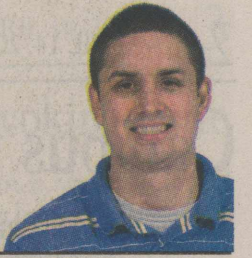


Men's tennis picks up first Big 12 win
See Page 7

See Page 7

Woods, Mickelson steal Masters
See Page 6

See Page 6

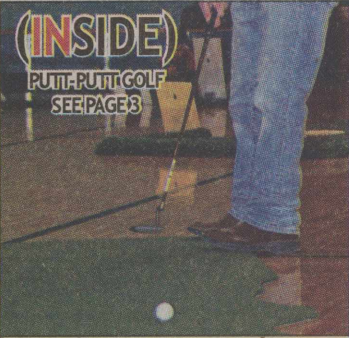


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TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2009
VOLUME 83 ■ ISSUE 132



(INBRIEF)

STATE

Texas AG sues tax representation firm

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott has filed a lawsuit charging a South Carolina-based company with misrepresenting its ability to help consumers resolve unpaid tax obligations.

The suit contends that JK Harris & Company provided misleading information about its employees' expertise, overstated its ability to clear up debts to the Internal Revenue Service and accepted large upfront fees knowing it could not reduce customers' tax liabilities.

A spokesman for the North Charleston, S.C.-based company did not immediately respond to a request for comment from The Associated Press. JK Harris bills itself as the nation's largest tax representation firm.

NATION

Ohio wants \$57M for highway studies

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio wants to spend \$57 million in federal stimulus money on highway projects that won't begin for years, an unusual strategy for money that President Barack Obama said should be used to give the economy an immediate job-creating jolt.

Democratic Gov. Ted Strickland and the state's transportation officials passed over some ready-to-go construction projects and steered about 7 percent of their \$774 million share for planning and preliminary studies.

WORLD

UN Security Council condemns NKorea launch

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A week after North Korea's rocket launch, the U.N. Security Council on Monday condemned the action, demanded an end to missile tests and said it will expand sanctions against the reclusive communist nation.

The council's statement, agreed on by all 15 members and read at a formal meeting of the United Nations' most powerful body, said the launch violated a council resolution adopted after the North conducted a nuclear test explosion in 2006 that banned any missile tests by the country.

DEATH TOLL

4272

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

INSIDE

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Out-and-in

Talented receiving core adjusting to life without Crabtree, Harrell

View a related video at www.dailytoreador.com

By ALEX YBARRA
MANAGING EDITOR

Texas Tech receiver Detron Lewis knows its only a matter of time until quarterback Taylor Potts and the receiving core get on the same page, but that hasn't stopped him from venting to inside receivers coach Lincoln Riley.

"I talked to coach about that (Monday), I told him I was a little frustrated in one-on-ones and (skeleton drills) with how the ball was thrown," said Lewis, who is one of the more experienced receivers in a young, talented stable. "I just talk to him on the regular about it, and he just tells me to control what I can control, and that's all I do."

It's not that Lewis is impatient, after all, he does understand that Potts is just getting used to being the starting quarterback.

With former quarterback Graham Harrell gone, Tech's offense lost three years of experience at the most important position on the field. Losing two-time Biletnikoff winner Michael Crabtree doesn't help either.

"I know it's a progression, they all need that experience," Lewis said. "I bet Graham, his sophomore year when he first started, I

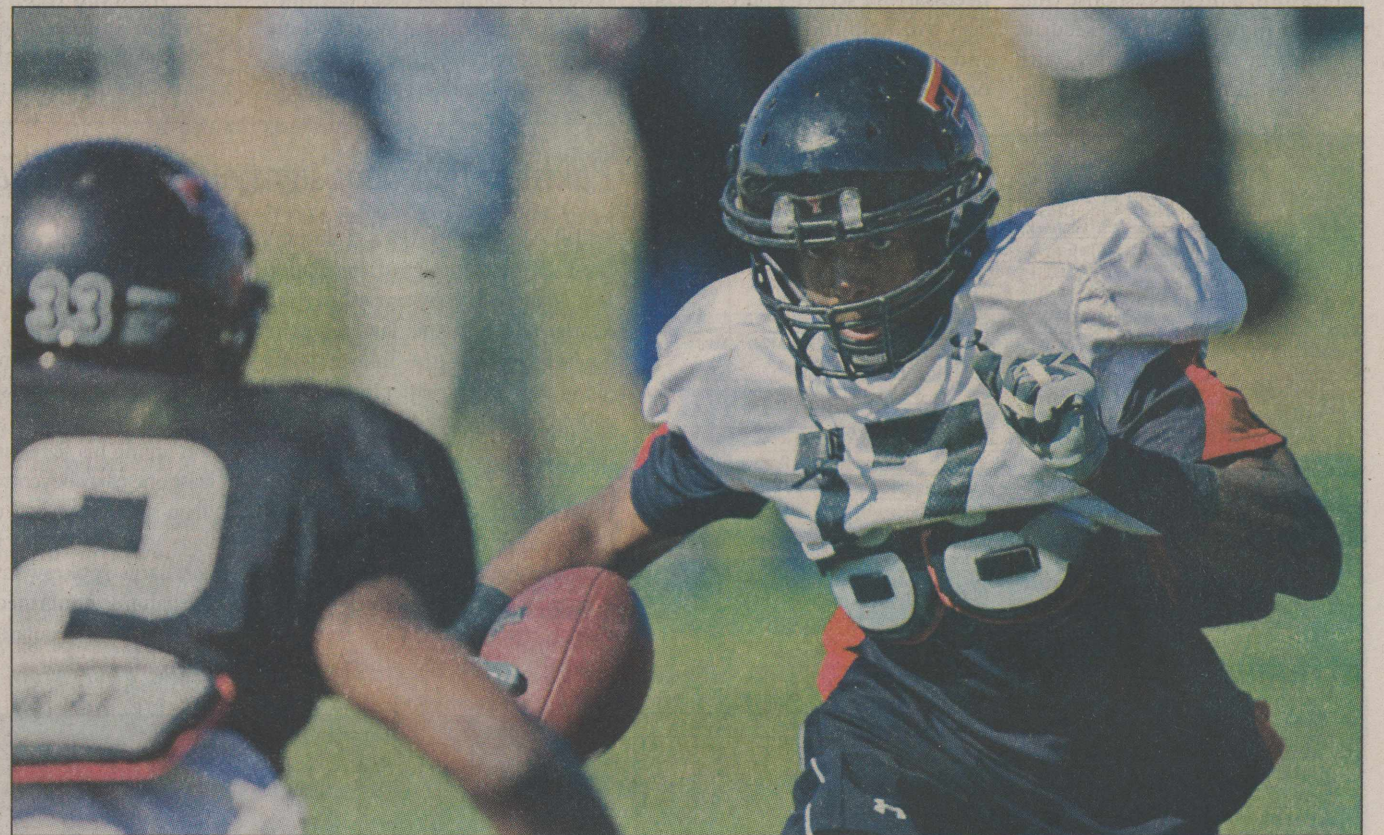


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH RECEIVER Detron Lewis attempts to shake defensive back Brent Nickerson during a spring practice Monday.

bet he wasn't just like he was his senior year. I just know it's a progression, and (Potts) is gonna get better as each day goes by."

And fortunately for Potts, a quarterback's growth pattern usually mimics that of the receivers, and the core at his disposal

right now is young and full of potential. Of the 13 receivers vying for playing time, the only senior is Ed Britton, who Riley said he believes is having his best spring of all.

RECEIVERS continued on page 6

SUB to close PostTech office

By JON VANDERLAAN
NEWS EDITOR

Despite some objections from the Texas Tech Faculty Senate, the Post-Tech mailing station in the Student Union Building will be shut down in favor of a self-serve kiosk in the SUB.

Matt Ducatt, director of Student Union and Activities, said the change will occur because the mailing station is losing money.

Instead of the station, he said, the building will have an automated kiosk that will take mail and provide basic U.S. Postal Service shipping materials.

Ducatt said he does not believe students will have a problem with the machine instead of the office, and one of the only services that no longer will be provided in the SUB will be the providing of shipping materials such as boxes and packing peanuts.

"As long as the machine is doing what it is there for, I think people will



PHOTO BY KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Toreador

STUDENT UNION AND Activities will close the Post Tech office in June in favor of a self-service kiosk.

enjoy the convenience of," he said.

The office will be shut down in June, Ducatt said, and the SUB will use a machine from Pitney Bowes, a postage

scales, direct mail and document management company.

POSTTECH continued on page 5

Obama allowing travel, money transfers to Cuba

By JENNIFER LOVEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is allowing Americans to make unlimited transfers of money and visits to relatives in Cuba and easing other restrictions Monday, ushering in a new era of openness toward the island nation ruled by communists for 50 years.

The formal announcement was

made by presidential spokesman Robert Gibbs and, in Spanish, by Dan Restrepo, the president's top aide on Latin American policy.

"The president would like to see greater

freedom for the Cuban people. There are actions that he can and has taken today to open up the flow of information to provide some important steps to help that," Gibbs said.

Gibbs said Obama is only one part of the equation, with the White House calling on Cuba to do more as well.

With the changes, Obama aims to lessen Cubans' dependence on the regime of Fidel Castro, hoping that will lead them to demand progress on political freedoms, the spokesman said. About 1.5 million Americans have relatives on the island nation that turned to communist rule in 1959 when Castro seized control.

Some U.S. lawmakers protested the changes, saying they could funnel money or goods to the Castro regime.

Others, backed by business and farm groups seeing new opportunities in Cuba, wanted Obama to go farther and lift restrictions on travel by all Americans to Cuba.

Officials said Obama is keeping the decades-old U.S. trade embargo — for now, at least — arguing that that policy pressures the regime to free all political prisoners as one step toward normalized relations with the U.S.

Restrepo said U.S. policy toward Cuba "is not frozen in time." He had no timetable for when future decisions might be made.

Obama had promised to take these steps as a presidential candidate. It has been known for

over a week that Obama would announce them ahead of his attendance this weekend at a Summit of the Americas in Trinidad and Tobago.

"There are no better ambassadors for freedom than Cuban Americans," Obama said in a campaign speech last May in Miami, the heart of the Cuban-American community. "It's time to let Cuban Americans see their mothers and fathers, their sisters and brothers. It's time to let Cuban-American money make their families less dependent upon the Castro regime."

Other steps taken Monday include expanding the things allowed in gift parcels sent to Cuba, such as clothes, personal hygiene items, seeds, fishing gear and other personal necessities.

"There are no better ambassadors for freedom than Cuban Americans."

BARACK OBAMA
U.S. PRESIDENT

SACS to conduct HSC on-site review

By KENDYL SEBESTA
STAFF WRITER

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools sent nine representatives to Lubbock today in preparation for an on-site accreditation visit at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center.

The Health Sciences Center began seeking individual accreditation in 2004 and will receive its first on-site accreditation review as a separate institution from Tech today, said Rial Rolfe, Tech Health Sciences Center vice president for academic affairs. The Health Sciences Center was originally accredited with Tech but chose to seek its own accreditation after being recognized as a separate

institution in 2004.

Rolfe said the accrediting body visited the Health Sciences Center's three regional campuses located in Amarillo, El Paso and the Permian Basin Monday and will convene at 3 p.m. today in Lubbock in preparation for Wednesday's meeting with administrators at the HSC.

"On Wednesday all the people involved with the accreditation process at the HSC will meet with SACS at 8 a.m.," Rolfe said. "President Baldwin will give an introduction to the nine representatives from SACS and will introduce our Quality Enhancement Plan discussing Inter-Professional Teamwork."

The accrediting body then will address the Health Sciences Center's Qual-

ity Enhancement Plan and concentrate on the HSC's vision Wednesday with a televised link to the Amarillo, El Paso and Permian Basin campuses through TechLink, he said. SACS officials also will meet with faculty, students, the Quality Enhancement Plan team and others involved in the process.

"We've been in contact with the nine SACS representatives for about four to six weeks," Rolfe said. "They are peers from outside the state of Texas, so from areas like Tennessee, Georgia and Louisiana. There's almost always a university president involved, a vice president for academic affairs, a librarian, and usually a finance and strategic planning person. So it's pretty diverse."

SACS continued on page 2

	TODAY Partly Cloudy High 79 Low 51		Wednesday Mostly Cloudy High 78 Low 51		Thursday Partly Cloudy High 79 Low 43		Friday Partly Cloudy High 78 Low 39		Saturday Mostly Sunny High 71 Low 43
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Campus wireless Internet to be upgraded

By JON VANDERLAAN
NEWS EDITOR



SEGRAN

The Texas Tech Information Technology Department will be upgrading wireless Internet on campus, which should increase bandwidth as well as the speed of wireless Internet on campus.

Sam Segran, associate vice president for Information Technology, said equipment tends to start showing age at about three to five years, and the original wireless access points were installed on campus about five or six years ago.

The upgrade will be the first infrastructure upgrade since the equipment originally was installed.

The new radios will be placed around campus and will improve the wireless Internet in buildings, residence halls and outdoor facilities.

Wireless Internet users on campus will experience higher bandwidth, a higher response time and the highest level of security encryption that is possible with wireless Internet with the upgrade,

he said.

The installation of the new equipment will cost about \$60,000, Segran said, which is not bad considering

the original installation of the wireless network on campus cost about \$1 million.

The cost for the upgrade will come out of the infrastructure fund within the IT division, he said, which is composed of a portion of student IT fees and some state funding.

Although the upgrade was not specifically intended for mobile device users, he said, devices such as the iPhone now will be able to access wireless Internet separate from the wireless telephone service provider.

Segran said the upgrade was necessary for security purposes, but also will help those accessing the Internet on campus when sending or receiving large files.

The upgrade will be completed May 20, according to a release from the IT division. The upgrades began April 6.

The new wireless hardware was tested for several weeks, Segran said, and was strong with almost no problems. Employees of the IT division will install the network.

Donald Dyal, Tech dean of libraries, said the library wireless system was upgraded about one or two years ago, and he has heard good things about the network through employees and indirectly from students.

According to the release, the upgrades will be made during business hours and will result in a three to five minute interruption in connection. The upgrades also will be suspended during finals week and will not begin again until after grades are submitted.

Changes to network settings in laptops and wireless devices should not be made until late May, when instructions for making those changes are released.

jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu

NATO strike kills 6 civilians

KABUL (AP) — A NATO operation killed six civilians Monday, including a woman and a young girl, in a mountainous region of eastern Afghanistan, villagers and officials said. But the military alliance said its force killed four to eight militants.

The governor of Kunar province, Sayed Fazelullah Wahidi, said four men also died in the NATO airstrikes. Five houses were damaged, and one was demolished, Wahidi and villagers said.

Reports indicated there were foreign militants around the village, including al-Qaida agents, but Wahidi said all those killed were civilians.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force said "four to eight enemy fighters" were killed and intelligence intercepts indicated "the hostile intent of the enemy to attack ISAF posts." Still, a spokesman said it was possible civilians were wounded.

"We deeply regret any possible civilian injuries caused by our operations against the enemy," said Captain Mark Durkin, ISAF's

spokesman. "We will thoroughly investigate the allegations of civilian injuries and, if found true, provide assistance to support the law-abiding people affected."

Earlier, a spokesman said NATO officials were investigating reports of civilian deaths.

A man who said he was a cousin of some of the victims, Haji Matinullah, said warplanes appeared above the village of Sangar around 3 a.m. and unleashed bombs. He said four members of one family died, including an 8-year-old boy, and two people in other families were killed, including a 3-year-old girl.

Sixteen people were wounded, he said.

Four of the wounded, three men and a woman, were taken to a hospital in Asadabad, the capital of Kunar province, said Asadullah Fazli, Kunar's chief of public health. One of the four was then taken to a U.S. medical facility at the American base at Bagram.

Civilian deaths caused by U.S. or NATO forces have long been a sore point for Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who has pleaded with

international forces to reduce the number of innocent Afghans killed in operations.

Because of the remote and dangerous regions most operations happen in, it is almost impossible for journalists and human rights workers to verify villager claims. Taliban fighters have been known to coerce Afghans into falsely claiming that civilians were killed, but the U.S. has also been slow to acknowledge when its operations kill innocent Afghans.

The latest allegation of civilian deaths comes less than a week after the U.S. military admitted that a mission in Khost province killed five civilians, including two females and an infant.

Thirty other people were killed around the country in military operations and roadside bombs, officials said. Among the biggest incidents:

— U.S. airstrikes killed seven militants in Wardak province after they attacked an American patrol on Saturday, the U.S. military said. There were no American casualties in the clash, which happened in Sayed Abad district, it said.

TUESDAY		APRIL 14, 2009						
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTX 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KMYL 14 MYN Lubbock	KLCW 22 CW Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock	
7 AM	Curious (HD)	Today Sched-uled: author Kathie Lee Gifford; from "State of Play," actor Russell Crowe. (HD)	The Early Show	Copeland Robison	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	Good Day Lubbock	
8 AM	Super Why (HD)	Clifford	Sesame Street	The 700 Club	Divorce Payne	Regis & Kelly (HD)	Martha Stewart	
9 AM	Dragon (HD)	Word	Price Is Right (HD)	Cristina	Cristina	The View (HD)	Morning Show	
10 AM	Martha (HD)	Jeopardy!	Rastless (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Tyra Banks Show	
11 AM	Barney	Trivial	Beautiful	Alex	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.		
12 PM	Sawing	News	News	People's Court	Roseanne	All My Children	Paid Prog.	
1 PM	Dewberry	Days of Our Lives	As the World	Paid Prog.	Fam Court	One Life to Live	People's Court	
2 PM	Place	The Doctors	Guiding Light	Maury	Judge Jeanine	General Hospi-tal	Judge Mathis	
3 PM	Artbur	Oprah Winfrey	Brown	Extra	J. Foxx	No Deal	Ellen De-Generes	
4 PM	WordGirl	Dr. Phil	Judy	Maury	Standing	Rachael Ray	Bonnie Hunt Show	
5 PM	FETCh!	Cybar	News	Fam. Feud	Queens	News	Lopez	
6 PM	Mays	Bus. Rpt	News	News	Fam. Feud	Queens	Simpsons	
7 PM	NewsHour (HD)	Wheel	Millions.	Law Order (HD)	70s	70s	Lopez	
8 PM	NOVA (HD)	The Biggest Loser 7: Cou-tries	NCIS "Nine Lives"	St. Patrol	Reaper (HD)	Jim (HD)	American Idol (HD)	
9 PM	Frontline/World	Telescope (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Without Trace	Jim (HD)	Style	(9-92) Cupid (HD)	
10 PM	Charlie Rose	News	News	King	Sox City	News	Two & 1/2	
11 PM	Bus. Rpt	The Tonight Show	(10:30) Late Show	TMZ	Married	Nightline	Seinfeld	
12 AM	Destinos	News	Late Night	Malcolm	Married	Jimmy Kimmel	Raymond	
	GED	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Wife	Bernie	Cops	Paid Prog.	
				Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Insider	Paid Prog.	

FREE TO BE TONIGHT 7:00PM

LUBBOCK THE CW

REAPER

Pakistan president signs off on Islamic law deal

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's pro-U.S. president signed a regulation late Monday to put a northwestern district under Islamic law as part of a peace deal with the Taliban, going along after coming under intense pressure from members of his own party and other lawmakers.

Asif Ali Zardari's signature was a boon for Islamic militants who have brutalized the Swat Valley for nearly two years in demanding a new justice system. It was sure to further anger human rights activists and feed fears among the U.S. and other Western

allies that the valley will turn into a sanctuary for militants close to Afghanistan.

Whatever criticism may come, Zardari can claim some political cover — the National Assembly voted unanimously Monday to adopt a resolution urging his signature, although at least one party boycotted. Earlier, a Taliban spokesman had warned lawmakers against opposing the deal.

Zardari's spokeswoman, Farah-naz Ispahani, confirmed the president signed the regulation Monday night.

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SACS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Rolfe said the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires universities to undergo the accreditation review process every 10 years, with a smaller review process occurring every five years.

"There are 15 mandatory items SACS looks at in the accreditation process that include things like the number of faculty at the institution, the faculty work load, the program curriculum and the Quality Enhancement Plan," he said. "But their primary focus is on the student and whether or not the institution is doing a good job educating those students, making sure they have safe and secure facilities and services and so forth. That is what they typically address at the 10-year mark, and at the five year mark they require us to send in documentation."

In preparation for the accreditation on-site visit, the Health Sciences Center spent a large portion of its time preparing its Quality Enhancement Plan, Rolfe said, which will directly relate to SACS' focus on student education.

"Our QEP proposal is directly related to encouraging teamwork among the HSC students," he said. "We are proposing that students become more involved with other professions in the medical setting to increase their educational experiences."

Rolfe said the nine SACS representatives will conclude their on-site review Thursday after addressing all areas of the HSC and its Quality Enhancement Plan and will announce their decision in an annual meeting hosted in December.

"When the SACS team leaves Thursday, the HSC will send in a report and any additional documentation SACS requests within the five-month time frame and then all of that information goes into the SACS committee so they can make

their decision," he said.

Dr. Steven Berk, dean of the Tech Health Sciences Center School of Medicine, said while the SACS survey Wednesday will address the Health Sciences Center as a whole, each school at the HSC also has undergone its own accreditation process with success, thus far.

"The School of Medicine passed the process three weeks ago with excellent success," he said. "So we are confident that the accreditation of the HSC will reflect the success of the schools that encompass it."

Berk said the accreditation body also will study how the main Health Sciences Center campus in Lubbock interacts with its regional campuses and deans Wednesday in addition to its focus on the Quality Enhancement Plan.

"We will be evaluated on inter-professional teamwork as part of our QEP," he said. "In our plan we proposed looking at how students work together in the simulation setting and how they work together in the emergency setting, in the real hospital setting and around the bedside. Essentially it's a 100 page plan that outlines all of these factors for SACS."

Berk said SACS typically requires a Quality Enhancement Plan from each institution it visits but does not specify the specific topic the institutions must choose.

Dr. Jose Manuel De La Rosa, dean of the Tech Health Sciences Center School of Medicine in El Paso, said all eight Tech Health Sciences Center campuses were involved in the development and direction of the Quality Enhancement Plan and represent the Tech Health Sciences Center as one institution.

"Prior to SACS coming to El Paso on Monday we began looking at our policies and procedures and reviewing them for this process," he said. "We are all one university, and all eight campuses are a part of the process and have been involved with the QEP, but we won't know what SACS decided until the HSC does in December."

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Today's su | do | ku

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

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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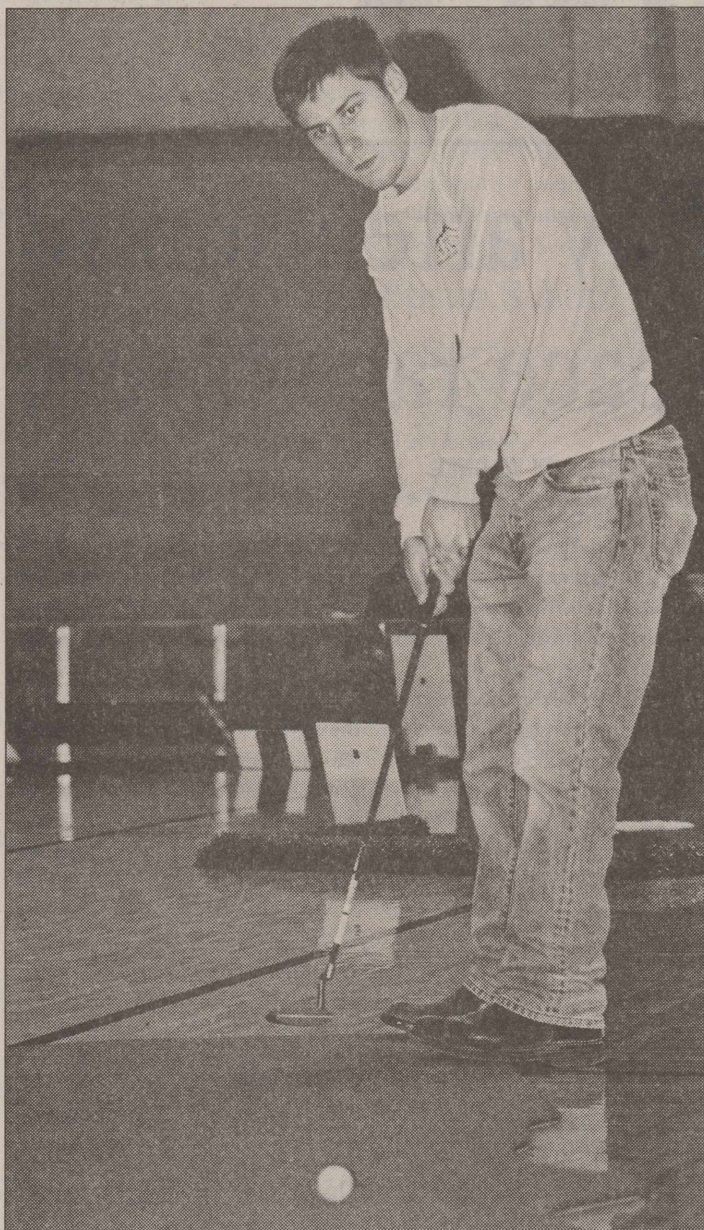


PHOTO BY BETH MCELHANNON/*The Daily Toreador*
SEAN DEPRIEST, A junior finance major from Grapevine, putts for a hole-in-one Friday at the Putt-Putt Tech Activities Board event at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

US to decide location of pirate's trial

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department was considering whether to prosecute a Somali pirate in Washington or New York, U.S. officials said following the rescue of a U.S. hostage and the apprehension of his only surviving captor.

The decision will determine where the pirate will be flown in what is shaping up as the first U.S. piracy case in recent memory.

Three pirates were killed Sunday in a military operation that rescued Capt. Richard Phillips, who had been held

hostage aboard a lifeboat for days. A fourth pirate was in discussions with naval authorities about Phillips' fate when the rescue took place.

Both piracy and hostage-taking carry life sentences under U.S. law.

Two U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case, said the Justice Department is considering whether to leave the case in the hands of federal prosecutors in Washington or New York.

National, local protests to aim at spending bill

By HALIE HARTMAN
STAFF WRITER

The day most Americans pay their federal income tax, Wednesday, also is the day that Tax Day Tea Parties will be hosted in more than 120 cities, including Lubbock.

The tea party is public protest of the U.S. government's wasteful spending, oppressive taxation and wealth redistribution, said Sheila Kenney, a volunteer who is head of the Lubbock Tax Day Tea Party Facebook group. It is also an opportunity for like-minded citizens to voice their frustrations and be heard.

"Politicians need to realize there are a large number of Americans who strongly disagree with wasteful spending, bailouts and greatly increasing the size of government," she said.

The U.S. Congress has passed stimulus spending bills the average citizen cannot fathom, said Irene Howell, co-organizer of the Tax Day Tea Party. The budget proposed by President Barack Obama totals about \$3.6 trillion.

"Obviously no one will come up with this amount individually, so it means a huge deficit," Howell said. "The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office projects that the national debt will double over the next five years, and it will triple over the next 10 years to \$17.3 trillion."

Those trillions are going to be paid back by the generation of students currently in college, said Mike Posey, president of Texas Tech College Republicans, who will represent the group at the event.

"We as college students need to realize what is happening, take an interest in our future, and care enough to speak up. Our future paychecks are at stake," he said. "We work and get taxed on the money we make. The government thinks it can spend our money better and more efficiently than we can. I disagree with that."

Danielle Kujan, a junior political science major from Fort Worth, said it is important for students to have a

grasp on what is going on in Washington and voice their opinions as democrats or republicans.

"Students should know where their money is going and what it is being used for," she said. "As a student and future graduate I want to know that I will be able to obtain a job, buy a house with a decent mortgage, and not pay taxes just to have them go to bonuses for people that are already rolling in the dough."

Kenney, who hopes the tea parties hosted across the nation will draw politicians' attentions, said no government can spend its way out of debt.

"There is power in numbers," she said. "Those in Washington need to realize that they work for the people, not the other way around. We want to send a strong message that they will be held accountable through the ballot box for their policies."

Howell said she hopes the grassroots efforts will send a message to local elected officials, as well as those in the state and federal government.

"The Lubbock economy is strong as it is in most Texas cities," she said. "However, we will still have to be responsible for the failures of irresponsible loans, excesses in the form of earmarks by elected officials, loss of jobs, and the federal government burdening our citizens with more and more taxes and debt."

Kujan, who will be speaking at the event, encouraged other students to come and listen to what people in the community have to say.

"They may or may not agree," she said, "but from there they will be able to form their own opinions and hopefully get more involved."

The Lubbock Tax Day Tea Party, sponsored by Americans for Integrity in Government, will take place at 4 p.m. Wednesday at Lubbock County Courthouse. Featured speakers include former Secretary of State Roger Williams, Chris Winn, chairman of the Lubbock County Republican Party, Judge Sam Medina and local businessmen, community leaders and Tech students.

—hayhay.hartman@ttu.edu

Iraq accuses media of provoking strife

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's Shiite-led government criticized foreign and Iraqi media Monday for reports about recent arrests of U.S.-backed Sunni paramilitaries, accusing news organizations of stoking religious tension and threatening national unity.

At the same time, Iraq's military threatened to sanction a major Arabic newspaper and a satellite television station for falsely quoting a spokesman about efforts to arrest former detainees recently freed by the Americans.

Those moves stem from growing tension between the Shiite leadership and Sunnis who turned against the insurgency, as the United States presses for progress on national reconciliation before the end of the American military mission in 2011.

Also Monday, an American soldier was killed by an armor-piercing bomb south of Baghdad, the U.S. military said. It was seventh combat death suffered by U.S. forces in Iraq since Friday.

Government anger at the media followed news reports that recent arrests of Sunni paramilitaries, known as Awakening Councils or Sons of Iraq, may have been politically motivated.

The paramilitaries were organized and funded by the U.S. starting in 2006 to help maintain security in their neighborhoods. The U.S. transferred control of the councils, whose ranks include former insurgents, to Iraqi authorities last year.

Since then, a number of council members have been arrested for alleged criminal activity and ties to subversive groups, including Saddam Hussein loyalists.

Leaders of the Awakening Councils have claimed that the arrests were aimed at marginalizing Sunni groups, which the U.S. credit with helping turn the tide against the insurgents.

In a statement Monday, the government said "local, Arab and international mass media" had launched a "coordinated campaign" against the national leadership by accusing it of "targeting the Awakening Councils in some areas."

The statement said those arrested were detained because they had committed crimes and not for membership in the councils.

The government accused unspecified news organizations of portraying "wanted men as heroes" in an attempt "to provoke hateful sectarian strife with the aim of damaging Iraqi unity."

The statement said officials were wondering "about the real goals of these campaigns and the groups behind them."

In the other move against media, the Iraqi military announced a lawsuit seeking to shut down the Iraq operations of Al-Hayat, a major London-based Arabic language newspaper, and Al-Sharqiya television station, for falsely reporting that orders had been issued to arrest ex-detainees recently released by the United States.

The perfect Love

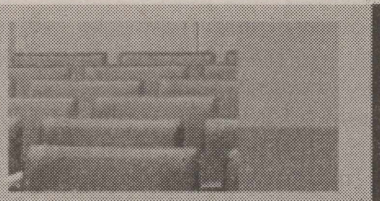
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OPINIONS

PAGE 4
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2009

Where is Obama taking us? Pay attention to space race future

It should be no surprise to the educated public our president wavers on a variety of issues. But given the educated public is perhaps not as large as it once was, let's run through some of those issues on which his stances are either of a shifting, contradictory or questionable with our nation's security in mind.

Derek Coulson



against this, but are you aware while we know North Korea has missiles capable of reaching our shores, he is also cutting our missile defense spending? Is that not a colossal mistake? Only one quandary in the midst of many.

Next, you can consider whether our president bowed to the Saudi King Abdullah. If he did bow, it would set a precedent yet unseen in the history of this nation. Never in US history has a president bowed to the royalty of another nation.

There's a little concept known as American Exceptionalism, proposed by a Frenchman of all people, Alexis de Tocqueville. Investigate that a little to gain fuller perspective on the nature of our president's European tour. Tape shows the encounter is fairly ambiguous. What is not ambiguous is the nation Obama has engaged on this tour de Europe.

Continually apologizing to the free nations of Europe for American arrogance is getting old on the teleprompter reel that he is running. Especially because the free nations of that continent have us to thank for not feeling the weights of fascism or communism. You're welcome, by the way.

For further introspection on our president, let's consider his appointment of Harold Koh as the State Department's top lawyer. Or, more importantly, let's consider the words of Koh himself. Koh calls himself a transnationalist, which among other

things includes his proposal of including international law in United States courts, holding our soldiers to standards of extraneous courts, which places them in more danger while defending our own safety.

It also includes reconsidering the Eighth Amendment, which deals with the death penalty, so we can pay "decent respect to humankind."

He also mentioned allowing homosexual marriages nationwide and a possible allusion to inclusion of sharia law.

Not every one can live in the flowery world of Koh. Before we consider international law, we must consider our own, that is the Constitution and its amendments. I dearly hope we will not lose absolute track of where this nation should be headed to appeal to our across-the-pond socializing allies.

Obama also proposes \$75.5 billion for the war in Iraq. Not that I think the cause is unjust here, he is receiving more antagonism from senators on his own side for proposing such a bill. Where he slightly disturbs me is on the vast amount of campaign promises directly to the contrary of such bills. I wonder what the true aim of our president is.

Well, let me amend that. I wonder to what ends he will go to serve his apparent goal of making us a socialist nation.

In addition to this campaign contradiction, there is also his proposal to make 12 million illegal immigrants legal with new legislation and an additional possible program to combat global warming with a new toy that shoots pollution particles into the atmosphere to block the sun's rays.

Consider the spending he proposes on universal health care, the auto industry, failed banks and failed

companies while yet still adding to these the programs for making a large portion of illegal persons legal and climate programs for an affect that is cyclical in its nature in the first place.

Thomas Jefferson said, "A government large enough to give you everything you want is strong enough to take everything you have." This is undoubtedly the road we are headed down at the pace and direction our president has us running at. Without heeding the consequences or precedents laid out in history, many seem ambivalent to the repercussions of debt and domestic danger we face with such policies.

In protest of the tax policies, at least, there will be a Tax Tea Party April 15th at the Lubbock Courthouse Gazebo. I will be there with several others to provide short speeches for the event. Roger Williams, a former Texas Secretary of State and current chairman of Texas Victory 2008, will provide the keynote message for the Lubbock portion of a nationwide attempt to gain awareness for some of the excessive spending and taxing our government is undertaking.

I would say change and reform takes time, but at the rate we're moving to socialism, it only stands to reason if enough contrary voices are heard we should move back, though somewhat more difficultly, to the democracy-based society.

What it takes is the outcry of a nation against detrimental policies. Not one voice but many, and what better opportunity than a rally in favor of capitalism?

■ Coulson is a junior history major from Waxahachie. E-mail him at derek.coulson@ttu.edu.

By GREGORY WAGNER
MICHIGAN DAILY (U. MICHIGAN)

On Apr. 12, 1961, Yuri Gagarin chiseled his name into history forever by becoming the first human to see the Earth from space.

Drifting above the planet's surface in the Soviets' Vostok 1 capsule, he reflected to ground control: "The Earth is blue. How wonderful. It is amazing." Since Yuri's journey, this rare view has been passionately sought and shared by some privileged men and women. It is Yuri's milestone in human history and the achievements of humanity in space since that time that are the subjects of Yuri's Night, a holiday and worldwide celebration of space.

What exactly is space? Space is everything. The whole universe falls within our conception of it. Our concrete minds will say that space is galaxies, stars, planets, gas and dust, but it's also a concept — a large and empty void that is marked by silent grandeur.

We are stirred by images brought from the corners of the universe of strangely twisting, burning galaxies and of majestic planets, striped and ringed. Even if we only glance skyward on a clear night, we can sense the presence of the stars.

Space holds mysteries that challenge us to explore. Some say that

space is a blank slate where the past is of no consequence, a place where humanity can learn to live and start anew.

Space is important to us. It supports integral components of our civilization, even if we are not aware of it: entertainment, communication, weather prediction and GPS. It allows for telescopes and observatories, the exploration of the solar system and experiments in zero-gravity, not to mention the forthcoming industries of space tourism and habitation.

But beyond the mere practical benefits, space can inspire us. The emotions we attach to space can be tapped to unite individuals and motivate diverse groups of people. An easy example of this power was the Apollo missions.

Hundreds of thousands of engineers, scientists and laborers devoted themselves to the singular purpose of delivering a human ambassador to the moon. This pursuit cost billions of dollars, led to advances in electronics and materials and persuaded a generation of children to pursue careers in science and mathematics.

Governments, of course, should continue (and increase) their funding of science missions, interplanetary probes and great space observatories. But commercial space, which some say is in the midst of a new space race, shows the greatest promise to bring space to the doorstep of the ordinary citizen. In such a quest, innovation and technology will advance, too.

“Even if we only glance skyward on a clear night, we can sense the presence of the stars.”

America moving away from organized religion, not yet a post-Christian nation

By JASON KEHE
DAILY TROJAN (USC)

Christianity is declining, falling, dying like its God. We will soon be living in a so-called "post-Christian" nation, with secularism as the new national faith.

Or so certain evangelicals fear. And with the publication last month of the American Religious Identification Survey 2008, the third of its kind since the first was published in 1990, that fear has only deepened. And for no good reason.

In the first place, the media have vastly overstated the significance of the survey, using phrases like "post-Christian" and "secularism" to explain the (ostensible) paradigmatic shift in which we find ourselves. Arranged in the shape of a cross on the cover of last week's Newsweek, set in red letters against an all-black background, were the ominous words, "The Decline and Fall of Christian America." The piece was written by none other than the magazine's editor, Jon Meacham.

Clearly, this is news. One would then expect the findings of ARIS 2008, which can be accessed online, to be nothing short of shocking.

Actually, they aren't. Of evidently nation-shaking import is the finding, perhaps the survey's most significant, that the "American population self-identifies as predominantly Christian," though "Americans are slowly becoming less Christian":

86 percent in 1990 down to 76 percent in 2008.

To be clear, there are still more Christians in the United States than there were in 1990 (well over 13 million more), but they now make up a smaller percentage of the entire population. It is absurd to think, however, that a 10 percent drop, while sizable, suddenly means that we've become a post-Christian nation. Seventy-six is still a huge percentage.

What's more, this number doesn't tell you that, in 2001, 76.7 percent of Americans self-identified as Christians, based on ARIS 2001 findings — which means that, within the last seven years, the percentage of Christians in the United States has fallen by only 0.7 percent. Most of the decline, that is, occurred between 1990 and 2001, not between 2001 and 2008. Based on a mere 0.7 percent drop in the last seven years, why did Newsweek feel it necessary to prophesy the end of Christian America now?

Who knows. We only know that they did, and that Meacham, while he recognizes that "rumors of the death of Christianity are greatly exaggerated," still asks whether this country "has now entered a post-Christian phase."

"Post-Christian": It means something like beyond or past Christianity, as if we no longer need it. As if Christianity has become some sort of anachronism, a thing of the past, superseded and replaced by a new and far-reaching secularism. (The percentage of so-called "Nones" in

the United States — people with no stated religious preference, atheists or agnostics — has risen, according to the survey, from 8.2 percent in 1990 to 15 percent in 2008.)

Such a usage of the phrase "post-Christian" originated, Meacham tells us, in 1929. For 80 years now people have been worried about the decline of Christianity, and here we are, 2009, and 76 percent of us are still Christian.

Not to mention, of course, that Nietzsche, whose famous dictum was "God is dead" — a phrase perennially evoked to describe this so-called post-Christianity, lived more than 100 years ago. Clearly, this is no new phenomenon: Since Nietzsche, and probably earlier, people have (blindly) foreseen the imminent fall of religion, and been wrong.

They have cried wolf so many times, it's surprising we're still listening.

God is not dead in 2009; he's silent. And no wonder: We've separated Him from our politics, expelled Him from our schools and barred Him from our courts.

He is safe only in our religious institutions, and to a lesser extent in our homes, where with each passing generation His presence has begun to fade.

This is not to say that God belongs in our politics, our schools or our courts; most of us would agree that, in most cases, he doesn't. Rather, it is to show that we have not so much abandoned Christianity as waged war against it,

with secular progressives giving the all-stops-out go-ahead. Increasingly, God — the omnibenevolent father — has become a threat. But to what, nobody can really say.

"The challenge to Christianity in the U.S.," reports ARIS 2008, "does not come from other religions but rather from a rejection of all forms of organized religion."

Perhaps, then, this is the problem: organized religion. It is not so much that religion is dying, but changing, becoming less organized, more personal.

Meacham quotes R. Albert Mohler Jr., a sky-is-falling evangelical who has seemingly resigned himself to Christianity's forthcoming end, as saying, "Clearly, there is a new narrative, a post-Christian narrative, that is animating large portions of this society."

People have been suggesting the notion of a new narrative for a long while, a narrative not based on some canonical text on whose morality is predicated a belief in God, but rather on something else. Well-known British author and outspoken atheist Philip Pullman, for example, says that the narrative by which we live our lives should not be Christianity's; it should be our own.

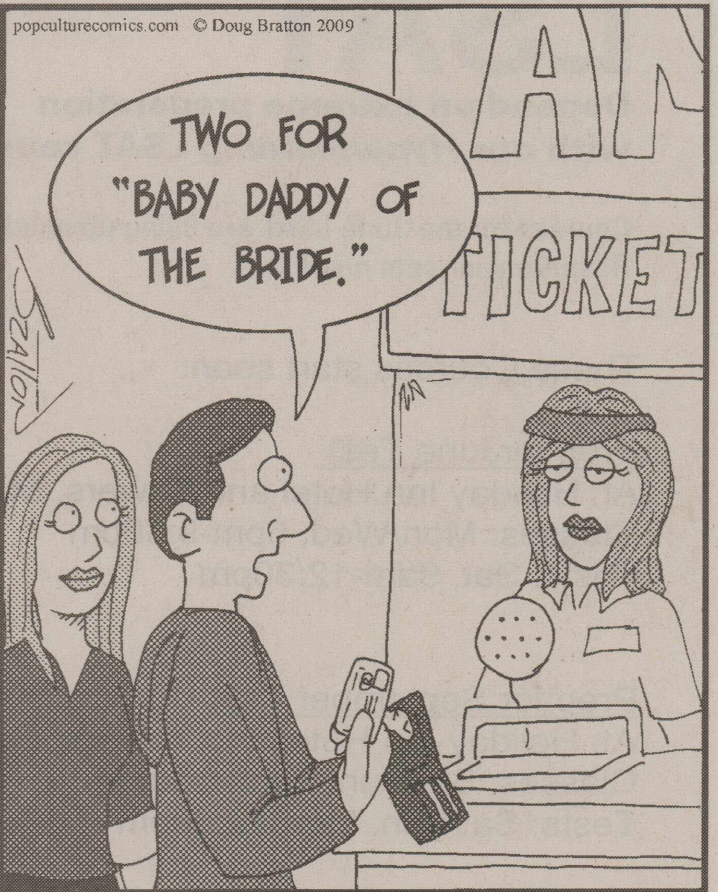
On the other end of the spectrum are those, like scholar Elizabeth K. Rosen, who argue the opposite — that "America is not, in fact, becoming more secularized, if

by secularized we mean turning away from religious faiths," Rosen writes in "Apocalyptic Transformation: Apocalypse and the Postmodern Imagination."

Rosen cites a 2002 TIME/CNN poll, which found that "fully 59 percent [of Americans] say they believe

the events in Revelation [the book in which the events of apocalypse are foretold] are going to come true."

With that kind of faith, people should be less worried about the decline and fall of Christianity, and more worried about whether they are prepared for the end of the world.



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CAMPUS NEWS FLASH

Texas Tech Miscellaneous

- Texas Tech announced events Spring into Green, a celebration focusing on making Tech and Lubbock more environmentally friendly. The university will host a symposium and workshop Wednesday and Thursday, the IEEE Green Technology Conference will be hosted Thursday and Friday at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Towers, and Arbor Day will be hosted April 24, among other events ending April 25.
- The Tech Museum Program will host an evening featuring the music and history of the Work Projects Administration at 6:30 p.m. April 23 in the Helen DeVitt Jones Auditorium. The program is free and open to the public.

Paul L. Foster School of Medicine

- SACS On-Site Committee Chairman Dr. Wilsie Bishop visited the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in El Paso Monday to meet with representatives from requested departments regarding the re-accreditation process. SACS will travel to the Tech Health Sciences Center today to continue its review process of the Tech HSC system and will announce its accreditation decision in December.

Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health

- The Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health will host an inaugural Women's Health Symposium from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. today at the Abilene Civic Center. The symposium, The Staying Power of Women, will include free health screenings, a luncheon and speakers including the Institute's Executive Director Marjorie Jenkins. Tickets for the entire symposium may be purchased online for \$35 or may be purchased for the luncheon only at \$15.

Health Sciences Center Miscellaneous

- The Health Sciences Center has created a Staff Senate to provide feedback on issues regarding staff policies and procedures in compliance with the current Faculty Senate. Voting for the proposed Staff Senate Constitution and Bylaws will take place Wednesday through April 24, with senator nominations taking place May 1. The Staff Senate hopes to be fully operational in September.
- The Health Sciences Center will host an information event Tuesday through Thursday in the Health Sciences Center Academic Classroom Building first floor lobby. The event will work to promote inter-professional teamwork as part of the SACS accreditation Quality Enhancement Plan requirement and will involve faculty, staff, students and the community throughout the next five years. The event is open to all interested persons and will include complimentary items such as T-shirts, water bottles and pens.
- Dr. Surendra Varma, Tech HSC associate dean of Graduate Medical Education, and Ted Hartman, endowed chair in medical education at the HSC, were honored at the 2009 American Heart Association Heart Ball for their research and education in cardiovascular disease along with Dr. Kamlesh Varma this month. The ball was designed to raise money for cardiovascular disease research and advancement.

Department of Psychiatry

- The Department of Psychiatry will host a Psychodynamic Therapy Case Conference from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. today for second year medical residents at the Health Sciences Center Academic Classroom Building. All HSC medical residents are required to attend faculty-resident conferences that typically include grand rounds, Journal Club meetings and two case conferences each month.

American Medical Student Association

- The Tech HSC American Medical Student Association will begin collecting electronic blood pressure cuff donations and monetary donations in preparation for the distribution of blood pressure readings to patrons of locally owned barbershops beginning May 16. Members of the AMSA plan to provide the donated electronic blood pressure cuffs and training to barbers in 10 barbershops that serve populations with high blood pressure risks and plan to create locations where Lubbock patrons can check their blood pressure on a regular basis in order to manage their hypertension. For information regarding donations, contact Kweku Hazel or Saheil Daffarian.

Bankruptcies surge despite law meant to curb them

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The number of U.S. businesses and individuals declaring bankruptcy is rising with a vengeance amid the recession, despite a three-year-old federal law that made it much tougher for Americans to escape their debts, an Associated Press analysis found.

"There's no end in sight," said bankruptcy lawyer Bryan Elliott of Hickory, N.C., who is working seven days a week and scheduling prospective clients a month in advance. "To

be doing this well and having this much business, it is depressing. It's not a laugh-a-minute job."

Nearly 1.2 million debtors filed for bankruptcy in the past 12 months, according to federal court records collected and analyzed by the AP. Last month, 130,831 sought bankruptcy protection — an increase of 46 percent over March 2008 and 81 percent over the same month in 2007.

Bob Lawless, a professor at the University of Illinois College of

Law, said bankruptcies could reach 1.5 million this year and level off at 1.6 million next year — around the same time economists expect an economic recovery to begin.

Congress voted in 2005 to make bankruptcy more cumbersome after years of intense lobbying from the nation's lenders, who complained that people were abusing the system. Before the move to change the law, bankruptcies were running at what was then an all-time high of about 1.6 million per year.

PostTech

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The SUB also no longer will provide a money order service, he said, but several financial institutions on the Tech campus can provide that service.

Lewis Held, a member of the Tech Faculty Senate, said a strong faculty feeling against the plan was voiced during the meeting Wednesday, when it first was announced to the senate.

Held said because the office is a service, it should remain open even if it is not making money.

"Of course it's not making money — it's a service," he said.

Ducatt said student fees do not cover the costs incurred by the office and instead cover the mortgage of the SUB, utilities and staff costs. Because the fee does not cover the costs and the office is not self-sustaining, Student Union and Activities has been subsidizing the office for several years.

"The student union fee is incredibly important to us," he said, "but it covers our mortgage, basically."

Closing down the on-campus mailing office will not help attract graduate students when the university is aspiring for tier-one status, Held said, because many graduate students do not have a vehicle to travel off campus to a post office.

Sundaram Kuppu, a doctorate student in biological sciences, said the new machine may handle regular mail well, but for special occasions in which students or others sending mail may need help, it will not be good to be without a mail staff.

When sending off his passport, he said, the PostTech staff helped him make sure he had everything he needed to send, and in his personal experience, the helpfulness of the staff would be missed.

Ducatt said the closing of the office will not result in any layoffs, as the employees still are employed by Student Union and Activities.

Student Union and Activities, along with its fee advisory board, looked at other options before deciding to close the office, he said, but he believes the machine will be more cost effective and easy to use.

The mailboxes will remain and be kept up by ID center staff, stamps may be purchased from the Sam's Place in the SUB, departmental postage may be pur-

chased from MailTech, and the kiosk will handle first class mail.

The kiosk also will be open longer hours, whenever the SUB is open, giving students more flexibility in when they send mail, Ducatt said.

jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu

He is risen!

Mark 16:6
Daily Proverbs: 4/13 - Pr. 13:4
4/14 - Pr. 14:4 - Pr. 15:4
4/15 - Pr. 16:4 - Pr. 17:4
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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 E-junk
- 5 Honshu port
- 10 No.-crunching pro
- 13 Shakespearean betrayer
- 14 Fancy calligraphy strokes
- 16 Wahine's gift
- 17 11:00 a.m. restaurant patrons?
- 19 The whole enchilada
- 20 Ocean color
- 21 Em and Beo
- 23 Caboose's place
- 24 "I'm fu-reezing!"
- 26 Held title to
- 29 Fraternity nerd?
- 34 Ace the exam
- 36 Caboose's place
- 37 Deadlocked
- 38 Banned bug killer
- 39 Advice from the auto club?
- 42 Ginger
- 43 Noun follower, often
- 45 Big oaf
- 46 Crocodile hunter of film
- 48 Whimsical Barbie?
- 51 Future sunflowers
- 52 Deadlocked
- 53 Fed. workplace watchdog
- 55 Military bigwigs
- 58 Answer
- 62 " said it!"
- 63 Quite small-minded?
- 66 Seasoned salt?
- 67 Patriot Adams
- 68 Organ knob
- 69 The Sixties, for one
- 70 Like dirt roads after rain
- 71 Pigeon

DOWN

- 1 Bro and sis
- 2 Downsize
- 3 Juanita's water
- 4 Mutt
- 5 Jackson: rapper Ice Cube's birth name
- 6 Jean of "Saint Joan"
- 7 Make for it
- 8 Relatives
- 9 Org. with Patriots and Jets
- 10 Extended family
- 11 Animal hide
- 12 Has a bug
- 15 Predatory lender
- 18 Plastic, so to speak
- 22 Egg on
- 24 Out of shape?
- 25 Made over
- 26 Like most movie rentals
- 27 Angler's boot
- 28 Explosive stuff, briefly
- 30 Drive away
- 31 Sidestep
- 32 Went sniggling
- 33 Patched pants
- 35 Livelood
- 40 Product with earbuds
- 41 Upper body strengthener
- 44 Crunchy sandwiches
- 47 Most spiffy
- 49 Speaks like Daffy
- 50 Plundered
- 54 In a furtive way
- 55 Mega- or giga-ending
- 56 Lion's warning
- 57 Mystique
- 58 It may be ear-piercing
- 59 "Leave me"
- 60 Plains native
- 61 Big Apple enforcement org.
- 64 It's used for battering
- 65 Flightless big bird

By Billie Truitt 4/14/09

Friday's Puzzle Solved

SKY THE TAB MCAN
QUA BOCHCO OLIJO
UNS STARKGAZING
ITIS PRO SNAPTO
BARKCODES ARB
ULT INSTORE
ANGLE GATO AES
PERKFORMINGARTS
EVA PAIN RUDDY
RANCHES EAR
DRI PARKVALUE
UPPING DEB LYNX
FORKDUMMIES NIP
OPIE AMENRA CTA
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US Congressman escapes injury in Somali airport mortar attack

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Assaults fired mortar shells at the Mogadishu airport as a plane carrying an American congressman took off, a police officer said. The plane departed safely, but 19 Somalis were reported wounded in surrounding residential areas.

U.S. Rep. Don Payne, chairman of the House subcommittee on Africa, said he didn't learn of the shelling until his plane landed in Nairobi, Kenya, after the flight from Mogadishu, one of the most dangerous cities in the world.

Payne, a Democrat from New Jersey, told CNN that he traveled to Somalia alone on a commercial flight. He confirmed the State Department's report that he had been warned of the security problems in Somalia, an unstable country with a history of violence, but said he felt the visit

was necessary.

"I believe that a stable Somalia is really a key to a stable Africa," he said.

Nearly every building in Mogadishu is crumbling or pockmarked with bullet holes. Foreigners rarely travel there, and when they do they travel under armed guard and in convoys.

Payne told reporters before leaving Mogadishu that he met with Somalia's president and prime minister during his one-day visit to discuss piracy, security and cooperation between Somalia and the U.S. The congressman held a news conference in the presidential palace, which itself has frequently been targeted in mortar attacks.

In 2007, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Jendayi Frazer became the highest-ranking American envoy to visit Somalia since 1993, when rebels shot down

two U.S. Black Hawk helicopters in Mogadishu and battled American soldiers in a 12-hour firefight that left some 300 Somalis dead. The U.S. withdrew a year later.

But even Frazer did not visit Mogadishu, instead landing in the government stronghold of Baidoa and leaving the same day.

None of the six mortar shells fired Monday landed on the airport as the plane carrying Payne took off safely, said Col. Mohamed Idi, a police officer at the airport.

Idi said the shells hit in nearby residential area. Medina Hospital administrator Ali Adde said 19 civilians, mostly women and children, were injured.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Robert Wood said Payne received a briefing on Mogadishu's security problems and chose to go anyway.

Stocks end mostly higher ahead of earnings reports

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks ended mostly higher Monday ahead of a flurry of earnings reports that could determine whether the economy is really getting better, as investors have been hoping over the past month as they drove the market higher.

Early signs were good. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. surprised investors after the end of trading Monday when it released better-than-expected quarterly results and announced a \$5 billion stock offering. The company had been scheduled to report results early Tuesday.

The bank's \$1.7 billion profit was just the sort of good surprise traders were eager for Monday as they snapped up financial stocks. Some are looking for signs of recovery, while others don't want to get burned if banks beat the low expectations the market has set for the industry.

The buying helped the Dow Jones industrial average turn a 120-point deficit into a modest loss of 26 points by the time the closing bell sounded. Broader indexes managed to post

gains. Trading volume was light, which can skew the market's moves.

The occasional bouts of selling after a long holiday weekend were orderly and suggested that traders were

reluctant to give up on a five-week rally. The earnings reports and economic figures due this week could reignite buying if they beat Wall Street's modest expectations.

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****Fall 2009 is 5 p.m. April 20****

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238 Student Union Bldg 806-742-4791

Masters receives unlikely ending

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — There were so many ways this most thrilling of Masters could have ended.

What if Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson had carried their duel into a playoff? Now that would have turned Augusta National upside down.

Or how about Kenny Perry, the ultimate grinder, winning his first major at an age when most players are prepping for the senior tour? Boy, that would have been something.

Instead, it was a burly man from Argentina who crafted an ending no one could have envisioned. Down at the 10th green, long after Woods and Mickelson had headed for exits and dragged many of the patrons with them, Angel Cabrera barely beat the setting sun with a gimme of a putt as Perry looked on helplessly.

OK, it wasn't Hollywood.

But Cabrera sure earned it.

When his swing got loose and produced two straight bogeys on the front side, he hung in there. When he faced a two-stroke deficit with two holes to play, he didn't give up. And, most impressively, when his first tee shot of the sudden-death playoff rolled to a stop behind a big tree on the first playoff hole, he never lost hope.

"I only had a spot like this big" — meaning tiny — "and only trees, so I've got to put it through there, that's it," Cabrera said, a translator relaying his words. "Easy as that."

Cabrera hooked his ball around

one tree but struck another, and was fortunate to see it carom to the left and out into the fairway, a sand wedge away from the green. He knocked it up to 8 feet behind the hole, and made the putt to save a remarkable par. Perry messed up his approach and had to settle for par, too. The third member of the playoff, Chad Campbell, missed his 6-footer and the race was down to two.

Only one more hole was needed. Perry found mud on his ball in the middle of the 10th fairway, and his shot veered left of the green. Cabrera knocked his below the hole and — for perhaps the first time all day — he was finally the one in command. Perry's chip raced past the flag, and he missed the putt coming back.

Perry didn't even get a chance to finish. Cabrera's putt stopped next to the hole. He marked it, took a quick look to make sure there was nothing on it, and calmly delivered the winning stroke on his second career major.

At Oakmont two years ago, Cabrera stared down Woods and Jim Furyk to win the U.S. Open. Now he has joined the green jacket club and wiped out any perception that his first major title was a fluke.

"I was happy with my game and I had confidence," Cabrera said after a closing 71 left him at 12-under 276. "I was just trying to enjoy the moment."

He wasn't the only one. From the time Woods and Mickelson stepped

to the tee, sharing a firm handshake and icy stare, there was a sense this would finally be the day the Masters delivered an Augusta-like finish. Another day broke warm and sunny. The flags drooped limply atop the scoreboard. The greens were still soft and inviting after a fierce storm a couple of nights earlier.

This was finally a Sunday for some fireworks, and they were soon going off all over the course.

The main event was Woods vs. Mickelson, or so it seemed most of the day. Mickelson scored the early blows, delivering six birdies before the turn for a record-tying 30. Woods bounced off the ropes with a 30-footer for eagle at No. 8. They both had a shot as they headed to Amen Corner, trailed by a gallery that grew to 10-deep in spots.

"It was fun," Mickelson said. "We've had some good matches in the past. I'm usually on the wrong end of it, but it was fun playing with him."

The script began to unravel at No. 12, the devilish little hole known as "Golden Bell." Mickelson pulled out a 9-iron and took a tentative swing. The ball checked up short of the flag, spun backward and didn't stop rolling until it splashed in Rae's Creek. Mickelson wound up with a double bogey, which seemed to suck all hope out of his game.

"The ball went in the water," Lefty said, "and I stopped making putts."

Woods-Mickelson bout steals show at Masters

Every year the Masters provides excitement to the avid golf fan, but Tiger Woods once again made golf exciting for the casual golf fan without even winning the tournament.

Sunday's Masters provided fans with an exciting three-way playoff between Kenny Perry, Chad Campbell and the eventual winner of the green jacket, Angel Cabrera.

However, despite Cabrera's victory, the 2009 Masters will not be remembered for the three-way playoff.

Instead the 2009 Masters will be remembered for the excitement provided by the Woods-Phil Mickelson pairing, two golfers who didn't even finish in the top four of the tournament (Mickelson fifth and Woods tied for sixth).

I personally found myself glued to every shot by Woods and Mickelson. It was almost a buzz kill when the camera would switch to any golfer other than Woods or Mickelson.

In fact, until Woods and Mickelson finished, it didn't even seem like Perry, Campbell and Cabrera were playing in the same tournament.

While Woods and Mickelson were playing in front of loud, rowdy crowd with the intensity of an NFL Playoff game, Perry, Campbell and Cabrera appeared to be playing in front of a normal-sized crowd that lacked the level of intensity of the Woods-Mickelson gallery.

As soon as Woods and Mickelson finished their round and it became apparent that neither one of them were going to win the green jacket, I

Landry Locker



would be lying if I said I didn't channel surf a little bit.

Woods and Mickelson put on a show that will be remembered by avid golf fans for many years, but for the casual golf fan like myself, this tournament, just like every other golf tournament I watch was all about Tiger.

ESPN has attempted to hype the Woods-Mickelson rivalry up a lot similar to past rivalries like Kareem-Wilt, Bird-Magic and Brady-Manning, but while those rivalries actually had an equal amount of star power on both sides, Woods is the only star in this rivalry.

While I was fascinated by Mickelson's performance, I probably would not even know who he was if it weren't for Tiger.

The PGA Tour has tried many times to find a rival for Woods, but nobody on the tour is on his level.

Woods put golf on the map.

There have been great golfers in the past, but Woods is the only reason why the casual fan even watches golf.

Just like when the Lakers or Cavaliers score flashes across the bottom line on ESPN, and you look to see Kobe Bryant and LeBron James' stats, as soon as golf scores flash on the TV screen, Woods is the only name you look for. It

is just natural instinct.

I am a terrible golfer, and I'm lucky to card a 100 on my score sheet. Trust me, I have a huge amount of respect for the ability of every golfer on the PGA Tour, but let's be honest: Woods is the PGA Tour.

I had never even watched golf until 1997 when Woods became the youngest player to win the Masters.

Until Woods, golfers were looked at as middle-aged men with boring personalities and bellies that stuck out of their polos. Woods is not the average golfer.

Woods has charisma similar to athletes from more popular sports like basketball, baseball and football. He wears his emotions on his sleeve and in a sport where most of the players are mellow and relaxed, he shows the passion and competitiveness other players lack.

Woods is so much better than the people he plays that I find myself rooting against him similar to the way I used to root.

Angel Cabrera putting on the green jacket after the Masters was "SportsCenter's" lead story, but Cabrera should thank Woods for that.

If it weren't for Woods, golf would be about as popular as hockey and people would care about the Masters about as much as they care about the start of the NHL Playoffs this week.

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

Looking for a summer job?

The Daily Toreador currently is hiring dedicated, ambitious writers and artists for its 2009 summer edition.

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Have questions? E-mail Summer Editor-In-Chief Alex Ybarra at daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu

Receivers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, with so much inexperience, mistakes are bound to follow.

There have been more dropped balls than usual this spring, but Riley attributed some mistakes to fluctuat-

ing reps between Potts, Seth Doege and Steven Sheffield at quarterback.

Either way, he said he still sees an inconsistent group of receivers, although improvements are being made.

"Just guys not doing their job, not trusting what their job is, what their responsibility is," Riley said. "When you

go against the defense, the same guys for several practices in a row, you almost feel the need to do something different or try something different.

"We just gotta have confidence and faith in what we've been coached to do and go out and do it every time and not try to do anything different than that."

If the season were underway, Riley said Britton — the most consistent receiver so far — would start at split end (X), while sophomore Tramain Swindall (H) and junior Detron Lewis (Y) would be the starting slot receivers. Behind Britton has been 6-foot-7 junior Adrian Reese, who had several big plays during Wednesday's skeleton drills.

However, Riley said Swindall is being pushed by a couple of hard workers in Adam James and Cornelius Douglas.

"If (Swindall) slips at all," Riley said, "those guys will take his place in a heartbeat."

Behind Lewis is sure-handed, Lubbock native Austin Zouzalik, who has shown his reliability all spring. As for flanker, where Crabtree did so much damage the past two seasons, the answer is still a bit muddy.

With the recent surge of junior Alexander Torres, who was a scout-team member last season and caught the only two receiving touchdowns in this spring's first scrimmage, Riley said the competition between him and sophomore Jacoby Franks is "neck and neck."

Highly-touted freshman Eric Ward could squeeze in somewhere between now and next fall, but he still needs to soak in the intricacies of Mike Leach's offensive system.

One name missing from the bunch has been junior Lyle Leong, who has been out with an undisclosed injury since spring began. Leong had a three-touchdown game last season at split end against Kansas State.

So while it hurts not having him in the rotation, he is experienced enough to miss time, which allows younger guys to receive more reps.

"I wish we could inject him right now to the outside guys, but we'll definitely do that as soon as he's healthy," Riley said. "That's given a chance for guys like Eric Ward, a guy like Torres, some of those guys that maybe we would have never seen, emerge this spring."

>>> daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu

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.

THIS WEEK IN RED RAIDER SPORTS

Men's Tennis

vs
Baylor
Tuesday, 04/14 @ 6 PM
McLeod Tennis Center
vs
Oklahoma State
Friday, 04/17 @ 6 PM
McLeod Tennis Center
vs
Oklahoma
Sunday, 04/19 @ 6 PM
McLeod Tennis Center

Men's Baseball

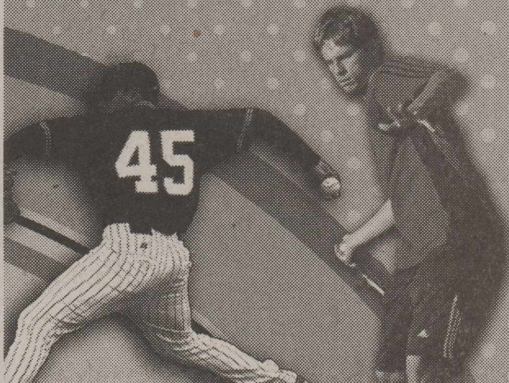
vs
Kansas
Friday, 04/17 @ 6:30 PM
Saturday, 04/18 @ 5:00 PM
Sunday, 04/19 @ 1:00 PM
Dan Law Field

Red & Black Spring Game

Saturday, 04/18 @ 1:00 PM

Softball

vs
Texas
Wednesday, 04/15 @ 3:00 PM
vs
Missouri
Saturday, 04/18 @ 2:00 PM
Sunday, 04/19 @ 12:00 PM



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Red Raiders grab first Big 12 win against NU

By ZANE TURNER
STAFF WRITER

The first win can be the most important.

The Texas Tech men's tennis team earned its first Big 12 Conference win of the season against No. 55 Nebraska (16-8, 0-4 in Big 12 play), 5-2 Sunday in Lincoln, Neb.

Tech coach Tim Siegel said this win could not have come at a better time.

"Considering the fact that we've lost so many close ones recently and also to win without our No. 3 Gonzalo (Escobar)," he said, "it was our most complete match certainly, and I can't say enough about the way we played in singles."

With Escobar out of the lineup because of an injury to the left wrist, No. 32 Tech (12-8, 1-2) still maintained control of the match from start to finish.

Tech won four of the six singles matches including a win by No. 58 Raony Carvalho against Nebraska's David Bendheim in straight sets, 6-2, 6-2.

Carvalho has won his last two Big 12 matches, including a three-set victory against Texas' No. 14 Dimitar Kutrovsky, 7-6, 4-6, 6-2.

The Red Raiders also received much-needed production from seniors Christian Rojmar, Michael Breler and Milos Kustudija.

Rojmar bounced back from his last match — a loss to Texas A&M's Wil Spencer — with a comeback win against the Cornhuskers' Calin Parr in three sets, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4. Kustudija, at No. 6, also recovered from two straight-set losses with a straight-set win of his own against Nebraska's Renato Melo, 6-2, 6-4.

Clinching the match for the Red Raiders was Breler at the No. 5 spot, who disposed of the Huskers' Benedikt Lindheim, 6-3, 6-4.

"Getting a win on the road in the conference was a huge win for us," Breler said. "As far as team effort, that was probably one of the best team efforts we've had this season."

The Red Raiders have a quick turnaround with a three-match home stand that begins with No. 7 Baylor (19-5, 4-0) at 6 p.m. today at the McLeod Tennis Complex. Tech finishes conference play against No. 31 Oklahoma State at 6 p.m. Friday and No. 34 Oklahoma at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Baylor has had Tech's number in years' past, winning the previous 13 meetings against the Red Raiders

with the last Tech victory in 1996. However, home court advantage could come into play for Tech as Baylor has struggled on the road, going 4-4 while Tech is riding an 11-match winning streak at the McLeod Tennis Complex.

Siegel said Escobar will be doubtful for the match against Baylor.

Baylor comes into the match in the midst of an eight-game winning streak. The Bears feature a lineup with two players ranked in the Top 50 in the nation in No. 7 Denes Lukacs and No. 44 Jordan Rux. Baylor also features a solid doubles lineup that has won all four doubles points in its four Big 12 wins.

The Red Raiders, however, are confident they can get the job done at home.

"It's going to be a tough match," Rojmar said. "Baylor is always a good team, and they always come out strong and play tough. But it's good to be home, have an advantage, and we feel like we're playing good tennis."

Tech has struggled this season against Top 25 teams going 1-5 with the lone victory coming against No. 25 Oklahoma State at the Blue-Gray Classic earlier in the season.

That win was considered as a non-conference match because it was

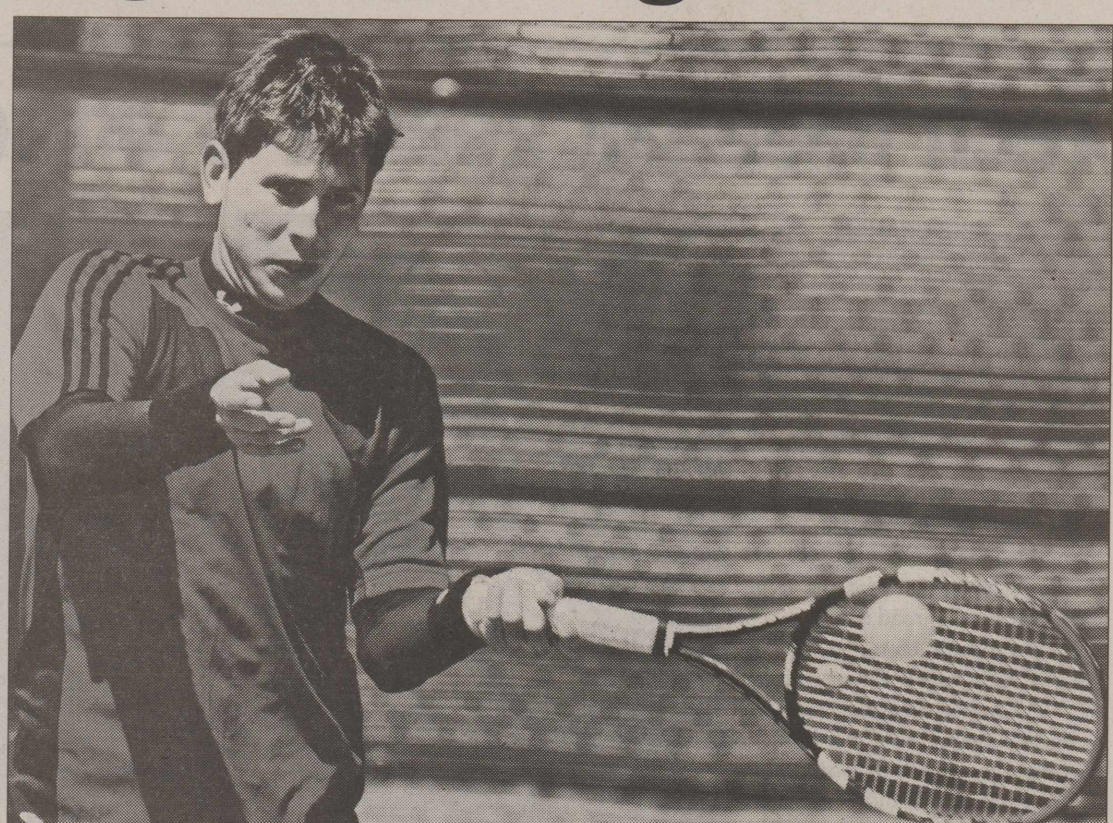


PHOTO BY SAM GRENAIER/The Daily Toreador

AFTER EARNING A 5-2 win against Nebraska, Texas Tech's Sinisa Markovic and the Red Raiders look to knock off No. 7 Baylor at 6 p.m. today at the McLeod Tennis Complex.

before Big 12 play.

"The win against Nebraska was big," Siegel said. "But we need to get

at least one of these wins at home if we want to keep playing tennis. The guys are more focused than ever

and are ready to finish the season at home."

zane.turner@ttu.edu

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A wonderful remodeled 3 bedroom home for sale for \$74,000. Located close to campus at 2

SPORTS

PAGE 8
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2009

Tech baseball goes 1-3 on four-game road trip

By MIKE GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

FORT WORTH — No. 11 Oklahoma and No. 16 TCU gave the Texas Tech baseball team all it could handle and the Red Raiders took a step back after a four-game road trip.

Tech wrapped up the four-game road stretch Monday against TCU, losing 12-5 in Fort Worth. The Red Raiders won just one of the four games during the road trip.

"They're good teams and that's great," Tech coach Dan Spencer said. "We want to play good people. (The TCU game) is a little harder to accept because of the things we did defensively that didn't allow us to stay in the game early."

Tech (16-23, 7-8 in Big 12 Conference play) kept TCU (23-10) close for the first three innings, tied at 1-1. But TCU capitalized with the bases loaded in the fourth inning, two of its three runs were unearned.

Things got worse in the bottom of the sixth after Tech added a run in the top half of the frame.

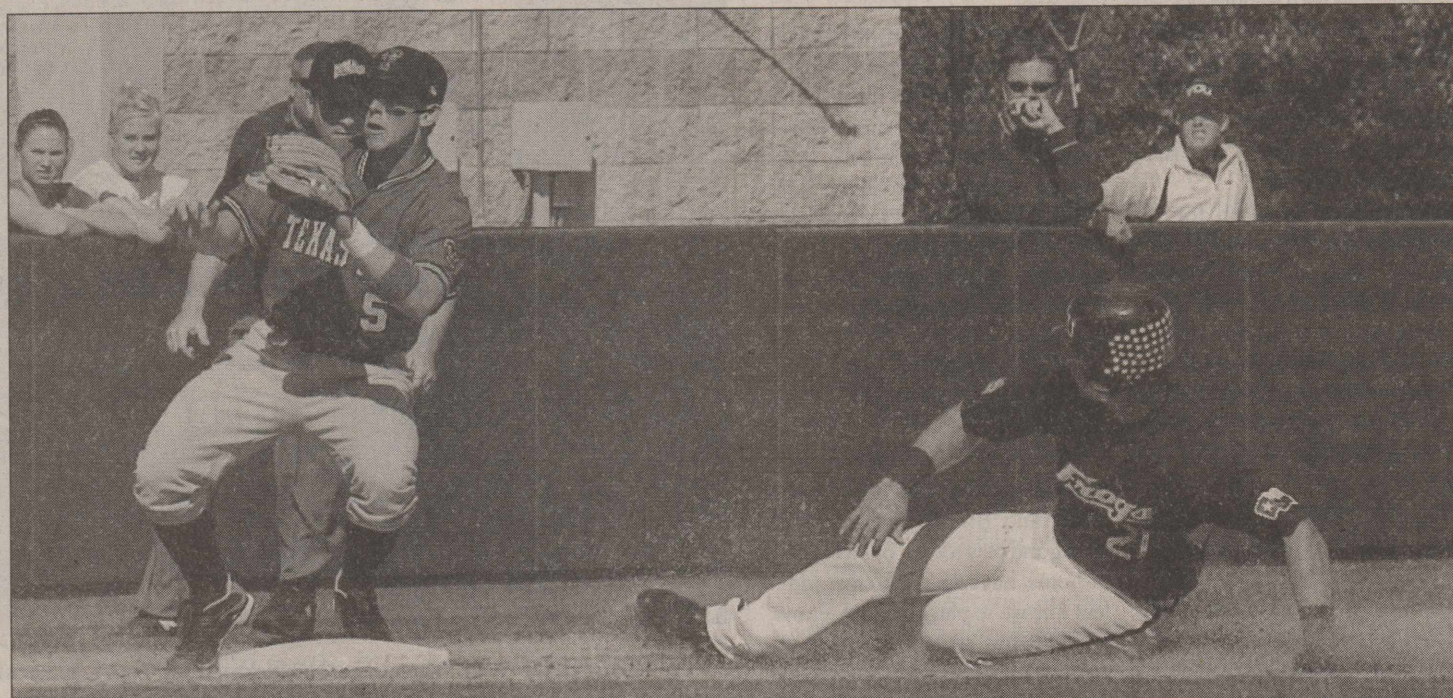
Tech reliever Robert Kilcrease gave up five hits on nine batters faced for four runs before the inning was over, resulting in an 8-2 TCU lead.

Tech batted in three runs in the top of the seventh to cut the lead to 8-5, but TCU added a run in the bottom of the seventh and three in the bottom of the eight to put the game out of reach.

Despite some errors and miscues by the Red Raiders at points during the weekend, there is good news.

The Tech weekend rotation appears more enduring now than earlier in the season.

Tech's weekend starters AJ Ramos (3-3) and Chad Bettis (4-0) pitched complete games against then-ranked No. 11 Oklahoma



TEXAS TECH THIRD baseman Jeremy Mayo waits for the ball as TCU first baseman Matt Vern slides into third base during the fifth inning of the game against TCU Monday afternoon.

(28-8, 8-4) on the same day. Sunday's game was pushed up to follow Saturday's game because of impending weather.

"Ramos and Bettis give us good chances to win ballgames and they did it again this weekend," Spencer said. "What (their efforts) should do is rest (the bullpen) so they're all good (for Monday) but that obviously didn't play out."

Ramos pitched for all eight innings of Saturday's abridged first game of a doubleheader. He allowed just six hits for four runs and three walks

while tossing nine strikeouts on 117 pitches. But Tech could not produce a single run and Ramos took the loss in a 4-0 Sooner victory.

Bettis pitched in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader, allowing just one run, four hits and four walks through nine innings of work. When the final out was recorded, Bettis had thrown 154 pitches in the sophomore's first complete game for the Red Raiders. Tech won that game 5-1.

As a result, the Big 12 announced Chad Bettis as Pitcher of

the Week Monday for his efforts against OU.

It was the first time a Red Raider received the honor this season.

"I had to go out there and give my team the best opportunity to win the game," Bettis said. "I got the run support I needed and we came out with the win. It felt great (to be named pitcher of the week) I've never had the experience of being named by the Big 12 before. It's an amazing feeling."

Bettis said he felt bad for Ramos not being able to earn the win in his complete game, but there's still some pride in enduring that late into a ballgame, especially after returning from an UCL injury in about 10 months.

Tech dropped the Oklahoma series to the then-ranked No. 11 Sooners two games to one. OU shut Tech out Friday 6-0 and in Saturday's first game — an eight-inning

contest — 4-0.

The OU series outcome dropped Tech in the Big 12 standings from a tie with Texas for fifth place to seventh place outright, one win ahead of Missouri who finished the weekend in eighth place.

Tech's campaign to make the Big 12 Tournament still is in reach with four more Big 12 series to go. However, ninth-place Oklahoma State and 10th-place Nebraska both have a conference series in hand against Tech.

Tech begins a series against Kansas at 6:30 p.m. April 17 at Dan Law Field.

"It's never easy accepting losses like that," Tech's Michael Reed said, "but we're going to bounce back (against Kansas) on Friday at home."

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Pirates shut out slumping Astros 7-0

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Zach Duke limited the struggling Astros to four hits in his third career shutout and Adam LaRoche homered during a five-run third inning, helping the Pittsburgh Pirates extend Houston's losing streak to five games with a 7-0 victory Monday.

Freddy Sanchez had three doubles, two of them starting run-scoring innings, and the normally slow-starting LaRoche had three hits as the Pirates won their home opener for the first time since 2004.

Duke (2-0), coming off a 5-14 season, followed up a 7-4 win at St. Louis on Wednesday in which he gave up one earned run in 6 1-3 innings by pitching even better, striking out five and walking two while throwing 120 pitches. Duke's shutout was the first by a Pirates pitcher in a home opener since John Candelaria beat the Cubs 1-0 on April 7, 1978.

The Astros were shut out for the second day in a row — they lost 3-0 Sunday in St. Louis to complete a three-game Cardinals sweep — and are 1-6 for the first time since 1984. They have scored in only one of their last 28 innings, getting two runs in the ninth inning of an 11-2 loss in St. Louis on Saturday.

The Pirates bounced back from a 2-0 loss to the Reds and Aaron Harang on Sunday with plenty of offense from two players who got off to bad starts a season ago.

Sanchez, who was hitting in the .220s until finally starting to hit in July, doubled with one out in the first and scored on Ryan Doumit's single off Brian Moehler (0-2), who allowed five runs and seven hits over 2 1-3 innings in his second straight rough outing. Moehler has a 27.00 ERA while lasting only four innings in two starts.

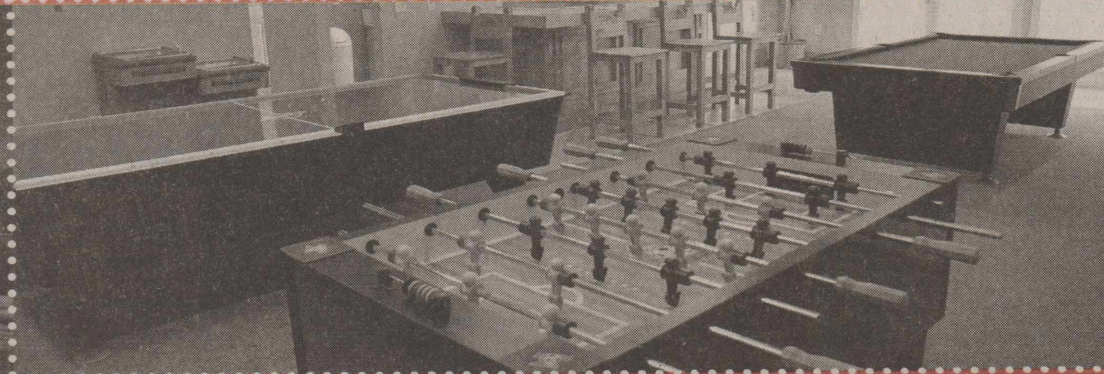
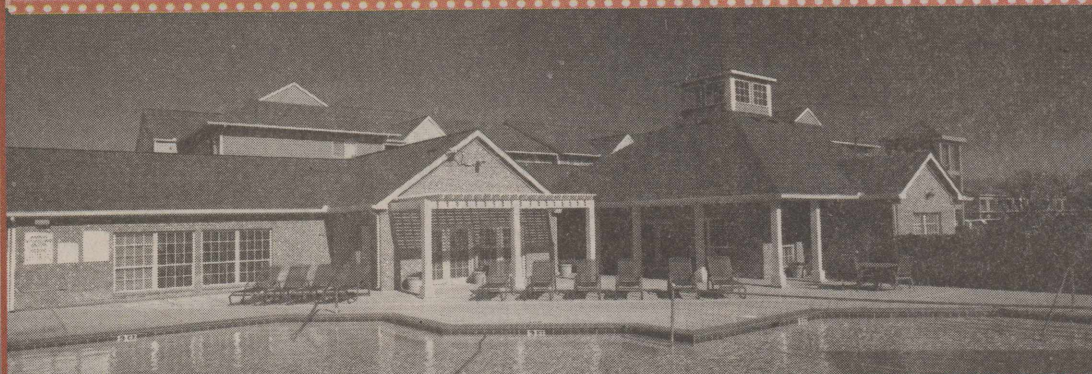
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