctic and Antarctic research over the past two southern summer seasons — on the ice, at sea, via icebreaker, submarine and surveillance satellite.

Learning more about historic temperature trends has been a prime concern in examining whether global warming — already occurring elsewhere on the planet — might cause

Antarctica's huge store of ice to start melting, raising sea levels, potentially to a disastrous point for coastal cities and shorelines worldwide.

Speaking to the environment ministers over breakfast, Kim Holmen, research director for the Norwegian Polar Institute, the Troll station's operator, noted that scientists had generally thought Antarctica as a whole was not warming in recent decades. But a recent study in the journal Nature shook that view.

"This new analysis shows us actually the whole of Antarctica has been warming," Holmen said.

The preliminary finding from the on-the-ground Traverse expedition — if it is confirmed — would reinforce that Nature study, which extrapolated temperature trends by blending satellite information with scarce weather-station data available in and around Antarctica.

By drilling deep cores into the

BIZ WEEKLY

Schwarzenegger says drugs have no place in sports

WASHINGTON (AP) — California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is no stranger to athletic competition — or to steroids. And the former champion bodybuilder says there's no place for drugs in sports these days.

Schwarzenegger says top athletes are inspirations to young people and

to people trying to lose weight and stay fit.

The former action star says competition drives athletes to use drugs. His advice: "Come out, be clean and say, 'Look, I used that, I made a mistake.'"

In an appearance Sunday on CNN's "State of the Union," the

California Republican added that not using drugs or alcohol should always be a part of the message aimed at children in sports.

Schwarzenegger has said in the past that he used steroids in his bodybuilding days, long before they became illegal without a prescription.

Judge grants meeting between Falk and daughter

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A judge says Peter Falk's daughter can meet with her ailing father.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Aviva K. Bobb on Monday granted Catherine Falk a 30-minute supervised meeting with her father within 30 days.

Catherine Falk's attorney says she has not seen the former "Columbo" actor in approximately six months. She has filed to establish a conservatorship for her father, who she stated has Alzheimer's disease. Her attorney said Monday he does not know to what degree the illness has

progressed.

Bobb barred anyone from discussing the meeting publicly afterward. Attorneys for Falk's wife, Shera, declined to comment.

Catherine Falk gave the thumbs-up sign and said "Thank God" after hearing Bobb's ruling.

Stevie Wonder honored in DC, will perform new song

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stevie Wonder is in Washington to receive the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song from the Library of Congress.

He'll also perform a newly composed song for the first time Monday evening during a concert at the

library. The library commissioned the tune that will be performed with a full orchestra.

Later this week, President Barack Obama will award Wonder the Gershwin Prize in a White House ceremony.

Wonder is self-taught on piano,

and was just 12 when he first wowed national TV audiences on shows like Dick Clark's "American Bandstand."

Wonder is the second person to receive the Gershwin Prize. The first was Paul Simon in 2007.

Ticketmaster to change online sales system

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Ticketmaster agreed Monday to change its online sales process after it directed people seeking Bruce Springsteen tickets to a subsidiary that charged up to 50 times the face value.

Ticketmaster reached a settle-

ment with New Jersey, where the Springsteen concert in question had been scheduled, said state Attorney General Anne Milgram. The changes apply to all Ticketmaster sales nationwide, she said.

Ticketmaster said in a statement Monday that the problem

over the May 21 and May 23 concerts at East Rutherford's Izod Center was caused by a software glitch. The "voluntary agreement" with the attorney general just formalizes changes the company had already implemented, the company said.

Judge extends temp restraining order against Lutfi

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A restraining order against Britney Spears' former manager and an ex-boyfriend has been temporarily extended to give a Los Angeles judge more time to hear arguments in the case.

Judge Aviva K. Bobb extended a temporary restraining order against Sam Lutfi and paparazzo

Adnan Ghalib until Wednesday morning. The singer's father, Jamie Spears, will be allowed to testify this afternoon to accommodate his travel schedule.

Bobb cited a technicality and busy court calendar for delaying the hearing.

Jamie Spears and various attorneys are seeking a lengthy restrain-

ing order against Lutfi, Ghalib and attorney Jon Eardley. They claim the trio have tried to sabotage a court-ordered conservatorship that granted Jamie Spears control over his 27-year-old daughter's personal and financial affairs a year ago.

Lutfi, Ghalib and Britney Spears didn't appear in court.

How heart handles anger predicts irregular beat

WASHINGTON (AP) — How the heart handles anger seems to predict who's at risk for a life-threatening irregular heartbeat.

Negative emotions like hostility and depression have long been considered risks for developing heart disease, and deaths from cardiac arrest rise after disasters such as earthquakes.

But research released Monday goes a step farther, uncovering a telltale pattern in the EKGs of certain heart patients when they merely recall a maddening event — an anger spike that foretold bad news.

In already vulnerable people, "anger causes electrical changes in the heart," said Dr. Rachel Lampert, a Yale University cardiologist who

led the work. When that happens even in the doctor's office, "that means they're more likely to have arrhythmias when they go out in real life."

At issue is cardiac arrest, when the heart's electrical system goes haywire and heartbeat abruptly stops. Survival requires a fast electrical shock from a device called a defibrillator.

A feel-good Oscar ceremony caters to economic recession

(AP) — Maybe it was the adorable smile on that "Slumdog Millionaire" kid in his pint-sized tuxedo.

Or best director winner Danny Boyle bouncing in silly tribute to Tigger of "Winnie the Pooh."

The grinning, top-hatted dad of best actress winner Kate Winslet, whistling like a champion to get his daughter's attention.

Or an entire crowd standing together in remembrance of Heath Ledger.

This year's Oscar telecast was striking for its many feel-good themes and moments — and perhaps exactly what we needed from a recession-era awards show.

Certainly, it was a notable contrast to last year, when darkness and cynicism ruled the nominated films, capped by best picture winner "No Country for Old Men," about a homicidal sociopath. The collective subject matter was so bleak that host Jon Stewart was inspired to say of "Juno," the one comedy: "Thank goodness for teen pregnancy!"

This year's host, Hugh Jackman, had no such trouble. He presided over a show filled with Cinderella themes both fictional and real-life. And none was more poignant than that of the night's big winner, "Slumdog Millionaire," with its story of love triumphing over desperate poverty, criminality and pure evil.

Lost on no one at Hollywood's Kodak Theatre, of course, was the Cinderella-like story of the movie itself, which nearly became a victim of the tanking economy and was headed for a direct-to-DVD release before News Corp.'s Fox Searchlight stepped in to distribute it.

And there were the many per-

sonal stories of those involved in the film. As the cast stood onstage after winning the best picture award, the cameras focused briefly on a beatifically smiling Azharuddin Mohammed Ismail, 10, one of the children who'd been whisked to the Oscars from a desperately poor neighborhood on the outskirts of Mumbai, where he lives in a lean-to made of plastic tarpaulins and blankets. One can only imagine how the moment must have felt for his friends and family back home.

It fell to Simon Beaufoy, who won for the film's adapted screenplay, to make the link between our troubled times and the film's appeal.

"It's come out at a time when the value of money, which has been raised to this extraordinary height, is suddenly being shown to be a kind of very shallow thing," Beaufoy said. "The financial markets are crashing around the world, and a film comes out which is ostensibly about being a millionaire. Actually ... it's a film that says there's more important things than money: love, faith and family."

It was a different family — that of the late Heath Ledger — that brought tears to many eyes in the most emotional moment of the ceremony, no less affecting because it was expected: Ledger's posthumous Oscar for his diabolical Joker in "The Dark Knight."

The entire theater rose along with Ledger's relatives to pay tribute to this deeply talented actor who died last year at age 28, of an accidental prescription drug overdose. They heard his father express how much Ledger would have wanted to be there.

"This award tonight would have humbly validated Heath's quiet de-

termination to be truly accepted by all you here tonight, his peers within an industry he so loved," said Kim Ledger, Heath Ledger's father.

The moment was lacking only one thing: A look back at Ledger's stunning work as the Joker. The new

format for the acting awards, with five former winners paying tribute to nominees in short speeches, may have added some touching moments — Shirley MacLaine telling Anne Hathaway that she had a great future was one of them — but it took away

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Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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SPORTS

PAGE 6
TUESDAY, FEB. 24, 2009

Track enters crucial week with Big 12 Championships looming

By ADAM WADSWORTH
STAFF WRITER

The end of February is rapidly approaching, which means the indoor track and field season is getting serious.

The Texas Tech track team travels to College Station again this weekend, but this time the Big 12 Conference championship is on the line.

The Red Raiders look to improve upon their stellar performance at the Texas A&M Invitational two weeks ago.

Led by a record-setting performance by sophomore Gil Roberts, the No. 10 men's team finished the meet second to No. 4 A&M.

The women's team also did well, placing seventh in a field that included No. 1 A&M and No. 7 Texas.

The Red Raiders, along with other Texas teams that attended the A&M Invitational, may have a slight advantage this weekend considering they already competed in the same scenario the conference championships will present.

Tech junior hurdler Omoghan Osaghae has spent the past few weeks

recovering from an injury, but at the A&M Invitational, he set a personal record and ran the third-fastest time in the country in the 60-meter hurdles at 7.77 seconds.

Osaghae said the team, for the most part, is relatively relaxed considering the importance of the meet and it needs this final week of practice to solidify its expectations.

"We're expecting to do good, but like right now I guess we're not projected to score too many points," he said, "but, like everything we need is already there so we're expecting pretty good things out of everybody."

Osaghae said his main concern for the rest of the week is making sure the team's younger players have their heads on straight going into the competition so that they can perform at the level he knows they can.

Senior thrower Patience Knight said her younger teammates are slightly anxious going into their first Big 12 Championship, but most of the veterans have experienced the atmosphere before and are doing their best to keep the team relaxed and ready to go.

"Well, God-willing, I'm going to go for a Big-12 championship, and I think our female team especially is going pretty strongly," Knight said. "We have a lot of people who can score points there and do well."

She said she will spend the rest of the week trying to fix some technical problems, but she should be ready when the weekend comes.

The Lady Raiders jumped two spots to No. 12 in the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association rankings this week after their performance at A&M.

The men fell one place to No. 10, despite Roberts' world-leading time of 46.17 in the 400-meter dash.

The Big 12 competition will run all-day Friday and Saturday Feb. 27 and 28 at A&M's Gilliam Indoor Track Stadium.

Those who qualify this weekend or have already qualified for nationals will return to College Station March 13 and 14 for the NCAA Championships.

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Knight suspended 1 game after criticizing officials

By ALEX YBARRA
MANAGING EDITOR

View a related video at
www.dailytoreador.com

With fouls being called incessantly during Texas Tech's loss to Texas A&M on Saturday, Tech coach Pat Knight asked his coaching staff if he needed to get thrown out of the game to show his disdain for the officiating.

Since he already went down that road against Nebraska Jan. 31 when he ran onto the court twice and was ejected, eventually receiving a public reprimand from the Big 12 Conference — the coaching staff thought better of it.

Instead, Knight proved his point by lashing out at the officials during the press conference despite knowing a fine or suspension would be headed his way, he said.

Knight was right. The Big 12 Conference responded Monday by suspending the first-year head coach for one game, meaning he will not coach Wednesday's game against Texas in Austin. Instead, assistant coach Stew Robinson will be doing most of the coaching, Knight said, with help from associate head coach Chris Beard.

"I told my staff after the press conference I'd probably be suspended for a game because we have a protocol that you aren't allowed to say anything about the referees," he said during Monday's Big 12 teleconference. "I broke that protocol during the press conference."

"Sometimes you gotta lay on a grenade to get your point across." Big 12 Commissioner Dan Beebe said Knight's comments were a violation of the Big 12's Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct Rules. In addition, the reprimand after Knight's tirade against Nebraska served as a warning, so Beebe saw Saturday's act as a punishable one.

"I am disappointed that coach

Knight committed this violation soon after a Jan. 31 incident during the Texas Tech game against Nebraska for which he was publicly reprimanded," Beebe said in a statement released by the Big 12. "I was extremely lenient in that case and chose not to suspend coach Knight. The nature and extent of his comments after the Texas A&M game, and his callous attitude in light of his commitment to me to abide by the rules require a serious penalty."

Knight received a technical Saturday for arguing with the referees about a foul called on guard John Roberson at the 4:48 mark in the second half.

Roberson fell to the ground after going for a defensive rebound against 6-foot-10 forward Bryan Davis. After Roberson was called for the foul, Knight stepped out to midcourt to argue with the officials. He even scooped up the basketball and held it behind his back away from the officials for a little while.

With four of his players fouling out and A&M shooting 51 foul shots compared to Tech's 22, Knight let loose in the press conference on several occasions.

"I don't care right now what the Big 12 thinks," he said Saturday. "They tell us we gotta send tapes in and that obviously doesn't work. Call so-and-so, talk to them, it's just tough. I don't care about me, my kids bust their butt. They have enough of

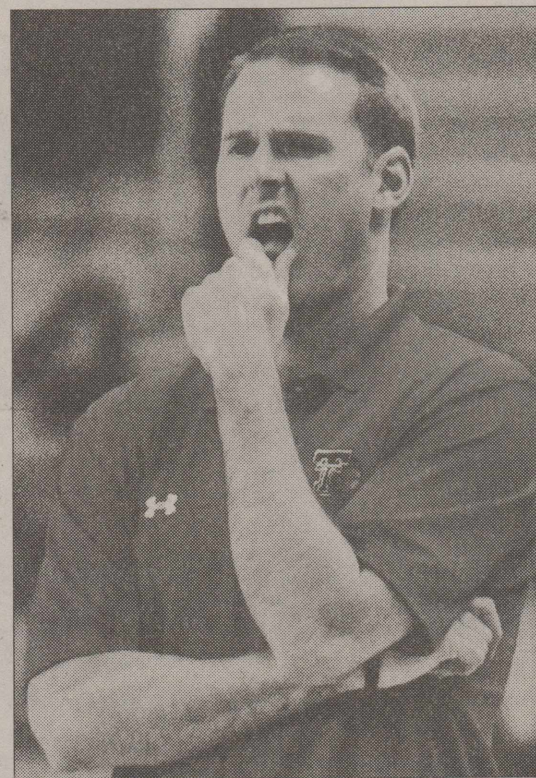


PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH COACH Pat Knight is suspended for the Red Raiders' game against Texas at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday in Austin

a time playing against A&M let alone having somebody else they have to play against."

Now Tech will travel to Austin and play against the Longhorns and referees without its coach.

Tech forward Robert Lewandowski said Knight's motivational techniques will be missed, but he still has confidence in a group of assistant coaches that preach the same philosophy.

"Adjusting to that won't be a huge deal because we all know what he wants for us and we all want the same thing and that's winning," he said. "It'll be the same message from a different voice. It should be all right."

"No one wants to be in a game without their head coach, but at the same time I guess it'll just be an experience, and it'll just be one more challenge that we have to face."

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Pittsburgh back on top of AP basketball poll

Pittsburgh jumped from fourth to No. 1 in The Associated Press' college basketball poll following a week in which the top three teams all lost.

The Panthers (25-2) made history on Jan. 5 when they became No. 1 for the first time ever. Almost two months later they're back on top after making Connecticut one of those highly ranked losers.

"It's been talked about so much and with its TV ratings the game has reached that level great games do," Pittsburgh coach Jamie Dixon said of last Monday's 76-68 victory over the Huskies, who were No. 1 for three weeks. "I thought we competed and executed pretty well and didn't shoot great, but they focused on execution

and commitment and that was definitely there."

That win, and Saturday's 80-61 victory over DePaul, allowed the Panthers to take advantage of the losses by Connecticut, Oklahoma and North Carolina to make the biggest jump to No. 1 since UCLA went from fifth to No. 1 on Nov. 28, 2006.

It was the first time the top three teams lost in the same week since November 2003, when the top four teams — Connecticut, Duke, Michigan State and Arizona — all were defeated.

The Panthers received 69 first-place votes from the 72-member national media panel and were followed in order by last week's top three

— Connecticut (25-2), which had one first-place vote, Oklahoma (25-2), which was No. 1 on two ballots, and North Carolina (24-3).

When the Panthers moved to No. 1, a perch it held for two weeks, Dixon said it was a big deal for the school, its fans and the city. This time, it's a little different.

"I think later in the year it reflects more of a long-term accomplishment, more on what you have done almost the entire season because there's not too many more polls left," Dixon said. "It still all comes down to doing it on the floor and everything is settled there. I'd rather be No. 1 than someone else."

Another switch for Texas 3B Michael Young?

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Michael Young is moving all over the place this spring.

He not only played his new position during the Texas Rangers' first intrasquad game Monday, the All-Star shortstop-turned-third baseman also had a new spot in the batting order.

Young batted cleanup, behind slugger Josh Hamilton, in a lineup that consisted of the likely opening-day

starters. A career .300 hitter, Young has been primarily a No. 2 or No. 3 batter the past six years and has never hit fourth in his eight-plus major league seasons.

So is this another switch for Young?

"I don't care where I hit. I just want to hit," Young said. "They haven't said anything to me about (batting fourth). I don't think it's something that is

going to happen over the course of the year until they decide to tell me something."

Rangers manager Ron Washington, who didn't make out the batting order for either side Monday, cautioned about trying to read too much into Young hitting fourth. Washington said new third base coach Dave Anderson made the lineup for the likely starters.

"I don't plan on doing that, but we'll see," Washington said. "That's the way (Anderson) made it. It's not like Michael is going to shy away from swinging the bat if he hits fourth."

With the departure of Milton Bradley in free agency after leading the AL in on-base percentage, Washington is looking to give Hamilton some protection in the batting order. Other potential cleanup hitters are right fielder Nelson Cruz, who hit a grand slam Monday, designated hitter Hank Blalock and outfielder Andrew Jones, in camp as a non-roster invitee.

Washington said he would discuss it with Young before making any plans to use him regularly in the cleanup spot.

Tiger's opponent sees a big opportunity

MARANA, Ariz. (AP) — Tiger Woods announced his return to golf, and phones began ringing from Arizona to Australia.

The Accenture Match Play Championship usually attracts journalists from various parts of the world, and 473 media had requested credentials to come to high desert of Tucson. Then came Woods' statement that "I'm now ready to play again," and 105 more requests poured in. Three television satellite trucks were expected. Now the number is 11.

And in Australia? Brendan Jones, the last man to qualify for the 64-man field, was

home with his family when he heard the news. Jones is no math major, but he knew the No. 64 seed plays the No. 1 seed in the opening round, and he knew who was No. 1.

"I got a few chills up the back of my neck," Jones said.

The trick will be getting them to go away when he meets Woods on the first tee of The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club at Dove Mountain on Wednesday.

Jones has played in five majors and three World Golf Championships. He spent two years on the PGA Tour without much success, but has won eight times on the Japan Golf Tour.

He was quite the celebrity on Monday.

He was stopped twice for pictures with fans as he walked off the 18th green. When he stepped into the media center, he found 30 reporters staring at him, along with eight television cameras at the back of the room.

Jones is curious, like everyone else, about how Woods will perform in his first tournament since winning the U.S. Open on one good leg. Wood had season-ending surgery a week later to reconstruct the ligaments in his left knee.

Jones is being realistic about his opening match.

Cooper lightens the mood in Houston Astros' camp

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — The day before his team gets serious with an intrasquad game, Houston Astros manager Cecil Cooper kept serious work to a minimum.

Roy Oswalt threw live batting practice as he continues to prepare for the World Baseball Classic. But everything else was low key Monday.

Pitchers and position players

took part in the team's bunting championship, and Carlos Lee celebrated the partial day off by playfully running the bases and simulating a triple with a slide that was anything but graceful.

The day summed up a camp that has been relatively quiet.

"It's been a good camp," Cooper said. "The guys are getting their work in, and that's the most important thing."

Aside Toby Hall's torn labrum, which will cost him a shot at

competing for one of the two catching spots, injuries haven't been a problem. Hall opted to have surgery on the shoulder Sunday and will be out up to four months.

The only thing really pestering the players has been a stomach bug that laid up pitcher Brandon Backe, who's competing for a spot in the starting rotation, and shortstop Edwin Maysonet, who is trying to win a backup infielder spot. Both returned to practice on Monday.

Outfielder Darrin Erstad had a precautionary examination after a ball hit him in the eye during outfield drills Sunday, but he's also OK, Cooper said.

"He was going to participate (Monday), but we just held him out," Cooper said.

Brian Moehler and Wandy Rodriguez are scheduled to be the starting pitchers in the intrasquad game.

"I think the guys want the games to start, because after four, five, six days of the same routine every day, you want to kind of get into the games," Cooper said.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2009							
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7 AM	Curious	Today Sched-uled: fan pro-ducer's secrets	The Early Show	Copeland Robson	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	(6:30) Good Day Lubbock
8 AM	Super Why	Jose Andres; re-cess	The 700 Club	Divorce	Payne	Regis & Kelly	Martha Stewart
9 AM	Sesame Street	slim-proof beauty (HD)	Price Is Right (HD)	Cristina	Cosby	The View (HD)	The Morning Show
10 AM	Dragon Word	Jeopardy	Restless (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Tyra Banks Show
11 AM	Martha	Jeopardy	Restless (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Tyra Banks Show
12 PM	Barney	Trivial	Restless (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Tyra Banks Show
12:30 PM	Sewing News	News	The People's Court	Roseanne	All My Children	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
1 PM	Dawberry	Days of Our Lives	Beautiful	Roseanne	Roseanne	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
1:30 PM	Fitness	As the World	As the World	Paid Prog.	Fam Court	One Life to Live	The People's Court
2 PM	Place	The Doctors	Guiding Light	Maury	Judge Jeanine	General Hospital	Judge Mathis
3 PM	Beth Lion	Reading	Inside	Maury	Judge Jeanine	General Hospital	Judge Mathis
4 PM	Arthur	Oprah Winfrey	Brown	Extra	J. Fox	No Deal	Ellen De-Generese
5 PM	WordGirl	Dr. Phil	Brown	Access	Wayans	No Deal	Ellen De-Generese
6 PM	FETCH	Judy	Judy	Maury	Standing	Standing	Rachael Ray
7 PM	Cyber	News	News	Fam. Feud	Queens	News	Lopez
8 PM	Maya	News	News	Fam. Feud	Queens	News	Simpsons
9 PM	Bus. Ppt	News	News	Law Order (HD)	70s	News	Lopez
10 PM	NewsHour (HD)	Wheel	Million.	Wheel	70s	ET	Two & 1/2
11 PM	NOVA Star At-tack	Biggest Loser	NCIS	St. Patrol	90210	Homeland Security	Bonee (HD)
12 AM	Frontline	Pres. Address to Congress	Pres. Address to Congress	Whacked	Whacked	Pres. Address to Congress	Pres. Address to Congress
12:30 AM	Shared History	TBA	Two & 1/2	Family	Sex City	Primetime	News
1 PM	Bus. Ppt	News	News	King	Sex City	News	News
2 PM	World	The Tonight Show	(10:35) Late Show	TMZ	Married	Nightline	Two & 1/2
3 PM	Charlie Rose	(11:37) Late Show	Late Late Show	Wife	Bernie	Raymond	Scrubs
4 PM	Destiny	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Insider	Paid Prog.

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Tech, New Mexico start season's first mid-week series

By **MIKE GRAHAM**
STAFF WRITER

New Mexico coach Ray Birmingham promises to put teeth into his baseball program that has not made the NCAA Tournament since the 1960s.

The Lobos (3-1) are looking to bite Texas Tech (4-0) and continue a three-game win streak in their two-game mid-week series which begins today at 4 p.m. and ends Wednesday with a 2 p.m. game at Dan Law Field.

Birmingham said playing Tech is important for recruiting purposes in the West Texas, Panhandle and South Plains regions.

"I'm from Hobbs," Birmingham said. "It's only 110 miles from Lubbock, and Lubbock and Texas Tech has a lot of influence there and everywhere in the region. I recruit West Texas and we can use our record for comparing the two programs. Last year we went 2-2 with Tech which is, I think, the first time in a long time Tech hasn't won the series."

Nathan Karns and Will Kerr are Tuesday's probable starting pitchers for Tech and New Mexico, respectively. Tech's Robbie Kilcrease (0-0, 5.40 ERA) and New Mexico's Jason Oatman (0-0, 11.25 ERA) are scheduled to start Wednesday's game.

The Lobos finished second in the Mountain West Conference with a 34-25 record last season.

Tech coach Dan Spencer describes UNM as a team with a strong, veteran-led offense.

"I'd compare them to Southern Utah," Spencer said. "They struggled in some other areas, but they can hit. Their lineup was solid. I think New Mexico's lineup will be solid, and I think they'll defend too."

Offensively, the Lobos bring back five players who batted above .320. All-MWC selections Kevin Atkinson and Dane Hamilton have started this season on a tear in their four-game series with Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.

Atkinson, who is batting .500, has eight hits in 16 appearances and Hamilton follows close behind with a .462. Both players have two triples on the season, combining for seven multiple base hits and 11 RBI through four games.

UNM beat Texas A&M-Corpus Christi in a four-game weekend series three games to one. After a nine-run inning was allowed by Oatman in game one of the series, which UNM lost 13-3, the Lobo bats came alive for 4-1, 22-1 and 14-4 wins, respectively.

Mike Brownstein leads returning lettermen in consistent hitting with

a .350 average from last season. His offensive efforts earned him preseason All-MWC honors.

Pitchingwise for UNM, all starters, excluding Oatman, are throwing below a 2.00 ERA and have combined for 19 strikeouts while giving up just five runs and eight walks through 20 innings.

Tech lost two starters in Saturday's win against Southern Utah (2-2). Preseason All-Big 12 Conference selection Willie Rueda is out with a hamstring injury and catcher Jeremy Mayo left the game with a dislocated thumb. Neither is expected to play against UNM.

To make up for the loss, shortstop Joey Kenworthy moved to second and third baseman Justin Berry shifted to shortstop. Kellen Monreal was subbed into the game at third base to complete the infield. The make-shift positioning remained the same in a 10-4 victory over Texas-Pan American (0-4) Sunday.

Kevin Whitehead, a freshman who had been splitting time behind the plate with Mayo before the injury, took over for the sophomore catcher.

Birmingham said his squad will not be able to take advantage of the injuries Tech has sustained.

"They've got other good guys," he said. "They've got their number



PHOTO BY SAM GRENIER/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH'S BEN FLORA and the Red Raiders hope to continue winning against New Mexico at 4 p.m. today at Dan Law Field.

one guy out there and some other players that are outstanding. I want those kinds of kids. I'm recruiting the Panhandle for them."

Kenworthy said UNM will be excited to face a Big 12 team.

"They're going to come in firing at us and want to beat us," he said. "We

can't let that happen. We're going to have to come out and beat them each day."

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Men's golf cracks Top 10 at No. 9

After nine seasons as head coach, Greg Sands and the Texas Tech men's golf team finally have cracked the Top 10.

According to this week's Golfweek rankings, the Red Raiders are No. 9 in the country and second in the Big 12 Conference to No. 3 Oklahoma State.

Tech has come close to breaking into the Top 10 before, but has never quite made it there under Sands.

Sands said the coaching staff has not done anything significantly different this year in order to improve the team's ranking, but the work ethic his players are exerting has made the difference.

"There's only so much that we as coaches can do," he said. "We have a limited number of practice hours — we can only practice 20 hours a week — so these guys are just hungry and have worked really

hard." He said the team isn't planning on changing anything significant in the next few weeks, and will try to keep up with the pace it set last week.

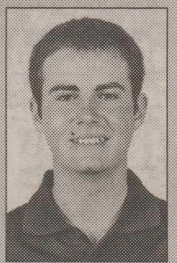
Garrett Merrell, the team's leader and No. 22 golfer in the nation, is averaging 71.2 strokes per round and has shot under-par in seven of the 15 tournaments he has played in this year.

Junior Chris Ward looks to maintain the momentum from his 11-under first place score last week in the UTSA Invitational.

Sophomore Nils Floren only has competed in two intercollegiate tournaments but has made the most of his opportunities, shooting



MERRELL



WARD

in the 60's in two of his six rounds.

Players were unavailable for comment as of press time.

Sands said while the ranking is great and the team deserves it, he is not too concerned with whatever number the team sits at on a given week.

"Honestly, we're not trying to be ranked high," he said. "We're just trying to get better each week."

The Red Raiders have the week off before traveling to the South Florida Invitational on March 6-8 in Tampa, Fla.

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Woods chases new title: Comeback player of year

(AP) — Tiger Woods returns to golf this week to begin making his case for the one award he never dreamed he'd contend for: PGA Tour comeback player of the year.

Great. As if Woods wasn't intimidating before, the man who had everything — 14 majors, a Swedish bikini-model wife, a daughter, 155-foot yacht, two homes and a palace under construction on Jupiter Island — now has plenty of other things to play for.

Since limping off the 91st and final hole after winning the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines last June, Woods has gained a son, lost a sponsor, undergone reconstructive surgery on a chronically aching left knee and been reminded nearly every day how much the game is suffering without him.

"One of the great things coming back," he said last week, announcing the Accenture Match Play Championship in Tucson would mark his 2009 debut, "is my bones aren't moving anymore.

"It's a very comforting feeling hit-

ting a golf ball without your bones sliding all over the place," Woods added. "That's been very exciting to play that way, and I'm looking forward to the season."

He is not the only one. Woods has been called golf's one-man, economic-stimulus package, but how much he pockets, let alone the windfall he brings everybody else, was never much of a motivation. The only standard Woods measures himself against is himself, and the eight months off has made it easy to forget just how good he was.

Playing on one good leg essentially since he ruptured the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee jogging at home after the 2007 British Open, Woods was on his longest ever sustained run of excellence. From that day in August through the U.S. Open, he won nine times in 12 official tournaments around the world and finished no worse than fifth in the other three.

The four years he invested with instructor Hank Haney were just beginning to pay the huge dividends they both envi-

sioned. Woods' understanding of his own golf swing, always a strength, had reached the point where he was confident enough to make adjustments in the middle of a round, even between shots if he desired. He'd already dialed up his short game, throttled back his swing to take pressure off the knee and still was hitting the ball more consistently than ever.

Woods still has all that, plus a full range of motion again and a new driver to boot.

"Expectations with him are off the chart," Haney said. "You would think that people would cut him a little slack for a couple of weeks. But I'm sure it will start right in."

The story of young Tiger taping a list of Jack Nicklaus' accomplishments to his bedroom wall, and then beating him to every one, is well known. In that sense, Woods is a victim of his own success. He wouldn't have it any other way. So much so that Woods did little to dampen speculation that he will pick up right where he left off.

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Lady Raiders' tournament hopes still alive with win at Okla. State

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Some teams may be a little bit more dangerous when their backs are against the wall.

The Lady Raiders believe they fit this description after the 74-70 win at Oklahoma State Saturday.

With four games left in Big 12 Conference play, the win in Stillwater, Okla., gave Texas Tech five conference wins.

Tech coach Kristy Curry and her players believe the magic number is seven as far as a tourney berth is concerned.

Considering the win came on the road and against the Big 12's top scorer in Andrea Riley, it may be a victory the NCAA selection committee may have to consider.

"At this point, it's the biggest win of the year," Curry said. "But as we go along — No. 6, No. 7, No. 8, No. 9 — they all become bigger. Our backs are against the wall. We have got to make the most of every opportunity. We were able to do that this weekend."

If the season ended today, the Lady Raiders would be the 7-seed in the Big 12 Tournament.

After the game against Tech in Lubbock, OSU coach Kurt Budke said even a team with a 6-10 record has a shot at a tourney berth considering how difficult it is to compete in the Big 12.

Seven wins could put a Big 12 team in the NCAA Tournament because Texas fell into this category last season. However the Longhorns' seven Big 12 wins were coupled with two wins in the conference tournament.

Tech center Dominic Seals said she believes that is the key to post-season play for the Lady Raiders.

"We needed to get that fifth win," she said. "We need to get two more wins. At the Big 12 Tournament, we get another win or two more wins. That was a huge game. Glad we came out on top."



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH FORWARD Dominic Seals and the Lady Raiders remain in contention for an NCAA Tournament bid after a win at Oklahoma State Saturday.

It seemed everything was rolling for the Lady Raiders against Oklahoma State, as Seals grabbed her 10th double-double of the season, scoring 22 points and 13 rebounds.

Along with that performance, forward Jordan Murphree scored 20 points and Kierra Mallard had 11 rebounds, helping her earn Big 12 Freshman of the Week honors.

But Tech players have insisted every game in the Big 12 is a challenge and that may be true when their final four opponents are factored in.

Tech faces No. 6 Baylor at 8 p.m. Wednesday in Waco. After that, it's No. 25 Iowa State at home, a trip to No. 2 Oklahoma on March 4, and the season finale against Missouri on March 7.

Whereas Iowa State has been in

and out of the rankings and Missouri sits 10th in the conference standings, Baylor and Oklahoma have been battling atop the Big 12 and have been among the Top 10 all season long.

Seals said the Oklahoma State game was not the first time Tech realized the urgency needed as the season winds down. She said she saw the same energy in the Lady Raiders' 80-72 loss to OU.

Although Oklahoma State is not a win against a ranked team, Mallard said it was a major victory considering what her team has to go through to get to where it wants to be.

"It's real big because our backs are against the wall, so we pulled out (a win)," she said. "Now, we got motivation."

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Mallard earns Big 12's respect again

Texas Tech forward Kierra Mallard was surprised after she heard the news that she was named Big 12 Conference Freshman of the Week Monday.

But believing she hadn't played that well, Mallard pointed out there always is more work to be done.

"I'm excited about it," she said. "Just gotta keep on going and working hard for my team."

This is the second time Mallard has received the honor, as she earned it on Jan. 5. In Tech's games against No. 2 Oklahoma and Oklahoma State, she averaged six points

and 8.5 rebounds. In the Lady Raiders' 80-72 loss to OU, she scored five points with six rebounds. In the 74-70 win against OSU, she had seven points with 11 rebounds — the seventh time this year she has had at least 10 boards.

So far this season, Mallard's 8.2 rebounds a game are a team-best, while her 29 blocks is second.

She is third in the conference in rebounding against Big 12 opponents with 9.2 a game. Baylor's Danielle Wilson and OU's Courtney Paris are the two ahead of her.

"I think she's probably one of the best freshmen in the coun-

try," Tech coach Kristy Curry said. "When you look at what she's doing for her team. One of the reasons why we're a much improved basketball team is because of her presence inside. I think the biggest thing is her being consistent."

Whereas Mallard was humble about the honor, Tech center Dominic Seals said the forward deserves an even bigger honor.

"She's Big 12 Freshman of the Year to me," she said. "It's important to watch the people in front of you and learn, and I think she did that and I think she's taking it well and taking it to another step."

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UConn No. 1, Tennessee falling

Tennessee keeps tumbling in the AP women's college basketball poll, while unbeaten Connecticut keeps racking up victories.

UConn made it 13 consecutive weeks as the unanimous No. 1 team following a rout of Providence and Sunday's 10-point victory over Notre Dame. The 76-66 win over the Irish was the smallest margin of victory for the Huskies (27-0) this season.

Tennessee dropped five spots to No. 18 for its lowest Top 25 ranking since Feb. 24, 1985. The Lady Vols lost to Duke and Kentucky before beating Mississippi State on

Sunday to avoid their first three-game losing streak since 1986.

"I'm just glad we're in the top 20," Tennessee coach Pat Summitt said. "There was a time I thought, 'Well, if we get out of the top 20, maybe we'll play a little better.'"

Oklahoma was an unanimous No. 2 for the third straight week. Stanford and California each moved up a spot to third and fourth, while Maryland improved four places to No. 5 after beating then-No. 7 Duke 77-59 on Sunday for their seventh straight win.

"I just love how this team is playing. We are just clicking," Maryland

coach Brenda Frese said.

Baylor dropped to sixth after losing to Oklahoma. A week after reaching its highest ranking in 16 years, Auburn fell four spots to No. 7. The Tigers lost to Vanderbilt early in the week before holding off Georgia on Sunday. The victory helped Auburn clinch at least a share of the SEC title for the first time in 20 years.

Louisville, North Carolina, and Duke rounded out the first 10.

Florida State remained 11th while Texas A&M moved up two places to 12th. Xavier climbed four places to 13th and Ohio State made the biggest leap — six spots to 14th.

Drug tests in '03 don't taint all players

JUPITER, Fla. (AP) — Baseball union head Donald Fehr began his annual tour of spring training camps Monday with steroids back in the spotlight.

"Everybody understands that there were things which happened in the early part of the decade which we wish hadn't, that that's not the case anymore," Fehr said after meeting with Florida Marlins players.

"We fixed the problem and we need to look forward, as Bud has said many times," he said.

Fehr said he didn't think commissioner Bud Selig will take disciplinary action against Alex Rodriguez, who admitted Feb. 9 that he used a banned substance from 2001 to 2003. Rodriguez confessed two days after Sports Illustrated reported he was on a list of 104 players who tested positive in the 2003 survey. Selig said Rodriguez shamed the sport.

Testing in 2003 was to be confidential. Fehr rejected the suggestion all players in 2003 are under suspicion because 104 of them tested positive.

"If that's the judgment, it seems to me that is entirely wrong," Fehr said. "We know what happened in 2003. The number of positives we had was slightly over 5 percent. That means that slightly over 94 percent was negative."

Pitchers Curt Schilling and Brad Lidge are among those who

have said all 104 players should be identified, but Fehr said the union will try to ensure the list of names remains confidential. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is considering the fate of the list and test specimens, which were seized by federal agents in April 2004.

Marlins camp was Fehr's first stop on a five-week tour of major league teams. He said no player has told him the seized list should be made public.

"The agreement we had was that information related to 2003 was supposed to be and should remain confidential, and we believe it should," Fehr said.

Marlins infielder Wes Helms, who hit a career-high 23 home runs for the Milwaukee Brewers in 2003, rejected the idea the positive drug results taint all players from that season.

"Not everybody in the game was doing it, so how can you say it was the steroids era?" Helms said.

He said he would favor identifying those who tested positive only if the names are going to surface the way Rodriguez's did.

"Two or three years down the road, if the 103 players are going to be leaked out in a way it shouldn't be leaked, I think the player would probably rather get it over with now," Helms said.

Test samples and records were supposed to be destroyed, but Fehr said the players' association didn't have enough time to make arrange-

ments after the results became final Nov. 13, 2003.

"To do this right away — there are labs, there are samples and there are records," Fehr said. "And we were advised (on Nov. 19) that there was a grand jury subpoena. Once that happens, you can't do it."

Fehr said media coverage in the wake of the Rodriguez case has been incomplete and often overlooks amendments to the joint drug agreement in recent years.

"So far as I know, there is not a hint or suggestion that there is anything inappropriate or that it's not functioning right or that it isn't doing the job in 2005, '06, '07 or '08," Fehr said. "And somehow that gets lost in what I can basically call the sensationalism around what happened five years ago."

Major League Baseball has left the appeal up to the union's lawyers, preferring to concentrate on the present.

"The commissioner has said repeatedly our program is the most comprehensive program in professional sports and we believe it's been effective in reducing the use of performance-enhancing substances," said Rob Manfred, baseball's executive vice president of labor relations.

The union last week sent a memo to players advising them to be careful "answering questions sparked by the media frenzy," Fehr said he doesn't think recent events have damaged the union.

Bail denied for Chicago lawyer in double slaying

CHICAGO (AP) — The attorney accused of killing New York Knicks player Eddy Curry's ex-girlfriend and her infant daughter was an abusive, controlling boyfriend who disputed \$23,500 in legal fees with his victim, prosecutors alleged Monday.

Fredrick Goings, 36, is charged with first-degree murder in the Jan. 24 slayings of 24-year-old Nova Henry and her 10-month-old daughter, Ava. Both died of multiple gunshot wounds.

A Cook County judge denied bail at a hearing Monday where prosecutors said Goings and Henry became romantically involved after he represented her in a paternity case with Curry.

Goings "became abusive" and

Henry tried to end their relationship, prosecutors alleged.

"He refused to let it end," Cook County Assistant State's Attorney John Dillon said. "Friends and family related that he had intended to kill her on more than one occasion."

Henry filed an order of protection against Goings in April 2007, but later dropped the case.

The couple had lived together, but Henry moved out in December last year and into a South Side town house with her two children: 3-year-old Noah, whose father is Curry, and Ava, whose paternity has been under dispute.

The Chicago Tribune has reported that records show DNA tests prove Curry, who once played for the Chicago Bulls, is Ava's father. In court prosecutors called

the baby Ava Curry Henry and later said they believe she was Curry's daughter.

Curry's attorney did not immediately return a message Monday, and Knicks spokesman Jonathan Supranowitz said Monday that Curry had no comment.

Goings, wearing dress pants and a black leather jacket, did not comment at the hearing Monday.

In court, attorney John Lyke said his client maintains his innocence. Lyke declined to discuss any details of the case.

Henry let Goings into the apartment on the afternoon of Jan. 24 and neighbors heard arguing, prosecutors said. Around 1:30 p.m., neighbors reported hearing gunshots, Dillon said.

An autopsy showed Nova Henry was shot six times. The baby had been shot twice, to the front and back of the head. Noah was found unhurt at the scene.

Surveillance video from the apartment showed Goings' black Range Rover parked near Henry's apartment, prosecutors said.

Investigators also found that Henry's laptop had been used to access Goings' Yahoo e-mail account and a file related to a dispute over legal fees Goings charged her had been downloaded.

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