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# THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

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# Taylor made

Potts tosses seven touchdowns in 55-10 rout of Rice

By ALEX YBARRA  
MANAGING EDITOR

Coming into the season, the hype surrounding new starting quarterback Taylor Potts was his physical characteristics. He's got the size — 6-foot-5, 215 pounds — and howitzer right arm to be coach Mike Leach's most NFL-ready quarterback. It turns out he's got the mental toughness to boot. That much was obvious when he erased last week's three-interception performance by going 36-of-57 with 456 yards and seven touchdowns in a 55-10 rout of

Rice Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium. He was one shy of tying the school record for passing touchdowns, which B.J. Symons set against Texas A&M in 2003. "I had no idea. No idea what the record was or anything like that," Potts said. "I knew I had six at one point. I told (receiver) Detron (Lewis), 'I'm going for eight,' once I got seven." Helping the cause, Potts had a veteran receiver back in Tramin Swindall, who lost his starting role last week against North Dakota.

POTTS continued on page 7 ➤



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH QUARTERBACK Taylor Potts throws a pass under pressure from Rice defensive tackle Chance Talbert during the Red Raiders' 55-10 victory over Rice Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH LINEBACKER Marlon Williams attempts to tackle Rice running back Tyler Smith during the Red Raiders' 55-10 victory against Rice Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

## Young Owls contribute to Tech defense's stellar night

By ADAM COLEMAN  
SPORTS EDITOR

Before the season started, Rice coach David Bailiff wanted to stay away from using the excuse that his offense is too young and inexperienced. Even after a 55-10 defeat where the Texas Tech defense collected six sacks, an interception and forced two fumbles, Bailiff still stuck to his promise. "We've told them all the way back to spring, we won't let youth be an excuse," he said. "I expect these guys — the quarterbacks, the O-line — we knew what the hardships were going to be over there." After a 10-win season in 2008, the Owls seem to be on the rebuilding path. That may be most evident on the offensive side of the ball, where Rice is

trying to replace Chase Clement with two quarterbacks and look for a way to protect them as well. However, going up against an improved Tech defense, in Bailiff's opinion, did not allow the Owls to make the strides they needed. Rice's offensive production for the majority of the game was limited, as the Owls went into halftime with 68 yards through the air. Sophomore Nick Fanuzzi, who started the game, had -1 passing yards. Fifth-year senior John Thomas Shepherd had 69 yards through the air. Shepherd said a lot of the inconsistencies in the game's early stages can be blamed on Tech's defensive line, which acted as a catalyst for the Red Raiders Saturday. But in addition to the pressure from the Tech defensive line, Shepherd

said he was anxious at times, which is something he is trying to get better at as the season goes. "They did get some pressure, but a couple times it was on me and pulling the ball down too quick, trying to get up through a seam that really wasn't there," said Shepherd, who finished the game completing 14-of-19 passes for 109 yards and a touchdown — the first of his career. Even though Bailiff said he doesn't use youth as an excuse, the Owls' offensive line is young to say the least. Left guard Davon Allen, center Keshawn Carrington, right guard Jake Hicks and right tackle Tyler Parish are all starting as sophomores for the Owls. Junior left tackle Scott Mitchell is the elder. RICE continued on page 7 ➤

## Schwarzenegger to veto renewable energy bills

By JULIET WILLIAMS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's office said Saturday that he would veto legislation requiring a third of California's energy to come from renewable sources by 2020, choosing instead to mandate the change through an executive order. The Democratic bills that passed the state Legislature just before the end of the legislative session Friday would have set up the most aggressive renewable energy standards in

the nation. But they also sought to limit the amount of energy from sources such as wind, solar and geothermal that could come from out-of-state. Schwarzenegger and some energy producers said the legislation would set up too many regulatory hurdles. "The poorly drafted, overly complex bills passed by the Legislature are protectionist schemes that will kill the solar industry in California and drive prices up like the failed energy deregulation of the late 1990s," Schwarzenegger's commu-

nications director, Matt David, said in a statement Saturday. The governor's office didn't immediately explain how Schwarzenegger would implement the goals of the legislation through the executive order. Supporters worry that it would not have the same strength of law as the bills would have. The Independent Energy Producers, which represents companies that provide 80 percent of California's renewable energy, opposed the legislation, despite having sought a higher standard.

## Obama says status quo no solution on health care

By JIM KUHNHENN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — President Barack Obama assailed critics of his health care initiative Saturday, seeking to grab the megaphone from his opponents and boost momentum in his drive for congressional passage of his chief domestic priority. "I will not accept the status quo. Not this time. Not now," the president told an estimated 15,000 people during a rally that had every feel of a campaign event, right down to chants of "Fired up, ready to go!" and "Yes, we can!"

Days after urging Democrats and Republicans in Congress to come together, an invigorated Obama said his plan incorporates ideas from those on both sides and he promised to continue to seek common ground. "If you come to me with a serious set of proposals, I will be there to listen. My door is always open," the president said. But he warned that he wouldn't waste time with people who have decided "that it's better politics to kill this plan than improve it." He also said he wouldn't stand by while special interests "use the same old tactics to keep

things exactly the way they are." And he warned, "If you misrepresent what's in the plan, we will call you out." The pitch came in friendly territory. Democratic-leaning Minnesota is one of the nation's healthiest states, with relatively few uninsured residents, cost-effective medical care and top health care providers such as the Mayo Clinic. His speech at the Target Center was part of a weekend campaign by the White House to give the president as much exposure as possible after his prime-time address Wednesday to Congress.

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Today	Partly Cloudy	Tuesday	Mostly Sunny
	81/58		83/59

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IN BRIEF

STATE

Christmas out of Texas curriculum proposal

AUSTIN (AP) — A proposal for new social studies curriculum in Texas public schools removes a mention of Christmas in a sixth-grade lesson, replacing it with a Hindu religious festival, a change that's riled conservatives who say it's another battle in the "war" against the Christian holiday.

Market Foundation. "This effort to mislead students about current society is shameful and must be stopped."

The draft proposal being considered by the State Board of Education won't be formally adopted until next May for the 2011-2012 school year. The standards will remain in place for the next decade, dictating what is taught in government, history and other social studies classes in elementary and secondary schools.

NATION

Thousands of downtown DC protesters blast Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tens of thousands of protesters fed up with government spending marched to the U.S. Capitol on Saturday, showing their disdain for the president's health care plan with slogans such as "Obamacare makes me sick" and "I'm not your ATM."

tors chanted "enough, enough" and "We the People." Others yelled "You lie, you lie!" and "Pelosi has to go," referring to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

Throng of people waved U.S. flags and held signs reading "Go Green Recycle Congress" and "I'm Not Your ATM." Men wore colonial costumes as they listened to speakers who warned of "judgment day" — Election Day 2010.

WORLD

Afghan reporters blame NATO for colleague's death

KABUL (AP) — An Afghan official says a battle in western Afghanistan has killed dozens of Taliban militants after three U.S. troops were killed in a complex ambush.

convoy that killed three Americans and seven Afghan soldiers. U.S. military spokeswoman Capt. Elizabeth Mathias confirmed fighting continued after the ambush.

Ghori says about 50 insurgents were killed. No other officials could immediately confirm that toll.

Afghan army spokesman Maj. Abdul Basir Ghori says Sunday that coalition forces launched airstrikes in the western province of Fراه.

Afghan police spokesman Raouf Ahmadi says a coalition airstrike went astray and hit a home killing a woman and a teenage girl.

Ghori says the strike Saturday was in response to an attack on a

Corrections

The Daily Toreador's reporters and editors strive for accuracy in the news-gathering process. However, mistakes are inevitable.

takes in this spot as soon as possible.

If you feel there is an error in a story, please call Editor-in-Chief Kevin Cullen at 806-742-3395 or email kevin.m.cullen@ttu.edu.

ROTC instructor competes for NCO award

By ALLYSON SCHELL STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech ROTC instructor Sgt. 1st Class Corey J. King has competed in a series of competitions in order to become the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command's Non Commissioned Officer of the Year for 2009.

King is training in Fort Riley, Kan., for the Army Best Warrior Competition, the last competition in the series.

"I put together a plan for training and one of my old bosses insured that I had two weeks for training in medical, combative, shooting, assembling weapons and physical training up here in Fort Riley," King said in a phone interview.

King has competed in four levels to advance to the final competition: The Western Region Cadet Command at Fort

Lewis, Wash., in February; Cadet Command at Fort Knox, Ky., in March; U.S. Army Accessions Command at Fort Jackson, S.C., in April; and Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe, Va., in July.

Tested in the competitions are rifle shooting, fitness testing and medical aid testing — skills that would be deemed comparable to what would be necessary serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. A formal board presentation also is a requirement in which six senior sergeant majors from across the army assess each competitor on their appearance, military bearing and knowledge of critical army topics.

"I feel pretty well prepared," King said. "Post Sept. 11, I served once in Afghanistan and twice in Iraq. The real challenge is doing everything up to the standard in the book and competing against 20- or 25-year-olds with a thirst

to prove themselves and a lot more energy."

King was nominated to take part in the competition for NCO of the year by recently retired senior military instructor James Lusk. Lusk was replaced by Master Sgt. Robert Bowman, who also aided in the nomination process.

"I nominated King so that he could progress in the military," Bowman said. "He is a professional and represents everything that the Army stands for. He devotes his time to all different organizations and is an all-around good guy."

If King wins, he said he will continue to live in Lubbock and travel wherever he is needed to represent the Army to the public.

"I will be like a spokesperson for the Army," King said. "I would be involved in enlistment programs to get to people to want

to join the Army and also help deal with any challenges such as Army suicides, which are big right now and so one of the challenges I would face would be to let them know that there is help out there."

The Army Best Warrior Competition will be hosted Sept. 28 through Oct. 3 in Fort Lee, Va. King will compete against 11 other competitors for the title of NCO of the year. Skills tested will be much like the other competitions, except adding more advanced shooting ranges and a combative competition.

King has spent the past 14 years being involved in the military and is a member of the U.S. Army Cadet Command. If he wins the title of NCO of the year, he will be adding to his military awards which include the Army Commendation Medal and the Army Achievement Medal.

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HSC researcher earns prestigious professorship

Dr. Quentin Smith, a researcher in the School of Pharmacy at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, was honored with the prestigious Grover E. Murray Professorship Award from the Tech Board of Regents.

Smith is the sixth recipient of the award, the highest honor a faculty member of the HSC can receive. Smith said he was well aware of the magnitude of this award.

"It is a real honor to receive this award from the university," he said. "It is such a huge award."

Smith said he was happy to see that all of his research in the field of pharmaceuticals is being recognized.

Dr. Arthur Nelson, dean of the School of Pharmacy, said the award is important for the recognition of a faculty member's hard work.

"The recipients have earned an international reputation as a scientist, been noted for engagement professionally, and achieved as

an outstanding teacher," Nelson said. "There is no greater recognition than to have your peers identify you as an accomplished faculty member in all areas."

Nelson said this award is the first one to be received in a school other than the School of Medicine. It also was the first award given to an individual on one of the HSC's regional campuses.

Smith said his research, based mainly on the treatment through drugs on certain types of brain cancer, was important to himself personally, as well as the field of pharmaceuticals.

"In 28 years, we have nearly no new drugs," Smith said, "and the drugs just don't work very well." He said many brain cancer pa-

tients are not given much of a chance when they are diagnosed with their condition, and his goal is to give them a better chance.

"When people get a brain tumor now, it's basically a death sentence," Smith said.

However, he said all of the advancements that need to be made in the field means it is a very good time to go into pharmaceuticals.

"It's a great time to be a doctor or pharmacist," Smith said. "It's a great field that we can make a lot of advancement in."

Nelson said Smith is a good example of what a pharmaceutical researcher should be. His relation-

ships with the staff and faculty and his hard work have been instrumental in building his reputation and career, as well in receiving this award.

"He has given of himself not only in building his own reputation and career, but in service to his faculty members in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences."

There is no greater recognition than to have your peers identify you as an accomplished faculty member in all areas.

DR. ARTHUR NELSON DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

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Risk-taking is back for banks 1 year after crisis

NEW YORK (AP) — A year after the financial system nearly collapsed, the nation's biggest banks are bigger and regaining their appetite for risk.

Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan Chase and others — which have received tens of billions of dollars in federal aid — are once more betting big on bonds, commodities and exotic financial products, trading that nearly stopped during the financial crisis.

That Wall Street is making money again in essentially the same ways that thrust the banking system into chaos last fall is reason for concern on several levels, financial analysts and government officials say.

"There have been no significant changes to the federal rules governing their behavior. Proposals that have been made to better monitor the financial system and to police the products banks sell to consumers have been held up by lobbyists, lawmakers and turf-protecting regulators."

Through mergers and the failure of Lehman Brothers, the mammoth banks whose near-collapse prompted government rescues have gotten even bigger, increasing the risk they pose

to the financial system. And they still make bets that, in the aggregate, are worth far more than the capital they have on hand to cover against potential losses.

The government's response to last year's meltdown was to spend whatever it takes to protect the financial system from collapse — a precedent that could encourage even greater risk-taking from the private sector.

Lawrence Summers, director of the White House National Economic Council, says an overhaul of financial regulations is needed as soon as possible to keep the financial system safe over the long haul.

"You cannot rely on the scars of past crises to ensure against practices that will lead to future crises," Summers says.

No one is predicting another meltdown from risky trading in the near term. Rather, the concern is what happens over time as banks' confidence grows and the memory of the financial crisis of 2008 fades.

Will they pile on bets to the point that a new asset bubble forms and — as happened with mortgage-backed secu-

rities — its undoing endangers banks and the broader economy?

"We're seeing the same kind of behavior from the banks, and that could lead to some huge and scary parallels," says Simon Johnson, former chief economist with the International Monetary Fund.

Some risk-taking is good. When banks are willing to invest in companies or lend to home-buyers, that nurtures economic growth by generating employment and consumer spending, feeding a cycle of expansion.

The problem is when banks' quest for profits leads them to take on too much risk. In the case of the housing bubble, which burst last year, banks lent too freely to consumers with weak credit and wagered too much on complex financial instruments tied to mortgages. As real-estate prices turned south, so did the financial industry's health.

Because the largest banks' trading divisions make their bets with each other, their fortunes are intertwined. The collapse of one can threaten another — and another — if it is unable to pay off its debts.

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# OPINIONS

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MONDAY, SEPT. 14, 2009

## Textbook holiday debate irrational

Members of the state Board of Education may be in need of some early holiday cheer this week as they convene for a hearing on a new proposal to revise the state's primary and secondary school social studies curriculum.

**Levi Schlegel**



Sumter (OK, bad example).

Nevertheless, the notion of limiting of each world religion to a single representative holiday in the textbooks of Texas is in some way an attack on Christianity is patently absurd. I suspect sixth-graders these days are so clever they might find out about this whole Christmas idea

without their teacher ever telling them. So I implore you, put your bullets and Bibles away, there is no war upon us. (Note: To those at the hearing in Austin, the Air Raid you'll witness this weekend regards a different matter).

At the same time, the notion the only fair way to teach an appreciation of world religions is to discuss only a single holiday

from each is similarly ridiculous. Does an instructor of American colonial history spend the same amount of time on each of the 13 colonies (Stop hogging all the attention, Pennsylvania. You and your Independence Hall.)? Certainly not.

The inclusion of Diwali in the curriculum clearly provides a more global perspective and should be kept; the removal of Christmas, however, does not contribute to such a broadening of education. In fact, it risks the dismissal of the entire proposal and, at best, slows the adoption of the many other positive additions to the curriculum.

Thus, I implore both sides; do not use the state's educational curriculum as a medium for advancing personal political positions. Perhaps a Christmas-like spirit of goodwill is what both sides really need at the moment.

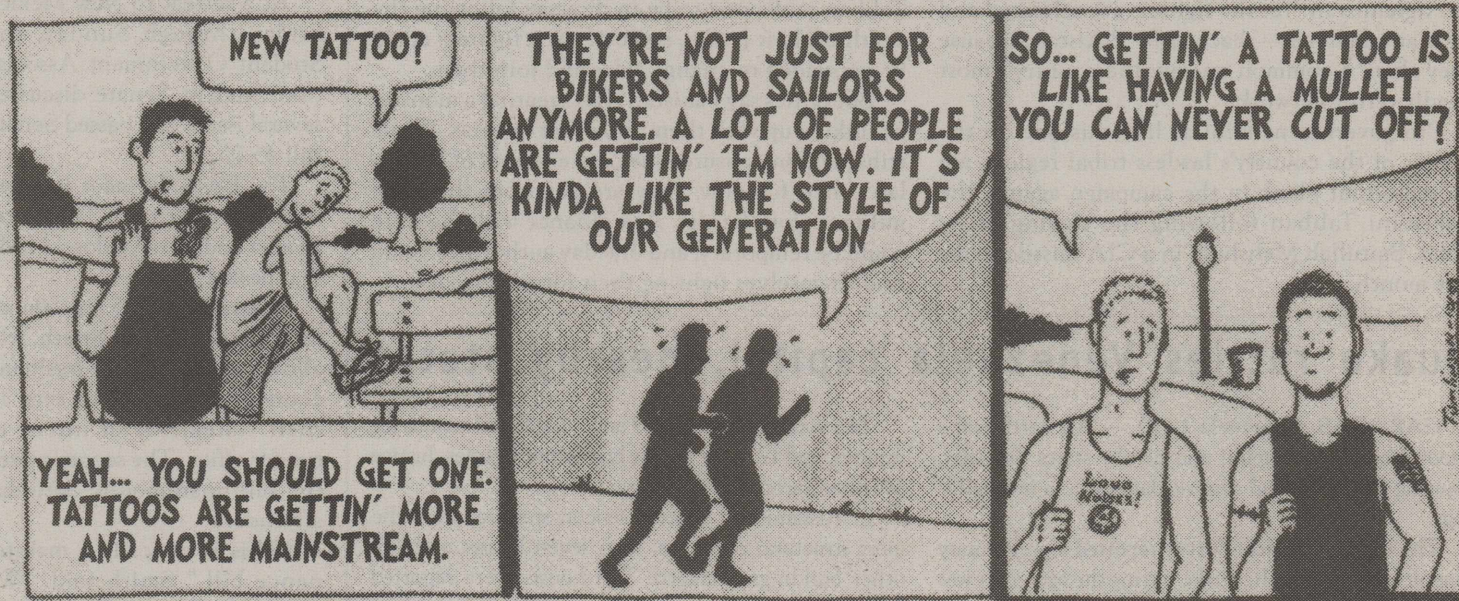
■ Schlegel is a senior global affairs major from Tribune, Kan. >> levi.schlegel@ttu.edu

“The change would impact the state's sixth-grade curriculum, which calls for students to be instructed on the cultural and societal significance of major religious holidays. Propponents argue the new curriculum would give students a more well-rounded introduction to the holidays of the world's major religions, pointing out the coverage of Easter and Yom Kippur would remain as representative holidays of the Christian and Jewish faiths, respectively (the Muslim holy month of Ramadan is also covered).”

Nonetheless, David Barton, a Republican activist and adviser to the board, is quoted by The Associated Press countering the mention of Christmas and Rosh Hashanah, “(do) not promote either Christianity or Judaism; rather, it simply acknowledges with accuracy the religious culture of America as it actually exists that these holidays have been awarded their place in the culture by the people themselves.”

Jonathan Saenz, a lobbyist for the Free Market Foundation, goes further in his criticism, calling the proposed revisions a “war on Christmas” and an effort that “must be stopped.” Yes, you heard right; the next holy war is about textbooks.

Considering the vision statement of the Free Market Foundation is for “all Texas government and culture (to) create and foster an environment that protects faith,” it becomes clear the removal of Christmas from Mrs. Jones' sixth-grade classroom is akin to the firing of the first salvo at Fort



## Quality coffee losing battle for consumers

What do you think of when you hear the word “coffeehouse”?

Maybe you conjure up an image of some cozy little mom-and-pop place, full of comfy couches you can sink into as you enjoy your cup of joe. Or perhaps you think of the local Starbucks, full of people sipping their Grande Caramel Frappuccinos and reading the paper or hunched over their laptops.

However, what is not likely to instinctively come to mind is a fast-food chain that has in the past been known for its super-sized, greasy french fries and gargantuan, sauce-drenched Big Macs. That's right: McDonald's.

But lately the fast-food giant has transformed into one of America's top choices in getting that morning fix of coffee. I pose one important question: Why?

Now, I do not claim to be a great coffee connoisseur, but I for one find its taste much less desirable than virtually every other place to buy coffee. I suppose at first I was merely biased and unwilling to go to McDonald's to get my daily dose of caffeine. Something about buying my coffee from a too-happy clown named Ronald just seemed odd.

Eventually I caved, thinking I'd at least give it a try, but to no avail. I found it mediocre at best, and, not to sound pragmatic, it was about what I would expect from the venue.

What gets me the most bent up, however, is not the fact McDonald's is doing so well with

**Sherri Haertling**



its coffee sales, but what it is invariably doing in the process: quelling the success of the nation's best chain coffeehouse: Starbucks.

Yes, I admit it; I have been cast under the Starbucks spell. While some say it is merely alluring, over-priced coffee with a fancy logo, I opt to disagree. It is actually de-

cent quality coffee that simply cannot be mimicked, even by the king of all fast-food joints.

It was on my way back to Texas Tech from Dallas this Labor Day weekend that I became acutely aware of the severity of the situation. My friend and I had stopped to get a cup of coffee from Starbucks, as was the norm. But this time, Starbucks was dark and boarded up — it had closed. And what, you may ask, was right next-door? A McDonald's, naturally. Those looming golden arches had never looked so despicable.

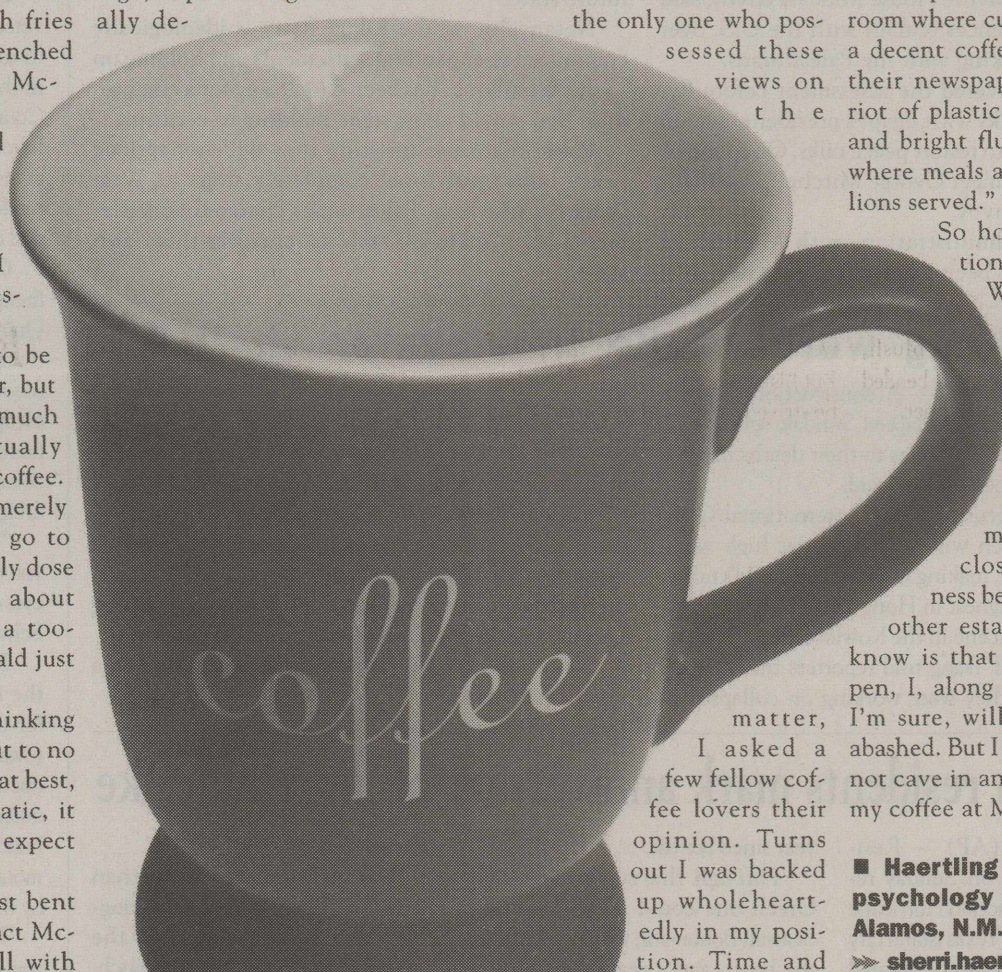
Curious to see whether I was the only one who possessed these views on the

time again, people answered in favor of Starbucks when asked which of the two was better overall. One friend told me she went numerous times to several different McDonald's locations, just to see if that made any difference, but alas it was still just not up to par.

What I don't understand is how these two virtually opposite chains are competing in the same league — and Starbucks is seemingly losing. As Bill Tancer of Time Magazine put it, “I've always thought of these two chains as polar opposites — one designed as a sophisticated faux living room where customers could get a decent coffee drink and read their newspapers; the other, a riot of plastic-and-vinyl booths and bright fluorescent lighting where meals are counted in billions served.”

So how will the situation pan out exactly? Well, it's hard to say. Some people that I've talked to speculate that Starbucks is more or less doomed to extinction; more and more locations are closing due to business being taken by these other establishments. All I know is that if this does happen, I, along with many others I'm sure, will be appalled and abashed. But I most certainly will not cave in and settle for buying my coffee at McDonald's.

■ Haertling is a sophomore psychology major from Los Alamos, N.M. >> sherri.haertling@ttu.edu



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## Elton John wants to adopt toddler

LONDON (AP) — Look out, Madonna and Angelina Jolie — pop star Elton John has decided he wants to join the ranks of A-list celebrities with adopted children.

But it's not clear if John, 62, will be able to adopt, and the Rocket Man star has not yet started formal proceedings, which are often long and complicated.

John and longtime partner David Furnish are interested in trying to adopt a Ukrainian toddler named Lev they met during an orphanage tour there.

The singer told reporters in Ukraine on Saturday that Furnish has long wanted to adopt a child but that he was reluctant until he met Lev at an orphanage where many of the children's parents have died from AIDS.

"David always wanted to adopt a child and I always said 'no' because I am 62 and I think because of the traveling I do and the life I have,

maybe it wouldn't be fair for the child," John said.

"But having seen Lev today, I would love to adopt him. I don't know how we do that but he has stolen my heart. And he has stolen David's heart and it would be wonderful if we can have a home. I've changed my mind today."

He acknowledged bureaucratic hurdles may make adoption of a Ukrainian child impossible, citing the lack of a formal adoption protocol between England and the Ukraine as a serious potential problem.

"I don't know what the procedure is to adopt a boy from the Ukraine. I don't think I can because England doesn't have a treaty with the Ukraine," he said.

But he said the fact that Furnish, 46, is Canadian may provide an avenue for adoption from the Ukraine. Some countries also make it difficult for gay couples to adopt.

## Warhol's paintings stolen from LA home

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A unique series of Andy Warhol pieces — portraits of Muhammad Ali, Jack Nicklaus, Pele, Dorothy Hamill and other athletic superstars — has been stolen from a collector's home.

Los Angeles police said Friday the collection of 10 silk screen paintings of famous athletes of the 1970s was taken from the home of businessman Richard Weisman sometime between Sept. 2 and 3.

Weisman commissioned the iconic pop artist in 1977 to create the portraits, said Brenda Klippel, the director of Martin Lawrence Galleries in Los Angeles, which has a large collection of Warhols.

A commissioned portrait of Weisman was also stolen, said Detective Mark Sommer of the Los Angeles Police Department's art theft detail. A \$1 million reward was offered for information leading to the return of the paintings.

"This was a very clean crime," Sommer said. "(The home) wasn't ransacked."

Art recovery expert Robert Wittman, a former investigator for the FBI's national art crime team, says most rewards are offered for about 10 percent of a stolen collection's value.

"A million dollars is nothing to sneeze at. That's a hefty reward for a collection," Wittman said.

The art was on display in Weisman's dining room and his house was locked up. It wasn't clear exactly when the paintings were taken or how the thieves got into the home.

The theft was discovered by the family's longtime nanny who arrived at the home to find the large prints missing from the walls. She immediately went to a neighbor's to call police, Sommer said.

It wasn't known exactly how much the prints were worth.

## Archaeologists find early menorah depiction

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli archaeologists have uncovered one of the earliest depictions of a menorah, the seven-branched candelabra that has come to symbolize Judaism, the Israel Antiquities Authority said Friday.

The menorah was engraved in stone around 2,000 years ago and found in a synagogue recently discovered by the Sea of Galilee.

Pottery, coins and tools found at the site indicate the synagogue dates to the period of the second Jewish temple in Jerusalem, where the actual menorah was kept, said archaeologist Dina Avshalom-Gorni of the Israel Antiquities Authority.

The artist might have seen the menorah during a pilgrimage and then recreated it in the

synagogue, she suggested.

A small number of depictions of the menorah have surfaced from the same period, she said, but this one was unique because it was inside a synagogue and far from Jerusalem, illustrating the link between Jews around Jerusalem and in the Galilee to the north.

The menorah, depicted atop a pedestal with a triangular base, is carved on a stone which was placed in the synagogue's central hall.

The temple in Jerusalem was destroyed by Roman legions in 70 A.D. The Arch of Titus in Rome, erected to mark the Roman victory, depicts troops carrying the menorah from Jerusalem to symbolize the defeat of the Jews.

## SHAPING UP



AVIJIT KALE, A graduate student from India, does chin-ups neat the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreational Center Thursday.

## Ex-cons in Naples get second chance as tourist guides

NAPLES, Italy (AP) — Luigi "Gigino" Nocerino once stalked tourists through the tight alleys of this southern Italian city, snatching bags and valuables to fuel his drug addiction.

Now he looks after his former prey, escorting them through bad neighborhoods and giving tips on how to avoid muggings and where to eat the best pizza.

Nocerino is one of 70 former convicts, including muggers, drug traffickers and con artists, hired by authorities to guide tourists through the art-rich but crime-plagued city and use their inside knowledge of the local underworld to keep visitors safe.

Officials say the six-month experiment that began in May is succeeding in reducing petty crime and preventing the ex-cons from falling back into old habits or joining the ranks of the Camorra, the powerful mob syndicate that runs global drug rings out of Naples.

"I used to hunt for tourists. How things have changed," Nocerino marvels, recalling how he spent more than 10 of his 43 years serving prison terms for drug-related offenses.

Nocerino and his fellow guides roam tourist-filled areas, like the historic cen-

ter of Naples or its port, wearing bright yellow vests identifying them, in somewhat mangled English, as "Operator for the Urban Tourist Assistance."

Some speak basic English and Spanish but most use Italians' expressive hand gestures to get the message across. They walk around in groups accompanied by a supervisor, usually a private security guard, who knows them and reports on their performance.

Their job can include pointing the way to a monument, helping tourists negotiate a cab fare or walking them to a specific pizzeria or a pastry shop. The service is free and tips are not encouraged.

Giovanni Aspride, a 53-year-old former counterfeiter, said he and his colleagues usually wait for tourists to approach them, though they may come forward if somebody seems desperately lost or to tell a visitor to remove a gold watch or tuck a wallet in a safer pocket.

Though their criminal record does not have to be revealed, the guides are not shy about discussing it if it comes up in conversation.

On a busy shopping street on Tuesday, Aspride pointed an American couple just off a cruise ship toward baroque

churches in the area, then checked that they weren't wearing any jewelry that could attract unwanted attention.

"You OK," he told them in broken English.

The tourists were unfazed when told Aspride had served time.

"It's a great way to reintegrate them into society," said Brooke Cervine March, 37, of Santa Fe, New Mexico. "Everybody deserves a second chance."

Her husband, Scott Cervine, said a fellow cruise passenger bought an MP3 player from a street vendor, only to find out later that he'd been conned.

Aspride smiled as he recognized the trademark "pacco" — the package trick. Unscrupulous street vendors will display a high-tech gizmo, then place it in a box, which at the last moment is switched with one that's empty or contains a heavy object.

The guides must call police if they see anything suspicious, but officials say that in some cases they have taken matters into their own hands, chasing off muggers or returning lost property to tourists.

When the government of the Campania region, which has Naples as its capital, started the project the idea caused uproar.

Applicants went through interviews and were chosen based on any previous

working experience and language skills. Serious offenders including murderers, rapists and mobsters were ruled out.

Still, critics complained the ex-cons could be a danger to tourists and tarnish the image of a city already reputed as unsafe.

"We were accused of putting the wolves in charge of the sheep," said Corrado Gabriele, the regional official in charge of labor issues. "I think convicts should not be marked for life and, once they have served their sentence, we have a duty to help them."

The project has had its rough moments: one of the ex-cons was arrested on the job — but that was after the slow-paced Italian courts sentenced him for a crime committed more than a decade ago.

None of the convicts has committed any crime since the project started and the initial distrust has largely dissipated, said Alessandro Maria Vecchioni, head of an education agency that runs the scheme.

He proudly showed letters of thanks from tourists helped by the guides and citizens' petitions to increase their numbers and hours.

For now the guides work 20 hours a week for a monthly salary of 500 (\$725), paid by the Campania region with European Union funds.

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

**ACROSS**

- Places for chickens
- Taspo feature
- Roman 901
- Cornics orphan
- Skier's jacket
- Youthful fellow
- London art museum, as it was formerly known
- Some MIT grads
- Extreme degrees
- LPGA teen phenom Michelle
- Tibet's capital
- "... you ready for this?"
- Its seat is Jackson, Wyoming
- Linker
- Proofs of age, briefly
- Ones making money
- Pointy-eared "Star Trek" guy
- Cookie holder
- Small jazz combo
- It shows a book's name, author, publisher, etc.
- Parts of the Rockies: Abbr.
- Boiling
- Kitchen allure
- Norse mariner
- Leif
- AT&T competitor
- King, in France
- Photographic memory
- Prickly chestnut case
- Blackmore's "Doonee"
- Paul Bunyan's tool
- Piece of sausage
- Stock mkt. debut
- Multi-flavored ice cream
- Fire, to the French
- Actor Zimbalist Jr.
- "... the loneliest number"; old song lyric
- Ambulance destinations, for short
- Goes bad, as milk
- Strolls in shallow water

**DOWN**

- Short snoozes
- Traveling away from home
- Very busy
- Pumpkin desserts
- Part of a line: Abbr.
- Bowler's challenges
- Opposite of neo-
- Source of iron
- Kiev is its cap.
- "Fire and Rain" singer/songwriter
- Vacuum
- Orchestra conductors, formally
- "Sounds about right to me"
- Dumbfounded
- Big game tracker
- torch; patio light
- Twice-monthly song
- Irene of "Fame"
- Radiologist's procedure, briefly
- Fast plane
- Norse thunder god
- "The \_\_\_ Ranger"
- "Passages" author Sheehy
- Insurance company with Snoopy on its blimp
- State cop
- oxide
- laughing gas
- Circled the earth
- Canadian cop
- Smooch that even misses the cheek
- Political candidate lineups
- Adages
- First symbol on a musical staff
- Supply party food for
- Pale-green moth
- ET's vehicle
- One-man show about Capote
- Use ears

By Lila Cherry 9/14/09

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## Tech volleyball leaves Tulsa tourney 1-2

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ  
STAFF WRITER

With conference play just a week away and tournaments coming to an end, the Texas Tech volleyball team was in need of some momentum before its match against No. 5 Nebraska Wednesday.

It seems the Red Raiders got a little bit of what they were looking for.

Tech (2-7) grabbed a 3-1 victory against Gonzaga on Friday, but took a 3-1 loss to Stephen F. Austin and was swept by Tulsa on Saturday in the Tulsa Airport Radisson Tournament in Tulsa, Okla.

In the Gonzaga match, freshman outside hitter Miara Cave stepped up at the right time. She had a career-high 15 kills, including the winning point in the first set, which ended 28-26. Cave also chipped in key block assists that helped swing the momentum in favor of Tech in the first set.

"We all came in feeling very well," Cave said. "We just decided we wanted to play and it felt great, so I think that transpired onto the court."

The Red Raiders came out for the second set against the Zags and put on their best statistical performance

of the year, totaling 14 kills and only two errors in 30 attempts — leading to a .400 team hitting percentage and a 25-19 win in the second set.

Even though the Zags took the third set, Tech bounced back to clinch the final set 25-17, thanks to a strong defensive showing.

Tech setter Karlyn Meyers was a key component throughout the night, totaling 43 assists. Sophomore outside hitter Amanda Dowdy led Tech with 20 kills on the night and racked up 10 digs, while senior Jenn Goehry led the team in that category with a total of 15.

"There were three of us in double figures for kills and we were digging the ball really well," Dowdy said. "Offensively, we were really aggressive and we outplayed them. It was just hitting the ball more and we had that so it gave us the advantage."

The solid play, however, did not last long as Tech could not keep its momentum going into a Saturday morning match with Stephen F. Austin and the match against Tulsa later that day.

Against SFA (7-5), Tech came out sloppy in the first two sets, losing them 25-19 and 22-15, respectively.

Despite the slow start, Tech came out to take the third set 25-23, thanks

to a performance from middle blocker Barbara Conceicao who tied Tech's all-time record for the most block assists in a game with 11.

But in the fourth set, SFA's M.C. Bottles rattled off six unanswered points through serves and helped lift her team to the win, 28-26.

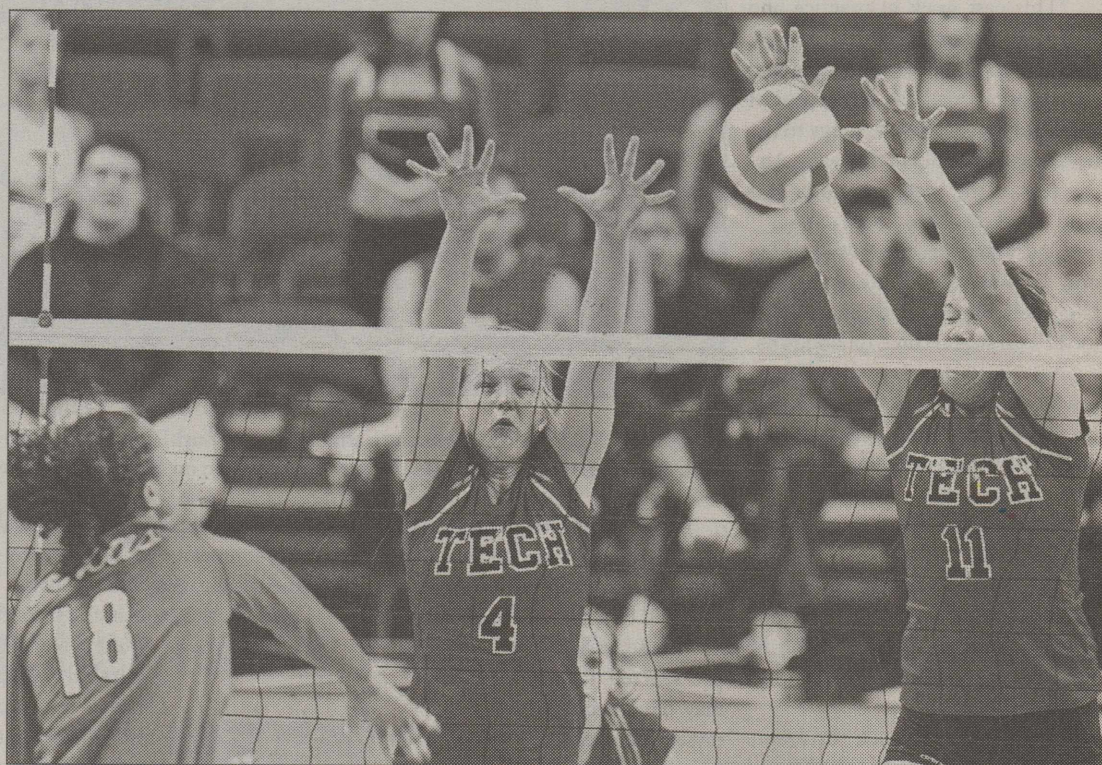
In this match, both teams did not hit the ball well. Tech's hitting percentage was .059 and SFA's was .126.

"I think the blurring thing is that our hitting percentages are so bad," Tech coach Trish Knight said. "We only hit like .059, which is terrible, and you're not going to win matches doing that. Plus, we're digging more balls, but Stephen F. Austin just dugged everything we hit, so we've got to dig a few more balls here and there."

Tech was overmatched against a Tulsa team on a roll looking to bounce back from a loss to the Zags. The Golden Hurricane (8-2) took all three sets by at least five points.

Meyers continued to impress with 30 assists and three block assists — helping her earn all-tournament honors. Tech had seven blocks compared to Tulsa's four.

Now that nonconference play is over, Tech's focus shifts to Big 12



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH OUTSIDE hitters Caroline Witte, left, and Amanda hope to lead the Red Raiders into Big 12 Conference play with momentum. Tech finished its nonconference schedule Saturday.

Conference play, which might present a rough start. Two of Tech's first three Big 12 opponents are ranked in the CBS College Sports Network/AVCA Division I Coaches Top 25.

To play with these teams, Dowdy said Tech has to have the right attitude, which it had Friday.

"Texas Tech volleyball is just used to losing and we need to learn how

to win," Dowdy said. "We did that (Friday), we played to win and we flat out beat the other team. (Saturday) we played not to lose."

►►jose.rodriguez@ttu.edu

## Kansas gets best of UTEP, 34-7

EL PASO (AP) — This border run was a big fiesta for the Kansas defense.

While the No. 22 Jayhawks get plenty of attention for their prolific offense, the guys on the other side of the ball led the way in a 34-7 victory over Texas-El Paso on Saturday night.

The forecast coming in suggested a much closer contest. Last year, Kansas ranked 114th nationally in pass defense while UTEP, under coach Mike Price, has always used a big-play offense. Miners quarterback Trevor Vittatoe threw a school-record 33 touchdown passes last fall.

The result? Kansas (2-0) had five sacks in the first half, all by the defensive front. Vittatoe spent most of the night on the run or on his back, freeing the linebackers to help with coverage and making life good for the secondary.

Afterward, the Jayhawks praised the push by their defensive linemen.

"It makes the quarterback think," cornerback Daymond Patterson said. "It makes him get the ball out that much faster. He's running around more, his stamina is down and his passes aren't as accurate. It makes it easier to be a defensive back."

The Miners (0-2) finished with 4 rushing yards, 208 total yards and the

fewest points for UTEP in Price's six seasons in El Paso. Only two possessions ended in Kansas territory.

"I am a little bit surprised that we didn't play better against their defense," Price said. "They didn't do anything we didn't see in films. What surprised us was that they were that good."

The only setback for Kansas? Vittatoe threw a 75-yard catch-and-run TD to Donavon Kemp early in the fourth quarter, breaking up the shutout.

"We shouldn't have let that happen but it's hard to complain," Jayhawks coach Mark Mangino said. "We were really stellar on defense tonight."

Kansas had just 13½ sacks last season. If there was to be any improvement, any coach will tell you the action starts up front.

Mangino has been keeping an eye on the defensive line lately in practice. End Jeff Wheeler credited coordinator Clint Bowen's game plan against UTEP but also said Mangino has been helping by emphasizing hand work and getting up close with the linemen.

"It's a little intimidating sometimes," Wheeler said. "He gets us going. We want to do a good job for him every day. He gets on people sometimes."

The Kansas defense timed it well because it wasn't a star performance

by quarterback Todd Reesing. He played into the fourth quarter and completed 25 of 41 attempts for 260 yards passing with one TD and one interception. Those are respectable numbers, of course, but Reesing has raised expectations for his play and he was out of sync most of the night.

Fans back on the plains must have been concerned when Kansas led 3-0 in the second quarter.

Then the Jayhawks got on track, scoring 17 more points by the half. Tailback Jake Sharp, who finished with 104 yards rushing, ran for a 1-yard TD, caught a 5-yard scoring pass from Reesing and then added a 3-yard TD run midway through the third quarter.

The Jayhawks finished with 576 total yards and ran nearly twice as many plays as UTEP.

"We left a lot of points on the field," said receiver Dezmon Briscoe, who returned from a one-game suspension and had eight catches for 154 yards. "But for us to have a bad day on offense and still score 34 points, I feel like we still did all right."

The Jayhawks are looking to continue the momentum.

They're home for the next month, facing Duke next weekend, then Southern Mississippi, a bye week and Iowa State before their next road trip to Colorado on Oct. 17.

## Stephen F. Austin lights up scoreboard, blows out NAIA's Texas College 92-0

NACOGDOCHES, Texas (AP) — Thirteen touchdowns, a safety and a missed extra point — 92 points, and all for one team.

Stephen F. Austin overwhelmed NAIA school Texas College on Saturday as Lumberjack quarterbacks Jeremy Moses and Dalton Williams combined for 438 yards passing and eight touchdowns between them. SFA (1-1) overpowered the Steers (0-3) with four first-quarter touchdowns and didn't let up.

The score was 50-0 at the half and continued to climb.

SFA racked up 603 yards

of total offense and held Texas College to 92. The Lumberjacks recorded nine sacks and 14 tackles for losses and the Steers finished

with minus-29 yards rushing.

Stephen F. Austin offensive coordinator Shannon Dawson knows how the Texas College players must feel after watching their opponent run up a school record in points scored.

Dawson was on the 1999 Wingate University team that was on the losing end of the old record — a 73-11 shell-

lacking by the Lumberjacks.

"I know exactly what that team is feeling," he told The Daily Sen-

tinel newspaper in Nacodoches. "There was really nothing they could do about it."

Steers quarterback X'Zavier Bloodsaw completed 15 of 30 for 121 yards. And Texas College did put together an impressive drive on the first series of the game, but Cory Barlow ended the scoring chance with an interception at the 3-yard line.

Four plays later, Moses found Gralyn Crawford for a 65-yard scoring strike and the rout was on.

"I'm very proud of our execution and focus," said SFA coach J.C. Harper. "We've been preaching that since November. I was also happy with only having five penalties."

Moses finished the night a perfect 12-for-12 passing for 285 yards and tied a career-high with six touchdown passes. Williams completed 6 of 7 passes for 153 yards and two touchdowns.

SFA recorded 165 yards on the ground, led by Romonte Hampton, who carried the ball 10 times for 88 yards and three TDs.

Duane Brooks caught four passes for 146 yards and two scores. His 74-yard reception from Moses was a career-long for both players.

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## Del Potro routs Nadal for first Grand Slam final

NEW YORK (AP) — Rafael Nadal looked lost, swallowed up by the huge serves and crushing forehands coming at him from the 6-foot-6 opponent across the net.

That was Juan Martin del Potro, who made his first Grand Slam final, handing Nadal a 6-2, 6-2, 6-2 loss Sunday at the U.S. Open — the worst loss Rafa has suffered in a major tournament.

"I think this is the best moment of my life," del Potro said.

Nadal was dealing with a strained abdominal muscle, which

after the match he finally admitted was bothering him. The six-time Grand Slam champion also gave plenty of credit to del Potro, who deserved every bit of it.

"Just have to congratulate him," Nadal said.


The sixth-seeded Argentine — first from that country to make a U.S. Open final since Guillermo Vilas in 1977 — kept No. 3 Nadal pinned behind the baseline with a deep, flat forehand and a first serve he mixed at between speeds in the 90s to the 130s.

In the first set, Nadal put on his usual show, battling for every point, never giving in, even though it appeared he was being overpowered. The first four games took 27 minutes.

But he couldn't convert any of the five break points he had against del Potro's huge serve over the first 12 games. And there was no waiting out this storm, no hoping del Potro might weaken, the way he did earlier this year at the French, when he was leading Roger Federer 2 sets to 1 at his first Grand Slam semifinal.

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