

Texas Tech theater department presents 'Raider Red's One Act Play Spectacular'

By **CRYSTAL GRANT**
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Department of Theatre and Dance will host its annual "Raider Red's One Act Play Spectacular."

The one-act play spectacular is a series of five one-act plays written, designed, directed and performed by Tech students.

Performances will begin at 8 p.m. from March 30 to April 4 and at 2 p.m. April 5 in the lab theater located inside the Charles E. Maedgen Jr. Theatre.

"The Man Who Became Sand," written by Kyle Conway, a visual and performing arts graduate, will be one of the plays performed. Conway said it is the story of a man abandoned by his family who decides to wander the desert to find his purpose in life.

"I thought of the phrase and decided to write the play from there,"

he said. "Besides, I wanted a man to become sand."

Conway has been writing plays for six years, he said. His one-act play stems from an event he imagined, and the play works toward forming the image he created in his head.

"The Tortoise and the Hare: A NASCAR Fable," written by Troy Lescher, a theater doctoral student, will be another of the plays performed.

Rodney Donahue, a theater doctoral student from St. Louis, Mo., who will direct the play, said the performers will tell the story of a father and son who can only communicate when talking about NASCAR.

"This is my second play to direct," he said. "I'm hoping for a good crowd."

The play conveys the message that people have a connection with their family, Donahue said, even

though the connections differ from family to family.

"The (family) relationship is different from any other relationship because family is an actual part of you," he said.

"A Flowering Spirit," written by Orada Lelanuj, a visual and performing arts graduate student from Thailand, tells the story of two women from different time periods who are searching for peace and forgiveness.

Lelanuj said the play was influenced by a woman named Aung San Suu Kyi from Burma.

Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, has been under house arrest for several years, she said, because she wanted her country to become democratic.

"Reading about her life and the things she has been through has inspired me," Lelanuj said.

Other plays include, "Thespi: The Greatest Chorus Member in

Athens," a comedy based upon the origin of the first Greek Actor, and "Meet My Mother," a play about a man who meets his fiance's mother.

Donahue said any Tech student can participate in "Raider Red's One Act Play Spectacular," not just theater and dance majors.

The one-act play spectacular provides an opportunity for students to showcase their talents to the community; he said.

The five one-act plays average from 10 to 25 minutes and range in genre, from comedy to suspense to drama.

Tickets cost \$10 general admittance and \$5 for students with a valid Texas Tech student identification card and can be purchased at the door.

For more information, call 806-742-3603.
-> jenelle.grant@ttu.edu

STAGE CRAFTING

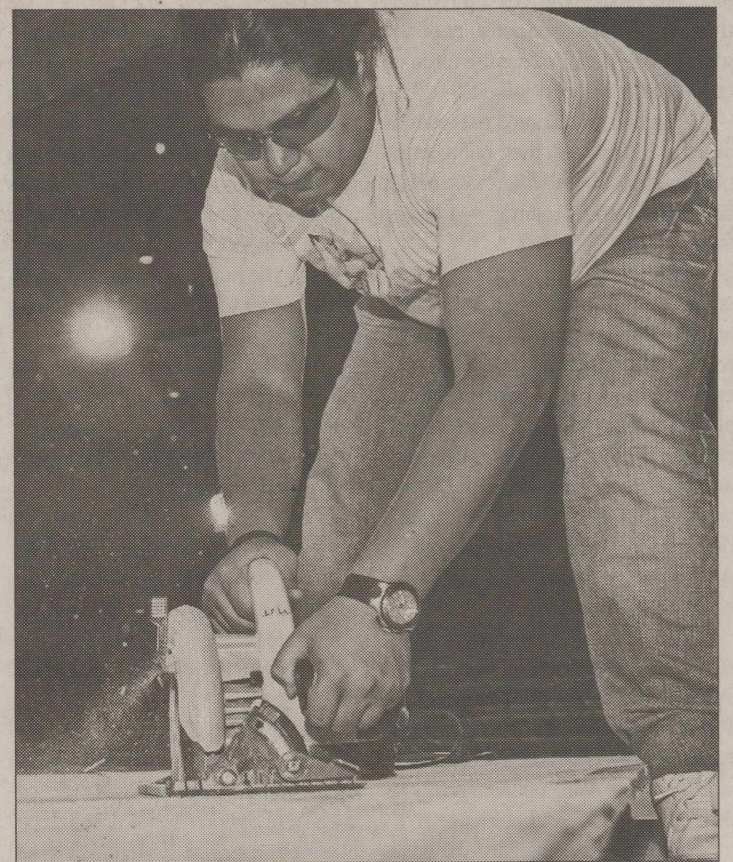


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador
DIEGO RODRIGUEZ, A sophomore design major from Houston and member of the Charles E. Maedgen Jr. Theatre shop crew, cuts out a platform for the play, "Death of a Salesman" Thursday in the Maedgen Theatre.

Madonna, in Malawi, refuses to discuss possible adoption

LILONGWE, Malawi (AP) — Madonna toured an impoverished village and discussed plans Sunday for building a new school in Malawi, the central African nation where officials said she would begin proceedings this week to adopt a young girl.

Madonna, casually dressed with a white fedora, walked through the village of Chinkhota holding the hand of her 12-year-old daughter, Lourdes. Dozens of

reporters looked on.

The 50-year-old pop star refused to answer questions about reports that she was in Malawi to adopt a four-year-old girl. She said it was "amazing" to be back in the country where she runs a charity organization and from where she adopted her son David, 3, last year.

When she rushed away in a convoy of at least three sport utility vehicles, as crowds of

shouting, waving children ran after her.

A security guard with the convoy said Madonna was speaking to villagers about building a school there, and she was seen looking at an artist's impression of the proposed building. Hours earlier, Madonna landed at the airport in the capital of Lilongwe.

Madonna was expected to appear Monday in court in Lilongwe to sign adoption papers.

A Malawian welfare official and another person involved in the adoption proceedings have said the girl Madonna is hoping to adopt is about 4 years old and her unmarried mother died soon after she was born. The girl's father is believed to be alive but no other details were available. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the case is considered sensitive.

Melodies minister to the premature babies

MISSION — Eddie Longoria's first 13 days of life — difficult days for the premature infant — were set to a soft, soothing soundtrack of jazz and classical music.

Above his warming table/crib at Mission Regional Medical Center's neo-natal intensive care unit, a high-end speaker piped in tunes that doctors say help the hospital's youngest patients thrive and their caretakers relax.

"The NICU by default is a very stressful environment," said Dr. Anatoliy Ilizarov, the unit's medical director. "The music helps to pacify the situation."

The walls of the NICU are cheerful pastels, but this is no ordinary nursery. The babies here, who for a variety of reasons left their mothers' wombs too soon, are struggling to grow and survive in the outside world.

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Puzzles by PageFiller

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Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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S. Africa's penguins need a new home

BOULDERS BEACH, South Africa (AP) — Nesting in the sparkling sand, preening on the rocks and darting through the waters, the penguins on the southern tip of Africa are the ultimate crowd-pleaser. But crisis looms.

Short of food, exposed to predators and the African sun, their numbers are plummeting. But salvation may rest in a simple manmade solution — housing for penguins.

Dotting the shore of this penguin colony near the Cape of Good Hope are 200 nesting boxes, each big enough to house a happy family of parents, eggs and chicks. The experiment has already worked well on a more distant penguin island in South African waters, and wildlife rangers are eager to see whether the boxes recently installed on Boulders Beach, where tourists can watch the birds up close, will prove equally attractive.

"You look at the penguins and think they have a lovely time in sunny South Africa, but it's a struggle," says Monique Ruthenberg, a ranger with the Table Mountain National Park in Cape Town, where summer temperatures recently hit 40 degrees (104 Fahrenheit).

Park authorities installed the boxes — made of a fiberglass mix, shaped like a burrow and dug into the sand to mimic the real nests — at Boulders Beach

as part of desperate efforts to protect the dwindling populations of African penguins.

It has been a losing struggle. Numbers of the cute, curious creatures have plummeted from around 3 million in the 1930s to just 120,000 because of overfishing and pollution. Some experts fear the species will die out in as little as a decade, and are particularly alarmed at the prospect of global warming increasing the number of scorching days, raising water temperatures and altering fish migration patterns.

The Boulders Beach colony has fallen 30 percent from a peak of 3,900 birds in 2005 to 2,600 and some of the island colonies have suffered calamitous declines of 50 percent.

The African penguin, also called the jackass because of its bray, is the only one to inhabit the African continent. It has shorter feathers than the Antarctic birds because it doesn't face such cold and is just 50 centimeters (20 inches) tall.

The Boulders Colony began in 1985 when a couple of penguins moved from a nearby island onto the beach in the naval base of Simon's Town, decided they liked it and stayed. So many followed that authorities had to build fences to prevent them invading people's gardens. But the tourists poured in.

SWING FOR THE FENCES



PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Toreador
SOPHOMORE RACHEL MENDOZA, a chemistry major from Odessa, gets a hit for her team, Killswitch, against the Prairie Dogs Wednesday in the slow pitch intramural games hosted at the Tech softball fields.

Chilly day for first day of Six Flags beer sales

ARLINGTON (AP) — The chill in the air was a bigger story at Six Flags Over Texas on Saturday than the first chance to down a chilled beer.

Saturday was the initial day of beer sales at the amusement park, but with cold, gusty winds and temperatures hovering in the 40s much of the day, many opted instead for hot coffee or cocoa.

An exception was David Patterson of Gainesville, who bought a Coors Light along with his slice of pizza.

"It's nice to have a beer with your lunch," Patterson said in the online edition of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "At \$6 a pop, I don't know many I'll get."

Across the street, Hurricane Harbor customers can purchase beer when the water park opens for the season on May 16.

The two parks received a mixed-beverage permit Tuesday when the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission ruled an opponent of the beer sales wouldn't get another hearing, said agency spokeswoman Carolyn Beck.

Despite the permission to sell liquor, the parks said they plan to sell only beer. A 16-ounce cup sells for \$5.99.

Six Flags park-goers have to drink in the designated spots and can't roam with beers in hand.

Bill Mertz of the Dallas suburb of

Frisco bought a beer just so he could say he did it.

"The only reason I bought it was for the novelty," the 46-year-old Mertz said in the online edition of The Dallas Morning News. "I said, 'We've got to get one.'"

The park also will halt alcohol sales on days set aside for students, such as Physics Day and Math and Science Day.

Opponents of the alcohol sales say beer shouldn't be sold at a place geared toward the youth market. They also think increasing the availability of alcohol could worsen the risk of drunken driving accidents.

Rustlers keeping special cattle rangers busy

GROESBECK (AP) — Robert Ware easily walks among hundreds of nervous cattle eyeing him suspiciously in pens at a sprawling, steamy and noisy auction barn and takes notes.

Armed with a clipboard and "drive-in" sheets about the size of a traffic cop's ticket book, Ware, an inspector for more than three decades with the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, looks from under his green camo-patterned cap and jots down each animal's particulars — color, sex, horns or no horns, age, brand and distinctive ear marks that have a language all their own: Crop, over half crop, under seven, under hack, swallow fork, under bit.

The paperwork tracking cattle sales

also is vital to prosecution and possible recovery if any of the animals are reported stolen, a problem that's nearly tripled in the past year in Texas and Oklahoma, according to figures kept by the 15,000-member cattle raisers association.

The group, not coincidentally, formed 132 years ago to combat rampant rustling on what then was the open range.

"Cattle theft is alive and well," says Hal Dumas, one more than two dozen "Special Rangers" stationed throughout Texas and Oklahoma.

In 2008, Dumas, who supervises a vast area of South and Southeast Texas, and his fellow rangers investigated the theft of 6,404 head of cattle, up

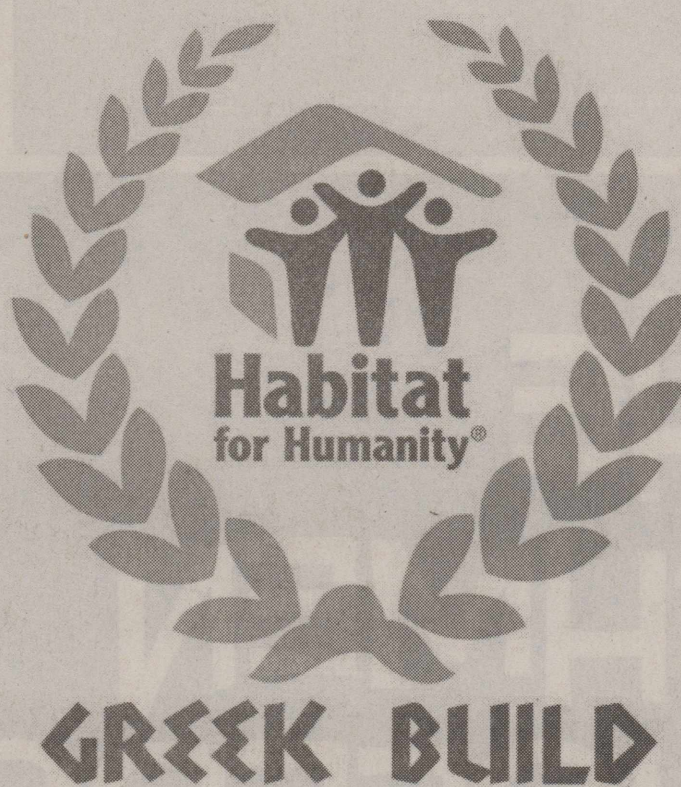
from 2,400 the previous year. In 2007, the officers commissioned as Special Rangers by Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and Texas Department of Public Safety investigated nearly 1,000 instances of not only cattle theft, but also stolen horses, trailers, saddles and ranch equipment.

The timeworn system employed by 70 inspectors such as Ware works. Their reports go to the association's Fort Worth headquarters and are entered into what's touted as the nation's largest centralized and computerized brand recording and retrieval system, making information on missing and stolen livestock available to more than 700 law enforcement agencies nationwide.

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For more information on Texas Tech Greek Life, call 806-742-5433 or visit www.greeklife.ttu.edu.

Men's tennis makes easy work of Lamar

By ZANE TURNER
STAFF WRITER

The tune-up for the Texas Tech men's tennis team could not have gone any better.

The Red Raiders (11-6) easily defeated Lamar (7-7) 7-0 Saturday at the McLeod Tennis Complex.

The home match with the Cardinals was the last non-conference affair on Tech's schedule this season before Big 12 Conference play begins.

Tech featured a different lineup than usual in this match.

Making his season debut for the Red Raiders was senior captain James Wilson.

Wilson, who Tech men's tennis coach Tim Siegel said has meant more to him than any player in all his years of coaching, made the most of his opportunity at the No. 6 spot defeating Lamar's Savkovic, 6-1, 6-2.

"This was very exciting for me," Wilson said. "My first match of the year, I was really fired up. I just wanted to go out there and give everything I had. I wanted to make sure the guys knew I was fired up. I think a

lot of them knew because I was screaming my head off, but it was a lot of fun."

Siegel said he was pleased to give Wilson the chance to play because of what the captain means to the team off the court.

"Not only is he a very good player," he said, "but he is very close to all the guys. He has meant so much to this program, and he is going to be the toughest guy to replace because you can bring in good players, but it's not always easy to bring in leaders."

The No. 32 Red Raiders dominated from the start taking two of three doubles matches to win the point. Tech made easy work of the Cardinals in singles play, sweeping all six matches for the victory.

The No. 1 doubles team remained the same as No. 15 Raony Carvalho and Christian Rojmar defeated Lamar's Maciej Bogusz and Marton Horvath, 8-1. Moving from the No. 3 spot to No. 2 was David Gonzalez and Gonzalo Escobar, who handled the Cardinals' Richard Filkuka and Savkovic, 8-4.

Playing for the first time this spring as a duo, at No. 3, was Michael Breler and Joe Hatstrup who fell to Lamar's Diego Snyder and Mario Janjic, 8-6.

Siegel said he was pleased with the effort from his team despite the windy Saturday preparation for Big 12 play begins.

"Every match is dangerous if you're not ready to play," he said. "I thought we handled the weather pretty well, and I'm just happy to get it behind us because now our focus is on A&M and Texas."

The No. 1 and 2 players for Tech continued their strong play and are doing so at just the right time.

Carvalho's win snaps a two-match skid, but he has won seven of his last 10. Markovic continues his hot streak having won nine of his last 10.

Markovic will attempt to continue his Big 12 success as he has gone 11-1 against conference opponents in the last two seasons. However, the freshman Carvalho hopes to make a name for himself in the Big 12.

"It was good to get this one out of the way," said Markovic, who

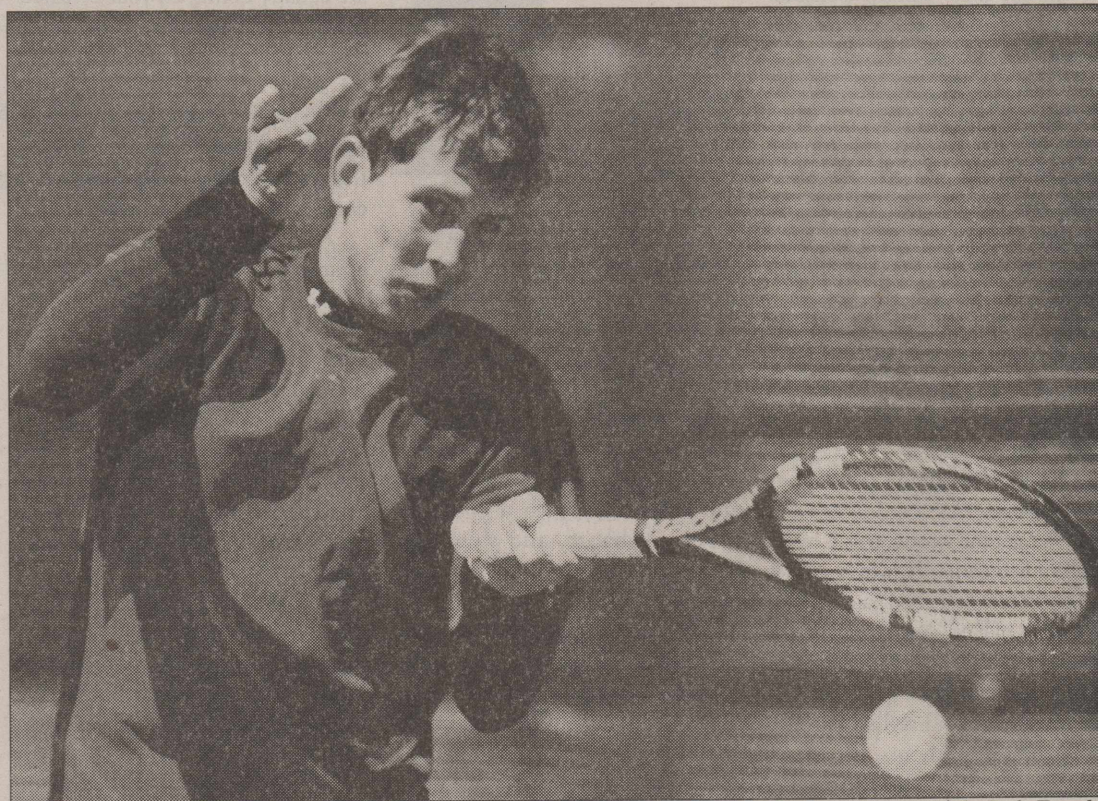


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S SINISA Markovic hits a forehand during his singles match in which he defeated Lamar's Mario Janjic Saturday at the McLeod Tennis Complex.

is a two-time All-Big 12 singles selection. "The conditions were tough, but we won every match, and it was important for us to

have a match to mentally prepare for Texas A&M."

The Red Raiders begin Big 12 play with No. 14 Texas A&M at

6 p.m. April 3 in College Station followed by No. 14 Texas at 1 p.m. April 5 in Austin.

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UConn earns third Final Four berth

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Connecticut often overwhelms opponents with its size and strength.

Harried by the fighting Missouri Tigers, UConn needed something else: speed.

Enter 6-foot-1 freshman Kemba Walker, who matched a career high with 23 points as the top-seeded Huskies held off Missouri 82-75 in the West Regional final on Saturday. UConn earned a trip to Detroit and extended the Big East's dominance of the NCAA tournament.

UConn is headed to its third Final Four, where it will meet either Big East rival Louisville or Big Ten powerhouse Michigan State. This trip may have seemed harder than

the others, because the Huskies were rocked this week by a report alleging that they violated NCAA recruiting rules.

Then came a duel with Mizou. But the Huskies kept their poise even as the Tigers erased an early 11-point lead to surge ahead in the second half.

"We took some bumps, we took some bruises, but here we are once again going to the Final Four, and I'm just elated," UConn coach Jim Calhoun said.

Among those banged up was 7-foot-3 center Hasheem Thabeet, who bloodied a finger on his right hand scrapping for a loose ball on the floor in the second half. The

Big East co-player of the year finished with 13 rebounds but only five points and no blocks, and held a bandage to his hand after the game.

"I'm getting it checked out, but I should be good," Thabeet said.

A.J. Price added 18 points and was named most outstanding player of the West region. But the difference was Walker, who deftly handled the Tigers' pressure defense.

"I told him he grew up," Price said. "He played like a man among boys today."

When it ended, Calhoun made an exaggerated fist pump and the emotional Huskies (31-4) mobbed each other at center court.

Louisville beats Lady Bears 56-39 in Raleigh Regional

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Angel McCoughtry and Candyce Bingham remembered the crushing feeling they had in the locker room last year after Louisville blew a huge lead and lost in the NCAA tournament.

This time, the Cardinals gathered at midcourt to celebrate with a few screams of joy after the horn.

McCoughtry had 22 points and 12 rebounds while Bingham sparked the decisive second-half run to help the Cardinals beat Baylor 56-39 on Saturday, sending them to the first regional championship game in school history.

Bingham had 15 points and 15 rebounds for the Cardinals

(32-4), the No. 3 seed in the Raleigh Regional. That included a pair of critical 3-pointers during Louisville's 12-0 spurt midway through the half that finally blunted a gritty performance by the second-seeded Bears (29-6).

Louisville, which closed the game on an 18-2 run, advanced to Monday night's regional final to face top-seeded Maryland, which beat Vanderbilt later Saturday. It will be an emotional matchup for second-year Louisville coach Jeff Walz, who spent five years as an assistant at Maryland and was part of the Terrapins' 2006 national championship team.

"As excited as I am, I'm even more excited for these kids because we work them hard, I'm telling you,"

Walz said. "We have got to be the tougher team on the floor. The first 6 minutes of the second half, we weren't. They got loose balls, they beat us down the floor in transition. After we got that straightened out, I thought we started to play the way we needed to play."

It was a reversal of last year's frustrating performance in this same position. In that game, the Cardinals — in the round of 16 first the first time — blew an 18-point first-half lead against top-seeded North Carolina and lost 78-74.

This time, with both teams fighting for every basket, the Cardinals came through with the clinching plays that had gotten away from them against the Tar Heels.

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SPORTS

PAGE 10
MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2009

Yao leads Rockets to easy win over Clippers

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets had three days of practice before their game against the Los Angeles Clippers, and that turned out to be little more than a glorified scrimmage.

Yao Ming had 21 points and 15 rebounds, and the Rockets led from start to finish in an easy 110-93 victory Saturday night.

Aaron Brooks added 21 points, Shane Battier scored 15 and the Rockets stayed in third place in the Western Conference by beating the Clippers for the 20th time in the last 24 meetings.

Now comes the tough finish — Houston plays five of its last eight games on the road, starting Wednesday in Phoenix. The Rockets also play the Los Angeles Lakers, Orlando, Portland, New Orleans and Dallas before the end of the regular season.

"That will be a very good test for us," Yao said. "How tough can we be in the playoffs? Obviously, a playoff team is much tougher than tonight."

Eric Gordon scored 17 and Chris

Kaman had 16 points for the Clippers, who played without Baron Davis (calf strain/ulcers) and leading rebounder Marcus Camby (sprained left ankle). Los Angeles has lost 11 of its last 12 road games.

Clippers coach Mike Dunleavy complimented Houston's team defense before the game, and the Rockets held Los Angeles to 39 percent shooting through the first three quarters. Dunleavy likes the Rockets' chances in the postseason.

"Houston gives themselves a chance to win every night because they are good defensively and they rebound," Dunleavy said. "They have a good mix of players and it should be a good formula for playoff basketball."

The Rockets still see plenty of room for improvement. They used the extra practice time this week to work on their half-court offense and Battier didn't think Houston was good enough on Saturday night, despite shooting 52 percent with 22 assists.

Tech grabs conference win over Mizzou, van der Drift reaches program milestone

By ZANE TURNER
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech women's tennis history was rewritten Friday.

Samantha van der Drift etched her name in the record books Friday as Tech's all-time singles wins leader with 75.

With the win, she passes Janet Durham, whom van der Drift partnered with in doubles during the 2006-2007 season when the duo went 12-6.

In the 4-3 win against Missouri, van der Drift persevered through her match for the win.

Against Missouri's Jessica Giuggioli, van der Drift took Giuggioli to a third set, taking the first 6-2 and dropping the second 6-4. The third set ended in a tie-breaker 7-6 (7-3).

Despite becoming Tech's all-time wins leader, van der Drift said she is honored to have the record, but is more focused on leading her

team to the NCAA Tournament.

"It's a really big honor," she said, "but like I've said before, I really want to do well with the team. I want to make it to the tournament. I'm really happy and real honored to have this title, but I think it's more important to do well with the team than myself."

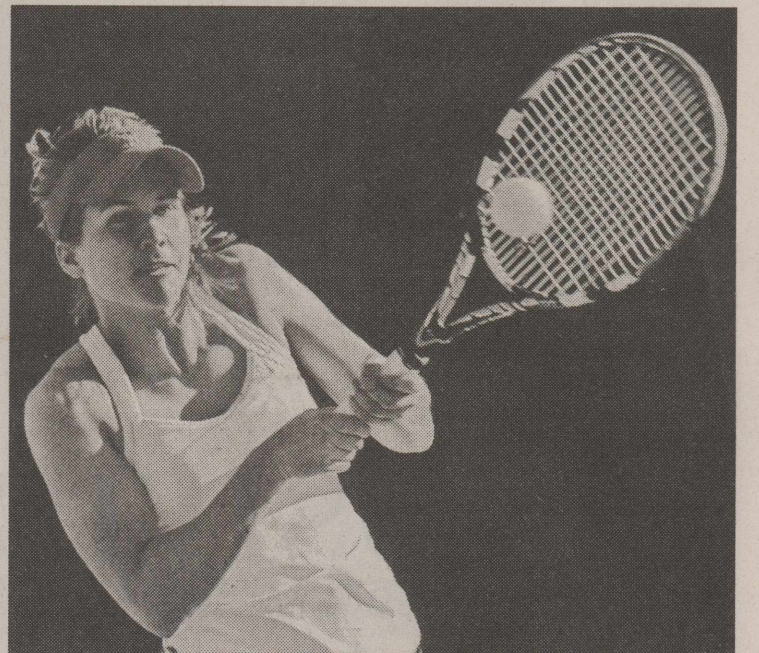
With van der Drift's record-breaking performance, the Lady Raiders earned their second straight conference win.

"This was a really good win for us," van der Drift said. "In the past we have relied on the same people, and in this win some other people stepped up. It was a really good win, and it gives us a lot of confidence for the rest of the season."

Tech also was without coach Todd Petty, who stayed at home with his wife and newborn son, but Tech men's tennis assistant coach Marcelo Ferreira coached the Lady Raiders to a much-needed win and saw history made with van der Drift's victory.

"It was a great experience for me," he said. "I was a little bit anxious and nervous before because it was my first time taking over a team. Coach Siegel really prepared me for this kind of situation. As soon as I started working with the girls, I felt like I was really prepared for this moment, and I was really happy with how Sam performed, fighting back like she did, and I was really happy to be a part of it."

The Lady Raiders took down the Tigers, who were on a two-



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH'S SAMANTHA van der Drift now has the most singles wins in Tech women's tennis history with 75.

match streak of their own.

The No. 44 doubles team in the nation of van der Drift and Kelsey Garland remained unbeaten in Big 12 play, defeating Missouri's Malory Weber and Jamie Mera 9-8, completing the sweep to win the point for the Lady Raiders.

The match was tied 3-3 after van der Drift captured the record and Natalie Leitch at the No. 4 spot recorded a victory.

It came down to Stefanie Peana at the No. 5 spot and she responded.

Peana took the first set 6-3, then gave up the second 6-4, but dispatched Mizzou's Danielle Day

6-3 in the third set to claim the victory for Tech.

"I told the girls after the match, I felt like we went out there and played as a team," Ferreira said. "I felt like all the girls just gave everything they had in doubles and singles with 100 percent effort right from the beginning with a lot of intensity. It was a great win for the team, the girls really needed it because it's the kind of win that is going to help us make the tournament."

As of press time, Tech was scheduled to play Colorado at 11 a.m. Sunday in Boulder, Colo.

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'Nova headed to first Final Four since '85 tourney

BOSTON (AP) — It was physical. It was defensive. It was just the way they like it in the Big East.

With bodies clogging the lane and 3-pointers clanging off the rim, Scottie Reynolds made a half-court dash for a last-second basket to give Villanova 78-76 victory over Pittsburgh and send the Wildcats to their first Final Four since the 1985 team made its stunning run to the NCAA championship.

"That was kind of the greatest year in the Big East history, and we've had discussions whether that year was better than this year," said Villanova coach Jay Wright, whose third-seeded Wildcats are the lowest remaining seed — just like they were in '85. "It's all kind of happening the same. ... If history repeats itself, I'll take it."

Reynolds scored with 0.5 seconds left to help the Wildcats (30-7) beat one conference rival and join another on its way to Detroit. Connecticut advanced to the national semifinals earlier; Louisville could make it three from the Big East with a victory over Michigan State on Sunday.

The only other time a single league sent three teams to the Final Four: 1985, when Patrick Ewing's Georgetown beat St. John's in the semis before losing to Villanova in an epic championship game. Rollie Massimino's Wildcats were a No. 8 seed — the lowest ever to win it all.

"I'm really happy — for Villanova, for the players. It's just tremendous," the old coach said after the new one, Jay Wright, came to his courtside seat for a congratulatory hug. "I told him I'm so proud of him. He's be on another level for a long time. I knew him when he was a baby. Now he's a superstar."

THIS WEEK IN RED RAIDER SPORTS

<p>Women's Tennis vs. Kansas Friday, 04/03 @ 5 PM McLeod Tennis Center</p>	<p>Men's Baseball vs. Texas A&M Friday, 04/03 @ 6:30 PM & Saturday, 04/04 @ 5 PM & Sunday, 04/05 @ 1 PM Dan Law Field</p>	<p>Softball vs. Kansas Saturday, 04/04 @ 2:00 PM & Sunday, 04/05 @ 12:00 PM Rocky Johnson Field</p>
<p>Women's Tennis vs. Kansas State Tuesday, 04/05 @ 11 AM McLeod Tennis Center</p>		

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