



ABC Rodeo rides into town See Page 5



Carvalho prepares for Big 12's best See Page 6

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(INBRIEF)

## STATE

### Texas Senate begins debate on budget

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Senate has begun debating the state budget for 2010-2011.

The \$182.2 billion budget is the most important bill lawmakers will consider during the five-month legislative session.

It uses about \$11 billion in federal stimulus money, which helped address a shortfall between available state revenue and spending needs.

The federal money also makes it possible for lawmakers to leave a projected \$9 billion balance in the state's Rainy Day Fund untouched.

The House is still working on its version of the budget and details are likely to change as the measure winds through the legislative process.

## NATION

### White House: governors control stimulus cash

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — In an important victory for the nation's governors, the White House is acknowledging that state legislatures across the country can't wrest control of \$48.6 billion made available under the new federal stimulus law to help states cope with their budgets.

White House budget chief Peter Orszag (OHR-'zag) says there is no provision in the stimulus law for state lawmakers to accept that money without approval by the governor.

## WORLD

### Libya: death toll tops 200 for drowned migrants

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Libya has called off efforts to retrieve bodies of over 200 illegal migrants who drowned when their overcrowded boat capsized in the stormy waters of the Mediterranean as they set off for a better life in Europe.

Laurence Hart, an official with the International Organization for Migration in Libya, said Wednesday that authorities stopped the rescue operation since chances were slim of finding more survivors from the weekend incident.

Only 20 survived when the wooden vessel with 257 people on board, mostly African migrants and including 70 women and two children — both of whom died — sunk only three hours off Libya.

## DEATH TOLL

4264

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

## INSIDE

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# tobaccotax

## Smokers: increased cost of cigarettes not enough reason to quit

By HANNAH BOEN  
STAFF WRITER

Despite higher taxes and potential health risks, some smokers say they will continue to light up.

The nation's single largest tobacco tax increase was enacted Wednesday, boosting the federal cigarette tax from 39 cents per pack to \$1.01.

Local tobacco shop Nothin' Butt Smokes has seen an influx of customers in the days leading up to the tax jump, said Michele Casanova, manager of the store's 79th Street and University Avenue location.

"We've seen quite a bit of difference," she said, comparing sale decreases from previous tax increases. "We've seen a lot of people stocking up since they found out about the new tax rates."

Casanova has been manager at the tobacco shop for the past three tax increases, she said, although none have been as significant as the latest increase. Customers especially have been concerned about loose tobacco and have been submitting orders of 10 to 20 bags at a time, Casanova said. Loose tobacco saw the largest tax increase of any other tobacco product — an increase of \$1.46 per ounce.

The revenue from the tobacco tax will help increase coverage under the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and some tobacco users see the price increase combined with the current economic state as a good reason to kick the costly habit.



PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toreador  
MICHELE CASANOVA, NOTHIN' BUTT SMOKES District Manager, shows two products hardest hit by the tax hike Wednesday near 79th St. and University Ave.

James Sigler, an employee at a local addiction and recovery center and former member of a 12-step addiction recovery program, said he smoked his last cigarette

in June 2008 and has seen a significant difference in the amount of extra money he has now compared to when he was addicted to cigarettes.

He said the tax increase may or may not encourage addicts to stop smoking, but he believes anything the government can do to encourage people to give up the compulsion is a good thing.

"It starts out as something you want to do," he said, referring to his own addiction, "then turns into something you have to do, no matter the cost."

Sigler considers nicotine to be a serious addiction, and he said he was smoking about two packs of cigarettes a day prior to quitting.

Although cost did not play a role in his incentive to kick the habit, he said he reaps the financial benefits of not smoking along with benefits to his health.

But other individuals do not share his sentiments and are not willing to put a price ceiling on their tobacco cravings.

While taking a break to smoke a cigarette he had bought before the tax increase, Jeremy Tims, a sophomore international business major, said the added tax provides a small incentive to cut back on the amount of cigarettes he purchases, but he will continue to pay for his addiction.

At around \$5 per pack, the Willis native said he spends between \$15 and \$20 per week on cigarettes.

"That increase hurts," he said between taking drags from his cigarette, "it doesn't affect if I smoke or not, but it does affect how much."

TOBACCO continued on page 5

## Students utilize voter registration drive for May alcohol sales vote

By KENDYL SEBESTA  
STAFF WRITER

Make Lubbock Wet, an organization promoting the expansion of alcohol sales in Lubbock County, hosted a voter registration drive Wednesday between the Texas Tech Student Union Building and University Library in order to register Tech students for the alcohol sales voting beginning April 27.

Robert Stephenson, a senior wildlife management major from Georgetown and cofounder of Make Lubbock Wet, said the response from Tech students has been positive for both students who chose to register to vote Wednesday and those who already were registered.

"I would say that I've probably seen over 1,000 Tech students out today," Stephenson said, "and of those I'd say one in 10 has made their way over to the booth to register, but there's also been a lot of them who were already registered, too."

Stephenson said most students seemed excited about the prospect of Lubbock becoming a wet county and have been supportive of the drive.

"This is the first time this issue will actually come to a vote in 38 years, so it's pretty exciting," he said. "We just want to spread the word and get students out to vote before they leave school for the summer. We've been putting stickers out and will go to local businesses soon and we have a page on Facebook that has over



PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toreador  
ROBERT STEPHENSON, A senior wildlife management major from Georgetown, talks to Stephenie Nguyen, a freshman international business and finance major from Ft. Worth during the Voter Registration Drive hosted by Make Lubbock Wet Wednesday outside the Student Union Building.

3,200 members."

Students who register to vote by April 9 will be eligible to vote during the early voting period beginning April 27 through May 5, he said, with regular voting taking place on May 9.

Stephenson said passing the alcohol initiative will require a majority vote, or 51 percent of the total vote.

According to the Make Lubbock Wet Web site, a majority vote in favor of alcohol expansion would allow alcohol to be sold in local grocery stores, convenience stores and some restaurants in Lubbock.

According to the City of Lubbock Web site, the liquor by drink

boundary lines for the City of Lubbock currently fall within the city limits, making the sale of packaged liquor containable to the outer city limits.

Early voting locations will include the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center and United Supermarkets from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. April 27 and May 5, the Make Lubbock Wet Web site reported.

Craig Baird, a senior English major from Hamilton, said he signed a petition earlier in the year to support alcohol sales and plans to vote on the issue in May.

ALCOHOL continued on page 2

## Obama, PM Brown predict G20 deal to fight recession

By JANE WARDELL  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON (AP) — Doggedly optimistic in the face of doubts, President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown predicted Thursday's emergency G-20 economic summit would produce a significant global deal to tackle the deepening worldwide recession.

Others were not so sure. France warned on Wednesday that neither it nor Germany would agree to "false compromises" that soft-pedal a need for tougher financial regulation to curb abuses that contributed to the spreading chaos. And outside the carefully scripted meetings, protesters smashed bank windows and pelted police with eggs and fruit.

Thousands surged into London's financial district, blockading the Bank of England and breaking into a branch of the Royal Bank of Scotland. Elsewhere, however, inside the meetings, Obama said differences among the presidents and prime ministers of the Group of 20 rich and emerging countries, were "vastly overstated."

"I am absolutely confident that this meeting will reflect enormous consensus about the need to work in concert to deal with these problems,"

said Obama, who is under pressure to make a good showing in his first major international appearance.

With economic chaos spreading, Brown, the host of the summit, predicted agreement on a coordinated strategy, including a possible \$100 billion fund to finance global trade, tighter financial rules and action to support economic growth and job creation.

G-20 leaders are also in general agreement on a plan to double the money available to the International Monetary Fund, to some \$500 billion, to help emerging countries.

Consensus on further measures is by no means clear.

Brown initially trumpeted the gathering as "a new Bretton Woods—a new Bretton

financial architecture for the years ahead." But the meeting so far bears little similarity to the 1944 New Hampshire conference where the eventual winners of World War II gathered to set postwar global monetary and financial order.

Washington has eased off its push for other governments to pump more money into economic stimulus programs after heavy opposition from European countries, who contend their bigger social safety nets make more spending unnecessary.

*"I am absolutely confident that this meeting will reflect enormous consensus about the need to work in concert to deal with these problems."*

**BARACK OBAMA**  
U.S. PRESIDENT

TODAY	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Sunny	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Sunny
High 68	High 83	High 77	High 68	High 68
Low 39	Low 52	Low 41	Low 32	Low 37

MIRROR MIRROR ON THE WALL ...



JANETTE ANDERSON, A freshman studio arts drawing major from Lubbock, works on her self portrait in her Drawing 2 class Wednesday morning in the Architecture building.

PHOTO BY BETH MCELHANNON/The Daily Toreador

# Lubbock organizations work to raise child abuse awareness

By HALIE HARTMAN  
STAFF WRITER

Organizations in Lubbock are doing their part to raise awareness in April for National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

In 2008, 70,589 confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect were reported in Texas, and 1,540 of those victims were in Lubbock County, according to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

"Unfortunately, in the past several years, our area has either led the state or been right at the top of the state in the number of confirmed child abuse and neglect cases," said Todd Reno, vice president of Court Appointed Special Advocates in the South Plains.

Drug abuse by the parents usually is present in the majority of abuse cases, he said, and most commonly involve physical and sexual abuse to neglect.

Judy Powell, program director of the Children's Advocacy Center of the South Plains, said child abuse is a serious problem in Lubbock and in the surrounding counties.

"In 2008, 1,081 children came to the center for services. Child abuse, if not reported and stopped, can rob a child of their childhood," she said.

It can also be deadly. In 2008 the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services reported 213 children died as a result of child abuse and neglect in Texas, four of whom were located in Lubbock County.

The Children's Advocacy Center of the South Plains hopes to bring together people from the Stand up for Kids and Break the Cycle of

Abuse event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at Miller Park. The goal of the event is to bring together 1,081 people from across the South Plains to create a visual representation of the number of children who

received services from the agency in 2008, Powell said. Participants will hold a sign signifying the age and gender of an actual child victim of abuse.

"This event is meant to focus attention on the overwhelming number of children who are abused each day in Lubbock and surrounding communities and raise much-needed funds for the center," she said.

Reno said many abused children end up being removed from their homes by Child Protective Services, and volunteers at Court Appointed Special Advocates help the children as they go through the court process by talking to all parties involved and being advocates for the child's best interest in court.

"In many cases, a CASA volunteer is the only constant through this process as they bounce around foster homes and schools and CPS workers change on them," he said. "It is a

pretty complex issue, but the impact a volunteer can make on a child's life is unbelievable. Just to have that one constant, that shoulder to lean on through a tough time can make all the difference in the world."

In 2008, CASA advocated for 900 local children who were without a home due to abuse and neglect.

The Tech Theta "Speak Up for Kids CASA 5K" will take place on campus at 9:30 a.m. April 18 at the Frazier Alumni Pavilion. It serves as a fundraiser for CASA, with the money raised used to directly train and recruit more volunteers who

*"In 2008, 1,081 children came to the center for services. Child abuse, if not reported and stopped, can rob a child of their childhood."*

JUDY POWELL  
PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY  
CENTER OF THE  
SOUTH PLAINS

then help more abused kids in the region.

Reno said Tech students should become involved in child abuse awareness and to look into volunteering at CASA.

"It is a great way to make a difference in a person's life," he said. "A Tech student may be able to relate a little better to these kids in care and thus bond with them better and make them feel more comfortable as they go through a tough process."

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## US, Russia call for nuke cuts

LONDON (AP) — The United States and Russia set a newly ambitious course for global cooperation Wednesday as presidents Barack Obama and Dmitry Medvedev ordered negotiators into immediate action on a treaty to further reduce nuclear weapons.

Going into their first face-to-face meeting in London, Medvedev had voiced openness to Obama's call for resetting the deeply troubled U.S.-Russian relationship, but few had expected the kind of sweeping statements that emerged from weeks of intense preparatory talks.

While setting in motion fast-track negotiations on a replacement for the seminal 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or START, which expires

at year's end, the two leaders vowed at the same time to jointly confront other perceived threats. They specifically mentioned the nuclear programs in Iran and North Korea and al-Qaida militants who have found refuge in Pakistan.

They set a nominal July deadline for a substitute treaty for START, a date that coincides with Obama's first presidential visit to Russia. That conceivably would leave time to get the new treaty approved in the U.S. Senate by the December expiration of the current agreement. But arms control experts say December is not a hard deadline so long as there is progress.

Sen. Richard Lugar, the Indiana Republican devoted to arms control,

said the announcement of intent was "truly remarkable."

Not known for overstatement, Lugar called the joint declaration "almost breathless in its optimism and scope." He spoke in an interview with MSNBC.

Obama's engagement with the Russians marks a stunning reversal from policies of the Bush administration, which was disinclined to take up deep arms control negotiations and had angered Moscow with its intention to install a missile defense system in Poland and the Czech Republic.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov drove that point home in a briefing with Russian reporters after the Obama-Medvedev meeting.

## Institute chooses Law School professor to be member

Texas Tech School of Law professor Bryan Camp was chosen to be a member the American Law Institute, an international group with more than 100 members from other countries.

Camp said membership to the institute is an honor for him personally as well as an honor to the Tech School of Law.

"Membership in the ALI is like being a part of a small think tank," he said.

American Law Institute members will bring recognition to the Tech law school, Camp said, for students as well as faculty and the program.

"When students are looking for jobs, others will recognize Texas Tech School of Law because of ALI," he said.

The hope is that members bring posi-

tive visibility to the school at the different ALI functions, Camp said, and because of visibility the different U.S. news survey publications will rank the school higher.

"It's a testimony to the strength of our law faculty that with professor Camp's election, we now have six members of this prestigious organization at Texas Tech Law," said Dean Walter Huffman, also a member of the group, in a news release.

Camp lectures and writes on bankruptcy law, tax law, statutory interpretation, constitutional law and jurisprudence, according to the release.

As a member of the ALI, Camp said he hopes to contribute to the work of



CAMP

the organization.

"The ALI has different projects, some which are multi-year, for research in law," he said.

Camp said membership requires an initial nomination by a member, member recommendations, and submitting one's Curriculum Vitae.

The ALI has three meetings where the approval committees can look at potential candidates, then the executive committee makes the decisions, a membership representative from the American Law Institute said.

The organization is the premier prestigious institute of law, the representative said, and the privilege of the membership is members have a chance to reform law.

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The DT Reader's Choice Survey is available online, so don't miss your chance to choose Lubbock's best. Visit The Daily Toreador's Web site and click on the Reader's Choice survey link at:

**www.dailytoreador.com**

The top vote getters will be published in the April 24 edition of The Daily Toreador.

Many questions have options listed that were popular choices from last year's survey. There is also a field to write in a choice not listed.

**2009 Reader's CHOICE**

**AWARDS**

The Daily Toreador

All entries become property of The DT, which reserves the right to publish the survey, answers and comments.

Final decisions on survey, categories and winning entries will be made by The-DT.

## Alcohol

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I think with driving out to The Strip, the chances of far more serious things happening is greater," Baird said. "But if people who want to drink can run to a convenience store that's closer, it would probably be more practical and little more safe."

Baird said increasing the availability of alcohol sales in Lubbock also could

limit the amount of drinking and driving Tech students do and could help police in the future.

"I will definitely vote for this," he said. "If it won't help me before I leave, it will definitely help the younger generation of Tech students and will hopefully make things a little safer for them."

Melissa Pierce, chairwoman and treasurer for Lubbock County Wins, said students can still participate in early voting even if they are not registered by April 9.

"We think that the students' voices are just as important in this elec-

tion and would encourage them to get registered to vote," Pierce said. "We're not trying to mislead anyone, we just want people to know the facts."

According to the Lubbock County Wins Web site, the group is a political action committee in favor of making off-premises alcohol sales legal and has been involved with the process since its inception.

Pierce said alcohol legally cannot be sold within 300 feet of a school, hospital or church, which excludes a large portion of land in Lubbock city limits from selling alcohol.

"So, say Lubbock has at least 200 churches that would be in the 300

foot exclusion area for alcohol sales," she said. "That would exclude a lot of land from selling alcohol, plus you can't sell alcohol in residential areas, which would prevent them from selling there as well. So the point is, there will probably be a lot of land that will be excluded by law from the selling of alcohol."

According to the Truth About Alcohol

Sales Web site, a political action committee in opposition to county-wide, off-premises alcohol sales in Lubbock County, the current election will cost taxpayers \$350,000 to \$400,000 and will take Lubbock \$40 million in increased liquor sales to recoup this cost.

Dorothy Kennedy, elections administrator for the Lubbock County Elections Office, said the election is unfunded at this point due to it being initiated by voters and other involved parties through the alcohol petition and therefore the Elections Office will not know the total cost of the election until after it is conducted.

"Typical county elections cost anywhere between \$325,000 and \$350,000," Kennedy said. "But we hope to cut down this election's costs by only opening up 35 voting centers within the 69 polling locations to offset those costs."

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# Students seek alternative money sources through plasma donations, experiments

By KATE OZMENT  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Economic downturns have left some Texas Tech students wondering how to make ends meet, and they are turning to both conventional and unconventional means to do so.

Katie Anderson, a sophomore from San Antonio, said she has donated plasma for the last few months when she had time.

"It's just a good way to get an extra few dollars," the education major said.

Anderson goes to the DCI Biologicals clinic on Main Street, but said she has never gone enough times in one month to receive full compensation.

Donating plasma — a yellowish protein-filled liquid found in human blood — involves sitting in a chair for an hour at one of the local clinics. DCI Biologicals, which has two Lubbock locations, advertises that it compensates its participants up to \$200 a month.

While local plasma donation employees declined to comment,

Kara Flynn, director of global communications with the Plasma Protein Therapeutics Association, said the process is completely safe and can be repeated twice a week for most individuals.

Flynn said her association works with plasma donation centers around the world to ensure safe and effective plasma is available for the health care community.

According to the association's Web site, plasma is used to boost immune systems, treat burns and is used for various other treatments.

She said the industry has seen an upward trend during the last four years.

"In 2005 there were 10 million individual donors," Flynn said. "In 2008, as of November, we are looking at about 17 million donors."

Although plasma donations have increased, Flynn said it would be difficult to attribute the additional interest to just the economy.

"The increases can be regional," she said. "One region can have a huge and others not as much. It would be difficult to link it to the economy."

Participating in scientific ex-

periments also bolsters students' incomes.

Gregory Schrimsher, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology, is conducting one such experiment.

Schrimsher said he designed his experiment, which he has been conducting for over a year, to look at the possible effects of binge drinking on college-age students.

He said the participants go to two sessions and undergo an MRI, a medical procedure used to see physiological alterations inside the human body.

"We have had a lot of interest, but our resources are limited because of the MRI," he said.

Schrimsher said his participants are paid \$30 a session for participating and screened thoroughly before being approved.

Using a more conventional route, other students are looking for jobs on campus and in Lubbock.

David Kraus, the director of University Career Services said his department has seen a marked increase in interest from both current students

and alumni, although the number of job listings has decreased.

"When I see a lot of alumni want help because they're concerned they're going to get laid off or they've been laid-off, that says a lot," he said.

Kraus said his department, which is located in the Wiggins Complex, helps students with everything from critiquing their resumes to finding jobs to finding what their strengths and weaknesses are.

"Companies come to us to list jobs and we go to them," he said. "This has really become a 24/7 service. When I first started it was 9 (a.m.) to 5 (p.m.) Now you can search for jobs at 3 a.m., post your resume on Christmas morning, and apply for jobs anytime you want."

Kraus said he tells every current and former Tech student who comes in for help that they have to find a job they are excited about in the morning.

"Find something you love doing," he said.

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## CAMPUS NEWS FLASH

### Women's Studies Program

• The 25th Annual Women's Studies Conference will be held today through Friday at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. The conference will examine gender and identity issues. Gloria Steinman, an American feminist icon, will be the keynote speaker.

### College of Architecture

• Andrew Vernoo, dean in the College of Architecture, received the 2009 Global Vision Award. On behalf of the International Cultural Center, Vernoo was presented the award for his contributions and enlightening students to study abroad.

### Tech School of Law

• The Texas Bar Foundation selected an article written by Tech School of Law professor Alison Myhra for the Most Outstanding Law Review Article for 2008. The article is about pharmacists' liability when they fail to counsel patients on potential prescribed medication risks.

### Department of Geosciences

• Tech professors of in the Department of Geosciences Aaron Yoshinobu and Cal Barnes received a three year, \$292,000 award from the National Science Foundation. Yoshinobu and Barnes collaboration with colleagues at the University of Wyoming is titled "Evaluating the Tempo, Size and Chemical Connectivity of Magma Batches in a Tilted Plutonic Complex."  
• Michael Muncy, a master's candidate for Department of Geosciences, was the first student at Tech to receive the ConocoPhillips SPIRIT scholarship.

### Department of History

• United States and Mexico border expert and Tech History professor Miguel Levario will be a regular guest on a radio show as long as the drug violence remains a top news story, according to the College of Arts and Sciences.

### Department of English

• Lara Crowley and Tim Crowley of the Department of English received a \$3,800 summer stipend to attend "The Reformation of the Book: 1450-1650" seminar focusing on the development of print in Renaissance Europe to the religious reformations.

### Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures

• Janet Perez, Qualia Chair of Spanish in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures, has been elected a member of the Real Academia Espanola's (The Royal Spanish Academy) North American chapter.

### Miscellaneous

• Turnitin and Blackboards' SafeAssign plagiarism detection programs have been discovered ineffective by a Tech research group headed by Kathleen Gillis and Susan M. Lang.

# Glimmer of hope in March's steep auto sales drop

DETROIT (AP) — Talk of government loans and bankruptcy and a 37 percent drop in March sales isn't good news, but despite it all, there seems to be a little optimism returning to the U.S. auto industry.

Carmakers' March sales were dismal compared with last year, but consumers lured by record incentives pushed the February-to-March increase above the normal rise that comes at the end of winter.

"Maybe we'll get — imagine that — some momentum going," said Mike DiGiovanni, executive director of global market and industry analysis for General Motors Corp., whose 45 percent sales decline last month was the worst among the major automakers.

Americans bought 857,735 new vehicles in March, compared with 1.36 million in the same month a year ago, Autodata Corp. said Wednesday. But sales jumped nearly 25 percent from February, beating the typical increase of about 20 percent and increasing optimism that the worst may be over for an industry battered by the global recession and bad publicity about GM and Chrysler's financial woes.

The carmakers are counting on more people like Richard Bolton, a Houston police officer who lives in suburban Livingston, Texas. Discounts amounting to \$8,500 lured him into signing papers to buy a four-door Jeep Wrangler on Tuesday from River Oaks Chrysler-Jeep.

"I know they're not selling too

many cars, and I've got a stable job," said the 26-year veteran patrol officer. He bought the Jeep, with a sticker price of \$29,990, "probably to get more discounts and rebates and the employee price."

The average incentive on vehicles sold last month was \$3,169, up 30 percent from a year earlier and a record high for the industry, according to the auto Web site Edmunds.com.

A good deal also reeled in Catherine Crawford of Newton, Mass., who on Wednesday bought her first car in about 12 years, a Toyota RAV4 small crossover vehicle.

Like many buyers, the researcher for a private federal contractor held off on her purchase for as long as she could.

"We are very careful with our money, and we've been saving for a while, so we sort of knew that we have to buy a car in the next couple of years," she said. "Basically now seemed like the right time to do it."

An added incentive was the new federal tax deduction for car sales and excise taxes, but price was the big factor — only \$3,000 more for a new vehicle compared with a used one, she said.

On a conference call with reporters and industry analysts, GM's DiGiovanni said most automakers finished March stronger than expected, and he believes the market is "bouncing around the bottom here."

# Indictment imminent for Blagojevich

CHICAGO (AP) — An indictment is expected as early as Thursday charging ousted Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich with presiding over state government awash in political corruption.

The indictment U.S. Attorney Patrick J. Fitzgerald is expected to produce would replace a complaint charging Blagojevich with plotting to trade or sell President Barack Obama's former U.S. Senate seat and a host of other corruption.

While timing of grand jury meetings is never disclosed, Thursday is believed to be the last before a Tuesday deadline for the complaint to be replaced.

Fitzgerald could ask U.S. District Court Chief Judge James F. Holderman for an extension, but all signs point to an imminent indictment.

"We're just hours away from a massive pay-to-play indictment against Gov. Blagojevich and possibly others," former federal prosecutor Patrick M. Collins said Tuesday in unveiling

recommendations by a state reform commission launched in response to the corruption scandal surrounding Blagojevich. Collins, who sent Gov. George Ryan to prison for racketeering, is chairman of the commission, which wants legislators to impose sweeping changes.

In addition to the Senate seat allegations, an affidavit accompanying the December complaint accuses Blagojevich of trying to use his political power to pressure the Chicago Tribune to fire editorial writers calling for his impeachment.

Blagojevich, 52, denies any wrongdoing. But the Democrat's Dec. 9 arrest ended his political career. The Illinois House impeached him Jan. 9. The Senate convicted him and removed him from office Jan. 29.

Rather than brood, though, he took off on a surprise tour of national television talk shows to proclaim his innocence.

# Fargo ignored FEMA recommendation

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — With floodwaters rising around them, Fargo officials and the Federal Emergency Management Agency faced an agonizing decision: Should they order a mandatory evacuation of the entire city?

FEMA thought the best course of action was to evacuate and not leave anything to chance. Fargo officials disagreed, saying they knew what it would take to hold back the Red River. The conversation turned heated at times, and Fargo ultimately won.

Now that the Red River is receding and leaving only relatively minor damage, that decision looks smart. The city began returning to normal Wednesday as people went back to work, stores

reopened and the river dipped to only slightly above 37 feet.

At the height of the flood, Fargo's levees held back most of the deluge, and allowing residents to stay enabled them to fill sandbags, patrol for dike leaks and monitor pumps to keep water out of homes.

But the episode demonstrates the kind of clash that can unfold between federal and local governments in an era when FEMA is intent on avoiding another failure of Hurricane Katrina proportions. It was also perhaps an inevitable result of federal bureaucrats coming head-to-head with the pride of a local community.

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**THURSDAY APRIL 2, 2009**


STAT. CHAN.	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBF 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KMYL 14 MYN Lubbock	KLCW 22 CW Lubbock	KAMC 28 A&C Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Curious Si (HD)	Today Scheduled: Noah Wylie; World Autism Awareness Day; Bobbi Thomas; Steve Nicks (HD)	The 700 Club	Copeland (5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	(6:00) Good Day Lubbock	
8 AM	Super Why			Paid Prog. J. Hanna	Steve Wilkos		
9 AM	Sesame Street			Divorce Payne	Regis & Kelly (HD)	Martha Stewart	
10 AM	Dragon Word		Price Is Right (HD)	Cristina Cosby	The View (HD)	The Morning Show	
11 AM	Martha Jeopardy	Riddlers (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog. Alex	Paid Prog. Tyra Banks Show		
12 PM	Quilling	News	The People's Court	Roseanne	All My Children	Paid Prog.	
1 PM	Beads	Days of Our Lives	As the World Paid Prog.	Fam Court	One Life to Live	The People's Court	
2 PM	Betw. Lion	The Doctors	Guding Light	Maurly	Judge Jeanine	Judge Mathis	
3 PM	Arthur	Oprah Winfrey	Brown Extra	J. Fox	No Deal	Ellen DeGeneres	
4 PM	WordGirl	Brown Access	Wayans	No Deal		Bonnie Hunt Show	
5 PM	Maya	News	Fam. Feud	Queens	News	Lopez	
6 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	Fam. Feud	Queens	News	Simpsons	
7 PM	NewsHour (HD)	News	Law Order (HD)	70s	News	Lopez	
8 PM	Old House Hour	ER "Retrospective"	Survivor (HD)	★★ "Beauty Shop" (05) Salon politics	Smallville "Eternal"	Motherhood Sam Who?	Bones (HD)
9 PM	Cinemas' Exiles Jews in Hollywood	ER "And in the End" Alcohol poisoning	CSI: Crime (HD)	Supernatural (HD)	Gray's Anatomy	Hill's Kitchen	
10 PM	Charlie Rose	News	King	Sex City	News	Two & 1/2	
11 PM	Bus. Rpt	The Tonight Show	TMZ	Married	Nightline	Seinfeld	
12 AM	Destinos	(11:37) Late Show	Late Late Show	Wife My Lubbock	Bernie	Scrubs	
	GED	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Insider	Paid Prog.	

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**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**  
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS  
1 Mark Cuban's NBA team  
5 Some 35mm cameras  
9 Volkswagen since 1979  
14 Oscar-winning director Kazan  
15 Armada of "The Whole Ten Yards"  
16 In combat  
17 Sack dress creator  
18 Pauly  
20 Pauley  
22 Words before ghost  
23 Any Beatle, e.g.  
27 Columbia River city  
30 Cuba libre ingredient  
31 Long odds  
36 Closing letter at

DOWN  
13 "Paullie"  
39 Friend of Fidel  
41 Academic term  
42 Mus. key with three sharps  
44 Wisconsin birthplace of Orson Welles  
48 Doll hangings  
53 Printing gizmo  
54 Polly  
57 Poly  
60 Prefix with -syncratic  
61 Starbuck's "See ya!"  
62 Vague quality  
63 Turn bad  
64 Philippines' highest peak  
65 Knock off  
66 "Skip Lou": kids' song

39 Subway alternative  
40 Gp. with a co-pay  
43 Build a lengthy resumé?  
45 Scram  
46 Second lightest element  
47 Weapons source  
49 Tempera painting surface  
50 AEC successor

51 Turkish bigwigs  
52 1988 Olympics city  
55 Romance novelist Roberts  
56 "Love the skin you're in" brand  
57 Skye cap  
58 Va. summer hours  
59 Cloak-and-dagger org.

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

ELAN SSS SHADY  
LAMA PURC AANDE  
ARPS ARID CRASS  
PIECES OF APRIL  
SARANTNGE YEW  
ETERNAL ADESTE  
UPBEAT LIES

SHI POFPOLES  
ESAU ASTRUD  
WEBBER ORESTES  
EXO YETI TEETH  
THE LONGEST DAY  
SNAIL WALL TILE  
EAGLE ENOS LUIS  
RHETT REBA EMIT

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## Spreading real truth about alcohol sales

All things considered, Lubbock is a nice city. We've got a good business climate, access to plenty of medical facilities, a thriving music scene, and lots of decent restaurants. You can generally get from one side of town to the other in about 15 minutes despite the abysmal traffic light system, and of course, Texas Tech is a great school to attend.

However, nothing's perfect. There are quite a few of us who are familiar with the area known as The Strip — where all in Lubbock are forced to go if they'd like to purchase alcohol. Recently, the small city of Wolforth has allowed beer and wine sales as well. Many know the annoyance of braving the traffic and the ridiculously high prices of The Strip just for something that's perfectly accepted within stores in most cities.

Finally, the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce decided the issue should go to a vote to the citizens who are having these ridiculous restrictions enforced upon them, and, not surprisingly, people came out in droves to sign the petition that would get the alcohol issue on the ballot. More than 33,000 people signed the petition in only nine days.

All who signed were not drunk drivers, winos or suffering from cirrhosis of the liver. It's a safe bet the majority of those people were responsible citizens who are tired of being discriminated against because they choose to imbibe in alcohol now and again and haven't hurt anybody in doing so. Despite this, there are some in the county who don't believe local stores should have the right to sell alcohol in their establishments, even if the potential buyer has fulfilled the state's

### Cole Shooter



legal requirements to do so. These people, for some reason, believe they know best when it comes to keeping citizens around the county from purchasing alcohol in normal stores. Some would have citizens believe there will be a liquor store on every corner, a drunken hobo on every doorstep, and a car smashing through every child's bedroom. That's simply not the case, thanks to zoning laws.

Many other places in the nation allow alcohol sales within their cities, and haven't been admitted to Hades yet, including some that we might be familiar with such as Amarillo and Abilene. Many of us have successfully visited those places without being maimed by a drunk driver who picked up a bottle of wine at the grocery store. On the same note, people here have been killed by drunk drivers who bought their alcohol at a bar or at the strip. It's not a matter of accessibility, but a matter of self-control.

All the threats of what horrible things Lubbock could become are simply veiled ways for some to say that they're against alcohol in general. To be perfectly honest, I'd have more respect for some I've talked to if they'd just come out and say that rather than make excuses about how the ability to buy beer at a grocery store will be hazardous to our happy community.

The political action committee dubbed The Truth About Alcohol Sales has been lobbying area churches

to speak out against off-premise alcohol sales, perhaps to convince their members that Jesus didn't actually turn water into wine, but rather a tasty grape juice.

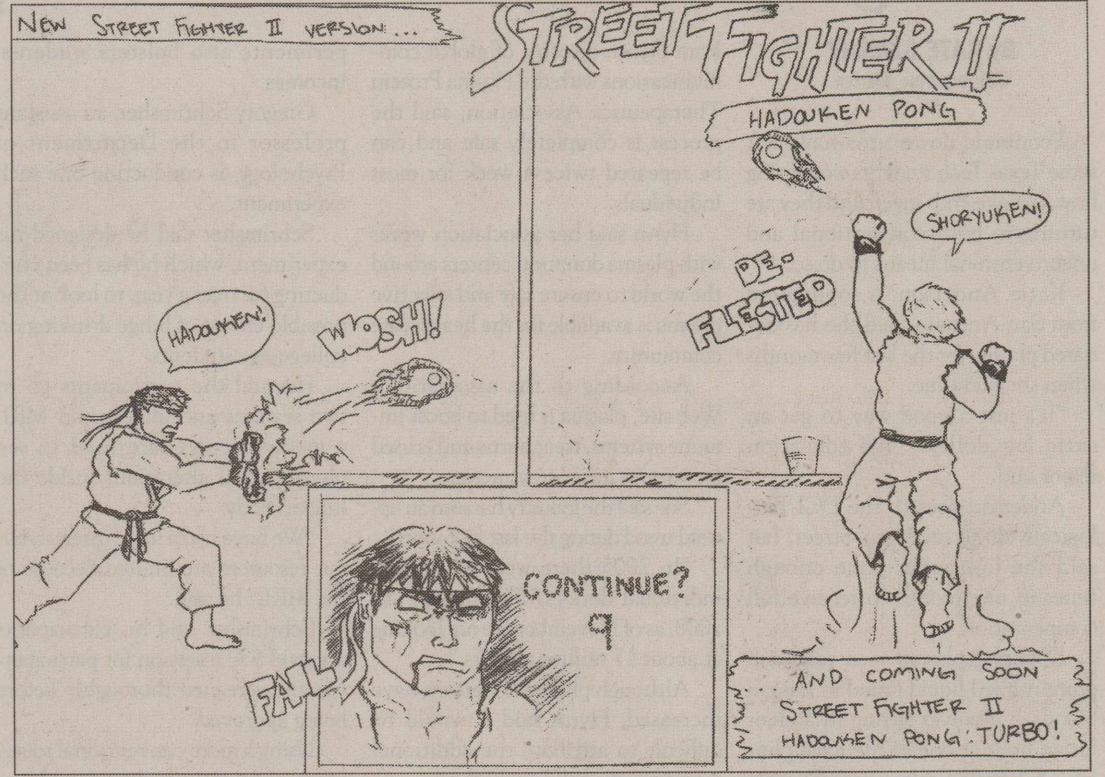
It boils down to a group of people trying to use government to impose their will on how and where the citizens of Lubbock County may purchase something that's perfectly legal for citizens over the age of 21. Hiding behind the shroud of religion for this particular issue is quite reprehensible as well.

The deadline to register to vote in this election is April 8, and this is a fantastic chance for Tech students to improve the city in which they're living. Early voting for the two county-wide initiatives that would make Lubbock a wet county and allow restaurants built in areas outside the 1971 city limits (when restaurants first were allowed to sell alcohol) mixed beverage sales, runs from April 27 through May 5. Election day is May 9.

If someone is going to get drunk and behind the wheel of a car, they're going to do so whether you can buy alcohol at the grocery store. We're all vulnerable to people's lack of self-control, no matter where you might find yourself. It's time for the rest of us to no longer be penalized for the mistakes of a scant few and be allowed to get something we're legally allowed to have for a decent price at a convenient location.

The real truth about alcohol sales is it's not the alcohol alone that will cause problems, but one's lack of personal responsibility, and place of purchase has no bearing on that.

**Shooter is a senior political science major from Lubbock. E-mail him at cole.shooter@ttu.edu.**



## US losing war on drugs, now should legalize and capitalize

By STEVE ADAMS  
IOWA STATE DAILY (IOWA STATE U.)

During Barack Obama's online town hall meeting Thursday, our president showed us he hasn't forgotten how powerful the medium is — one that he and his campaign utilized well to spread grassroots seeds across the country in 2008.

Obama said the forum, titled "Open for Questions," was one way of fulfilling his promise "to open up the White House to the American people."

Indeed, more than 3.5 million votes were cast to decide which of some-104,000 total unscreened questions would be asked and answered.

Not surprisingly, most questions were somehow related to Obama's \$3.6 trillion budget. Thus the questions about Obama's policies for health care, education, the auto industry and housing were all answered as vital investments in the long-term economic success of the country.

Regardless of whether he is right or wrong, Obama — and the braniacs who have been working 18-hour days at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue — made it clear he is going to use this economic downturn to sell his diverse campaign priorities as actions that must be done now. The idea seems to be that the economy is inevitably going to pick up, and we should hope it does.

But there was one question posed Thursday night that Obama did not relate to the economy: "With over 1 out of 30 Americans controlled by the penal system, why not legalize, control, and tax marijuana to change the failed war on drugs into a money-making, money-saving boost to the economy?"

Dismissed with Obama's shortest answer, he simply joked, "I don't know what this says about the online audience. But no, I don't think that it's a good strategy to grow the economy."

Although any joke is better than the Special Olympics bowling gaffe he made a few weeks ago on Leno, that question was not succinctly written nor voted on by hundreds of thousands of Ameri-

cans in order to serve as fodder for the president's sense of humor.

Rather, it was written and voted on to be asked because a great many people know that the drug trade in America — led by marijuana — is likely one of the few sectors of the economy that hasn't taken a hard hit; that the recreational drug might very well be less dangerous to those who consume it and to society than the two heavily taxed "vice substances" alcohol and tobacco; and finally, that Mexican drug cartels, who deal in everything from marijuana to heroin, are wreaking havoc in many border states.

Although no hard data is available on the first point, the World Health Organization reported in July 2008 that the United States has the highest level of illegal drug use in the world.

At a whopping 42 percent, more than twice as many Americans smoke weed when compared to the Dutch — who live in a nation best known for the legal ability to smoke weed.

Given these numbers, and the fact that marijuana is a drug that can allegedly make an individual relax and forget about his or her problems for a while, my first assertion is there is a pretty high value market out there, recession or not.

Regarding my second assertion, two of Americans' other favorite substances, alcohol and tobacco, are taxed.

Aside from this difference, they seem to be quite akin to marijuana: Americans spend lots of money on them, use them recreationally, can become addicted to them and can let the substances really screw up their lives.

However, there is one last difference: marijuana is less dangerous than either alcohol or tobacco.

According to the most recent data the CDC reported, in 2006, 13,470 people died in alcohol-impaired driving crashes. One doesn't have to stretch the imagination too greatly to connect the dots between the influence of alcohol and other harmful actions, such as domestic abuse and murder. Even more notably, the CDC attributes roughly 443,000 annual deaths to cigarette smoking.

Given the fact that a marijuana-influenced individual would probably rather eat some munchies and watch Superbad than go anywhere or hurt

anyone, and would rather fill his or her lungs once a week rather than multiple times a day, it seems apparent that using marijuana poses less risk to society and self than drinking alcohol and/or smoking cigarettes.

Now to the last point: the United States is losing the drug war by a wider margin than ever. Yes, many other drugs contribute to the overall drug trade, but marijuana is arguably the bedrock upon which its foundation has been built.

If we can't beat it, it seems completely sensible to legalize the least-harmful and most-prevalent substance so the U.S. government, as opposed to American gangsters, can reap the rewards and reinvest in America.

It seems even more sensible when one realizes that Mexican cartels are now running much of the American drug trade. Not only do members of these cartels not pay American taxes, they do not even spend their tax-free income in this country. Their trade has also caused murder and kidnapping rates to skyrocket in cities from Phoenix to Atlanta.

Given this collection of facts and figures, it's apparent that legalizing marijuana, regulating its trade and reaping the tax revenue is not some cockamamie idea a bunch of dead-heads are lobbying for.

Nor is it impractical. According to Harvard economics professor Jeffrey Miron, legalizing marijuana would result in \$77 billion for the U.S. government, with \$33 billion coming from tax revenue and \$44 billion resulting from money not spent on arrests, trials, and incarcerations.

Miron remarked that the United States ended prohibition in 1933 largely in order to create tax revenue during the horrible economic climate of the Great Depression.

So although Obama, an admitted past marijuana experimenter, dismissed the issue quickly, I believe that he made a mistake.

And no, I do not think this issue should be discussed because I have admittedly experimented with the substance in my past. Not having smoked anything since a celebratory college graduation cigar last June, I want this change to be discussed because I believe it could benefit Americans.

Sure, I could be wrong. But the topic at least merits a discussion. Doesn't it?

## Debaptism not defense of religious rights

By MATTHEW ALBRIGHT  
THE DAILY REVEILLE (LSU)

For many Christians, baptism is one of the most sacred ceremonies in which a person can participate.

Baptism is a symbol of a person's acceptance of the faith, a way of publicly affirming their beliefs.

But for some, it's a mark of shame — a mark they want to erase from history.

England's National Secular Society is doing everything in its power to help its formerly faithful members do just that.

Atheist John Hunt is a pioneer in an emerging movement toward "debaptism" — a formal rejection of the creeds of baptism.

Hunt, a member of the NSS, has petitioned the local clergy of the Church of England to officially remove his name from their baptismal records.

Apparently Hunt, who broke his faith as a teenager, wants to remove any trace of affiliation he might have with an organization preaching what he now believes to be superstition.

The Church has so far refused to comply.

"You can't remove from the record something that actually happened," the Right Reverend Nick Baines, Bishop of Croydon said, according to the BBC.

"Whether we agree whether it should

have happened or not is a different matter."

In Baines' view, whatever his current beliefs about God are, Hunt can't pretend his baptism never happened.

Hunt's petition is a part of the NSS's attempt at convincing the Church of England to develop an official procedure for annulling baptisms. So far, such a procedure has not been devised.

In response to the Church's hesitance, the NSS has begun issuing documents called "Certificates of Debaptism."

The documents are deliberately constructed as satire of Church ceremonies, and the ceremonies intentionally look homemade and use faux ceremonial language.

Hunt's certificate reads, "I, John Geoffrey Hunt, having been subjected to the rite of Christian baptism in infancy ... hereby publicly revoke any implications of that rite. I reject all its creeds and other such superstitions in particular the perfidious belief that any baby needs to be cleansed of original sin."

The certificate is largely a tongue-in-cheek jab at the formalities of the Church — in fact, the Society's president Terry Sanderson suggested that it be displayed in the bathroom.

The document is available online, and has been downloaded more than 60,000 times, according to Sanderson.

The Society's movement to annul baptisms seems juvenile.

The Church's argument is sound — whether Hunt likes it or not, he was baptized, even if he was too young to understand. The church records are historical documents, so the names should not be removed.

A baptism does not denote membership in the Church. It's a profession of belief, and, as Hunt is well aware, beliefs can and do change throughout a person's life. By maintaining records of his baptism, the Church is certainly not claiming any affiliation or power over him.

Besides, if the NSS really thinks Christian beliefs are so absurd and false, there's no reason for them to attach any significance to the ceremonies those beliefs entail.

But, on the other hand, baptism is a sacred, important ritual to those who have kept the faith — atheists have no reason to care about baptisms as Christians do.

The "debaptism" effort represents a certain breed of militant, confrontational atheism more concerned with vehemently disassociating themselves from Christianity than maintaining actual religious freedom.

If Hunt wants to distance himself from his former religious affiliations, that right is certainly his. But digging into the obscure archives of a church in an effort to remove all traces of his past only serves to insult the faith in which he was raised.

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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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## RODEO ROUND UP



PHOTO BY KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Toreador

PARTICIPANTS OF THE ABC Rodeo warm up their horses outside the City Bank Coliseum near Drive of Champions Road Wednesday afternoon.

## 7 girls disciplined at Oprah Winfrey's school in S. Africa

NEW YORK (AP) — Seven students have been punished for violating the code of conduct at Oprah Winfrey's school for disadvantaged girls in South Africa, the second controversy to hit the fledgling institution since it opened in 2007.

Winfrey representative Don Halcombe said Wednesday that four students were expelled and three were suspended last week from her Leadership Academy for Girls outside Johannesburg.

Halcombe declined to say what led to the violations because there are minors involved. Lisa Halliday, a spokeswoman for the academy's foundation, said it was a confidential school matter and would not "confirm any personal information or disclose any details related to these expulsions."

South African media have reported that the seven girls were accused of trying to force students into relationships and to engage in sexual contact.

"I'm disappointed that several of our students chose to disregard the school's rules," Winfrey said in a statement issued by her production company HARPO. "It's disheartening when any student has to be suspended or expelled and it's a process that involves serious review and consideration. We will not tolerate a violation of school policy and dishonesty."

This isn't the first time events at the elite girls school have upset Winfrey. The talk-show queen said she was devastated after a woman overseeing a dormitory at the academy was accused of abuse and sexual assault months after the school opened. The woman's trial has not yet ended.

The institution opened in January 2007 with about 150 girls in 7th and 8th grades. The Academy is expected to grow by one grade each year until it reaches full capacity in 2011, with approximately 450 girls in grades 7 through 12.

Winfrey poured \$40 million into the 28-building campus, which is spread across 22 lush acres. It has computer and science labs, and a library, theater and wellness center. Each girl lives in a two-bedroom suite.

It's the fulfillment of a promise she made to former South African President Nelson Mandela and aims to give poor girls a quality education and prepare them for leadership positions in a country where schools are struggling to overcome the legacy of white-minority rule.

## Tobacco

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Tims does not consider himself to be all-consumed with smoking cigarettes, but he said his cravings will keep him buying cigarettes at a higher cost. And he believes he is not alone. "People will definitely continue to pay," he said, "and that's why they raise the tax. They know people will still buy."

The federal tobacco tax revenues equaled \$7.3 billion in 2006, according to the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids Web site, but \$54.5 billion was federally spent in 2006 on smoking-caused health expenditures.

Although lawmakers expect the tobacco tax to increase federal tobacco revenues, a bill passed in some states may decrease the number of tobacco users.

Alabama, Utah, Alaska and New Jersey recently raised the legal smoking age from 18 to 19, which may mean less revenue from tobacco taxes, according to The Associated Press. A similar bill in Texas has passed through the Senate committee but has yet to become law.

Although Casanova believes the increase on some tobacco products is significant, she also said she does not believe it will push people to drop

*"People will definitely continue to pay, and that's why they raise the tax. They know people will still buy."*

**JEREMY TIMS**  
SOPHOMORE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MAJOR

## SMOKING STATISTICS

- 19.8 percent of adults in the United States smoke.
- 19.4 percent of Texans smoke.
- Texas has the 19th highest tobacco tax nationally.
- About 24,500 adults die annually in Texas from their own cigarette smoking.
- Private insurance covers 50 percent of smoking-related medical costs for people 19 to 64.

Source: Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

the addiction.

"People are just going to pay more," she said. "Some people do, but stressful situations throw even more people into the loop. They will just budget it into their income better."

hannah.boen@ttu.edu

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## Today's su | do | ku

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

Puzzles by PageFiller

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

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

## Ombuds Office

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## Check out The DT's bloggers online

LIVIN LA VIDA

By Tina L. Arons Features Editor

Tweet. Tweet. Who's there? It's *The Daily Toreador* — who'd have thought!

Well, OK. Maybe some people might've guessed *The Daily Toreador* would eventually get a Twitter account.

If you think about it, it makes a lot of sense for a college newspaper to offer updates in a medium many students use.

In fact, I got a Twitter account this week so I could follow my favorite news outlets (and a few of my friends, too). I even downloaded a free application to my iPhone, so I can let people know how bored I am in classes.

Just kidding. I'm not that lame.

In any case, the Internet seems to be the place journalism is going.

Online news and social media Web sites have fused to create an interesting hybrid of accurate, up-to-date information.

Creating a Twitter account was a little intimidating at first, but I'm glad both *The Daily Toreador* and I have done so. If nothing else, it means I'll be able to keep up with what's going on at Texas Tech after I graduate in May.

So, if only to add another feed to your page, please check out or begin to follow *The Daily Toreador's* Twitter account.

You won't regret it!

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Have you ever noticed...

# You've Got Mail

is grammatically incorrect?

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**The deadline to apply is April 3.**

**La Ventana**

# Big 12 play will be big test for No. 58 Carvalho

By ZANE TURNER  
STAFF WRITER

This is the point in the season when it matters the most for the Texas Tech men's tennis team.

And while the Red Raiders dive into Big 12 Conference play this weekend, Tech's No. 1 singles player Raony Carvalho — ranked No. 58 in the nation as a freshman — has a name to make for himself.

Carvalho started the spring season ranked No. 19 in the nation but as anticipated, he has played a top-notch level of competition.

That competition may only get tougher as the Big 12 boast some of the best singles players in the nation.

"Against a good player I need to keep focused through all the match, not just the beginning," Carvalho said. "I've lost close matches against top players because I was not 100 percent focused. I have the level to beat them, but I need to be completely focused through all the match."

So far this spring, Carvalho has faced seven ranked foes including four ranked in the Top 10 and carries a 10-5 record heading into conference play.

However, he is 1-5 against ranked opponents with one unfinished match against Notre Dame's then-No. 20 Brett Helgeson. His losses consist of then-No. 1 USC's

Robert Farah, 1-6, 4-6, then-No. 2 Oklahoma State's Oleksandr Nedovyesov, 1-6, 2-6, then-No. 2 LSU's Michael Venus, 3-6, 7-5, 4-6, then-No. 7 Tennessee's John-Patrick Smith, 6-7 (4-7), 5-7 and then-No. 96 Arizona's Jay Goldman in straight-sets, 2-6, 2-6.

Carvalho experienced a taste of what Big 12 play will be like, after playing now the No. 1 player in the nation, Oklahoma State's Nedovyesov, twice — once in the spring and once in the fall. Both matches against Nedovyesov were straight-set losses.

The Cowboys' No. 1 player has dominated competition all season, posting a 26-4 overall record and an 11-1 mark in spring dual matches.

But Nedovyesov's dominance doesn't mean he is all the Big 12 has to offer.

The conference has four players, including Nedovyesov, ranked in the Top 20 in the nation.

Baylor's Denes Lukacs is No. 7, Texas' Dimitar Kutrovsky is No. 14 and Texas A&M's Conor Pollock ranks No. 19. All of these players are potential opponents for Carvalho.

"Ray is a great player," Tech coach Tim Siegel said. "But he is currently learning that he has to be mentally ready to play, and also he has to be able to withstand someone's initial punch to the face. He is learning to adapt his game, learn to make adjustments. More

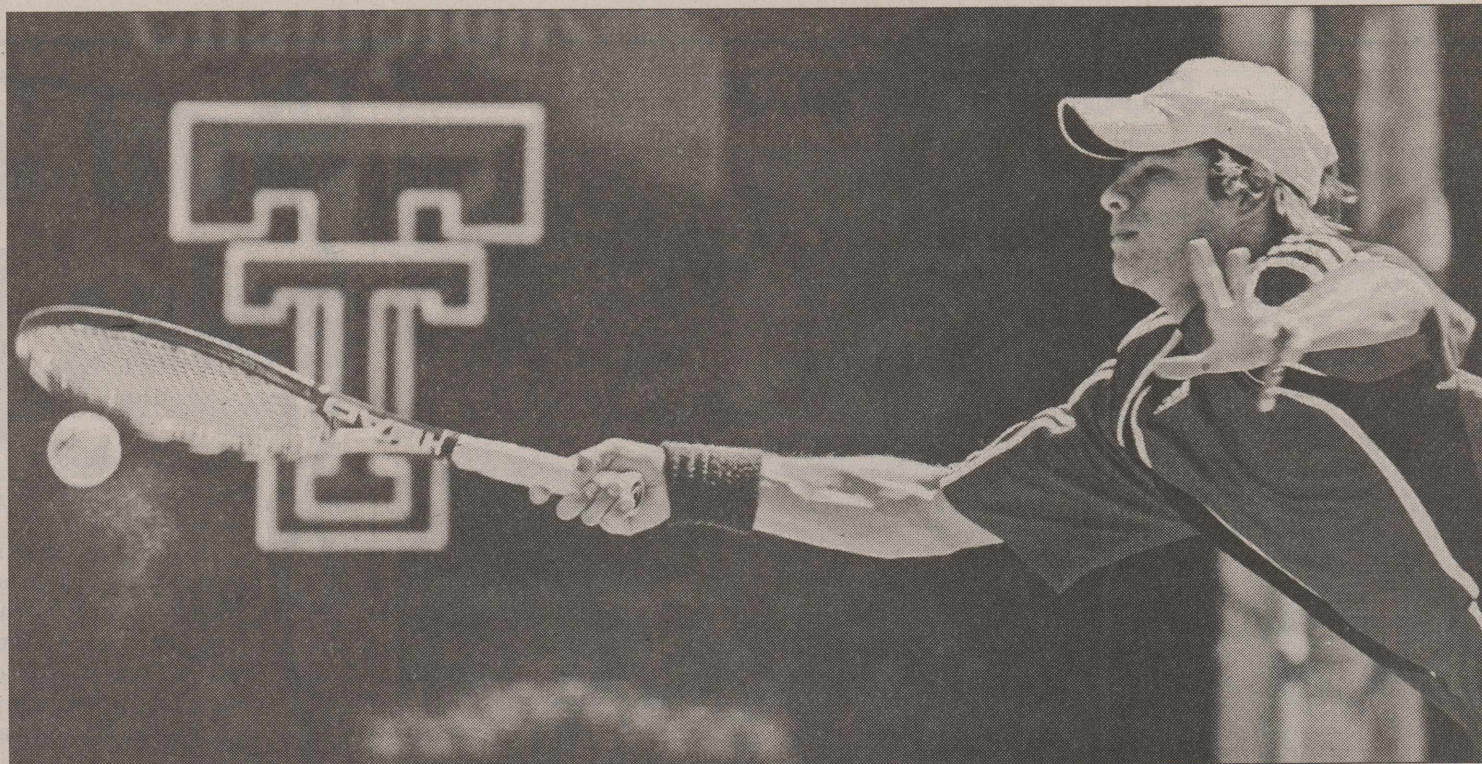


PHOTO BY SAM GREINADIER/The Daily Treador

TEXAS TECH'S RAONY Carvalho is 10-5 in singles play heading into Big 12 Conference play. The Red Raiders face No. 14 Texas A&M at 6 p.m. Friday in College Station.

than anything what he has learned is that everyday it's a battle."

Siegel also said Carvalho has continued to improve in the weight room, and improve his work ethic.

Where Carvalho has had consistent success is in doubles play with partner Christian Rojmar.

The No. 12 doubles team in the nation is 10-4 this spring teams

including a victory against USC's then-No. 4 tandem of Farah and Steven Johnson, 8-5.

Rojmar said his teammate has had to endure some growing pains, but now the freshman is better for it.

"In the beginning of the season, he focused more on his matches," Rojmar said. "But as we've gone along, he has become more of a

team player as well as just playing so much better. It is important for the team that he plays well at No. 1 and in doubles, and he's doing a great job."

The Red Raiders head to College Station and Austin this weekend to take on No. 14 Texas A&M and No. 12 Texas and it won't get any easier for Carvalho.

The freshman could face two

ranked opponents — Pollock and Kutrovsky — in three days.

"We need to work hard," Carvalho said. "Everybody needs to be just one, like a real team deal. And to be better we need to beat good teams, and we have our chance now. For me in singles, I going to play against tough players, and I need to be ready to help my team."

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## Adding more postseason could give baseball fans more hope

Baseball season is less than a week away, but as a Texas Rangers fan, it is very hard for me to get excited about another season where all I can hope for is .500 and maybe a few meaningful games in August.

Major League Baseball is by far the least competitive league in all of sports, and more than half of the teams in the league will be eliminated from playoff contention three months into the season.

While a lot of people will point to the Tampa Bay Rays, magical run last season as an example that it is possible for a small-market team to make a run, the Yankees spent \$200 million during the offseason to make an encore in 2009 much more difficult for the Rays.

It is popular belief steroids are baseball's main problem, but I think competitive balance is a much bigger problem.

A lot of people believe the problem could be solved if the

### Landry Locker



MLB incorporated a salary cap like the NBA, NFL and NHL, but that would not be in the MLB's best interest.

While a salary cap definitely would help, it would put money-making teams like the Yankees, Red Sox, Mets and Dodgers on an equal playing field with small-market teams like the Pirates, Royals and Nationals.

This would not be a good move for baseball because the large-market team is where the league makes its money. Plus, the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry is head-and-shoulders above any other rivalry the MLB has to offer and draws a lot of interest across the country, not

just in Boston and New York.

Next time you walk to class, just look at all the Yankees and Red Sox hats on campus and you will see what I mean.

The MLB could solve its competitive-balance problem by shortening the regular season to 130 games and expanding the amount of teams in the postseason from eight to 16 teams.

Despite being the only major sport without a salary cap, the MLB is the league with the fewest amount of participants in the playoffs. Only eight of the 30 teams in the MLB participate in the postseason, compared to 16 of the 30 teams in the NBA and NHL, and 12 of the 32 teams in the NFL.

Why would the MLB have the least amount of participants in the postseason, when most of its teams from smaller-markets are already at a disadvantage before the season even starts?

It doesn't make any sense.

The MLB's 162-game regular season is by far the most watered-down regular season in all of sports.

If the MLB expanded the amount of teams in the postseason, then maybe more baseball fans across the country could experience some meaningful games and bring some excitement to a sport that desperately needs it.

Not only would the MLB gain much needed excitement, but it also would increase the quality of the games played during the season.

During the current 162-game season, teams are forced to use five-man rotations — which makes a lot of the pitching staffs in the league

mediocre to say the least.

Shortening the regular season and increasing the amount of postseason participants would eliminate the watered-down rotations and increase the quality of baseball.

If 16 teams had playoff hopes in the MLB, then maybe more teams actually would spend some money during the off-season because the playoffs actually would be reachable.

Under the current system, teams like the Houston Astros and Rangers do not have much to gain by signing a high-priced free agent because the teams are probably not going to be in the postseason because of one signing.

That could change if eight

teams made the playoffs from both the National and American League.

Baseball is a great sport and has been called "America's pastime." However, baseball is not as popular as it once was and has taken a backseat to football in the United States.

The NFL is by far the most popular league in America. Some argue this is because people simply enjoy football more than baseball, but the fact the NFL is a parity-driven league and the MLB is the league with no competitive balance could be another reason.

While baseball is America's pastime, football is America's present time. The MLB never will be as popular as the NFL, but making baseball's current season more competitive could give this sport a much-needed spark.

Locker is a senior broadcast journalism major from Southlake. E-mail him at landry.locker@ttu.edu.

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**Cowboys' Witten says T.O. made him better player**

DALLAS (AP) — Cowboys tight end Jason Witten says Terrell Owens being on the field made him a better player.

What Witten won't say is that T.O. not being in the locker room will make Dallas a better team. Or that the Cowboys are now more Romo-friendly, a reference to what owner Jerry Jones has said he wanted to become this offseason for quarterback Tony Romo.

"I don't want to look at it and say we are a better locker room," Witten said Wednesday in his public comments since the Cowboys released Owens four weeks ago. "We've got a lot of good football players. I do think that. We've got to go show it. We've got to stop talking about it."

Witten said chemistry is good when teams win, and that any real or perceived issues the Cowboys might have had last season didn't necessarily correlate to the mercurial receiver who has since signed with Buffalo.

The Cowboys, a preseason Super Bowl favorite last season, were 9-7 and missed the playoffs.

"It was a reality check for us to finish the way we did. It was disappointing," Witten said. "We just have to get back to work and not worry about expectations and take it one day at a time, one week at a time. We just have to keep stockpiling good days and don't worry about the big-picture things."

Such as life without Owens, who caught more touchdown passes (38) than any NFL receiver over the last three years and was a big part of Romo's emergence from unknown backup to Pro Bowl quarterback with a \$67 million contract.

# Tech baseball splits series against UNM

By MIKE GRAHAM  
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech baseball coach Dan Spencer has said his baseball squad is a resilient bunch.

The team pulled within one run of a second-straight win against No. 18 New Mexico Wednesday before a colossal collapse in the eighth inning doomed the Red Raiders 15-7.

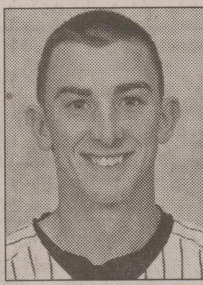
"We obviously had a bad eighth inning," Spencer said. "We had some chances to score. Ultimately, those are the things that cost us the game."

Trailing 6-2 heading into the top of the eighth, Tech (12-18) put together a three-run inning to get right back in the game 6-5 with the tying run at third.

However, the come-back stopped there for the Red Raiders.

New Mexico (25-5) rallied for five earned and four unearned runs in the bottom of the eighth, finishing the inning with a commanding 15-5 lead off Tech pitcher Cory Large (0-2).

The 15-7 victory evened Tech's two-game series with New Mexico in Albuquerque, N.M., as one victory apiece and finalized Tech's overall record this season against UNM to 2-2.

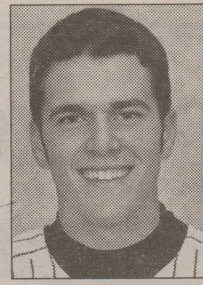


MAYO

In total, UNM sent 14 batters to the plate in the eighth inning and nine runners got on base via seven hits and three walks. In addition, a runner reached base on a large throwing error that, if caught, might have been turned for a double play to end the inning when the score was 6-5.

Tech missed a golden opportunity to take the lead in the fourth inning, too.

With no outs, the bases loaded and the Red Raiders trailing 3-2, Tech's



WHITEHEAD

Garrett Totten, Willie Rueda and Joey Kenworthy popped out, lined out and grounded out, respectively, with no runs crossing the plate.

However Tech had two home runs on the day.

Trailing 3-0 in the third, Tech catcher Kevin Whitehead hit a two-run homer to bring Tech back 3-2.

Pinch hitting for Whitehead, Jeremy Mayo hit a two-run home run in the top of the ninth to cut UNM's lead to 15-7.

The Red Raiders defeated UNM 8-4 Tuesday, despite being out hit 14-10 and committing three fielding errors compared to UNM's one.

Two of UNM's five losses on the season have come at the hands of the Red Raiders.

The victory ensured Tech at least

a season series tie with the Lobos.

In Tuesday's game, freshman Louis Head (1-2) got his first collegiate win from the mound, giving up two runs, one unearned, on six hits and no walks in four complete innings.

Chad Bettis entered the game in the sixth inning with a 7-3 lead. Bettis pitched 3 1/3 innings allowing one run for his fourth save of the season.

Offensively, Tech's Michael Reed — a transfer from Grayson County Community College in Denison — led the way going 4-for-5 with two RBIs and his first home run as a Red Raider. Joey Kenworthy scored three runs and had his team-leading 13th multiple hit game of the season.

Players were unavailable for comment after Tuesday and Wednesday's games.

UNM coach Ray Birmingham said earlier this season that comparing UNM and Tech's head-to-head record would be important in winning recruits away from Tech in the West Texas and Eastern New Mexico communities, which are heavily influenced and interested in Lubbock.

"I think Ray (Birmingham) is right from that standpoint," Spencer said after the game Tuesday. "It's a rivalry. New Mexico is our closest regular opponent aside from TCU."

Up next for Tech is a three-game series against No. 14 Texas A&M starting at 6:30 p.m. Friday at Dan Law Field.

► michael.graham@ttu.edu

## Norman weighs in on Tiger-Phil rivalry

HUMBLE (AP) — Greg Norman thinks Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson are equal in every category, except when it comes to Woods' ability to sink long putts under pressure.

"Tiger Woods, to me, is the best clutch putter I've ever seen in the game of golf," said Norman, who's playing in this week's Shell Houston Open. "I think Tiger's got him on

the mental edge and Tiger was got him outside nine feet. That would be my assessment of the two."

Woods sank a 12-foot birdie putt on the 72nd hole at Bay Hill last Sunday to beat Sean O'Hair. Norman, the world's No. 1 player for 331 weeks between 1986-98, said only Jack Nicklaus rivals Woods when it comes to sinking putts when they matter most.

"I think he and Nicklaus are equal inside 6 feet," Norman said. "Outside 9 feet, Woods is by far the best you've ever seen play the game."

Norman shared a dais with Fred Couples in a wide-ranging interview session at Redstone on Wednesday. The two will captain the opposing teams in the Presidents' Cup in October.

## McCain seeks pardon for first black champ

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. John McCain said Wednesday he's sure that President Barack Obama "will be more than eager" to pardon the late black heavyweight champion Jack Johnson, who was sent to prison nearly a century ago because of his romantic ties with a white woman.

Appearing with three of Johnson's family members and Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., McCain unveiled a resolution

urging a presidential pardon for Johnson, a Galveston, Texas, native who was convicted in 1913 of violating the Mann Act, which made it illegal to transport women across state lines for immoral purposes. The law has since been heavily amended, but has not been repealed.

McCain, R-Ariz., said he planned to speak to Obama about it, but added, "I think the last person I have to convince probably is President Obama."

"We need to erase this act of racism which sent an American citizen to prison on a trumped-up charge," McCain said, adding, "I have great confidence this president will be more than eager to sign this legislation and pardon Jack Johnson."

The White House declined to comment Wednesday. Obama was in London on Wednesday attending a summit on the global economic crisis.

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## Offensive line sees changes entering spring practices

By ALEX YBARRA  
MANAGING EDITOR

Texas Tech tackle Marlon Winn and former guard Brandon Carter spent the past two years building a wall on the right side of the offensive line.

So heading into spring practices, it came as no surprise the chemistry between the soon-to-be seniors is as strong as ever.

"A lot of times, those guys did things last year and they never spoke a word," Tech offensive line coach Matt Moore said. "But it looked like they had talked about what they were fixing to do the whole time."

But with Moore's recent decision to shuffle Carter to left tackle, Winn is coping with the emotions of losing his partner.

"It's kind of like getting a new girlfriend," Winn said. "When you break up with one girl and go into another relationship, you have to learn that person all over again, and that's kind of how it is with Brandon leaving me for the left side."

With tackle Rylan Reed, guard Louis Vasquez and center Stephen Hamby exhausting their eligibility, Winn and Carter both have new companions to settle in with.

Lining up next to Winn at right guard has been 6-foot-7, 320-pound sophomore Mickey Okafor while the 6-foot-5, 271-pound junior Chris Olsen is next to Carter on the left side.

However, during the late stages of Wednesday's spring practice, Carter went down with an apparent right knee injury and was carted off the field with little signs of movement in the leg. No details on the injury were available, but Moore seemed confident in Carter's return.

"He's fine, he'll be fine," Moore said as he went to check on the results of his 2008 All-American lineman.

"It's terrible to see (Carter go down)," center Shawn Byrnes said. "To me, that's one of my best friends, so that's the last thing I wanna see."

Since Tech started practicing with pads Monday, Moore said Carter looked more comfortable at left tackle. With Carter dropping 25 to 30 pounds since last season, his strength and athleticism made him Reed's top replacement to fend off smaller, quicker defensive ends.

"He's always moved fine, and that was when he was inside," Moore said. "But being able to keep that 30 pounds or 25 pounds off and not having to worry about getting beat on the edge and being able to play more balanced, that's been huge for him."

With a senior in Carter on the left side, a senior in Winn on the right and a proven starter in Byrnes — who started all of 2007 before losing his spot to Hamby in 2008 — the inexperience at guard should not be much of a problem, Moore said.

"(Okafor) played left tackle all last spring (and) was a back up on the right guard, right tackle," Moore said. "He jumped into the right guard spot and really has looked good."

"Olsen's done a good job, he's played almost every position out there, and now he's trying to settle in at left guard."

Behind Byrnes is 6-foot-4, 290-pound junior Justin Keown, who is vying for some playing time. Moore said that is a possibility considering he wants to increase the number of capable linemen this year. With redshirt freshmen Terry McDaniel and Deveric Gallington looking impressive, Moore said there could be eight or nine linemen able to play during pressure situations next season.

However, Moore has kept the rotation fairly small in his past two seasons with six in 2007 and five in



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH OFFENSIVE lineman Brandon Carter blocks Tech defensive lineman Jake Myatt during football practice Wednesday at the Football Training Facility across from Jones AT&T Stadium.

2008. Whatever decision he comes to, don't be surprised if Tech's offensive line reloads again, something

the Big 12 Conference has become accustomed to over the years.

"I think one of the biggest things

is the tradition of having really good offensive lines here," Moore said, "and the pressure on the kids to say,

"Hey, we can't be the group to let them down, we gotta be great."

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