

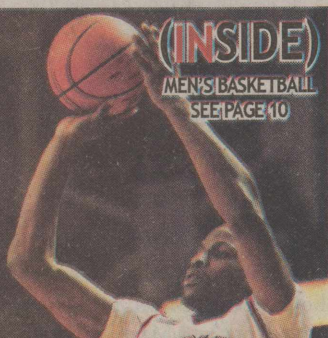
Spring Swing Fling
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**Tech softball drops
2 to Oklahoma**
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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2009
VOLUME 83 ■ ISSUE 114

THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

Serving the Texas Tech University community since 1925



(INSIDE)
MENS BASKETBALL
SEE PAGE 10

(IN BRIEF)

STATE

Bills would ban some driver cell phone use

AUSTIN (AP) — If you talk or text on your cell phone while driving — and you know who are — the long arm of the Texas Legislature may be coming after you.

The House Transportation Committee heard from supporters and opponents of bills Tuesday that would ban hand-held cell phone use while driving in certain situations. Some of the proposals impose stiffer penalties for accidents while a driver is using a hand-held cell phone. Others ban hand-held cell phone usage by motorists in school zones.

NATION

Citi's good news leads market to best day of '09

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street snapped out of its stupor and posted its best performance of the year Tuesday, finding a badly needed glimmer of optimism in the most unlikely of places: Citigroup is actually managing to turn a profit.

The 379-point gain for the Dow Jones industrials, a rally of almost 6 percent, was a welcome break from almost uninterrupted selling. But just as almost nobody expects the banks to snap back to health, almost nobody thinks the market has hit its bottom.

WORLD

Iraqi suicide attack kills 33; US blames al-Qaeda

BAGHDAD (AP) — A suicide bomber struck Sunni and Shiite tribal leaders touring an outdoor market after a reconciliation meeting in a Baghdad suburb Tuesday, killing up to 33 people in the second major attack in the capital area in three days.

The bombings are raising fears that Sunni insurgents may be escalating operations as the U.S. phases out its combat role in Iraq and prepares to withdraw troops from cities by the end of June.

The attacks also suggest that insurgents are capable of exploiting weaknesses in Iraqi security procedures. The Iraqis have been relatively successful in curbing huge truck bombings that were common years ago — but less so against other tactics.

DEATH TOLL

4 2 5 6

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

INSIDE

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Stimulus funds to help construction costs

By **HALIE HARTMAN**
STAFF WRITER

Lubbock will receive funds from the stimulus bill the U.S. Congress passed last month for two road projects in the city, according to Steve Warren from the Texas Department of Transportation in the Lubbock District.

The Texas Transportation Committee approved \$1.2 billion in stimulus funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Stimulus fund spending was approved by the Texas Transportation Commission Thursday for 29 construction projects, two of which will

be in Lubbock, according to the Texas Department of Transportation Web site.

The City of Lubbock was allocated \$26.5 million of those funds to put toward road projects designated by the Metropolitan Planning Organization, which is responsible for making decisions and overseeing transportation planning process, according to Steve Warren from the Texas Department of Transportation in the Lubbock District.

David Jones, director of the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization, said the stimulus money is supposed to be used to enable communities to advance

construction of projects that otherwise would not be started for many years. The Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization wants to split the funds between two projects that would improve Loop 289.

"One project is within a group of projects that the City of Lubbock calls the Northwest Passage Project," he said.

The Northwest Passage Project will widen West Loop 289 from Frankford Avenue to Quaker Avenue by two lanes and includes construction of a bridge at Slide Road and Loop 289, work on the Fourth Street overpass, and changing the entrance and exit ramps from Fourth Street to Quaker

Avenue, Jones said.

"The Northwest Passage Project will open up a lot of vacant and underdeveloped property north of Loop 289," Jones said. "This will allow developers to finally be able to access that area and develop it."

The second project would widen West Loop 289 from 34th Street to Frankford Avenue by adding two additional lanes, and change the entrance and exit ramps in that area, he said.

Warren said the construction projects are chosen based on regional and economic significance. The Northwest Passage Project will cost about \$40 million and the second project about \$18 million.

The money for these two projects will come from the City of Lubbock, the Metropolitan Planning Organization and stimulus funds, Warren said.

Jones said without the stimulus money neither of the projects, which could significantly improve traffic, would be started for several years.

"Those two stretches of Loop 289 do not sufficiently carry the volume of traffic that is on the street," he said. "So by adding two additional lanes and widening the loop out, you add capacity for more cars and reduce congestion, which improves the flow of traffic."

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Excelling engineer

Tech graduating senior receives distinguished student award

By **HANNAH BOEN**
STAFF WRITER

A few years ago, Nikki Davis hesitated when revealing her college major to people, but the recipient of the McAuley Distinguished Engineering Student Award for 2009 now says it with a smile.

"At parties, I would always introduce myself and say I was an education major," said the petroleum engineering senior, "because it was just more typical for a girl. People made assumptions when I would say engineering."

Davis' attitude has changed through her years pursuing an engineering degree, she said, and now she is proud to be a female entering an industry formerly dominated by men.

"It's a very fun thing to take on," she said. "You come in with so many stereotypes and that's when you can really show your abilities. It's rewarding to show what I can do."

At a time when college graduates no longer are guaranteed a job, Davis said she has found herself fortunate to find employment with ConocoPhillips, a company that values diversity and appreciates a female perspective.

Davis, who has a 4.0 GPA, has been an intern with ConocoPhillips for two summers and plans to develop and advance her career with the company.

She said finding employment was easy compared to proving herself to her peers and her friends.

Some male peers in her classes told her she didn't belong, she said, and other females questioned her reasons for going into a career typically crowded with men.

Davis said she was forced to decide if engineering was the future she wanted for herself and accept the consequences.

After graduating at the top of her class at Midland Christian High School, Davis said she considered a medical or engineering degree because of her passion for math and science.

The inspiration of her grandfather, who is an engineer, convinced Davis to pursue engineering.

Pamela Eibeck, dean of the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering, said she is ready for more women like Davis to break into the engineering field.

"We certainly have women engineers," she said. "We just don't have enough of them."

Eibeck said women tend to gravitate to career fields benefiting people, and although engineering does benefit people, it

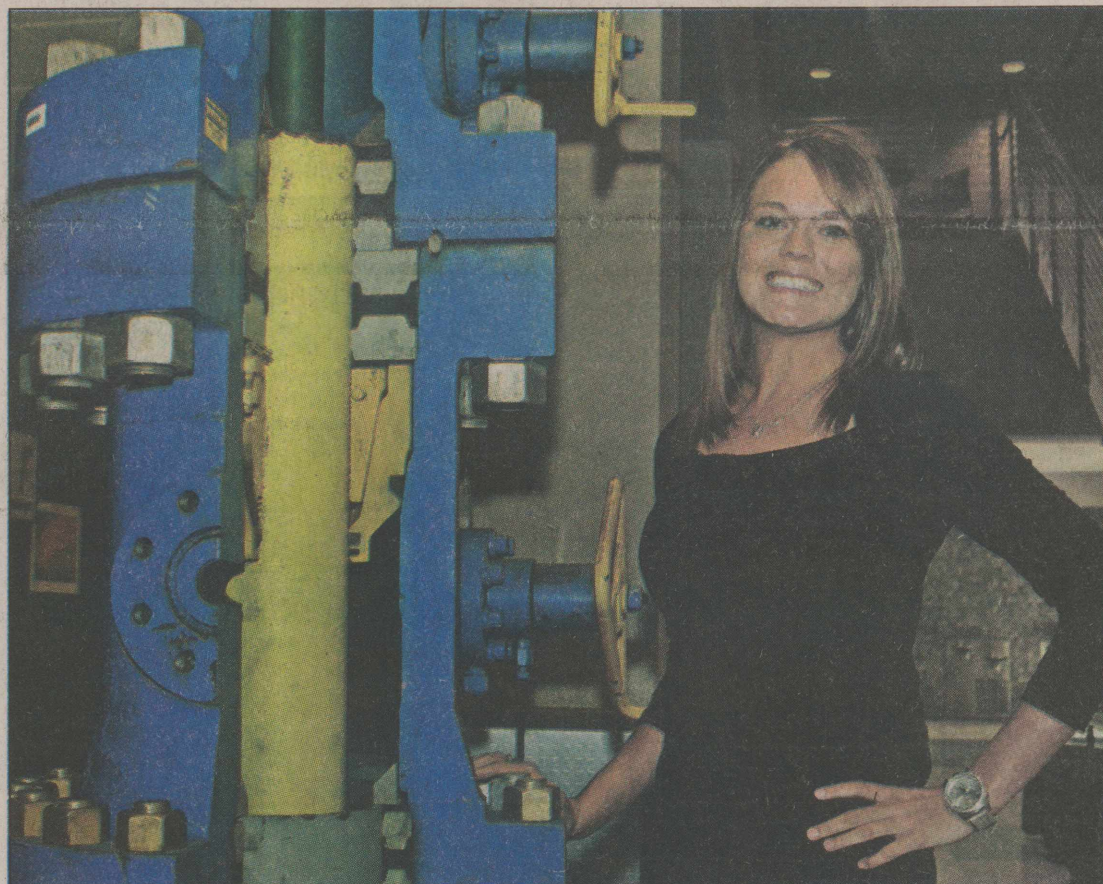


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

NIKKI DAVIS, A senior petroleum engineering major from Midland, received the McAuley Award in February. The award goes to the top graduating engineering student at Texas Tech.

usually is not apparent to students choosing a major to pursue after high school graduation.

Although women have a high success rate once they are in the engineering college, Eibeck

said it is difficult to get them to choose engineering for some of the same reasons Davis has found challenging.

"Having people ask you, 'Why in the world would you want to

do that?' is a huge factor," Eibeck said. "Peer pressure that comes from peer perception is a challenge."

►►ENGINEER continued on page 5

Research funding in College of Engineering increases

By **STEVEN SCHWARTZ**
STAFF WRITER

The Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering saw its most profitable fiscal year in terms of research funding in 2008, according to a report released Friday.

The annual research report for the college showed the overall amount of funds gathered was \$16.5 million, an 18 percent increase compared to the \$13.5 million gathered during the 2007 fiscal year.

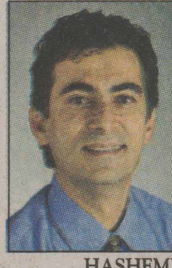
The 2008 fiscal year also marked the fourth consecutive year the College of Engineering

has had an increase in overall research funding.

Javad Hashemi, the associate dean of research at the College of Engineering, said the increase is important for the reputation of the college.

"One area of comparison is how much research funding you have," Hashemi said. "The more research funding that you have, the more prestigious your college is."

According to the report, the computer and electrical engi-



HASHEMI

neering department gathered the most funds with more than \$8.5 million. The federal funds given to the college accounted for 68 percent of the total amount, and the remaining money was given by the state of Texas, industrial grants and non-profit organizations.

According to a report from the Office of the Vice President for Research, the College of Engineering topped other colleges in the university in total funds gathered for the 2008 fiscal year.

The College of Arts and Sciences was the second most with \$16.3 million and the College of Agricultural Science and Natu-

ral Resources was third with more than \$8 million. The university received about \$57.5 million total in research funding for the 2008 fiscal year.

The reason for such a large improvement is due to the quality of faculty and staff working within the College of Engineering, Hashemi said. The professors receive the majority of the proposals and funding during the year.

"I think the faculty that are

working in the College of Engineering have worked really hard to do this," Hashemi said. "It's all because of their work."

The 18 percent increase in 2008 is nearing the funding goal set by the college — \$18 million of annual research awards by 2012. Pamela Eibeck, the dean of the Whitacre College of Engineering, said in an e-mail that the college is on track to meet their mark in three years.

"It is our faculty members' passion for their areas of expertise that has us on target to meet our goal of \$18 million of annual research awards by 2012," Eibeck said.

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TODAY	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mostly Cloudy	Few Showers	Few Showers	Showers	Mostly Sunny
High 51 Low 29	High 49 Low 31	High 48 Low 33	High 66 Low 34	High 75 Low 37

Meat Judging Team continues winning streak

By **CHELSEA KIMBLE**
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Meat Judging Team took home its third win of the 2009 season during its last competition of the school year Saturday at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and also took home a rare eighth consecutive win.

"This win is Texas Tech Meat Judging Team's eighth consecutive win," said Markus Miller, a professor in the Animal and Food Sciences department and one of the team's coaches. "This is outstanding because no other team has done this since 1973 and 1974."

Miller said only one different school has had consecutive wins since 1974; that team won four in a row.

"After winning in Houston, others nationally and internationally are looking at us and saying, 'How is Texas Tech doing this?'" Miller said.

Kevin Pond, Animal and Food Sciences department chairman, also was pleased about the recognition the program is receiving for the win.

"To have two teams go and come back with first and second place is great for the college," he said. "These wins are prestigious for Texas Tech."

John Burns, dean of the College

of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, was in Houston for the competition, as well.

"I was at the awards ceremony and could not have been more proud of our young men and women," he said.

Travis O'Quinn, a meat science graduate student from League City and the student coach, said the visibility of winning promotes graduate students' interests to the Meat Science program. The meat judging competition in Houston included 19 teams from 12 schools.

The competitions show others what the college is doing, he said. O'Quinn was a team member in 2006 and said this opportunity to go compete also is beneficial to students.

"The competitions can help students who want to be doctors and lawyers as well as agriculture workers," O'Quinn said. "The meat judging consists of taking four carcasses and whole sale cuts and ranking them from most valuable to least valuable, and everything is timed."

Abby Long, a sophomore animal science major from Boerne, said being a part of the meat judging team and competing teaches students different skills for the future.

"Thinking critically and logically is a skill I gain from competing, as well as working with a team," she said.

Miller said this year's team has two things going for them — "A big work ethic and team chemistry."

Students are only eligible to compete on the team for one year, he said. The 2009 team has four more competitions next fall, including the Eastern National, American Royal, Cargill Meat Solutions and the National Championship.

"If the team stays humble and unselfish, they will do well and have a chance to win the National Championship next fall," Miller said.

Long said she thinks plenty of talent is available on the team.

"I believe we have a huge chance to win," she said. "We have 15 solid judges."

Meagan Igo, a sophomore animal science major from Plainview, said facilities and faculty are helpful in the success of the team.

"The meat lab and coaches are great at getting whatever product we need for practicing," Igo said. "We are always able to see what we need to see before competition, whether it's meat from Iowa or Plainview."

Long said before college she had no experience in agriculture.

"The coaches have taught me everything I know, they're great," she said.

Burns also complimented the coaching of Miller and O'Quinn.

"Historically, our faculty coaches



PHOTO COURTESY OF TECH MEAT JUDGING TEAM

THE TECH MEAT Judging Team, from back left, Henry Ruiz, Sarah Calhoun, Tate Corliss, Meagan Igo, Kelly Hutton, Kelsey Fletcher, Amber Krause, Abby Long, Matt Bruton, and from front left, Mark Miller, Josh McCann, Collin Corbin, Josh Hasty, Adam Copeland, Brandon O'Quinn and Travis O'Quinn, won its eighth straight competition in the 2009 season.

have been the best in the country. Certainly Travis and Mark have continued that tradition of excellence," he said.

The 15-student team was split into two teams of four. After an all-day judging event beginning at 7 a.m., the two teams won first and second place.

The students also must defend their decisions by writing a two page paper, O'Quinn said.

Schools at the competition included, Auburn, Colorado State, Florida State, Kansas, Kentucky, Nebraska, Oklahoma State and Texas A&M, O'Quinn said.

The same schools, excluding

some of the smaller ones, attend every competition of the year, he said.

This year's competitions have been in Denver, Colorado at the National Western, Fort Worth, at the National Southwest and Houston, and at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

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Lawyer: Madoff will plead guilty to all charges

NEW YORK (AP) — Disgraced financier Bernard Madoff unexpectedly revealed Tuesday that he will plead guilty to all charges — without a plea deal — and face a prison sentence of up to 150 years for swindling billions of dollars in one of the largest investment schemes in U.S. history.

An attorney for the 70-year-old former Nasdaq chairman told the judge during what was expected to be a routine hearing that he intends to plead guilty this week to all 11 felony counts, including securities fraud and perjury.

Madoff is accused of running a gigantic Ponzi scheme, defrauding billions of dollars from retirees, charities, school

trusts and even Holocaust survivors.

Madoff, who wears a bulletproof vest, arrived more than three hours before the hearing in an attempt by authorities to avoid confrontations, with investors. Several lawyers for investors showed up as spectators, but the courtroom was largely packed with reporters.

Madoff buttoned his jacket and straightened it as he rose from his seat to speak. Aside from occasionally speaking with his lawyers or writing on a sheet of paper in front of him, he looked forward.

Asked by the judge if Madoff would plead guilty Thursday, his attorney Ira

Sorkin said: "I think that's a fair expectation." U.S. District Judge Denny Chin asked Sorkin if Madoff would plead guilty to all 11 counts.

"Yes your honor," Sorkin answered.

Madoff slumped back in his chair during the exchange.

Chin said he would not sentence Madoff for several months after Thursday's hearing.

In court documents, prosecutors revealed some details of how the fraud was carried out since the 1980s, saying Madoff hired many people with little or no training or experience in the securities industry to serve as a "back office" for his investment advisory business.

Student Media editors selected

By **STEVEN SCHWARTZ**
STAFF WRITER

The Student Media Selection Committee selected students to fill the editor-in-chief positions for *The Daily Toreador* and *La Ventana* Tuesday.

The committee held interviews in The Toreador Room in the Student Union Building. The *DT* editor-in-chief positions for summer and fall were decided, as well as the editor-in-chief position for the *La Ventana* yearbook.

Kevin Cullen, a sophomore news-editorial journalism major from Las Cruces, N.M., was chosen as *The DT* editor-in-chief for Fall 2009. The fall semester will mark Cullen's second semester in the position.

"It's something that I really enjoy doing," Cullen said. "I hope that I'm able to benefit the paper and inform students as well as we possibly can."

He said he is hopeful for *The DT* during the fall semester. However, he said there are several areas in which the paper can improve, including the local news coverage.

"One thing I want to see improve

immensely is our news coverage," Cullen said. "If we do that, it's going to best serve our readers."

The summer editor-in-chief position will be filled by Alex Ybarra, a senior broadcast journalism major from League City. Ybarra said being chosen to the position means a great deal to him, and he looks forward to taking on the responsibility.

"I just think it's another way to improve myself as a journalist and improve the campus of Texas Tech," Ybarra said.

He said he believes *The DT* is important for Tech students and is the main source for students to get their local and national news stories while on campus. The paper potentially can be a useful resource for everyone involved with the university.

"I want people to pick up the paper for other reasons besides Sudoku and crossword puzzles," Ybarra said.

La Ventana hired Kate Ozment, a



YBARRA



OZMENT



CULLEN

junior news-editorial journalism major from San Antonio, for the editor-in-chief position at the yearbook. She has held the position at the yearbook for the past year.

"It is awesome to have this opportunity to create this amazing book for the Texas Tech community," Ozment said. "The goal for *La Ventana* is to give their student employees the experience to guide themselves at the end of the year, she said. Her goal is to make the yearbook a publication that people can read 20 years from now and still enjoy."

Amy Heuman, the third-year chair for the Student Media Selection Committee, said the committee looks for several qualities when interviewing candidates.

"We are looking for someone that has solid leadership skills," Heuman said, "and someone that has a vision, whether we are talking about *La Ventana* or *The Daily Toreador*."

Heuman said that the editor-in-chief positions are very important to the committee and mean a lot to the applicants as well. Having a position such as these are great assets when searching for a job after graduation.

"That is what we are concerned with as well," Heuman said, "is successful graduation and placement in the job market."

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POLICE BLOTTER

Cigarette fire started outside Law School

March 2
At 9:30 a.m., an officer investigated an act of criminal mischief in the Education building. The locking mechanism to a podium was damaged.

At 5:30 p.m., an officer investigated an incident in the C-2 parking lot at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center. No injuries were reported.

At 5:30 p.m., two officers investigated the theft of an unsecured backpack and its contents in the Robert H. Ewalt Students Recreation Center.

March 3
At 9:04 a.m., an officer arrested a non-student for an outstanding warrant after an observed traffic violation and a subsequent traffic stop in the 800 block of Indiana Avenue.

At 4:50 p.m., two officers investigated an act of criminal mischief in the Z3-K parking lot. A vehicle was scratched with an unknown object.

March 4
At 9:50 a.m., an officer investigated the theft of two Tech flags from Chancellor Kent Hance's residence.

At 3:00 p.m., an officer assisted a Lubbock Police Department of-

icer with an accident in 2700 block of Fourth Street. No injuries were reported.

At 7:40 p.m., an officer investigated an act of criminal mischief in the Z3-G parking lot. A vehicle was scratched with an unknown object.

At 7:41 p.m., an officer investigated the theft of two books reported stolen from Sneed Residence Hall.

March 5
At 10:50 a.m., an officer investigated the theft of a backpack and its contents on the second floor of the library's east study area.

At 11:11 a.m., an officer investigated the theft of a backpack in the Civil Engineering building.

At 11:30 a.m., an officer documented damage to a student's vehicle in the C1-N parking lot. The front bumper of the vehicle was damaged.

At 2:30 p.m., an officer responded to an emergency medical call in the 1600 block of Akron Avenue. A male was transported to Covenant Medical Center after a biking accident.

At 4:45 p.m., an officer documented a fire, possibly started by a cigarette, outside the Law School. The building was evacuated due to

smoke, and firefighters extinguished the fire. A bush and some grass were burned in the fire near the building.

At 5:30 p.m., an officer documented damaged property to a vehicle in the R-18 parking lot. A vehicle's door struck another vehicle.

March 6
At 3:09 a.m., an officer investigated an act of criminal mischief in the front patio of Murdough Residence Hall. A concrete cigarette urn was broken.

At 5:00 a.m., an officer documented an assault that occurred at an off-campus location between students. One student struck another in the face.

At 9:39 a.m., an officer investigated a burglary of a vehicle in the Z4-P parking lot. A speaker and an amplifier were reported stolen from the vehicle.

At 10:09 a.m., an officer investigated the theft of an iPod in the University Printing Services building.

At 11:03 a.m., an officer investigated the theft of a bank bag in the Physicians Medical Pavilion at the Tech Health Sciences Center. The

bag contained \$25.

March 7
At 1:57 a.m., an officer issued a student a citation in the lobby of Murdough Residence Hall for consumption of alcohol by a minor.

At 1:55 a.m., an officer arrested a student for public intoxication in the Z5-C parking lot.

At 2:11 a.m., an officer arrested two students on the rooftop of Murdough Residence Hall for public intoxication.

At 3:12 a.m., an officer arrested a student for public intoxication in the lobby of Weymouth Residence Hall.

At 3:51 a.m., an officer arrested a student for public intoxication in the Z5-B parking lot.

At 5:45 p.m., two officers investigated possession of identifying information in the Red and Black bookstore. The officers issued a criminal trespass warning to a student for the bookstore and the University Library.

At 8:41 p.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run accident in the Z6-B parking lot in which an unattended vehicle was struck. No

injuries were reported.

At 9:35 p.m., two officers detained a student for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia in Coleman Residence Hall.

March 8
At 12:45 a.m., an officer detained five students and one non-student in Coleman Residence Hall. The five students were issued citations for possession of alcohol by a minor.

At 12:50 a.m., an officer detained a student on the east side of Coleman Residence Hall. The student was issued a citation for consumption of alcohol by a minor.

At 3:05 a.m., an officer detained a student in the 600 block of Boston Avenue following an observed traffic violation and subsequent traffic stop in the 600 block of Canton Avenue. The student was issued a citation for driving under the influence of alcohol by a minor and released.

At 3:30 p.m., an officer documented damage to a vehicle in the Z1-B parking lot.

At 7:46 p.m., two officers arrested a non-student for outstanding warrants following a traffic stop in the R-18 parking lot.

March 9
At 8:30 a.m., an officer investigated a traffic accident at the Student Union Building loading dock in which a tractor-trailer ran into a parked vehicle. No injuries were reported.

At 10:05 a.m., an officer investigated the theft of a bicycle at the north bicycle racks of Chitwood Residence Hall. A Trek mountain bicycle was reported stolen.

At 2:45 p.m., two officers investigated an accident in the service drive of the Stangel/Murdough Residence Halls. No injuries were reported.

At 5:47 p.m., an officer investigated a report of harassment in the Tech Police Department lobby in which a male was receiving unwanted messages on his laptop.

At 6:35 p.m., two officers issued a Lubbock County citation to a student for minor in possession of alcohol following a traffic stop in the 1500 block of Texas Tech Parkway.

At 7:33 p.m., two officers issued Lubbock County citations to two students for consumption of alcohol by a minor in Chitwood Residence Hall.

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Progress in Mexico drug war drenched in blood

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Headless bodies in Tijuana, kidnapped children in Phoenix and shootouts on the streets of Vancouver: These are the unwanted byproducts of progress in the Mexican drug war.

While the headline-grabbing chaos creates the appearance of a drug trade escalating out of control, evidence suggests Mexico's cartels are increasingly desperate due to a cross-border crackdown and a shift in the cocaine market from the U.S. to Europe.

Those pressures are forcing Mexico's criminal networks, once accustomed to shipping drugs quietly and with impunity, to wage ever more violent battles over scraps and diversify into other criminal enterprises, including extortion and kidnapping for ransom on both sides of the U.S. border.

"This is not reflecting the power of these groups," Attorney General Eduardo Medina Mora told The As-

sociated Press in an interview. "This is reflecting how they are melting down in terms of capabilities, how they are losing the ability to produce income."

As evidence of that pressure, the U.S. government says the amount of cocaine seized on U.S. soil dropped by 41 percent between early 2007 and mid-2008. Reduced supply is said to have raised street prices by nearly a third to about \$125 a gram in the U.S. and lowered purity by more than 15 percent. Both the U.S. and Canadian governments are even seeing prolonged shortages of cocaine.

"The reason you see the escalation in violence is because U.S. and Mexican law enforcement are winning," Garrison Courtney, spokesman for the Drug Enforcement Administration, said Tuesday. "You are going to see the drug traffickers push back because we are breaking their back. It's reasonable to assume they are going to try to fight

to stay relevant."

Mexican cartels are being cut out of the U.S. methamphetamine market as well, the U.S. and Mexican governments say, though smuggling of marijuana from Mexico has increased steadily since 2005 as demand increases.

The trouble for Mexico's illicit trade began on Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorist attacks in the United States prompted heightened security at the border. President Felipe Calderon upped the ante by directly confronting the cartels on his first day in office two years ago, sending 45,000 soldiers and federal police to battle the cartels across the country.

Improved cooperation with the U.S. since then led to the recent arrests of 755 Sinaloa cartel suspects in U.S. cities and towns as small as Stowe, Iowa. Mexican authorities, meanwhile, rooted out more than two dozen high-level government security

White House concerns, violence in Darfur topics for Obama, UN chief

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama declared Tuesday that the violence in Darfur and inaction in the face of its worsening humanitarian crisis are "not acceptable." He pledged to work more closely with the United Nations to bring peace to western Sudan's conflict-racked region.

Obama's response during a nearly hourlong Oval Office meeting with U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon significantly ratcheted up the U.S. response to Sudan President Omar al-Bashir's expulsion of 13 aid groups, which is threatening more than 3 million people with the loss of food

aid, health care or suitable drinking water.

Ban told Obama that 2009 is a "make-or-break" year for the organization and its member countries, and that he hopes the United States will work with the international organization to address climate change and the humanitarian crisis in Darfur.

Obama said he wanted to send a strong and unified message with the U.N. to bring peace and security to the region.

"It is not acceptable to put that many people's lives at risk," Obama said. "We need to be able to get those humanitarian organizations back on the ground."

Senate votes to skip raise next year

WASHINGTON (AP)—Lawmakers on Tuesday denied themselves a pay raise next January but, with an eye toward a better economic and political climate, decided to retain their automatic cost-of-living raises for future years.

A blur of last-minute procedural maneuvering in the Senate late Tuesday produced a salary package for members of Congress that holds their annual pay at \$174,000 until 2011. Earlier in the day, on a 52-45 vote, senators rejected a more politically painful proposal that would have forced lawmakers to stand up and be counted when they want to boost their salaries.

No senator dared to dump on that idea publicly, with the economy tanking, 12 million constituents unemployed and the 2010 elections looming. In fact, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., declared that he supports the premise behind Republican Sen. David Vitter's proposal to do away with automatic pay increases.

But Vitter's amendment, Reid explained, could kill the underlying \$410 billion omnibus spending bill because House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has threatened to reject any changes to the massive spending measure. So Reid offered to do away with automatic raises in a separate bill.

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9AM TUESDAY THROUGH 7PM WEDNESDAY

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
Texas Tech University

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBDD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KMYL 14 MYN Lubbock	KLCW 22 CW Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Curious Sid (HD)	Today Schedule: Martha Stewart; author David Ewing Duncan; Marco Pierre White; author Bethany Frankel; model Tyson	The Early Show	Copeland Robison	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	(6:00) Good Day Lubbock
8 AM	Super Why! Clifford	Believer's	J. Harina	Believer's	Steve Wilkos		
9 AM	Sesame Street	The 700 Club	Price Is Right (HD)	Divorce	Payne	Regis	Martha Stewart
10 AM	Dragon Word	Jeopardy!	Restless (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Tyra Banks Show
11 AM	Martha Bamey	Trivial	Beautiful	Roseanne	All My Children	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
12 PM	Quilt-Day Painting	Days of Our Lives	As the World Goes By	Paid Prog.	Farm Court	One Life to Live	People's Court
1 PM	Woodburn Place	The Doctors	Guiding Light	College Basketball	Judge Jeanine	General Hospital	Judge Mathis
2 PM	Betw. Lion Reading	Inside Oprah Winfrey	Brown	J. Fox	No Deal	Elien De-Generes	
3 PM	WordGirl	Dr. Phil	Judy Judy	Maurly	Standing	Rachael Ray	Bonnie Hunt Show
4 PM	FETCH! Cyber	News	News	Farm, Feud	Queens	News	Lopez
5 PM	Maya Bus Rpt	News	News	Farm, Feud	Queens	News	Simpsons
6 PM	NewsHour (HD)	Wheel	Millionaire	College Basketball	7Cs	News	Lopez
7 PM	Yes To Running: Bill	Chopping Block	Christina Garry	Top Model (HD)	Scrub	Lie to Me (HD)	
8 PM	3 Mo' Divas	Life "Shelf Life"	Criminal Minds	90210	Loel "LaFleur" (HD)	American Idol (HD)	
9 PM	Range of music	Law & Order (HD)	CSI: NY (HD)	College Basketball	Style	(9:02) Lie on Mars	News
10 PM	Charlie Rose	The Tonight Show	(10:35) Late Show	Furthest Moment	Mamad	Nightline	Sentfeld
11 PM	Bus. Rpt. News	(11:37) Late Show	Late Late Show	Rock	Bernie	Scrub	Raymond
12 AM	Destinos	GED	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Insider	Paid Prog.

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Tech community members strive to improve, promote biking on campus

By **CHRYSAL GRANT**
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Student Government Association hosted a meeting Friday to discuss survey questions about biking on campus, which will help members of the association improve current conditions.

SGA surveyed 100 students about biking regulations and expansion of lanes last month and plans to expand its survey to 1,000 students later this month to get a more accurate feel for students' biking needs.

"Our main goal is to improve biking regulations on campus, as well as receiving funding to have more bike lanes and racks on campus," said Drew Graham, a sophomore public relations major from Frisco and a senator for the College of Mass Communications.

Graham said SGA was granted approval for its larger, more in-depth survey and discussed additional questions to ask students during the Friday meeting.

"The new survey will give an opportunity for more students to be heard," Graham said. "This will help when SGA brings ideas to the board because it will be the opinions of student bikers as well as the association."

SGA members hope to receive about \$200,000 in funding from the Tech Board of Regents to add to the money from the transportation fee, said Austin Pennington, SGA external vice president.

The availability of funds depends on gas prices and other transportation costs such as buses, said Pennington, a senior finance major from Rockwall.

If gas prices rise, Graham said, more funds will go toward buses on campus instead of biking.

Members of the SGA, Outdoor Pursuits Center, Tech Police Department and University Parking Services formed a committee to oversee improvements to biking on campus.

Jordan Messerer, assistant director of the Outdoor Pursuits Center at Tech, said the university's push to 40,000 students will affect students who ride bicycles on campus.

"With so many students on campus and parking being very limited, more students will have to bike and walk across campus," he said, "especially with plans of expanding the campus in the future."

The biking committee has encouraged more students to bicycles on campus, Messerer said, but improvements need to be made so students will feel safer and more confident about riding bicycles on campus.

"The campus definitely needs more biking lanes and racks," he said.

Students are limited to where they are allowed to ride their bicycles on campus, Graham said, because it is illegal to ride on the sidewalks.

"There should be more lanes near the foreign language building and the library," he said.

The Student Union Building has a high volume of students who pass by, Graham said, and it is difficult for bicycle riders because they have a limited amount of bicycle lanes.

Joe Rodriguez, a Tech police officer who helps regulate biking on campus, said biking rules and regulations need to be improved as well as making more students on campus aware of them.

"I see students biking in areas that are not legal all the time," he said. "The SUB area is a big problem."

While the rule is not strictly enforced, he said, it is illegal to chain bicycles on parking signs.

More lanes in high volume areas and additional bicycle racks will help reduce the amount of students who violate regulations, Rodriguez said.

Graham said the biking committee would like to have biking ambassadors to spread the word to students about rules and regulations.

Curt Howell, the Outdoor Pursuits Center coordinator, said the



PHOTO BY BETH MCELHANNON/The Daily Toreador

ROBERT WIELAND, A junior marketing major from Plano, locks his bike on a bike rack Wednesday morning near the Jerry S. Rawls College of Business Administration building before attending class.

ambassadors would be assigned to certain areas on campus to regulate biking on campus.

"The ambassadors would help to influence students to follow the rules on campus, rather than receiving tickets from Tech police," Messerer said. "Sometimes people tend to rebel when there is a lot of law enforcement. Ambassadors could be more effective, since they are students as well."

Graham said the biking committee has also considered selling bicycles on campus.

Selling bicycles on campus would give students an opportunity to buy an efficient and safe bicycle to ride

around campus, Howell said, but at a lower cost than retail stores.

"The bikes would be designed in Tech colors," Graham said, "allowing students to show school spirit as well as riding a secure bike."

Messerer said increasing the number of students who ride their bicycles on campus will be beneficial for many reasons.

"Riding bikes are environmentally friendly as well," he said. "It saves parking space on campus and supports going green. I definitely encourage students to ride bikes on campus. I have been riding mine for 10 years."

>> jenelle.grant@ttu.edu

LA VIDA NOCHE

Wednesday

- Texas Tech Graduate Wind Quintet will perform at 8 p.m. in The Legacy's Great Hall at the YWCA of Lubbock. No cost.
- Jeffrey Lastrapes, cello, will perform at 8 p.m. in Hemmle Recital Hall at Tech.

Thursday

- Mark McKinney with Jason Nutt and HWY 70 will perform at Jake's Back Room. Doors open at 9 p.m.
- Tech's Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform at 8 p.m. in Hemmle Recital Hall.

Friday

- Yele, One Wolf, Coquelicot, Your Axis On A Tilt, Tanner Billings and Bite the Bullet will perform at Jake's Back Room. Doors open at 9 p.m. Cost \$5.
- Jr. Vasquez will perform 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Stella's Lounge.

Saturday

- Crimson Envy will perform at Jake's Back Room. Doors open at 9 p.m.
- Tone Heavy Criminals will perform from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Stella's Lounge.

Tuesday

- Green Jelly with Spoonfed Tribe, Johnny Handgun and LSPS will perform at Jake's Back Room. Doors open at 9 p.m.

Compiled by Features Editor Tina L. Arons: tina.aron@ttu.edu

Akon would work with Chris Brown

WASHINGTON (AP) — Akon — who has gone through legal woes and bad publicity himself — says he'd be willing to work with pop's latest problem child, Chris Brown.

"Oh, absolutely!" Akon said in a phone interview Monday. "I wouldn't take anybody's personal issues or problems — I won't hold them accountable for that when it comes to work. I think it's two separate things."

The 19-year-old R&B singer was charged with two felonies last week in connection with an alleged attack on his girlfriend, pop star Rihanna, 21. Brown is accused of beating her in the

early morning hours of Feb. 8, the day of the Grammy Awards: Both were due to perform but bowed out. He was arrested that night.

Since then, a photo has surfaced that purportedly shows a badly beaten Rihanna, and an affidavit released last week offered brutal details of the alleged assault.

Brown has seen endorsements evaporate and some stations have stopped playing the music of the platinum star.

But Akon said it's not fair "to hold his whole career at bay because of it. He's gonna learn and he's gonna move forward and just hopefully he won't treat the next woman the same way."

Correction

In Tuesday's issue of *The Daily Toreador*, the article "Students learn to shake it during popular fitness class" should have stated that Zumba classes take place from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday, from 7:15 to 8:15 Tuesday, from 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Thursday, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday, from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Saturday and from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sunday. *The DT* regrets the error.

Know your limit.



Tech softball drops 2 in home, Big 12 opener

By **ADAM COLEMAN**
SPORTS EDITOR

For a second, the Texas Tech softball team was tied 1-1 with the No. 9 team in the nation.

But a second is not a long time.

The Red Raiders' first home games of the season did not go as planned, as they dropped two games in a doubleheader against No. 9 Oklahoma 6-1 and 12-0, respectively, Tuesday at Rocky Johnson Field.

"I don't know if we were surprised," Tech coach Amy Suiter said. "We know that if we don't do what we need to do, then teams are gonna jump all over you."

Tech's downward spiral started in the fourth inning of the first game.

It seemed the Red Raiders (6-19, 0-2 in Big 12 Conference play) were in position to compete with one of the country's best teams for seven innings after Tech and OU were tied heading into the third.

But with the Sooners' talent, Tech and starting pitcher Alex Watkins did not last long.

It started when OU's Dani Dobbs hit a double that brought Jeannie Douglas in for the run, putting the Sooners on top 2-1.

After that, Evan Sallis reached first on an error. Amber Flores made Tech pay the price, as she hit a double to allow Dobbs to score another run, making it 3-1.

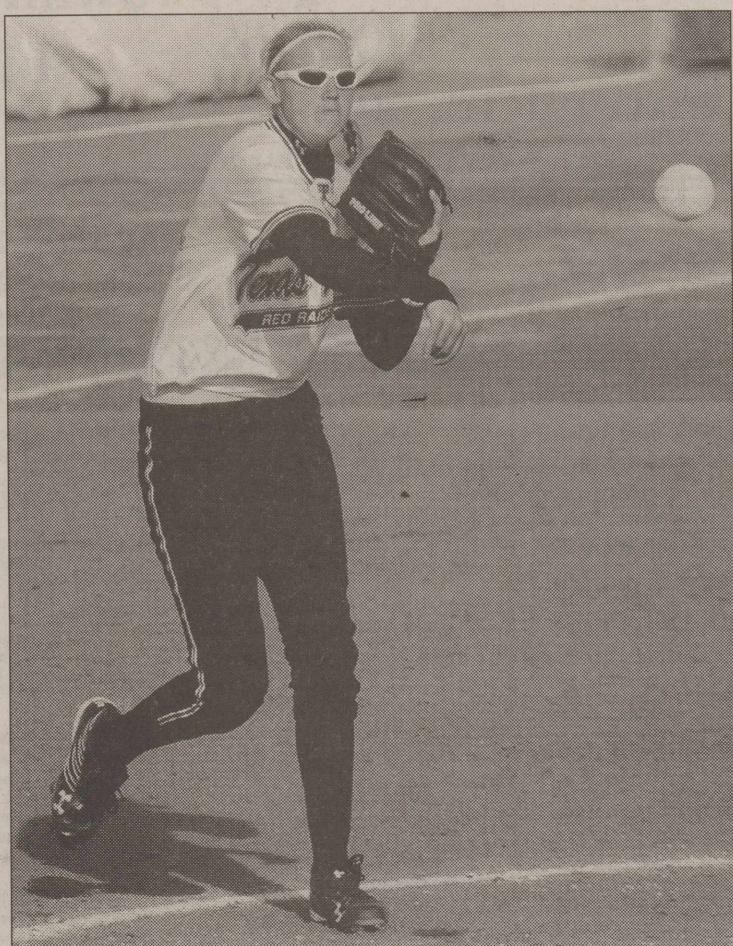


PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH'S ASHLY JACOBS allowed 11 runs against Oklahoma in the Red Raiders' 12-0 loss to the Sooners in the second game of a doubleheader Tuesday at Rocky Johnson Field.

The Sooners were not done yet.

Samantha Ricketts hit a two-run double that brought Sallis and Flores home for the 5-1 Sooner lead.

After a pop out was caught by

Tech catcher Holley Gentsch, Watkins walked Krystle Huey and a wild pitch allowed Huey and Ricketts to advance to second and third, respectively.

Then Watkins (0-6) walked Karolyne Long to load the bases

for the Sooners, but before any more damage could be done, Tech finally got out of the inning.

In the bottom of the fourth, Tech had no answer for the four-run inning OU (19-6, 2-0) put together, as it was three up and three down for the Red Raiders.

In the bottom of the fifth, Tech did have Stephanie Drewry on third with Megan Shupp up to bat, but Tech could not take advantage of the opportunity.

With a runner on first and second, there was another opportunity to catch up in the bottom of the sixth, but a Kirsten Allen (6-3) strikeout sent Tech back to the dugout empty-handed again, allowing OU and the freshman to cruise to the win.

"They're very disciplined up at the plate," said Emily Bledsoe, who drove in Tech's only run of the game. "They're a very disciplined team, and it's hard to pitch to people that are that disciplined."

But it seemed like Tech's inability to respond to OU's runs translated to the second game of the doubleheader, which ended in five innings because of the run rule.

OU scored in four of the five innings of this game: two runs in the first, four in the second, one in the third and five in the fourth.

This time around, Tech only had one hit through four innings, which was a double from Jennifer Lee in the bottom of the first. The second did not come until the fifth



PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toreador
FIRST BASEMAN LIZ EIMEN catches a ball in the second inning to tag out an Oklahoma player Tuesday at Rocky Johnson Field.

and final inning.

Tech pitcher Ashly Jacobs (4-8) took the loss in the second game, allowing 11 runs on 10 hits while walking eight batters.

OU coach Patty Gasso believes her team did not expect to grab an easy win in Lubbock, but she said Tech's difficult schedule and not the Red Raiders' play on the field can shoulder some of the blame for this season.

"You don't take anybody lightly," Gasso said. "I know this team. I know they know how to swing

They've played a very tough schedule and I appreciate that. You can see that they've had some lumps against some very good teams lately. But also, they've got some big wins. Teams like that make me a little more uncomfortable because they know how to play against good quality teams versus padding their record with a soft schedule."

Tech leaves today for San Diego, Calif., to face South Dakota State on Thursday.

►adam.coleman@ttu.edu

Substances found on Clemens materials

NEW YORK (AP) — Federal authorities have found performance-enhancing substances on the materials Brian McNamee said he used to inject Roger Clemens, The New York Times reported Tuesday.

McNamee turned over the syringes, vials and gauze pads to federal investigators last year, after he told baseball investigator George Mitchell he injected the pitcher with steroids and human growth hormone. The Washington Post reported Feb. 6 that tests linked Clemens' DNA to blood in the syringes given to investigators by McNamee.

Clemens has said repeatedly that McNamee, his former personal trainer, injected him with B-12 and the painkiller lidocaine.

"I assumed, and I am not surprised, that the tests were positive for both DNA and for performance-enhancing drugs, because that's what Brian said all along, and there's not much doubt that Brian's been telling the truth," McNamee's lawyer, Richard Emery, told The Associated Press. "The confirmation of that fact, once again, just seems to me to be another significant step towards jail for Clemens."

A federal grand jury in Washington is investigating whether Clemens lied when he told a congressional committee last year that he didn't use illegal performance-enhancing substances. McNamee, testifying before the same committee, said he repeatedly injected Clemens with steroids and HGH.

Rusty Hardin, Clemens' lawyer, did not return a telephone call seeking comment.

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Today's
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Puzzles by PageFiller

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

Ombuds Office
A safe place for students & staff to bring concerns.

The Ombuds Office has moved!
We are now located in the SUB room 238.
238 Student Union Bldg 806-742-4791

What's the best way to promote your organization to every new student.


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New Student Orientation begins June 10

Deadline: April 1, 4 p.m.

Raider Life

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY Student Media



Tuesday, March 24
 Thursday, April 2
 Monday, April 6
 Thursday, April 16

6:00pm Team positions available:
 6:00pm *Customer Service
 5:00pm *Swim Instructors
 5:00pm *Lifeguards

Rec Center Rm. 206
 Phone: 742-3351 Website: www.rescsports.ttu.edu Box 2151

Heartbeats

A quick pulse around the Rec Sports World...

SRC Spring Break Hours:

Friday, March 13	6am - 8pm
Saturday, March 14	12pm - 6pm
Sunday, March 15	12pm - 6pm
Monday, March 16	6am - 7pm
Tuesday, March 17	6am - 7pm
Wednesday, March 18	6am - 7pm
Thursday, March 19	2pm - 6pm
Friday, March 20	2pm - 6pm
Saturday, March 21	2pm - 6pm
Sunday, March 22	2pm - 6pm
Monday, March 23	6am - 12am

For complete hours including the Aquatics Center, Rock Wall, OPC and Fit/Well, please check our website at www.rescsports.ttu.edu

Intramurals

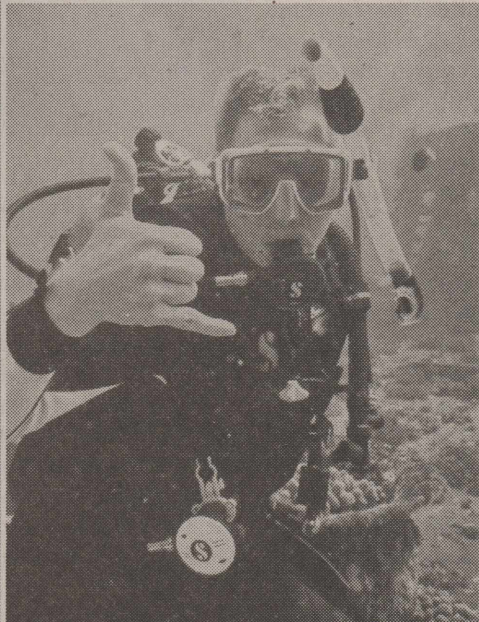
Don't forget that Indoor Soccer starts tonight at the Student Rec Center!

WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING THIS SUMMER?

The Leisure Pool will be open, and we will need people to work! We need more than lifeguards though! We will need customer service representatives, swim instructors, and lifeguards! Get started on a great summer job by attending one of our four informational meetings! We will train you!

Scuba Diving

Discover the many wonders of the underwater world -- by getting Scuba certified! During the classroom and pool sessions we will guide you through the knowledge and skills necessary to become a PADI certified open water diver. The open water check will be at San Solomon Springs.



The price includes classes, dive trip including transportation, food, and gear, and the certification dives. You can't beat this deal!

Deadline: Mar. 28

Trips Dates: April 4-5

Cost: \$345

Intramurals

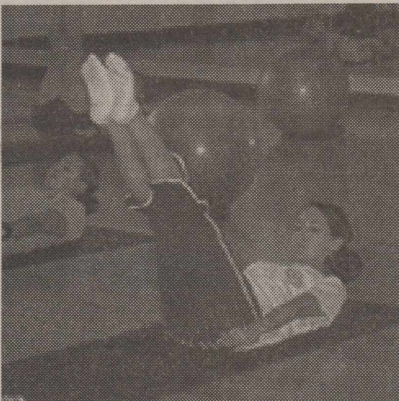
Check Out Everything Intramurals Has Going For You After Spring Break!

- Residence Hall Kick Ball Tournament**
Register By April 1
Games will be on April 3
- Singles Tennis**
Register from March 23 - April 2
- Golf Doubles Tournament**
Register from March 30 - April 16
- Tailgating Games**
Pregame of the April 4 TTU Baseball Game

REC SPORTS SPRING BREAK MARCH 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
The Fitness/Wellness Center will be closed March 13 through March 22. Please check in for all reservations at the Equipment Issue counter. The Outdoor Pursuits Center will be open on Friday, March 13 11:00 am - 7:00pm. The Outdoor Pursuits Center will be closed March 16 through March 22. Family Hours: During Spring Break * The University will be conducting maintenance on the steam and cool water lines, so there will be no hot water on these days.				March 13 SRC: 6am-8pm AC: 6:00-8:45am 12-8:00 pm CC: Closed OPC: 11am - 7pm * NO HOT WATER STARTING AT 2:00 PM 12:10-1:00pm Cardio Boxing Room 114 5:00-5:20pm Abs Room 114 5:30-6:30 pm Cardio Circuit Room 114	March 14 SRC: 12:00 - 6:00pm AC: 12:00 - 6:00pm CC: Closed * NO HOT WATER No Class	March 15 SRC: 12:00 - 6:00pm AC: 12:00 - 6:00 pm CC: Closed * NO HOT WATER 4:15-5:15 pm Xtra Strength Room 114 5:20-5:40 pm Abs Room 114
March 16 SRC: 6:00am - 7pm AC: 6:00-8:45am; 12- 1:30pm; 4:00 - 7:00 pm CC: Closed 12:10 - 1:00 pm Step Room Room 114 5:00-5:20 pm Abs Room 114 5:30 - 6:30 pm Body Sculpting Room 114	March 17 SRC: 6:00am - 7pm AC:6:00-8:45am; 12 - 1:30 pm; 4:00-7:00 pm CC: 2 - 6 pm 12:10-1:00 pm Body Sculpting Room 114 5:00-5:20 pm Abs Room 114 5:30-6:30 pm Cardio Boxing Room 114	March 18 SRC: 6:00am - 7:00pm AC:6:00-8:45am; 12 - 1:30 pm; 4:00-7:00 pm CC: Closed 12:10-1:00 pm Cardio Circuit Room 114 5:00-5:20 pm Abs Room 121 5:30-6:30 pm BOSU Room 121	March 19 SRC: 6:00am - 7:00pm AC:6:00 - 8:45am; 12 - 1:30pm; 4:00 - 7:00 pm CC: 2 - 6 pm 12:10-1:00 pm Cardio Boxing Room 114 5:00-5:20 pm Abs Room 114 5:30-6:30 pm Xtra Strength Room 114	March 20 SRC: 2:00pm-6:00pm AC: 2:00pm-6:00pm CC: Closed 4:00-4:50 pm Cardio Boxing Room 114 5:00-5:20 pm Abs Room 114	March 21 SRC: 2:00 - 6:00pm AC: 2:00 - 6:00pm CC: Closed NO CLASS	March 22 SRC: 2:00-6:00pm AC: 2:00-6:00pm CC: 2-6pm 4:15-5:15 pm Xtra Strength Room 114 5:20-5:40 pm Abs Room 114
March 23 SRC: 6:00am - 12:00pm AC: 6:00 - 8:45am 12 - 9:00pm CC: 3:00-10:00pm FW: 8:00am - 9:00pm						

Fit/Well



There are still Mind/Body Passes Available!
 Only \$40 for the rest of the semester! For only \$40, you get to choose between any of the 15 mind and body classes including yoga, pilates, and yagalites for the entire semester! With so many classes to choose from and such a great price, there is no reason not to get in! Register in the Fit/Well now!

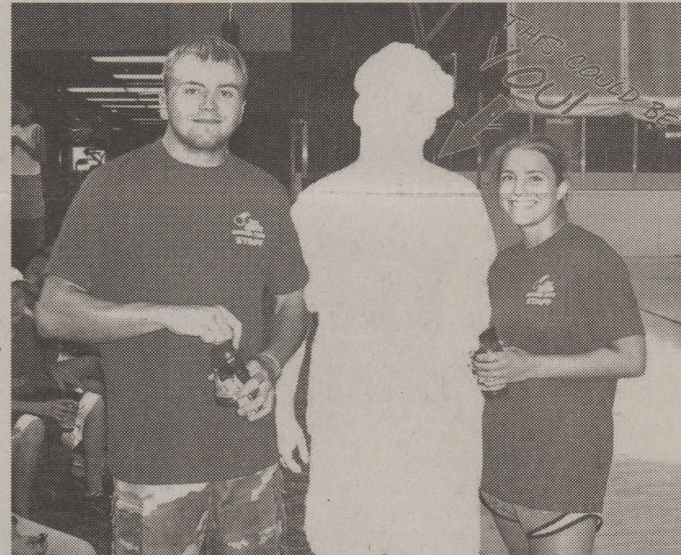
Aquatics Center

Lifeguarding Classes

If you do want to be a lifeguard, we have lots of classes available for you to take! Cost is \$130 for Texas Tech students and faculty/staff and \$140 for the community. Includes the book and all certification costs.

Spring Lifeguarding Classes Start Dates:

- Saturday, March 28th - April 5th
- Tuesday, March 31st - April 23rd
- Wednesday, April 18th - April 26th
- Monday, May 11th - May 16th



BE A SUMMER SPORTS

CAMP COUNSELOR INFORMATION SESSIONS ON MARCH 24-26 5:30-6:30 PM ROOM 201 REC CENTER
 FOR MORE DETAIL EMAIL: JONATHAN.ELLIOTT@TTU.EDU OR BRETT.D.JACKSON@TTU.EDU

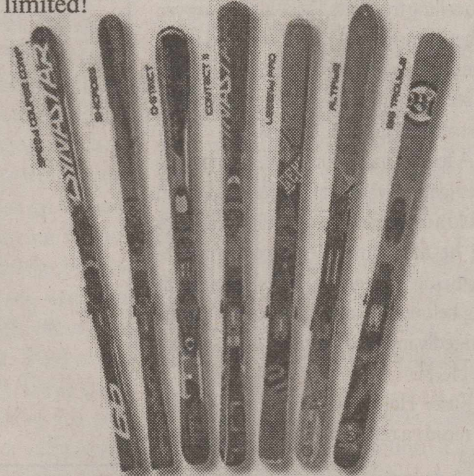
Outdoor Pursuits Center

Natural High Bike Race

Saturday, April 4
 Register at the Race
 11:00am - 12:15am
 MLK Park

\$5 w/Student ID

Going skiing for Spring Break?
 Rent your ski and snowboards packages before you ever set foot on the mountain. Get to the OPC today to reserve your package for Spring Break! Supplies are limited!



student union

coming together in the union

student union building hours during spring break



monday 3/16/09-thursday 3/19/09

8:00am-5:00pm

(the union bistro will be open from 8:00am-4:00pm)

friday 3/20/09-sunday 3/22/09

closed



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Student Union & Activities

Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

for more information - call (806) 742-3636 or visit www.sub.ttu.edu



activities

whats coming up at the union

Henna Tattoo Art
 Wednesday, March 11
 SUB West Basement | 11:00am

Frank Warren: Creator of PostSecret
 Wednesday, March 11
 SUB Allen Theatre | 8:00pm

Movie -- Madagascar 2: Escape 2 Africa
 Tuesday, March 17
 SUB Escondido Theatre | 2:00pm

Movie -- Madagascar 2: Escape 2 Africa
 Wednesday, March 18
 SUB Escondido Theatre | 2:00pm

After Hours
 Tuesday, March 24
 SUB Matador Room | 7:00pm

For more information about activities in the Student Union visit www.tab.ttu.edu

student organization updates...

S.O. Registration Meeting
 Tuesday, March 24
 SUB Senate Room | 2pm

S.O. Academy
 Saturday, April 4
 SUB | 9am - 3pm

S.O. Awards Due
 Friday, April 10
 SUB Main Office | 5pm

Tech faces last non-conference school before first Big 12 game

By **MIKE GRAHAM**
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech baseball team has returned to Lubbock and seeks to cure itself from the "losing disease."

The Red Raiders play Dallas Baptist (9-3) at 3 p.m. at Dan Law Field after dropping seven of their past eight games while on a California road trip.

"Right now we're concentrated on getting a win any way and any how," Tech infielder Joey Kenworthy said. "That's the only thing on our mind. It's a disease, like the coaches say. When you lose on the road like that, it can be tough. You can get used to losing."

Dallas Baptist, a program independent of an athletic conference, has wins over Binghamton, Sienna, Oakland and Central Arkansas while dropping one contest to Binghamton, TCU and Rice, respectively.

Offensively, DBU is led by outfielder Ryan Enos, who is batting .531 and converted 26 hits into 19 runs. Enos also has 21 RBI and eight home runs on the season.

DBU has four batters who have seen significant playing time batting above .300 and DBU has outscored opponents this season 106-63 through its first 11 games.

Victor Black, an Amarillo native, is expected to start the game on the mound for the Patriots today. Black has a 1-0 pitching record with a 2.81 ERA and 17 hits through 16 innings of work over three games.

Black is backed up by a solid DBU pitching staff. Collectively, the group allowed a 4.46 ERA. DBU's pitching staff will face a Tech team that has a combined .296 average. Kenworthy leads

the team with a .431 followed by Justin Berry with a .345 and Kellen Monreal with a .300 to round out Tech batters currently at or over the .300 mark.

Nathan Karns (0-1) is expected to start for the Red Raiders. Karns has pitched in two games this season and has allowed 11 hits for 10 runs while striking five batters out through 5 2/3 innings of work.

DBU is relatively new to the Division I baseball ranks, entering just its fourth year of Division I play. However, the team already has made a name for itself by reaching the regional round of the NCAA tournament for the first time in the 2008 season. DBU became the first independent baseball program to make the tournament since 1992.

"They're going to be good," Tech pitcher Cory Large said. "They were really good last year. We're going to have to come out there and beat them, throw strikes and do what we've been doing offensively."

After today's game, Tech begins Big 12 Conference play with a three-game series against Nebraska at Dan Law Field.

Despite the misfortunes of the trip to the Golden State, the team believes they are in a good spot to start conference play, especially with preseason All-Big 12 infielder Willie Rueda close to a return from a hamstring injury. Rueda could return as early as Friday.

"We're in a good position mentally," infielding coach Trent Petrie said. "Our guys believe in what we're doing, we've stuck with each other. We've had a little bad luck with injuries, but hopefully we'll get Rueda back soon."

>>> michael.graham@ttu.edu

A&M-Tech rivalry enters part 3 in tourney

By **ALEX YBARRA**
MANAGING EDITOR

Unless Texas Tech wins it all and receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, the Phillips Big 12 Conference Championship presents the only postseason opportunity coach Pat Knight and his players will experience.

So they want to make it last. Considering Tech blew out then-No. 9 Kansas by 19 points last week and missed two potentially game-winning jumpers in a 78-76 loss to Iowa State Saturday, the 11th-seeded Red Raiders are playing well heading into their first round matchup against No. 6-seed Texas A&M at 8:30 p.m. today in Oklahoma City's Ford Center.

"The guys are still competing and playing hard," said Knight, who was suspended one game for criticizing the officiating after Tech's loss to A&M Feb. 21. "So we're kind of looking forward to seeing what we can do in the tournament situation because it's different. There's not a lot of preparation, you're gonna play up to four games in a row."

"I like our chances to see if we can win some games."

At No. 11, Tech (13-18, 3-13 in Big 12 play) sits in an unfavorable position, historically at least, because 11th seeds are 2-12 since 1997. Fortunately for the Red Raiders, they have played Texas A&M (23-8, 9-7 in Big 12 play) twice this season — a 79-70 loss in College Station on Jan. 28 and a 79-73 loss in Lubbock on Feb. 21.

Even though both meetings ended in losses, Tech was competitive and knows what to expect from the Aggies, Knight said. The only difference between then and now is the high level of play and confidence the Aggies have sustained during the six-game win streak that plopped them back on the NCAA Tournament bubble.

A&M coach Mark Turgeon's team is coming off an upset victory against then-No. 13 Missouri in College Station on Saturday, which added some extra padding to the Aggies' NCAA Tournament resumé.

After being dead in the water at 3-7 in conference play in early February, the Aggies played with poise and purpose, pushing their record to 9-7 to finish a roller coaster of a regular season.

"I was really happy and really proud, but it was just like, deep breath, didn't feel like going out, just wanted to go home and be with my family," Turgeon said. "It's been a stressful three weeks in a way."

Considering the Aggies outrebounded the Red Raiders 73-47 on the season, Knight said Tech will need to limit A&M's post production, which he acknowledged as the second-best group of big men behind Oklahoma's Blake and Taylor Griffin.

"You gotta look inside with their two bigs, that always causes a problem," he said of juniors Bryan Davis and Chinemelu Elonu, who average a combined 20.5 points and 13.9 rebounds per game.

Elonu went off for his best offensive game against Tech in Lubbock, scoring a career-high 21 points while grabbing 12 rebounds — five were offensive boards.

But the tricky situation with playing the Aggies is the presence of solid perimeter shooting and quick drives to the basket. The perimeter shooting comes from a stable of guards led by senior Josh Carter, who had 20 points against Tech on Feb. 21.

And when Tech was able to contain Carter in College Station, holding him to 10 points on 1-of-7 shooting, guard BJ Holmes caught fire. He drained six of his seven 3-point attempts to finish with a game-high 24 points.

"They have height and then they have shooters," said guard Nick Okorie, who is averaging 18.1 points in his last eight games. "If you dig too long or over help they can hit the three. They have



PHOTO BY SAM GRENAIER/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH'S NICK Okorie and the Red Raiders hope to score an upset in the first round of the Big 12 Tournament at 8:30 p.m. today in Oklahoma City.

a driver in (guard Donald) Sloan that can drive. They have pretty much everything they need to be a very good team. Then they have a great coach."

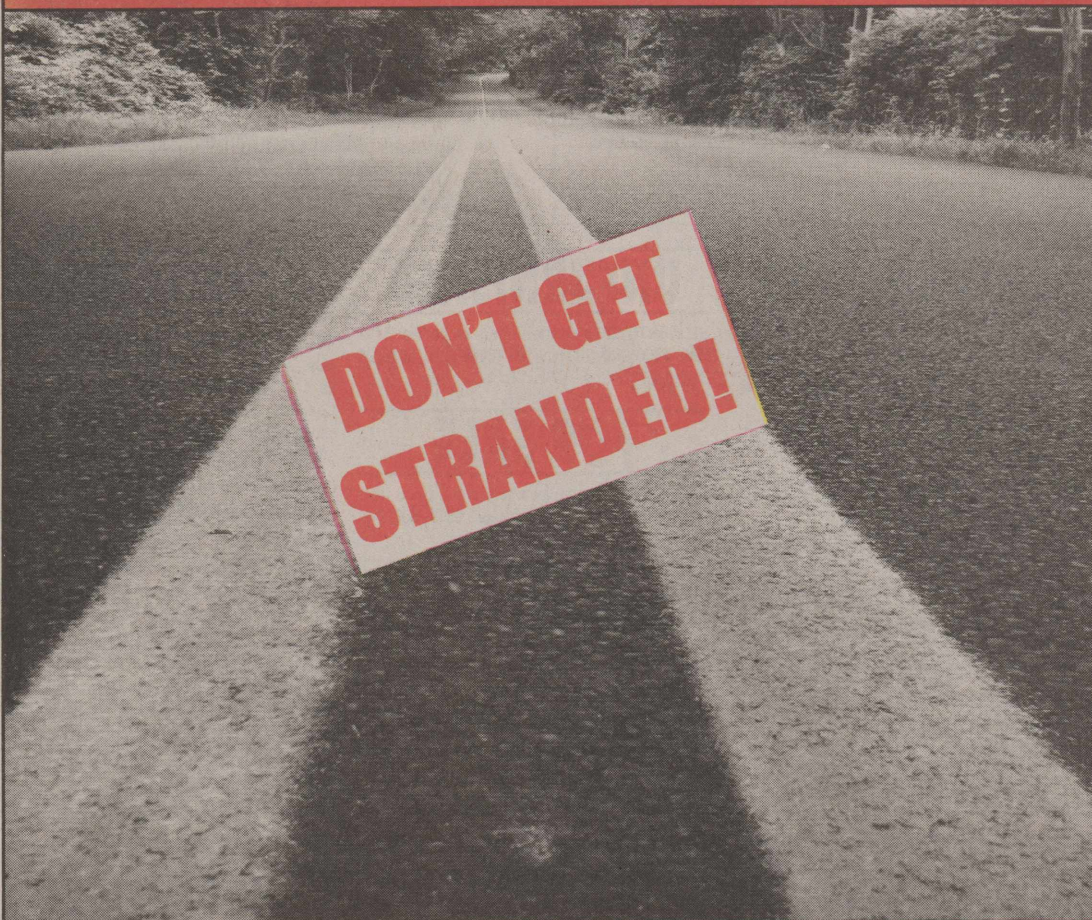
Carter suffered an injury to his left ankle against Missouri Saturday, and has been receiving treatment since. Turgeon and Carter both said earlier this week that the ankle should be healthy enough to go against Tech and Turgeon added that Carter's appearance against Tech would be a game-time decision.

For A&M, playing a hungry team like the Red Raiders could damage a lot of its recent momentum, especially considering Tech has not played like a No. 11 seed lately.

"If there's a better No. 11 out there I wanna see it," Turgeon said. "They scare me because they can score the basketball so easily — tough to guard and they're an in-state school — so it's gonna be a tough one."

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