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TABC to begin issuing alcohol permits next week

By **ALLYSON SCHELL**
STAFF WRITER

Supermarkets and convenience stores across Lubbock anxiously are awaiting for permit applications to go through to allow them to sell alcohol in their places of business.

Recent protests have been made against the proposal, but were rejected because the Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission declined to take them into con-

sideration.

However, one protester said she plans on filing an injunction to stop the presence of alcohol in town.

"I am filing an injunction in the next three days," protester Lauran Collins said. "I believe that people will stand up for what they want in their neighborhoods."

She said she is worried the presence of alcohol would bring crime to the streets of Lubbock

and is concerned for the well-being of the town.

An injunction would bring the issuance of permits to a halt if a judge accepted it, further lengthening the time elapsed since the vote to allow alcohol to be sold in Lubbock was passed May 9.

The process to apply for a permit to sell alcohol involves three steps. First the business must apply with the city to see if they are in a wet/dry zone.

Then the application goes to the county, and if it passes, it goes to the TABC.

"It's not difficult for me to certify that a business is in compliance with city ordinances," Lubbock City Secretary Becky Garza said. "Where it gets bogged down is the TABC."

Now that the TABC has dismissed its authority to rule on the legality of the issue, giving out permits should become easier. "We won't be issuing permits

this week, but probably next week," said TABC Public Information Officer Carolyn Beck. "We should start seeing alcohol in Lubbock then."

United Supermarkets is one of the businesses hoping to get its application through the city, county and TABC reviews.

"We've already applied for a permit for all nine of our stores," said Eddie Owens, the company's director of communications. "State law prohibits alcohol

business 300 feet away from the school without local jurisdiction, so we had to apply for variances for three of our stores."

Owens also said the application process has taken much longer than usual.

"It's usually a four- to six-week process," Owens said. "We are now approaching four months, and this is the first time in my experience with United that it has taken this long."

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COLLISION COURSE

Tech, North Dakota meet for first time in season opener

By **ALEX YBARRA**
MANAGING EDITOR

When North Dakota was experiencing its first season as a Division I football team last year, Texas Tech was making history, climbing to No. 2 in the nation and jumping into the national championship spotlight.

They were, and still are, two teams on completely separate paths.

The two collide for the first time at 6 p.m. Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium, where an upset would be an overwhelming accomplishment.

Historically, North Dakota has won 16 straight season openers. That streak will more than likely come to an end.

"We have some big eyes right now," North Dakota coach Chris Mussman said. "We know what we're up against. The thing I did tell them is we'll prepare no different for this game than we prepare for any other game that we have played or will play."

The Fighting Sioux are in the second year of leaving Division II football behind and transitioning to the Football Championship Subdivision (Formerly Division I-AA).

They won't be eligible for the playoffs for a few more years.

But the winning has been consistent. North Dakota notched its sixth consecutive winning season in 2008, going 6-4 overall and 1-2 in the Great West Conference.

With the recent changes, some are billing this game as the biggest in UND's history.

"Undoubtedly, it's an attention-getter for our fans and our alumni base," Mussman said. "Are we probably playing a game like this too early? Yeah. As a program, we're not physically ready there yet and not that many FCS programs ever will be."

"Our guys are a little bit more tense. It's a different opponent than what we're used to in the first game of the year. It's definitely been a wake up call for us."

Meanwhile, Tech is trying to follow up its greatest season and prove doubters wrong at the same time.

Tech cornerback Jamar Wall said he's been scouting North Dakota for a while since being out of spring football with an injury.

Putting their Division II-status aside, Wall expects a challenge.

"Their route-running is real precise," he said. "They run to a spot. I mean they have good athletes. They have some

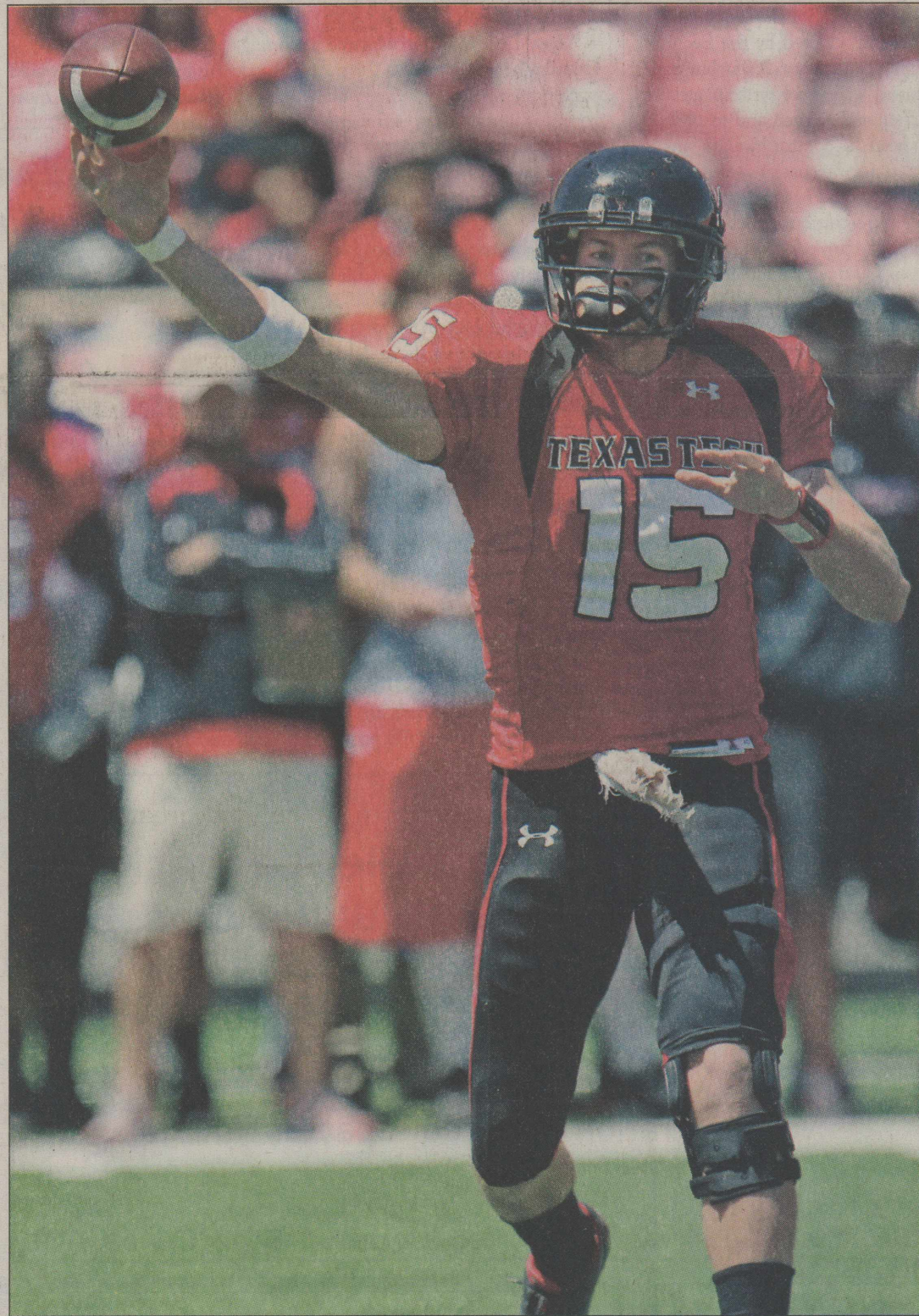


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH QUARTERBACK Taylor Potts looks to lead the Red Raiders to a season-opening win against North Dakota at 6 p.m. Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium

average athletes. They will run to the ball. They will try their hardest. They're gonna be a team that I don't know so much physical but they're gonna be ready to go."

Tech coach Mike Leach said the difference between a smaller-school like North Dakota and a squad in the Big 12

Conference isn't necessarily the talent or size level at the starting positions.

"The biggest thing is your second level guys, that's the difference," he said. "It's not the first level guys as much as the second level guys, other than maybe a player here or there."

"Those guys have had quite a history

for knocking somebody off or playing somebody close."

But for Wall, being talked about after an unlikely upset would put Tech in a deeper hole considering the Red Raiders already are under the radar this season.

Football continued on page 10

1.3 million unemployed to lose benefits by year's end

By **TAMARA LUSH**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Jobless since January, Donald Money has already moved in with his elderly parents, stopped going to the movies and started using less of his prescription medication so it will last longer.

This month, something else will fall by the wayside: Money's unemployment check. The 43-year-old former printing press operator is among the more than 1.3 million Americans whose unemployment insurance benefits will run out by the end of the year, placing extra strain on an economy that is just starting to recover from the worst downturn in a generation.

These are the most unfortunate of America's 14.5 million jobless: the ones whose benefits are drying up—in some cases after a record 18 months of government support.

With savings depleted and job opportunities scarce, people who've run out of benefits are living with relatives and borrowing cash from friends. They are even skipping meals. Through it all, they are trying to stay positive through exercise and prayer.

The government said Thursday that 570,000 laid-off workers filed new claims for unemployment benefits last week, while the number of people receiving benefits has risen to 6.23 million.

The Labor Department is expected to report Friday that the August unemployment rate rose to 9.5 percent, up from 9.4 percent in July.

Many are scrambling to find work before they have to reach for the next layer of government aid — food stamps or even welfare.

On a recent day in Jacksonville, Money attended a church-run job fair in a half-vacant shopping mall. Most of the vendors were vocational schools trolling for students, or recruiters for the military and fast food joints.

Money, who was laid off from a

printing business, said he'll do anything for a paycheck.

"I'm tired of not working," he sighed. "I just can't sit at home anymore."

People who lost white-collar jobs seem most surprised by the dire circumstances they are finding themselves in as unemployment benefits dry up. Before the recession and financial crisis, it had always been easy for them to find work.

Clifford Sheffield, 43, of Fernandina Beach, Fla., used to earn \$2,000 a week as an analyst for Merrill Lynch's Jacksonville office.

Today, Sheffield lives off of a \$1,300 monthly check from the government — and is burning through his savings to keep up with rent. The unemployment benefits run out later this month.

At a recent job fair, he perused applications for Valu Pawn and Taco Bell, but did not fill them out.

"I have family I could fall back on, but it's not very appealing," Sheffield said.

"People are just barely getting by," said Sue Berkowitz, the director of the South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center, an advocacy group that helps the poor with legal issues surrounding rent and mortgage contracts. "When I go down to our food bank, I see a lot of people who never, ever thought that's where they would be."

In the past year, nearly 5.5 million people exhausted their 26 weeks of standard benefits without finding work. The government says the "exhaustion rate" is the highest on records dating from 1972.

Some 3.4 million people now depend upon extended benefits approved by Congress lasting anywhere from 20 weeks to a year — the longest period of extensions ever added.

The length of these extensions vary by state, depending on the unemployment rate. More than half of all states have unemployment rates that triggered 53 weeks of extended benefits.

"When I go down to our food bank, I see a lot of people who never, ever thought that's where they would be."

SUE BERKOWITZ
DIRECTOR OF THE APPLESEED LEGAL JUSTICE CENTER

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WEATHER

Today Partly Cloudy 87/61
Saturday Partly Cloudy 84/64

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Tech student retains high educational, career aspirations despite tragedies

By JETT THOMPSON
STAFF WRITER

At the age of 14 she lost her mother, who was 43, to a massive heart attack. The following August her father was diagnosed with cancer and died three days before Christmas. The following April both of her grandparents died in an 18-car pileup.

Now she is one of the student assistants in Tech President Guy Bailey's office.

Cheryl Sturgess, a junior human development and family studies major from Perryton, has overcome many obstacles in her life, and despite those challenges she has kept working toward her goal of attending medical school after her graduation in 2011.

"It's kind of a series of things that happened," Sturgess said. "You can hold your head high and persevere, look where it's gotten me. Or you can live in those shadows. Those were really dark days."

After high school, Sturgess originally decided to go to the University of Texas, but soon after arriving at UT orientation, decided Tech would be a much better fit for her.

"I went to orientation, and I made it through about half a day

at orientation," Sturgess said. "Tech ended up being the right choice for me."

She began working in the president's office in May after receiving a personal job offer from Bailey in April. She said she met Bailey when she gave a speech at a reception for fellow AT&T Scholarship recipients.

"After the banquet, he came up to me and talked to me and asked me if I had a job," Sturgess said. "He said, 'Well hey, expect a call from my office on Monday because I want to see about getting you in here to work for me.'"

In addition to working for the president's office and waiting tables at a local restaurant, Sturgess also takes time out of her busy schedule to give back through volunteer work. Sturgess meets with a couple with Down syndrome most Thursday nights and takes them to a weekly service at First Baptist Church of Lubbock.

She also plans on doing volunteer work for Operation Baby Watch, a program that helps foster children in local hospitals.

Lucy Lanotte, the executive



STURGESS

assistant to the president, said she has worked alongside Sturgess since April.

"Cheryl is a very hard worker," Lanotte said. "She's bright, intelligent and she interacts well with everyone in the office."

Jessica Carrillo, executive associate in the Tech President's Office, also said she has worked with Sturgess since May. Carrillo said in an e-mail that Sturgess has been through a lot in her life but still makes strides to succeed in all her endeavors.

Sturgess said her aspirations to go to medical school come from pride she holds in herself.

"A lot of it is pride within

myself," she said. "I know that my family would have expected a lot from me, and I expect a lot from myself as well."

She does not necessarily consider some of the traumatic events of her childhood to be misfortunes, Sturgess said, but believes they have made her who she is today.

In addition to going to medical school after she graduates from Tech in 2011, Sturgess said she plans to travel internationally on mission trips.

"I love traveling," Sturgess said. "I've been out of the country a couple of times and have done some mission work in Jamaica and Costa Rica, and I really have a passion for that kind of thing."

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"You can hold your head high and persevere, look where it's gotten me. Or you can live in those shadows. Those were really dark days."

CHERYL STURGESS
STUDENT ASSISTANT
TECH PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

IN BRIEF

STATE

Texas drought drying Austin's famed Barton Springs

AUSTIN (AP) — The most severe drought in the nation is drying up one of Austin's most treasured natural resources, the spring-fed Barton Creek Pool where more than 400,000 visitors from around the world flock each year.

The drought is dragging into its third year in parts of central and southern Texas. Lakes, rivers and creeks are evaporating, cities have ordered residents to cut back on water use, and farmers' crops have been devastated.

NATION

Professors in Mich. strike, school cancels classes

ROCHESTER, Mich. (AP) — Classes at a suburban Detroit university were canceled indefinitely on Thursday after professors upset over being asked to freeze their salaries a year after the university's president got a \$100,000

pay raise went on strike. Oakland University, which has about 18,000 students, was to begin its fall semester on Thursday, but the teachers' union authorized a strike the night before.

WORLD

UN peacekeeping chief in Darfur says war over

CAIRO (AP) — The outgoing U.N. peacekeeping chief in Sudan's Darfur region said the world should no longer consider the long-running conflict a war after a sharp decline in violence and deaths over the past year.

Activists and Darfur residents disagree, and the comments by Rodolphe Adada heightened anxiety that there will be less international focus on resolving the root problems in the troubled region.

Correction

In Thursday's issue of *The Daily Toreador*, in the article "Rick Perry comes to Lubbock," the name of the student who was

quoted in the second paragraph was misspelled. The student's name is Kendale Rice. *The DT* regrets the error.

Iraq seeks UN help in recent bombings

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iraq's prime minister has asked the U.N. Security Council to investigate recent bombings outside two government ministry buildings in Baghdad and prosecute the alleged perpetrators, the country's U.N. envoy said Thursday.

Ambassador Hamid Al Bayati said a letter to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon requested the U.N. chief to ask the Security Council to establish an independent investigation commission and an international tribunal.

U.N. deputy spokeswoman Marie Okabe said Thursday afternoon that the letter was being sent to this month's council president, U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice, who was expected to distribute it shortly to the 14 other council members.

Iraq's Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki claimed Thursday that Syria was sheltering armed groups wanted

for cross-border attacks, but Al Bayati said the letter to the secretary-general "doesn't mention a country or any name."

Iraq has blamed an alliance between al-Qaida in Iraq and Saddam Hussein's outlawed Baath Party for a pair of truck bombings on Aug. 19 outside the Foreign and Finance ministries in Baghdad that killed about 100 people. Iraq wants Syria to hand over several suspects it says are based there.

Al Bayati said the prime minister made the request now because "the kind of crimes committed in these attacks might need investigation beyond Iraqi jurisdiction."

"We need an independent international investigation committee or commission, and then whoever proves to be connected, or perpetrators of (the) attacks, should be put (before a) special international tribunal," he said.

Al Bayati said the letter cites a resolution adopted by the Security Council in August 2005 that condemned a series of terrorist attacks in Iraq at that time and reaffirmed the need "to combat by all means ... threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts."

The resolution, which is legally binding, affirmed "that acts of terrorism must not be allowed to disrupt Iraq's political and economic transition." It expressed the council's "utmost determination to combat terrorism."

Al Maliki also cited a press statement from the council which condemned "in the strongest terms the series of terrorist attacks" on Aug. 19, noting that they took place on the sixth anniversary of the bombing of U.N. headquarters in Baghdad.

The council press statement "underlined the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice, and urged all states ... to cooperate actively with Iraqi authorities in this regard."

Rhode Island gov.: State to lay off 1,000 workers

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — Gov. Don Carcieri warned Thursday he will lay off 1,000 state workers after a judge blocked him from shutting down government to save money, but he signaled a willingness to cut a deal with state employee unions that could save jobs.

The governor threatened layoffs shortly after Supreme Court Justice Maureen McKenna Goldberg stopped him from forcing about 80 percent of the roughly 13,500-member state work force to stay home without pay Friday. It was supposed to be the first of a dozen shutdown days before July designed to partially close a \$68 million shortfall in a state budget hammered by surging unemployment and dwindling tax revenue.

Carcieri earlier described the ruling as "the straw that broke the camel's back," but he softened his tone after meeting with his legal team at the Statehouse.

"That's my preference, to negotiate this and come to an agree-

ment..." Carcieri said. "But we're running out of time."

Under his plan, the layoffs would target those employees hired most recently, a decision meant to minimize delays because of union rules that permit senior employees targeted by layoffs to take the jobs of less-experienced workers.

Carcieri did not say which government agencies would be targeted, and his spokeswoman did not return a call seeking comment.

Laying off so many people could take weeks or even months, especially if some of those workers would have to be replaced because their jobs are critical to the state, union leaders said. They were uncertain Thursday

whether Carcieri was bluffing or making a genuine threat.

"I think calmer heads need to prevail," said Philip Keefe, president

"I am totally willing to take 12 furlough days in order to avoid people being laid off."

CRISTINA DICHIERA
PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR
THE RHODE ISLAND STATE
COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

of the Rhode Island Alliance of Social Service Employees, Local 580. "He needs to go back to the negotiating table and stop with the threats. I don't think they're productive."

"The way to settle this is through negotiation and not threats and intimidation," Keefe said.

Carcieri's warning rattled state workers in a state with a 12.7 percent unemployment rate.

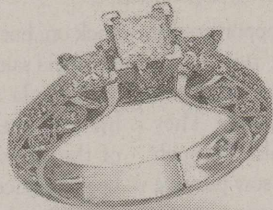
"I am totally willing to take 12 furlough days in order to avoid people being laid off," said Cristina Dichiera, a program director for the Rhode Island State Council for the Arts, who hoped both sides could reach a compromise.

Hired in 2004, Dichiera said getting laid off "would be so bad, I don't even want to think about it."

Carcieri has previously used the threat of layoffs as a bargaining chip.

In late 2007, Carcieri said he would eliminate roughly 1,000 state jobs to help close a budget deficit. His administration eventually cut the jobs of more than 200 workers and contract employees, then reduced retirement benefits to push even more employees into retirement.

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Movie 'Paper Heart' features Tech professor

By HANNAH BOEN
STAFF WRITER

Last semester, chemistry professor Bill Hase was interviewed about the chemistry of falling in love for a documentary he thought would appear on YouTube.

This semester, his interview has been seen in dozens of theaters across the nation in the movie "Paper Heart."

"They asked if I would like to talk about love," he said. "I really had no idea what I was doing, but I said yes on a whim."

He never thought the interview would be seen by many people, he said, and wasn't made aware he was in a film until recently when a graduate student approached him to say he recognized him from the film's trailer.

"It was fun and spontaneous, unrehearsed. I'm not even a biochemist, but I read a lot and I'm aware of things," he said. "I just didn't want to come off as a goofus."

He appears in the movie, written by Charlyne Yi and Nick Jasenovec, to describe the chemical process involved in falling in love from a scientific perspective. The film is a project started by Yi to explore the mysteries of falling in love.

Although his appearance in the film already has caused a stir among

his friends in the professional world, he said he hoped he wouldn't get too much attention on campus.

"I keep getting asked," he said, "but no, I'm not giving up my day job. I guess my students will know that yes, I'm a professor, but I do engage in research that's sort of out there."

He and his wife, Alice Young, were invited to the film's premier, he said, but elected not to attend because of prior engagements.

Young, a psychology professor, said she is excited to see the movie and is proud of her husband for making it into the film.

"The first thing I did was send it to his daughter to say her dad was a movie star," she said of the trailer. "But I don't think he's going to leave his own line of work."

Young said she had pride in the film because of her husband's appearance, but also thought students could find encouragement to pursue dreams

within the movie.

"I thought it was great some college-age people were taking a risk and exploring and traveling around the country doing something they're passionate about," she said. "That's one of the things Tech students should be proud of."

In addition, she said, the film is evidence faculty members are human too, and an inquisitive spirit can lead to something bigger.

"I hope it helps them realize the range of things you can do when you're interested in something," she said.

Jasenovec, the film's director,

was a pivotal part of a range of things during the four-week long filming.

One type of individual he wanted to include in the film, he said, was a chemistry professor who could discuss the chemical process of falling in love.

"Bill was one of the few that we had seen," he said.

Lubbock was a minor detour for the

"Making a film is a series of happy accidents, disappointments and compromise."

NICK JASENOVEC
"PAPER HEART"
FILM DIRECTOR

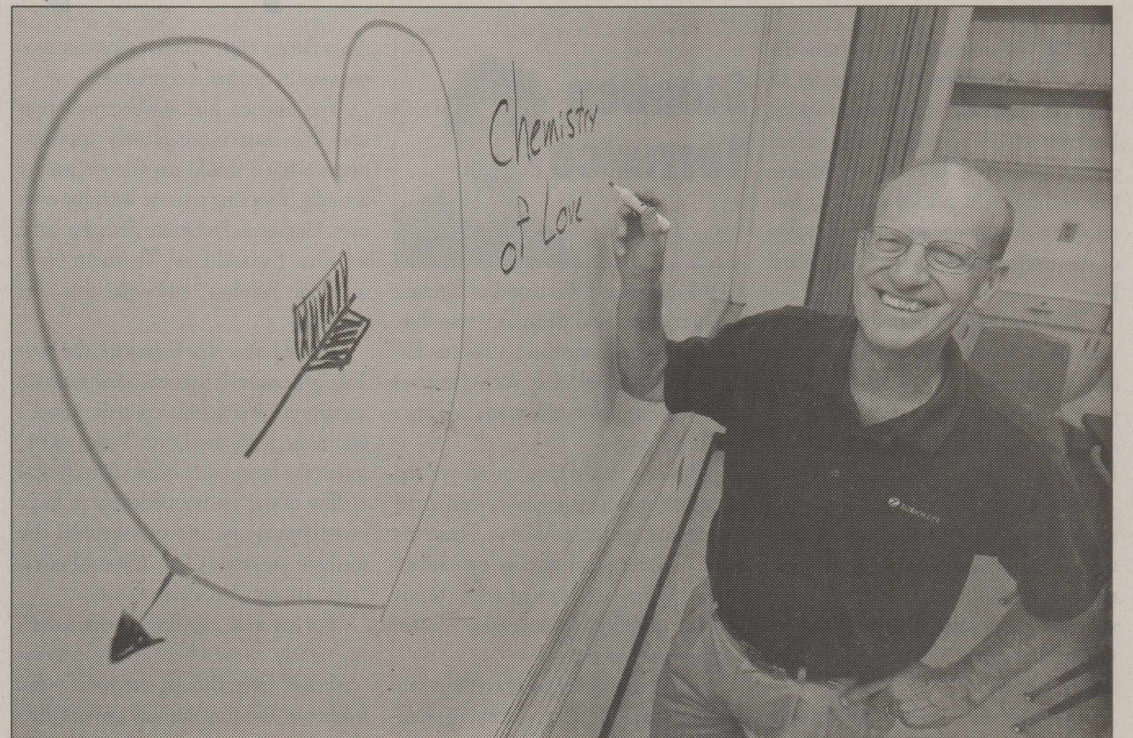


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

BILL HASE, THE Robert A. Welch professor of chemistry, appeared in Paper Heart, a documentary filmed partially inside the chemistry building. In the scene, Hase is shown explaining the chemistry of love.

film crew, which visited 10 major cities to create the documentary, he said.

Jasenovec was not only pleased with the performance of Hase, but impressed with the Tech campus, which he described as huge and gorgeous.

After the interview with Hase, the team visited the windmill museum,

which also appears in the film.

"Making a film is a series of happy accidents, disappointments and compromise," he said.

Whether his interview was a happy accident, a disappointment or a compromise, Hase doesn't know; however, his appearance in the movie was an

experience to remember.

"How many professors can say they were part of a documentary of this nature?" he said. "I'm happy. Everything about it has been interesting and unexpected."

The film opens in Lubbock today. hannah.boen@ttu.edu

Leisure pool opens with all-day event

The leisure pool at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center is celebrating its opening today by hosting a grand opening extravaganza.

Scott Layher, assistant director of marketing for recreation sports, said they are excited about the grand opening.

"It's a celebration of the opening of the leisure pool," he said. "Lots of free sun screen for students. They will have

the opportunity to win a couple other little prizes."

The event will begin with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 3 p.m. At the event, there will be free food and an open house where students, faculty and staff can swim. Layher said there will be a day-event band titled The Urgency, and The Exit will play from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The night events will commence

at 8 p.m. with a concert by Strange Weather, Layher said. After the concert will be a late night swim and free food.

After the grand-opening event, he said there will be a Raider Power Run. Students who want to participate in the one mile walk or run should meet at the gazebo near the leisure pool at 9 p.m. Free T-shirts will be given to the first 150 students with a Tech ID.

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Police slash research hemp instead of pot

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Dutch police who mowed down what they thought were illicit marijuana plants were red-faced Thursday when it emerged they'd ruined a research group's giant, officially sanctioned field of harmless hemp.

Police proudly announced Wednesday that they'd found more than 47,000 cannabis plants, with an

estimated street value of nearly 4.5 million (\$6.45 million) concealed in a corn field in the Flevoland province east of Amsterdam.

They mowed down half the plants only to be informed they were the property of Wageningen University and Research Center, a respected agricultural school.

The field contained a new strain of hemp that researchers hope can be

a sustainable source of fiber, Simon Vink, a spokesman for the executive board of Wageningen University and Research Center, said Thursday.

Hemp plants are related to marijuana but have only trace elements of THC, the mind-altering chemical that cannabis contains.

"The street value from a drug point of view is less than zero," Vink said.

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- Bail, Attorney Fees, and Court Costs
- Mandatory Alcohol Education Class
- Community Service
- Formal Hearing with University Staff
- Sanctions ranging from Probation to Suspension
 - Alcohol Education Class
 - Possible Parental Notification

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Student Judicial Programs
Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

Web needs more quality Health care bill would affect everyone

The other day a friend sent me a YouTube link. It was, for all intents and purposes, a typical YouTube experience. The video started with a basic Windows Movie Maker title and then cut quickly to grainy, low resolution, low framerate cell phone video of the Endor bunker from "Star Wars: Episode VI."

The bunker door opened to reveal Darth Vader with an entourage of stormtroopers. Tinny and over-compressed, Michael Jackson's "Thriller" started playing. They danced to the music. I chuckled a bit.

But as the video ended a sudden realization came upon me. In my enjoyment I had looked past the graininess, the low resolution, the low framerate and even the tortuous audio. The video was, from a purely technical standpoint, a piece of crap.

I realized this level of quality has generally become the status quo for not only YouTube videos, but for almost every other type of visual and auditory content on the Internet. Low resolution, washed out, red-eye ridden Facebook photos are the norm. Super low-bitrate ringtones are in many cases more popular than the original song. Sup-par is the standard.

My father raised me as a bit of an audio/video buff. With his high-end stereo system and collection of classical

Stephen Torrence



CDs I discovered the world of bitrates, sampling rates and frequency response. We also had a home theater system during my high school years where I learned video formats, color calibration, acoustics and much more.

This experience gave me an eye and ear for the standards of quality used in the movie and music industries. There are clear — often scientifically established — guidelines for how to consistently produce quality audio and video content for human enjoyment.

A great shift occurred when the cost of producing and distributing content plummeted. Literally hundreds of thousands of videos are now uploaded to YouTube every day. It literally takes minutes to shoot a video, upload it from your phone or computer and post it to the Web for the world to see.

Yet the big loser in this convenience has been that essential element of technical quality. When I speak of "quality" audio/video content, I mean content which possesses intrinsic value due to

the accuracy with which it reproduces or conveys its original information.

For instance, higher video resolution and framerate more closely approximate what I would experience were I actually observing a scene with my own eyes. Higher audio bitrate does the same for what I would hear. The term Hi-Fi or "High Fidelity," embodies this idea perfectly.

I would argue that in general, the YouTube generation has grown accustomed to accepting lower fidelity content. Just as I had done with the Darth Vader video, most of us apparently overlook technical quality of the medium entirely in favor of whatever specific information the medium conveys. Once the medium is "good enough," we cease to care.

For instance, Blu-Ray has not caught on nearly as much as many experts predicted. Even though the audio/video fidelity of Blu-Ray is easily greater than that of DVD, it is apparently not greater enough to warrant consumers buying new hardware and re-buying their movie collection.

It is hard for me to pass judgment upon those who have grown accustomed to low quality Internet content. After all, if a video makes someone laugh or cry or cheer in excitement, regardless of quality, hasn't it done its job? Some even consider low fidelity itself more desirable for artistic reasons, as having a raw, interesting character that high fidelity lacks.

My beef is ultimately one of preference. There are no physical or psychological side-effects of consuming low fidelity content that I know of. The human brain's extraordinary ability for adaptation applies here as always.

The fact our generation accepts low fidelity audio/video content as the norm is not necessarily bad. I regret it primarily because I believe I have experienced something superior and I wish that others could experience and appreciate it as well.

I liked the Darth Vader video, but I would have liked it more were it conveyed in higher fidelity. At the end of the day it comes down to a pragmatic decision. I would rather see the Lord of the Sith do a neck bob on a cell phone camera than not see it at all. Wouldn't you?

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There's been a lot of talk about health care reform lately. Public health care of any sort, particularly in the socialist sense, is not a good direction.

There must be an incentive to keep the patient alive, and public health care does not provide that. Anyone whose family member has passed away due to a medical mistake, especially one due to public health care, hopes it never happens to another family.

The public and private sectors of the current health care system are not working. As a full-time student, I have great coverage under my family. However, even with excellent coverage, my family finds ourselves holding the bag nearly as often as any other plan. HMOs, PPOs, COBRA, independent plans — we've tried them all, not to mention going without coverage.

As can be expected, each route has its own loopholes. Always read the fine print, especially when it comes to billing. Also, every time we switched plans, we usually had to switch doctors. Our records had to be transferred everywhere we went.

It is unnerving that all of a person's information may be found in databases in the near future in the effort to digitize records. I understand the need for digitizing records; at least a portion of mine have disappeared over the years.

The new system will likely prevent thousands of deaths related to errors such as blood type. However, I do not want medical professionals I never plan to use to have access to those records.

As if we are not already at enough risk with online banking, a medical database is the jackpot of all jackpots for identity theft criminals. We all know our medical records are not going to be treated like CIA classified documents, so it is a legitimate concern. I vote for an opt-out option. Considering my tendency to run into walls, among other things, opting out says something.

Besides, I can always custom order a bracelet with emergency medical information on it off a late night infomercial. If I call in the next 20 minutes, maybe I can get one for you, too!

Of course, the party doesn't stop

Colleen Gartner



There have been discussions about a particular section of the proposed health care bill that would allow illegal immigrants access to the U.S. public health care system. Since many of them fail to pay taxes in either country, it is not hard to be upset about it.

On the other hand, I do not blame foreigners for crossing into this country. When the United States is running at its best, it is highly desirable. In fact, it is desirable enough that foreigners will do just about anything to enter, whether that is digging a long-distance tunnel or squeezing under a truck seat.

Still, they are avoiding the measures that have been put in place for the benefit of everyone. Diseases from other countries, ranging from the West Nile virus to Ebola, pose a serious risk for United States citizens. Similarly, trafficking people, pharmaceuticals and recreational drugs encourage the spread of diseases along the border.

Finally, the health care bill proposed

is trying to make "Big Pharma" more transparent, which is incredibly attractive right now. Many patients who have lifetime medications are tired of jumping through hoops to reorder them. Hopefully, at the very least, this section will pass as rider on another bill.

However, all of this is not without some questions as much of this section was developed in private meetings. Even if the pharmaceutical companies put up a fight, the direction toward transparency is an excellent sign. In other words, we should take whatever transparency we can get for now and gradually work on issues over the next decade.

Overall, I have a negative attitude toward the health care bill. Not only can our country not afford it, but taxes inevitably will be raised. The middle class and small businesses have had enough to deal with over the last year. Even when the higher taxes start rolling out, they will have barely recovered.

As it turns out, hope and change is a fairly broad platform. Personally, I have had enough change for one year, and it is only September.

Gartner is a senior business management major from The Woodlands.
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Today's sudoku

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

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.

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THE DAILY TREADOR

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FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2009

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7 AM	Curious Sid (HD)	Today Sched. uled. five must-have items for fall; eating habits with company; ambush makeovers.	The Early Show	Copeland Robison	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	(6:00) Good Day Lubbock
8 AM	Super Why	Clifford	The 700 Club	Dixson Payne	Divorce Payne	Ragle & Kelly (HD)	Martha Stewart
9 AM	Sesame Street	Dragon Word	Price Is Right (HD)	Cristina Cristina	Cosby	The View (HD)	The Morning Show
10 AM	Martha	Jeopardy!	Restless (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Tyra Banks Show
11 AM	Barney	Barney	Barney	Rosanne	All My Children	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
12 PM	Knit	Fine Art	Days of Our Lives	Beautiful	Rosanne	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
1 PM	Hannah	Place	The Doctors	Guiding Light	Mauri	Judge Jeanine	Judge Mathis
2 PM	Behv. Lion	Arthor	Oprah Winfrey	Brown Access	J. Fox	No Deal	Ellen DeGeneres
3 PM	WordGirl	Dr. Phil	Judy	Mauri	Standing	Rachael Ray	Bonnie Hunt Show
4 PM	FETCH! Cyber	Mya	News	Wendy Williams	Queens	News	Lopez
5 PM	Bus. Rpt	NewsHour (HD)	Wheeler	Millones	70s	News	Lopez
6 PM	Wash Wk	Southland (HD)	Ghost Whisperer	NFL Prose-	Smallville (HD)	Supernanny	Smart 5th Grade
7 PM	Bill Moyers Jour.	DateLine NBC	Medium (HD)	Everybody Married	Ugly Betty (HD)	(8:11) Glee - "Patriot"	
8 PM	Foreign Consuelo	Charlie Rose	News (10:35) Tonight Show	WWE Smack-	Sax City	News	Two & 1/2
9 PM	Bus. Rpt	Fallon	Late Night	Late Late Show	Cops	Jimmy Kimmel	Raymond
10 PM	TV411	OED	Preview	Style	Paid Prog.	Frasier	Insider
11 PM	OED		Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Insider	Paid Prog.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 2009

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXU 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	Mirabelle	Angela	Saddle	Dragonfly	Design	Heartland	TX Parks
8 AM	Saddle	Dragonfly	Design	Heartland	TX Parks	Saddle	Europe
9 AM	Design	Heartland	TX Parks	Saddle	Europe	Victory	P. Allen
10 AM	TX Parks	Saddle	Europe	Victory	P. Allen	Old House	Yankee
11 AM	Europe	Victory	P. Allen	Old House	Yankee	Home	Smith Shop
12 PM	P. Allen	Old House	Yankee	Home	Smith Shop	Antiques (HD)	Cooking
1 PM	Yankee	Home	Smith Shop	Antiques (HD)	Cooking	Fast Food	Grill
2 PM	Smith Shop	Antiques (HD)	Cooking	Fast Food	Grill	Klzbhan	Spain
3 PM	Antiques (HD)	Cooking	Fast Food	Grill	Klzbhan	Spain	Delicious
4 PM	Fast Food	Grill	Klzbhan	Spain	Delicious	Walk "Hawaii"	Walk "Hawaii"
5 PM	Grill	Klzbhan	Spain	Delicious	Walk "Hawaii"	Globe Trekker	Globe Trekker
6 PM	Klzbhan	Spain	Delicious	Walk "Hawaii"	Globe Trekker	Austin City Limits	P.O.V. (HD)
7 PM	Spain	Delicious	Walk "Hawaii"	Globe Trekker	Austin City Limits	P.O.V. (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)
8 PM	Delicious	Walk "Hawaii"	Globe Trekker	Austin City Limits	P.O.V. (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top
9 PM	Walk "Hawaii"	Globe Trekker	Austin City Limits	P.O.V. (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top	
10 PM	Globe Trekker	Austin City Limits	P.O.V. (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top		
11 PM	Austin City Limits	P.O.V. (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top			
12 AM	P.O.V. (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top				

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 2009

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXU 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	Thomas	Bob	Barney	Wishbone	Spain Road	InnerVIEWS	MotorWk
8 AM	Barney	Wishbone	Spain Road	InnerVIEWS	MotorWk	TX Month	Patagon
9 AM	Wishbone	Spain Road	InnerVIEWS	MotorWk	TX Month	Patagon	McLughin
10 AM	Spain Road	InnerVIEWS	MotorWk	TX Month	Patagon	McLughin	Ride Lives
11 AM	InnerVIEWS	MotorWk	TX Month	Patagon	McLughin	Ride Lives	Globe Trekker
12 PM	MotorWk	TX Month	Patagon	McLughin	Ride Lives	Globe Trekker	American Masters
1 PM	TX Month	Patagon	McLughin	Ride Lives	Globe Trekker	American Masters	Nat. Parks
2 PM	Patagon	McLughin	Ride Lives	Globe Trekker	American Masters	Nat. Parks	Week "Hawaii"
3 PM	American Masters	Nat. Parks	Week "Hawaii"	Friday Night Lights	Masterpiece	Don's murder	Nature (HD)
4 PM	Nat. Parks	Week "Hawaii"	Friday Night Lights	Masterpiece	Don's murder	Nature (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)
5 PM	Week "Hawaii"	Friday Night Lights	Masterpiece	Don's murder	Nature (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top
6 PM	Friday Night Lights	Masterpiece	Don's murder	Nature (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top	Texas
7 PM	Masterpiece	Don's murder	Nature (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top	Texas	Territory
8 PM	Nature (HD)	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top	Texas	Territory	Perform (HD)	Perform (HD)
9 PM	Masterpiece (HD)	From Top	Texas	Territory	Perform (HD)	Perform (HD)	
10 PM	From Top	Texas	Territory	Perform (HD)	Perform (HD)		
11 PM	Texas	Territory	Perform (HD)	Perform (HD)			
12 AM	Territory	Perform (HD)	Perform (HD)				

Spacewalk not hindered by junk

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Two spacewalking astronauts installed a new fully loaded tank of space station coolant Thursday as a large piece of orbiting junk headed their way, just far enough away to pose no concern.

The old rocket part was expected to pass within two miles of the shuttle-station complex late Friday morning, considered a safe distance by NASA specialists. Managers decided there was no need to move the linked spacecraft out of the way and proceeded with the spacewalk as planned.

Danny Olivas and Christer Fuglesang were nearly an hour late heading out the hatch because of minor spacesuit problems. It was the second spacewalk in three days for the Discovery and space station crews.

Despite the late start, Olivas and Fuglesang quickly accomplished their main objective. They collected the new ammonia tank from Discovery, bolted it onto the space station, then hooked up all the electrical and fluid lines. Mission Control praised their effort.

The DT Staff College Football Pick 'Em

Games of the Week	Kevin Cullen Editor-in-Chief Overall Record 0-0	Jon Arnold Electronic Media Editor Overall Record 0-0	Adam Coleman Sports Editor Overall Record 0-0	Sam Hensley La Vida/Copy Editor Overall Record 0-0	Britton Peele Opinions Editor Overall Record 0-0	Kyla Butterfield Design Editor Overall Record 0-0	Jon Vanderlaan News Editor Overall Record 0-0	Karl Anderson Photo Editor Overall Record 0-0	Alex Ybarra Managing Editor Overall Record 0-0
North Dakota @ Texas Tech	Texas Tech 48-17	Texas Tech 59-6	Texas Tech 49-10	Texas Tech 35-13	Texas Tech 100-14	Texas Tech 49-10	Texas Tech 56-14	Texas Tech 42-6	Texas Tech 52-10
No. 13 Georgia @ No. 9 Okla. State	Okla. State	Okla. State	Okla. State	Okla. State	Okla. State	Okla. State	Okla. State	Okla. State	Okla. State
Missouri vs. Illinois	Missouri	Illinois	Illinois	Illinois	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri	Illinois	Illinois
No. 20 BYU @ No. 3 Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
No. 11 LSU @ Washington	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
No. 5 Alabama @ No. 7 Virginia Tech	Alabama	Alabama	Virginia Tech	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Virginia Tech	Alabama
Baylor @ Wake Forest	Wake Forest	Baylor	Wake Forest	Wake Forest	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Wake Forest	Baylor

★ indicates "Game to Watch"

Batman gets best video game treatment among superheroes

I've got to be honest. I'm not the biggest fan of "Batman."

Sure, I loved "The Dark Knight" and have read several of the comics throughout my life, but he's never been my go-to comic book hero. I prefer heroes that are more super, like Superman, Spider-Man, Iron Man... I guess you could say I'm more of a Marvel dude than DC Comics.

But those other heroes? Video games based on them have never really measured up to "Batman: Arkham Asylum."

The game, which is available now for the Xbox 360, PS3 and PC, takes the best aspects of a lot of games and fuses those to the things that make the Batman mythos so compelling for so many people. There's some great brawling for the fighting sections, some great stealth elements, great exploration and great storytelling.

So let's start with the story. "Arkham Asylum" begins immediately after Batman has captured everyone's favorite villain, the Joker. He's taking Joker to the famous Arkham Asylum psychiatric institute outside of Gotham City, but he's worried

Britton Peele



that Joker gave up a little too easily.

These fears are far from unfounded, as Joker immediately springs a trap and locks everybody in Arkham — Batman included — with no way out and no clue as to Joker's ultimate game plan. The only thing that's clear is that the inmates are now literally running the asylum.

The story is mostly told through cinematic cutscenes, but there are also quite a few sections where Joker talks to you through televisions and speakers around the asylum as you explore, and you can pick up recordings of famous Batman villains for a little backstory. It all comes together in a nice narrative package that

works really well, even if none of the elements are exactly original.

You'll be facing off against plenty of Batman bad guys, who even casual fans such as myself can recognize. Harley Quinn, Poison Ivy, Scarecrow and Bane among them. You are also in constant contact with the Riddler, who has placed a large variety of riddles and challenges around Arkham for you to complete.

The game is very dark and atmospheric — something most people loved about "The Dark Knight" film. Rather than Christian Bale, however, the game uses fan-favorite voices from the old cartoons. Kevin Conroy is the voice of Batman, and Mark "Luke Skywalker" Hamill pulls off a brilliant performance as the Joker.

Gameplay is nice and varied, and is truly greater than the sum of its parts. The stealth gameplay won't beat "Splinter Cell" and the combat is no "God of War," but they're certainly good enough, and you're never caught doing either for more than you'd like. Everything seems to be balanced extremely well.

You also gain experience points as you fight and explore, allowing you to upgrade different skills and abilities to help you around the asylum.

The game uses an open world which allows for plenty of exploration. This is complemented perfectly by the Riddler's challenges, which are genuinely fun to seek out and encourage players to find neat little details that the developers put into the game.

The average player will probably complete "Arkham Asylum" in about 10 to 12 hours, but the Riddler challenges and Challenge Modes can keep you busy for a while after that.

It's not very often a video game based on a licensed property is any good, but "Arkham Asylum" isn't just good. It's fantastic. Even if you're not a very big Batman fan, there's a good chance that you'll find plenty to love in this game.

■ Peele is The DT's opinions editor.
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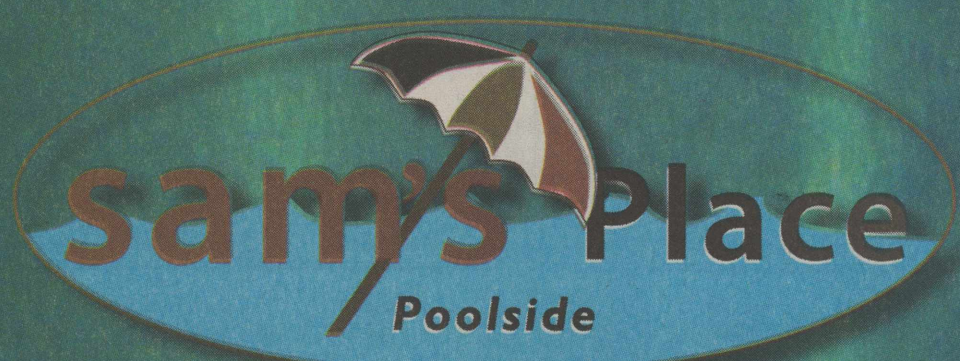
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Texas Tech students take Bongo Ball battlefield



PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Toreador

CHRIS ZYSK, A freshmen business major from Houston, plays Bongo Ball in the Student Union Ballroom Thursday.

By CARRIE THORNTON
STAFF WRITER

Running while dodging speeding Nerf balls and ducking behind inflatable barriers, one Texas Tech junior fought to survive in a game of Bongo Ball Thursday afternoon.

After dodging a shot by the enemy team, mechanical engineering major Ray Eaton sprinted across the battlefield, hid behind a barrier and shot one of the opposing players.

Armed with air cannons loaded with Nerf balls, the Dallas native and his two teammates donned face masks with goggles and protective vests and won their first game.

"It was very tiring," Eaton said. "I'm really worn out, but it's pretty fun."

Although the game appears to be similar to paintball, Eaton said it is more difficult to aim with the modified, Nerf-loaded gun because the ammo's movement was very unpredictable.

The game was located in the Student Union Building Ballroom and contained nine inflatable barriers participants could utilize during the game. Winners of each round earned a chance to play again until they were defeated.

D. J. Walch, a graduate assistant with student union and activities, said a Michigan-based company that created the unusual game sponsored the event.

"The game is really great for relieving stress for students," the Wichita Falls native said. "It's really fun and different than past events we have done."

Essentially, Bongo Ball is indoor paintball played with air cannons and Nerf balls, Walch

said. Usually the game includes capture the flag, but because of space limitations in the ballroom, that specific feature had to be removed, and the usual teams of five had to be shrunk to three.

On the losing side of Eaton's Bongo Ball match was Estaban Barrera, who did not last to defeat his opponents.

"It's really cool," the freshman psychology major from Dallas said. "I used to play paintball, but this is different because it's not as fast."

Barrera explained his team's defeat was because of a lack of teamwork and the difficulty of

aiming the Nerf cannons. Kish Rajput, coordinator of special programs for the Tech Activities Board, said he was pleased with the turnout the event received taking in consideration that Bongo Ball is relatively unknown.

"Since this was the first time we have done this, we didn't know what to expect," Rajput said. "But the turnout has been great even though the event has just begun."

Rajput said he had a chance to play the hodgepodge of a game against a Fox Channel 11 sports reporter and his team, in which his TAB team was defeated 2 to 3.

"It was fun, you get a big adrenaline rush," Rajput said. "And from what I have heard so far, I've talked to people who have played and they've really enjoyed themselves."

►carrie.thornton@ttu.edu

Student named one of national agricultural ambassadors

By SHERREL JONES
STAFF WRITER

A Texas Tech student was named collegiate ambassador this year to help raise awareness on the importance of agriculture.

Michelle Newton, a sophomore agriculture communication major from Hale Center, said she is excited to raise awareness to a nonagricultural audience.

"There are a lot of people who don't understand the importance that agriculture has and will have in our society," Newton said.

Newton is one of 20 collegiate ambassadors in the United States. She is required to give 25 one-to-three-hour presentations on agriculture. The areas collegiate ambassadors conducts their visits are usually within two hours of their university, but Newton said she plans to branch out farther because she is the only collegiate ambassador in Texas.

Newton said collegiate ambassadors also travel out of state to do presentations.

"The main thing that drew me to the program was being able to travel and speak to people," Newton said.

In high school, Newton was involved in Future Farmers of America and grew up with an agriculture background. When she learned about the collegiate ambassador program, it immediately became a goal of hers.

Newton has overcome chal-

lenges as a collegiate ambassador. "I was an area officer in FFA, and I ran for state officer, but I didn't get it," Newton said. "A lot of the people who are on my ambassador team are state officers, and I guess not having that extra experience through the FFA being a state officer was kind of difficult because I wasn't familiar with the things state officers do."

Newton said she thinks this year is going to be exciting. She said she has other goals for herself outside of being a collegiate ambassador.

"I want to make a 4.0 this semester and really try to stay on top of things," Newton said.

Newton is taking 19 credit hours and is a member of a few organizations, including Collegiate FFA and Agriculture Communicators of Tomorrow. In her spare time, she plays intramural basketball and rides horses.

Newton said she has enjoyed her time at Tech so far. She chose Tech because she said Tech has a top-ranked agriculture-communication program.

"It was the best decision for me to come here for my future," Newton said.

Jeff Klose, an agriculture-science teacher and career technology chairman at Bridgeport High School, said he is proud of Newton.

"I think it is fantastic," Klose said. "She will help the collegiate-ambassador program immensely."

She is one of the most compassionate and giving leaders I know."

Klose said Newton is the type of student every teacher dreams of having in a class.

Newton has created excitement among her peers about her accomplishment of becoming collegiate ambassador.

Ashley Larkin, a junior agriculture education major and Collegiate FFA president from Houston, said she is excited for Newton.

"Her passion for agriculture, FFA and those around her is not something that can be overlooked," Larkin said. "I am extremely proud of her accomplishment, and I know she will be making a positive impact over this next year."

Larkin said Newton is a dedicated member to Tech's FFA chapter.

"She helped with our fall contests," Larkin said. "She helped to put on an extremely good blood

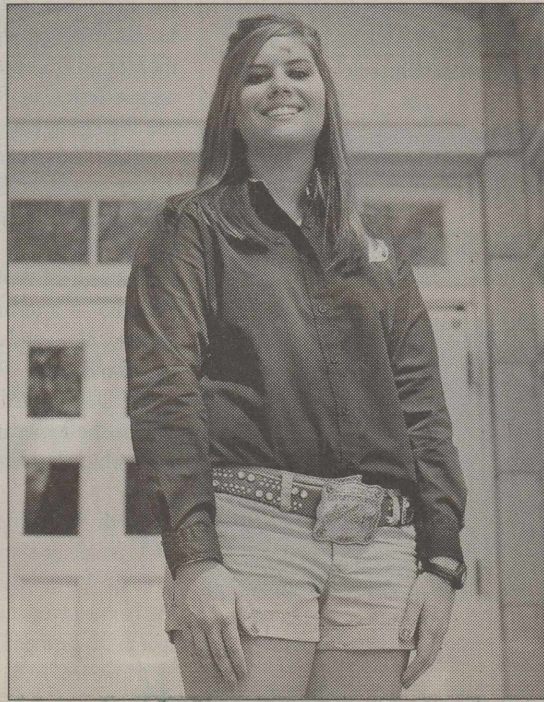


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

MICHELLE NEWTON, A sophomore agriculture communications major from Hale Center, was one of 20 students selected to be a national collegiate agricultural ambassador by the Future Farmers of America.

drive and was a huge help at the multiple contests we put on in the spring. Michelle's hard work earned her the title of Outstanding Freshman FFA Member, an honor she definitely deserved."

Newton has three presentations scheduled for high schools. She said she is eager to seek out more schools and organizations in the community to raise awareness about the importance of agriculture.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

1 Langley et al.: Abbr.

5 Sports disks that can reach speeds of more than 100 miles per hour after being struck

10 Steinbeck hero Tom

14 Abbr.

15 R&B family name

16 Magazine name that's also a pronoun

17 Military vehicle arrangement?

20 How pros do things?

21 "The Man Who Shot Liberty Bells" singer

22 Through

23 Sacred

24 Flower holder that carries a tune?

29 FBI predecessor

32 _rings

33 During

34 Revelatory, as a moment

35 45 years after William I invaded England

36 Mexican eatery staple

38 One of the Four Corners states: Abbr.

39 Biblical judge

40 Draped attire

41 Jobs creation

42 Drawing

43 Ordinary dinner bread?

46 Low pitch

47 MP3 rating group

48 City with a University of Washington campus

51 Street entrances

56 Chemical that keeps the batteries out?

58 Get from

59 Advance slightly

60 English county bordering Suffolk

61 He sings "Maria" in "West Side Story"

62 Get going

63 Terrier type

DOWN

1 Pang

2 Continuous change

3 Speed

4 Golf's Ballesteros

5 Bakery container

6 Old Glory

7 Fate

8 Pop lead-in

9 Academic conferences

10 Breakwater

11 Lena of "Havana"

12 Soothing skin treatment

13 Opposite of grant

18 Watergate senator Sam

19 Didn't feel well

23 Canned meats

24 Warm and comfy

25 Family reunion attendee

26 Add to the concoction

27 French pronoun

28 Logically sound

29 Silent film star?

30 Relax, singly

31 Eye shade

36 Kielbasas, e.g.

37 Pentagon topic

Thursdays' Puzzle Solved

A	S	P	I	C	J	A	D	E	S	O	B	S
W	I	L	D	E	I	N	E	P	T	M	O	E
S	P	E	L	L	I	N	G	B	E	E	L	L
T	Y	I	N	G	S	E	T	T	L	E	D	
A	C	H	A	U	L	D	A	E	R	O		
S	L	O	B	P	E	E	P	I	N	G	T	O
K	O	R	E	A			A	I	M	A	T	
P	A	R	T	S	O	F	S	P	E	E	C	H
M	O	I	R	E	S	A	L	A	D			
E	E	C	L	U	M	I	N	G	S		M	A
S	P	U	D	S	A	I	L	R	Y	E		
T	I	T	A	N	I	C	S	K	U	L	K	
O	L	E	E	C	H	O	C	H	A	M	B	E
P	O	S	S	E	E	Y	A	U	N	A	R	M
S	G	T	S	T	R	E	P	S	O	R	E	S

By Barry E. Silk 9/4/09

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Crowe challenges columnist to duel

SYDNEY (AP) — An Australian newspaper mocked Russell Crowe for smoking and shoveling down a fatty meal during a recent bike ride, so the notoriously salty actor set out to prove he is still in gladiator shape — by challenging the paper's gossip columnist to a duel by bicycle.

Crowe, who has been photographed looking slimmer in recent months, was apparently none too pleased by a column published in Sydney's The Daily Telegraph on Tuesday entitled "Smokes and fatty foods the fitness regime for Rusty." The paper mocked Crowe after he was photographed pausing during a recent bike ride with his personal trainer to puff on a cigarette and chow down on three tacos and a soft drink.

In a story published Friday, the paper said Crowe's spokesman called up gossip columnist Annette Sharp the next day and said, "Get on your bike. Russell wants you to go riding with him. Are you ready to die?"

Sharp accepted the challenge and the pair met at dawn for a 12-mile (20-kilometer) ride through the city. Video of the race shows Sharp struggling to keep up while Crowe zooms along unfazed. At one point, Sharp fell off her bike.

Still, Crowe gave Sharp some credit, telling her she was a better biker than Australian director Baz Luhrmann. "You're twice the man Baz is," he said.

Crowe's manager Grant Vandenberg had no comment. "I think everything's been said in the paper," he said.

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at 806.742.5433



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3. Visit Career Center
4. Obtain a leadership position in organization
5. Explore Study Abroad options
6. Update or Create a Resume
7. Participate in SYE programs
8. Attend Athletic Events
9. Make new friends
10. Get involved in intramural sports

Cross country starts season in Ruidoso

By ZANE TURNER
STAFF WRITER

The long hours of training in the hot summer sun now translate into competition for the Texas Tech cross country team.

The Lady Raiders begin defense of their Big 12 Conference crown with plenty of new faces, while the Red Raiders — who return everyone from 2008 — hope to improve on last season's ninth-place finish at the Big 12 Championships.

The team starts its season against Wayland Baptist in the Texas Tech Ruidoso Open Friday, looking to see what it has early in 2009.

"I guess it would be kind of like a scrimmage in any other sport," said Tech coach Jon Murray, who begins his fifth year at Tech. "But it's gonna allow us to go up to higher altitude, cooler weather is one big part of that. It's good for the and the new people to see that type of competition."

Despite the loss of All-American Sally Kipyego, the Lady Raiders are all the more confident they can be successful this season. Returning to a team ranked in the Top 10 most of last season are a trio of juniors in All-American Lillian Badaru and All-Big 12 runners Michelle Guzman and Gladys Kipsang.

The Red Raiders hope to get a boost from Gilbert Limo — who finished 12th at last year's Big 12 Championships — and Silas Kemboi, who was the team's top male runner two seasons ago before he redshirted because of injury last season.

Limo said competing in the Ruidoso Open will be a good gauge of the team's fitness level.

"It will be a good chance to see where we are after all our training from summer school," he said. "We've put the work in this summer and we're ready for the season to earn some respect and see where and how we can compete."

For a couple of Lady Raiders, the meet will be a reunion of sorts.

Newcomers to the Tech squad, Caroline Karunde and Purity Biwott, ran at Wayland Baptist. Karunde was a nine-time NIAA All-American for the Pioneers, while Biwott was an 11-time NIAA All-American and an All-Conference runner.

Along with Karunde and Biwott, Winrose Karunde and Meagan Willingham debut for Tech.

Kipsang said the new additions bring excitement to the team and will help to the team's success.

"We have a really good team this year, and I hope we will go farther and farther," she said. "We really have high expectations for this team. It will be good to get back into that mode of competition."

The Texas Tech Ruidoso Open is the first of four meets Tech will compete in before the Big 12 Championships Oct. 31 in Columbia, Mo.

Murray said he is ready to see what his team can do and how well they have prepared themselves up to this point.

"It's going to be good for me to see who comes to compete and where there will be room to improve," he said. "I'm excited to see what our new people can do for the team."

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Tech soccer hopes fan support makes difference during Metroplex swing

By MIKE GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

A lot of eyes could be watching soccer this weekend in the Metroplex.

The Texas Tech soccer team hits the road for the second of three consecutive weekends on the road with matches scheduled against TCU and North Texas today and Sunday, respectively.

To the Red Raiders' advantage, the road may seem a little more friendly than usual when they kickoff against TCU at 7 p.m. Sixteen players, more than half of the Tech roster, are originally from the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and the players expect to see families, friends, alumni and general Tech fans in the stands.

"TCU always gives us a good game," said forward Britney Harrison, a graduate of Plano Senior High School. "We have to come out and play our best game. Over like half our team is from Dallas, so it's all our friends, all our family. It gives us something more to play for, we don't get an away crowd like this often."

Tech (2-1-0) may need all the fan support it can get, with TCU averaging more than 1,000 fans per match at home this season.

In addition, the TCU soccer program historically has had success against the Red Raiders. Since Tech's soccer program was established in 1994, the two teams have squared off almost annually with the Horned Frogs posting a 11-3-2 record against Tech. The Red Raiders dropped the TCU game last year 3-2 in Lubbock.

TCU (3-0-0) opened its season with a 2-1 win over the National Soccer Coaches Association of America's then-ranked No. 15 Texas. The team followed that success with a 1-0 win against Texas-San Antonio — a team Tech defeated 5-0 on Aug. 21 — and a 3-1 victory against Houston Baptist.

TCU also hosted an exhibition match against the Mexican women's national team, which TCU lost 4-1 before a sellout crowd.

With the strong start to its season, TCU is nipping at the heels of the Top 25 in votes. A win against Tech could propel the Horned Frogs into a coveted Top 25 spot in the next poll.

However, TCU coach Dan Abdalla said his team is not focused on its spot in



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH JUNIOR Katie Hinds and the Red Raiders will play TCU and North Texas in the Metroplex today and Sunday, respectively.

the polls this early in the season. Instead, the Horned Frogs' full attention is on the game at hand and the prospect of an exciting atmosphere.

"It's a good rivalry between us and it'll be another sellout with overflow," he said. "It's just a great game to be a part of but we just want to use this game the same as our other non-conference games. We want to improve and be ready for our conference play."

Aside from the fan support Tech expects to have, the team enters tonight's game with confidence playing on the road.

The Red Raiders wrapped up last weekend with a 4-3 victory while visiting Texas-El Paso, a team that previously had a home record of 63-7-3 since 2002.

Sunday's game against UNT might be a little less daunting. The Mean Green

(2-0) do not have the same kind of fan following, averaging 474 fans per game, nor the same quality of wins as TCU. UNT's wins were both at home and both by the score 1-0 against New Mexico State, a team that has three losses in as many games, and Sam Houston State, respectively.

Still, UNT has not lost yet and Tech coach Tom Stone considers Sunday's match a trap game.

"Overlooking North Texas on Sunday would be a huge mistake," he said. "They're one of the best teams in their conference and that Sunday battle, which generally is what Sunday games are, just battles, is equally important."

Tech has not played UNT in a regular season match but the teams tied in a pre-season exhibition game last year, 0-0.

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SPORTS

PAGE 10
FRIDAY, SEPT. 4, 2009

Saturday's game homecoming for two North Dakota players

By **ADAM COLEMAN**
SPORTS EDITOR

Plano native Kenny Watkins has spent a little more than a year playing football at North Dakota — in a state that probably is not known as well as Texas when it comes to passion for the sport.

Although he couldn't be happier about playing for the Fighting Sioux, there's something about football in Texas that he misses every once in a while.

"Football is football, but it's just different when you're back playing down south, especially in Texas," he said. "I don't know why. That Friday Night Lights stuff. It's just a different vibe. A different feeling. It just makes you want to play 100 percent."

Good thing he has a chance to relive that feeling again Saturday against Texas Tech.

North Dakota junior free safety Kris Ankenbauer and the sophomore

Watkins make up the two players on the Fighting Sioux roster from Texas.

Along with the date against Tech being one of the biggest games in school history, Saturday's game will be a homecoming of sorts for Ankenbauer and Watkins, who are both from Plano.

Ankenbauer, who attended Plano East High School, enters this season the team's starting free safety, and the move comes at the right time.

He said he does not get the chance to come home often, let alone play in front of his family back home.

"Got a lot of family coming to the game," he said. "Know a lot of people that go to Tech. It'll be nice to get back in the home state, but not there to vacation, have to take care of business hopefully and play some good football."

Recruited by Abilene Christian and Texas State, among others, Ankenbauer's move to North Dakota was largely based on his connections at the school. Ankenbauer's uncle is the women's

basketball coach at the school.

Watkins, who went to Plano Senior High School, received the most attention from the Fighting Sioux during his senior year in high school.

Watkins and Ankenbauer agree they have gotten used to living in the state, so all the differences North Dakota and Texas have are a thing of the past.

Except the weather.

"I remember back home, it'll be like 55 (degrees) and people would be out in heavy coats," said Watkins, who rotates at right cornerback for the Fighting Sioux. "It's 55 out here, people out here in shorts and shirts running around, talking about 'let's go play volleyball.'"

With influence in Texas at a minimal level at this point, North Dakota coach Chris Mussman hopes the program's move to FCS football will help it branch out into the state. UND is entering its second year as a FCS school.

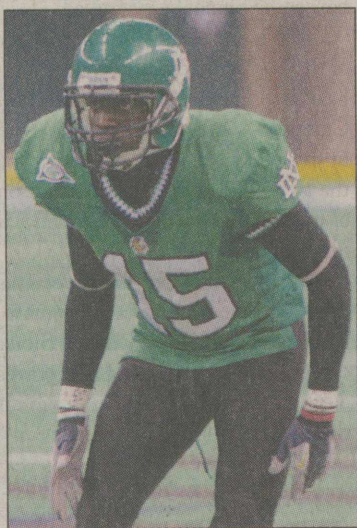
Dominique Bennett recently joined the team from DeSoto — a recruit Mussman said he was lucky to get. Bennett is not yet on the depth chart.

"As a D-II school, we were a more regional Midwestern team," Mussman said. "Now with the national scale, we've moved out a little bit."

Being from Texas gave Watkins and Ankenbauer sort of a celebrity status among their teammates — who are predominantly from the Northwest and Midwest.

Ankenbauer said the No. 1 question he gets asked is about the movie "Friday Night Lights" and if everything that movie depicts is true.

Watkins agreed, as he said some find it hard to believe he played in front of more people than the Alerus Center — UND's



football venue — can house, which is just fewer than 13,000.

"I get that a lot," Watkins said. "My roommate last year always asked me about it. 'How many did you play with? How many fans did ya'll have?' On average it was like 35 or 40,000 that filled up our stadium."

Being from the same city, Watkins and Ankenbauer have become good friends off the field.

The two also are from rival high schools and when district play comes around, Watkins said he and Ankenbauer never fail to show their school pride.

On Saturday, however, the two realize the task at hand even though they are taking a rare trip home.

"Fans are getting real excited because we're going up a division," Watkins said. "It's good that we're playing a team that was a national championship contender last year. This has to be one of the biggest games for sure."

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF UND ATHLETICS

NORTH DAKOTA'S NO. 15, cornerback Kenny Watkins, played high school football at Plano Senior High School. UND free safety Kris Ankenbauer, No. 14, played at Plano East High School. The pair looks forward to facing the Texas Tech offense at 6 p.m. Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

someone else besides teammates.

"A lot of people are foaming at the mouth," Tech running back Baron Batch said.

Facing an FBS football team would seem like a nightmare for a team like North Dakota, but for free safety Kris

Ankenbauer, it's a dream come true.

"It's awesome," he said. "It's just really nice playing against teams that are really good, really talented. Kind of gives us a chance to see where we really are. Makes us better overall, I believe."

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Football

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"You can never take anyone lightly," he said. "We always said fear no one but respect everyone because anyone

can come in and beat you. Coach just always said examples of different teams like last year with USC-Oregon State or Michigan-Appalachian (State), he always says that."

Whoever it is, Tech players and coaches are just excited to be hitting



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