

Tech volleyball See Page 7
swept by Baylor

Carvalho's time See Page 6
to shine

THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
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Grant gives nursing school \$600K for scholarships

By JASON HARTLINE
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing was awarded a \$600,000 grant from the Helene Fuld Health Trust to offer baccalaureate nursing students financial aid through a scholarship fund.

"The grant was awarded to us in mid-September," said Pat Allen, the acting dean of the school and director of the Center for Innovation in Nursing Education. "The efforts of the HSC development office, Dr. John Baldwin while he was still the acting president of the HSC, and Alexia Green among many others, visited the Fuld Foundation numerous times to express the needs for Texas Tech."

Although it has not been dispersed yet, she said, the

grant money will be used for scholarships that will be disbursed on an annual basis to students enrolled in one of the several baccalaureate nursing programs offered.

"It is very prestigious to be honored by this foundation," Allen said. "It is a significant honor. The Fuld Foundation is very selective when awarding grants. They do not issue on a yearly basis; they look at schools as individuals. The foundation asks people to come and visit with them about maybe receiving a grant."

According to a recent news release from the HSC, the Helene Fuld Health Trust awarded grants totaling more than \$7.6 million to 23 nursing programs across the nation in 2008. The release also stated research



ALLEN

gives reason to believe a potential shortage of nurses in the United States will reach close to 800,000 by 2020.

Allen said one of the problems Perry School of Nursing faces is retention.

"Many students struggle to get through nursing school," Allen said. "Continuous financial aid is a contributing factor that will initially help students to be more successful. It's a very important piece to retention because it eases the financial burden anyone can encounter."

With 165 traditional nursing students pursuing LVN and RN certifications and 70 second-degree nursing students pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing, the Perry School of Nursing retains a more than 96 percent graduation rate, the highest in the state. The school also has a 96 percent retention rate, Allen said.

"We project our retention rate to go up around 98 percent," she said. "We hope and strive for 100 percent, but we understand that life happens sometimes."

Texas produced almost 7,700 nurses in 2008, according to the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies.

By 2010, research shows Texas nursing schools will need to graduate more than 9,700 new nurses to meet its citizen's health care needs, according to the release. West Texas particularly is vulnerable to the shortages of nursing professionals because of its demographics and diverse populations.

"This is really fantastic for the school of nursing," Allen said. "All the nursing schools in Texas are all pulling together to meet the challenges to supply the need for more nurses across the state."

>> jason.hartline@ttu.edu

Bridging the Gap

Tech students mentor inner-city youth

By EMILY MOSER
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech students are helping Lubbock children build a bridge to success.

Bridge 2 Success is a new mentor program from the Bridge of Lubbock, a non-profit organization. Jenny Young, the program coordinator, said the mentoring program is anchored toward teens in East Lubbock with the main goal to establish a positive vision for their future.

"We just want to empower this youth that it doesn't matter where they're from or what challenges they're facing," Young said. "We believe in them."

The Bridge of Lubbock was established in 1999 and has been doing outreach since 2001 with programs such as a clothing closet and a soup kitchen. She said the organization has had an annual summer camp for teens.

Although Bridge 2 Success began two years ago, it went on hiatus last year and is now running again. She said they are very passionate about the youth and Bridge 2 Success is the core of the organization.

Mayda Cruz, the executive director for the Bridge of Lubbock, said she joined the organization in the summer along with several others. She said she believes between the new energy and her commitment to the children, the Bridge 2 Success program has been allowed to grow.

Cruz, who was a first-generation college student, believes at-risk children should be the focus of the organization because they deserve the opportunity to make an impact. They could be the future leaders.

"We believe the focus and attention should be through the junior high and high school years because it is the prediction of the future," she said.

Bridge 2 Success has about 30 volunteers. Young, a Tech alumna, said most of the volunteers are from



PHOTO BY REUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Toreador

DARIUS LUCKEL, DIRECTOR of Texas Tech's Visions of Light gospel choir, teaches teens from Bridge of Lubbock, a youth outreach program, how to sing in a choir Tuesday at the former Posey Elementary building.

Tech. She said the mentor program has individuals as well as several groups from Tech, including Pegasus, Mentor Tech and the Visions of Light Gospel choir.

She said Bridge 2 Success recently has partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters. With the partnership, the mentoring program is beginning to offer one-on-one matches, which according to research, she said, are the most effective matches for children. As of now there is one match, but more are being formed.

The one-on-one match already made is with Brady Horn, a Tech student from Olney. Horn, a senior in social work, said she began to volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters this semester.

"I just want to get some experience in different places before I have to get out there and figure out what I want to do," she said.

Horn said she believes Bridge 2

Success is a great program and the children seem to enjoy it a lot. She has only known the child she is partnered with for a week but said she's sweet. Horn believes more Tech students should be involved with inner-city children.

"I think it changes your perception on a lot of things and opens your minds on what's going on," Horn said.

DeVaughn Goulbourne, another volunteer at the mentoring program said he agreed. Goulbourne, a freshman in pre-medicine from McKinney, has learned life lessons and become more of a rounded individual by helping others.

Goulbourne said he had volunteered a lot prior to helping out at the Bridge 2 Success program. He became involved with Bridge 2 Success one day while leaving church when he was asked if he was interested in volunteering

with inner-city children. Without even thinking he answered, "Yes."

"Some of these kids don't have fathers; don't have people at home," Goulbourne said. "They don't have mentors in their life, and even if you don't think you are, you are theirs."

He said the volunteers really mean a lot to the children. Nicole Mitchell, the president of Mentor Tech and a volunteer at the program, said students at Tech would be surprised to see how excited the children are to see them.

Mitchell, a junior in pre-medicine from Lubbock, said Mentor Tech got involved because the group's adviser approached them with the program and as a group they thought it would be a good opportunity.

MENTOR continued on page 3 >>>

49ers agree to 6-year deal with WR Crabtree

By JANIE MCCAULEY
AP SPORTS WRITER

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Michael Crabtree is confident he can play a big role for the San Francisco 49ers as a rookie even though he's months behind.

He will get his chances in an offense that could really use him.

Crabtree signed a six-year contract early Wednesday after a drawn-out negotiation process that had some wondering whether the star wide receiver would ever show up this season.

"It's a lot of relief off my shoulders," Crabtree said when formally introduced at team headquarters.

While specific terms of the deal, which was completed around 2 a.m. Wednesday, were not disclosed, Crabtree will receive nearly \$17 million in

and guaranteed money, according to a person familiar with the contract. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the details weren't made public.

Crabtree headed out Wednesday for his first practice as the 49ers prepare for Sunday's home game against Atlanta.

"Everybody came to a reachable agreement and it happened," Crabtree said, sporting a red No. 15 practice jersey and charcoal gray sweats. "I'm just glad I'm past that part. I'm very humble right now, man, it's a very humbling experience. Just getting a chance to sit back and better myself as a person, as a player, as a teammate. ... I feel like going through that it made me look at the world in a different way, look at my teammates a different way. Hopefully it will work out for the best."

The agreement was first reported by ESPN.com. Coach Mike Singletary called it a "fair deal for both parties involved."

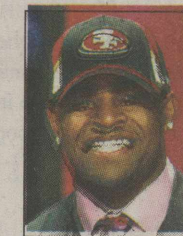
The former Texas Tech star was the only draft pick who hadn't signed—and even rapper MC Hammer got involved to finally make it happen.

Crabtree could provide the game-

breaking receiving threat the 49ers have been lacking, assuming he can quickly learn the offense after missing all of training camp. The 10th pick overall, he also sat out offseason mini-camps and organized team activities while recovering from a foot injury, but was a regular presence at the team's training facility.

Crabtree's counterparts at Tech are glad a deal is done as well.

Tech inside receivers coach Lincoln Riley, who went with Crabtree to the 2009 NFL Draft on April 25, said he has been talking the receiver throughout the whole process. Riley said he's been offering words of encouragement and reminding him to stay in shape, which Crabtree has done.



CRABTREE

"I know he let his agent and the management side handle all that," Riley said. "I don't think he was very involved in it. I know he said, 'Get me on the field as fast I can.' Just kind of relieved. Glad he did it. Glad that he was able to sign a good contract. Team's doing well."

Hopefully he can step in there and make a difference for them."

Riley said he is confident the 49ers will be able to get Crabtree on the field as soon as possible, considering his athletic ability.

He also said accompanying Crabtree to the NFL Draft is something he won't forget.

"That was an exciting moment," Riley said. "It's a strange day because your life changes, but every pick — it's weird. You just have to be there to feel it because guys' lives are changing every five minutes on the picks. It was a special moment. A lot of hard work, a lot of great plays, a lot of great memories culminated in that. It was special to be there with him."

CRABTREE continued on page 6 >>>

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WEATHER

Today

81/44



Scattered T-Storms

Friday

70/43



Partly Cloudy

POLL: NOW THAT CRABTREE HAS SIGNED, HOW MANY TOUCHDOWNS WILL HE SCORE THIS SEASON? TELL US @ WWW.DAILYTOREADOR.COM

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INBRIEF

STATE

Checkpoints briefly closed at Houston airport

HOUSTON (AP)—Security checkpoints in three of five terminals at a Houston airport were closed for about 15 minutes after a passenger accidentally got on an escalator going down, then turned around and ran back up.

Houston Airport System spokeswoman Marlene McClinton says that someone Wednesday reported the passenger at George Bush Intercontinental Airport as a potential breach. The passenger had been going down the escalator out of the secured area before running back up.

The checkpoints in the three terminals were closed. But then the person was quickly found and the situation sorted out.

McClinton says the passenger, who was changing planes in the airport, never actually crossed into the unsecured area, which begins just after passengers exit the escalator.

Checkpoints were reopened at 5:30 p.m. and McClinton says the brief closure caused "minimal disruption to operations."

NATION

Senate health care bill to cost \$829 billion

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congressional budget experts say the Senate Finance Committee's health care overhaul would cost \$829 billion over 10 years.

The Congressional Budget Office also projects that the latest version of the Finance bill would cover 94 percent of Americans, excluding illegal immigrants.

The new cost estimate is good

news for Democrats. The bill would be fully paid for through a mix of spending cuts and tax increases.

Release of the cost estimate means that Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus can call his committee together for a final vote on the bill, clearing the way for overhaul legislation to go to the full Senate.

WORLD

Pakistan's military rejects US aid bill

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's powerful military on Wednesday rejected U.S. attempts to link billions of dollars in foreign aid to increased monitoring of its anti-terror efforts, complicating American attempts to strike al-Qaida and Taliban fighters on the Afghan border.

Although the U.S.-backed government of President Asif Ali Zardari has the final say on whether to accept the money, the unusual public criticism threatens to force its hand and undermine military cooperation with the

Americans just as the Pakistani army prepares for what could be its most important offensive against extremists since the U.S.-led anti-terror campaign began exactly eight years ago.

Any breakdown in intelligence sharing and other types of cooperation would hurt the American fight against a resurgent Taliban in Afghanistan. U.S. and NATO commanders say the war there cannot be won unless Islamabad does more to tackle extremists on its side of the border.

Correction

In Wednesday's issue of *The Daily Treador*, in the photo for the article "Homecoming court narrowed down

to 20 finalists," Holt Martin was incorrectly identified as Travis Boothe. The *DT* regrets the error.

Pot legalization gains momentum in California

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Marijuana advocates are gathering signatures to get at least three pot-legalization measures on the ballot in 2010 in California, setting up what could be a groundbreaking clash with the federal government over U.S. drug policy.

At least one poll shows voters would support lifting the pot prohibition, which would make the state of 40 million the first in the nation to legalize marijuana.

Such action would also send the state into a headlong conflict with the U.S. government while raising questions

about how federal law enforcement could enforce its drug laws in the face of a massive government-sanctioned pot industry.

The state already has a thriving marijuana trade, thanks to a first-of-its-kind 1996 ballot measure that allowed people to smoke pot for medical purposes. But full legalization could turn medical marijuana dispensaries into all-purpose pot stores, and the open sale of joints could become commonplace on mom-and-pop liquor store counters in liberal locales like Oakland and Santa Cruz.

Medical students branch out, help uninsured

By JASON HARTLINE
STAFF WRITER

In light of rising health care costs, Texas Tech University Health Science Center medical students have created a free medical clinic in the heart of the Hub City to assist those who may not be able to afford the higher prices of health care.

"The Free Clinic is completely staffed on a volunteer basis," said Brian Mahmood, a 24-year-old second-year medical student from El Paso and one of the founding members of the Free Clinic. "We have medical students in their first, second and third year under the guidance of volunteering physicians as well as very important members that volunteer their time to run the registration desk at the front of the clinic."

The HSC, Lubbock IMPACT and Lubbock Aid Ambulance work in tandem in The Family Church building on the corner of 34th Street and Boston Avenue to provide the Free Clinic from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

"We're taking the first six months as kind of a trial run," said Revathi Ravi, a 23-year-old second-year medical student and co-founder of the Free Clinic. "We took mainly medical student volunteers for the first part, but we hope to bring in nursing students in the future as well."

When the clinic first started, Mahmood said he was doing the scheduling with only a pen and a planner.

"Before the first week was over, the scheduling of medical students, physicians and various other volunteers was completely out of hand," he said. "I joined up with the HSC IT Department and the student services department to help me out. They created an online sign-up system that made things a lot easier and more efficient. Within the first week of the creation of the system, we were full for the rest of the semester."

Some of the top physicians also have volunteered their time to the clinic.

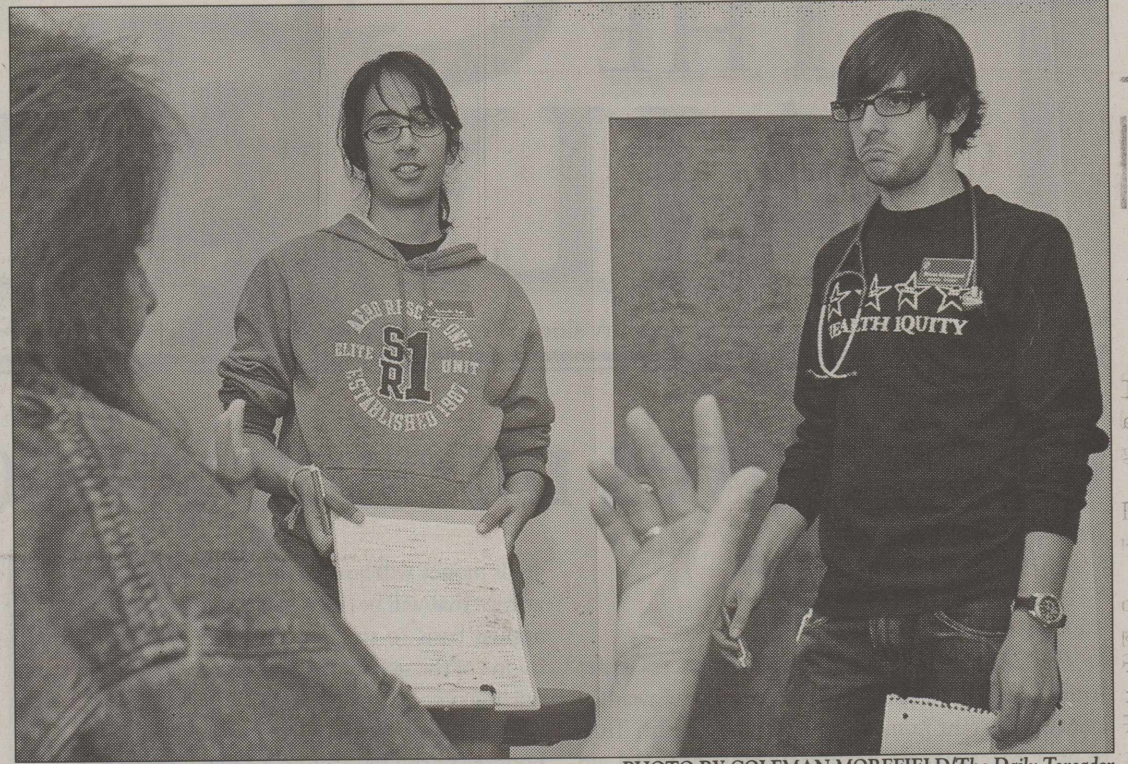


PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/*The Daily Treador*

REVATHI RAVI, LEFT, a graduate medical student from Richardson, and Brian Mahmood, a graduate medical student from El Paso, help treat patients during a free clinic Wednesday at The Family Church near Boston and 34th Street.

"The patients are getting to see some of the top people in the medical field," Mahmood said. "Like Leigh Ann Jenkins, the chief of cardiology, has come in one more than one occasion."

Patients who are uninsured and cannot afford medication that visit the Free Clinic also are entitled to the program implemented that offers most medications for free through the Wal-Mart pharmacy on Fourth Street and Avenue Q, if not in stock already at the Free Clinic. Mahmood said the Free Clinic is able to operate through donations of various groups and organizations.

"It's amazing how professors, even early on, would come up to us and say, 'Here's a couple of bottles of aspirin,'" he said. "Those couple of bottles really go a long

way when most people come in here and truly can't afford aspirin."

After the patient receives the medical care they need, they are able to go into a resource counselor's office that assists in seeing if the patient is qualified for some sort of Medicaid.

"The reason most people around here do not have some sort of government assistance is because they may not even know if they are eligible," said Nyssa Martinez, an on-site resource counselor. "It takes about five minutes to see if they are eligible. We then assist them in filling out the paper work and putting them on the right track."

Almost one-fourth of Lubbock's population is uninsured, Mahmood said.

"There is so much more taught here

than diagnosing people," Ravi said. "It is an amazing thing to learn early on how to offer health care and not health diagnosing."

Other members of the team include Carlos Ortiz and Natalie Friehe, both second-year medical students.

The medical student team is under the direction of Dr. Kelly Bennett as medical director and Ryan Bullard as clinic director.

"We do this for the person next to us, our neighbors and fellow citizens that may not be able to afford health care," Ravi said. "They need proper health care just like I do. Being able to help people reminds us weekly why we entered into the medical field."

>>> jason.hartline@ttu.edu

POLICE BLOTTER

Soapy substance poured into Pfluger Fountain twice

Sept. 30

10:15 a.m., an officer investigated a theft of a black North Face jacket that was stolen from the Student Union Building.

11:27 a.m., an officer documented a medical call at the Stangel/Murdough Residence Hall loading dock where a student fainted after cutting his finger. The student refused further treatment.

12:51 p.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run accident in which a vehicle struck an unattended vehicle in the R-18 parking lot.

2:25 p.m., an officer investigated theft of an unattended backpack in the Electrical Engineering building.

3:38 p.m., an officer investigated a scratched driver's side door on a vehicle in the Z6-A parking lot.

4:36 p.m., an officer documented a damaged window in the Exercise Sciences building.

6:50 p.m., two officers investigated a false report to a peace officer that was made Aug. 15 by a female student who said she was assaulted at Murray Residence Hall. The student admitted to knowingly making a false report and providing false statements for the investigation that followed.

7:30 p.m., an officer documented information about alleged domestic violence at an off-campus location between two Sam's Place non-student employees. The investigation was taken over by the Lubbock Police Department.

9:36 p.m., an officer documented a medical call in which a student dislocated his shoulder in the recreational soccer fields east of the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. The student was transported to University Medical Center.

9:59 p.m., an officer investigated the burning of door decorations that caused minor damage to a door and carpet at Wall/Gates Residence Hall.

Oct. 1

8:18 a.m., an officer investigated an accident between two Texas Tech

vehicles in the Wiggins Dining Hall parking lot. One of the vehicles backed into the other.

10:35 a.m., an officer responded to a medical call at the Chemistry building in which a staff member reported feeling light headed. The staff member was transported to the Covenant emergency room for further evaluation.

11:17 a.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run accident in the C-1 parking lot of the Health Sciences Center.

5:00 p.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run accident in the Z4-M parking lot.

8:43 p.m., an officer investigated an accident at the intersection of 19th Street and Boston Avenue. Minor injuries were reported.

9:14 p.m., an officer investigated a class Assault in the Z4-M parking lot. A Lubbock Wrecker Service employee was attempting to tow a student's car when the student pushed the employee, got into his vehicle and drove away.

11:13 p.m., an officer arrested a non-student in the S-1 parking lot for failure to identify and one outstanding Lubbock Police Department warrant. The non-student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

Oct. 2

2:52 a.m., an officer arrested a student in the 1500 block of Akron Avenue for public intoxication. The student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

9:14 a.m., an officer investigated an accident at the intersection of Texas Tech Parkway and 10th Street. Minor injuries were reported.

6:48 p.m., an officer detained a non-student who was reported as being disoriented in Urbanovsky Park. The non-student was transported to the UMC emergency room for an emergency detention.

8:46 p.m., an officer investigated theft of a large roll of carpet from the first floor of Sneed Residence Hall.

11:50 p.m., an officer arrested two

students on the east side of Bledsoe Residence Hall for possession of marijuana. The students were transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

Oct. 3

12:45 a.m., an officer investigated the burglary of a generator was reported stolen from the bed of a pickup between the dates of Sept. 27 to Sept. 28.

1:45 a.m., an officer arrested a student in the 300 block of University Avenue for driving while intoxicated. The student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

3:45 p.m., an officer arrested two non-students at Gate 1 of Jones AT&T Stadium for public intoxication. The non-students were transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

3:55 p.m., a Department of Public Safety trooper arrested a non-student for public intoxication at Gate 1 of Jones AT&T Stadium. He was transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

Oct. 4

7:35 a.m., an officer investigated criminal mischief to the Pfluger Fountain. A soapy substance was poured into the fountain.

2:42 p.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run accident in the Z5-C parking lot in which a vehicle struck an unattended vehicle.

5:09 p.m., an officer investigated a motor vehicle evading arrest or detention at Fourth Street and Indiana Avenue.

7:49 p.m., an officer investigated a damaged rear wheel on a bicycle located at the west bicycle racks of Murdough Residence Hall.

Oct. 5

12:14 a.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run accident in the Z4-P parking in which a vehicle struck an unattended vehicle.

1:35 p.m., an officer investigated an accident in the C-11 parking lot. No injuries were reported.

2:57 p.m., an officer investigated a report of a student who had suicidal ideations at the Carpenter/Wells Residence Hall. The student was transported to UMC emergency room.

Oct. 6

1:04 a.m., an officer arrested a student for driving with an invalid license at the intersection of Drive of Champions and Red Raider Avenue. The student was

transported to the Lubbock County Jail. 1:34 a.m., an officer investigated a damaged video camera on the east side of Weymouth Residence Hall.

2:41 a.m., two officers arrested a non-student in the 4700 block of North Loop 289 for public intoxication. The non-student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

4:12 a.m., an officer investigated criminal mischief to the Pfluger Fountain. Soap was placed in the fountain.

8:40 a.m., an officer investigated the theft of an iPhone from the Advanced Technology Learning Center of the University Library.

9:45 a.m., an officer investigated the theft of an unsecured woman's Roadmaster 18-speed bicycle taken from the north bicycle rack at the Marsha Sharp Center for Student-Athletes.

10:59 a.m., an officer documented information about an accident between a motor vehicle and a bicyclist in the 3000 block of 18th Street on Oct. 5. Minor injuries were reported.

11:28 a.m., an officer investigated forged checks by an unknown person at the Texas Tech Federal Credit Union. A Tech Health Sciences Center employee's information was used to create the checks.

11:30 a.m., an officer documented a student's lost wallet and its contents somewhere between Weymouth Residence Hall and Horn Residence Hall.

1:18 p.m., an officer investigated a hit-and-run accident in which a vehicle struck an unattended vehicle in the C-1 parking lot.

1:36 p.m., an officer documented a medical call in which a student fell from his skateboard and injured his ankle in the R-8 parking lot. The student was transported to the UMC emergency room.

1:38 p.m., an officer documented an unwanted telephone call on the east side of the University Library.

2:47 p.m., an officer investigated an accident at Flint Avenue and 19th Street. No injuries were reported.

3:45 p.m., an officer investigated an accident between a motor vehicle and a bicycle at the intersection of Broadway and Akron Avenue. Minor injuries were reported.

>>> allyson.schell@ttu.edu

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

ACROSS

- 1 Athenian with harsh laws
- 6 "Star Wars" princess
- 10 Hip-hop mogul who married Beyoncé
- 14 Grapevine traveler
- 15 Srs.' lobbying gp.
- 16 "Dias...hymn
- 17 Get hitched quick
- 18 Jam on the brakes
- 20 Stick-on design
- 21 Go astray
- 22 Press conf. format
- 23 Soft court stroke
- 25 Wallowing place
- 26 Pasture
- 27 Colorfully patterned fabric
- 31 Songstress Adams
- 34 FCA Victor pooch
- 37 Altar consent
- 38 Small family businesses
- 41 Driver's lic. et al.
- 42 Land a hand
- 43 Fast time
- 44 Gender
- 46 Embarrassed
- 48 World Series mo.
- 49 Stir-fried dish
- 54 Legend automaker
- 57 Cross shape
- 58 Yellowish earth tone
- 59 Hush-hush activities, briefly, and a hint to the hidden theme in 18-, 23-, 38- and 49-Across
- 61 Magician Henning et al.
- 62 Region
- 63 Shoshoneans
- 64 the side of caution
- 65 College official
- 66 Like slasher movies
- 67 1954-1977 defense gp.

DOWN

- 1 "Judge...": Stallone film
- 2 School tool
- 3 Big name in gas
- 4 Admit one's guilt to serve less time
- 5 Threat-ending words
- 6 Rodeo rope
- 7 Weird AI Yankovic parody of a Michael Jackson hit
- 8 It's pumped in gyms
- 9 PC program
- 10 Holy wars
- 11 Elvis... Presley
- 12 Swing set site
- 13 Epsilon follower
- 19 Water gun stream
- 24 Desk phone unit
- 25 Orchestra leader
- 27 Third afterthought, in a tr.
- 28 Old Italian money
- 29 Paradise
- 30 Eddie of the '40s-'50s Senators
- 31 German artist Nolde
- 32 Dirmwit
- 33 "Excited": Painter Sisters hit
- 35 ...dixit: assertion without proof
- 36 Luau fare
- 39 Sprint Cup org.
- 40 It may take years to settle one
- 45 Seoul man
- 47 Lyric poems
- 49 Playful prank
- 50 Brazen mixx
- 51 "Star Trek" communications officer
- 52 Grain disease
- 53 Like some simple questions
- 54 West Point, e.g.: Abbr.
- 55 Apple center
- 56 Eye part containing the iris
- 57 He bit Miss Gulch in a 1939 film
- 60 Pull hard

By Donna S. Levin 10/8/09

Wednesday's Puzzle Solver

ACT ABLE PAYERS
DOA DOOR LIELOW
ANCHORAGE ALASKA
METER FOX Y RASP
SEC I TOO
A P A S A G E T O I N D I A
E L S E L A V L E A D S
T I T L A F R A M E S N I T
N E I L L D A N O N O R
A R R I V E D E R C I R O M A
P A L E E N D
R O A R Y M C A S E G A R
A N G E L S I N A M E R I C A
I C E A G E B R A T Z I T
D E E D E E C P A S A D S

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Musical, unconventional duo spreads message of love

By **CARRIE THORNTON**
STAFF WRITER

Musicians Jason Warner and deMarco DeCiccio shared their music and stories about how they came to be a successful, gay married couple.

The duo performed at the Escondido Theatre Wednesday night to a full house, standing room only.

"Their message is that music is one of the most powerful methods of speaking and reaching others," said Roy Rios, coordinator of community education and development for Women's Protective Services, as he introduced the pair.

Jason and deMarco's upbeat harmonies dealt mostly with love and unity, and between songs they shared pieces of their lives with the audience.

"Jason was a traveling gospel singer," DeCiccio said. "I first heard a song of his while doing side-work in the restaurant I worked at."

The manager at the restaurant introduced Warner to him, DeCiccio said, and after dating for a year, they began to travel and perform together.

Now, the couple has been together for eight years and celebrated their first wedding anniversary last month, DeCiccio said. Because they constantly travel, they hardly spend time apart, and some would assume that no space would cause problems.

"We just make it work," Warner said as he smiled at his partner.

The pair has released several spiritual albums, and their newest, SAFE, is meant

to be a bridge into the mainstream, he said. All of their music, however, relates back to the same message.

"Be the light' is our message," Warner said. "There is so much darkness in the world today, and people need to be (reminded) that diversity is such a beautiful thing because when we were little, many of us were taught that being different meant you were weird and not accepted."

Coury Christe, sophomore geophysics major from Houston, said she came to the event with the Gay-Straight Alliance.

"It was so good. I really liked it," Christe said. "Seeing their relationship impacted me the most. It was inspiring to see a successful gay couple who enjoy each other."

Although Christe holds no religious beliefs, she said she enjoyed hearing the spiritual aspect of their work, and that it was nice they include religion in their music where some may expect it to be void of such concepts.

Soña Jimenez, a freshman animal science major from Lubbock, said she also came to the show to support the Gay-Straight Alliance and was impressed by the performance.

"It was very enlightening," Jimenez said. "It said a lot about our community as a college and Lubbock to bring these men here and hear their message."

What impacted her most was when Warner advocated that it is OK to disagree, she said. His and DeCiccio's mission was not to make everyone share their views, but just to understand them.



PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Toreador

THE SINGING GROUP Jason and deMarco — Jason Warner, left, and deMarco DeCiccio — perform Wednesday night in the Escondido Theatre. The event is part of the GLBTQ awareness month and homeComing OUT Week.

Although Jimenez said she had never heard of the group before, she came to the event to support the GLBTQ event, because without visible support and attendance from students and the community, these events cannot continue and be successful.

"I'm really glad I came here tonight. (The university) definitely has a need for more events like this," Jimenez said.

Several members of the GLBTQ Steering Committee also attended, including Tricia Earl, coordinator of Texas Tech's Women's Studies Program.

"I thought it was awesome," Earl said. "We had a great turnout and a good crowd, it showed the support (we have) from the community."

It was a great way to start off the

GLBTQ awareness month, Earl said, and she hopes attendance continues to remain high at every following event. She believes couples' message has the potential to impact the Lubbock and Tech community despite the area's conservative reputation.

"I think some folks ... will realize their message comes from a spiritual background," she said. "And Lubbock,

being a spiritual community, it won't be that much of a stretch to make the connection."

"God bless you guys," Warner said after his and DeCiccio's last song.

And they took a bow as the audience, in unison, stood and clapped, cheered and whistled in show of their support of the duo's performance.

>>> carrie.thornton@ttu.edu

Big dino prints found in Jurassic park in France

PARIS (AP) — Now that's one big foot.

Paleontologists in eastern France have reported the discovery of some of the largest dinosaur footprints ever documented, measuring about 1.4 meters to 1.5 meters (4.6 feet to 4.9 feet) in diameter.

The site of the find, high in the Jura mountains, was once a literal sauropod stomping ground: So far, 20 prints scattered on a 10-hectare (25-acre) site have been uncovered, paleontologist Jean-Michel Mazin of France's National Center of Scientific Research told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

Researchers believe there are hundreds, or even thousands, more still hidden, Mazin said.

The well-preserved footprints from the Late Jurassic period will help scientists learn more about sauropods, long-necked plant eaters that were giants among the dinosaurs. The hulking beasts who left their footprints in the mud 150 million years ago weighed 30 to 40 metric tons (33 to 44 tons) and were more than 25 meters (82 feet) long, the French research

center said.

From the prints, "we can calculate their size and speed, find out about their behavior and learn how they got around," said Mazin, who is studying the site along with fellow researcher Pierre Hantzpergue. Their discovery was announced Tuesday.

Several scientists who are not connected with the project said the prints appeared to be among the biggest ever found internationally, though they noted that slightly larger tracks have been recorded elsewhere.

Andrew Milner, paleontologist at the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm in southwestern Utah, looked at photos of the French craters and said, "You get a real sense of the weight of the animals, you can see a big, clear mud ring around the footprints."

"It looks like a pretty amazing site — I'm blown away," Milner added. Daniel Marty, a paleontologist who is excavating dino tracks along a highway under construction in Switzerland, said the French site is "very interest-

ing, there is this huge potential for excavation."

Two eagle-eyed nature lovers, Marie-Helene Marcaud and Patrice Landry, discovered the site on a path through a mountain prairie and reported it to scientists. Hikers often passed by, but nobody had reported dino prints before.

"They were very hard to see because there were a lot of little stones (on the ground), there was grass growing there, and you really had to have a trained eye to notice something," said Mazin, the French researcher.

The Jura mountains gave the Jurassic period their name because rocks from the period were found there. Back then, the area resembled the Bahamas, all water and islands.

Mazin said the dinosaurs are believed to have left their tracks near the water in mud, which then dried in the sun and was set like plaster. The sea slowly washed sediment onto the prints, trapping them and sealing them off — which protected them throughout history, even

Shelter dogs turn show biz in 'Dalmatians' musical

NEW YORK (AP) — There are no divas among the cast of "The 101 Dalmatians Musical," but plenty of stars. Take Rascal, the puppy with a broken leg who was rescued from the side

A late addition to the cast of more than a dozen dogs — most from shelters — Rascal has become "the charmer of the bunch," said animal trainer Joel Slaven.

"I thought, 'Just what I need

is what I was meant to be."

Mentor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She said the group's volunteering with Bridge 2 Success has been more consistent than with any other program they have helped with. She said by volunteering with Bridge 2 Success, the members of Mentor Tech show they have investment because they form relationships with the children.

"We really feel the impact with the kids on the personal level," she said.

Mitchell said Mentor Tech has created an original project in conjunction with the Bridge 2 Success program that should begin next month. It is called the "adopt a class project" and volunteers with Mentor Tech help high school students with the process of applying to college. Through the project, they will assist students by helping them fill out FASFA forms and building their resumes. She said many of the volunteers are first-generation college students, so they can relate to the children here who would be mostly first-generation college students as well.

"It's easier to relate," Mitchell said, "and give them the steps on how to do it and how to overcome that mindset."

Mitchell said the Bridge 2

Success mentoring program addresses life skills the children can carry on to home and school. She said Tuesday she was with a group of children at the program where they were discussing life issues. The mentors began to give the children advice when one of the girls said, "Wow, this is great advice. I'm going to take this and try this tomorrow."

"Here you actually feel like you're making a difference," she said.

Young said Bridge 2 Success happens every Tuesday night. During the program there is time designated to schoolwork,

mentor groups, devotionals, creative expressions, as well as a dinner in a family setting.

She said they have family dinner because she wanted to instill dinner is a meaningful time to share a meal with people you care about. She said the program teaches the children values such as leadership, goal setting and respect.

"We're providing an outlet to how they can express themselves," Young said. "It's good to have healthy ways to express yourself."

>>> emily.moser@ttu.edu

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Texas court rules in favor of same-sex divorce, marriage

Last Thursday, Dallas state District Judge Tena Callahan ruled Texas can grant a divorce to same-sex couples.

The couple, who only want to be known as J.B. and H.B., were married in Massachusetts, where same-sex marriage is legal. They moved to Texas where their marriage apparently fell apart and now want a divorce.

Texas Attorney General Gregg Abbott intervened, arguing Texas cannot grant a divorce to a marriage it does not recognize. This is because in 2005 Texas, unfortunately, voted to ban same-sex marriages and civil unions.

Callahan denied Abbott's intervention and ruled not only can the couple get a divorce but also ruled Texas' ban on same sex marriage violates the equal protections clause of the United States Constitution. This ruling came as a surprise and sent shockwaves throughout the country.

Abbott is going to appeal the ruling. I hope our appeals court makes the correct decision and upholds Callahan's ruling. There are plenty of reasons why they should.

First, Texas must recognize any marriage from another state under the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the United States Constitution. In *Finstuen v. Crutcher*, the Tenth District Court of



Paul Williamson

Appeals ruled an Oklahoma law pertaining to same-sex adoption violated the Full Faith and Credit Clause.

The Full Faith and Credit Clause clearly states, "Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State." It should be clear every state should recognize the same-sex marriage granted by one state just as it should recognize marriages done by other states of one man and one woman.

No state can make any exception to this clause, and those exceptions ought to be ruled unconstitutional by any state's jurisdiction.

The argument traditional marriage defenders have is since the public ruled in favor of the ban, the courts should uphold the public's view. When it comes to this case, the public never voted on Texas' ability to grant same-sex divorces.

However, when the public's vote violates the Constitution, it should not matter what the public voted in favor of. Which brings me to the final, and biggest, reason Callahan's ruling ought to be upheld.

Any ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional under the 14th Amendment.

"No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of

life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

"At the point a state grants property rights protections to couples of the opposite sex and not to couples of the same sex, it violates the equal protections clause of the 14th Amendment."

Pay attention to SGA resolution

Resolution 45.14, passed by the Student Government Association Student Senate last Thursday, has garnered quite a heated response from many members of the Texas Tech student body. Although I applaud the critics for being involved in this contemporary discourse (an involvement that is unfortunately neglected by too large a percentage of the student body), I feel much of the collective energy is being wasted on misinformed attacks caused by an inaccurate depiction of the resolution.

The resolution, which relates in general to a plus-minus grading system, has become popularly portrayed across campus as an effort by the SGA to radically alter the present GPA system of the university by implementing a plus-minus system under which an A minus would calculate as one-third of a point below 4.0, while a B plus would calculate as one-third of a point above 3.0, and so forth.

Already, Facebook groups have sprung up in condemnation of this SGA plot to sabotage the average student's grade point average.

The resolution, co-sponsored by Laura Stout, chairwoman of the Senate Academic Committee, is not geared toward the implementation of policy changes. Rather, it is an effort to gauge student sentiment on this issue. In short, the resolution adds a three-question referendum to the upcoming Homecoming Election ballot. The questions to be posed to the student body are:

1. How would the implementation of a plus-minus grading system impact your GPA? (Improve, Hurt, No Effect)

2. How would the implementation of a plus-minus grading system affect your competitiveness in application to graduate, medical or law school when compared

Levi Schlegel



to students coming from institutions not using this system? (Help, Hurt, No Effect)

3. How would the implementation of a plus-minus grading system impact the amount of time/effort you spent on your classes? (I would spend more time/effort on class, I would spend less time/effort on class, No Effect)

In light of the recent adoption of this grading system by the University of Texas, and the fact the possible implementation of this system by Tech has been discussed at various levels over the past number of years, the authors of the resolution thought it pertinent to obtain a student perspective on the issue. Although there are no plans to alter the grading scale at Tech, this initiative ensures that, in the event of such a proposal, the student voice will not be mute.

I can only hope the enthusiasm which so many have exhibited during the past few days for ensuring their (often irate) voices are heard on this issue, persists even once the fear of an imminent change is dispelled. Although responses to this ballot referendum do not carry with them the immediacy of change that many felt, they may well dramatically impact the course of future decisions.

Should a change to the grading scale be proposed in the future, I urge you to ensure your voice is not silent, make your voice heard this week.

Schlegel is a senior global affairs major from Tribune, Kan.
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Stay health-conscious this cold season

Football season is well under way. Baseball playoffs are about to begin. It is safe to say the fall season is upon us. Along with these great sporting events that take place this time of year, so does cold season.

Recent scares of the H1N1 virus, or swine flu, have people worried they could be deathly ill with every cough, sneeze or nasal congestion. People are rushing out to get flu shots or swine flu vaccinations before taking the proper steps to ensure good health.

Being someone who very rarely gets sick, I believe most of these illnesses can be prevented by simply practicing healthy habits. These healthy habits are minor things we are taught as children but seem to be forgotten or ignored when we get to college. Washing your hands before you eat, washing your hands after a cough or sneeze, sneezing into the bend of your arm, and not sharing drinks or eating after one-another; all these things can help prevent getting unnecessary bacteria into your immune system.

I'm sure most of us keep these things in mind this time of year when we really need to be cautious of our health. However,



Travis Ellington

there are many other ways to practice healthy habits that we are not taught as children, especially when it comes to Friday and Saturday night. I am most specifically talking about a game that involves a table, 10 cups and two awfully disgusting pingpong balls. Everyone knows the game I am talking about, and it has to be the unhealthiest game I can think of.

Think about the number of people you meet at a party and shake hands with. Then you pick up this ball that has managed to touch the hands of everyone there, as well as the ground of

the garage or back patio, only to be "washed off" by a cup of water (most likely dirty from the previous 12 games). The same cups are used for every game and are never sterilized. Which means the people playing are drinking after the people who played right before them, and the people who played before them, and so on.

We can avoid these long trips to the doctor and painful vaccinations by being health conscious and taking preventative measures to promote good health. Another form of preventative measures not many college students have concerns about is the consumption of vitamins. There is no way to consume all the vitamins and nutrients our body needs on a daily basis by eating "healthy" foods. Juices are expensive and they don't make a "recommended daily protein and vitamin"

"We can avoid these long trips to the doctor and painful vaccinations by being health conscious and taking preventative measures to promote good health."

flavor of Ramen Noodles.

A once-daily tablet could do wonders for our health, but not many students think to buy vitamins. Even the chewable Flintstones vitamins (which are delicious by the way) give you a complete days worth of important vitamins and minerals our body needs to build muscles, bones and other vital tissues. Even if most of it gets stuck in your teeth, at least some vitamins are better than going the whole day without any.

We should all be health conscious, especially this time of year. Take the protective measures such as washing your hands and covering your mouth, to the extreme. Try to avoid putting that pen you just borrowed from your neighbor in your mouth. If you go out on the weekends, wash the cups and the balls with soap before you take on the "winners." Most importantly, take your vitamins and eat a good breakfast before you hop on the bus that is shoulder-to-shoulder and standing room only.

Ellington is a junior business major from Midland.
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THE 7-DAY WEEKEND...

... because you'd rather not see your family during Fall Break

THURSDAY
Oktoberfest

•It's a feast ... in October. Germans and college students commemorate the beginning of October every year by drinking copious amounts of alcohol. This is at least somewhat genuine, with German wines and cheeses being served.

WHEN: 6 p.m.
WHERE: Triple J Chop-house & Brew Co. 1807 Buddy Holly Ave.
COST: Depends on how much you drink

FRIDAY

"Thoroughly Modern Millie"

•LCU is putting on its version of this musical set in New York City. Millie is the 1920s version of a gold digger, but (of course) falls in love with a poor guy. The kind of poor where he has no money.

WHEN: 8 p.m.
WHERE: LCU McDonald Moody Auditorium
COST: \$15

SATURDAY

Homecoming parade

•Come check out various organizations' hard work on floats, listen to the Goin' Band and get all riled up for the game. You'll have plenty of time to tailgate and still make it to the game against Kansas State, which starts at 6 p.m.

WHEN: 10 a.m.
WHERE: First Baptist Church on Broadway
COST: Free

SUNDAY

Film: "Journey To A Hate Free Millennium"

•This film examines emotional responses to hate, such as the Columbine shootings and the murders motivated by race or sexual orientation. The Unitarians will join with the Student Counseling Center for a discussion after.

WHEN: 11 a.m.
WHERE: First Unitarian Universalist Church, 2801 42nd St.
COST: Free

MONDAY

Wings & Pizza Night

•If you're still in town during fall break, you'll be able to sleep in and then head out to catch a Brett Favre-free version of Monday Night Football when the Jets take on the Dolphins. Live it up, there's no class tomorrow.

WHEN: 7 p.m.
WHERE: Melt Restaurant & Lounge
COST: \$7.99 pizza, 35 cent wings

TUESDAY

David Kalhous, Faculty Recital

•Kalhous has played with the Czech Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra and the Israel Symphony Orchestra, among others. The Hemmle might be a less impressive venue, but Kalhous is sure to delight.

WHEN: 7 p.m.
WHERE: Hemmle Recital Hall
COST: Free

WEDNESDAY

College Bowl

•Put on your thinking cap, or just sit and soak up some knowledge. Teams of four answer general knowledge questions this Jeopardy!-style game show for the right to represent Texas Tech at the regional College Bowl.

WHEN: 5 p.m.
WHERE: Student Union Lubbock and Senate Rooms
COST: Free

GET YOUR GOAT

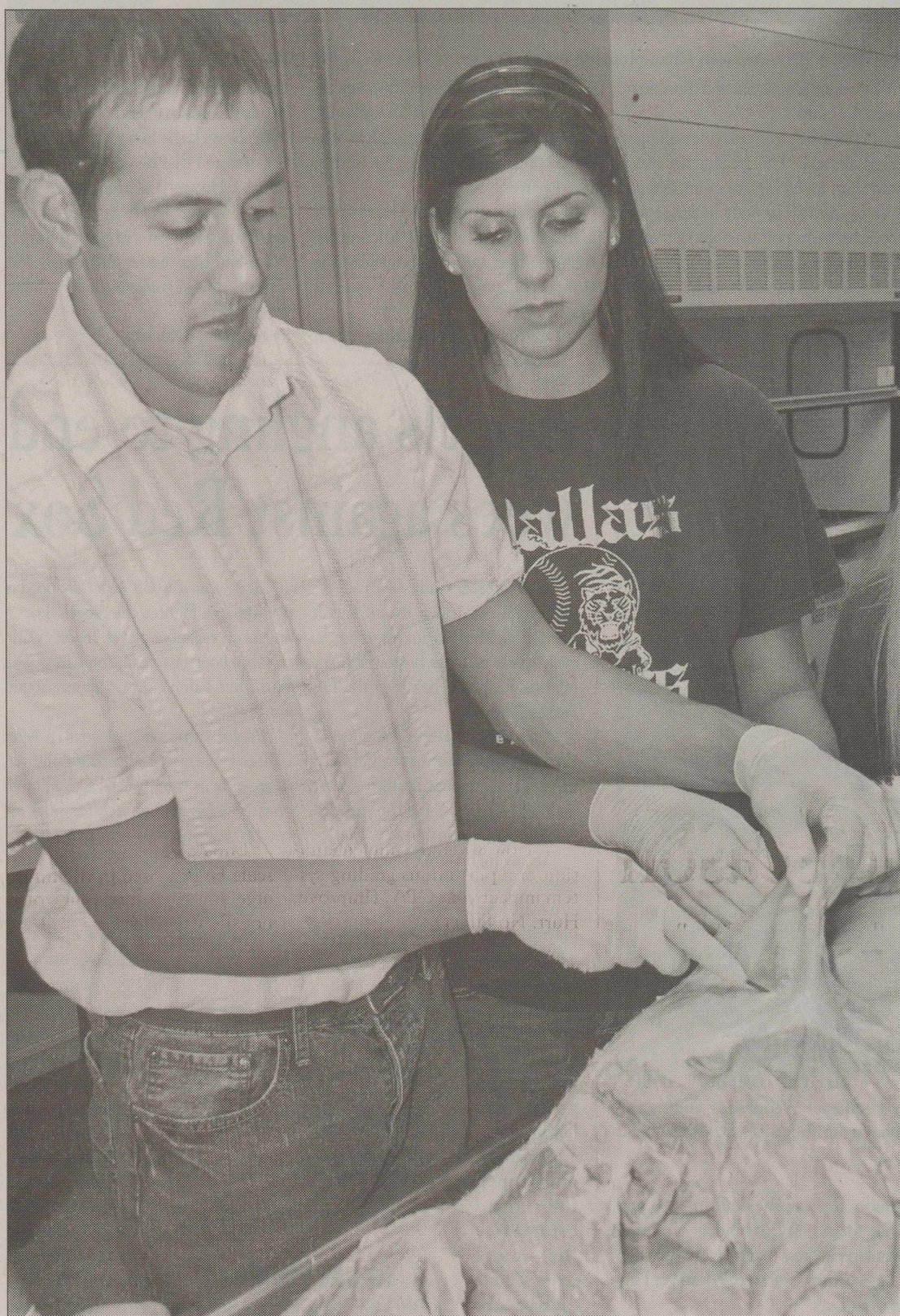


PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

RYAN SCHWAB, LEFT, a sophomore animal science major from Friona, and Hillary Bryant, a sophomore animal science major from Plano, remove the skin and fat of "big mama," the goat, to reveal the muscles they need to study for the principles of anatomy of domestic animals class Wednesday at the Animal Science building.

Keys gets down to business with new company

NEW YORK (AP) — Alicia Keys has influenced many lives with her soulful, heartaching piano-driven songs for almost a decade.

Now that the 12-time Grammy winner has established herself as one of music's brightest stars, Keys is ready to inspire others — without singing a tune.

Keys is launching AK Worldwide, a new company that will handle the singer's projects, especially those outside of music.

"It really explores the ways I can affect the world in a positive way, even outside of music," Keys said in an interview Tuesday.

"It is really about finding ways to bring forth things into the world that will give you and all the people that encounter them, and myself, inspiration," she said.

The first project for the 28-year-old is The Barber's Daughters, a handcrafted jewelry line engraved with messages of hope and wisdom.

"The words, when you read them, they really do resonate with

you. They kind of inspire you to want to find that place in yourself," she said, sporting a silver oval ring that read: "May you find inspiration and meaning soaked in the wonders of the imagination cradled in compassion of the heart and hold a will to make difference."

Keys also will launch a new Web site, iamasuperwoman.com, devoted to spotlighting inspirational women and causes that will fill a missing gap in the blogosphere, Keys said.

"It really explores the ways I can affect the world in a positive way, even outside of music."

ALICIA KEYS

12-TIME GRAMMY WINNER

"It really calls out to all those brilliant, amazing, fantastic women every day that are doing their thing and need

kind of a community to support each other," she said.

Keys said the creativity required to be a businesswoman has spilled over to her music, and that it's reflected on her fourth studio CD, "The Element of Freedom," to be released Dec. 1.

"We have the ability to be totally free, to be totally unstoppable, and there's no heights that you can't reach," Keys said. "So I totally love

that and that's what the music feels like, and that's what everything that I'm doing sounds like."

The lead single, "Doesn't Mean Anything," teaches people that having success is unimportant unless there's someone to share it with, Keys said.

The next single, "Try Sleeping With a Broken Heart," is "mean, mean, mean," she said.

The CD finds Keys working again with her musical partner, Crucial Keys, and producer Jeff Bhasker, who recently produced tracks on the latest albums from Jay-Z and Kanye West.

Keys credits Oprah Winfrey and other business-minded people with turning on her entrepreneurial spirit.

"Why do I love Oprah? Because she's able to bring you things that will really change your life," Keys said. "They're part of your life in a meaningful way, and those are the things I want to be apart of."

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Windows 7 launch comes in 6 flavors

Oct. 22 is fast approaching, meaning you've only got a mere two weeks to get your Windows 7 launch party ready.

Actually, the whole concept of these Microsoft-themed celebrations makes me kind of sad, and not just because the ridiculously awesome houseparty.com domain is now dedicated entirely to Windows 7's existence. I digress.

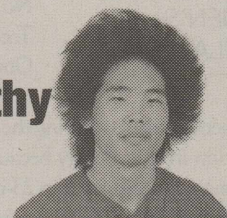
Though the first retail computers to come preloaded with Windows 7 will come out alongside the actual OS release, paying a couple thousand dollars probably isn't your ideal upgrade method and, according to an Engadget review of such a system, isn't worth your money anyway. What you can do, however, is take your pick of six different flavors of Windows 7. Well, mostly six.

The first choice is the Starter configuration, which is also the most stunted one. If you happen to take a meandering path to the related Wikipedia article as I did, you'll notice the Starter column of the Windows 7 editions comparison table is disturbingly crimson in hue and anorexic in features.

You don't get multi-CPU support, comes in 32-bit only and pretty much excludes everything you could ever want in an operating system. Good thing you'll only get stuck with this edition if you buy a computer from a junkyard-quality manufacturer.

Since the Home Basic edition will only be available in "emerging markets" like Bangladesh and Brazil, you also probably won't have to concern yourself with that

Timothy Poon



caboodle either.

The next step up for \$200 retail and \$120 upgrade is Home Premium and is probably what most of you will get stuck with when purchasing retail computer systems.

This edition supports most of the frills people will look for with the major exception of multiple physical CPU support and Windows XP mode, the latter of which is most notable since every piece of software that is XP compatible may not be immediately kosher with Windows 7. Built-in file encryption and Microsoft's Remote Desktop hosting will also be lacking, but most people probably won't notice or care.

Up from Premium is Professional and will run you \$200 to upgrade and \$300 retail. Aside from upping Premium's maximum physical memory support from a paltry 16 GB to a much more impressive 192 GB and allowing two physical CPUs, Professional will also enable backup and restore to a network and add the missing file encryption and XP mode along with a smattering of other features no one else will really use. Well, you might notice the added convenience of location aware printing, but that's really just for the most nomadic of office workers.

The last two editions are pretty much identical, except Enterprise is for volume licensing and Ultimate

is for retail and OEM setups. You'll have to ask Microsoft about specific Enterprise deals, but it is known that Ultimate will retail for \$320 but only cost you \$220 for an upgrade.

That means for the "Ultimate" entitlement, you'll be shelling out an extra 20 bones for some Microsoft-run networking services and that sweet, sweet multilingual user interface.

There's also the Unix subsystem software, BitLocker drive encryption, and Virtual Hard Disk booting, but if you're into those sorts of shenanigans, then you already know your way around those monkey bars.

Now that you know what's up, there's only one real question left: Is it worth it? That really kind of depends. You're gonna be spending a lot of money for some software that you probably haven't ever used before.

Having done the Windows 7 beta and RC, I can say this upcoming Windows iteration is leaps and bounds above what Vista has to offer, but I also don't think it's worth hundreds of dollars.

Much like how Snow Leopard brought along compatibility issues with older software, even fewer programs will work with Windows 7 compared to going from XP to Vista.

If you have to be on the bleeding edge, though, then go for it, as there are some pretty sweet pre-order deals (some that go as low as \$30), but I usually find it a lot easier to wait for someone else to discover and fix the problems than go through them myself.

■ Poon is *The DT's* tech critic.
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'Whatever' so totally tops most annoying word poll

So, you know, it is what it is, but Americans are totally annoyed by the use of "whatever" in conversations.

The popular slacker term of indifference was found "most annoying in conversation" by 47 percent of Americans surveyed in a Marist College poll released Wednesday.

"Whatever" easily beat out "you know," which especially grated a quarter of respondents. The other annoying contenders were "anyway" (at 7 percent), "it is what it is" (11 percent) and "at the end of the day" (2 percent).

"Whatever" — pronounced "WHAT"-ehv-errr" when exasperated — is an expression with staying power. Immortalized in song by Nirvana ("oh well, whatever, nevermind") in 1991, popularized by the Valley girls

in "Clueless" later that decade, it is still commonly used, often by younger people.

It can be an all-purpose argument-ender or a signal of apathy. And it can really be annoying. The poll found "whatever" to be consistently disliked by Americans regardless of their race, gender, age, income or where they live.

"It doesn't surprise me because 'whatever' is in a special class, probably," said Michael Adams, author of "Slang: The People's Poetry" and an associate professor of English at Indiana University. "It's a word that — and it depends how a speaker uses it — can suggest dismissiveness."

Adams, who was not involved in the poll and is not annoyed by "whatever," points out that its use is not always negative. It also can be used in place of other, neutral

phrases that have fallen out of favor, like "six of one, half dozen of the other," he said.

But the negative connotation might explain why "whatever" was judged more annoying than the ever-popular "you know," which was recently given a public workout by Caroline Kennedy during her flirtation with the New York U.S. Senate seat vacated by Hillary Rodham Clinton. "You know," Adams notes, is a way for speakers to seek assent from others.

Pollsters at the Poughkeepsie, N.Y. college surveyed 938 U.S. adults by telephone Aug. 3-Aug. 6. The margin of error is 3.2 percentage points. The five choices included were chosen by people at the poll discussing what popular words and phrases might be considered especially annoying, said spokeswoman Mary Azzoli.

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Carvalho ready for chance to shine at All-American Championship

By ZANE TURNER
STAFF WRITER

If Texas Tech men's tennis coaches want to see what Raony Carvalho is made of, they'll have their chance during the next few days.

Carvalho is set to compete in the International Tennis Association Men's All-American Championship today through Sunday at the Mitchell D. Case Tennis Center in Tulsa, Okla.

Carvalho, who qualified with his play at the ITA Indoor Championships last year, said this tournament is a chance for him to show himself and his coaches that he has grown and matured after a solid freshman season. The tournament boasts some of the best players in the nation at this point.

"Anything can happen," said Carvalho, the reigning Big 12 Freshman of the Year. "I think I can go and lose, or I think I'm prepared. I think I can do well, and I'm ready to play the best ranking guys in the nation and make a good result here."

As of press time, the ITA Web site

had not completed the main draw brackets for the tournament. Tech assistant coach Marcelo Ferreria said a coaches meeting was scheduled Wednesday evening to decide on the tournament bracket. Tournament drawings can be found on the Web at www.itatennis.com

The All-American Championship singles draw consists of the top 64 players in the nation including the

"I think I can do well, and I'm ready to play the best ranking guys in the nation and make a good result here."

RAONY CARVALHO
TECH MEN'S
TENNIS PLAYER

top five players in the nation according to the ITA pre-season rankings: No. 1, Oklahoma State's Oleksandr Nedovyesov; No. 2, Tennessee's John Patrick Smith; No. 3 USC's Robert Farah; No. 4 Georgia's Nate Schugg and No. 5 Georgia Tech's Guillermo Gomez.

Carvalho is accustomed to playing the top competition in the country because as a freshman, he competed in 23 matches with ranked opponents last season, including OSU's Nedovyesov, whom Carvalho is winless against.

Pre-qualifying for singles and doubles took place Monday through Wednesday to decide the final 16 wild card players



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Treador

TEXAS TECH'S RAONY Carvalho begins the All-American Championship today through Sunday in Tulsa, Okla.

in singles.

The All-American Championship is the first scheduled tournament Carvalho has played this fall. The sophomore from Brasilia, Brazil, also will play in the ITA Regional Championships Oct. 24 in College Station — where the NCAA Championships were a season ago.

Tech coach Tim Siegel said he wants to see Carvalho show the improvement

he has made in practice and translate it onto the court.

"I think he's really playing well right now," he said. "He's playing the way I want him to, by incorporating defense into his game. His body language and focus between points is better than it has been. He could go in and lose in the first round because this tournament has some of the top players in the country, but I know we are confident in him."

Facing tough competition week after week has forced Carvalho to change his approach mentally and physically as he continues to prepare for being a No. 1 player.

Ferreria said he and Siegel knew Carvalho had the talent to compete with the best, but now he is learning how to become a stronger overall player.

"I strongly feel that he is more ma-

ture and much more determined to do better this tournament," Ferreria said. "We always knew how good of a player Ray was and that he used to struggle a little bit. He wasn't as strong mentally as he is now. I feel like he is able to make better decisions on the court during a point and he is better all-around, and I think that is going to make a huge difference."

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Crabtree

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Before Wednesday, Singletary had spoken to Crabtree just once since breaking off-season workouts in June.

Crabtree and his agent, Eugene Parker, met with three top 49ers officials Tuesday to work through his contract impasse. Crabtree balked at a long-standing offer of approximately five years and \$20 million, with a reported \$16 million guaranteed. Instead, he sought money comparable to what higher draft picks received.

"We came out of the gate and put a solid offer on the table," 49ers general manager Scot McCloughan said, still unsure what Crabtree's side didn't like about it. "I'm curious to find out because it goes against the norm. Very seldom do you see this."

Oakland Raiders receiver Darrius Heyward-Bey, the No. 7 choice, signed a five-year contract that will guarantee him at least \$23.5 million.

Jaguars top pick Eugene Monroe, taken eighth overall, signed a five-year, \$25 million contract that includes \$19 million guaranteed.

Crabtree shook hands throughout the locker room to greet his teammates.

"We accept Crabtree no matter what," tight end Vernon Davis said. "I think his play will speak for itself."

Singletary acknowledged last month the 49ers discussed changing their offer to Crabtree, and team president Jed York said in mid-September the team hoped for a face-to-face meeting with Crabtree. The 49ers received a call Sunday that Crabtree and Parker were en route to the area. That meeting finally happened Tuesday.

Crabtree and Parker were joined by York, vice president of football operations Paraag Marathe and McCloughan. Hammer, a friend of Parker and client Deion Sanders, also participated.

Singletary found out the deal was done when he woke up Wednesday morning.

"This is a great day for the 49ers," he said. "It showed the commitment in



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Treador

MICHAEL CRABTREE AND the San Francisco 49ers agreed to terms on a contract Wednesday ending the former Texas Tech receiver's holdout. Crabtree was the only remaining player from the 2009 Draft that had not yet signed a deal.

place in having Crabtree here. Obviously Michael missed a lot of time, a lot of valuable time, and has a lot of work to catch up."

Crabtree's contract can be voided after five years with two solid seasons. It's unclear when Crabtree will be ready after missing so much time, but San Francisco has a bye next week. It's conceivable he could make his debut in a limited role Oct. 25 at Houston.

"It's going to be a process," said Singletary, whose team leads the NFC West and at 3-1 is off to its best start since

2002. "Hopefully after the bye, Mike will be ready to go. Certainly it's going to start small, a small role here and there, figuring out ways to get him on the field."

The 49ers needed to sign Crabtree by Nov. 17 for him to remain eligible to play this season. There would have been a seven-week window before the 2010 draft to trade Crabtree if he did not sign.

In August, a report surfaced from Crabtree's cousin and adviser that Crabtree was prepared to sit out the

season, re-enter the draft in 2010 and wait for a hefty paycheck. Crabtree wouldn't address that aside from saying: "I'm Michael Crabtree. Whatever I say is what I say."

"I know there's been a lot of things said back and forth," Singletary said. "I've always said from Day 1, until I've heard something from Michael, all the other stuff doesn't mean anything to me. I'm very excited to have Mike Crabtree be part of this time. In my mind he has been since the day of the draft. Today really makes it official."

Crabtree caught 97 passes for 1,165 yards and scored 19 touchdowns last year, his sophomore season at Texas Tech. He finished his college career with 231 receptions for 3,127 yards and 41 touchdowns.

•The Daily Treador's Adam Coleman contributed to this story.

Angels angling to end woes against Red Sox

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — It's still not a good idea to ask Kevin Youkilis and the Red Sox about jinxes, even when it seems Boston is holding one heck of a hex over the Los Angeles Angels.

"We don't believe in curses," Youkilis said. "We never believed there was a curse in Boston. I don't believe there's a hex (on the Angels). It's just two teams going at it."

Yet even Boston's slugging first baseman realizes it's tough to find an adequate explanation for Boston's playoff domination of the Angels, which began nearly a quarter-century ago with one of the worst collapses in postseason history.

When the clubs open their third consecutive first-round series Thursday night, AL West champion Los Angeles will take

another crack at wild card-winning Boston, the once-bedeveled franchise that has ended three of the Angels' past five seasons.

And it hasn't even been close. The Angels have lost 12 of their last 13 postseason games against the Red Sox, including 9 of 10 over the last three series. Los Angeles hasn't even led Boston for eight total innings of those last 10 games, and the Angels' only win was a 12-inning nail-biter last season, snapping an 11-game losing streak in the matchup.

"Last year was last year," snapped a smiling Torii Hunter, the Angels' leader and most gregarious player. "I don't want to talk about last year. You can if you want, but I don't give a damn about last year."

Player turnover and year-to-year injuries make most comparisons silly, yet as recently as three weeks ago, Hunter chastised his teammates for playing nervously against the Red Sox at Fenway Park. Los Angeles won the season series 5-4, but six of those games were played in the season's first six weeks, before either team really got itself together for another

playoff run.

"We never believed there was a curse in Boston. I don't believe there's a hex (on the Angels)."

KEVIN YOUKILIS
RED SOX FIRST BASEMAN

Angels manager Mike Scioscia takes pleasure in debunking baseball conspiracy theories, and he doesn't believe there's anything special about the stark statistics his club has compiled against Boston.

"I don't think there is anything, really, to go back and analyze," said Scioscia, the first manager to take a team to the playoffs six times in his first 10 seasons. "It's a whole new set of variables, a whole new set of matchups. We know what the challenge is."

The clubs first met in the 1986 AL championship series — "before a lot of our guys were born," Scioscia says. After the Angels got within one strike of a series-clinching victory in Game 5, Dave Henderson hit his long-remembered go-ahead homer in the ninth inning as Boston erased the Angels' three-run lead.

Brilliant playoff debut for Phillies' ace Cliff Lee

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — One strike away from a shutout, Cliff Lee stepped off the mound, took a deep breath and allowed himself to enjoy the moment.

Quite a debut for a postseason rookie.

Lee dominated the Colorado Rockies, tossing a six-hitter, and the Philadelphia

Phillies began their World Series title defense with a 5-1 victory in their playoff opener Wednesday.

Raul Ibanez had two hits and two RBIs, and Ryan Howard and Jayson Werth drove in runs with key extra-base hits off 15-game winner Ubaldo Jimenez.

Lee, the reigning AL Cy Young Award winner, struck out five and had no walks in his first career playoff start. He retired 16 straight batters at one point until Garrett Atkins hit a wind-blown double in the seventh. Lee lost his shutout when Troy Tulowitzki doubled in a run with two outs in the ninth.

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Defense-heavy lineup helps Tech volleyball despite 3-0 loss

By **JOSE RODRIGUEZ**
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech volleyball team showed a renewed confidence Wednesday night against No. 17 Baylor.

That probably has something to do with the lineups Tech coach Trish Knight used against the Bears.

Tech (2-12, 0-5 in Big 12 Conference play) entered last night's match against Baylor (17-1, 6-1) with a revamped lineup structured to provide a spark.

Baylor still swept Tech 3-0 (25-19, 25-23, 25-20), but the Red Raiders seemed to have found the right combination of players as Big 12 play continues.

Jenn Goehry, Aleah Hayes, Jackie Vincent and Tory Vaughan all got significant playing time. All of these players also have defensive backgrounds.

The Red Raiders opened the match pushing Baylor to the limit, thanks to Amanda Dowdy's presence at middle blocker — another change made specifically to aid the defense.

Dowdy was moved to middle blocker last Saturday at Oklahoma after starting the season at outside hitter.

The move is one Knight said brought more energy to the

team. "I thought we got some confidence in the last game at Oklahoma," she said. "We built on that lineup and got more confident through the night. If we can play with the No. (17) team in the nation, then we're getting it."

The change has sat well with players, too. Dowdy led the team with 11 kills, something that will be expected from her at the middle blocker spot.

Sophomore setter Karlyn Meyers ran the offense, racking up 29 of Tech's 36 assists. The production from the new lineup is something the coaches and players find promising, Dowdy said.

"It's a really good lineup," she said. "We play so well together, and we're all really excited

about it." Baylor came into the match on a five-match win streak in Big 12 Conference play, but the sweep helped the Red Raiders continue a streak of their own.

Tech is on a 44-match losing streak against Big 12 opponents dating back to the 2007 season. Despite having completely opposite records, Tech went toe-to-toe with Baylor for most of the night, with momentum going back and forth between sets.

Baylor's strong offense showed up, racking up a total of 53 kills as a team. Senior outside hitter Katie Sanders led the Bears with 13.

Tech's defense faced a tall order in slowing down the Baylor attack, but that was what kept

the Red Raiders in each set. Vaughan and Goehry tied for a team-high eight digs apiece.

Finishing is one thing that has given Tech many fits this season and is something that will be fixed through practice and hard work, Vaughan said.

"That's been our problem, we get to 14 or 15 points, then we stop. We get scared," she said. "In practice, we need to work on just finishing a whole game, so we're going to fix that."

Tech's inability to close out games cost it the match, but players and coaches are confident they will turn it around.

Baylor will attempt to extend its winning streak at home against Texas A&M Saturday.

As for the Red Raiders, they will have the task of rebounding against Missouri at 6:30 p.m. Saturday in Columbia, Mo.

The Red Raiders will take the confidence they have garnered during the past week and attempt to notch their first Big 12 win of the season — something Knight said is going to happen soon enough.

"We just need to keep our spirits up and our enthusiasm up," she said. "These kids work hard everyday and they really want it. It's just a matter of time before we get that win and things start clicking."

— jose.l.rodriguez@ttu.edu

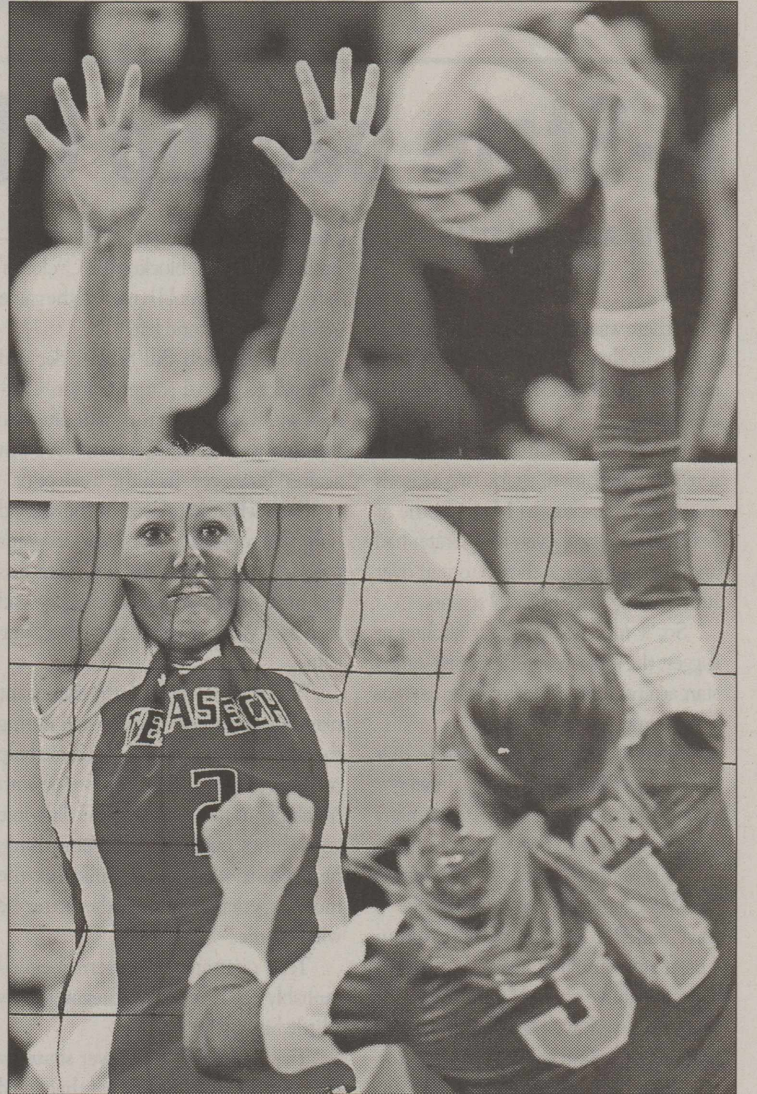


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Treador

BAYLOR'S ELIZABETH GRAHAM spikes the ball against Texas Tech's Caroline Courtney during the Red Raiders' 3-0 loss against Baylor on Wednesday in the United Spirit Arena.

Texans' LB Cushing sidelined

HOUSTON (AP) — Texans rookie linebacker Brian Cushing stayed home from practice Wednesday with flu-like symptoms.

The team has been hit hard by the flu in the past week, with tight end Anthony Hill being the NFL's first confirmed case of swine flu. Hill has recovered and returned to practice Wednesday.

Safety Eugene Wilson was inactive for Sunday's win against Oakland after becoming so ill he could barely walk. He also returned to practice Wednesday.

Cushing, who was Houston's first-round draft pick at No. 15 overall, leads the team with 33 tackles.

Coach Gary Kubiak said Cushing began feeling ill Tuesday night. He called a trainer and was seen by a doctor, who put him on medication. Kubiak said Cushing was feeling better Wednesday and was kept home as a precaution to the team.

Kubiak is optimistic the worst of these illnesses are behind the Texans,

who play at Arizona on Sunday. "We've obviously got some guys that are having some issues, so we're just trying to stay on top of it and do the smart thing with each one of them," Kubiak said. "It's been an issue here for a few days. It has calmed down. Guys that we've had problems with are back out here today. Hopefully it stops."

Fellow linebacker DeMeco Ryans said he isn't worried about Cushing and expects him to be ready for Sunday's game. Ryans said he isn't that worried about the illness continuing to spread through the team.

"It's not a big concern," he said. "I think everybody's just taking a little more precaution with hand sanitizer, different things of that nature. I think everybody's just being a little more cautious."

Signs are posted on the door of the locker room reminding players to use hand sanitizer and cover their noses and mouths to avoid spreading the illness.

Yankees rally past Twins 7-2 in playoff opener

NEW YORK (AP) — Derek Jeter got a big hit, just as he did in October past at the famed ballpark across the street. CC Sabathia joined in the postseason fun. Even Alex Rodriguez broke out of his playoff rut.

It was like old times in the first postseason game at the new Yankee Stadium, with New York beating these tired Minnesota Twins 7-2 Wednesday night in the opener of their AL playoff series.

"It felt just like the old place," Jeter said. "We couldn't have drawn it up any better for us."

After Jeter's third-inning homer off loser Brian Duensing drew New York even at 2, Nick Swisher pulled a go-ahead double down the left-field line in the fourth that scored Robinson Cano from first as left fielder Delmon Young and shortstop Orlando Cabrera made a pair of poor throws.

Rodriguez had gone 0 for 29 in the postseason with runners on

base dating to Game 4 of the 2004 AL championship series before chasing Duensing with an RBI single that made it 4-2 in the fifth.

From there the Yankees breezed to their first postseason win in exactly two years.

On a night with sustained winds blowing to right-center at 20 mph, with gusts up to 43 mph, Hideki Matsui followed with a two-run homer into Monument Park on left-hander Francisco Lirano's fourth pitch. The Yankees celebrated like kids, just as the Twins did when they beat Detroit in an AL Central tiebreaker at the Metrodome on Tuesday night.

"Crazy. Nuts," Swisher said. "Everyone knows I'm a little hyper. Probably the hardest thing was keeping myself under control."

Rodriguez added another run-scoring single in the seventh against Jon Rauch following an error by first baseman Michael Cuddyer, with A-Rod's drive hitting halfway up the right-field wall. New York scored five

runs with two outs.

"It definitely felt good," Rodriguez said. "There's no questions the numbers aren't good, but you've got to come out and play."

Wearing long sleeves on the blustery night, Sabathia got past a 22-pitch first inning and found a sharp cutter in his Yankees postseason debut.

"This is what you come here for," Sabathia said. "It was electric tonight."

Despite retiring the side in order just twice, Sabathia allowed one earned run and eight hits in 6 2/3 innings, striking out eight and walking none.

"He got nasty. He was deceiving," Minnesota's Denard Span said.

Sabathia, who twice got crossed up with catcher Jorge Posada, left with two on after 113 pitches. He tipped his cap to a ballpark record crowd of 49,464 that included actress Kate Hudson and rapper Jay-Z.

Jeter's home run had inspired the big lefty.

"The place got loud," Sabathia said. "Him starting out the game with a single and then tying the score up right back, it just made me want to go out there and get three quick outs."

Minnesota didn't arrive at its hotel until nearly 4 a.m. and appeared to lack the energy that propelled the Twins during a 17-4 finish. The Twins struck out 12 times.

"Guys are tired," AL batting champ Joe Mauer said before adding, "this isn't the time of year for that, to be worrying about that."

After a day off, the series resumes Friday night, when A.J. Burnett pitches for the Yankees against Nick Blackburn. New York will be trying to get off to its first 2-0 postseason start since 1999 against Texas.

"We all need to go home, get a good night's rest," said Twins pitcher Carl Pavano, who will start Game 3. "We're going to be a little fresher, I'm sure, on Friday."

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SPORTS

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THURSDAY, OCT. 8, 2009

K-State backup QB Gregory finally in spotlight

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

If there was a such thing as a journeyman in college football, Kansas State quarterback Grant Gregory might fit the description.

He started his career at Indiana as a redshirt freshman, spent two seasons as the main backup to Matt Grothe at South Florida and even at K-State, had another quarterback chosen to start over him heading into the 2009 season.

So, it may not be so far fetched to suggest the sixth-year senior's first-career start against Iowa State last Saturday was a long time coming.

And for Gregory, the pressure that may come with being in the limelight after being behind the scenes for so many years is nowhere to be found.

"It is not hard to do," he said during the Wildcats' weekly press conference. "I have waited so long for this opportunity. I can't start thinking about that past. It is time to move on and focus on the best team that we have played to this point and just try to find a way to win."

That team Gregory may have to lead K-State against is Texas Tech, who handed the Wildcats a 58-28 loss in Manhattan, Kan., last season.

After leading the Wildcats to a 24-23 win against Iowa State in their Big 12 Conference opener at Arrowhead Stadium, Gregory seems to be getting a few more media requests these days.

In that game, he completed 16-of-23 passes for 206 yards and two touchdowns, with another one on the ground. K-State's

win had a wild ending to say the least — Emmanuel Lamur blocked the Cyclones' extra point that would have tied the game at 24 with 32 seconds left.

K-State coach Bill Snyder decided to replace original starter Carson Coffman with Gregory for this game after the two split time in the Wildcats' 49-7 win against Tennessee Tech the week prior.

Even when he played in the second half, Gregory was 2-for-2 for 58 yards passing and 21 yards rushing. That was the most extensive action Gregory had seen as a Wildcat before the Iowa State game.

"He made a couple of very significant plays on Saturday," Snyder said during the press conference. "He had some help on those plays, but it had a lot to do with his ability to move around. He did some good things, but he also has some things he needs to work on. I think that the more experience he gets, the better he will become."

Tech quarterback Steven Sheffield probably could relate to Gregory's story a little bit.

The junior still has never started a game for the Red Raiders, but that could change depending on the status of Taylor Potts, who was taken to the hospital after he took a few sacks in Tech's 48-28 win against New Mexico Saturday.

Sheffield entered the game during Tech's last drive of the first half and gave the offense a different tempo, completing 4-of-5 passes for 86 yards and a touchdown in that drive. He went on to complete 16-of-23 passes for 238 yards and three touchdowns, leading Tech to

the win.

Ever since Sheffield's arrival at Tech in 2006, Sheffield's primary role has been scout team quarterback and he's had little chance to see the field behind Tech's signal-callers.

Tech coach Mike Leach's injury policy does not allow him to reveal whether Sheffield will get his first career start Saturday against K-State. It seems things are under wraps at Kansas State as well — Snyder has not announced whether Coffman or Gregory will start against the Red Raiders.

But Tech players have rallied around Sheffield in the same manner the K-State players have rallied around Gregory.

"He has to take charge and be the leader of the team as a quarterback," K-State receiver Brandon Banks said of Gregory. "It is things that he has to do and he is doing well with that."

Gregory's emergence comes after the departure of former K-State and current Tampa Bay Buccaneer quarterback Josh Freeman, who the Wildcats actively are trying to replace.

Tech defensive coordinator Ruffin McNeill expects this Kansas State team to be solid considering who's coaching it this year, and no matter who's throwing the ball.

"They're both the same," McNeill said of Coffman and Gregory. "The offense is the offense. Coach Snyder is going to do what he is going to do. They've got certain plays they're going to run, certain schemes. It's not dependent on the quarterback."

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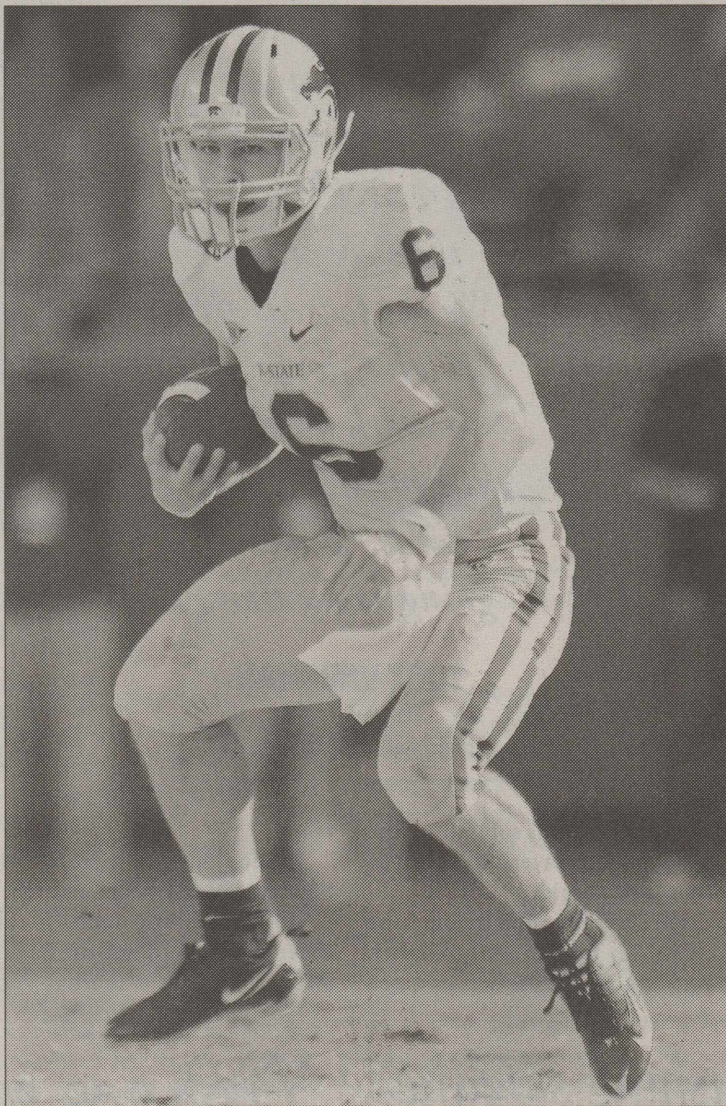


PHOTO COURTESY OF KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS
KANSAS STATE QUARTERBACK Grant Gregory started for the first time in his five-year collegiate career against Iowa State on Oct. 3. He could start against Texas Tech at 6 p.m. Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

Okla. State's Bryant ineligible

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — All-America wide receiver Dez Bryant has been ruled ineligible by Oklahoma State, four days before the 15th-ranked Cowboys' first Big 12 game.

The university announced Wednesday that Bryant "failed to openly disclose to the NCAA the full details of his interaction with a former NFL player not affiliated with OSU." Oklahoma State (3-1) said it had already asked the NCAA to reinstate Bryant for the violation of bylaw 10.1(d), which prohibits players from knowingly providing false information to the NCAA regarding a possible rules violation.

"I made a mistake by not being entirely truthful when meeting with the NCAA," Bryant said in a statement released by the university. "I sincerely regret my mistake and apologize to my teammates, coaches, OSU fans and the NCAA."

A top NFL prospect, Bryant caught 87 passes for 1,480 yards and 19 touchdowns last season while also scoring twice on punt returns. He's the only one of last year's three finalists for the Biletnikoff Award that is still in school.

This season, Bryant leads the team with 17 catches for 323 yards and four touchdowns. He left Oklahoma State's 41-24 win against Rice after taking a hard hit and sat out a 56-6 win against Grambling State two weeks ago.

Romo-to-Williams not producing much for Cowboys

IRVING (AP) — Tony Romo's first two passes of the season went to Roy Williams, a strong, symbolic start to their relationship as quarterback and top receiver.

That's all it was, though — a start. Romo and Williams have hooked up only nine times since the first drive of the first game. That's a total of 11 catches through four games, hardly what Jerry Jones is paying either of them to produce.

It's also not what Williams was expecting after he and Romo spent about four weeks throwing together before the start of offseason workouts.

"No, this is not what I envisioned by no means," Williams said Wednesday. "It's still early. It's like the stock (market). It's a bad first quarter. Maybe the second quarter will be good."

Their lack of rhythm was especially evident on a fourth-quarter drive in a

loss at Denver on Sunday.

On the first play, Williams was wide open going across the field on a short route. Romo threw his way, but it was low and behind him. On a third down, Romo overthrew Williams on a deep ball. He leaped to catch it and was drilled in the ribs.

Although he returned to catch a pass, Williams then went to the sidelines for good. Between the pain and the altitude, he wasn't breathing well enough to play the final series, when Romo threw two incompletions to Sam Hurd in the end zone. Hurd ran the play Williams had worked on all week in practice.

Williams has cartilage damage around three ribs. It still hurts to get in and out of bed, and his car, so he missed practice Wednesday. His status for Sunday's game at Kansas City is uncertain.

So is the status of the Romo-Williams relationship, which raises all sort

of other questions, like whether the Cowboys should've trusted Williams to replace Terrell Owens as the team's No. 1 receiver and even whether they should've gotten rid of T.O. Or perhaps the issues start with Romo and his decision-making, or maybe with the plays being called by offensive coordinator Jason Garrett.

Something is obviously not working considering Williams has seen only 25 passes come his way. That ties him for 44th in the league, which is low considering Romo has thrown the 10th-most passes in the league.

"I think the chemistry is there," Williams said. "It's just ... it's just ... the chemistry is there."

It wasn't there last year, when Williams arrived in a midseason trade from Detroit. Romo was out with an injury, then they never got their timing down. Williams caught 16 passes in seven games with Romo.

The lack of action last season was somewhat understandable. Not so much this time around.

"I promise you it's OK," Williams said. "I'm not, 'Aaarrggghhh, give me the ball.' It's going to come."

Williams is watching his words because he saw what happened when Owens talked his way out of town last season. Williams also made it clear that anything he has to say about his role won't be said through the media.

Bailey relishes increase in passes coming his way

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — The bully on the corner for so long, Champ Bailey is now the one getting picked on.

Maybe it's his advancing age — 31 — or that he's coming off a groin injury that cost him half of last season and ended his Pro Bowl streak at eight.

Whatever the reason, the Denver Broncos cornerback has seen his workload increase this season as opposing quarterbacks go after him.

All Bailey can say is, well, thanks. "That only gives me chances to make plays," Bailey said with a smile Wednesday.

Bailey certainly made plenty of plays in a 17-10 win over Dallas last weekend that kept the Broncos undefeated. He intercepted a pass from Tony Romo at the Denver 6 and swatted down four passes, including two on back-to-back plays in the end zone in the waning seconds.

His performance earned him AFC defensive player of the week honors for

the first time since 2003 when he was in Washington and seemingly in his prime.

Not that he's reading too much into the award.

"It means I played well last week, that's it," said Bailey, whose Broncos (4-0) face New England (3-1) on Sunday. "It means I have got to go out and prove myself all over again."

Bailey now faces his biggest test yet in Randy Moss.

Last year, Bailey and the Broncos had their season derailed at New England. The team was demolished in front of a national audience, picked apart by then offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels' play calling in a 41-7 loss.

Bailey shut down Moss until injuring a groin that would keep him out for two months. On the sideline, he watched Moss reach the end zone twice.

"It means I have got to go out and prove myself all over again."

CHAMP BAILEY
DENVER BRONCOS

DT Houston bolted Colo. for green pastures of Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Lamarr Houston had to get out of Colorado.

For the son of ministers, life in the Rocky Mountains just didn't offer much to do. How about skiing or snowboarding?

"I never did those things," Houston said. "Do you know how expensive that is?"

So when Texas came calling, it was an easy choice for Houston to leave Colorado Springs for Austin, where he has evolved from a high school running back and linebacker into a 300-pound anchor at defensive tackle for the No. 2 Longhorns.

It's been a long process for the quiet-mannered Houston, who patiently bided his time first as a defensive end, then was moved into the middle of the line. What began as moves to shore up depth proved to be perfect for both the player and a team that led the nation in sacks last season and is currently ranked No. 2

against the rush.

Houston has blossomed into a hulking tackle with a 500-pound bench press and still has the quickness to get to the quarterback. He leads the Longhorns with five tackles for losses and ranks second in quarterback pressures with 11.

Houston learned his trade from former All-American end Brian Orakpo and former tackle Roy Miller, last season's vocal leader of the defense.

"I'm shy to speak up, but sometimes it needs to be done," Houston said.

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Puzzles by PageFiller

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

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