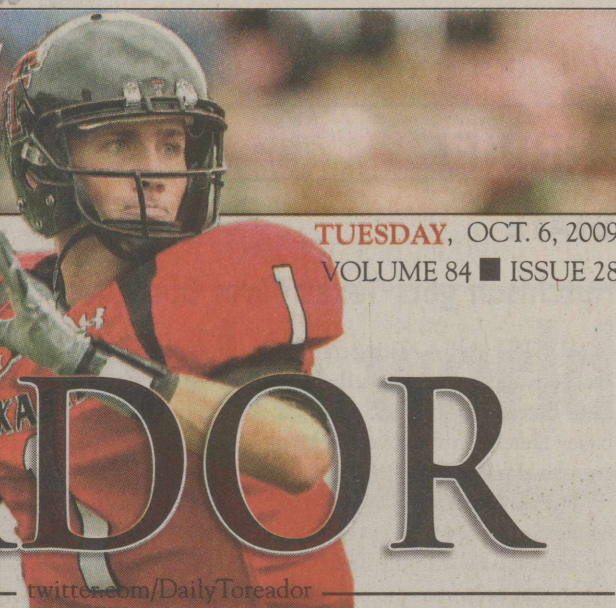




Color guard
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Players ready to rally
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TUESDAY, OCT. 6, 2009
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THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

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Burglaries up for third consecutive year at Tech

By ALLYSON SCHELL
STAFF WRITER

Increasing burglary numbers from 2006 to 2008 have prompted the Texas Tech Police Department to seek new ways to catch thieves on campus.

Burglary numbers for Tech are up to 24 for 2008 from 19 in 2007 and 16 for 2006, according to the Jeanne Clery Campus Crime Report, released Oct. 1 for 2008.

The reason for this jump, Tech

Crime Prevention Officer Lt. David Parker said, is in the way a burglary is counted. In 2008, a burglar hit one location to steal multiple items and each was counted as a different theft. Most burglaries also take place in areas that are left unsecured.

The Tech Police Department's Crime Prevention Division and the Housing Liaison Officer are working to spread the word about locking up by scheduling crime prevention programs.

"We are coming up with solutions

for bicycle theft," Parker said. "We are thinking about installing cameras around the bike racks."

Crimes in the report that showed no reported cases or decreases in occurrence include murders, negligent manslaughter, nonforcible sex offenses or hate crimes for 2008. Drug law violations in 2008 also were down 18 arrests from 80 and down 43 referrals from 145.

Liquor law violations also have decreased from 2007 to 2008. In the 2008 report, 108 arrests and 262 refer-

als were reported, numbers that were down from 2007's 186 arrests and 326 referrals.

"It is our hope that the downward trend in statistics is a result of campus-wide efforts, not just those of the police department, to bring attention to alcohol violations," Parker said.

Another factor may be the implementation of a Housing Liaison Officer, but Parker said there is no specific way to gauge the effect of the Liaison Officer program.

Referral cases are transferred to Student Judicial Programs, and Director Sofia Rodriguez is sent a police report to review and see if the case warrants a hearing. She said she agreed that the most typical cases she receives are alcohol violations.

"It's mostly first-time offenses by freshmen," she said. "There's a low turn around rate because students choose to make better choices."

CRIME continued on page 2 >>



PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

JACOB WEAVER, A junior mechanical engineering major from Concan, and Tyler Weaver, a graduate student also from Concan, make a liquor selection Friday at Rick's Place located on 82nd Street and Iola Avenue.

More liquor stores to open in Lubbock

By JASON HARTLINE
STAFF WRITER

Beer and wine are not the only things sweeping the Hub City. The sale of spirit drinks such as vodka, whiskey and tequila, to name a few, are finding their way into Lubbock with two liquor stores already open and more to come.

"There are five stores all-in-all with two open and three pending," said Randy Henson, director of planning for the city of Lubbock. "Location is important to these businesses. If they're not in the right spot, the business won't thrive."

Majestic Liquor Inc., owner of Doc's beer, wine and liquor stores, have two locations that have been approved on 74th Street and Quaker Avenue and another on Quaker Avenue and Loop 289, Henson said.

"There is also another private owner named Julia Stewart opening a store on the 1700 block of east Broadway," he said.

The three stores have been approved by the city of Lubbock but have yet to open.

Rick's Place was the first liquor store in Lubbock, which opened Sept. 25 on 82nd Street and Iola Avenue, in conjunction with the original store in Wolforth.

"(The new) store, along with the one in Wolforth, has created 22 jobs," said Rick Claybrook, owner of Rick's Place. "New liquor stores, along with mine, will stimulate the local economy, at least short term."

The opening of new liquor, wine and beer stores require more than just new shelves, he said. Contractors to build new

refrigeration units to cool the beer and suppliers of materials are local organizations that make the opening of a new store possible.

Pinkie's Inc. opened the second liquor store Sept. 26 at 57th Street and Slide Avenue, across from the South Plains Mall, in addition to the original Lubbock locations at The Strip on Highway 87.

"It's still too early to tell how much the Pinkie's stores on The Strip will be affected," said Austin Keith, president of Pinkie's Inc. "As of right now they have not taken a loss of sales."

Liquor sales alone have a state tax of 48 percent before they ever make it to the shelves, he said.

"That's the hidden prices the average consumer doesn't see," Keith said. "The prices Pinkie's has will not go down much with other competition."

Because liquor stores now are spread throughout the city instead of one centralized location, distributors must drive longer routes that will encompass all the liquor stores in the city, he said.

"The approval of liquor stores inside the city is not creating a new market," Henson said. "It is just changing the location."

Henson said he predicts the sales of liquor will not go up in Lubbock.

"The biggest thing Lubbock is going to have to face is a cultural shock," Henson said. "The lines were still pretty long at The Strip, right? With 70 percent of Lubbock's citizens for the sale of alcohol and liquor in the city, it's clear they wanted this."

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Players glad Carter is back in practice



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH OFFENSIVE lineman Brandon Carter was suspended for Tech 48-28 victory against New Mexico, but he will play against K-State on Saturday after being reinstated.

O-line looks to bounce back

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Besides the face painting and loud celebrating around the field from Texas Tech offensive lineman Brandon Carter, right tackle Marlon Winn simply missed having the preseason All-American next to him on the line.

"I missed him more than anybody else 'cause I'm used to playing next to him," Winn said during Tech's weekly press conference Monday. "I've played next to him for two years straight. It was a little different working out chemistry with (Chris) Olson next to me. But we're glad to have him back this week, and we're just excited to get back to what we were doing."

Winn will get that familiarity back Saturday against Kansas State with Carter being reinstated after he was suspended indefinitely following the Houston game Sept. 27 for breaking a team rule.

Carter practiced during the team's usual Sunday night workout. During Tech's 48-28 victory against New Mexico Saturday at Jones AT&T, Carter was in the stands watching the game.

Carter's absence was felt against the Lobos. The Tech offensive line gave up five sacks — the most given up all season.

Carter has switched between left and right guard this season. Before his suspension, he started the last three games at right guard. Sophomore Mickey Okafor started at right guard against New Mexico. Olson started at left guard.

During the weekly press conference

Monday, Tech coach Mike Leach was short in explaining how Carter's return will help the offensive line against K-State Saturday.

Although reports have surfaced about why Carter was suspended, neither Leach nor anyone associated with the program has revealed details about Carter's suspension without anonymity.

Carter is not available for comment with players being off limits to the media during the week.

With him missing a week of practice, Leach said he believes the preseason All-American will be back on track as far as play is concerned. After he said last week he did not believe the offensive line would miss Carter's presence, Leach said he only has been concerned with leading his team to a win no matter who is out on the field.

"I don't know where you guys get the time to sit and do all this missing and reflecting and pondering and all this other stuff," he said of the media. "I gotta call the next play. So you guys may have the luxury with all that. I don't."

Winn said Tech offensive line coach Matt Moore teaching his linemen to play more than one position on the line comes in handy when injuries or anything else affects the line.

"It's just people have to step up when the time is given," he said. "We have young guys that are able to step up in the spots when someone goes down or something else happens. Coach Moore prepares everybody just in case something like that was to happen and we're well-prepared."

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IN BRIEF

STATE

Hutchison gets Texas Farm Bureau endorsement

AUSTIN (AP) — Citing concerns about private property rights, the Texas Farm Bureau endorsed U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison for governor Monday, abandoning Gov. Rick Perry.

The farm bureau endorsed Perry in his previous two runs for governor, but has been at odds with the Republican incumbent over what the bureau says is his lack of action in curbing abuses

of eminent domain and protecting private property rights. Farmers have vocally opposed Perry's Trans-Texas Corridor toll road network that threatens to take farm and ranch land.

"Sen. Hutchison has been a leader in the U.S. Senate on agriculture and property rights issues," said Kenneth Dierschke, president of the Texas Farm Bureau.

NATION

One in custody after gunman reported on USF campus

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — The University of South Florida was locked down for a time Monday after someone reported a man with a gun and a bomb near the library, and police had one person in custody.

A person in custody was tied to the original report and whether it was real or a hoax. Students were told to return to their normal routine about three hours later.

Campus police said they asked the Tampa police bomb team to investigate the belongings of the person in custody.

WORLD

North Korea considers return to nuclear talks

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — North Korean leader Kim Jong Il told China's premier on Monday that the North was prepared to return to multination disarmament talks depending on progress in its two-way negotiations with the U.S.

The six-nation talks it withdrew from after conducting missile tests in April and a second nuclear test in May.

Kim's comments, carried by official North Korean and Chinese media, were the clearest sign yet that Pyongyang was readying to resume

In their meeting late Monday, Kim said that North Korea "is willing to attend multilateral talks, including the six-party talks, depending on the progress in its talks with the United States," China's Xinhua News Agency said in a report issued early Tuesday.

Correction

In Monday's issue of *The Daily Toreador*, the pull quote in the article "National GLBTQ month to be recognized, celebrated,"

should have read, "These are not issues that affect only GLBTQ communities, they affect everyone." *The DT* regrets the error.

Britain's Supreme Court opens

LONDON (AP) — Britain's Supreme Court heard its first case Monday — an appeal by five terrorism suspects who say the British government has overstepped its power by freezing their assets without a conviction.

that Britain's finance department had no right to freeze their bank accounts, but that decision was overturned by the Court of Appeal.

For hundreds of years, Britain's highest court of appeal had been the Law Lords, a group of justices who were part of the House of Lords in Parliament. The decision to create a Supreme Court was meant to emphasize the separation of governmental powers, even if the change is largely in name and location only.

Tim Owen, representing three of the men, said the case raised questions over "blank check" legislation where the government can make laws without parliamentary debate. He said a balance needed to be struck between national security concerns about terrorism and fundamental human rights and access to the courts.

The 12 justices are no longer part of the House of Lords but are still Britain's most powerful judges. Shedding their past image, they wore no wigs, no robes and sat in a new courtroom equipped with cameras and microphones for their first hearing. Recording had been prohibited in most cases.

All but one of the suspects were granted temporary anonymity until another hearing Thursday. After a media challenge that included *The Associated Press*, the justices lifted the anonymity order against Mohammed al-Ghabra, whose name had already been in the public domain.

The court's first case was chosen because it touched on terrorism and the government's ability to freeze assets without due process.

The U.S. Treasury alleged in 2006 that al-Ghabra had helped people travel to Pakistan to meet with senior al-Qaida leaders and to participate in terrorist training camps. He was also alleged to have provided "material and logistical support" to other terrorist organizations in Pakistan. Britain also designated him an alleged financier of terrorist organizations.

The suspects say they have to ask for permission to access their money to buy groceries and pay other living expenses. Their families are prohibited from giving them money.

Neither Al-Ghabra, a 29-year-old who was born in Syria and later obtained British citizenship, nor any of the others have ever been convicted.

A High Court judge ruled last year

The men's assets were seized based on two U.N. Security Council resolutions that imposed sanctions on people alleged to be funding terrorism.

COLOR GUARD CORNER



PHOTO BY JEFF DAY/The Daily Toreador

MEMBERS OF THE Texas Tech Color Guard practice in the music building parking lot prior to joining a full rehearsal with the Goin' Band from Raiderland.

No Afghanistan pullout, White House says

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama won't walk away from the flagging war in Afghanistan, the White House declared Monday as Obama faced tough decisions — and intense administration debate — over choices that could help define his presidency in his first year as commander in chief.

Last week the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Gen. Stanley McChrystal, called publicly for the administration to add more resources, which prompted a mild rebuke from Obama's national security adviser, James Jones, for lobbying in public.

tion to leave. That's quite clear," Gibbs said.

The question of whether to further escalate the conflict after adding 21,000 U.S. troops earlier this year is a major decision facing Obama and senior administration policy advisers this week.

"I don't think we have the option to leave. That's quite clear."

ROBERT GIBBS
WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

The fierce Taliban attack that killed eight American soldiers over the weekend added to the pressure. The assault overwhelmed a remote U.S. outpost where American forces have been stretched thin in battling insurgents, underscoring an appeal from Obama's top Afghanistan commander for as many as 40,000 additional forces — and at the same time reminding the nation of the costs of war.

Obama may take weeks to decide whether to add more troops, but the idea of pulling out isn't on the table as a way to deal with a war nearing its ninth year, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said.

Obama also invited a bipartisan group of congressional leaders to the White House on Tuesday to confer about the war. And Obama will meet twice this week with his top national security advisers.

spending bill this week even before the president settles on a direction for the war.

Gates said Monday that Obama needs elbow room to make strategy decisions about the war — as the internal White House debate goes increasingly public.

"It is important that we take our time to do all we can to get this right," Gates said at an Army conference. "In this process, it is imperative that all of us taking part in these deliberations — civilians and military alike — provide our best advice to the president candidly but privately."

Gates has not said whether he supports McChrystal's recommendation to expand the number of U.S. forces by as much as nearly 60 percent. He is holding that request in his desk drawer while Obama sorts through competing recommendations and theories from some of his most trusted advisers.

Vaccine-like shots help fight cocaine addiction

CHICAGO (AP) — Vaccine-like shots to keep cocaine abusers from getting high also helped them fight their addiction in the first successful rigorous study of this approach to treating illicit drug use.

The results come just days after that government agency announced plans for the first late-stage study of an experimental nicotine vaccine designed to help people quit smoking. The NicVAX vaccine has been fast-tracked by the Food and Drug Administration, and the research will be paid for with federal stimulus money.

ly 40 percent of them to substantially cut back or stop cocaine use at least temporarily.

With more than 2 million cocaine abusers nationwide and no federally approved treatment, the results "are good enough — better than having nothing," said lead author Dr. Thomas Kosten of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He developed the vaccine used in the study.

The shots didn't work perfectly, but the researchers say their limited success is promising enough to suggest the intriguing vaccine approach could be widely used to treat addiction within several years.

The cocaine and nicotine vaccines both use the same approach, stimulating the immune system to produce antibodies that attach to molecules of the drugs and block them from reaching the brain.

The study appears in October's *Archives of General Psychiatry*, released Monday.

Volkow said the research exemplifies a "transformative" perspective on drug addiction.

"By targeting it as a medical disease as opposed to a moral dilemma, we're likely to come up with solutions

"It is such an important study. It clearly demonstrates... that it is possible to generate vaccine that could interfere with cocaine actions in the brain," said Dr. Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, which

In the new study, cocaine-fighting antibodies helped prevent users from getting a euphoric high and led near-

that have a much longer impact," she said.

The research involved 115 cocaine abusers also addicted to heroin who sought methadone treatment at a New Haven, Conn. clinic. Methadone treats heroin addiction, not cocaine, but it requires repeat clinic visits. That made it easier for the researchers to work with and track the cocaine abusers, Kosten said.

Over 12 weeks, nearly all participants got five shots of cocaine vaccine or a dummy substance. They were followed for an additional 12 weeks. All participants also attended weekly relapse-prevention therapy sessions, had their blood tested for antibodies and their urine tested for cocaine and heroin.

Crime

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of arrests with 140, but a lower number of referrals with 207. Texas A&M University had 88 arrests and 77 referrals.

In comparison with Tech's liquor law violations, the University of Texas had a higher number

"I don't think that there is a particular reason for the difference," said Sgt. Allan Baron, crime pre-

vention officer for the Texas A&M Police Department. "There might be different rules about violations. Every statistic may be high one year and low the next and there is no data on how environment plays a role."

The report includes all of the statistics on specified crimes and related incidents that were reported to the Tech Police Department for the past three years.

The police department utilizes these statistics to see where certain problem areas may be.

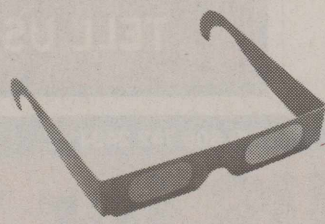
"We evaluate the statistics and come up with trends to reduce

them," Tech Crime Prevention Officer Lt. David Parker said. "It's hard though to draw officers to different areas because it might affect the other area that we took them from."

The crime statistics report is in accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, and must be accessible by all parents, faculty and students involved in the university. The full report can be found at the Tech Police Department Web site.

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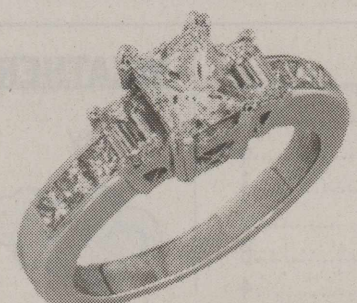
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Students send postcards from around the world

By **CARRIE THORNTON**
STAFF WRITER

Students could travel across the world without leaving the Student Union Building Monday afternoon.

Tech Activity Board's Postcards to Home event allowed students to take pictures in front of a green screen where they could appear to be posing in front of the Eiffel Tower, the Egyptian pyramids, Stonehenge and the Taj Mahal.

"Most students are coming out to take these pictures for fun, not to actually add a stamp and send them," said Erin Rinder Knecht, daytime coordinator for TAB.

Once a student takes a picture, it is immediately printed out on in postcard form, she said. If they wished, students could take a picture at each location.

Originally scheduled to take

place outside of the SUB, the weather forced TAB to move the event indoors to the courtyard, Rinder Knecht said. And considering the change to a less-visible location, the turnout was still as she had expected.

"It really went well considering it was inside," she said. "Also, we chose this event for this week because it is homecoming and their theme is world wide, so we thought this went well with that."

Vahini Yerraguntla, an electrical engineering graduate student from India, said she came to the event because she wanted to take pictures with her friends.

"It's nice to have a picture that is interesting," she said.

Yerraguntla and her friends chose to transport themselves to Stonehenge, she said. That location was more interesting to them than the rest, which appeared to be more modern looking.

"It was fun to take a picture there because in our lifetime I don't know if we will ever go there or not," Yerraguntla said.

Ammar Ahmad, an industrial engineering graduate student from Pakistan, took his picture with his group of friends in multiple settings.

"We chose Paris, Stonehenge and Egypt," he said. "Just because we want to go there and haven't and probably can't."

Ahmad said he took the pictures strictly to put on Facebook, and has no intention of buying a stamp and mailing them out to any family members.

Amongst the groups of friends who posed in front of the screen, a few couples hugged and smiled for the photographer, including Michael Stevens and his girlfriend.

"We chose the Eiffel Tower in Paris," he said. "I guess because it is more of a romantic spot. It's nice to fantasize."

Stevens said he will probably mail his picture to his family, especially to his grandmother.

"I know she would think it is cool. Plus, she'll probably think I was actually there," he said with a laugh.

► carrie.thornton@ttu.edu

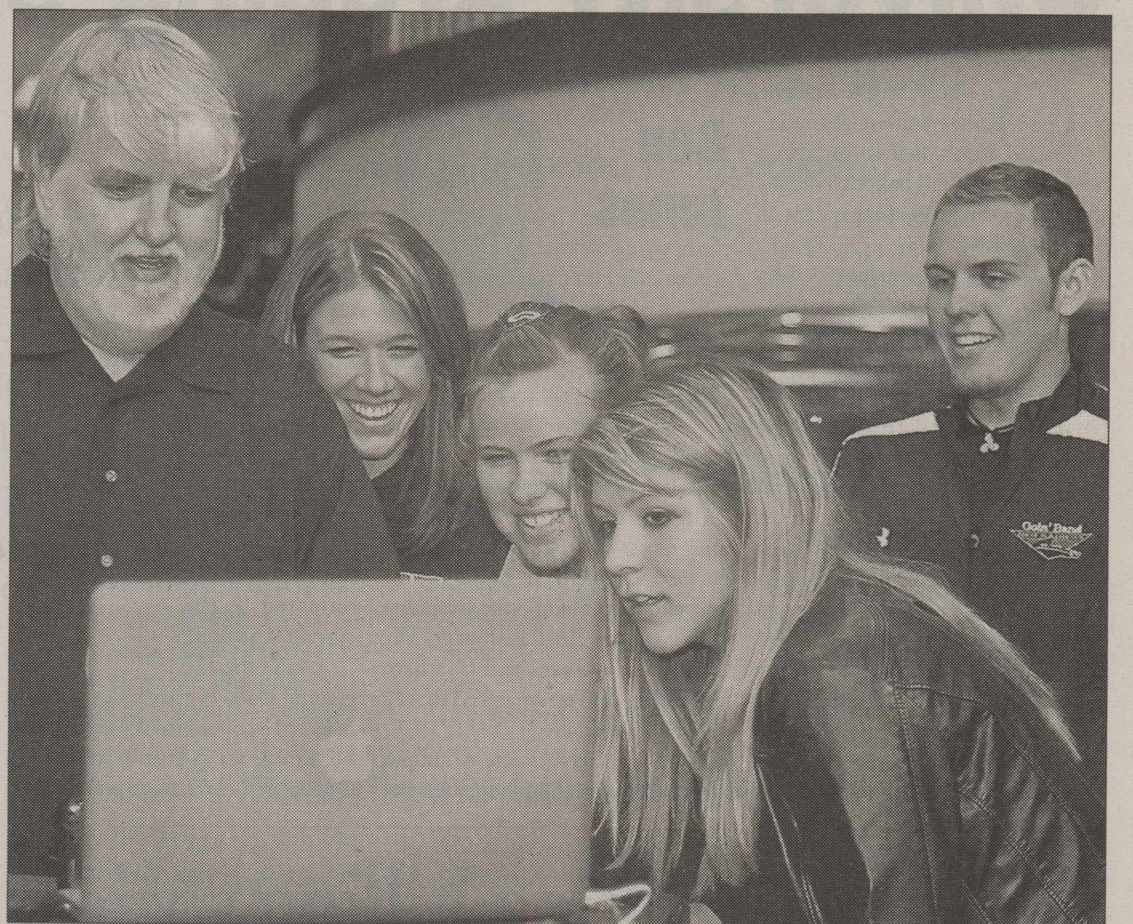


PHOTO BY JEFF DAY/The Daily Toreador
FROM LEFT, AMANDA Johnson, a senior music education major from San Antonio; Hailey Dunn, a freshman pre-veterinarian major from Arlington; Ali Phillips, a junior music education major from Greenville; and Michael Harrison, a senior music education major from Austin, review a group photo with the photographer prior to converting the image into a postcard.

"...we chose this event for this week because it is homecoming and their theme is world wide."

ERIN RINDER KNECHT
TAB DAYTIME COORDINATOR

African cardinal: next pope could be black

VATICAN CITY (AP) — A prominent African cardinal said Monday there was no reason why the next pope couldn't be black, particularly following the election of President Barack Obama.

Cardinal Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson of Ghana is playing an important role in guiding a three-week meeting at the Vatican on the challenges of the Catholic Church in Africa.

At a news conference Monday, Turkson was asked whether he thought the time was right for a black pope, especially in light of Obama's election.

"Why not?" Turkson replied. He argued that every man who agrees to be ordained a priest has to be willing to be a pope, and is given training along the way as bishop and cardinal. "All of that is part of the package."

He also noted that former U.N.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan was from Ghana.

"He had problems, but he still did it," Turkson said. "And now it is Obama of the United States. And if by divine providence — because the church belongs to God — if God would wish to see a black man also as pope, thanks be to God!"

Speculation about the possibility of a pope from the developing world has swirled for years, as that is where the Catholic Church is growing most: In Africa, between 1978 and 2007, the number of Catholics grew from 55 million to 146 million. By contrast, Catholic communities in Europe are in decline.

In 1978, the Polish-born Pope John Paul II became the first non-Italian pope in 455 years. Cardinals followed in 2005 by electing German-born Pope Benedict XVI.

Whether the European-heavy College of Cardinals will look outside Europe for Benedict's successor is an open question. Benedict enjoys good health at 82, and there are no signs the job will become open soon.

But Turkson may well be in the running when the time comes. The 60-year-old archbishop of Cape Coast, Ghana, was appointed by Benedict to be the relator, or key discussion leader, of the synod on Africa.

It's a high-profile position — important for letting cardinals get to know prelates from regions other than their own.

During the press conference Monday, he was deft in handling delicate questions about the church in Africa, including one about priests who stray from their vows of celibacy and live openly with women.

FTC: Bloggers, testimonials need better disclosure

The Federal Trade Commission on Monday took steps to make product information and online reviews more accurate for consumers, regulating blogging for the first time and mandating that testimonials reflect typical results.

The FTC will require that writers on the Web clearly disclose any freebies or payments they get from companies for reviewing their products. The commission also said advertisers featuring testimonials that claim dramatic results cannot hide behind disclaimers that the results aren't typical.

The FTC said its commissioners

voted 4-0 to approve the final guidelines, which had been expected. The guides are not binding law, but rather interpretations of law that hope to help advertisers comply with regulations. Violating the rules, which take effect Dec. 1, could result in various sanctions including a lawsuit.

Testimonials have to spell out what consumers should expect to experience with their products. Previously, companies had just included disclaimers when results were out of the ordinary — such as a large weight loss — noting that the experience was not typical for all customers.

Testimonial advertisements can

be effective for consumers since they show others talking about their experiences, giving hope to the consumer that they'll have that experience too. But they are misleading to consumers if they don't disclose what they should truly expect to experience, the commission said.

For bloggers, the FTC stopped short of specifying how they must disclose conflicts of interest. Rich Cleland, assistant director of the FTC's advertising practices division, said the disclosure must be "clear and conspicuous," no matter what form it will take.

Rapper pleads guilty to NYC assault charge

NEW YORK (AP) — Rapper Jim Jones admitted Monday to punching a friend of Ne-Yo's in the face in a Louis Vuitton store during a scuffle that erupted as the R&B crooner was browsing.

Jones pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor assault charge in his Dec. 22 dustup with Jayvon Smith in the luxury-goods retailer's Fifth Avenue store in Manhattan. Jones, 33, was sentenced to time served — the few hours he was in custody after turning himself in to police in January.

The fight unfolded in front of holiday shoppers in the store, which sits opposite Tiffany's flagship on Fifty-Seventh Street.

Defense lawyer Scott Leemon had previously said Jones didn't start the fight. Leemon said Monday the rapper pleaded guilty because he didn't want to risk probation — and potential touring restrictions — if convicted.

Leemon declined to comment on what started the fight. Ne-Yo told the Los Angeles-based radio station Power 106 in February that Jones and Smith "have had drama in the past."

3 Americans share Nobel medicine prize

NEW YORK (AP) — Three Americans won the Nobel prize in medicine on Monday for discovering how chromosomes protect themselves as cells divide, work that has inspired experimental cancer therapies and may offer insights into aging.

The research by Elizabeth H. Blackburn, Carol W. Greider and Jack W. Szostak revealed the workings of chromosome features called telomeres, which play an important role in the aging of cells.

It's the first time two women have shared in a single Nobel science prize. Over the years, a total of 10 women have won the prize in medicine.

Blackburn, 60, who holds U.S. and Australian citizenship, is a professor of biology and physiology at the University of California, San Francisco. Greider, 48, is a professor in the department of molecular biology and genetics at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore.

London-born Szostak, 56, is a professor of genetics at Harvard Medical School and a researcher with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Their work, done in the 1970s

and 1980s, showed how features at the tips of chromosomes — telomeres (TEE-loh-meers) — can keep them from getting progressively shorter as cells divide. It's been compared to the way plastic tips on the ends of shoelaces keep the laces from fraying.

Blackburn and Greider discovered an enzyme, telomerase (teh-LAH-meh-race), that maintains the lengths of the telomeres. Later research has shown that telomerase is switched on in almost all cancers.

Telomerase is active before birth, when cells are dividing rapidly. By age 4 or 5 it's basically shut off in almost all cells. That means the telomeres degrade over time, leading those cells to age and eventually stop dividing. But scientists have shown that adding telomerase to human cells can extend their lifespan indefinitely.

Such research spurred speculation that telomerase might turn out to be a fountain of youth. But experts say that aging is more complicated than just changes in telomeres. Scientists are still studying what impact telomeres might have; perhaps they will reveal ways to ward off some aspects of aging, researchers say.

Still other work showed that

telomerase helps cancer cells sustain their uncontrolled growth. Scientists are trying to exploit that to produce new therapies, noted Jerry Shay of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

The farthest along is a vaccine-like approach, which trains the immune system to home in on telomerase as a way to identify and attack cancerous cells. Other approaches attempt to use it as a signal that activates a cell-killing virus, or to devise a drug to block the enzyme's effect, he said.

Shay said he believes some kind of telomerase-based cancer treatment will become available within four years.

Monday's prize "is totally well-deserved," Shay said. "These people were clearly the forerunners of what is now becoming a much stronger field that has lots of interesting questions, (and that is) likely to have a major importance in medicine in the future."

The prize includes \$1.4 million, split among the three winners.

Szostak, meeting with reporters, joked that he might use the money to send his two elementary school-age children to college. "They might like that," he quipped.

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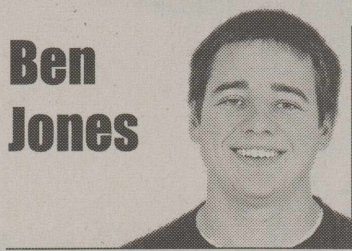
University grading scale needs changing

On Thursday, the Student Government Association voted to include a referendum in a fall ballot to reconstruct the current grading system at the university.

Under the plan, students' GPAs would be calculated on a plus and minus structure, a policy that currently has no governing regulations at the university. While the plan certainly has its benefits, for both students and professors, it also represents the most important vote for Tech students in a long time.

A fluctuating GPA scale based on a plus and minus system is certainly nothing new to the academic world. For years, institutions across the country have rewarded students not only for their letter grade, but the actual percentage based on a 10 point scale. In fact, it seems to be the norm. Robert Marzano, an education

Ben Jones



researcher, said in a Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article that almost 3,000 schools and districts have adopted grading systems that hone in on students' strengths and weaknesses.

In Texas, the University of Houston, Texas Christian University, Baylor and Rice have grading scales that adjust to incorporate for pluses and minuses. Just last year, the University of Texas and Southern Methodist University agreed to shift to the sliding scale.

Like UT, Tech is sure to follow; if not next year, then soon after. But

changing the grading scale is more than just about adequately recognizing the performance of students. Put to a vote, I would suspect most students would agree they should be rewarded for whatever grade they receive.

While a B plus student is statistically closer to an A minus student than a B minus student, this isn't reflected in the current structure. Under the UT grading scale, every plus or minus is reflected by one-third of a GPA point. Meaning, an A minus rewards a student with 3.67 grade points while

an A receives the full 4 grade points (some schools, like TCU, even give 4.33 grade points for an A plus).

Adopting a grading scale like this not only benefits students, but helps professors establish a grading policy that is constant across the university. As students leave Tech to search for jobs, academic performance is everything, and nothing is more important than GPAs.

changing the grading scale does more than just change GPAs.

As the university moves forward in its search for tier-one funding, it

is constantly searching for ways to reflect the success of its students. Under a plus/minus grading scale, students' academic performance would have a larger base to better indicate their appropriate academic achievement.

Though this structure could potentially mar a student's GPA — for example, a student who receives all A minuses would go from having a 4.0 GPA to a 3.67 — it also allows the university to cover grade inflation. With many professors giving as much as 95 percent A's, allowing for changing grades within a 10 point spread could allow professors to cover these habits.

Certainly, no student who receives an A plus or a B plus should be rewarded for his or her success. However, changing the grade scale will most likely do little to change professors' actual grading policies.

There are no university policies governing professors' abilities to give pluses and minuses. As a result, every professor has his or her policy regarding pluses and minuses.

Many graduate schools re-configure all GPAs to a base number that reflects pluses and minuses so for some Tech students, a university policy change will do little to affect their postgraduate plans.

To be sure, Tech will eventually change its grading scale to better incorporate different grades. It is undoubtedly a needed change, and Tech students will be better off for it. However, changing students' grades is a serious issue, and when and if students vote on the change, their futures could be at stake.

■ Jones is a sophomore economics major from Lubbock. >> ben.jones@ttu.edu

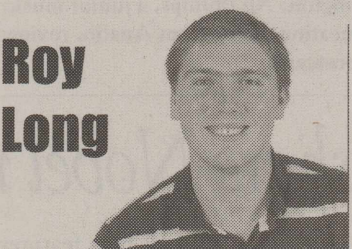
Social networking killing society

I think Mike Leach is an amazing coach. Few can doubt his abilities after last year's amazing season, bringing glory to Lubbock at the demise of Austin. However, the best call he has made this year has been called off of the field: His decision to ban Twitter from the team.

Now, I am not a fan of making up rules and regulations. However, I think this situation brings an interesting phenomenon of our society to the foreground. Coach Leach allegedly stated he did not want narcissists on the team. For those of you too busy tweeting to Wikipedia it, Narcissus was a figure in Greek mythology, who fell in love with his reflection in water and died, unable to part with his own beauty.

The entire social-networking explosion feeds on our generation's incessant need to share everything about themselves with everyone around them. For some reason, we assume others are interested in our favorite television shows, books, movies, music and every little thing that happens in our lives. We also cannot forget everyone just wants to spend their time looking at pictures

Roy Long



on their home computer of their classmates doing nothing productive.

This disgusting display of self-love is not the only reason why my hate of social-networking sites runs deep. Social-networking sites are weapons of mass distraction. Don't we have better things to do with our time? I honestly believe social-networking sites have made us a stupid generation. We interact with each other in real life less because we are distracted by a fantasy world of social-networking sites (not to even mention the abyss of online gaming).

We lose our social skills by refusing to carry on real conversations with others. We cannot even speak or write correct English anymore (a direct result of texting and Facebook). In one of my English classes during my freshman year, the professor had to teach the students it is im-

proper to use "u," "r" or "l8r" in a formal paper. We are suffering from hyper-connectedness.

Hyper-connectedness affects us all the time. I sometimes walk to class and try to count the number of people texting or listening to iPods. I almost always am unable to keep track of all of the machines I see. This sick dependence on technology has become ridiculous.

Our campus is quiet when I walk from building to building. This is not because we have few students (after all, we just passed the 30,000 student mark). The reason for this quiet solemnity is simple: We have decided as a student body we would rather listen to music or text than talk to the many interesting people all around us.

When we send others a text or a message on a social-networking site, we basically send them this message: "I want to talk to you, but I don't find you interesting enough to pick up the phone and call you or have a real conversation with you. So, I am sending you a message the easiest way I can, and I don't really care if you respond or not."

I think technology is a wonderful tool to enhance life, but this dependence is crazy. I am merely encouraging us to use technology when it contributes positively to our lives, not when it distracts us from our lives.

My brother once made a bet with a group of friends. They participated in a "technology strike." Many of them did not even last a week. I propose we try a social-networking site strike. When we are tempted to get on, resist. Do something of which you will be proud.

You have two options: Break the pattern of wasting time, or run the risk of being like Kip from Napoleon Dynamite. Hey, at least you could tweet, "I love technology."

■ Long is a junior Russian and area studies major from Lubbock. >> roy.long@ttu.edu

Minimum wage up, job security down

When I heard in July the minimum wage would be increased from \$6.55 to \$7.25, I was entirely pleased. Why shouldn't I be? Earning higher wages means I have more money to pay for school and even for nights out on the town.

As a poor college student and ex-grocery store employee, there is no prospect more exciting than receiving a paycheck you can actually smile about. Sadly, we do not live in Peter Pan's Neverland; reality is not a place free of student debt,

crumbling economies or numerous responsibilities. Now I realize the serious repercussions college students and low-income workers are going to suffer as a result of the government's push to raise the minimum wage.

Since the recession began in December of 2007, the core CPI (Consumer Price Index) has risen 1.4 percent. For those of you who are not familiar with the term CPI, it is an indication of what the average living costs are valued at. In response to increasing living costs and less consumption, the government forced businesses to pay higher wages to try and stimulate the economy.

By doing this the government hoped hourly-paid workers would have a few extra bucks to spend on living expenses or on consumer goods that would help keep businesses running. I, as well as many others, thought this was a great idea. However, this plan is backfiring, causing two

Ryan Veselka



major problems.

First, since businesses are being forced to pay more for labor they now must cut back on the number of man hours and jobs needed to meet their means of production. This causes a greater overall loss of jobs and salaries than before. From my own experience, when my pay was in-

creased to \$7.25, the majority of temporary workers were laid off and most employee's hours were cut 10 percent to 25 percent.

As a result, low-income workers are either out of work or are actually making less than they did before, which in turn is the basis for problem number two. Because minimum wage workers are out

of work or in most cases earning less than before, they are no longer consuming as much as they did previously. This reaction creates a vicious cycle that kills jobs and lowers production, which, as a result, lowers the amount of consumer buying, resulting in an even greater loss of production.

My question is, if I am merely a somewhat knowledgeable undergraduate business student who can see why this was a bad idea, then why on earth did the Obama administration not foresee the problems that this

can cause?

The purpose of regulating minimum wage is to protect workers from being underpaid, like factory workers in third-world countries, not to use as a tool to "fix" our economy. This is a capitalist society where markets should have the freedom to run their own businesses with limited government interference.

These changes pose problems not only for blue-collar workers and businesses, but for students as well. Although some people are fortunate to hold down a job, a majority of students cannot find part-time work to fit around classes and will have even more difficulty coming across seasonal work during the holiday breaks. With a reduction in the needs of labor and the inability for businesses to hire more employees, teenage and student employment is most likely to drop dramatically during the next year.

Part-time jobs are a crucial source of income for many college students because that money is used to pay for the accumulating interest of student loans. If students are incapable of paying off the interest, it will be harder for them to qualify to take out more loans or build good credit. Although there is little that can be done to better the job market, students should take measures to ensure their survival.

When applying for a job, do not just submit an online application; seek out management or the personnel staff so they may set up a face-to-face interview. Employers look for initiative and the desire to work. If students make themselves readily available, their chances to be hired will be much greater. With any luck, this recession won't be quite as depressing.

■ Veselka is a sophomore business management major from Angleton. >> ryan.j.veselka@ttu.edu

Today's
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8		7	2	5
7	8	2		
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Puzzles by PageFiller

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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The Daily Treador accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community. Guest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification and submit.

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JAZZ JUMP

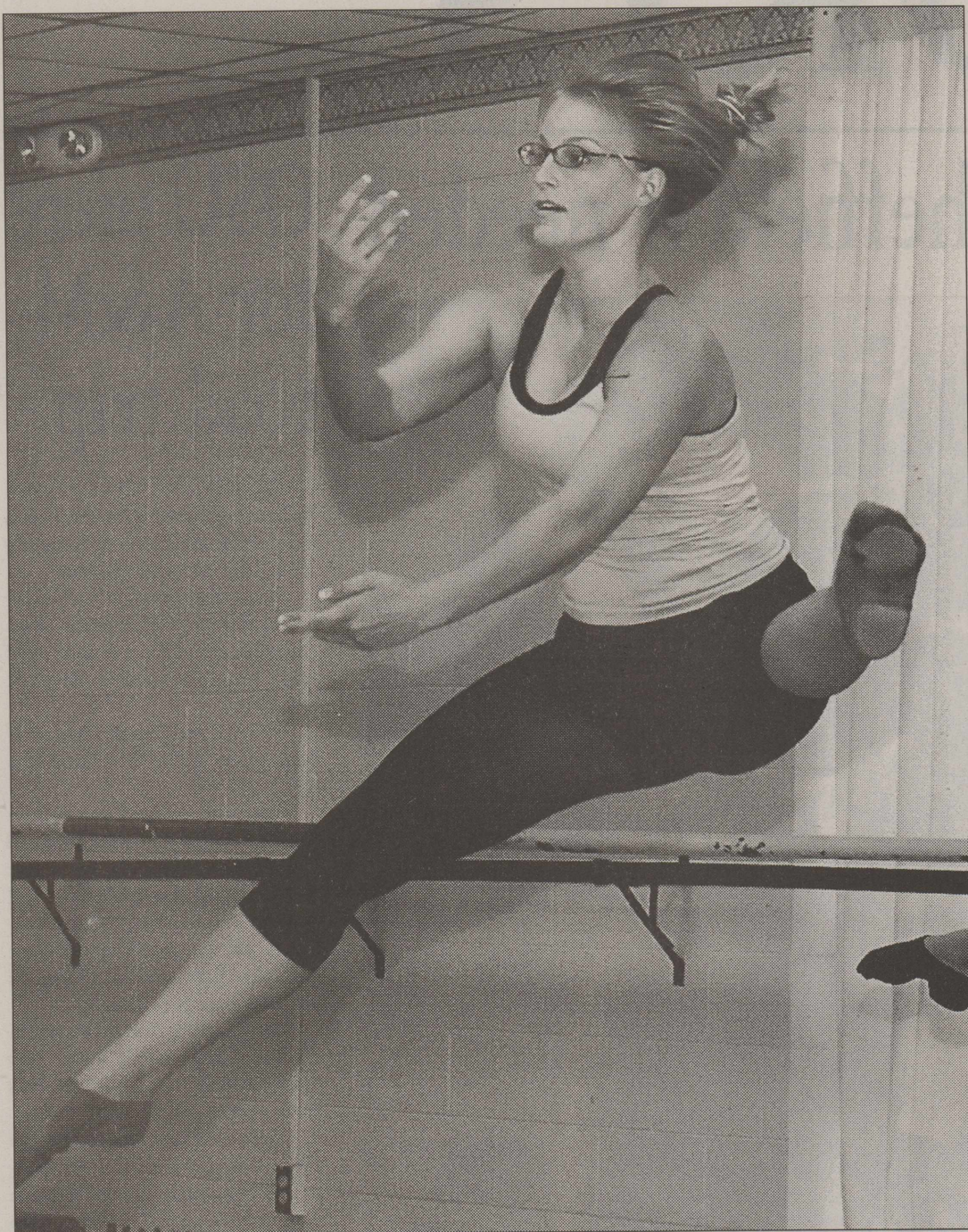


PHOTO BY JEFF DAY/The Daily Toreador

SARAH WHITE, A dancer in Jazz III, an advanced dance course offered by the Department of Theatre and Dance, takes flight during class Monday.

German magazine replaces thin models

BERLIN (AP) — Germany's most popular women's magazine announced Monday that it is banning professional models from its pages in favor of "real women" in an attempt to combat an unhealthy standard of rail-thin beauty that it says has isolated its readers.

The editor-in-chief of Germany's bimonthly Brigitte told reporters that, starting next year, the magazine will feature a mix of prominent women and regular readers in photo spreads for everything from beauty to fashion to fitness.

Andreas Lebert said the move is a

response to readers increasingly saying that they are tired of seeing "protruding bones" from models who weigh far less than the average woman.

"We will show women who have an identity — the 18-year-old student, the head of the board, the musician, the football player," Andreas Lebert said in Hamburg, where the magazine, published by Gruner+Jahr, is based.

Fashion centers around the world have begun trying in recent years to combat the size 0 look that has come

to dominate the fashion industry, contributing, some experts say, to eating disorders and poor body image.

In 2004, the Dove beauty products company launched its own "Campaign for Real Beauty" that included print and billboard ads showing "real women," of all shapes and sizes, posing in their underwear.

In 2007, the U.S. Council of Fashion of Designers of America issued voluntary guidelines to curb the use of overly thin models.

Fashion officials in Madrid set a minimum body-mass index, and those in Milan tightened restrictions. Efforts gained urgency after 21-year-old Brazilian model Ana Carolina Reston died of anorexia in November 2006, weighing 88 pounds (40 kilos).

On its Web site, Brigitte announced to readers that "A New Epoch has Begun" and women to submit a portrait and full-body photos of themselves to be considered for a photo shoot.

"We will pay the same fee as we would for professional models," Lebert said, adding that the magazine views the move as an investment.

"We will show women who have an identity — the 18-year-old student, the head of the board, the musician, the football player."

ANDREAS LEBERTS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF BRIGITTE

Italian group claims to debunk Shroud of Turin

ROME (AP) — Scientists have reproduced the Shroud of Turin — revered as the cloth that covered Jesus in the tomb — and say the experiment proves the relic was man-made, a group of Italian debunkers claimed Monday.

The shroud bears the figure of a crucified man, complete with blood seeping out of nailed hands and feet, and believers say Christ's image was recorded on the linen fibers at the time of his resurrection.

Scientists have reproduced the shroud using materials and methods that were available in the 14th century, the Italian Committee for Checking Claims on the Paranormal said.

The group said in a statement this is further evidence the shroud is a medieval forgery. In 1988, scientists used radiocarbon dating to determine it was made in the 13th or 14th century.

But the dispute continued because experts couldn't explain how the faint brown discoloration was produced, imprinting on the cloth a negative image centuries before the invention of photography.

Many still believe that the shroud "has unexplainable characteristics that cannot be reproduced by human means," lead scientist Luigi Garlaschelli said in the statement. "The result obtained clearly indicates that this could be done with the use of inexpensive materials and with a quite simple procedure."

The research was funded by the debunking group and by an Italian

organization of atheists and agnostics, he said.

Garlaschelli, a professor of chemistry at the University of Pavia, said in an interview with La Repubblica daily that his team used a linen woven with the same technique as the shroud and artificially aged by heating it in an oven and washing it with water.

The cloth was then placed on a student, who wore a mask to reproduce the face, and rubbed with red ochre, a well known pigment at the time. The entire process took a week, Repubblica said.

The shroud is first recorded in history around 1360 in the hands of a French knight — a late appearance that is one of the reasons why some scientists are skeptical of its authenticity.

Measuring 13 feet (4 meters) long and three feet (one meter) wide, it has suffered severe damage during the centuries, including from fires.

Owned by the Vatican, it is kept

locked in a special protective chamber in Turin's cathedral and is rarely shown. The last public display was in 2000, when more than 1 million people turned up to see it, and the next is scheduled for 2010.

The Catholic Church makes no claims about the relic's authenticity, but says it is a powerful symbol of Christ's suffering.

The shroud has been strongly debated within the scientific community. Some researchers claim that patches used in the Middle Ages to repair the cloth after a fire altered the carbon-dating results.

Another study, by the Hebrew University, concluded that pollen and plant images on the shroud showed it originated in the area around Jerusalem sometime before the eighth century.

Garlaschelli told Repubblica he didn't think his research would convince those who have faith in the shroud's authenticity.

ODDBALL

A not so itsy-bitsy spider bugs the pope in Prague

PRAGUE (AP) — President Barack Obama had his fly. Now Pope Benedict XVI has his spider.

A large arachnid appeared on the pope's white robes as he addressed politicians and diplomats in Prague on Saturday afternoon. The pope didn't seem to notice at first — but journalists follow-

ing the speech on a large screen flinched as the spider inched toward Benedict's neck.

It disappeared from view for a moment, but then could be seen crawling up the right side of the 82-year-old pontiff's face.

When it reached his ear, Benedict gave it a swat. But it didn't go away — it reappeared on the

pope's left shoulder and scampered down his robe.

As the pope left the medieval Prague Castle's ornate Spanish Hall, the spider could be seen hanging from a piece of web.

In June, Obama now famously swatted and killed a fly that intruded on an interview for CNBC at the White House.

Man calls 911 to confess to Fla. robbery

PORT ORANGE, Fla. (AP) — Authorities in coastal Florida say a man called 911 to turn himself in about 20 minutes after robbing a Port Orange bank.

Police say 42-year-old Tony Max Olea walked into the Colo-

rad Bank branch Tuesday morning and handed the teller a note implying that he had a gun and wanted money. Police say the teller gave the man money, along with a dye pack, which reportedly went off.

A short time later, Olea called

authorities from a gas station parking lot to turn himself in. He was charged with a single count of robbery and was being held on \$20,000 bail. Jail officials said they did not know if he has an attorney.

Farmers create chaos with spilled milk

BRUSSELS (AP) — Farmers drove hundreds of tractors and a lone cow to the heart of the European Union bureaucracy on Monday, pelting police with bottles and chickens and dumping milk and manure onto the streets of

Brussels in a protest against collapsing milk prices.

Over 2,500 farmers from across the EU burned tires and hay outside an emergency meeting of farm ministers.

They sprayed milk from huge

canisters, and the cow's udder, on a square close to the meeting. The jittery cow was frightened by firecrackers, sprang loose and chased an office worker down the street before it was recaptured by the farmers.

Woman fined for letting 12-year-old drive

GREAT FALLS, Mont. (AP) — A Montana woman accused of letting her 12-year-old daughter drive three siblings to day care has been fined nearly \$1,000.

Angela Parenteau entered a no contest plea to one count of criminal endangerment Thursday

in Municipal Court in Great Falls. Three other criminal endangerment charges were dropped under a plea agreement.

Prosecutors say in March, Parenteau allowed her daughter drive three younger siblings from their house in Vaughn to a day

care about 15 miles away in Great Falls. Police say Parenteau claimed she was too sick to drive and on medication.

The state said it agreed to the plea agreement because the 12-year-old girl did not want to testify against her mother.

Detroit man gets 2 yrs for swiping car on 1st date

ONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — A Detroit man has been sentenced to at least two years in prison for stealing a woman's car after skipping out on the check during their first date.

Twenty-four-year-old Terrance McCoy was sentenced Friday in Oakland County Circuit Court to

two to 10 years in prison.

McCoy pleaded no contest Sept. 18 to unlawfully driving away a vehicle. A no-contest plea is not an admission of guilt but is treated as a conviction at sentencing.

Police say McCoy dined with the 27-year-old Southfield woman on

April 24 at a restaurant in Ferndale. The woman told investigators McCoy said he forgot his wallet in her car and asked for the keys. Police say McCoy then took off in the car.

Defense attorney Terri Antisdale says McCoy is a "very nice man who made a bad decision."

Ala. teen found riding in box on van, mom charged

ALBERTVILLE, Ala. (AP) — An Alabama woman has been charged with endangering the welfare of a child after police say she let her daughter ride in a cardboard box on top of their van.

Albertville Police spokesman Sgt. Jamie Smith said the 37-year-old woman

was arrested Sunday after police received a call about a minivan on a state highway with a child riding on top.

Smith said the woman told police the box was too big to go inside the van, and that her daughter was inside the box to hold it down.

Smith said the mother told officers it was safe because she had the box secured to the van with a clothes hanger.

The 13-year-old daughter wasn't harmed and was turned over to a relative. A jail worker said the mother was out on bond Monday.

Vampires vow till death do us part at Ohio wedding

COLUMBIA STATION, Ohio (AP) — An Ohio bride and groom have vowed to love each other and haunt and howl at the moon together at a Halloween-themed wedding.

Sixty-one-year-old Jack Holsinger and 44-year-old Connie Spitzna-

ger were both made up as pale-faced vampires for their scare-emony Saturday night at a haunted house near Cleveland. The two chose the location because it's operated by the same people who own a campground where the couple met.

Holsinger arrived in a coffin

inside a hearse, and the coffin was carried to the altar by six pallbearers. Minister Greg Kopp was dressed as Jason in the "Friday the 13th" movies. After the vows were exchanged, he ordered Holsinger not to kiss his new bride but instead to bite her on the neck.

US flag in San Antonio had just 43 stars

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A star-spangled banner proudly displayed in San Antonio lacked a little something.

Seven stars.

A San Antonio company has replaced a U.S. flag it produced that incorrectly had just 43 stars.

KSAT-TV reports the banner was

displayed at the Northside Independent School District aquatics center when somebody noticed it didn't have the proper number of stars.

Aquatics director Scott Zolinski says you assume that when you order a flag that it will have the 50 stars. Zolinski says the district "went on good faith that when you

purchase the item that it was the real thing."

Allied Advertising spokesman Jesse Castoreno said it was a "simple mistake" and the flag was designed by someone who is no longer employed at the company.

The company replaced the flag for free.

Police: Pilot stalked ex-girlfriend with plane

CONCORD, Calif. (AP) — Police have arrested a California pilot who they say stalked his ex-girlfriend by repeatedly flying his plane low over her house.

Concord police Sgt. Tiffany Leftwich says Tom Huey made several low passes over a residential neigh-

borhood Wednesday evening.

A dozen residents called police to complain. Huey was arrested shortly after landing the Beech single-engine aircraft.

Leftwich says police have been investigating reports of a low-flying plane in the area for more

than a year.

Huey's girlfriend filed for a restraining order last year, but he was not served until Wednesday afternoon.

Huey is being held on \$155,000 bail on suspicion of felony stalking and violating a restraining order.

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Tech ready to rally around Sheffield if needed

OSU preps for A&M road trip



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH COACH Mike Leach speaks with Texas Tech quarterback Steven Sheffield during Texas Tech's 48-28 victory against New Mexico on Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

Taylor Potts' status unknown for Saturday's K-State game

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

For a few minutes during Texas Tech's weekly press conference Monday, Mike Leach discontinued coach speak for a media advisory of his own about revealing injuries to reporters.

"I just think it's journalism at its lowest level," he said. "If you're so uncreative, that you can't come up with a story or devise a story or find something newsworthy outside of an injury — even within your profession, ask yourself in this room. How much do you really respect a guy that always 'Oh OK, well here's their injuries.' Now there's Nobel Prize-winning material there. There's the guy that wants to write the great American novel. 'Oh all these folks are injured.' That's not a story, and a chimpanzee can write that."

So, any elaboration on Tech quarterback Taylor Potts being injured or whether he will play against Kansas State Saturday won't come from Tech's head coach or anyone else on the record.

But if Potts is not able to play Saturday or if Tech needs another plan just in case something else happens, Leach and the players know exactly what they have in backup Steven Sheffield.

Sheffield replaced Potts in the second quarter of Tech's 48-28 win against New Mexico Saturday. On the Red Raiders' sixth drive of the game, Potts took two sacks and did not return to the Tech sideline. He was later admitted into Covenant Medical Center, where he was kept until Sunday afternoon. His current official status is unknown.

But instead of Tech falling without its starter, the Red Raiders got a fresh start

with Sheffield, who went on to complete 16-of-23 passes for 238 yards and three touchdowns.

Tech offensive lineman Marlon Winn was around Potts when the quarterback took the sacks, and he jokingly said he looked the same as he always does.

"He looked like Taylor Potts," Winn said. "His mustache looked okay. That's all I was worried about. I just helped him up and we made our way to the sideline."

Winn said there's not much difference as far as leadership qualities between Potts and Sheffield, but he also said there was no denying the difference Sheffield made when he entered the game.

"Third quarter, we came out with a lot of tempo," he said. "As soon as he got in, he brought a little spark to the team. Him and Potts are both great quarterbacks. They're both capable of doing the same things and leading our team in the right direction. We're happy to have either one of them behind us."

Winn also said he is unsure whether Potts will play this week, although he said Potts looks healthy. He said it shouldn't be a problem not knowing who he will have to protect Saturday because the team will prepare the same way.

Probably one of the main differences between Potts and Sheffield is the latter's ability to move around the pocket.

After the game Saturday, Sheffield said Leach usually encourages him not to resort to using his feet too often but it is nice to have the ability to use it when he needs to.

Leach said Saturday's game was a good example of how much or how little Sheffield should use his feet to escape pressure and pick up first downs.



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador
NEW MEXICO LINEBACKER Joe Stoner tackles Texas Tech quarterback Steven Sheffield during Tech's 48-28 victory against New Mexico on Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

"I thought he was real sharp with it," he said. "You don't want a guy to just leave the pocket for no reason. I thought he was really sharp when he left the pocket. There was one time I thought he should've left that he didn't. There weren't any times that he left that I wished he hadn't."

If Potts does not start Saturday, Sheffield will be stepping into uncharted territory. The junior has never started a game for Tech and prior to Saturday, his only other playing time was against Rice,

where he passed for 52 yards.

Sheffield said after the game Saturday, he usually prepares in the same manner as Potts does during the week, even if he still is the backup. That preparation could prove beneficial, considering K-State has the best pass defense among Big 12 Conference teams, statistically, allowing 152.6 yards a game.

But the tempo Sheffield gave Tech against New Mexico is something the Wildcats probably have not seen yet

this season.

"When he came in, you could just tell not only in the stadium, but also on our sideline, there's just a whole 'nother energy that came to it," Tech linebacker Bront Bird said. "That's a guy that goes out there with a whole lot of confidence. I think as a defense, we all wanted to play well for him. We could see that his heart was in it, and he wanted to play well for us."

adam.coleman@ttu.edu

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — Andre Sexton got an early introduction to the unique traditions surrounding Texas A&M's football program.

On a recruiting trip, he experienced the 12th Man, the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band and the way the crowd sways while the game is played at Kyle Field.

Then he and former Oklahoma State safety Ricky Price crossed a line.

"We were walking somewhere around their campus for the game and we walked on sacred grass, and I swear one of the fans almost killed us," said Sexton, OSU's starting outside linebacker. "We were like, 'That's just some grass here.' But apparently, I guess, it's very important grass to them."

"Just things like that, it makes them a very unique program in the way that everybody just so much revolves around their football team."

For the first time this season, the 15th-ranked Cowboys (3-1) will venture out of their comfort zone at Boone Pickens Stadium and hit the road to face the Aggies (3-1).

With OSU playing its entire non-conference schedule at home for the first time since 1996, some players — like free safety Lucien Antoine — will get their first taste of playing in an opponent's stadium while also playing their first Big 12 South Division rival.

"I'm not focusing on the atmosphere or the environment. I'm more focused on what we've got to do to get the W," said Antoine. "But I know it's going to be crazy out there. It's going to be intense. But we've just got to stay focused. That's the main thing for us."

Coach Mike Gundy said the Cowboys will lean on their experienced players to lead the way in unfamiliar territory. But no one on the roster has won in College Station, Texas. The Aggies beat OSU 62-23 in 2005 and 24-23 in 2007 in the teams' last two meetings at Kyle Field.

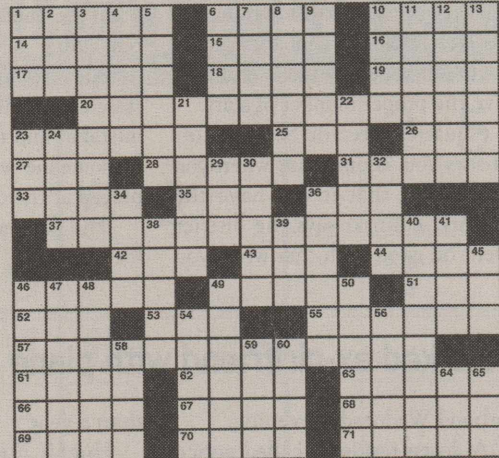
"There's no question it's different playing on the road than at home," Gundy said Monday. "I think that the guys that are heavily involved in the game have some experience with that and have played some road games, so we'll continue to practice like we have any other week. You want your mature players and your experienced players to step up and make plays for you."

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Washing machine sequence
- 6 Pirate's booty
- 10 Twilight time
- 14 Start of an old Army slogan
- 15 Rock group's trip
- 16 In the past
- 17 Jack of rhyme
- 18 Against
- 19 Parsia, now
- 20 2005 Margaret Peterson Haddix children's thriller
- 23 1958 #1 hit sung in Italian
- 25 In error
- 26 Hot tub
- 27 Lyricist Gerstwin
- 28 Title holder
- 31 Classic language, and with 61-Across, hint to the puzzle theme found at the starts of 20-, 37- and 57-Across



By Mike Peluso
70 Oxen connection
71 Ed of "Lou Grant"

Monday's Puzzle Solved

- #### DOWN
- 1 Network with an eye
 - 2 Slangy assent
 - 3 Parking lot siren
 - 4 Andean beast
 - 5 Matador's foe
 - 6 Men-only party
 - 7 Refuses to
 - 8 Writer
 - 9 Reaction to personal loss
 - 10 "What Comes Naturally"
 - 11 Pre-riot state
 - 12 Garlicy shrimp dish
 - 13 Nairobi native
 - 21 Most recent
 - 22 Key above D
 - 23 By way of
 - 24 SeaWorld attraction
 - 29 Teachers' org.
 - 30 Fairylike
 - 32 Lie alongside
 - 34 Bring in
 - 36 Capri's Blue
 - 38 Transition to the next subject

49ers' Singletary would like to have Crabtree this year

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Coach Mike Singletary said Monday that the San Francisco 49ers would still like to have first-round draft pick Michael Crabtree play for the team this season.

Responding to a report that Crabtree and his agent were about to renew negotiations with the team, Singletary said he would not close the door on Crabtree, even though the wide receiver from Texas Tech has yet to practice with the 49ers because of a contract impasse.

Crabtree, the No. 10 overall selection, is the only pick from this year's NFL draft to remain unsigned.

"Any guy that can play and help us win, I would never say, 'No, we don't need him,'" Singletary said. "We need all the good football players we can get."

Crabtree, the former Texas Tech star, is seeking money comparable to higher picks. He has turned down a reported five-year, \$20 million offer from the team that includes \$16 million in guaranteed money.

The first-place 49ers are off to a 3-1 start without Crabtree, but their offense ranks 28th in the NFL. San Francisco's passing game also ranks 28th and none of the team's wide receivers rank among the league's top 50 in receptions.

The 49ers must sign Crabtree by Nov. 17 for him to remain eligible to play this season.

The team would have a seven-week window before the 2010 draft to trade Crabtree if he doesn't sign. If Crabtree is not traded, he would go back into the draft next April.

"Any guy that can play and help us win, I would never say, 'No, we don't need him.'"

MIKE SINGLETARY
HEAD COACH
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

FORMER TEXAS TECH wide receiver Michael Crabtree was drafted No. 10 overall by the San Francisco 49ers in the 2009 NFL Draft, but has yet to sign a contract to play for the team. He is the only unsigned rookie remaining from the Draft. During his two seasons at Tech, Crabtree won two Biletnikoff Awards, which is an annual award given to the nation's best college receiver.

Miles embraces big-game feel of LSU-Florida

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — LSU coach Les Miles won't deny that he can feel a certain excitement on campus and around town.

The visit by No. 1 Florida to Tiger Stadium this Saturday night is anything but just another game.

"It's going to be a great week. This is why you come to LSU — to play in games like this," Miles said Monday. "Certainly, when No. 1 Florida comes to town, we'll prepare well, and it'll be a great game. I want Tiger Stadium to be as loud and as enjoyable and as noteworthy as any venue at any time."

Florida and LSU play in different divisions of the Southeastern Conference, technically making this game less important for the Tigers in the West Division standings than, say, Auburn's visit in a couple weeks. Miles doesn't quite see it that way.

"There is a game after this?" the Tigers' coach quipped.

Miles said games between the Tigers and Gators have evolved into something special in recent years because one or both teams tend to be in the national championship picture when they meet.

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Dowdy could pull double duty for rest of season

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

Amanda Dowdy is Texas Tech volleyball's go-to player for kills.

However, the sophomore might have to pull double duty as a defensive standout at middle blocker in addition to getting kills for the remainder of Big 12 Conference play.

Dowdy started her career last year as a middle blocker, a position that has been her natural spot on the volleyball court since high school and usually is focused on providing defense for a team.

Her comfort and ability were shown throughout the Big 12 Conference as she led Tech with 301 kills and recorded two 20-kill matches in 2008. Opposing coaches recognized her presence, voting her to the All-Big 12 Freshman Team — Dowdy became the first Red Raider to earn such an honor.

But the arrival of first-year head coach Trish Knight brought about many changes, one of them being Dowdy at outside hitter instead of middle blocker.

Dowdy said the move to outside hitter was made this year because Knight saw enough talent on the team to prevent the change from having a bad effect.

"I think she saw some girls that could potentially take over the middle," she said. "She wanted to see me on the outside so with the girls we have, it allowed her to put me on the outside."

Playing outside hitter has forced

Dowdy to make more critical decisions as opposed to relying on instinct when she played in the middle.

Most collegiate volleyball teams' kills leaders are outside hitters and Dowdy leads the team in kills to this point with 128. However, Dowdy said splitting time at both positions should not hurt her kills total.

"Being in the middle makes it easier to get kills," she said. "I'm normally one-on-one in the middle, as to the outside I have to be really smart with the ball."

With that said, if Dowdy makes the permanent move to middle blocker, her teammates are going to have to pick it up at outside hitter.

The remaining outside hitters are senior Hayley Ball, junior Caroline Courtney, freshman Miara Cave and senior Caroline Witte — who also sees time at setter.

Courtney said she and her teammates will figure something out to replace Dowdy on the outside.

"We're just trying to experiment," she said. "We're going to find something that will get us a win."

Dowdy's play in the middle has showed its benefits in the past week.

Against Iowa State, the Red Raiders got off to solid starts in the first two sets. Dowdy was starting at middle blocker that night.

At Oklahoma on Saturday, Tech was overpowered for most of the match until Knight moved Dowdy



TEXAS TECH'S CAROLINE Witte, left, and Amanda Dowdy are trying to end the Red Raiders' 43-match losing streak to Big 12 Conference teams soon. In the last few matches, Dowdy has split time at outside hitter and middle blocker.

to the middle in the third set. The change made a difference, as Tech kept the set close, losing 25-21. The Red Raiders lost the previous two sets by 10 and 12 points, respectively.

Her ability in the middle provides a spark for a team in need of one. With Baylor visiting Wednesday, Tech has yet another chance to end a 43-match losing streak to Big 12 Conference teams.

Junior middle blocker Alexxa Roberts said Dowdy in the middle can provide the energy they need to end that streak.

"She's just really confident," Roberts said. "I think she is go-

ing to bring a lot of spark and a refreshing attitude on the court. She's going to be dominant. She just brings a lot of confidence to the team."

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Astros offseason starts with manager search

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros' offseason rebuilding effort begins with finding a new manager.

The Astros finished 74-88 in 2009, their second losing record in three seasons. They fired Cecil Cooper on Sept. 21 — the franchise's third managerial change since 2004 — and promoted third-base coach Dave Clark to run the team over the final two weeks of another disappointing season.

Clark, the former manager of the club's Double-A and Triple-A affiliates, will be among those interviewed for the permanent position. General

manager Ed Wade said previous big-league managing experience may not necessarily help.

"If we do our homework, we're going to end up making the right decision."

ED WADE
ASTROS GENERAL
MANAGER

"If you're going to do this the right way, you've got to be open-minded," Wade said. "When you start talking about experience, is it experience solely as a major-league manager? Are you walking past other guys who have great minor-league credentials, or

who look like they're on the precipice of being outstanding managers in some fashion?"

"We have to sit down and take an open mind, spend our time re-

searching," Wade said. "If we do our homework, we're going to end up making the right decision."

A new manager is only one of the changes the Astros need to be a winner again. They won the NL pennant in 2005 behind a strong starting rotation and this year's staff was the main weakness in 2009.

Left-hander Wandy Rodriguez, one of only three players left from the Astros' World Series team, was one of the few bright spots this year. He won 14 games in 33 starts, both career highs, and finished with 193 strikeouts, second all-time among Houston left-handers. He allowed one or no earned runs in 20 outings, and was 8-3 with a 2.08 ERA at home.

Most of the rest of the rotation was marred by injuries and inconsistency.

Roy Oswalt's season was cut short by back problems and he'll spend the offseason working to recover in time for spring training.

Cowboys can beat bad teams, can't beat good ones

IRVING (AP) — A month into this season, the Dallas Cowboys have mastered mediocrity.

They're 2-0 against teams that haven't won, 0-2 against teams that haven't lost.

They're 2-0 when Tony Romo holds onto the ball, 0-2 when he turns the ball over.

They've won once by throwing and once by running. Their defense keeps getting better, but isn't good enough to carry them, especially not with DeMarcus Ware still seeking his first sack.

Looking for one thing they've done really well all four games?

"I still think our special teams are playing solid for us," coach Wade Phillips said Monday.

Being stuck in the middle is nothing new for Dallas. Since starting 11-1 in Phillips' first season replacing Bill Parcells, the Cowboys are 12-12, or 12-13 if you count a playoff loss.

After failing to make the playoffs last season, things were supposed

to be different this time. With three-fourths of the season to go, that could still happen, but something's going to have to change.

"We are good enough to win, but we are not good enough (to win) making too many mistakes," Phillips said.

Phillips noted that Dallas beat Tampa Bay and Carolina by at least 10 points and went down to the wire in losses to New York and Denver. That's either encouraging or agonizing, depending on your perspective.

The Cowboys lost to the Giants on the final play of the game, blowing a lead they'd just regained and spoiling the debut at their fancy new stadium. Against the Broncos, they didn't trail until there was 1:46 left and had two short throws into the end zone that could've tied it in the closing seconds.

"You're kind of like, 'OK. Where are we? What is our identity?'" linebacker Bradie James said. "Our identity is we're 2-2. In order for us to continue to win and not be an up-and-down team, we have to win those tough games. That's just it."

Next up is winless Kansas City, then a bye.

Still, progress needs to start somewhere, starting with an offense that was supposed to be versatile but now looks like it can't figure out what to do. They have two touchdowns in their last 22 possessions and the top two receivers are a running back and a tight end, which is starting to revive talk of whether they'd be better off with Terrell Owens still around.

"It's time for us to really check ourselves now and say, 'Hey, look here, regardless of what it's going to take, we have to come out and we have to start winning these games ugly at the end and be consistent,'" receiver Patrick Crayton said. "We've got too good of an offense to even put our defense in a situations to where they've got to carry us."

The Cowboys ran for more than 200 yards in their second and third games, and were off to another strong start Sunday, riding the legs of Marion Barber and Tashard Choice to a 10-0 lead after one quarter.

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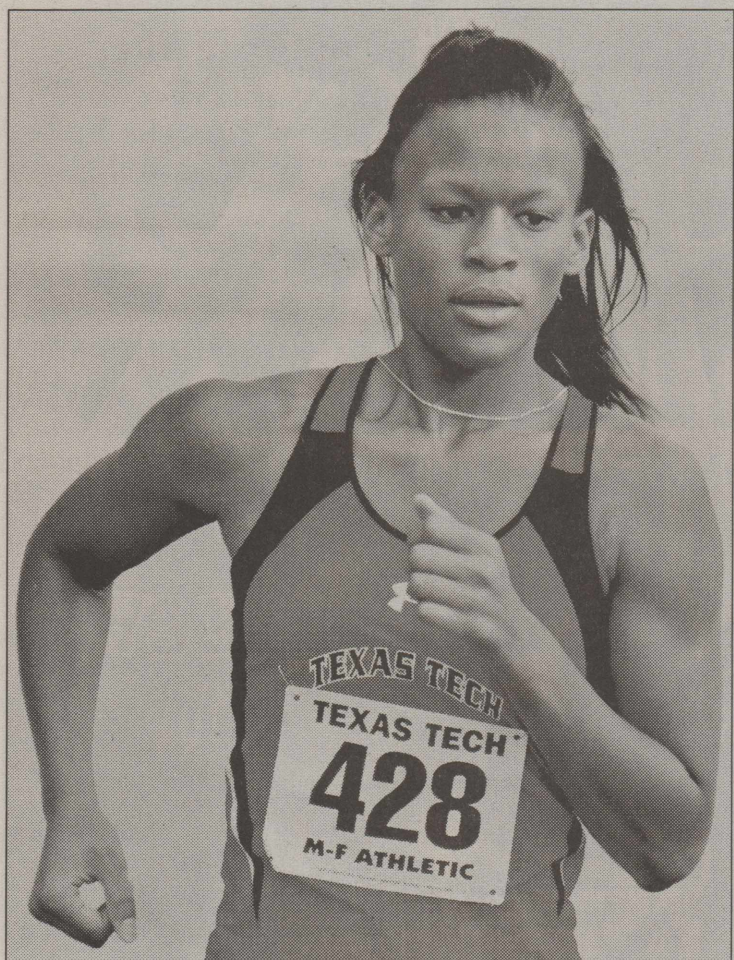
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Women's cross country still winning without Kipyego



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador
Tori Smith competes in the Texas Tech Open on Sept. 18. The Lady Raiders have won their first three meets of the season.

By ZANE TURNER
STAFF WRITER

Sally Kipyego is no longer finishing first for the Texas Tech women's cross country team.

But not many can tell with the start the Lady Raiders have to the season.

The win in the Cowboy Jamboree Saturday marks the third in a row for the Lady Raiders, with the Texas Tech Ruidoso Open and the Texas Tech Open wins coming prior to Saturday's.

Although the team seems like it is on a roll, the Lady Raiders have not been tested yet in Tech coach Jon Murray's eyes.

Lillian Badaru cruised to her second win of the season — Murray said she was in the lead from start to finish.

"She wasn't really pushed," Murray said. "She was at the front from the beginning, and she was at the front at the end. Basically, ran off and ran her own race."

The top five runners finished within 47 seconds of one another. Badaru — who along with her two victories came in second at the Texas Tech Open

— ran a time of 17:10.50 while she was sick.

Badaru was not the only Lady Raider in top form.

The newcomers Purity Biwott, Meagan Willingham and twins Winrose and Caroline Karunde have provided a spark and needed depth behind the All-American Badaru. Biwott finished in third with Caroline Karunde two seconds behind her. Winrose Karunde was the fourth Lady Raider to cross the line in ninth place and Michelle Guzman rounded out the top five for Tech.

Winning their third out of four competitive meets in the regular season, the Lady Raiders are excited about the fast start. But the runners know all their preparation leads up to the Big

12 Conference Championships at the end of October.

"It's good for us to go into the Chili Pepper (Invitational) winning three meets in a row," said Guzman, who finished 19th overall with a time of 17:57.60. "It's good momentum and just to go out there because we have conference at the end

of the month and it's time, it's crunch time."

A season ago, Tech was ranked as high as No. 9 in the nation with Kipyego making headlines. However, Murray said the depth and the talent of his top runners may make them

better than last year's squad — even without Kipyego.

Murray also said he coaches his runners to run as a team to minimize the time in between the first and fifth runners.

Last season the Lady Raiders

began the season taking the first two meets, but when the Cowboy Jamboree came around, Kipyego, Badaru and Guzman competed in the Notre Dame Invitational. As a result, Tech struggled at the Jamboree finishing 25th.

Kipyego was a reliable runner whom Tech could count on for a top finish, but the Lady Raiders may have found other reliable sources to help carry the team to the Big 12 Championships and beyond.

Biwott, in her first year after transferring from Wayland Baptist, said she was excited to see Badaru win and is confident the team can continue to build on its recent success.

"It was really good because she led the team," said Biwott, who came just behind Badaru in third place. "It was a great race because we worked as a team and that was good. As long as we work together as a team we shall come out by national time we should do better."

Tech continues its season with the South Plains College Cross Country Festival Saturday in Levelland. The Chili Pepper Invitational is Oct. 17.

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Winless Chiefs facing many woes

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Just as the Kansas City Chiefs were running out of the tunnel onto the field this past Sunday, a horse used in pre-game ceremonies did what horses do.

Right on the 12-yard line. While many in the crowd roared, a man in a bright red shirt came running out and cleaned up the mess.

A few minutes later, Jamaal Charles fumbled the opening kickoff and the New York Giants grabbed a quick 7-0 lead in a game that suggests the guy trailing the horse and Chiefs coach Todd Haley have something in common.

Haley is also trying to clean up a mess as quickly as possible.

The Chiefs are 2-29 going back to 2007 and last in the NFL in third-

down conversions. The problems here run deep.

"We are 0-0 as far as I'm concerned, and that's what we've got to do as a team," Haley said Monday, a day after the 27-16 loss that kept the Chiefs winless at 0-4 with Dallas coming in next week.

"We've got to understand the second quarter of the season begins today," Haley added. "It's all even, and that's the only way we can think. That's the way I think our team is going to think and that's how we're going to prepare."

The defense seems to have improved a bit from last year's 2-14 debacle with the addition of linebacker Mike Vrabel, who came over from New England along with quarterback Matt Cassel.

But a killer for the offense game after game has been an inability to convert on third down. It's a statistic in which the Chiefs rank dead last among the 32 NFL teams.

They have converted just nine of 51 third downs, less than 18 percent. While being dominated in the past two weeks, they've been a combined 2 for 26 — 0 for 11 against Philadelphia and 2 for 15 on Sunday against the Giants.

"Third downs, they are all determined based off first and second down," said wide receiver Bobby Wade. "Our first and second downs have to be a lot better. Coach reiterated that to us last week and I'm sure it will be an emphasis this week."

Young Rangers provide future promise

ARLINGTON (AP) — Whoever buys the Texas Rangers will get a team filled with promise.

There are Derek Holland and Tommy Hunter, rookie pitchers who became mainstays in the rotation. And Nefali Feliz, the 21-year-old with a 100-mph fastball.

Shortstop Elvis Andrus, the youngest position player in the majors, could be a top contender for American League rookie of the year. Julio Borbon hit .312 with 19 stolen bases in 46 games while showing his potential as a leadoff hitter.

Plus, Texas expects Michael Young and slugger Josh Hamilton back in the lineup next spring.

While the Rangers got an exciting glance at their future, and the youngsters got some valuable experience in late-season games that mattered, they suffered

in September without their two injured All-Stars.

"We don't use that as an excuse but," manager Ron Washington said, putting a bit of emphasis on that last word. "If we were at full strength, maybe it might be different. ... I certainly would have liked my chances better if we were full strength with Mike and Ham in that lineup."

The young Rangers (87-75) weren't ready to compete against the Los Angeles Angels (97-65) for the AL West or Boston (95-67) in the wild-card race.

But the Rangers still had only their second winning season since last making the playoffs 10 years ago and wound up second in the AL West. They won one more game than Detroit or Minnesota, the AL Central teams who will play a one-game tiebreaker for the last playoff spot.

With financially strapped owner Tom Hicks taking bids from prospective buyers, and the timing of any transfer uncertain, it is unclear how the team will proceed into the offseason and free agency.

Even with the young core intact, there are questions. Will the Rangers be able to re-sign free agent outfielder Marlon Byrd, who led the team with 89 RBIs and 146 games played? Will veteran catcher Ivan Rodriguez, who returned home after being acquired in a mid-August trade, be brought back for another season?

Texas was within 3½ games of the Angels when they lost Young and Hamilton on consecutive days. Young strained his left hamstring Sept. 1, and a night later Hamilton aggravated a pinched nerve in his back related to two earlier stints on the disabled list for twice crashing into outfield walls making catches.

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No more confirmed swine flu cases for Houston Texans

HOUSTON (AP) — Only one of three Houston Texans ill this weekend was suffering from flu-like symptoms, and the team doctor didn't call it swine flu.

Houston had the NFL's first confirmed case of swine flu last week in tight end Anthony Hill. Safety Eugene Wilson was inactive for Sunday's game against Oakland after becoming so ill he could barely walk.

Dr. Jim Muntz said he isn't sure Wilson "had the same syndrome" as Hill. Wilson had body aches, but no fever and was sent home to protect the team. Muntz said Wilson phoned him Sunday night and felt better.

Running back Chris Brown and linebacker Xavier Adibi were also ill Sunday, but Muntz said they had gastrointestinal problems.

Hill is better and should be allowed to return to practice this week. Muntz said players can return to practice if they haven't had a fever for 48 hours.

Twins again need extra game to decide season

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Twins seem to think that 162 regular-season games aren't enough.

The Twins will host the Detroit Tigers on Tuesday in a tiebreaker for the American League Central title and a trip the playoffs. It is the second straight season that the Twins have needed a 163rd game to finish the season, a first in league history.

One year after losing a 1-0 heartbreaker in Chicago to the White Sox in a one-game playoff, the Twins will get the homefield advantage this time around as they look to cap their remarkable September rally.

"It's like deja vu," second baseman Nick Punto said. "Last year, same thing. A lot of these guys have been through this, though. I think that's the best part about it. That breeds confidence just knowing you've been in a position like this before. It's fun. We're having fun."