



Mariachi Music

See Page 5



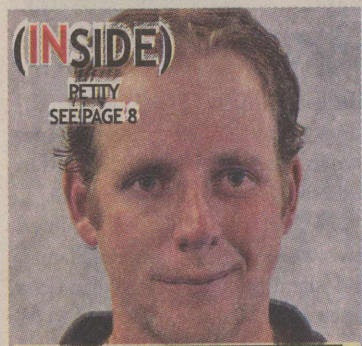
Lubbock music scene

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2009
VOLUME 83 ■ ISSUE 124

THE DAILY T OREADOR

Serving the Texas Tech University community since 1925



(INSIDE)
PETTY
SEE PAGE 8

(IN BRIEF)

STATE

Senate committee passes increased smoking age

AUSTIN (AP) — Although they are legally considered adults and can serve in the military, 18-year-old Texans would be considered minors when it comes to smoking under a bill passed unanimously through a Senate committee Tuesday.

The measure would increase the legal age for buying tobacco products to 19, and would cut off an estimated \$12.5 million in tax revenue for the state over the next two years.

San Antonio Democrat Sen. Carlos Uresti pushed the same measure in 2007, but after winning approval in the Senate it fizzled out in an end of session backlog of bills in the House.

NATION

Consumer confidence holds steady in March

NEW YORK (AP) — Americans seem more resigned to the hardships of the recession as consumer confidence stabilized in March after falling to an all-time low in February.

But economists caution that shoppers — dealing with shrinking retirement funds, falling home values and worries about job security — are still very gloomy and any improvement in sentiment is fragile.

"There is a sense that consumers are now familiar (with) how bad things are," said Bernard Baumohl, chief global economist at the Economic Outlook Group. "They have read the papers. They recognize that the job market is awful."

WORLD

Afghan police: 30 Taliban killed in clashes

KABUL (AP) — Afghan and foreign troops killed 30 Taliban fighters and wounded 17 others during a series of clashes in southern Afghanistan, while a roadside bomb Tuesday killed the mayor of an eastern capital, officials said.

The joint forces continued to battle with the militants in Dehrawood district of Uruzgan province Tuesday, following overnight clashes when the militants were killed, said Uruzgan's police chief Juma Gul Himat.

Four policemen were wounded in the battle, he said.

DEATH TOLL

4263

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

INSIDE

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Hot Rod

Matador Mustang Club offers opportunities to meet other car enthusiasts

By CARRIE THORNTON
STAFF WRITER

Do you wanna go fast? The Matador Mustang Club does.

The Texas Tech student organization, which hosted a car show last weekend, is open to any student who has a love for Mustangs or cars in general.

Russell Wendell, vice president of the organization and owner of a 2003 Mustang GT, was drawn to the club primarily because of his love for his car and other Mustangs.

"It's the first car that I've ever really cared about that I've had," said the accounting major from DeSoto.

The first quality that attracted him to his car was speed, he said, and he's glad he decided to buy one.

Wendell has focused most of his efforts on improving the internal parts of the car, such as the engine and exhaust. He said he has spent almost \$2,000 so far and plans to continue improving his car's look and performance.

"It's worth it," Wendell said. "I spent a lot of money on the exhaust, but every

time I start my car it puts a smile on my face.

"I have never been in an accident. I'm a reckless driver, but I'm also wreck-less. I drive it like it's meant to be driven, and I do some dangerous things, but I know my car, and I love driving. So, I've driven it enough to know what it can or cannot do."

Aubrey Thomason, president of the

Mustang Matador Club, said the organization is different because it is open to any car-lover although its name implies members need to own a Mustang.

The sophomore engineering major and Lubbock native said she was the organization's first female member when she joined a year and a half ago.

"I inherited, like, 10 older brothers," Thomason said, recalling her induction

PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Treador

SYLVIA PETTMAN'S 1967 Ford Mustang was on display at a car show hosted by the Texas Tech Matador Mustang Club on Sunday outside Jones AT&T stadium.

MUSTANGS continued on page 5

Student group hosts Lubbock County voter registration drive

By JON VANDERLAAN
NEWS EDITOR

Make Lubbock Wet, an organization targeted at encouraging students to vote for the expansion of Lubbock County alcohol sales, will be hosting a voter registration drive at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today between the Student Union Building and University Library.

Sean McGregor, co-founder of Make Lubbock Wet, said the registration drive will be the group's main drive and comes just in time to allow students to vote early, from May 1 to May 5, and on the day of the election, May 9.

If students already are registered, they can vote early April 27.

McGregor said while the group supports the expansion of alcohol sales, voter registration cards will not be denied to any student, regardless of which way the students plan to vote.

Make Lubbock Wet also will give away pizza at its table and will bring

all the voter registration cards to the election office when the registration drive is concluded.

In addition to the registration drive, the group has a Web site, a Facebook group and gives away bumper stickers to spread the word, McGregor said.

Todd Reno, a Tech alumnus and volunteer with Lubbock County Wins, said while Lubbock County Wins does not have any direct ties with Make Lubbock Wet, it is supportive of the push to register students to vote.

"(We're) just helping get the word out," he said.

Lubbock County Wins is a political action committee formed to spread the word of the election and attempt to push voters to vote for the expansion of alcohol sales.

Melissa Pierce, the chairwoman and treasurer of the PAC, said the PAC has no direct involvement in Make Lubbock Wet but wants students to become involved in the process.

Lubbock County Wins mainly has

been spreading word of the election through media outlets and its online resources, she said, including Facebook and its Web site.

"The main thing is that people get out and vote," Pierce said.

The PAC has received positive feedback from people in the community, she said, and if the speed with which the petition for the vote garnered enough signatures is any indication, Pierce believes the vote stands a good chance of passing.

She said Lubbock County Wins is fundraising to help continue spread the word, and students also are encouraged to help in the effort because they will be affected.

The deadline to register to vote on the election day is April 9 for the May 9 election, but if students want to vote early, the deadline is one month before the date the student wishes to vote.

Early voting begins April 27 and ends May 5.

>>>jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu

Pakistani Taliban threaten strike on Washington

By KATHY GANNON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's Taliban chief claimed responsibility Tuesday for a deadly assault on a police academy, saying he wanted to retaliate for U.S. missile attacks on the militant bases on the border with Afghanistan.

Baitullah Mehsud, who has a \$5 million bounty on his head from the United States, also vowed to "amaze everyone in the world" with an attack on Washington or even the White House.

The FBI, however, said he had made similar threats previously and

there was no indication of anything imminent.

Mehsud, who gave a flurry of media interviews Tuesday, has no record of actually striking targets abroad although he is suspected of being behind a 10-man cell arrested in Barcelona in January 2008 for plotting suicide attacks in Spain.

Pakistan's former government and the CIA consider him the prime suspect behind the December 2007 killing of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. And Pakistani officials accuse him of harboring foreign fighters, including Central Asians linked to al-Qaida, and of training suicide bombers.

But analysts doubt that Taliban fighters carried off Monday's raid on the Lahore academy on their own, saying the group is likely working more closely than ever with militants based far from the Afghan frontier.

It's a constellation that includes al-Qaida, presenting a formidable challenge to the U.S. as it increases its troop presence in the region, not to mention nuclear-armed Pakistan's own stability.

Mehsud told The Associated Press that the academy and other recent attacks were revenge for stepped-up American missile strikes into Pakistan's border badlands.

Big summit, small hopes; leaders meet on economy

By TOM RAUM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON (AP) — Desperate but divided on ways to lift their nations from economic misery, world leaders converged for an emergency summit Tuesday holding scant hopes of finding a magic-bullet solution for the crisis that brought them hurrying to London.

Even as President Barack Obama and the others were arriving, the U.S.

acknowledged its allies would not go along with a massive burst of stimulus spending, while Europe was forced to backpedal from hopes for tighter financial regulation.

Instead, leaders are trumpeting the limited common ground they could reach, including more money for the International Monetary Fund

and closer scrutiny of hedge funds and tax havens. As for the broader issues, they're hoping for the best — or at least that they will do no harm.

With turbulent world markets watching closely, the stakes are high, especially for America's new president, stepping onto the world stage for the first time to deal with the economic crisis and to meet face-to-face with many other leaders.

One global change is being acknowledged: The forum for grappling with world economic problems has

grown beyond the established eight post-war economies that dominated previous economic summits — the U.S., Britain, Germany, France, Japan, Canada, Italy and Russia. Now, 20 nations are coming together in London, with fast-growing developing economies such as China, India, Brazil and Saudi Arabia — important players in any effort to coordinate economic policy — sitting as full negotiating partners.

"For the first time, there's a recognition that major emerging markets and developing countries have a critical role at the table," said Mike Froman, a White House international economic adviser.

But will that mean action to stop a global downward spiral? Froman acknowledged that there have been few examples of international gains in times of crisis. "The depression was made 'great' by the lack of cooperation," he said, noting that nations like to keep control over their own fiscal and monetary policies.

And global leaders were quarreling up to the last minute before the summit.

Adding to the pressure, French President Nicolas Sarkozy said Tuesday the leaders cannot afford to let the week pass without making substantial progress in fixing the world's economy.

"For the first time, there's a recognition that major emerging markets and developing countries have a critical role at the table."

MIKE FROMAN
WHITE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC ADVISER

TODAY	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Sunny
High 78 Low 41	High 65 Low 41	High 83 Low 51	High 76 Low 42	High 71 Low 34

Center for Undergraduate Research hosts conference

BY KENDYL SEBESTA
STAFF WRITER

symposium and paper presentations from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Tech Student Union Building Traditions and Bell Tower Rooms, and poster presentations from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Croslin Room.

"We will have a majority of judges from the Texas Tech campus who have presented their research at national conferences looking at the students' work on the 2nd and 3rd," Diaz said, "and (we) would love to expand the research conference in the future to include awards and scholarships for the students beyond the Outstanding Faculty Mentor for Undergraduate Researchers Award and Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Awards that we will be giving away this time."

Tech faculty research mentors are nominated for the Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award by undergraduate research students, Diaz said, while undergraduate research students are nominated for the Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award by faculty mentors.

"The main thing we want to do with this conference is get students involved and make them more competitive for grad school," she said. "It's important for them to get more involved with research no matter what their future plans are and the awards will be another way of recognizing that."

Julie Isom, associate program director for the Tech Center for the Integration of Science Education and Research, said the conference will include undergraduate student posters and papers from 60 to 100 students this year.

"The Center for Undergraduate

Research will have 11 posters, the Honors College should have 35 posters and 12 papers and the Texas Tech Howard Hughes Medical Institute should have 22 posters," Isom said. "The topics look like they will range anywhere from a study on the amount of lead in Mardi Gras beads to the identification of fungi in chronic wounds."

Many of the undergraduate research students participating in the research conference will gain many skills, she said, despite what they choose to do after their undergraduate careers.

"All of the students participating strive to publish their work in peer reviewed journals and present at national conferences," Isom said. "This will teach them to become more literate in science and will apply to pretty much everything they do. It makes them good citizens and more capable of pursuing any interests they may have."

The research conference was made possible by a Science Education Program grant, Isom said, and will be open to the public.

"We have a current Texas Tech Program Director at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute — Lou Densmore — who made this all possible in terms of the grant," she said. "In fact, we are the only institution in the state of Texas to have continuous funding from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, which means \$7.8 million in funding right now."

According to the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Web site, the institute is one of the nation's largest non-profit medical research organizations focused on biomedical research and science education in the United States.

The institute also provides about \$700 million per year in research funding and more than \$80 million in grants for U.S. science education annually, the Web site reported.

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WORLD EVENTS IN BRIEF

Netanyahu: Israel seeks peace with Arabs

JERUSALEM (AP) — Benjamin Netanyahu, taking office as Israel's new leader Tuesday, promised to seek "full peace" with the Arab and Muslim world, but refused to utter the words the world was waiting to hear: "Palestinian state."

The well-spoken, U.S.-educated hawk took pains to portray himself as a pragmatist, telling a packed parliament that Israel does not want to rule the Palestinians.

"Under the permanent status agreement, the Palestinians will have all the authority to rule themselves," Netanyahu said in comments that appeared to hark back to a decades-old notion that peace could be achieved through limited Palestinian autonomy.

His words drew a sharp reaction from Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat. "I want to say to Mr. Netanyahu that the only way the Palestinians

can rule themselves, by themselves, is through ending the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and establishing an independent Palestinian state," Erekat said.

Netanyahu's refusal to embrace the idea of Palestinian statehood could put him at odds with the Obama administration and much of the rest of the world. So could his decision to appoint ultranationalist politician Avigdor Lieberman as foreign minister.

Israelis, Palestinians clash on Gaza border

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli forces attacked a group of Palestinian militants along the Gaza-Israel border early Tuesday, killing two gunmen and wounding three others in one of the worst flare-ups of violence since Israel ended its offensive in the territory more than two months ago.

Troops spotted four militants planting explosive devices along the fence, and an Israeli soldier was wounded in an ensuing gunbattle, the Israeli military said.

The troops called in an airstrike and struck the armed men, the military said, and later uncovered weapons that included grenades and an anti-tank missile.

Palestinian witnesses reported hearing two explosions from the border area in the central Gaza Strip, after which Israeli helicopters hovered over the fence and fired at targets.

Medical crews evacuated the bodies of two Palestinian men in military uniforms from the border, according to Dr. Moaiya Hassanain of Gaza's

Health Ministry. Three other militants were wounded, Hassanain said, two in the initial clash and a third in a subsequent Israeli missile strike.

No Palestinian group claimed involvement in the clash. But Hamas, the Islamic group that has ruled Gaza since 2007, sent a text message to reporters saying the group's fighters fired 18 mortar shells at Israeli troops in the vicinity of the clash. Palestinian militants also fired two rockets into Israel, both landing in open areas, the army said.

US, Iranian diplomats break the ice at conference

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — In a cautious first step toward unlocking 30 years of tense relations, senior U.S. diplomat Richard Holbrooke had a brief but cordial meeting with Iran's deputy foreign minister Tuesday at an international conference on Afghanistan.

The rare diplomatic approach was the first official face-to-face interplay between the Obama administration and the Iranian regime. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary

Rodham Clinton cautioned that the talks between Holbrooke and Iranian diplomat Mehdi Akhundzadeh were promising but not "substantive."

"They agreed to stay in touch," Clinton said at the close of a one-day conference on Afghan security and development that was designed partly to allow the diplomatic turn with Iran.

The meeting between Holbrooke, President Barack Obama's hand-picked Afghanistan envoy, and Akhundzadeh came on the sidelines of a

session aimed at improving Afghanistan's future prospects. Akhundzadeh pledged to help the reconstruction of its neighbor, but he criticized U.S. plans to send more troops into Afghanistan.

The gathering was being closely watched for signs that the U.S. and Iran can work together on a common problem after years of hostility. The two countries cooperated at a distance in 2001 and 2002 after U.S.-led forces ousted Afghanistan's Taliban government.

Dutch hostage in Yemen reports good treatment

SAN'A, Yemen (AP) — A Dutch couple taken hostage Tuesday by armed tribesmen in Yemen said their kidnapers were treating them well, including offering them lunch and tea, after brazenly hijacking their car in the capital.

Speaking by cell phone to The Associated Press from a village where they were being held, Heleen Janszen said five men with Kalashnikov rifles surrounded their car while the couple was driving in the capital, San'a.

They forced her husband, Jan Hoogendoorn, 54, to move to the back seat and made both of them put on traditional Yemeni clothing including a head scarf to escape the city undetected, she said.

"It was a very classical kidnapping situation," Janszen, 49, told the AP, talking on a phone that one of the kidnapers had allowed her to use. "We were offered lunch and tea, and were allowed to take a walk and take pictures. It's such an adventure — that's the only way to cope with it."

Yemeni tribes have previously seized foreigners — either tourists or those living or working in the country — to pressure the Yemeni government to meet their demands, mainly to free clan members from jail. In most cases the kidnappings are resolved and the hostages freed unharmed.

Yemen, the most impoverished country in the Arabian Peninsula, is a U.S. ally in the Middle East, but it also is the ancestral homeland of Osama bin Laden, and al-Qaida loyalists are active in the country.

Beijing rejects China spy ring report as 'lies'

BEIJING (AP) — China on Tuesday denied a research report's contention that a China-based computer spy ring stole sensitive information from thousands of hard drives worldwide, calling the accusation a lie meant to feed anxiety over Beijing's growing influence.

In the government's first reaction to the report, Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said the conclusions were symptoms of a "Cold War virus" that causes people overseas to "occasionally be overcome by China-threat seizures."

The report by the Information Warfare Monitor added to growing concerns that China has become a center for cyber-warfare, spying and crime. Industry watchdogs have complained about junk e-mail generated in China. Officials in the U.S., Britain and Germany have accused Chinese hackers backed by China's military of intruding into their government and

defense computer networks.

A State Department spokesman declined to comment directly on the latest allegation, saying only that officials were aware of it. Asked whether U.S. government computers had been compromised, spokesman Gordon Guguid said, "I have no information that that's the case."

The Information Warfare Monitor report released Saturday said that a network, based mainly in China, hacked into classified documents from government and private organizations in 103 countries, including the computers of the Dalai Lama and his exiled Tibetan government.

British hand off southern Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — Britain turned over coalition command of the oil-rich south to the United States on Tuesday in the first step toward withdrawing virtually all British troops from Iraq by July.

The pomp-filled ceremony marked the beginning of the end of an often-troubled British mission. The Iraqis have accused the

British of merely standing by while Shiite militias wielded control of the country's second-largest city of Basra for years.

However, U.S. and Iraqi commanders had nothing but praise Tuesday for Britain's role as the second-largest contributor of troops since the U.S.-led invasion in March 2003.

GM's new CEO says bankruptcy is 'more probable'

DETROIT (AP) — General Motors Corp.'s new chief executive said Tuesday that more of the automaker's plants could close and bankruptcy is "more probable" as GM works to meet new, tougher requirements for government aid.

In his first news conference as CEO, Fritz Henderson said he expects the company would "need to take further measures" beyond the five plants the company said it would shutter

when it submitted a restructuring plan to the government last month.

GM also is likely to offer another buyout program to workers as it looks to cut labor costs, Henderson said.

President Barack Obama said Monday that GM's initial plans to become viable didn't go far enough. He gave the company 60 days to make more cuts and get more concessions from bondholders and unions or it won't get any more government

help. The Obama administration also asked former CEO Rick Wagoner to resign, and Henderson took over as CEO on Monday.

Henderson said that although GM would prefer not to use bankruptcy protection to save itself, it is "certainly more probable" than in the past.

The company, he said, has until June 1 to accomplish changes sought by the government, or it will be in bankruptcy. The 60-day deadline should be enough time, but if it becomes evident that the changes can't be made by the deadline, GM could go into court sooner, he said.

Today's su do ku

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Puzzles by PageFiller

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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LA VIDA NOCHE

Thursday

- Seth Savage Band will perform at Jake's Back Room. Doors open at 9 p.m. Cost \$5.
- Texas Tech University Singers and Women's Chorale will perform a free concert at 8 p.m. in Hemmle Recital Hall.
- Manny Rodriguez will perform from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Stella's Lounge.

Friday

- Sobredosis del Sabor, a 12-piece salsa band from Cuba, will perform at Jake's Back Room. Doors open at 9 p.m. Cost \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door.
- The Tech Jazz Festival will begin at 7 p.m. in the Allen Theatre of the Student Union Building.

Saturday

- The Dead See will perform at Jake's Back Room. Doors open at 9 p.m.

- The Tech Jazz Festival will continue, featuring Dizzy Gillespie Alumni All Stars with James Moody at 8 p.m. in the Allen Theatre. Tickets — \$12 for the public and two free per student — can be obtained through Select-A-Seat.

Sunday

- Tech University Singers and Matador Singers will perform a free concert at 3 p.m. in Hemmle Recital Hall.
- Tech Trombone Studio will perform a free concert at 5 p.m. in the Music building choir room.

Monday

- Eri Lee will perform a free violin concert at 7 p.m. in the Hemmle Recital Hall.

Tuesday

- Jr. Vasquez will perform from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Stella's Lounge.
- Tech Renee Skerik will perform a free viola concert at 7 p.m. in Hemmle Recital Hall.
- Tech Percussion Ensembles will perform a free concert at 8 p.m. in the Allen Theatre of the Student Union Building.

Compiled by Features Editor Tina L. Arons: tina.aronsttu.edu

Honda connects brain thoughts with robotics

TOKYO (AP) — Opening a car trunk or controlling a home air conditioner could become just a wish away with Honda's new technology that connects thoughts inside a brain with robotics.

Honda Motor Co. has developed a way to read patterns of electric currents on a person's scalp as well as changes in cerebral blood flow when a person thinks about four simple movements—moving the right hand, moving the left hand, running and eating.

Honda succeeded in analyzing such thought patterns, and then relaying them as wireless commands for Asimo, its human-shaped robot.

In a video shown Tuesday at Tokyo headquarters, a person wearing a hel-

met sat still but thought about moving his right hand — a thought that was picked up by cords attached to his head inside the helmet. After several seconds, Asimo, programmed to respond to brain signals, lifted its right arm.

Honda said the technology wasn't quite ready for a live demonstration because of possible distractions in the person's thinking. Another problem is that brain patterns differ greatly among individuals, and so about two to three hours of

studying them in advance are needed for the technology to work.

The company, a leader in robotics, acknowledged the technology was still at a basic research stage with no immediate practical applications in the works.

"I'm talking about dreams today,"

said Yasuhisa Arai, executive at Honda Research Institute Japan Co., the company's research unit. "Practical uses are still way into the future."

Japan boasts one of the leading robotics industries in the world, and the government is pushing to develop the industry as a road to growth.

Research on the brain is being tackled around the world, but Honda said its research was among the most advanced in figuring out a way to read brain patterns without having to hurt the person, such as embedding sensors into the skin.

Honda has made robotics a centerpiece of its image, sending Asimo to events and starring the walking, talking robot in TV ads. Among the challenges for the brain technology is to make the reading-device smaller so it can be portable, according to Honda.

Arai didn't rule out the possibility of a car that may some day drive itself — even without a steering wheel.

"Our products are for people to use. It is important for us to understand human behavior," he said. "We think this is the ultimate in making machines move."

"I'm talking about dreams today. Practical uses still way into the future."

YASUHISA ARAI

HONDA RESEARCH INSTITUTE
JAPAN CO. EXECUTIVE

Memorabilia donated to Hard Rock Hotel

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong pop star Jacky Cheung donated a guitar and two outfits Tuesday to the upcoming Hard Rock Hotel Macau, becoming the first ethnic Chinese musician to contribute items to the Hard Rock memorabilia collection.

The 47-year-old singer signed the guitar at a donation ceremony and posed with two sequined sweaters, one of which came with a white bow tie.

Noting that one of Eric Clapton's guitars was the first item donated to Hard Rock's memorabilia collection, Cheung joked that "I may not play the guitar as well as musicians like him do, but I'm happy that my items are going to be displayed with theirs."

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Seminar to provide tips for transition from college student to professional

If the shift from being a student to becoming a professional seems frightening, one campus service may provide peace of mind.

Texas Tech University Career Services will present tips for making the transition from student to professional at 3 p.m. Wednesday in the University Career Services presentation room.

David Kraus, managing director for University Career Services, said the purpose of the event is to provide students with information about entering the professional world.

"The whole idea is to teach students what to expect on the first year on the job," he said, "and we hope that what they'll gain will make them better first-year employees."

The topics will range from generational gaps in the workplace to how to treat a boss, Kraus said, which is important all the time but particularly

important with the weakened condition of the employment market.

The event, "Hired; Now What-From Student To Professional," is the last event in a seminar series University Career Services began in January, he said. The series has included information on a variety of topics, including networking, interviewing and salary negotiation.

University Career Services associate director, Joe Duke, who will be one of the presenters for the event, said the goal is to prepare students for the differences they will face in the professional world.

"It's quite different from being a Tech student," he said. "Students should expect less leisure time in their first job compared to a part time job with a flexible schedule."

Duke said the presentation is important because many times students are unsure of what a transition from student to professional entails.

"We want to get people prepared for the launch," he said, "so this will be a realistic presentation of what the world of work looks like."

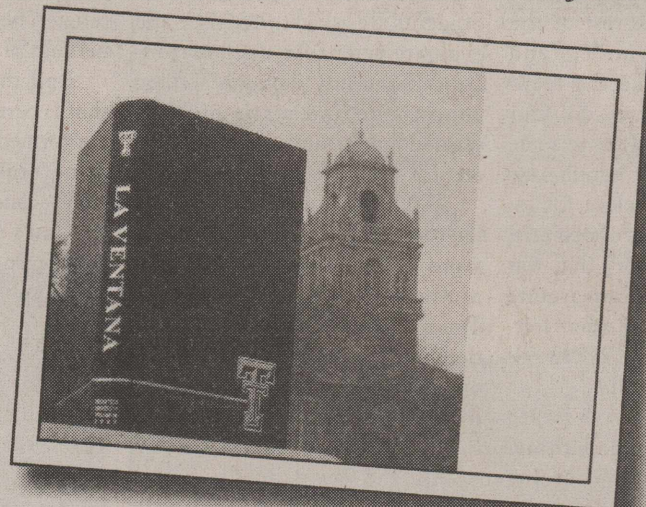
Students preparing to graduate are strongly encouraged to attend the event, Duke said. However, students who are not nearing graduation still should consider taking advantage of the services provided by University Career Services.

"Prevention is better than a cure," he said. "It's important for students to get the ball rolling long before they plan to graduate. Finding a job is a full time job itself."

The event has limited seating and advance notification of attendance required. Students can RSVP through RaiderJobs at the University Career Services Web site.

► hannah.boen@ttu.edu

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La Ventana

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A . . . O . . . Y . . . M . . . A . . . E . . . N



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Earth Hour should go beyond single hour

Last Saturday evening I sat with a group of friends and listened to them tell stories about their days as we ate spaghetti. We hadn't seen each other for some time, and we easily got carried away talking about our various joys, trials and tribulations.

Laura Zak



We lost track of time as we ate and shared stories but bounced back to reality when the clock turned from 8:29 to 8:30.

"It's time!" we said, and turned off the light switch, shut down computers and pulled out every extension chord in the apartment. As we turned off the lights, people in Chicago and Dallas did the same. An hour earlier, skyscrapers in New York City and embassies in Washington D.C., went dim. An hour later, areas in Mexico City and Albuquerque flickered and fell dark.

Coincidence? No. Massive power outage? In a way. All over the world at 8:30 p.m. local time, people shut off their lights and pledged to not

use any electricity for the following hour.

That hour is known as Earth Hour. When I first heard of the concept behind Earth Hour, I was skeptical. The official Web site advertises the event as being "the world's first global election, between Earth and global warming."

This made me even more skeptical. How can one say that by shutting off your lights for an hour you are voting for the world, and by not participating you are voting for global warming? Wouldn't everyone vote for the Earth if given a ballot?

Yet, the concept behind Earth Hour was so simple. Don't use elec-

tricity for an hour? Good. Back at my apartment in Lubbock, it was nice to be power free. No one left the room to check e-mails, no one watched TV. We sat on the sofa and talked. That was the beauty of Earth Hour. It gave people the opportunity to come together as a community to do something small for the Earth.

Looking beyond the activism and politics, I realized the campaign was really for Earth. It wasn't a global election, it was a global gathering, something we need in our ever distant and isolated lives. We need to come together more to talk about issues that affect the world. Only then can we really understand the "global" in global warming and the "Earth" in Earth Hour.

Global warming is a problem. For the sake of staying on topic, I am not going to go into the science that supports the observations of global warming, but I encourage you, whether you acknowledge the change in climate is man-

made, to research the facts for yourself.

Don't settle for reports published by activist groups on either side, but look instead to science. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is a good place to start.

After you have further researched the issue, maybe you will see the extent to which global warming will impact our world. Perhaps you will also come to understand climate change is occurring for many reasons, and the entire world has contributed to the problem. Regardless of anyone's track record for carbon emissions, climate change will impact us all.

Because the distribution of technology is unequal among the countries of the world, and our landscapes are so vastly different, some regions will suffer more than others. According to an article written by New York Times journalist Nicholas Kristof "the people in Bangladesh and Africa emit almost no carbon, yet they are the ones who will bear the greatest risks of climate change."

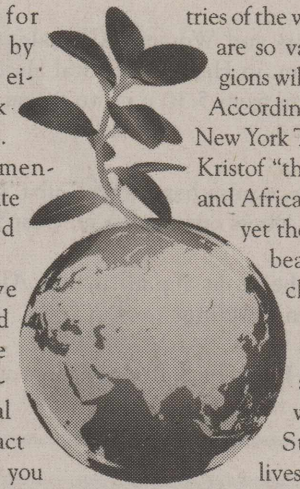
This is not fair, and it is important to understand how the choices we make in the United States will impact the lives of others throughout the world. Likewise, people in other parts of the world must realize the choices they make will affect us as well. Though I don't agree with the "election" principles behind Earth Hour, I believe it is a step forward in coming together as a global population to solve a global problem.

But helping once a year isn't enough. Earth Hour should be every hour of every day. This doesn't mean never use electricity, but instead challenge yourself to try natural lighting and more energy efficient appliances.

There are tips on leading a sustainable life all over the Internet. I recommend starting with the book "Farewell My Subaru" by Doug Fine. He spoke at Tech in March and was hilarious and sensible in his approach to living a sustainable lifestyle.

So look, research, learn and know that people in other parts of the world are doing likewise. Know that by taking this initiative to lead a more sustainable life, you are not just helping yourself, but people you will never meet or know. What greater gift could you give?

Zak is a senior English major from Lubbock. E-mail her at laura.zak@ttu.edu.



Don't mess with Darwin

You can tell a lot about a news story by the headline Fox News gives it.

Eric Braden



As if just for the hell of it, they often use blatant propaganda-like language and warp the news into something that's the journalistic equivalent of a thumbs-up and a "Mission Accomplished" banner spread across the USS Abraham Lincoln.

If a Fox headline sounds like it's good news and you are a rational human being, it's probably awful news. This headline at the Fox Business Web site Friday sounded particularly joyful, and thus, to the trained eye, ominous: "Texas Now Leads Nation in Requiring Critical Analysis of Evolution in High School Science Classes."

It'd be funny if it weren't true. That headline makes it sound as if Texas is on the cutting edge of science. It's as if the rest of the world just doesn't understand "critical analysis" like the teenagers in our great state do. Our teenagers lead the nation in some things — ahem — but I doubt one of them is a unique talent for reinterpreting the merits or demerits of a 150-year-old theory that was long ago accepted (and since quite exquisitely refined) by what left-leaning weasels like me like to call the scientific community.

In January, the Texas Board of Education did a good thing, doing away with a rule forcing science teachers in Texas to teach perceived "weaknesses" of the evolutionary theory. (It's interesting that the board was never interested in forcing economics teachers to teach the "weaknesses" of capitalism.)

At that time, board member Ken Mercer, R-San Antonio, claimed that students' freedom of speech was on the line. "Those arguing against us have a bad history of lies," he told the Dallas Morning News.

But Don McLeroy, the board's chairman, wasn't going to take the loss lying down. He proposed, and the board accepted, an amendment requiring students to discuss the "sufficiency or insufficiency" of the Darwinian concept of common

ancestry. Oh, he's good.

Last week, McLeroy led a push to re-instate the "strengths and weaknesses" language. He lost. But once again, he and the other social conservatives had a back-up plan to ruining science education, and as a compromise, the board crafted sneaky amendments that made specific curriculum requirements for various science courses.

One such amendment requires biology teachers to "analyze and evaluate the sufficiency or insufficiency of natural selection to explain the complexity of the cell." Students are asked to "analyze and evaluate scientific explanations concerning any data on sudden appearance and stasis and the sequential groups in the fossil record." The list goes on.

As Dan Quinn, a spokesman for the Texas Freedom Network, a pro-evolution-in-the-classroom nonprofit, told the New York Times, "The State Board of Education pretty much slammed the door on 'strengths and weaknesses,' but then went around and opened all the windows in the house."

Ah, the Texas Board of Education. I'm sure they mean well. McLeroy is a dentist, for instance. Don't get me wrong — I love dentists. I'm kin to dentists. I think their reputation for sadism is completely and utterly unfair. But his other job is being a fourth-grade Sunday school teacher at Grace Bible Church in College Station. I can only assume his vehemence in opposing evolutionary theory stems from that job, rather than his thoughts in his role as a dentist.

But wherever they get their ideas, it's obvious that McLeroy, who, like the rest of the board, was appointed by the governor, should not be making decisions about what goes into science textbooks in Texas.

Let's get this straight. Darwin's

150-year-old theory is not "still up for debate," as creationists claim. Go into the Biology building on campus and start asking about the "great evolution debate." They'll think you stepped out of a time machine from the John Scopes trial.

It's a simple fact creationists don't like Darwin's ideas because they refute so much of what creationism entails — stuff like "the earth is just 6,000 years old," and "humans rode dinosaurs."

This has to do with one of my problems with religion — how you can become so certain of its truth that you are blinded to the powers of rational thought and logic. How you can then become a member of the Texas Board of Education and feel God must have placed you in a position of such power for a reason, and before you know it, your religion becomes my education, all because of how certain you are.

And then you take one thing that is certain — that new species are formed through the processes of natural selection and evolution — and cast uncertainty upon it. That's not "being critical." It's sneaky and shameful and totally inexcusable. Our students deserve better.

Texas teachers, unsurprisingly, were in favor of ditching the requirement to teach evolution's "strengths and weaknesses." And to their credit, many of them have ignored that requirement for years, out of a duty to the scientific theory, Darwin, and students everywhere. Bless them.

As for the child-like adults who would fire a teacher for bringing her students to a museum where a classical nude statue was displayed (true story), or persecute homosexuals because of a 2,000-year-old book, or spout insidious doubt under the guise of "freedom of speech" and "critical analysis," I say be gone, we want you tampering with our lives no more.

Braden is a senior natural history and humanities major from Katy. E-mail him at eric.braden@ttu.edu.

Make room for Colbert in space station

STAFF EDITORIAL
IOWA STATE DAILY (IOWA STATE U.)

The people have spoken. Their call? Colbert.

NASA recently held a competition inviting the American public to help name the newest node to the International Space Station, Node 3. Voting took place on the NASA Web site, with the following options: Earthrise, Legacy, Serenity and Venture. These names fit nicely with Nodes 1 and 2: Unity and Harmony. But as Stephen Colbert said on *The Colbert Report*, "Those aren't space modules, those are organic teas!"

However, NASA added a write-in component this time. This made room for suggestions such as Tranquility, Synergy, Vision and even Xenu — the galactic overlord of Scientology. But the best write-in suggestion was far superior to these. And with more than 230,000 votes, it was the clear winner.

Colbert launched an aggressive campaign to make his name a contender. On the March 3 episode of *The Colbert Report*, he encouraged his audience to visit the NASA Web site and type "Colbert" in the "Select Your Own" box. He told the "heroes" watching the show, "You are officially mobilized to get that module named after me."

The viewers didn't let him down. Colbert soundly beat all other options — Serenity came in second with slightly more than 190,000 votes. Serenity? Really? Isn't that a brand of feminine hygiene products?

Oh. Apparently Serenity is the name of the spaceship from the science fiction TV show *Firefly*. That kind of makes sense. But it doesn't matter, because Colbert won this contest. Take that, sci-fi spaceship!

Now comes the real ques-

tion: Will NASA listen to the voters? The rules of the contest state that "NASA will take into consideration the results of the voting. However, the results are not binding on NASA and NASA reserves the right to ultimately select a name in accordance with the best interests of the agency ...

Such name may not necessarily be one which is on the list of voted-on candidate names." It's almost as if they saw this coming. Perhaps they remembered Colbert's unsuccessful

attempts to get on the South Carolina presidential primaries ballot and to get a Hungarian bridge named after him — or maybe they noticed Steagle Colbert beagle the Eagle, the mascot for the minor league hockey team Saginaw Spirit; Stephen Col-

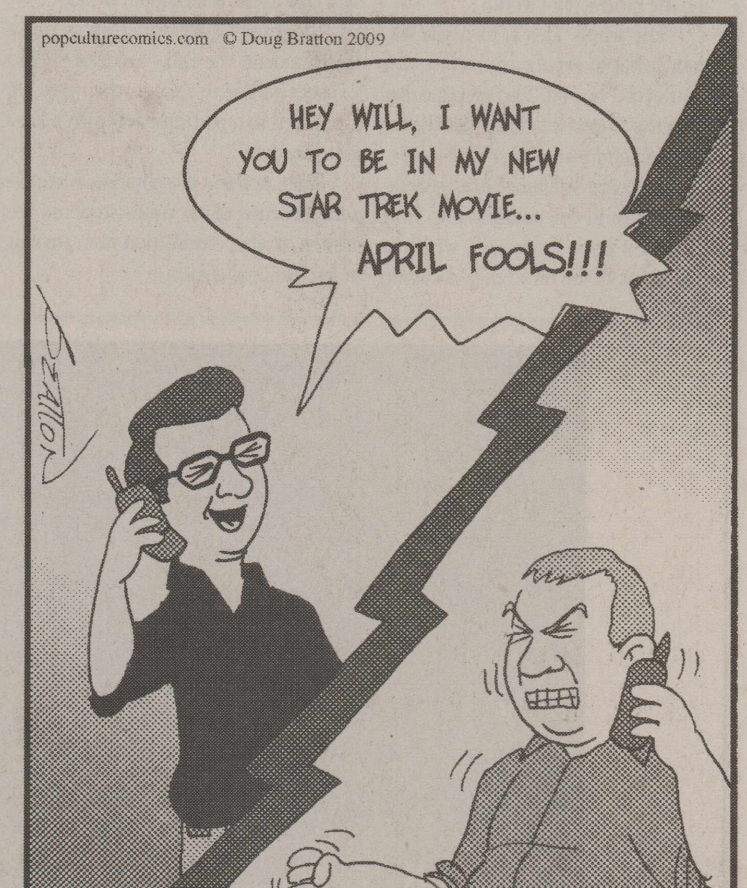
bert's American Dream, a Ben & Jerry's flavor; or even Apostichus stephencolberti, a trapdoor spider.

You asked for our input, NASA — don't back out now. Listen to Rep. Chaka Fattah, a member of the House Appropriations Committee that oversees NASA. He

said, "The people have spoken, and Stephen Colbert won it fair and square." Although his position potentially gives him financial influence on the situation, he said,

"This is not about dollars, but it's got to make sense to the American people. We insist on democracy in orbit."

Democracy in orbit. We like that. So come on, NASA. Let's make room for a little bit of Truthiness in space.



Why William Shatner Hates J.J. Abrams

DO YOU PLAN TO TRAVEL TO ARLINGTON TO WATCH TECH FOOTBALL PLAY BAYLOR NEXT YEAR? VOTE ONLINE AND LET US KNOW WWW.DAILYTOREADOR.COM

THE DAILY TOREADOR

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Guest Columns
The Daily Toreador accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community. Guest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification and submission.

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Tech to host conference about media influence in Hispanic culture

Texas Tech will host an academic conference to fuse the ideas of students, professionals and academics about issues and perceptions of media influence in Hispanic culture Thursday and Friday.

Michael Parkinson, a mass communications professor at Tech, said the College of Mass Communications has hosted research colloquiums in the past, but the material has never focused on Hispanic culture.

Kenton T. Wilkinson, a Regents Professor in Hispanic and International Communication at Tech, said he planned the colloquium in hopes to unite individuals working in the industry and those interested in academic research.

"Hispanics or Latinos are a growing and important population group in the U.S.," Wilkinson said, "and media have an important influence over their lives and the way people perceive them."

The reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday night at the Lubbock Club to kick off the Hispanic Media and Audiences Colloquium.

Ernest W. Bromley, CEO and chairman of Bromley Communications, a Hispanic advertising agency, will deliver a keynote address titled "A Shifting Paradigm: The Changing Face of America" during dinner.

Friday morning, three workshops will be presented by professionals who work in print, radio and television deal-

ing with Hispanic audiences.

Alex Saragoza, a professor of Chicano studies at the University of California Berkeley will give a keynote address between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Friday during lunch at the Merket Alumni Center from for students who have reserved a seat.

After lunch, a panel will discuss student-submitted academic papers and two Hispanic films that will be viewed.

David Karen from University of Texas-Pan American supplied one of the films that will be shown, Wilkinson said, and the second film was successful in film festivals.

Parkinson said mass communications is both an academic discipline and a profession, and it is important

that both sides are represented in the conversation about culture and media influence during the colloquium.

The college has two purposes for hosting the colloquium, he said.

"To bridge the gap between the profession and academia," Parkinson said, "and secondly to take those two perspectives and explore changes in media markets or unique media markets that are assisting Hispanics."

The film screenings and panel discussions will be free and open to the public, he said, but students will need to reserve seats for the other events.

>> sarah.reiman@ttu.edu

Mustangs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The members of the organization try to gear all activities and meetings towards all cars, Thomason said. One activity they periodically participate in is drag racing.

The thrill and appeal of racing comes from the need for "getting out there" and driving fast, she said.

"Being on the road by yourself," Thomason said, "its incomparable to anything else."

Many people find Mustangs appealing because of the speed. They also offer a different sensation than driving a big truck, she said. In a Mustang, drivers can "whip around corners with ease."

"Mustang is an American establishment," she said. "Mustang does the best job of power, style and performance, and it's affordable. You are hard-pressed to find someone who does not love a Mustang, except a Camaro driver."

Ryan Woods, a sophomore architecture major from Austin and treasurer of the organization, said the club offers an outlet for car enthusiasts to get together and discuss their interests as well as arrange events.

"We try to cater to not just Mustang owners," Woods said. "It's almost a misconception that we are only a Mustang club. I am one of the few members that actually has a Mustang."

The Mustang club offers a place for car-lovers to make friends with students who share their interests and discuss what attracts them to their vehicles, he said.

The Mustang appeal is mainly speed, Woods said, but several other factors make the vehicle attractive.

Being on the road by yourself, it's incomparable to anything else.

AUBREY THOMASON PRESIDENT MATADOR MUSTANG CLUB

"I think it's kind of the American alternative to a pickup," he said. "It's a pretty good reliable performance car that you can buy that's not too expensive, and its college friendly price-wise."

The organization's primary fundraiser and biggest event is the car show it hosts once per semester. The Mustang club hosted its most recent car show Sunday, and students, faculty and members of the community participated by displaying their various types of cars.

Jeff Hanson, a mechanical engineering professor at Tech, won the classic cars division with his 1966 Mustang.

Hanson said he purchased the "springtime yellow" sports car for his nine-year-old daughter, Madison, who cheered in the background as he described the work he put into improving the car.

"I like the body style," Han-

son said. "The older cars are easier to work on because it reminds me of my car from high school and makes me feel young again."

"I have restored the engine, the interior of the car, fixed some of the rusty spots on the floor pans," he said, "and pretty much brought it back to life."

Hanson said he plans to take care of the car for seven years until his daughter can take the wheel, and he will drive it carefully in the meantime.

"Other than just constantly watching the rear-view mirror to

watch and make sure everyone is stopping, you are in extreme defense driving mode," he said, laughing. "I am always worried someone is going to run into me."

Working on the 43-year-old car gives him a sense of pride, Hanson said. He finds it fulfilling to see people appreciate something he built with his own hands.

"The Mustang is a timeless thing," he said. "Everybody identifies Mustang with muscle car."

>> carrie.thornton@ttu.edu

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1, 2009

Table with columns for station, time, and program listings for Wednesday, April 1, 2009.

FREE TO BE TONIGHT 7:00PM



¡CALIENTE!



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador THE LUBBOCK HIGH School folklorico dancers perform traditional dances from Jalisco, Mexico with a mariachi band Tuesday at the amphitheater on the north side of the Student Union Building. The event is part of the Hispanic Cultural Week sponsored by the Tech Hispanic Student Society.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

Crossword puzzle grid and clues.

By Pancho Harrison

4/1/09

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

Solved crossword puzzle grid with answers.

Ombuds Office

A safe place for students & staff to bring concerns.

What is an Ombuds? (pronounced OM 'BUDZ):

One who hears concerns and helps to achieve equitable settlements.

Confidential • Independent • Informal 238 Student Union Bldg 806-742-4791

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

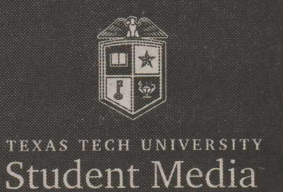
THE FRESHMEN & TRANSFERS ARE COMING!

Red Raider Orientation begins June 10

Deadline: April 1, 4 p.m.

Raider Life

Call 742-3384 to schedule your ad.



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NEED A BIKE?

Looking for a great way to save gas money and get some exercise? Bike Tech, in conjunction with the Texas Tech Federal Credit Union, is proud to give you the opportunity to purchase a bike from a local bike shop interest free for up to a year! (Up to \$500) Stop by the OPC for details!



Phone: 742-3351

Website: www.rescsports.ttu.edu

Box 2151

Heartbeats

A quick pulse around the Rec Sports World...

Outdoor Pursuits Center

If you are looking to get out of Lubbock for a few days but don't know where to go, let us take you on a great adventure!

Easter Canoe

Register by April 2!
Cost: \$125
Trip Dates: April 10-13

New Mexico Backpacking

Register by April 2!
Cost: \$95
Trip Dates: April 10 -13

Advanced Rock Climbing

Register by April 2!
Cost: \$125
Trip Dates: April 10-13

Wilderness First Aid

Register by as soon as possible!
Cost: \$225
Trip Dates: April 4 - 5

Brazos Canoeing

Register by April 9
Cost: \$85
Trip Dates: April 18 - 19

Intramurals



4on4 Flag Football

Check out your chance to participate in spring football! This is a single elimination tournament format that is self officiated and free!

Register at the mandatory captain's meeting on Wednesday, April 8 at 6:00pm in Rm. 201. (Entry forms will be filled out at this time.)

Single elimination play begins on Tuesday, April 14, with Thursday, April 9th designated as a play day. This is your chance to practice the sport and get acquainted with the rules!

Intramural Need to Know:

- TONIGHT is the Intramural Basketball All-University Championships. Play starts at 8:30pm at the Rec!
- TONIGHT is the first night of the Softball Playoffs! Check online for brackets!
- TODAY is the last day to sign up for Res Hall Kickball!
- TOMORROW is the last day to register for Tennis Singles!
- SATURDAY is Tailgating games at Dan Law field at 3:00pm!
- Sign up for 4on4 Sand Volleyball!
- Sign up for Doubles Golf!

Fit/Well

Check out what the Fit/Well has in store for you this week!

-Blood Screenings: April 16th from 6:15 - 7:15am. Spots are extremely limited, so call the Fit/Well today to sign-up for a time and blood tests to see where you are today!

-Starting TODAY, we are offering a MASSAGE special on hour massages for only \$35! Register between today and April 11th and receive an hour massage for only \$35! Massage must be booked by April 25th.

-Still trying to find a way to get fit? Get a personal trainer or register for one of our Raider X2 specialty classes! Both are great ways of finding a fun way to get in shape!

Outdoor Pursuits Center

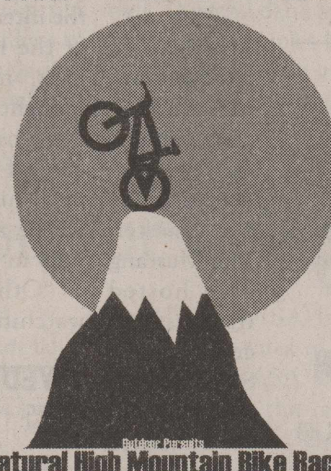


Natural High Bike Race

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

MLK Park

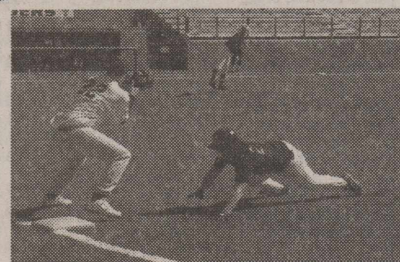
\$5 w/Student ID



AVERAGE JOE'S BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY-SUNDAY APRIL 24TH-26TH
DAN LAW FIELD @ TTU

STUDENTS, FACULTY &
STAFF WELCOME
must be ttu affiliated



TEAM ENTRY

FIFTY DOLLARS

EIGHT MEMBER LIMIT PER TEAM

SEVEN INNINGS - TWO HOURS - SINGLE ELIMINATION
GAME BALLS, HELMETS, & CATCHER EQUIPMENT PROVIDED

ENTRIES DUE

FRIDAY, APRIL 17TH BY 5PM IN ROOM 202 AT THE REC CENTER

ELIGIBILITY: ANYONE NOT PRESENTLY WORKING OUT WITH TTU BASEBALL TEAM OR DID NOT RECEIVE A COLLEGE BASEBALL LETTER LAST YEAR. ONLY TWO MEMBERS OF THE TECH BASEBALL CLUB ALLOWED PER TEAM.

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:

Sat/Sun April 18th - April 26th

Mon - Sat May 11th - May 16th



Come check out the All-University Basketball Championships tonight! Pictured: Monday Night's Co-Rec Championship

Help Build the Team!

We are building the pool for you!

- Team positions available:
- *Customer Service
 - *Swim Instructors
 - *Lifeguards

Interviews begin April 5th

Info Sessions:

Tuesday, March 24	6:00pm
Thursday, April 2	6:00pm
Monday, April 6	5:00pm
Thursday, April 16	5:00pm

Rec Center Rm. 206

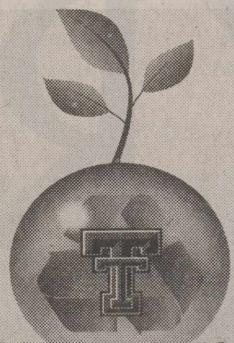


Texas Tech Aquatic Center 806-742-3896
www.rescsports.ttu.edu

student union

Coming together in the union

Arbor Day is Friday, April 24



reduce · reuse · recycle
why the TECH not?

Arbor Day applications are due by 5:00 pm
Monday, April 6 in the SUB, Room 203.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Student Union & Activities

Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

Visit our website at www.sub.ttu.edu



activities

what's coming up at the union?

Comedy Night with Steve Byrne

Wednesday, April 1
SUB Allen Theatre | 8:00 pm

Do You Think You Know The Lyrics?

Thursday, April 2
SUB Allen Theatre | 8:00 pm

Broadway Attractions -- Annie

Thursday, April 2 - Saturday, April 4
City Bank Auditorium | 7:30 pm

Joe & Lefty Spray Can Art

Wednesday, April 8
SUB North Plaza | 11:00 am

Movie -- Valkyrie

Wednesday, April 8
SUB Allen Theatre | 8:00 pm

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

student organization update...

STUDENT ORGANIZATION ACADEMY

Saturday, April 4 | SUB | 8:30 am - 2:45 pm

First chance to register your organization for the upcoming school year.
Free lunch and T-shirts.
Check-in will begin at 8:30 am

SPORTS

PAGE 8
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2009

New challenges for Petty after son, Colt, is born

By ZANE TURNER
STAFF WRITER



PETTY

First he was a full-time coach, and now he is a full-time father. Texas Tech women's tennis coach Todd Petty now not only has the responsibility of a Division I tennis team on his hands, but also the responsibility of raising a newborn son.

Colt Rusk Petty was born March 24, three days before the Lady Raiders started a two-match road trip against No. 62 Missouri and No. 53 Colorado. As a result, Petty stayed in Lubbock with his family, while the Lady Raiders went on the road trip with Tech men's tennis assistant coach Marcelo Ferreria instead.

Petty said being a new father

has not been a daunting task, but it has made him realize what is most important in life.

"It's not overwhelming," he said. "But you just kind of realize what the most important thing is. Lack of sleep, as most fathers know, is becoming a big thing now, but I don't know if it has really sunk in yet, but just another someone to really care about has been the most fun part of it."

During the time Petty was caring for his wife and child, the Lady Raiders had business to attend to. With Ferreria at the helm, Tech split its two Big 12 Conference

matches on the road against Missouri, winning 4-3, and losing to Colorado, 6-1.

Petty did miss history being made, however.

Tech's No. 1 singles player, Samantha van der Drift, became the program's all-time singles wins leader with 75 victories in her career Friday in the match against Mizzou.

But for Petty, nothing will top becoming a father.

Petty's players believe the experience of becoming a father will change how he approaches the game of tennis.

"This experience is going to bring a lot of positivity and happiness," Natalie Leitch said. "Mostly a lot of happiness and bringing good energy to our practices so they're more intense and they're better for us. So we can get ready to play and finish the season strong."

Despite some success the Lady Raiders have had this season — such as getting a 4-3 win against No. 21 TCU, the highest-ranked opponent Tech has ever beaten — Petty said now tennis is put into a different perspective for him.

"Tennis is a game, it is a sport," he said. "The things we truly value and what we want to teach our kids are the same things I want to promote to these girls. Work hard, compete hard, give everything you've got, and realize it is a game, and it's something we should have fun doing."

While this is an important time in Petty's life, the Lady Raiders have two pivotal Big 12 matches this weekend with Kansas State and Kansas visiting Lubbock this

weekend.

Tech still is trying to stay in the middle of the pack in the Big 12 and find itself with an NCAA Tournament berth.

So while Petty has new duties off the court, Simone Templeton said he may be even more focused on his duties with the team.

"This experience will give him a different perspective," she said. "But I think workouts will be more intense, and he won't lose focus on what we're trying to accomplish this season."

Petty and the Lady Raiders resume Big 12 play against Kansas State at 3 p.m. Friday and against Kansas at 11 a.m. Sunday at the McLeod Tennis Complex.

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"Lack of sleep, as most fathers know, is becoming a big thing now..."

TODD PETTY
TEXAS TECH WOMEN'S
TENNIS COACH

All the Wright moves pay off at Villanova

VILLANOVA, Pa. (AP) — With his graying hair coifed to perfection, his tasteful designer suits worn without a wrinkle and shoes more polished than his recruits, Jay Wright always looked like he could pose for a GQ layout as easily as a team photo.

For a guy who knows his labels, here's one Villanova's 47-year-old dapper dandy might enjoy more than the Hugo Boss name stitched inside his jacket: Final Four coach.

At a Final Four that boasts national championship winners Roy Williams, Tom Izzo and Jim Calhoun, Wright's career resume could seem as out of place as a circus clown on a best-dressed list, but the man who's always dressed for success has found it in convincing fashion the past five years at Villanova.

When Wright shakes hands with North Carolina's Williams before Saturday night's national semifinal game, he'll be only the fourth coach in Villanova history to lead the Wildcats to the Final

Four and first since the rotund and ruffled Rollie Massimino in 1985.

Look beyond the looks — Wright is married to a former Villanova cheerleader, after all — and it's easy to see why he's become such a hit with fans from the ritzy suburban Philadelphia crowd to his own local peers who now routinely take an "L" when the Wildcats show up for their date on the schedule.

Five straight NCAA tournament appearances, the second-longest streak in team history. Two regional finals in four years. Winners of 18 of their last 19 city series games. A 178-90 record in eight years at the Big East school. And now this, Villanova's first Final Four since the 1985 national title team.

Wright brings much more than a fashion statement to the sidelines.

"He's embraced Philadelphia and that's made it easy for people to embrace him," Saint Joseph's coach Phil Martelli said. "I think coaching involves how you deal with your present team, how you

deal with your future team and the public relations part of it. I don't think you can get higher marks in any those areas than Jay gets."

Wright has made it clear that Villanova is the only program he wants to coach. Wright last week immediately shot down any speculation he'd be interested in making the move to Kentucky because, well, he's just a Philly guy at heart. He's a Churchville native, was a teenager when Martelli coached him at summer camp, played at Bucknell, worked for the Philadelphia Stars of the USFL and spent five years as a Villanova assistant under Massimino.

When Massimino wore out his welcome at Villanova and left for UNLV, he wanted his top protegee with him. Wright didn't want to leave, but his allegiance to Daddy Mass was the deciding factor instead of staying on as an assistant under Steve Lappas.

Tech track travels to Austin for Texas Relays

By ADAM WADSWORTH
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech track team is facing its first test in only the third week of the outdoor season.

The Red Raiders compete in Austin this week at the 82nd annual Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays.

Tech coach Wes Kittley said at this point in the season, he believes his team is as ready as ever to face this week's high level of competition.

"This is our first big test," Kittley said. "We have a lot of good people there around the country, but I think we're way ahead of what I anticipated we would be. So I'm real excited about what we can do this weekend from a relay standpoint and an individual."

He said the level of competition in Austin will be as close to a national championship meet as anything the Red Raiders will see all season.

The meet also will be the first time this season Tech runs against teams from other areas of the country, such as Minnesota, UCLA and Arizona State.

He said running against different teams will give Tech an idea of where it stands compared to the rest of the country.

Kittley is not the only one excited for a chance to compete against other high-quality teams.

Coming off a first-place finish and his first NCAA regional mark in the 400-meter hurdles at the Abilene Christian Invitational, freshman stand-out Jamele Mason said he hopes to

continue on the right path. He ran a time of 52.22 seconds to take the title in Abilene.

"I plan on making it to the finals, and we'll go from there," Mason said. "As long as I'm running better than I was."

He said he spent this week of practice working on his consistency so when the time came, he would be ready to perform at his peak.

Mason also said he expected the team to perform well based on what he has seen in the outdoor practices.

Tech junior pole vaulter Amanda Alley, coming off her second straight NCAA regional qualifying performance, said she also was excited for the opportunity to compete, but is treating the meet like any other.

"I try not to put too much pressure on it because it is a big meet, but it's just good experience, and there's better competition there," Alley said. "So it'll just be a good experience for the bigger meets later on in the season."

She enters the Texas Relays on a good note after setting a season-best mark of 13 feet, 2.5 inches during the Abilene Christian Invitational.

Mason, Alley and the rest of the Red Raiders have a busy schedule over the next four days.

In addition to competing against schools from outside the Big 12 Conference, Tech will face familiar competition such as Colorado, Texas A&M, Baylor, Oklahoma and host Texas. The Texas Relays kick off today at noon with the men's decathlon and the women's heptathlon. However, Tech will make its first appearance in

TEAMS COMPETING AT TEXAS RELAYS

Big 12 Conference
Colorado
Texas
Baylor
Texas A&M
Oklahoma
Texas Tech

Other schools
LSU
Houston
Texas State
Arkansas
Vanderbilt
Ohio State
UCLA
Minnesota

the distance running events beginning at 6 p.m.

The event continues Thursday at 11 a.m. by finishing the decathlon and heptathlon and continues with hurdle preliminaries and the men and women's hammer throw.

Friday begins the prelims for the rest of the running events and continues with field events such as the discus, long jump and javelin.

The event wraps up Saturday with field events, including the shot put and pole vault, and the finals of the running events.

Live results from the meet can be found at www.texassports.com.

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Reds trade Keppinger to Astros for player to be named

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) — Jeff Keppinger was packing his gear when he got a call saying manager Dusty Baker wanted to talk to him. The reserve shortstop thought he was about to be released.

Instead, the Reds traded him to the Houston Astros on Tuesday for a player to be named, giving him a chance to play for his fifth major league organization. He batted only .140 in 21 games this spring and knew it was likely that he wouldn't make the team.

"I'm just glad they didn't release me," Keppinger said. "I was going to

ask if they were going to release me just because of my spring numbers."

Instead of being out of a job, he had some place to go.

"It's good," Keppinger said. "Maybe the opportunity's better for me over there. I might get a chance to play. Looking around here, it didn't look like I would play too much. That's kind of how my career has been. I always get roadblocked somewhere, and I go to a team that kind of needs something. Before you know it, they give me my shot to play."

Keppinger bailed the Reds out last season, when starting shortstop Alex

Gonzalez was sidelined by a fractured knee. Keppinger started 101 games at shortstop, batting .266 with three homers and 43 RBIs.

Gonzalez is back from the injury this season, although a strained hamstring has held him back recently. He played in a minor league game for the second day in a row Tuesday and reported no problems.

The Reds also reassigned left-hander Pedro Viola to their minor league camp on Tuesday and optioned right-hander Josh Roenicke to Triple-A Louisville, leaving them with 30 players in camp.

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Burruss' gun case put off until June

NEW YORK (AP) — A gun possession case against New York Giants star Plaxico Burress was adjourned Tuesday until June unless he reaches a plea agreement with prosecutors to resolve the matter sooner.

Burruss accidentally shot himself in the thigh with an unlicensed gun he'd stuffed into his waistband at a Manhattan nightclub last year.

The star receiver, wearing a gray suit and a light blue shirt, arrived at Manhattan Criminal Court in the company of his wife and his attorney, Benjamin Brafman.

Both sides agreed to adjourn the case to June 15 following a brief hearing before Judge Michael Yazinsky. Burruss' bail was continued.

Prosecutor John Wolfstaetter told the judge that the prosecution was continuing its investigation.

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