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## Baucus health bill changes amid Dem concerns

By ERICA WERNER ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the Senate Finance Committee was revising his sweeping health care bill Monday to address serious concerns from fellow Democrats and a key Republican about insurance costs, part of his ongoing struggle to deliver on President Barack Obama's top domestic priority.

The changes came a day ahead of a committee session beginning Tuesday to amend and vote on the bill, which Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., hopes his panel will approve by the end of the week.

The 10-year, \$856 billion package would extend coverage to about 29 million Americans who lack it now and institute insurance market reforms, such as prohibiting higher premiums for women or the denial of coverage to sick people. It would make almost everyone buy insurance or pay a fee, give subsidies to the poor to help them buy coverage and create new online exchanges where small businesses and people without government or employer-provided insurance could shop for plans and compare prices.

Release of the bill last week gave a boost to Obama's. health care agenda after a summer of angry town hall meetings, though plenty of political and policy hurdles remain before Congress could send a bill to Obama's

In the days ahead, Baucus faces the difficult task of keeping his 13 committee Democrats on board without moving so far to the left that he alienates Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, the only one of the panel's 10 Repub-

licans seen as likely to vote for the bill.

Snowe's support could become even more critical presuming health overhaul legislation makes it to the Senate floor, as Democrats look for the 60 votes needed to advance the bill

Snowe and a number of Finance Committee Democrats have raised concerns about whether subsidies in Baucus' bill are generous enough to make insurance truly affordable for low-income people. There are also concerns about a new tax on high-value insurance plans, which some fear would hit middle-class workers even though Baucus is directing it at so-called "Cadillac" insurance plans that he says are enjoyed by a minority of U.S. workers.

Senators have offered a raft of amendments on both those issues and Baucus is incorporating some of the approaches in revised legislation he'll unveil at Tuesday's committee meeting. Details weren't final, but one possibility was to lower the maximum amount of income people could pay in premiums before becoming eligible for subsidies. It's now 13 percent. Another was to adjust the new insurance excise tax — now set to hit plans valued at \$21,000 for a family and \$8,000 for an individual — so that it's limited to even more expensive plans over time.

Baucus was set to meet with his committee's Democrats Monday evening to discuss and finalize the

Aides said the changes could add to the cost of the \$856 billion bill, but since the bill would raise about \$50 billion more than it spends over 10 years, there is some wiggle room.

# yler T breaks musical boundaries

By DANIEL CLAYTON STAFF WRITER

Tyler Thompson said he could do a lot of things with the didgeridoo.

"It's all in the lips and your voice,"

Thompson said he picked up the playing the didgeridoo from a friend and took lessons online.

In his band, Tyler T. and the Beasters, Thompson said he tries to incorporate drum machines, synth lines, loop pedals and the didgeridoo.

He said his music is a fusion of psychedelic, folk, grunge and electronica, and every time they play, it is a new experience.

"All music comes from the pulse of the universe," Thompson said. "We try to channel that in our shows.

He said he is working on his first solo album titled "Home Made, Home Grown," which should be complete by the beginning of next year.

On the album, Thompson said he has trumpet players, fiddlers, hand drums and banjo players. He said that "Home Made, Home Grown" will incorporate many new elements his fans haven't heard before.

"It's an evolutionary process, writing an album," Thompson said. "I try to let the people who play on my album add to the song in some way."

He said he usually performs as a solo artist and while he tours he just goes by "Tyler T."

As far as influences are concerned, Thompson said his vary from The Grateful Dead, Frank Zappa, Red Hot Chili Peppers to Nirvana.

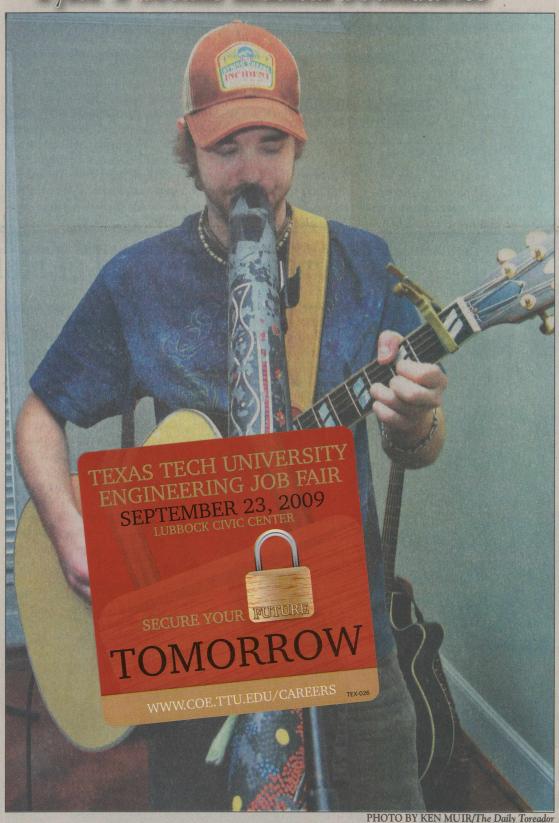
Thompson said he started touring after attending South Plains College with the band's bass player, Brain Thornton, for its commercial music program.

Thornton said he met Thompson in ninth grade and started a punk band with him.

"We started out as a punk band," Thornton said. "Then we were a rock band. Our music was always evolving to fit our interests."

Thompson said their diverse interests led them to create the unique sound they have today.

Thornton, a senior political sci- said. ence and history major at Texas Tech, college.



TYLER THOMPSON, WHO plays lead guitar and didgeridoo, practices with his band, Tyler T. and the Beasers, Friday at his house in Tech Terrace.

"Life is too short, so you have to do something big with it," Thornton said his grandmother bought him

Thompson said he was born in said he would love to do music after Lubbock but lived in the Houston area during elementary school.

When he moved back, Thompson a guitar. He had difficulty making friends, so he turned to music.

After taking a couple classes at SPC, Thornton said he transferred to Tech while Thompson stayed behind. Thompson said he got what he wanted out of the program and hit the road as a singer-songwriter.

DIDGERIDOO continued on page 3

## Climate chief: China to take global warming lead

By JOHN HEILPRIN ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED NATIONS (AP) -China's ambition to grow quickly but cleanly soon may vault it to "front-runner" status — far ahead of the United States — in taking on global warming, the U.N. climate chief said Monday.

China could steal the show by unveiling new plans Tuesday at a U.N. climate summit of 100 world leaders. India has also signaled that it wants to be an "active player" on climate change.

"China and India have announced very ambitious national

climate change plans. In the China takes the case of China, so ambitious that it could threat of climate well become change very the front-runner in the fight seriously and fully to address climate change," recognizes the U.N. climate urgency to take chief Yvo de Boer told The actions. Associated Press Monday. **SU WEI** "The big ques-

DIRECTOR OF THE CHINA CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT

tion mark is

The development would mark a dramatic turnabout. The United States, under former President George W. Bush's administration, long cited inaction by China and India as the reason for rejecting mandatory cuts in

the U.S."

greenhouse gases.

Tuesday's meeting is intended to rally momentum for crafting a new global climate pact at Copenhagen, Denmark, in December. Bush rejected the 1997 Kyoto Protocol for cutting global emissions of warming gases based on its impact on the U.S. economy and exclusion of major developing nations like China and India, both major polluters.

Su Wei, director of China's climate change department, pledged a "pro-active" approach to make Copenhagen a success.

"China takes the threat of climate change very seriously and fully recognizes the urgency to take actions," he said, flanked by top climate negotiators from the

U.S., India and Denmark at a news conference on Monday. "China will continue to play certainly an active and constructive role.'

Jairam Ramesh, India's environment minister, said his nation was also committed to reaching a global climate accord.

"India wants a deal at Copenhagen. And India is prepared to be an active player in working towards an agreement ... It is in our interests ... because we are very climate-vulnerable," Ramesh

Todd Stern, the top U.S. climate envoy, said the Obama administration also is moving "full

speed ahead" toward helping craft a deal.

But with Congress moving slowly on a measure to curb emissions, the United States could soon find itself with little influence when 120 countries convene in Copenhagen.

China and the U.S. together account for about 40 percent of all

the world's emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and other industrial warming gases.

At Tuesday's summit, Chinese President Hu Jintao is expected to lay out new plans that focus on extending China's energy-saving programs rather than committing to a cap on its greenhouse gases, at least not until the fast-growing nation reaches a higher level of development.

Experts say they expect as a first step that China will announce targets for reducing the "intensity" of its carbon pollution — not shrinking emissions overall, but reducing the carbon dioxide emitted per unit of economic growth.

For the past four years China has been cutting energy intensity and could include a new carbon intensity goal in a five-year plan for development until 2015. China already has said it is seeking to use 15 percent of its energy from renewable sources by 2020.

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### **WEATHER**



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New Home

## NBRIEF

### STATE

## Bomb scare in Laredo shuts down 3 city blocks

LAREDO (AP) - Authorities and taken away in a bomb consay a bomb scare in downtown Laredo shut down three city blocks while a suspicious object was removed from the courthouse.

Laredo Fire Department spokesman Eloy Vega said the area was being closed for several hours. Vega said the object was found at the Webb County Justice Center reopened shortly after 2 p.m.

Vega said he could not immediately provide more details about what was found.

The bomb scare began around 9:30 a.m. and shut down Laredo's reopened Monday afternoon after city hall and another county government building. Vega said the buildings and streets were

### NATION

### Toddler among 6 killed as storms drench Southeast

ATLANTA (AP) — A twoyear-old Georgia boy swept from his father's arms Monday was among six people killed by storms pounding the Southeast, and more rain was expected after the historic dumping that also forced drivers to scramble onto the roofs of cars on Atlanta's main artery.

The boy, Slade Crawford, was found downstream of his family's ruined mobile home, which was split apart around 2 a.m. by a surging creek, said Ed

Baskin, deputy coroner in Carroll County. The parents had been rescued as another son, age 1, clung to his mother's arms in the county southwest of Atlanta.

"By the time we got into our vehicle, they were screaming at the back of our house," said Pat Crawford, the boy's grandmother, who watched as the family's mobile home was whisked away. "We could see them, but the current was so bad, we couldn't get to them."

### WORLD

### Quake kills at least 11 in Bhutan, shakes India

GAUHATI, India (AP) — A 6.3-magnitude earthquake shook the remote mountain nation of Bhutan on Monday, killing at least 11 people, damaging an ancient monastery and forcing hundreds to flee, officials said. At least 15 people were also injured.

The afternoon earthquake was initially reported in Gauhati, the capital of India's northeastern Assam state, but it was centered in a little-populated phu, Bhutan's capital.

eastern region of the tiny nation of Bhutan.

Much of Bhutan, a Himalayan nation sandwiched between India and China, is sparsely populated, reachable only by walking paths and without electricity or telephones.

"We're trying to piece together information to assess the damage," Ugyen Tenzing, the country's director of disaster management said from Thim-

### **Corrections**

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

It is The DT's policy to correct mis-

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 e-

mail kevin.m.cullen@ttu.edu.

## Alumni honored during HSC School of Medicine 40th Anniversary dinner

By JASON HARTLINE STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Health Sci- in the Department ences Center Paul L. Foster School of Pathology, and of Medicine paid tribute to various Lorenz Lutherer, a faculty and prominent alumni dur- 1977 graduate and ing its 40th anniversary celebratory professor in the Dedinner by announcing several win-partment of Physiol-Award.

than 320 people in attendance.

anniversary to celebrate alumni, Internal Medicine. founding faculty and physicians," said Dr. Steven Berk, dean of the School of Medicine. "We also are commemorating the develop-40 years."

a 1995 graduate and associate professor

ners of the Distinguished Alumni ogy, were honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award. Lutherer has The Sept. 11 dinner had more served as a member of the SOM for more 37 years and is secondary faculty "We gathered on the 40th appointment in the Department of

"I came to the Texas Tech School of Medicine in 1972," said Lutherer. than 12,000 patients a year in 1980 ciation for a number of years. It is a he said. ment and progress over the last great tribute to receive an award that recognizes the people who have gradu-

Dr. Gail Demmler-Harrison, a 1977 graduate and professor of pediatrics and pathology at Baylor College of Medicine, also was a recipient of the award.

An exhibit will be placed in the library that exemplifies the various actions and events that shaped the history of the SOM.

'As dean of the school, I am proud of how far we have come in the past 40 years," Berk said. "We can now demonstrate the tremendous outcome of the school." The school went from seeing more

"I was president of the alumni asso- to more than 450,000 a year in 2008,

What started with 30 students, three of whom were women, now

ated and contributed to the school." educates about 140 students with an almost balanced male to female ratio, Berk said.

"I feel honored to come in after all the founding pioneers laid all the difficult ground work," he said. "They did an absolute amazing job getting the school started. I am proud to be a part of this tremendous accomplishment and having the opportunity to honor so many of the faculty that have been with us the entire 40 years."

According to the school's Web, site, the Tech HSC's medical school was created in the 61st Texas Legislature to address the need for more trained physicians in the West Texas area. The HSC hosts the medical school at the Amarillo, El Paso, Lubbock and Permian Basin campuses.

» jason.hartline@ttu.edu

## Kennedy successor bill nearing debate in Senate

setts could have a new U.S. senator likely have a narrow majority. by the end of the week.

The state Senate is expected to debate a bill Tuesday that would allow the governor to appoint an interim replacement for the U.S. Senate seat left vacant by the death of Edward Kennedy

> Republican lawmakers delayed debate again Monday after first post-

last month.

poning action on Friday, but said they don't anticipate objecting again — paving the way for a Tuesday debate and

Senate President Therese Murray, a Democrat,

also said she They're using all anticipated action on the bill on Tuesthe tools at their "They're disposal and they'll using all the tools at their be out of tools disposal and they'll be out tomorrow and we'll of tools tomorrow and have a healthy we'll have a healthy dedebate. bate," said Murray, who

THERESE MURRAY SENATE PRESIDENT

there were enough votes to pass it. If the Senate passes the bill, it will

require a final vote in both chambers

Wednesday before heading to Gov.

declined to

say whether

bill initial approval last week on a 95-58 vote. Patrick supports the measure and

could name an appointment as soon as he signs the bill. The appointee would serve until voters pick a permanent replacement during a Jan. 19 special election.

Patrick said Friday that President Barack Obama had personally talked to him about changing the law, and that White House aides were pushing for him to gain the appointment power amid debate on the administration's health care overhaul - in part so Democrats can regain a filibusterproof, 60-vote majority in the U.S.

Obama presidential counselor David Axelrod has also contacted Massachusetts officials and the Massachusetts branch of Obama's political arm, Organizing for America, has sent out e-mails advocating the change.

Republicans, vastly outnumbered in the Legislature, blamed the rush to change the law in part on pres-

BOSTON (AP) — Massachu- vote. They concede backers of the bill Deval Patrick. The House gave the sure from the White House and national Democratic leaders like Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid

> Republicans called the move hypocritical, noting that in 2004, Democrats changed the law to block then-Gov. Mitt Romney, a Republican, from naming a temporary replacement if Sen. John Kerry had won his presidential bid.

> They said Democratic leaders in Washington could delay the health care vote until after the special

> "It seems like it's a one-vote margin that they need and just to fool around and change the laws in Massachusetts to get an extra vote to be a rubber stamp, I think people can see through that," said Senate Republican leader Richard Tisei.

> Kennedy had urged the change in law in a letter sent to lawmakers shortly before his death from brain cancer, saying the state shouldn't be left with just one senator until a special election.

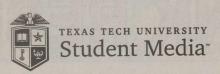
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## Ahmadinejad proud of Holocaust denial

president said Monday he is proud to nuclear program stoke international outrage with his program.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad takes the

Ahmadinejad has a reason to try to Oct. 1, Iran is to enter key negotia- the nuclear issue. And his every step tions with the United States and other will be dogged by Iranian exiles, who conservative supporters in Iran.

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's powers seeking concessions on Iran's plan protests over his government's

this week — showing he is as defiant enough enriched uranium to build a to appear. as ever while his country comes under bomb. Iran denies the accusations, greater pressure to curtail its nuclear saying it only aims to generate electricity.

world stage with a speech Wednesday firmly rejected demands it give up urato the U.N. General Assembly. He nium enrichment, a process that can ment human rights violations commitappears intent on showing he has produce either fuel for a nuclear reactor ted during the postelection turmoil. not been weakened by three months or a warhead. And it doesn't want the of turmoil at home, where the pro- talks to focus on the nuclear issue at all. the controversy. This will be his fifth reform opposition has staged dramatic But American and European officials appearance at the annual General protests claiming Ahmadinejad's vic- warn that if no progress is made in the Assembly since his first election in tory in June presidential elections was meetings, they will push for tougher U.N. sanctions against Iran.

postelection crackdown against the The U.S. and its allies suspect Iran opposition. Already, exiles have been latest remarks denying the Holocaust is secretly pursuing a nuclear weapon, lobbying New York hotels to reject as he heads for the United Nations warning that Tehran already has events where the Iranian president is

Human Rights Watch and the International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran on Monday called on the Heading into the talks, Iran has U.N. General Assembly to appoint a special envoy to investigate and docu-

But Ahmadinejad appears to relish 2005. In past years, he has used his U.N. visits to bolster his credentials In New York, Ahmadinejad is likely as a figure of resistance to Israel and present his government as strong: On to come under heavy pressure over American domination — an image that he believes plays well among his

Germans focused

on Afghanistan

DENVER (AP) — Counterterrorism officials are warning mass transit systems around the nation to step up patrols because of fears an Afghanistan-born immigrant under arrest in Colorado may have been plotting with others to detonate backpack bombs aboard New York City trains.

Investigators say Najibullah Zazi, a

24-year-old shuttle van driver at the Denver airport, played a direct role in a terror plot that unraveled during a trip to New York City around the

anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

He made his first court appearance

Monday and remained behind bars.

have not been charged with any

terrorism counts, only the relatively

minor offense of lying to the govern-

ment. But the case could grow to

include more serious charges as the

Zazi has publicly denied being

involved in a terror plot, and defense

lawyer Arthur Folsom dismissed as

Zazi and two other defendants



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"rumor" any notion that his client played a crucial role.

investigation proceeds.

Publicly, law enforcement officials have repeatedly said they are unaware of a specific time or target for any

PAGE 3 TUESDAY, SEPT. 22, 2009

## Buses to provide holiday transportion for students

By CARRIE THORNTON STAFF WRITER

For the first time, the Texas Tech Parents Association will provide three buses to transport students home for Thanksgiving break to the Dallas and Fort Worth area as well as Houston.

"Students can ride in style from Lubbock back to Houston and don't have to worry about a thing," said Dan Furnish, president of the greater West Houston Tech Parents Association.

All buses will take one uniformed route, making a stop in Arlington to allow students to stretch their legs, then continuing to Houston, Furnish said. Only one bus will stop in Dallas/ Fort Worth.

There are several benefits, Furnish said. Because of Lubbock's location, a considerable amount of students do not have transportation for short breaks.

He said Thanksgiving break is brief, and by the time students are finished with exams and have to load up their cars and drive home, it can be very draining.

"We decided to do this because of the cost of airfare between Lubbock and (the major cities) can be very expensive," Furnish said.

Parent chaperones will ride along on each bus to supervise, he said. Students can sign up for the bus trip on the Tech Parents Association Web site, and the three buses seat 165 people, 149 of whom have signed up.

this project is it's going to be able to connect students with friends and family," Ken Gassiot, associon the bus for a little bit longer, ate director of Parent and Family Relations. "(In other cases) they might not be able to go because transportation is too much and there is other safety concerns."

has worked with groups on camtransportation in the past to come. decide on what bus company to

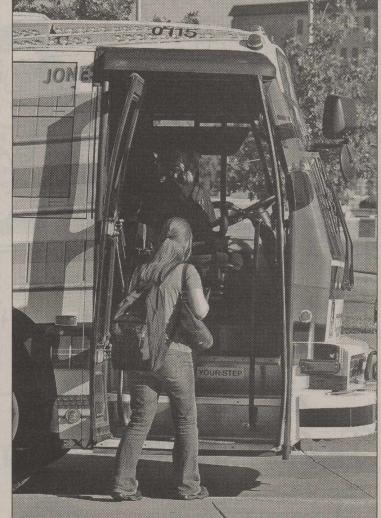


PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toreado THE TEXAS TECH Parents Association will provide busing for students during Thanksgiving break.

use. Based on price and experience with the university, King's Highway was chosen.

Riding the bus provides students with an inexpensive and "One of the great things about convenient way to travel home, Gassiot said.

"As far as travel time, you are but the payoff in the end is getting to see your family for less,"

The bus project has received overwhelming support from 29 from the Northwest Mall, Gassiot said his department parents and the Tech Parents Macy's parking lot, and pick up Association, he said, and will students in Arlington at 1 p.m. pus that have dealt with mass probably continue in years to at The Parks Mall Sears park-

ents Association Web site, each passenger is responsible for his or her own food and belongings and is allowed to bring a maximum of two bags.

The round trip cost is \$100, and the buses will depart from Lubbock at 8 a.m. Nov. 25 from the north side of the Student Union Building.

According to the Tech Parents Association Web site, buses will leave Houston 8 a.m. Nov.

According to the Tech Par- »carrie.thornton@ttu.edu

## 'Informant!' showcases Matt Damon at his heftiest

"The Informant!" tells the story of a man who spies on his company for the FBI because of their fraudulent business dealings that involve price fixing and dipping into the pockets of everyday people. This is obviously. significant for the current times with the federal bailout and the controversy that has followed.

The last film Matt Damon impressed me in was "The Departed" three years ago, but I since "Good Will Hunting," especially considering the hefty weight gain he went through for the role. Both the performances and the film itself reach out and for about 108 minutes.

Aaron **Nichols** 

are brought to the forefront in "The Informant!" and drive the film almost single-handedly.

Although the rest of the cast is consider his performance in his capable in their roles, they lack any latest film to be one of his best comedic presence and rely entirely on Damon to lead the way. This is one of the only flaws I found with who sees this movie will fall out of the film.

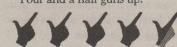
Many people see a movie and focus on the actors and the action. grab viewers and hold on tight. Many film buffs even recognize the work of certain directors. The I know most people get stuck thing that impressed me the most on the Jason Bourne series Da- in this film was neither the acting Nichols is The DT's theater mon has appeared in during the nor the direction but the writing. I decade, but his comedic talents found it to have a fresh script from

Scott Z. Burns, who also wrote the screenplay for "The Bourne Ultimatum."

The events unfold perfectly and the dialogue is both witty and intelligent without sacrificing the comedy. The funniest quality of the film is Damon's narration in which he speaks at a rapid pace, conveying his neurotic personality.

Though a comedy, this film is both dark and dry in nature. It is a thinking person's comedy and some things may be lost on those who expect to roll into the aisles from laughing too hard. Nobody their seat laughing, but they will be entertained nonetheless.

Four and a half guns up.



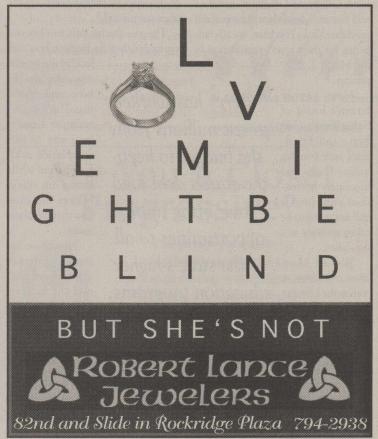
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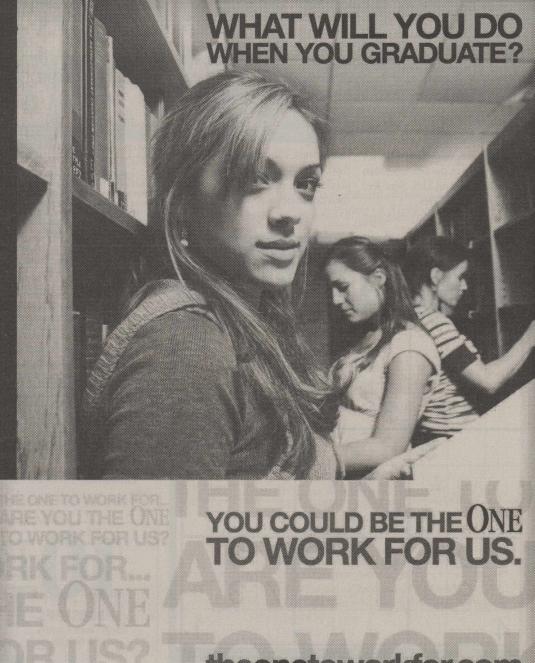
## Facebook set to end tracking tool

NEW YORK (AP) - Facebook is shutting down its muchmaligned Beacon marketing program, launched nearly two years ago amid fanfare only to generate a storm of privacy complaints over the tracking of user activities at partner Web sites.

Facebook agreed to end Beacon and create a foundation to promote online privacy, safety and security as part of a \$9.5 million settlement in a lawsuit over the program. A federal judge in San Jose, Calif., still must approve the terms.

Meanwhile, Facebook is teaming up with the Nielsen Co. to help advertisers grab the attention of the hordes that are spending more of their time at the Internet hangout.





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Didgeridoo ←

He played numerous shows in various venues around the Dallas area, and hear what they know. he said after touring Texas he began doing shows in the Midwest.

He said the music scene in Lubbock, customer reactions, and he wishes there >> danielkclayton@ttu.edu

isn't beneficial to artists with original

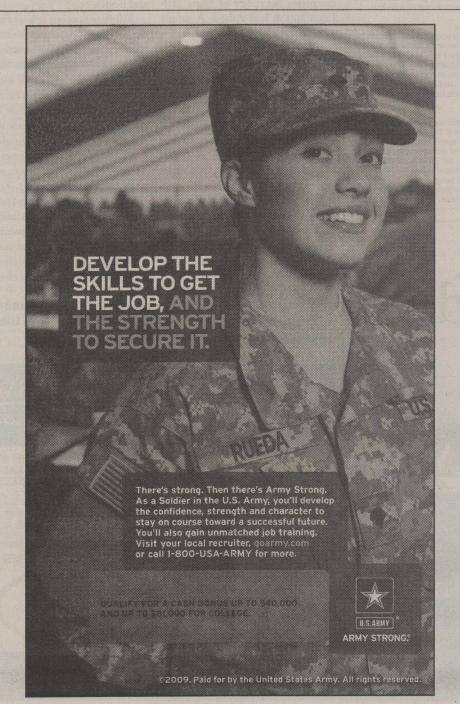
Thompson said it is risky playing original music because people want to

on the risk of original artists because of Friday at Ladiosa.

compared to other places he has been, was a place in Lubbock that catered to local artists and new content.

> "There isn't enough unity with the music scene here in Lubbock," Thompson said.

Thompson performs every Tuesday He said venues don't want to take at Shooters and his band is performing



# PINIONS

## Rick Perry should remain in his office

he Texas gubernatorial race is heating up, and we've got some old and new faces involved.

So far, the Republicans and Democrats have multiple candidates, each vying for their party's nomination. The plucky Libertarians have two and the lowly independents have one. All have serving Texas governor.

and Japan Tom Schieffer, 2006 Texas and former Independent gubernatorial other way around." candidate Kinky Friedman, are all competing for their party's nomination in tors to give their feedback on how they into the state every day. Texas was the March 2, 2010

primary. Most people haven't heard of Schieffer or Gilto cut millions from bert, and Friedthe budget to keep man, aside from his music, books and the state's debt load absolutely horrendous cigar line, is still not going to be taken seriously as a opportunities to all candidate. of the state's higher

We all know these candidates, as well as the Libertar- education programs, ians and the lone and he has tirelessly Independent, don't stand a snowball's chance in hell to become Texas governor, so this is the last time they'll be mentioned here.

Republican secessionist Larry Kilgore also is run-

not be part of Texas anymore."

Despite my disapproval of the current administration's abominable handling of the country's business, I have no interest in secession. Since Kilgore's not electable either, the race is between incumbent Perry and U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas.

Today's



quite a battle on their hands in trying Web site, it's quite clear they don't know Roger Staubach. to defeat Gov. Rick Perry, the longest- what issues the campaign wants to stress. The site has some vague quotes from promote a low-tax, pro-business state, The main Democrat front runners, Hutchison, such as, "On behalf of every which has made Texas the best place former U.S. Ambassador to Australia Texas taxpayer an effective, transparent and accountable state government Agriculture Commissioner candidate should be our first priority. Our elected other 49 states combined in 2008, has Hank Gilbert, and musician, humorist officials work for the tax payers not the been the best exporting state for seven

The area also has links to allow visi-

Perry has worked

low, bring more

promoted Texas to

bring in new

businesses and

residents.

completely non- Center. committal while

clearly known. She's office too long. organization. Perry was sworn in as Texas' 47th govsenator in 1993.

to advocating term limits for Texas gov-

ning, the same man who gave a speech ernor to two four-year terms. Funny how at a secession rally in Austin and said, "I she didn't mind staying in the senate for hate that flag up there. I hate the United 16 years, but takes umbrage at Perry's States government. ... The U.S. flag is nine years. Hutchison also hasn't been coming down from over Texas. It will able to give many reasons as to why she considers Perry's tenure too lengthy, other than she believes the position should be hers.

Her dedication is also questionable. Just recently, Hutchison missed a vote that's most likely important to the Republicans she expects to support her as their candidate for governor. She chose In perusing Hutchison's campaign to campaign instead of voting to deny

funds to the Association of Community Organizers for Reform Now, otherwise known as ACORN.

While her colleagues were working for their constituents to ensure taxpayer dollars wouldn't possibly be spent on brothels and the like, she attended a fund-raiser at the home of former Dallas Cowboys football player

Perry, however, has worked to to weather the economic downturn.

Texas created more jobs than all years in a row, and averages more than a thousand new residents moving feel on the generic named the best state for business and issue categories like job growth for the fourth consecutive taxes and educa- year by Chief Executive Magazine in tion. The Web site's March 2009, as well as rated among ambiguity seems to the most free states in the nation by be a way to stay George Mason University's Mercatus

Perry has worked to cut millions letting the visitors from the budget to keep the state's believe she cares debt load low, bring more opporhow they feel about tunities to all of the state's higher education programs, and he tirelessly Hutchison has has promoted Texas to bring in new made one stance businesses and residents. Hutchison can't even be torn away from a fundsaid she believes raiser to help ensure her constituents' Perry has been in dollars won't be spent on a corrupt

Hutchison's campaign slogan is "because Texas can do better." The ernor in December state is in such fine shape though, of 2000. Hutchison that Hutchison's campaign can't find was sworn in as a many issues to stand up for. We can most certainly do better than Hutchi-She's also taken son, and that's by re-electing Perry.

> ■ Shooter is a senior political science major from Lubbock. » cole.shooter@ttu.edu

DATEY TOREADOR

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## Texans should be proud of state

wo weeks ago I was in New York City visiting a friend of mine. While I was there, I met a number of people from around the world, each with a unique story that made them part of the American dream.

However, one day we were on the subway on the way back to my friend's house when a man and a woman who looked about our age Texas!" she said.

realized we were wearing nothing some of the same people. that said or indicated we were from Texas. But after pondering the statement for awhile I realized our look our appearance, expression and

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Letters must be no longer than 300 words and must include

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guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than

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Ken

demeanor — was distinctly Texan. Sure enough, the two kids, who came up to us. "You two are from turned out to be siblings, were both from El Paso. We talked for the rest We looked at each other and of our ride and, of course, we knew

> different from any other state in the largest state at more than 24 million union. There is something about residents, we are undoubtedly the

Texas that builds and is borderline There is something its residents' egos about Texas that our history. Texans alone fought builds its residents' and defeated the Mexicans and egos and is declared itself borderline cocky. an independent

country. In many respects, Texas his-

tory is just as rich in lore as United than any other state. The state is States history. Just last April, the home to the most diverse economy U.S. Department of State listed Texas as one of the 16 foreign ture, tourism, energy, technology countries Secretary of State Hillary Clinton had visited. A simple mistake or a Freudian slip?

alone. There are the dukes of the South, the freewheelers of the West, there are Texans. Texans can't be jobs in medicine and technology. contained to a geographical section of society; they don't fit into a niche and don't need to.

fellow Texans: friendly, laid back can diminish that claim. Many try to and unique. Yes, we face our own emulate our success, but few realize it stereotype — the gun-toting, boot- is our livelihood. Be proud you are a wearing, conservative cowboy but mostly, we recognize ourselves you better than everyone else. as the superior state. Even though we know we are better than the Jones is a sophomore peoples' faces. A couple of years >>> ben.jones@ttu.edu

ago, Travel & Leisure magazine ranked Texas as having some of the friendliest and best looking people in the entire world. I can't really say I disagree either.

When we see other Texans, we make note of it. Like my own experience in New York City, no matter if you are from Dallas, San Antonio, Houston or Lubbock, there is a conversation to be had. And inevitably, we have something in common — either someone we know, a school we attended, or an experience we've had. Six Degrees Texas, in its nature, is completely of Texas. While we remain the third

> tightest knit. It seems as though our camaraderie is pay ing off as well. With a gross state product of about \$1 trillion, Texas' economy is on par with Spain, Canada and Mexico. Texas is home to more Fortune 500

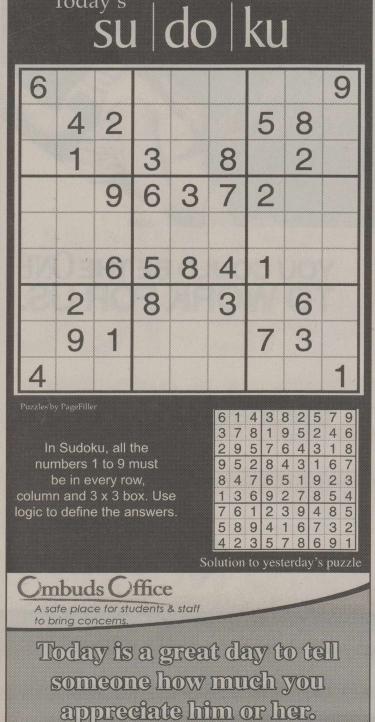
companies (58)

in the country, focusing on agriculand health care.

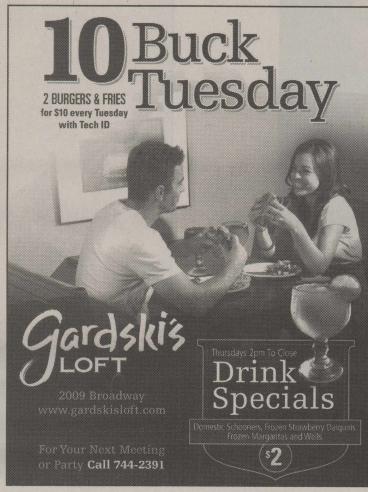
While Texas has felt its share of the recession like any other state, it Geographically, Texas stands has survived much of the storm and seems poised to regain its footing. The Economist magazine reported the yuppies of the Northeast, the just last month the Texas economic pioneers of the Midwest and the forecast was among the best in the hippies of the Northwest. Then, country with the emergence of new

When we think of ourselves as Texans, it holds much more weight than we can ever realize. Texas is Everywhere we go, we see our ingrained in us at birth and nothing Texan. Because frankly, that makes

other states, we don't rub it in other economics major from Lubbock.



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## Game brings scribbles to life 'Jennifer' sucks life out of audience

Have you ever been playing a game and thought to yourself, "Man, if only I had a ladder I could just climb up this cliff"? Or, "If only I had a can of bug spray, these bees would be no

The premise of "Sribblenauts" for the Nintendo DS is to make all of those "what ifs" a reality. And it works extremely well.

Although it has a rather cartoony, 2D look, "Scribblenauts" features one of the most complex and innovative gameplay mechanics in a long time. As the tagline says, "Write Anything. Solve Everything." To solve the game's puzzles and progress through its levels, simply type in a word or phrase and it's there.

When I say "anything" I really mean anything. The list of objects you can summon in the game exceeds 22,000. This includes commonplace items like a baseball bat or a car, but also lets your imagination run wild. Type in "chupacabra" and the mythical vampire creature appears. Type in sters, UFOs, time machines. I have "water park" and a water park is yours to place in the game world.

Anything goes, so long as it's not copyrighted, vulgar or a proper noun. Though there seem to be a few exceptions to the last one, as typing "Einstein" summons a white-haired scientist, but for the most part you can't type things like "Michael Jackson" and expect someone to bust onto the screen into two types of levels: puzzle and moon dancing.

The developers of the game obviously realized the potential for this to do. For example, one of the earlier



system as a straight-up toy rather than a game, and as such the title screen doubles as a playground for you to simply summon objects and see what

It may not be surprising this sandbox area provides some of the most fun you'll have with "Scribblenauts." I've literally spent hours seeing how objects and characters interact with each other. For example, I've found out Satan is afraid of churches, nihilists are afraid of God, and capitalists are afraid of communists.

I'm not joking. You can summon all of those things just to mess around: vampires, jet packs, swords, bras, gangyet to find a single object (that isn't a proper noun) not in the game.

So what is the game? I've spent a lot of time talking about the innovative writing mechanic, as that's really "Scribblenauts" main draw. However. there is also a very compelling puzzle game to be found here.

Gameplay essentially is divided action. In the puzzle levels, you are given a task with a hint about what

puzzles simply says, "Reunite the cat with the girl," and shows you a cat on a roof. Now, how are you going to solve the puzzle?

If you're thinking simply, you can just summon a ladder, climb onto the roof and grab the cat. But there are far more interesting solutions to the puzzle. If you set the house on fire, for instance, the cat leaps off out of fear. If you summon a fireman, stereotypes run their course and the cat jumps safely into the fireman's arms. Each of these and more is considered a perfectly acceptable way of solving the puzzle.

It really brings new meaning to the idea of playing a game your way, with no set boundaries.

The action levels work in pretty much the same way as the puzzles, except your only objective is to obtain an object known as a "starite." How you get to said object is entirely up to you, and may require some thinking.

"Scribblenauts" has sort of come out of left field and surprised a lot of people, myself included. It wasn't even on my radar until recently. But the innovative game mechanic and unbelievable amount of in-game objects is simply astounding to see.

If you have a DS, I implore you to at least give "Scribblenauts" a try. The puzzle gameplay may not be for you, but summoning random objects can be a blast in and of itself.

■ Peele is The DT's opinions

» britton.peele@ttu.edu

The opening line of "Jennifer's Body" sets up the tone of the entire film and unwittingly, the entire experience for the audience: "Hell is a teenage girl."

A more appropriate remark would be something like, "Hell is the next hour and a half." Or, "Hell is the majority of the acting in this thing.'

In "Jennifer's Body," Jennifer Check, played by Megan Fox, is the girl at school adored for her beauty and style by the girls and her body and sexuality by the

Her best I'm sure the folks friend is Anita "Needy" Lewho produced it snicky (Amanda Seyfried, one of thought the script the few bright spots), who is was dynamite the exact opposite of Jenand would kill as nifer in every a major film. way, shape and form, making their friendship

eryone in school and everyone in the audience.

The "besties" go to the only bar in town to check out an indie band coming through, but the fates that evening conspire against them.

It turns out the indie band is evil and desperate for fame, and through some miscommunica-

**Matthews** 

tion, a fire and some satanic rituals, Jennifer is turned into a demon, unbeknownst to all. Needy begins noticing the changes in her friend and starts to uncover what Jennifer has become and in many ways, has always been. The

film digresses from there. Diablo Cody, the writer of "Juno," offers up another unique script here; the situations

are satirical in

some instances,

the dialogue is

witty and the

horror aims for legitimate goose bizarre and unexplained to ev- bumps. In theory, the whole thing sounds brilliant. I'm sure the folks who produced it thought the script was dynamite

> and would kill as a major film. In all honesty, I would probably have been thinking the same thing, and in some warped alternate reality, maybe this theory would come into effect and "Jennifer's Body" would

be a well thought out, expertly executed piece of cinema, but we're not in a warped reality (to my knowledge) and this isn't the case with this film, either.

Fox, I'll admit, is easy on the eyes, but her utter lack of acting skills and dry and uninspired delivery of smart and well-written lines just annihilates the beat and tone the film is going for.

The same can be said for legitimate portions of the cast. The exception in this case is Seyfried, who is a shining beacon of light in what could have been (and probably was supposed to be) a simple stock-character

She is able to manipulate her portrayal of Needy by giving her character more heart and more soul in the relationships crashing all around her; whether it be with the virtually untouched tension between her and her mother or with her earnest yet horny boyfriend.

The only other bright spot worth mentioning would be the cinematography which is brilliant and an utter joy in a despicable circumstance.



## » jacob.matthews@ttu.edu

## Researchers: Daily dose of aspirin cuts colon cancer risk in half

LONDON (AP) — People with a a genetic mutation that makes them the effect is continuing," he said in a genetic susceptibility to colon cancer vulnerable to cancers in the colon, could cut their chances of developing the disease in half by taking a daily dose of aspirin, researchers said Monday.

The finding might lead to other treatments by helping researchers understand how aspirin combats colon cancer, one of the top three cancers in rich countries.

Though aspirin has been used widely for years to treat minor aches and to alleviate fevers, it can irritate the stomach and intestines and cause major bleed-

European researchers followed more

rectum, stomach, brain, liver, womb and elsewhere. The syndrome accounts for about 5 percent of all colon cancers.

About half of the study participants were given 600 milligrams, or two aspirin pills daily, while the other half got placebo pills for about four years.

In the group that got aspirin, six people developed colon cancer, versus 16 in the group that got placebos. "We are delighted," said John Burn of Newcastle University in Britain, who led the study.

"All the more so because we stopped than 1,000 people with Lynch syndrome, giving the aspirin after four years, yet

Burn presented the study results Monday in Berlin at a joint meeting of the European Cancer Organization and the European Society for Medical

Experts said the finding would have no immediate impact on the general

"This doesn't mean that everyone should start taking aspirin if they're worried about bowel cancer," said Henry Snowcroft of Cancer Research United

"Aspirin can cause significant side

effects if not used as directed by a doctor," Snowcroft said.

Previous studies have found patients who already have colon cancer and are being treated with chemotherapy and surgery may further reduce their risk of dying by up to 30 percent by taking aspirin. The cheap drug is also taken by millions of people worldwide to prevent heart attacks and strokes.

"If this is true, doctors should change how they treat their at-risk patients," said Alfred Neugut, of Columbia University Medical Center in New York, who has done similar work but was not involved

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La Ventana is a publication produced by Student Media, a department in the Division of Student Affairs at Texas Tech University.

## Patchwork defense allows players to show versatility

By ALEX YBARRA MANAGING EDITOR

the Longhorns and Red Raid- certain packages. ers would learn plenty about night.

Tech coaches and players may they expected.

That's partly because Mike before the battle even started.

Ra'Jon Henley, Brandon Sharpe, game. Rvan Haliburton and starting safety Franklin Mitchem out for the game, an all-hands-on-deck approach was in order. On the defensive line, Tech only had one scholarship player ready to go at defensive end.

And aside from pulling out a to me." win, it probably couldn't have worked out any better.

"I've never been a part of a game like that," said cornerback Brent Nickerson, who saw action at safety. "But what that shows me is we have a lot of soldiers and warbring McCoy to the ground. riors on our defense. Guys that are willing to do anything for a win."

linebacker Bront Bird, defensive NFL player," said Jones, who the fourth quarter he picked tackle Richard Jones, walk-on didn't know he'd play end until off McCoy after a high throw safety Brett Dewhurst and de- Friday. "It was just amazing, like fensive end Daniel Howard, to I was in shock. I couldn't believe

pass deflection, eight tackles powerful man." and three tackles for loss, helped

hurst took over for Mitchem in while jumping back and forth bethe secondary.

With only two nonconfer- had one of two interceptions new for Bird, who starred at wide ence games against lesser foes thrown by quarterback Colt Mc- receiver and safety for Permian under their belts, it was obvious Coy, and Will Ford saw time in High School in Odessa during

"You had a lot of other guys their respective teams Saturday playing roles in different po- Leach said. "I think really inspisitions than what they had," But even in a 34-24 loss, Texas Nickerson said. "But if you were be honest with you, I don't think watching it, you wouldn't even there was a guy between both have found out much more than be able to tell. That's how in tune teams that played any harder our defense is."

Howard, a regular starter, may Leach's pirate ship was sinking have only come away with one money. The junior walk-on from With defensive linemen offensive line for the entire ished with five tackles, delivering

> "He flies to the ball," Jones said of Howard. "He does it all. getting rattled by the circum-There's not one bad thing I can stances. He was getting his first say about DH, except he talks start in a nationally-televised game a lot of trash though. That's it. against in-state rival Texas in front Other than that, he's a great of 101,297 screaming fans. player. I love having him next

> wouldn't have sacked McCoy in confidence in myself. I practice the first quarter had it not been for the way I play. It happened to Howard, whose outstretched arms bought Jones some time to beat everything, but I didn't think of left tackle Adam Ulatoski and

McCoy especially - maybe a graduate from Austin who had Those guys were strong-side future Heisman winner, future family at the game. Early in that I actually just beat a tackle Bird, who finished with a on a speed rush, I'm more like a son said. "He was kind of put in a

tween linebacker and defensive Freshmen D.J. Johnson, who end. Moving around is nothing his senior year.

"Very versatile, very smart," rational to all sides of the ball. I'll than Bront Bird."

Dewhurst gave Bird a run for his tackle, but he disrupted Texas' Klein High School in Spring finseveral powerful blows.

Dewhurst showed poise, not

"I didn't think of it as the No. 2 team," he said. "I just think Jones went on to say he of it as another game. I have be Texas, conference game and it like that."

Neither did defensive back "It felt good to sack Colt D.J. Johnson, a St. Stephen's was tipped by receiver Malcolm Williams.

"I was elated for him," Nicker- down." tough position, being a freshman Jones fill the void at end. Dew- versatility than Bird, who thrived Texas. He did a really great job proud he was that his players kid — you pick up the flag," >>> daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreadon

TEXAS QUARTERBACK COLT McCoy is tackled by Texas Tech linebacker Bront Bird during Texas' 34-24 victory against the Red Raiders Saturday at Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium in Austin.

After the game, Tech defen-Perhaps no one showed more out there playing corner against used an analogy to sum up how an army brat as well as a coach's the flags up."

out there holding the corner spot didn't point to being shorthand- he said. "When somebody goes ed as an excuse.

down in front of you in war, the "Any time you have adversity next guy picks the flag up. I was sive coordinator Ruffin McNeill or somebody goes down — I'm proud of the way the guys picked

## Beasley back with Heat after rehab

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

MIAMI (AP) - Michael Beasley Spoelstra said. "We're 100 perrejoined his Miami Heat teammates cent behind him. We've invested Monday following a monthlong stay in him, not just financially but in a rehabilitation facility to address emotionally. We've spent a great

offseason workout and quickly drew the court but also off the court. rave reviews from coaches, many of He's ready. He was excited to be whom were able to visit and work back here. with him during the rehab stint. Heat coach Erik Spoelstra person- sas State for one season before ally saw Beasley three times in the jumping to the NBA, was not past month, and someone from the available for comment Monday. Heat staff was with the second-year forward daily.

the family, bring him back in here," privacy concerns.

1 Bergen's dummy Mortimer 6 Letter after pi 9 Preschool

ssons

substance abuse and other issues. deal of time with him this sum-Beasley took part in a voluntary mer, trying to develop him on

Beasley, who starred at Kan-

"We want to bring him back to and people close to Beasley citing

No specifics of his treatment have been offered, with both the Heat

## Buckner turning into big playmaker at receiver for Longhorns

AUSTIN (AP) — Every Big 12 pass-catch combo for No. 2 Texas.

Their latest worry is Dan Buckner, st two weeks. His fourth-quarter touch-

At 6-foot-4, 220 pounds, Buckner has moved from wide receiver to what Texas calls its "flex" position lined up closer the ball. Shipley occupied a similar spot last season and caught 89 passes for 1,060 yards.

The move means Buckner is often matched up against linebackers or safeties speed to outrun linebackers, the height

defense knows Colt McCoy to Jordan second half" against Texas Tech, McCoy of the field for an easy TD. Shipley is practically unstoppable as a said. "I kind of felt like Dan was going to have a big game."

Buckner was an All-American wide down against Texas Tech helped put the receiver in high school. He played in 12 game away in a 34-24 victory over the games as a freshman last season but had

only eight catches. practice, then saw his role expand as the Longhorns lost four tight ends to injury. Buckner said making the move was about getting a chance to play.

"It gets me on the field," Buckner said. "I just want to play, contribute and win

After five catches in the season-opener instead of speedy cornerbacks. He's got the against Louisiana-Monroe, he had six for 86 yards and a touchdown against Wyo- the fourth quarter. to outjump safeties and the strength to ming. The score against Wyoming came as McCoy scrambled to his left to avoid a causing a fumble that set up Buckner's in his helmet," Kindle said.

"We took advantage of that in the rush, then found Buckner in the middle touchdown. Kindle appeared to make

20-yard pass to the Red Raiders' 1 to set up with a personal foul. Shipley still leads the Longhorns with Texas' second touchdown. By the fourth Longhorns with two touchdowns in the second with 17 receptions for 223 yards. ing so well that McCoy told coach Mack called it "a great hit." play to Buckner.

He moved to the flex spot in spring Longhorns a 14-point cushion with nine suggesting the play had been cleared by minutes to play.

> "Colt really suggested to throw to Dan because he trusts him so much."

ordinator Will Muschamp defended the hit defensive end Sergio Kindle made on Texas Tech quarterback Taylor Potts in the chest and any helmet contact was inci-

The sack knocked off Potts' helmet,

helmet-to-helmet contact, raising ques-Against Texas Tech, Bucker caught a tions whether he should have penalized

"It's a bang-bang play. It's a judgment who has emerged as a big target for the 26 catches for 314 yards and Buckner is quarter, McCoy and Buckner were click-call for an official," said Muschamp, who

The Big 12 reviews all h helmet hits and can suspend a player if Buckner got open in the back of the it deems necessary. The conference anend zone and the 3-yard TD gave the nounced no discipline by late Monday, league officials.

"It's about as helmet to helmet as you could get," Texas Tech coach Mike Leach said. "There's a lot of blind people Also Monday, Texas defensive co-that can tell by hearing that it was helmet

> Kindle said his facemask hit Potts in dental. Kindle called it "a perfect shot."

"I didn't intentionally try to hit him

## Houston Astros fire manager Cecil Cooper, Dave Clark named interim

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston aspects of our situation," Wade said. the National League. Arizona disdisappointing season.

home against St. Louis.

General manager Ed Wade said end of the season. He added that more changes could be coming for a franchise just four years removed from its only under Garner between 2005-07. World Series appearance.

Third-base coach Dave Clark was it. The issue we had to address here, on July 13. named interim manager. The Astros in the short term, was the managerial

the change couldn't wait until the on Aug. 27, 2007, to replace Phil Garner. Houston went 171-170 under Cooper, who was the bench coach

Cooper became the fourth manager

Astros fired manager Cecil Cooper on "At the end of the day, we're going to missed Bob Melvin on May 7, Colo-Monday with 13 games left in another try to address those off-field issues that rado replaced Clint Hurdle on May exist. We're not walking away from 29 and Washington fired Manny Acta

Wade said Clark would be considwere 70-79 headed into Monday's issue and that's why we moved forward ered a candidate during the search for a new manager. Cooper did not answer The 59-year-old Cooper was hired calls to his cell phone and his voicemail

and president of baseball operations Tal Smith met with Cooper in his

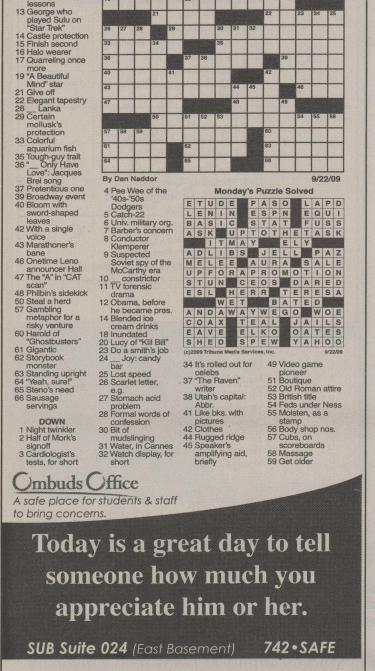
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While Cooper took the blame, he could not be blamed for all the Astros' shortcomings in 2009.

A number of offseason moves fizzled and All-Star first baseman Lance Berkman and pitching ace Roy Oswalt have had subpar seasons.

"It stinks when you know that your performance, that you're responsible for somebody else's job security," Berkman Wade, owner Drayton McLane said. "Say what you want, we didn't get it done on the field. The players have to take the full responsibility. Coop never office on Monday afternoon to give threw a pitch or batted with runners in scoring position."







## Baseball makes first stride towards 2010

STAFF WRITER

The last day of summer ushered in the first day of organized scrimmaging for the 2010 Texas Tech baseball team.

Tech began fall ball practice Monday and Tech coach Dan Spencer is excited to see his team on the field in a competitive environment for the first time since making the Big 12 Conference Tournament last season.

"I think I'm just looking forward to seeing our guys play," he said. "It's the closest thing to a game environment we can create. We've done some small group stuff and we've seen them in the weight room, but we haven't thrown a pitch at a batter and a batter hasn't had an at bat so I'm excited for that."

Fall baseball offers the Tech coaching staff a chance to evaluate returning players' progress from the end of last season, while also allowing incoming recruits an early opportunity to show what they can do. The fall practice schedule concludes with the annual Red & Black Series Oct. 25 to 29 at Dan Law Field.

Spencer, in his second year at the helms of the Red Raider program, successincluding all five commits who were of fall practice on Monday at Dan Law Field. drafted in the 2009 Major League Baseball Draft. Those recruits drafted were Jay to sign me.' The kids we got this year Johnson, Brett Bruening, Bobby Doran, stuck with their number and a lot of the Stephen Hagen and Brandon Petite.

Spencer said landing recruits who asking price)." have been drafted comes down to the be more comfortable playing on.

"There's some luck involved. The biggest decided to stick with his commitment to thing when you're dealing with kids is the the Red Raiders rather than pursue his kid says, 'Hey, it's going to take \$200,000 dreams in the pros — at least for now.



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

fully reeled in 19 new recruits to Lubbock TEXAS TECH INFIELDER Barrett Barnes tags infielder Stephen Hagen in the Red Raiders' first scrimmage

times kids will settle for less (than their

Pitcher Jay Johnson, expected to be player's mindset on what level they would one of the top prospects from Canada in the 2010 draft class, was drafted by the "It's really a crap shoot," Spencer said. Baltimore Orioles in the 25th round and

"I just wanted to come down here and play ball for coach Spencer and coach Gustafson," said Johnson, a transfer from the Prarie Baseball Academy in Alberta, Canada. "I decided it was a better opportunity for myself and to hopefully help this team win. Playing against these guys every day is going to make you better."

While newcomers are interested in getting noticed by the coaching staff, the upperclassmen are interested in develop-

ing into better players and creating team

be a great experience to see how these

Tech is coming off a successful 2009 season, making the conference tournament for the first time since 2006 at trip to the tournament and a better record

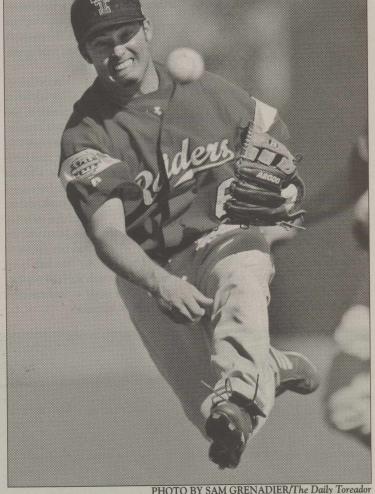


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

"It feels great to be back with my team TEXAS TECH INFIELDER Joey Kenworthy throws on the move during and to see all the new faces is going to the Red Raiders' scrimmage on Monday at Dan Law Field.

new guys compete with us and what 25-32. Even with the sub-.500 record, they bring to the table," pitcher Chad the Red Raiders almost played their way to the conference championship game in last year's Big 12 Tournament.

The baseball squad expects a return and get the regionals."

with the new talent in addition to 22 returning players.

"We set our goal there last year," Bettis said. "Now we need to beat it this year

## Tech soccer star Harrison done for season with ACL injury

By MIKE GRAHAM STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech soccer senior forward Brittney Harrison's season is over and future college career in question after suffering a knee injury Friday night in a 2-1 double overtime loss to Alabama.

Alabama defender Grace Lawson tackled Harrison from behind as she was attempting a breakaway shot attempt. It officially was announced Monday via a Tech Athletic Department press release Harrison will miss the remainder of the 2009 season with a "knee injury."

"(Harrison) has easily been the most dangerous player we've had," coach Tom Stone said. "She's made an outstanding contribution to our program, and we will miss her."

Team spokesperson Matt Dowdy said the specific injury is a torn anterior cruciate ligament.

Stone said as of Monday evening

it was unknown what Harrison's rehabilitation will entail.

Unfortunately for both Harrison and the Red Raiders, this could be the end of the forward's collegiate career. Stone said she may have played too much — eight games — this season to be considered for a medical redshirt from the NCAA.

We have not even talked about that," he said. "At this point, we think we've passed that point. The NCAA would have to make an exception for her to be granted a redshirt."

Harrison exits the season with five goals and an assist through seven ete games and 11 minutes of the Alabama match. As far as her career is concerned, Harrison is among some of the best Tech soccer players in the program's history, ranking fourth alltime in points and goals.

She also is tied for sixth in assists and second in career game-winning goals with 10.

Harrison netted all of Tech's michael.graham@ttu.edu

game-winning goals in the team's four wins this season prior to her injury.

However, Tech defeated Weber State 2-1 on Sunday without Harrison. Midfielder Conner Williams showed flashes of the breakaway speed Harrison had while Dawn Ward netted the game-winner.

For as much as Harrison and the team might suffer from the ill-advised tackle, Alabama's Lawson was only issued a yellow card — something Stone said did not fit the offense.

"Technically speaking, if you have a bad foul from behind you're supposed to be ejected, even if it's an accident," Stone said on Sunday after the win against Weber State. "We would never encourage a player to do that, because it's illegal. We wouldn't coach to do that, and Alabama wasn't coaching their kid to do it either. But it's the most dangerous foul in our it's punished."



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador sport and that's why most of the time TEXAS TECH'S BRITTNEY Harrison suffered a season-ending leg injury against Alabama on Friday.

## Shawn Marion glad to be Kidd's teammate again

DALLAS (AP) - Shawn Marion had it easy when he broke into the NBA. All he had to do was grab comers Drew Gooden, Tim Thomas

were last together in Phoenix and video boards. a lot has changed. Marion has Fame resume.

reunited as part of a new Dallas Suns success.

"You will see it," Marion said. Kidd, Marion and fellow new-

rebounds for Jason Kidd to start fast and Quinton Ross were introduced breaks, then hustle to the other rim on their new home court Monday as to try finishing off those quick scorpart of a news conference/fan event that also included the unveiling of a It's been eight years since they new alternate uniform and upgraded

Most of the talk was about all the gone from rookie to All-Star to different lineup combinations, with journeyman, while Kidd has gone Gooden joking about coming into the from All-Star in his prime to elder league as a small forward but now being esman polishing off a Hall of viewed as a center. Marion, of course, is nicknamed "The Matrix" because of Now they're teammates again, how many roles he can play.

"Shawn makes the game so easy, Mavericks lineup built around ver- especially above the rim, he gets satile 30-somethings seeking their easy baskets," Kidd said. "He can get first championship. The master out there and defend (point guards) plan would get a big boost if Kidd through (centers). He's a great teamand Marion can rekindle their old mate in the locker room, so I'm glad to have him by my side."

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## **Both Obamas could attend Olympics vote**

WASHINGTON (AP) — As Michelle Obama prepares to make a highly personal appeal in Denmark on behalf of Chicago's bid to host the 2016 Summer Olympics, the White House is leaving open the possibility that President and make arrangements for accommo-

Barack Obama will make a last minute decision to join her.

Who better than Though the Michelle Obama president has said the health to represent our care debate keeps country right now? him from committing to attend the International **VALERIE JARRETT** Olympic Com-SENIOR ADVISOR mittee's Oct. 2 TO THE PRESIDENT meeting in Copenhagen, an ad-

ministration official said an advance team traveled there Monday to make preparations should the president's schedule open up.

The official spoke on condition of

anonymity because a decision on the

An advance team always travels ahead of the president to assess security

dations, even for trips the president doesn't end up tak-

Valerie Jarrett, a senior adviser to the president, said a trip to Copenhagen is not currently on the president's schedule. Chicago backers have urged the president to attend the meeting, but Jarrett said the bid committee is

thrilled to have the first lady - a Chicago native with sky-high popularity around the world - lead the city's 300-member delegation.

"Who better than Michelle Obama president's travel plans has not been to represent our country right now?" Jarrett asked.

> Jarrett, a former vice chair of the Chicago 2016 bid committee and head of the White House Office on Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Sport, also will travel to Copenhagen. She met with the first lady and her staff last week to develop a strategy for the home stretch.

Jarrett said Mrs. Obama's presentation to the IOC will be "very personal," and will draw on her experiences growing up on the city's South Side and later raising a family in a home that is within walking distance of some of the proposed Olympic venues.

During an Olympics rally at the White House last week, the first lady said she feels "deeply honored" to be able to make the case for her hometown in Copenhagen.

"I know that Barack and I would feel such tremendous pride to see the Olympic torch burning brightly in the city that we love so much," she said.

## Coach cleared in player's death resumes teaching

former Kentucky high school football coach acquitted last week in the death of a player was cleared Monday to return to the classroom as a technical teacher and apply for coaching positions.

David Jason Stinson, 37, can resume teaching at Pleasure Ridge Park High School on Thursday, Jefferson County Public Schools spokeswoman Lauren

Roberts said Stinson met Monday with school district officials, including Superintendent Sheldon Berman. After that, officials decided to allow Stinson to return to the school where he was teaching and coaching when he was indicted. Stinson also received a letter saying he could apply for coaching jobs.

"You are welcome to apply for positions of your choosing," employee relations director Caroline Meredith wrote in the letter released Monday. "We wish you well as you continue your career."

A jury last week deliberated less than 90 minutes before finding Stinson not

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A guilty of reckless homicide and wanton endangerment charges stemming from the collapse and death of 15-year-old sophomore offensive lineman Max

Gilpin became ill and fell at the end of practice on Aug. 20, 2008. He died three days later at a Louisville hospital of heat stroke, sepsis and multiple organ failure. A grand jury indicted Stinson

Prosecutors said Stinson ran the players to the point of abuse, causing Gilpin's death. However, Stinson's attorneys said that the practice wasn't unusual and that multiple factors contributed to Gilpin's death.

A message left for Todd Thompson, the attorney for Gilpin's mother, Michele Crockett, was not immediately returned

Brian Butler, one of Stinson's attorneys, said Stinson wants to coach again. In a statement on the Web site www. supportourstinson.com, Stinson and his wife, Monica, thanked supporters for

their prayers during the trial.

"Your support did not put a teacher back in the classroom and a coach on the football field," the statement said. "What it did do is put a Jesus-loving teacher and coach back where he belongs and that is making a difference in the lives of our

students." Rodney Daugherty, a friend of Stinson's who runs the Web site, said Stinson may meet with school officials about coaching this season.

"He doesn't need to be a head coach," Daugherty said. "If he can help this football team by calling plays from the press box, that's what he'll do."

In July, Berman said Stinson would be allowed to teach and coach if he were acquitted. Berman also said Stinson used poor motivational techniques in handling the players the day Gilpin collapsed.

Crockett and her ex-husband, Jeff Gilpin, have sued Stinson and other school officials over the death. That case is set for trial in February.

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## Mayfield might see doctors soon

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — NASCAR asked a federal judge Monday to order a mental and physical examination on suspended driver Jeremy Mayfield to determine if he has a substance-abuse problem and/or attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder.

The filing in U.S. District Court includes three affidavits and one deposition from four different people who claim to have witnessed Mayfield using methamphetamines multiple times since 1999.

The deposition is from former brother-in-law David Keith, who testified he witnessed Mayfield snort methamphetamine in his house. garage and car from 1998 through 2000. The deposition was taken Aug. 19, with attorneys for NA-SCAR and Mayfield in attendance, and Keith testified the drivers' drug use escalated to daily usage.

NASCAR suspended Mayfield for failing a random drug test collected May 1 and said he twice tested positive for methamphetamines. Mayfield has denied using the illegal drug.

He is now suing NASCAR, alleging his positive test result from May 1 came from the mix of the prescription drug Adderall for ADHD and the allergy medication Claritin-D.

NASCAR asked U.S. District Judge Graham Mullen to order Mayfield to report for a psychiatric, neuropsychological and physical examination in November. NASCAR selected the physicians it wants to examine Mayfield.

## Texans looking to stop inconsistency

HOUSTON (AP) — Coach Gary Kubiak celebrated Houston's bounceback win over the Tennessee Titans with his team this weekend.

On Monday. jubilation was replaced with reality as Kubiak discussed Houston's pathetic running game and porous run defense. Houston is averaging 50.5 yards rushing a game and allowing 215.

"We're very realistic," Kubiak said. "You sit here and watch the film today and we understand our problems. And these statistics don't lie. So I think our guys are very humbled by what's going on and know the issues that we have and understand that we can be pretty darn good or pretty darn average."

He also knows that Maurice Jones-Drew, who'll visit on Sunday with the Jacksonville Jaguars (0-2), must be "licking his chops" at the prospect of facing this defense.

"I would think he's pretty excited with the yards we've been giving up on the ground," Kubiak said. "Like I told the guys today, 'It doesn't stop. The backs will keep coming and they'll keep trying to run the football on you until we stand up and get it stopped."

The Texans (1-1) believe their run defense can be fixed and that they have the right people to be successful. The Titans' Chris Johnson gained 148 of his 197 yards rushing on two plays on Sunday.

Steve Slaton must improve for Houston's running game to get going. He rushed for a franchise-record 1,282 yards last season, but has struggled so far this season. Kubiak believes he can run better, but is most concerned about

his fumbles. The second-year player's three fumbles this season match his total from last season.