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GLORY DAYS

Snyder hoping to lead Wildcats back to prominence as K-State visits Tech

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Even though he's talked to him a few times before, Texas Tech defensive coordinator Ruffin McNeill said he believes Kansas State coach Bill Snyder needs to be reminded of how many coaches around the country admire him.

"I respect coach Snyder and what he's done in the business," McNeill said. "I'll tell him that on Saturday. I've told him that before. I'll tell him again on Saturday."

Tech coach Mike Leach has even used one of Snyder's methods for running a college football program — Leach makes his policy of not discussing injuries well-known to the media.

"You want to know things you learn from Bill Snyder — injury policy I learned from Bill Snyder and at the beginning of the week while everything is real civil and friendly, I want to personally thank him for that because it was a stroke of genius," said Leach during Tech's weekly press conference Monday.

So with Snyder back on the sidelines after a three-year hiatus, it may come as no surprise if Leach and McNeill look across the field in admiration.

Snyder brings his Wildcats (3-2, 1-0 in Big 12 Conference play) to Lubbock to face Tech (3-2, 0-1) at 6 p.m. Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium — a game that could help right the ship for the Red Raiders or have the Wildcats sitting pretty through the first two conference games.

Snyder has been coaching football since 1962 and he doesn't seem to show any signs of slowing down. Although

he had a stint at USC as a graduate assistant and was offensive coordinator at Iowa, Snyder's name has become synonymous with Kansas State football.

Arriving there for the 1989 season, Snyder took over a program that was 299-510 in its 93-year history. All of a sudden, the Wildcats were a well-known name. He led the Wildcats to the conference title in 2003 and a few years before that in 1998, K-State was No. 1 in the nation with an 11-0 record.

Those days are long gone for the Wildcats. The program has been trying to find its way back to a bowl for the first time since 2006 and after three years with Ron Prince at the helm, Snyder is hoping to help the team accomplish that this season.

Prince had quarterback Josh Freeman, who is in the NFL now. Heading into the game Saturday, Snyder has somewhat of a quarterback controversy to sort out.

Junior Carson Coffman was under center for the Wildcats for the first four games of the season, but he didn't have much to do with K-State's 24-23 win against Iowa State on Oct. 3 at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City, Mo.

That was all sixth-year senior Grant Gregory, who started as a result of a coach's decision. Gregory completed 16-of-23 of his passes for 206 yards and two touchdowns, leading the Wildcats to the win.

Snyder has not announced who will start at quarterback against Tech.

It's been a while since Snyder has seen Tech's offense, which he said is more complete than ever.

"They have very good quarterbacks and wide receivers, which fit their system so well, and an offensive line that has very good size," he said. "They also have a very good running game, which you always have to account for."

SNYDER continued on page 7

Black Hawk fly-over to kick off Tech-Kansas State game

By LAUREN GLOVER
STAFF WRITER

The performance of the national anthem will pack an extra punch at Saturday's homecoming game with a fly-over of four to five Black Hawk helicopters from the Austin Army Aviation Support Facility.

"Homecoming is a special weekend for Texas Tech and the community, and a lot of people will be coming from all over the country," said Jodey Arrington, chief of staff for Tech Chancellor Kent Hance. "There is no better time to celebrate and pay tribute to our military than when we have such a large gathering of our Red Raider family."

The helicopters will be flying in diamond formation at about 90 knots giving fans 15 seconds to view them, said Maj. Jeffery Dula of the Tech Department of Military Science.

"There will be between 12 to 15 National Guard personnel, both pilots and crew, who will be manning the helicopters," he

said. "They will be at the airport between 2 (p.m.) and 5 (p.m.) to sign autographs and allow people to sit in the helicopters."

The Army also will be participating in another homecoming event.

"One of the main reasons we are bringing the Humvee is because we will be participating in the parade along with the Army ROTC band," Dula said.

In addition to entertainment, the fly-over also is aimed at recruiting students to Tech through the Army ROTC program.

"The fly-over will help us get the word out about who we are and what we do," said Pfc. Joel Zimmerebner, from Boerne. "When people see the helicopters fly over they will want to see what they can do to fly one."

One such pilot is 1st Lt. Ellis Taylor from Austin.

"It means a lot to see the support for the individual soldiers," Taylor said. "Regardless of whether you support fighting in Afghanistan or Iraq, the support for the

soldiers is appreciated."

Saturday's fly-over will not be the last this football season, with a parachute jump planned for the Oklahoma game.

"(Saturday) is kind of a practice run for the OU game," Dula said. "It is like a jump into a war zone, but in this case the bad guys will be the OU fans."

Like with Saturday's game, the helicopters will be working double duty while in Lubbock.

"We plan to give all our cadets the chance to practice loading and unloading helicopters during the week of the OU game somewhere in Lubbock," Dula said.

It has been 11 years since there was Army and aviation presence in Lubbock.

"There are only a few things that can get a Red Raider crowd more excited than watching their football team play, and one of those things is watching our military in action," Arrington said. "It is inspiring and you can't help but have a huge infusion of patriotism."

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Memorial recognizes former Raiders

By EMILY MOSER
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Red Raider family gathered in Memorial Circle to recognize those who died this year.

Families, friends and community members of Texas Tech paid respect to the deceased at the annual Techsan Memorial Service on Thursday. Student Government Association President Suzanne Williams, who spoke at the service, said she believes the memorial provides a great opportunity for the university to honor all Red Raiders.

"The memorial service is a strong tradition that shows Texas Tech cares for their students, whether they are currently enrolled or alumni," Williams said.

During the memorial service, the Matador Singers performed several traditional songs, including the "Matador Song." The Carillonists performed compositions as well as rang the carillon in the bell tower 23 times in honor of the founding year of Tech and all those lost in this past year. The names of the recently departed alumni, students, faculty and staff were read by Bill Dean, Suzanne Williams, Richard Meek and Chris Leisinger.



PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

STUDENTS, ALUMNI, FRIENDS and family gather around Memorial Circle to mourn for their loved ones during the Techsan Memorial service Thursday at Pfluger Fountain. The Techsan Memorial honored all students, staff and alumni who died this past year.

Jay Davis, a senior in geography from Mineral Wells, was in attendance at this year's memorial. Davis said he learned about the memorial two years ago when a good friend from high school was honored at the service. He said because of the death of his close friend, he has witnessed the effects the service has on the surviving family and friends.

"It really helped the family a lot to see the university show their condolences," he said.

Davis feels the memorial is a great way for the university to show recognition. This memorial service marked the first year names of the alumni were included in the memorial. Bill Dean, the executive vice president for Tech's Alumni Association, said the university contacted him this year because it wanted to include the alumni.

"They wanted to include everybody in the Red Raider family," he said.

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WEATHER

Today
68/44
Partly Cloudy

Saturday
67/39
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IN BRIEF

STATE

Judge to be first Latina on Texas Supreme Court

HOUSTON (AP) — A judge whose Mexican immigrant mother earned only a third grade education and worked as a cleaning woman was named to the Texas Supreme Court on Thursday, becoming the first Latina to serve on the state's highest civil court.

Justice Eva Guzman of the 14th Texas Court of Appeals will succeed Scott Brister, Gov. Rick Perry announced at the predominantly Hispanic Austin High School, where Guzman graduated in 1979.

"This is a special day and this is a special place," said Guzman,

48, who was born in Chicago but grew up in Houston as one of seven children of Mexican immigrant parents. "We chose this location because this is where my journey began. It is a strong reminder of the power of big dreams, hard work and good choices."

Perry, who praised Guzman as a "principled conservative" with an "unmatched work ethic," said her name kept coming up after he instructed his staff to "find the best, most principled Texas jurist out there and get him or her on the bench."

NATION

Schwarzenegger threatens vetoes to get water deal

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said Thursday he will veto hundreds of bills unless lawmakers agree on a comprehensive fix for the state's aging water system.

Overhauling California's decades-old water system is a priority for Schwarzenegger, but Democrats and Republicans have not been able to find enough common ground to forge a long-term solution.

"I made it very clear to the legislators and to the leaders

that if this does not get done, then I will veto a lot of their legislation, a lot of their bills, so that should inspire them to go and get the job done," Schwarzenegger said in a speech to community college officials in San Francisco.

Legislative leaders have been meeting with Schwarzenegger this week to try to reconcile their differences by Friday. By statute, Schwarzenegger has until midnight Sunday to sign or veto bills.

WORLD

Taliban claim Afghan bomb, say embassy was target

KABUL (AP) — The Taliban have claimed responsibility for Thursday's suicide car bomb in the Afghan capital, saying their target was the Indian Embassy.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said in a statement posted on the group's Web site that the attacker was an Afghan man who

blew up his a sporty utility vehicle laden with explosives just outside the embassy.

Afghan officials have said at least 12 people were killed and more than 80 wounded in the morning blast. The explosion occurred in an area that is also full of shops and near the Interior Ministry.

Corrections

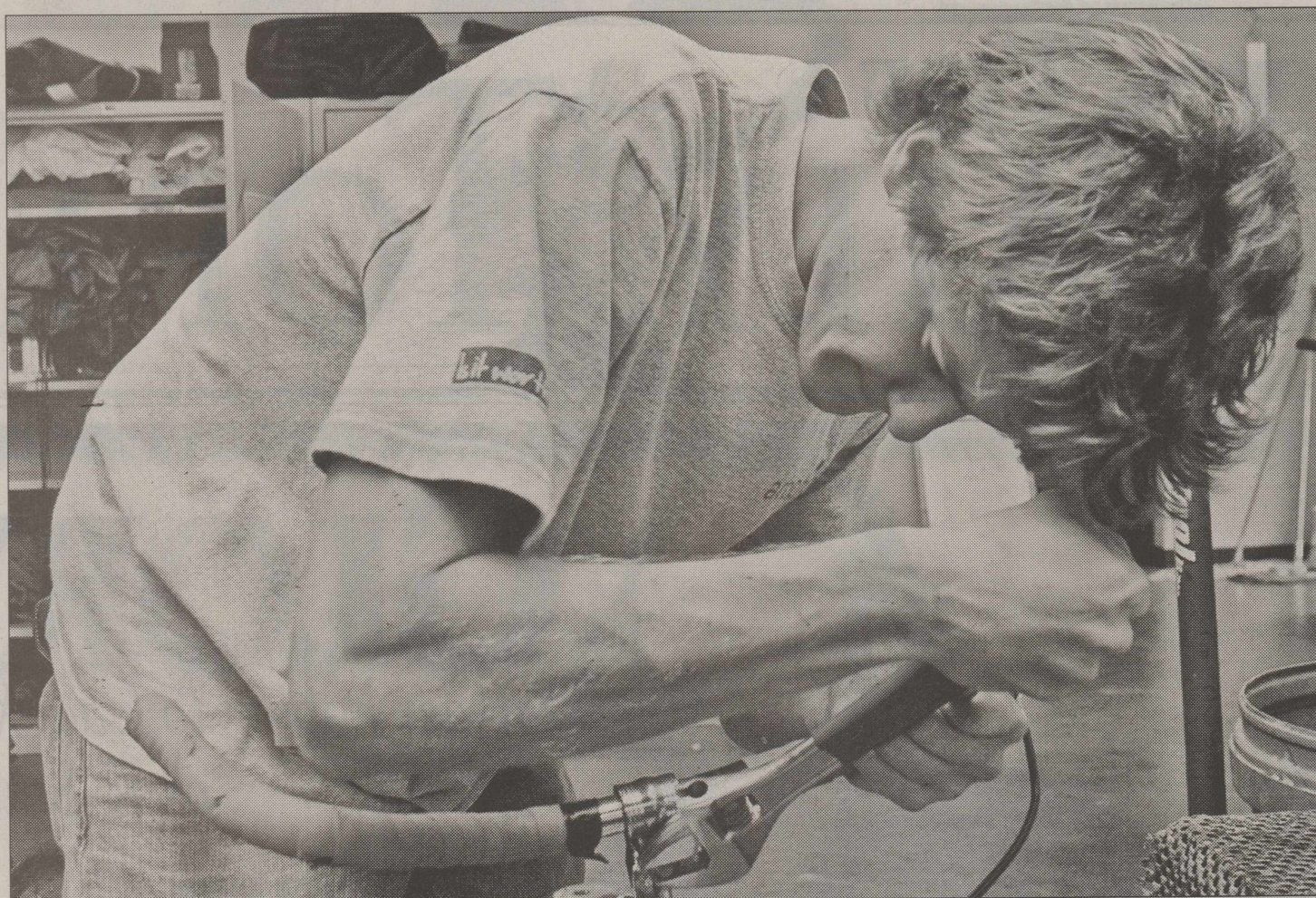
The Daily Toreador's reporters and editors strive for accuracy in the news-gathering process. However, mistakes are inevitable.

It is The DT's policy to correct mis-

takes in this spot as soon as possible.

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

BICYCLE BUFF



EDWIN SHAPARD, A senior microbiology major from Corpus Christi, works on his bicycle Thursday at the Outdoor Pursuits Center bicycle workshop. PHOTO BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Toreador

Students diversify involvement in Pinktober

By SHERREL JONES
STAFF WRITER

Saturday's Pack the Jones in Pink event has come and gone, but Texas Tech students are still fired up about National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

"Breast cancer is something that can affect anyone in the world," said Allison Ralston, a senior public relations major from Sugar Land, "and it strikes home for a lot of people. It's something that everyone either knows someone or has heard of someone who has suffered from breast cancer."

Ralston is trying to raise money for breast cancer research at On The Border, where she works. The restaurant is working to raise \$5,000 during its Fiesta for the Cure Month for Susan G. Komen for the Cure, she said.

"We are putting on fundraising events to help raise money," Ralston said. "This Saturday we're putting on a car wash from noon to 4 p.m. We are also having a Give Back Night, which 10 percent of everyone's bill will be donated to the foundation."

This is a good way for people in the community to do their part for breast cancer research, she said. It is an easy way for the community to help find a cure.

Other Tech students are fueled by their experiences with the disease and participate in breast cancer awareness month on their own.

Meghan Hendrickson, a junior public relations major from Friona, said she has been involved in the month's activities since last year.

"I was pretty much on my own with one of my best friends," Hendrickson said. "Her dad, unfortunately, died from cancer,

so our town is very involved with Relay for Life. When I found out that there was a Race for the Cure for Susan G. Komen, I was immediately intrigued."

Hendrickson ran with team Llano Breastacado, which was made of a few individuals from her hometown. She said they had a good time in this year's race. She not only participates in both marathons for cancer, but also tries to incorporate ways to help find a cure in her daily life.

"Right now in my public relations graphics class, I am trying to create a campaign to have people intern for Susan G. Komen Foundation," Hendrickson said. "I am hoping to get more and more involved in the future."

The disease can strike at any moment, and people need to be prepared, she said.

"I believe that cancer in any form, shape or fashion is a wide-spread disease," Hendrickson said. "It is one of the most

destructive diseases of our time, and it is unbiased. It attacks children, athletes, students and loved ones. We need to make sure we strive to find a cure."

D'lisa Huffstutler, a junior psychology major from Mansfield, participated in this year's Race for the Cure and has been raising money at her job.

"I think there were about 8,500 people at Race for the Cure," said Huffstutler. "Our team, Pink Lovers, raised about \$900. This was my second year to do it, and it seemed like there were more people there this year. I also work at New York and Company, where we sold watches to raise money for the Breast Cancer Foundation."

Huffstutler said it is important to take this issue seriously and get involved in this issue because the severity of breast cancer is growing.

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Minority enrollment grows with Upward Bound help

By JETT THOMPSON
STAFF WRITER

As a student who was part of a low-income family and was a first-generation college graduate, Maria Fernandez said programs such as Upward Bound have helped students, who normally would not pursue higher education to earn degrees.

"I can honestly tell you that if it weren't for Upward Bound that I wouldn't have had the opportunity to attend college," said Fernandez, the managing director of the program at Texas Tech.

Hispanic and African-American student enrollment at Tech increased by 15 percent this year, with freshman Hispanic enrollment increasing by 95 students for a total of 742, and freshman

African-American enrollment increasing by 33 students for a total of 251.

Juan Muñoz, vice president of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement, said the growth of minority groups this semester has been good considering the university's geographic location.

"If you look at comparable universities located in comparable municipal areas to Lubbock and Texas Tech, those kinds of increases are unprecedented," Muñoz said.

One of the reasons Tech is attracting



MUNOZ

more minority students is the sense of community on campus and students feel valued at Tech, he said.

"They want to be at a place that cares about them," Muñoz said. "Not just when they arrive but cares about them all the way through graduation, and that's what Texas Tech is all about."

Muñoz also said having foreign faculty and staff on campus is important for the university to communicate a good image of the nation, state and university to the world.

"Having international students on our campus and having our students abroad in Quedlinburg, Germany, or Seville, Spain, allows us to engage the world," he said.

Former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales also has been instrumental in this effort, Muñoz said, and has worked with the Office of Institutional Diversity to help recruit minority students by enforcing — particularly first generations students and veterans — the importance of a college education.

Muñoz said Gonzalez came from a low-income family in South Texas and started college as a first-generation college student after joining the Air Force.

The Office of Institutional Diversity also is working to increase the recruitment and retention of minority staff members, he said.

"Having a diverse faculty creates an environment where students from all backgrounds want to attend further," Muñoz said. "That is the cornerstone of creating and maintaining a dynamic and diverse university. You have to have the faculty."

A growing number of first-generation minority students at Tech have come to the university through the Upward Bound program. According to the Tech Upward Bound Web site, the nationwide program funded through the Department of Education was designed to recruit and assist first-generation students from low-income families.

Fernandez said the program at Tech has experienced a 63 percent increase in pre-applications this year. She also said on average 86 percent of Upward Bound students are from minority groups in Texas.

The program, which operates in 38 high schools in nine counties around Lubbock within a 50-mile radius, provides high school students with opportunities to excel academically and encourages students to enroll in post-secondary education, she said.

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Eli Young Band to perform at Kalf Fry

Two stepping, cowboy boots and familiar songs could set the mood as three Texas country bands take the stage at 7 p.m. Friday at the Lone Star Event Center.

Kalf Fry 2009, hosted by fraternities Kappa Alpha and Phi Delta Theta, will benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association and will begin with performances from No Justice and William Clark Green Band and Brandon Ryder.

The evening's performances will be rounded out by the Eli Young Band, consisting of vocalist Mike Eli, guitarist James Young, bass player Jon Jones and drummer Chris Thompson. *The Daily Toreador* was able to grab a quick interview with Thompson before the band's performance Friday.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELIYOUNGBAND.COM
FROM LEFT: MIKE Eli, Chris Thompson, James Young and Jon Jones will be the final performance of Kalf Fry 2009, organized by two fraternities to support the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Q&A WITH CHRIS THOMPSON

Compiled by Caylor Ballinger

•How did the Eli Young Band get its start?

It was about nine years ago at North Texas and we were all college friends that got together to play, and something happened that was just magic. Now it's 10 years later and an overnight success.

•When did you realize playing in the band could be your career?

We started to get some decent radio play time in Texas for the song "Small Town Kid" and it allowed us to tour full-time and focus on being musicians. Then our song "When it Rains" showed up on the Billboard charts, and we started to talk to some folks in Nashville, (Tenn.) and now we have a hit with Radio Wave and now we're rockin' 'n' rollin'.

•What have been some of your favorite moments in all the

success?

We had an opportunity to play on the Grand Ole Opry which was really cool. We also got to tour with Dave Matthews Band, it was awesome to out with musicians of that caliber and our heroes.

•What has it been like to be on the road touring for the past several years?

It has been a awesome. We're a garage band that said, "Hey let's do something," and we did it all ourselves and we really pride ourselves on

that. At this point we don't know really know anything else, we're a bunch of gypsy vagabonds that

"We're on the road with talented musicians, and our lifestyle is the life and soul of the band."

CHRIS THOMPSON
DRUMMER
ELI YOUNG BAND

have gotten to develop our show over time. We're on the road with talented musicians, and our lifestyle is the life and soul of the band.

•How do you feel about coming to Lubbock even though you come every year?

We love Lubbock. It's the third town we have had a sold-out concert and has always been one of our favorite

towns. It's almost like a homecoming playing here and the fans always come out and support there, it's great.

•What advice would you give to someone trying to start their garage band as a career?

If you work your butt off, stay focused and can't ever stop, you can make it. It's a job, but it's a great job.

>>caylor.ballinger@ttu.edu

KALF FRY SHOW TIMES

•No Justice and Williams Clark Green Band 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

•Brandon Rhyder 8:45 to 10 p.m.

•Eli Young Band 10:30 p.m. to midnight

Tickets can be purchased online for \$25 at www.frontgatetickets.com

Capone's 407-acre Wisconsin hideout sells for \$2.6 million

WAUSAU, Wis. (AP) — The one-time gangster's house is built of stone with 18-inch thick walls and protected with guard towers, just in case G-men or goons with machine guns inside violin cases come calling.

Chicago mobster Al Capone, local legend says, used the 37-acre lake nearby for seaplanes carrying shipments of bootleg alcohol, before they were loaded onto trucks bound for the speakeasies of Chicago in the days of Prohibition.

Capone's hideout, 407 acres of wooded property in northern Wisconsin about 150 miles northwest of Wausau, is owned now by the bank that foreclosed on it more than a year ago after no other bidders emerged at the \$2.6 million floor price.

But Chippewa Valley Bank, which bought the site for the minimum bid during a five-minute sheriff's sale Thursday in Hayward, doesn't want to own it for long. So what the lender describes as a "very private and pristine" property with some notorious gangster history is still on the block.

Other parties are certainly interested, the bank's Vice President Joe Kinnear said — but for something less than \$2.6 million.

He said at least four people want to buy the property, perhaps to restore it to what it once was — a restaurant, museum and tourist area.

"It looks like we are going to have our hands full trying to get rid of it to these other individuals," Kinnear said. "We will market it and sell it. Somebody will buy it."

Memorial

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dean, who honored the deceased alumni at the service, believes the memorial to be appropriate

families to the university for generations and generations," he said.

Reif, coordinator for the memorial, said the Techsan Memorial Service has taken place on the Thursday of Homecoming week for

"It's just a great opportunity to honor them and their life as a Red Raider."

SUZANNE WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

the past eight years. He feels it corresponds nicely with Homecoming week.

Williams, a senior in advertising from Arlington, said she agrees the memorial has great timing because during homecoming week more families return to university.

"It's just a great opportunity to honor them and their life as a Red Raider," she said.

"There's just a connection with

>>emo.moser@ttu.edu

Worst Seat in the House

You Can't See the Game from a Jail Cell
Getting arrested for Public Intoxication or Minor in Possession at the game will have consequences that often include:

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Campus has more to offer than most know

I always hear people say they are bored, have nothing to do or are just tired of homework. I know the feeling, but no one should feel it around here.

Especially during the fall semester, sororities and fraternities turn up the heat to offer a continuous stream of activities. Even if you are not part of a sorority or fraternity (and don't want to tag along with them), professional and service organizations and the Tech Activities Board offer an excellent chance to meet new people.

If you have not explored opportunities on campus, it is not too late to start. Not that much free time is needed, either. If you have time to read the newspaper, then you have time to join something.

TAB is quick and painless. No strings attached. Just grab a ChapStick or calendar and go have fun. Movies, tie-dye T-shirts, poetry contests, caricatures and RaiderGate are just a few examples, and there is always something for everyone.

I'm not a TAB fanatic, but

Colleen Gartner



sometimes I feel like it. I have the calendar on my fridge, I look for the sign by the Student Union Building saying there's an event today and my desk is littered with about half a dozen ChapStick. I even have the punch card that can be used for a raffle later on in the semester. To top it off, it is always family friendly.

Then there are professional organizations, which are mostly accessible through your department. For instance, the Tech Marketing Association is king in the Rawls College of Business. Engineers Without Borders and Hispanic Business Student Association are in a similar position.

Even pre-law and pre-med students can find a niche of similar

students to study with. Scanning TechAnnounce or asking your professor after class is a great way to find an active vein of your major. Even if your major is small, chances are there is at least one group either discussing or applying it in some way.

Finally, if you are looking to be in a leadership position and want to start small, professional organizations offer an excellent opportunity for you to gauge whether it is something you would like to continue.

Service organizations usually want a little more effort on your part. The commitment is not overwhelming, but sticking with it is just as important. Women's Service Organization, Alpha Phi Omega and Chi Rho are the major service organizations on campus.

Rush, for the most part, has passed, but it should not stop you from chatting with them until spring. Habitat for Humanity, for example, always has honey-dos, so they do not care whether you are a loner or from an organization. I recommend service organizations to those who have had a problem adjusting into other organizations because there is a balanced level of interdependence involved.

If volunteering or indoor meetings is not your thing, that's OK too. Getting involved in intramurals, learning new skills and expanding upon your religious beliefs are all great pathways to grow with as well. For instance, the church group Paradigm is incredibly popular, and chess is intellectually stimulating.

Often, however, organizations such as the College Republicans have meetings off-campus. The organizations like to spice it up a bit as much as you need them to make it different. Coffeehouses, restaurants and parks are the most common sceneries, but even the most closeted groups have an outing to the Raider Red Corn Maize.

Still, I find comfort in knowing there is never a dull moment around campus. It's good to see the campus alive. Or, in the case of Zombie Raiders: dead. C'mon now, I know I'm not the only one looking forward to a game of outdoor Zombie Tag. Be sure to have a red bandana and rolled socks handy in your backpack Oct. 25 through Oct. 30.

■ **Gartner is a junior finance major from The Woodlands.**
► colleen.gartner@ttu.edu

Despite desegregation, US still has racism hurdles

Many are shocked by the increased racial tension that's plagued our nation since November. However, if you think about it, we're only a few generations removed from legal segregation.

In 1967 interracial marriages were legalized, so while it shouldn't be condoned to rid ourselves of an ideology as malignant as racism, we must acknowledge its continued existence and origins.

In 2007, I asked if the United States was ready for a black president. The consensus was no. Initially it made no sense.

Understand, I watched Jones AT&T Stadium fill game after game last year with trees sprouting from the heads of fans as they waved their crab limbs in the air.

Recently, I heard Jay-Z blaring from someone's speakers. He was a cowboy in a Ford F-650, tires bigger than Brandon Carter. This furthered my belief many who'll witness his November appearance aren't black, which I think is great.

Regardless of my personal views, I'm sure we can agree we'd expect a cowboy to rock Garth Brooks, Brad Paisley or even a little Cross Canadian Ragweed. Instead, this young man wasn't only proudly providing all of Lubbock with a preview of what's to come, he knew every lyric.

That's how things should be. I don't mean you should purchase The Blueprint 3 album, although it's highly recommended; we should learn through first-hand experiences. The "Hip-Hop Cowboy" phenomenon is occurring more and more frequently, which is ironic because there's still a very distinct line between cultures as we see here in Lubbock.

The abolishment of segregation hasn't eliminated racism, but it has decreased its intensity.

Think for a second how easy it'd be to shape a child's mind if his only sources of knowledge were dedicated

Shay Irby



to preserving the divide? True, there remain those willing to harm others because of skin color, but I believe the key component of racism has changed.

The old-school racists were and are fueled by hatred. Their feelings and actions exemplify pure evil. Today's racist, the modern-day racist, doesn't view himself as a racist at all because for so long we've only equated the word racism with hatred, which the MDR doesn't necessarily embody.

For example, my friend's dad denies any racism but admits he'd look down on her if she dated outside of her race. This is important because although he hasn't indicated why this is, he steadfastly denies racism motivates his position.

Initially this made no sense, but it's clear he doesn't believe he's a racist since he isn't motivated by hatred. Instead he is driven by a sense of superiority and feelings of prejudice that are the results of a lack of knowledge.

We're able to co-exist, but we still struggle to interact. This struggle has produced a generation divided by feelings of superiority and inferiority. Not rightfully due to any truth but mainly due to the continuance of beliefs manufactured in earlier generations.

This perspective is useful in explaining why some Caucasians cheer for Marion Barber but threatened to flee the country because we now have a black president.

Please note I'm not suggesting racism if you don't have friends of various nationalities. What constitutes a racist are his or her reasons for not having friends of other nationalities.

Charles Drew's invention continues to save lives today, Feng Shan Ho risked his life to save others and Antonio No-

vello was the first female and Hispanic-American appointed U.S. Surgeon General. Perhaps more students would know this if administrators would act on this diversity stance instead of simply paying lip service.

Diversifying doesn't mean having several races in one place. I'm sure there are some who could care less about minorities' contributions to the United States, but they should. If we knew more about people like the above mentioned, we might have more confidence in the ability of minorities to excel outside of the entertainment industry.

My white friends say it's unfair all whites are seen as prejudiced because of a few. I've heard the same from black and Hispanic friends regarding stereotypes they've encountered, and I agree whole-heartedly.

We shouldn't judge one based on the actions of other individuals just because they have in common things such as race or religion. Keep in mind, there are bad apples in every bunch.

W.E.B. Dubois said, "The problem of the 20th century is the problem of the color line." He was right, and the 21st century has inherited that problem, but fortunately, we have the solution.

To those who feel they've been stigmatized due to misrepresentation by some who belong to your same societal group, the best way to counter isn't simply to refute any fallacious claim that directly affects you. We must be willing to speak out during times that we aren't the main target but realize an injustice has occurred.

Remember, "An injustice anywhere is an injustice everywhere" (Martin Luther King Jr.). It's like sitting in class while students disrespect a professor. Often we discuss how horrible it was after class, or we'll only speak up after someone else has taken the lead, but we can't continue to sit idle, waiting for others to lead while there's still so much

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Puzzles by PageFiller

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9	1	4	2	6	8	7	5	3
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Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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New movie capitalizing on '90s children

By **DAN ESPOSITO**
THE HEIGHTS (BOSTON COLLEGE)

I am very excited about the upcoming film adaptation of Maurice Sendak's 10-sentence long opus "Where the Wild Things Are." I am very, very, very excited about "Where the Wild Things Are."

I'm excited because as a child, I read that book, those 10 sentences, several hundred times. I read that book enough times that I could whisper it to myself in the dark when I couldn't sleep. I loved it so much that last year, as a 20-year-old col-

lege junior, I had a friend of mine stitch me a wolf suit to wear for Halloween. Once again, I'm very excited about the movie. The problem is, though, that excitement is accompanied by a very palpable sense of foreboding, and a strange sense of guilt.

Let me explain; most of us are children of the '90s. It's hard to deny that we grew up during one of the best decades in history to have one's childhood. We had Super Soakers, "Power Rangers", Furbies, Beanie Babies, "Pokemon", yo-yos, Nickelodeon (when it was good), "Reading Rainbow", "Goosebumps", "Babysitter's Club" and "Animorphs," and the list goes on.

Compare that to '80s kids who got Pound Puppies, Pogo balls, and the Rubik's cube and we're coming out way ahead. Match us up against kids of the 1860s and our double-digit life expectancy on its own tips the scales.

How could anyone not be nostalgic for a time when "Salute Your Shorts" was immediately followed by "Hey, Dude!" and Skip-It was a hazard to shins everywhere? As a result of our

sepia-toned and completely radical memories, the marketing and commercial world has been looking back into the past and seeing Lite-Brite dollar signs.

The mining of our childhood ranges from the subtly tasteful (seeing someone wearing a Blue Barracudas T-shirt) to the cheesy ("G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra") to the disastrous (Will Ferrell's "Land of the Lost" adaptation) to the downright offensive (the "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" CGI film that launched in 2007).

While it's always spine-tinglingly nice to see a childhood classic redone with respect and attention to detail, a la Wes Anderson's upcoming film adaptation of "The Fantastic Mr. Fox," it is a guilty pleasure we may need to part with for the greater good.

The first unfortunate side affect of concept recycling in children's media is a condition of mental drought. If the industry is constantly refurbishing old concepts, by nature it is not developing new ones. As terrific as the vestiges of our childhood are, there comes a time to lay them to rest respectfully, as keeping them alive past their time can result in something horrible ... like "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull".

The second and much more worrisome side affect of continually marketing our youth back to us is that it slows and stifles our own growth into adulthood. No matter how childish it seems, as long as they're selling "Are You Afraid of the Dark?" on DVD I'll be buying. Sure, we can only blame ourselves for wearing a Captain Planet shirt to a job interview, but why are they even making them in adult sizes anyway?

Point is, as lucrative as a gigantic demographic of financially independent children is, we need to send the entertainment and fashion industry the message that we want something new.

Although I'll still be going to see "Where the Wild Things Are," I'll be doing so with a heavy heart and with the knowledge that I can only dwell on a treasured childhood memory for so much longer.

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Tech begins tougher stretch of season

By **MIKE GRAHAM**
STAFF WRITER

The road to the Big 12 Conference Tournament is going to get steeper for Texas Tech soccer — key-word being road.

The Red Raiders begin the tougher half of their Big 12 schedule this weekend against Kansas today at 7 p.m. in Lawrence, Kan., and will take on Missouri at 1 p.m. Sunday in Columbia, Mo.

"You're either prepared for the Big 12 schedule or you're not," Tech coach Tom Stone said. "We did our best to prepare ourselves for this stretch of games."

With about half of the Big 12 schedule remaining, Tech finds itself in second place, just two points behind Colorado for the conference lead. However, all four of the Red Raiders' games were played in the friendly confines of the John Walker Soccer Complex.

Tech (8-4-1, 3-0-1 in Big 12 play) will make up for its early Big 12 homestand with five of its remaining six conference games on the road. To make matters more difficult, Tech will face the entire top half of teams in the Big 12 standings on the road with their biggest game of the season on Sunday against Mizzou.

The Tigers (6-4-3, 1-0-2) sit in fifth place in the conference standings with a win against Oklahoma State and draws with both Texas and Texas A&M — the third- and fourth-ranked teams in the conference standings.

The game should be important to both sides. If Mizzou defeats Colorado tonight and Tech defeats Kansas, a Tech win against Missouri would vault Tech to first place in the conference standings. Likewise, Mizzou could get some separation from the six teams below them in the standings. If the Tigers lose tonight's matchup with Colorado, at least five of the six teams have the chance to leapfrog the Tigers, if they were to come up short against Tech.

Fatigue will be an issue for both Tech and Missouri entering Sunday's game. Tech will travel after playing KU, and Missouri must face first-ranked Colorado tonight at home.

"We did our best to prepare ourselves for this stretch of games."

AMANDA MCKEEHAN
WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

"Any Sunday game really comes down to being a survival contest," Missouri coach Bryan Blitz said. "The Big 12 used to be a league of have and have-nots, but I think the entire conference has improved and anyone can get anyone at any

time." Missouri has outscored opponents 32-23, a very similar statistic to Tech, who has scored 33 goals while allowing 22. An evenly matched offense might have been very bad news for Tech just a few weeks ago, but after giving up three early goals to Nebraska on Sept. 27 — Tech's only non-win in conference play — the Tech defense went on a 225-minute shutout streak that was snapped in the final minutes of a 3-1 win against Oklahoma last Sunday.

Stone said Tech played a tough nonconference schedule including six consecutive road games, in part



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S KATIE Hinds, right, and the Red Raiders are looking to stay undefeated in the Big 12 this weekend against Kansas and Missouri.

to prepare for the stretch of games coming up.

The Red Raiders split those games with a 3-3 record with no draws.

Tonight's game against Kansas is a first for both teams. While Tech plays its first road-conference game, the Jayhawks will play their first conference game at home.

Tech may be able to ease into the tough stretch with the Jayhawks (8-4-1, 0-3-0) who have started slow in conference play, suffering losses to Oklahoma State, Texas and

Texas A&M by the combined score of 9-4.

Despite having to play on the road, the Red Raiders couldn't imagine a better time to begin facing the top half of opponents in the Big 12 standings after getting a head start in the standings.

"We're definitely playing our best right now," defender Jennifer Kammerer said. "I think we're going to continue to improve the rest of the way."

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Cross Country gets set for South Plains Festival

By **ZANE TURNER**
STAFF WRITER

It is the last chance for some runners to earn their spot.

In the South Plains College Cross Country Festival Saturday in Levelland, the Texas Tech men's and women's teams will compete to decide who travels to the Chili Pepper Festival and the Big 12 Conference Championships.

The men's squad will be without top runners Gilbert Limo and Cory Higgins, and the Lady Raiders will send two runners, Michelle Edman and Amanda McKeehan to

off to rest.

Winner of three consecutive meets, Tech will rest its top runners in preparation for the upcoming meets.

McKeehan said she is excited to have the chance to prove herself and let her hard work speak for itself.

"Usually, our top 10 girls get to go to Arkansas. So it would be really exciting if one of us got a chance to go," she said. "I've been working for it for a while, but it will be a good experience and a great chance for me to prove myself."

The Red Raiders came out on top in the first two meets of the season and finished ninth in a difficult field

"I've been working for it for a while, but it will be a good experience and a great chance for me to prove myself."

AMANDA MCKEEHAN
WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

that included No. 2 Oklahoma State, No. 5 Northern Arizona and No. 13 William and Mary at the Cowboy Jamboree Saturday.

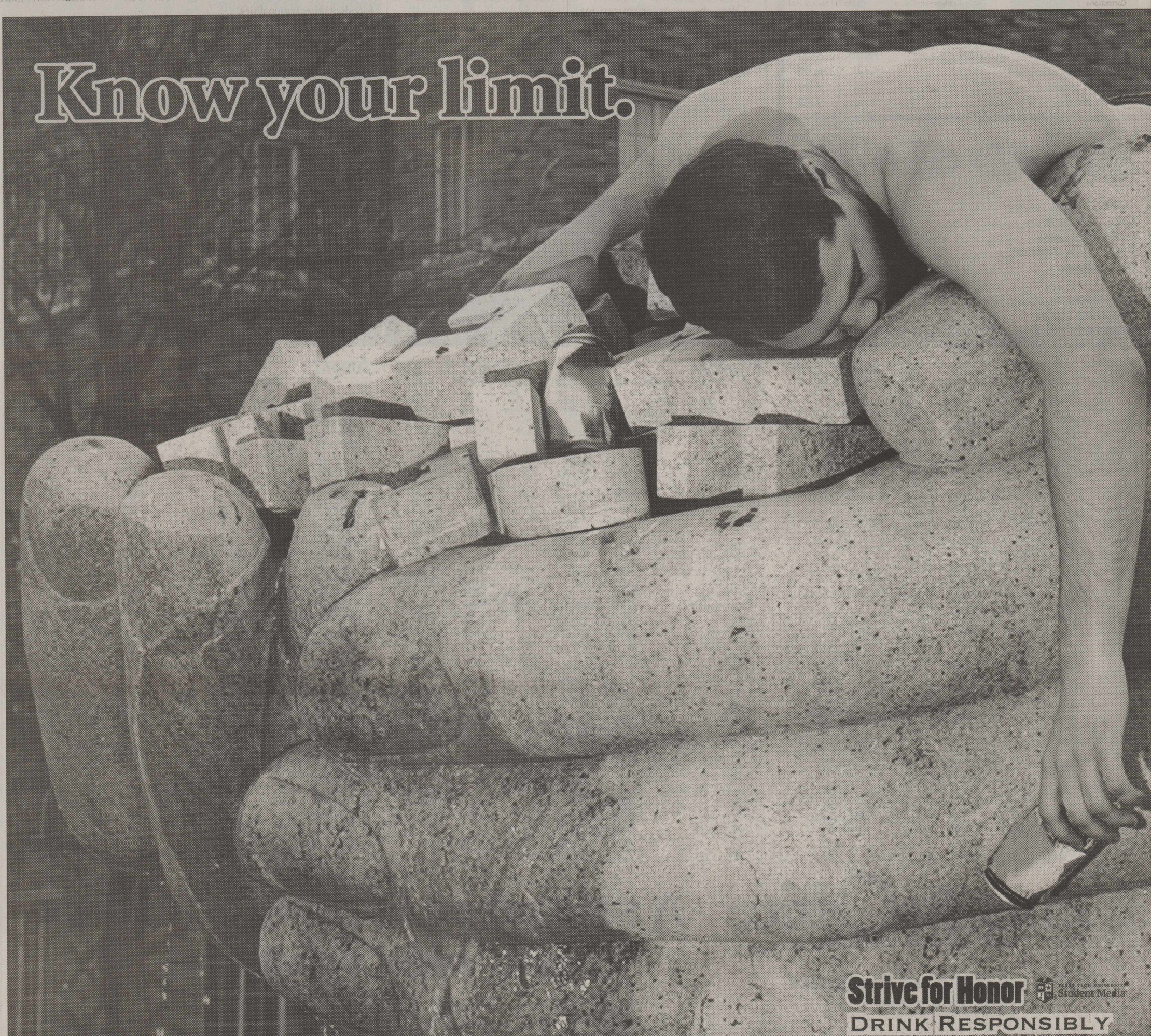
The men's squad sends six runners to the meet: Andrew Goldstein, Nathan Milles, Samuel Bushong, Jeremy Kight, Julien Valentino and Chase Wade.

"It's pretty much just an

extra meet, but we get to go out there and get a good last race in before we start winding down for the season," said Milles, who has practiced and competed sparingly because of sickness. "It's for those who aren't set in stone on the travel team, but this is really like, 'Let's get another race in before we start going to the big meets.'"

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FALLING STARS

Last season, the Big 12 Conference South Division had an ubiquitous influence on the ever-shifting state of college football. There were nationally televised games on a weekly basis, and most of that was a result of flawless nonconference seasons and minimal injuries to key players. As most remember, Texas quarterback Colt McCoy and Oklahoma's Sam Bradford were Heisman Trophy finalists. Although the Sooners went on to lose in the national championship after a controversial tiebreaker between UT, Texas Tech and OU — all one-loss teams — it was a banner year for the Big 12.

—Compiled by Alex Ybarra

It hasn't quite worked out that way in 2009. Granted, there's plenty of season left — conference play in particular — and plenty of chances to save a season considering the astronomical number of Top 25 upsets so far. But there have been injuries — Bradford and Baylor's Robert Griffin for example. There have been blindsiding losses — Oklahoma State and Tech losing to Houston for instance. There's even been a surprising suspension of Oklahoma State receiver Dez Bryant. So what's the bottom line? The stories aren't as cheery this year, at least not yet, as they were in 2008. It's not that the Big 12 was overrated this season. It just hasn't been very lucky.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

What we know: Texas might be even tougher than last season's one-loss, Fiesta Bowl champion. If it wasn't for that one, dramatic second, the Longhorns could easily be the defending national champions right now. But let's face it, they're not. However, their chances to have that title next season are better than they've been since, well, last year.

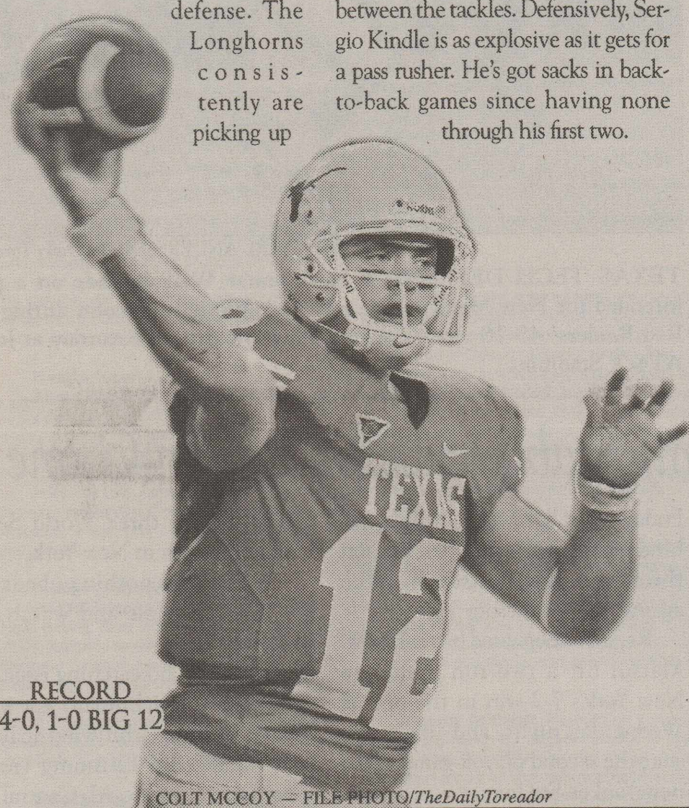
At this point in 2008, Colt McCoy was a statistical machine. He had 18 total touchdowns (four rushing), one interception and a completion percentage of 81 percent. Can't blame him for not living up to those stats this year, but he doesn't need to. The Longhorns are much more balanced despite McCoy's nine touchdowns and five picks. And we're talking scary balanced here, all sides of the ball.

Nationally, Texas is second in rushing defense and 11th in total defense. The Longhorns consistently are picking up

sacks (12) and tackles for loss (32), allowing their much improved secondary to play a little more carefree. And as for the three-dimensional balance that was mentioned earlier: Texas is second in the nation in kickoff return average, first in scoring offense and fourth in total offense.

What we don't know: How long the balanced attack will last, and if Texas can make it through a similar gauntlet of games that it couldn't last season. The Longhorns play No. 19 Oklahoma, probably with Bradford back under center, Oct. 17 and then have two road games at No. 24 Missouri and No. 15 Oklahoma State.

Players to watch: McCoy and receiver Jordan Shipley have been talked about way too many times, so how about freshman running back Tre' Newton? He's got 203 yards and three touchdowns on 41 carries and has shown he can pick up tough yards between the tackles. Defensively, Sergio Kindle is as explosive as it gets for a pass rusher. He's got sacks in back-to-back games since having none through his first two.



RECORD
4-0, 1-0 BIG 12

COLT MCCOY — FILE PHOTO/TheDailyToreador

OKLA. STATE UNIVERSITY

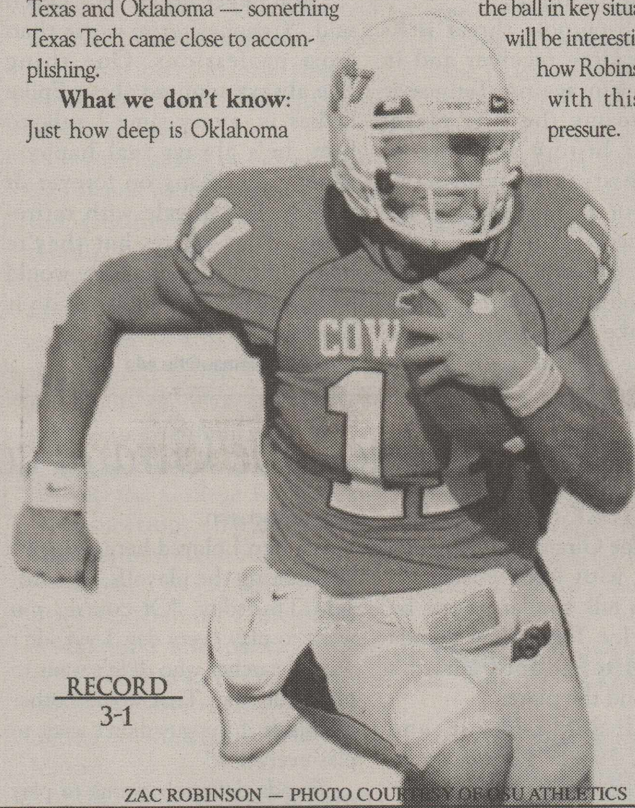
What we know: Oklahoma State still has a chance to capitalize on the forgiving qualities associated with the BCS system. They came into the season with everyone billing them as the next Texas Tech, and the Cowboys delivered in Week 1 when they defeated Georgia. Sitting at No. 5 with three more home games before playing at Texas A&M, most thought Oklahoma State would be at the top for a while. That wasn't so. Coach Mike Gundy and his squad lost to the hungry Houston Cougars a week later. With so many upsets this year and wins against Rice and Grambling State, OSU is back to No. 15 in the rankings with a chance to recover.

They'll have to do it without stud receiver Dez Bryant, who was declared ineligible on Wednesday after failing to disclose to the NCAA his relationship with former NFL player Deion Sanders. And they'll have to win against the Big 12 South Division that still boasts Texas and Oklahoma — something Texas Tech came close to accomplishing.

What we don't know: Just how deep is Oklahoma

State? How will the Cowboys' recent bye week speed the healing process of injuries to cornerback Perrish Cox and running back Kendall Hunter? Both of them, along with Bryant, did not play in OSU's recent win against Grambling State two weeks ago. There are plenty of other starters who have missed time because of injuries. Will they be healthy and ready to go when Texas comes to Stillwater, Okla., Oct. 31? Better yet, will they be prepared for the Texas A&M Aggies at Kyle Field on Saturday? The Cowboys are 58th in total defense this year, allowing more than 350 yards per game while the Aggies are second in total offense with 545 yards per game.

Players to watch: Senior quarterback Zac Robinson, one of the more experienced signal callers in the nation, has a predicament on his hands. With a less than 100 percent Hunter and no Bryant, where does he go with the ball in key situations? It will be interesting to see how Robinson deals with this added pressure.



RECORD
3-1

ZAC ROBINSON — PHOTO COURTESY OF OSU ATHLETICS

OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY

What we know: As admirable and exciting as it was, quarterback Sam Bradford, tight end Jermaine Gresham and defensive tackle Gerald McCoy should have taken the NFL money and ran instead of opting to return for a final season.

Bradford has been out with a shoulder injury since OU's shocking Week 1 loss to BYU. Gresham didn't play a down before a knee injury put him out for the season. Gerald McCoy is still doing his thing on the defensive line though. But the Sooners are 2-2 heading into conference play for the first time since 2005. To make matters worse, star receiver Ryan Broyles is out 2-4 weeks with an injury.

With a strained shoulder, a difficult injury for a quarterback to hurry back from, Bradford's status is at the "wait and see" stage. Bradford said in a weekly press conference that he's confident he will return some time this season, but a definite date was not given. He also said surgery on his shoulder is a "possibility." That's not exactly music to the ears of NFL general managers. But, that's a discussion for

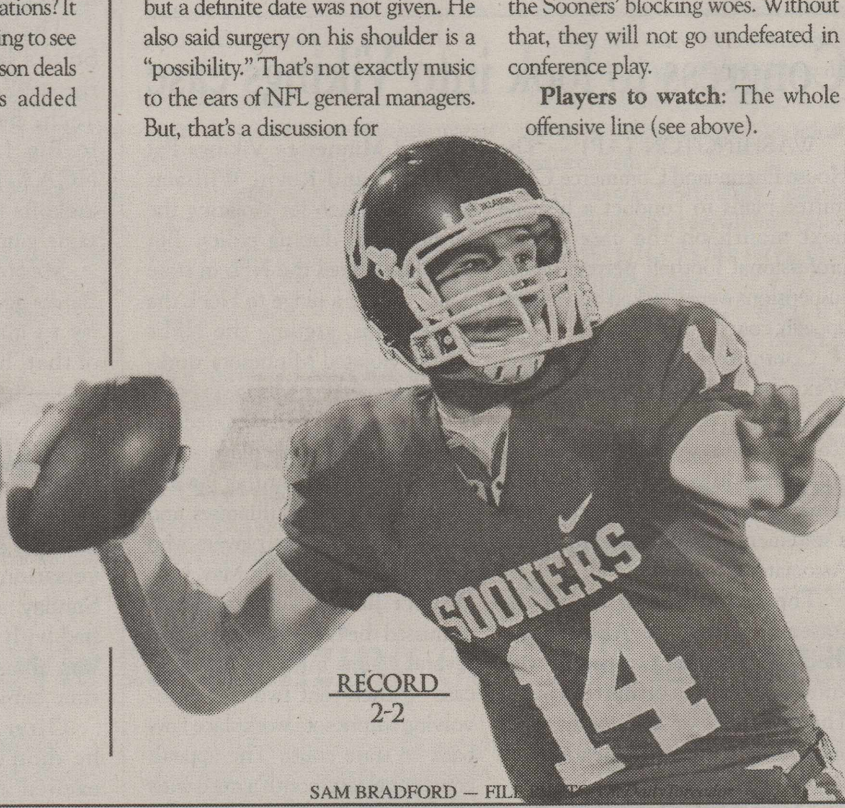
another time and place.

Here's another thing most teams already know: OU's defense is still capable of winning a game on its own. The Sooners are fourth in the nation in scoring defense, averaging 8.75 points per game.

What we don't know: When Bradford will return and how good he will be. How about Oct. 17 for a return date, when OU and UT meet in the annual Red River Rivalry in Dallas? The Sooners still have a shot at a BCS bowl if they can run the table in conference play. However, the national championship is pretty much out of the picture.

Compared to last year, the offense is down across the board and not just because Bradford is gone. It's the reason last year's Heisman winner is gone: the offensive line. Nine different players have been rotated in at some point to try and find a solution for the Sooners' blocking woes. Without that, they will not go undefeated in conference play.

Players to watch: The whole offensive line (see above).



RECORD
2-2

SAM BRADFORD — FILE PHOTO

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

What we know: Coach Mike Leach is not a fan of Twitter and this is a streaky team. But it's not time to panic. A 10-point loss at No. 2 Texas and a one-point heartbreaker at then-No. 17 Houston that should have never happened have put a damper on the expectations following last season's 11-2 team.

But unlike last season, they can't seem to get all sides of the ball on the same page for 60 minutes. One of the most glaring problems has been the offensive line's inconsistency. The talent is there, but it's obvious the confidence is not. After allowing five against New Mexico, Tech has given up 11 sacks this season. That's two less than last year's total. Not to mention Tech also had five turnovers against the Lobos.

It's unclear whether quarterback Taylor Potts will play against Kansas State Saturday after leaving last week's game with an apparent concussion.

Backup quarterback

Steven Sheffield came in and handled himself well, leading Tech on four-straight touchdown drives. He has a shot at becoming the first backup to start for Leach against Kansas State on Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium. As streaky as this team is, it's still a potent offense, especially with the recent resurgence of the running game.

But coaches are buzzing about the defense, which is on pace to finish with more sacks than it did last year.

What we don't know: With Leach's decision to keep player injuries secretive, it's still unclear just how healthy Potts is. And when Potts does come back, will he play like he did against New Mexico or better? Plus, we don't know how good this team is on the road, and the Big 12 schedule figures to give it a pretty good test next week at Nebraska.

Players to watch: Running back Harrison Jeffers is looking more and more like the player everyone thought he'd be coming into the season.



RECORD
3-2, 0-1 BIG 12

TAYLOR POTTS — FILE PHOTO/TheDailyToreador

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

What we know: The Aggies rolled through an easy three games to start the season, including a blowout of New Mexico (who was tied with Tech 7-7 near the end of the second quarter), but lost big to Arkansas last week.

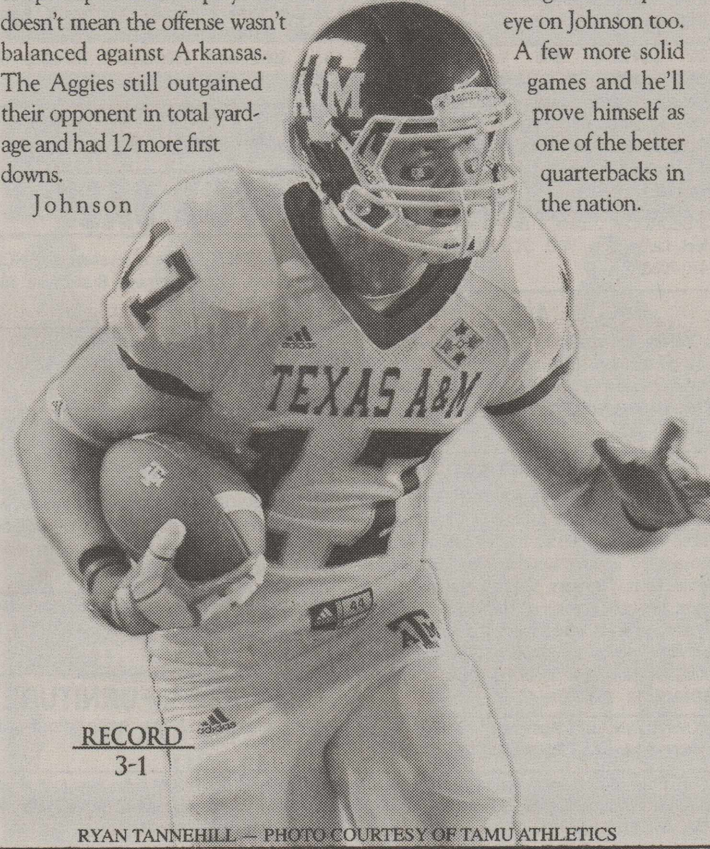
Texas A&M coach Mike Sherman has himself a good, balanced offense (545 total yards per game) — but that's only when quarterback Jerrod Johnson isn't running for his life. That was evident in A&M's 47-19 loss to Arkansas. The Aggies allowed 39 sacks last season, last in the Big 12, and seemed to have put those issues to bed for the most part. But with some injuries on the offensive line, protection issues are once again a problem one week before A&M plays Oklahoma State in College Station to open up conference play. But that doesn't mean the offense wasn't balanced against Arkansas. The Aggies still outgained their opponent in total yardage and had 12 more first downs.

Johnson

has been solid for the Aggies though, having not thrown an interception in 169 pass attempts. He's thrown for 1,306 yards and 11 touchdowns with a completion percentage of 62.1 percent.

What we don't know: How will the Aggies respond to better competition? The loss to Arkansas kind of put everything into perspective as far as what Sherman needs to work on. An upset against Oklahoma State at Kyle Field on Saturday would give them great confidence heading into the rest of the schedule.

Players to watch: With nine in nonconference play, Von Miller may lead the nation in sacks for the time being, but he'll need to keep that up against Big 12 opponents if his team has a chance at reaching a bowl game. Keep an eye on Johnson too. A few more solid games and he'll prove himself as one of the better quarterbacks in the nation.



RECORD
3-1

RYAN TANNERHILL — PHOTO COURTESY OF TAMU ATHLETICS

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

What we know: When Robert Griffin, the electric sophomore quarterback, suffered an ACL tear to his right knee — Baylor's season went with him. Quarterback Blake Szymanski, who started every game in 2007, is expected to start against Oklahoma after he missed last week's game against Kent State. Instead of Szymanski, third-string quarterback Nick Florence carried Baylor to a 31-15 win with two rushing touchdowns and 216 passing yards on 20-of-27 passing. With Szymanski's experience and Florence's recent outing, there is a slight possibility of a quarterback controversy.

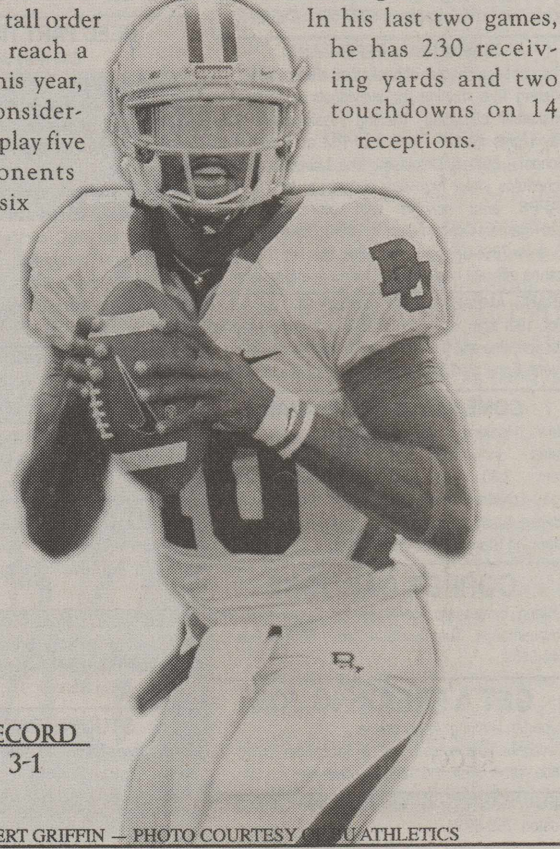
But even with that, a shaky offensive line and no Griffin makes it a tall order for Baylor to reach a bowl game this year, especially considering the Bears play five ranked opponents in the next six

weeks. Factor in that BU has lost 18 straight to ranked teams, and it doesn't look pretty.

But then again, coach Art Briles has done a good job of inverting the mentality of a long-time conference doormat. Maybe Baylor pulls off a couple upsets, but the competition is still too much to overcome.

What we don't know: Whether Briles can rally his team and save its season despite the injury to Griffin. Briles has the coaching prowess to get it done, but at some point, the competition becomes insurmountable.

Players to watch: It seems like sophomore receiver Kendall Wright doesn't care who's throwing him the ball. In his last two games, he has 230 receiving yards and two touchdowns on 14 receptions.



RECORD
3-1

ROBERT GRIFFIN — PHOTO COURTESY OF BU ATHLETICS

LOOKING UP

The Big 12 Conference North Division has been in the South Division's shadow for a few years now, and it still is. Winning the Big 12 North often has been associated with losing in the Big 12 Championship. However, this doesn't mean there are no good teams in this division. Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri will be fighting for the crown this year, and it's a toss up of which team will actually walk away with a berth in the conference championship game. These three teams have a lot to prove, however, because for the most part, its nonconference schedules were

sub-par. Nebraska already has a leg up, by beating Missouri 27-12 Thursday night. Kansas State can join the Cornhuskers with a win in Lubbock Saturday. Other interesting storylines include Kansas quarterback Todd Reesing, who is in his last season and solidifying his place as the program's best signal caller. Missouri's Blaine Garrett is tearing defenses apart — sort of like Chase Daniel did. And Bill Snyder is back for K-State. The worst team in the Big 12 usually comes from the North, and that has not changed this year.

—Compiled by Adam Coleman

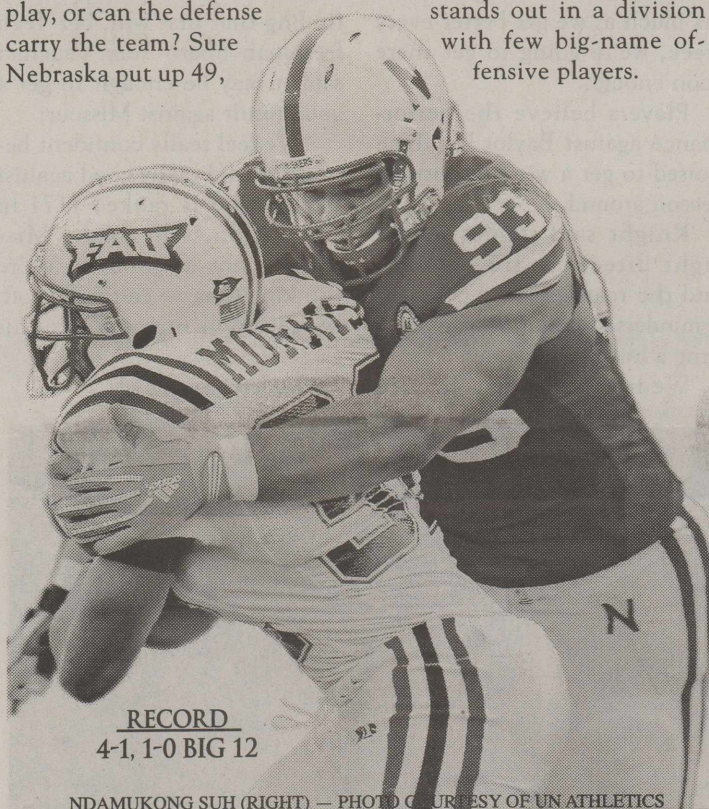
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

What we know: The Cornhuskers make headlines in the Big 12 North with their defense. They've allowed 27 points in four nonconference games, and that's with a ranked opponent on their schedule. Few candidates in the Big 12 North have played anybody worth mentioning outside of the Big 12. Nebraska's nonconference schedule included No. 13 Virginia Tech on the road. The Cornhuskers lost that game 16-15. Nebraska, however, is at the top of the Big 12 North right now because of Thursday's impressive win. Nebraska made a statement early in Big 12 play with a win fueled by its defense at Missouri.

What we don't know: Does this offense need to put up points to win in Big 12 play, or can the defense carry the team? Sure Nebraska put up 49,

38 and 55 points on Florida Atlantic, Arkansas State and Louisiana-Lafayette, respectively. But when the offense faced a real opponent — Virginia Tech — that number went down to 16. Against Missouri, 26 points was enough to beat the Tigers, but the defense won that game for Nebraska. There may be some games where the offense has to score a lot for the Cornhuskers. They have No. 19 Oklahoma at home and they have to go to No. 16 Kansas the following week.

Players to watch: All-American candidate Ndamukong Suh anchors this defensive line, setting Nebraska up for a run at a division crown. Running back Roy Helu Jr. is the key to the offense. He stands out in a division with few big-name offensive players.



RECORD
4-1, 1-0 BIG 12

NDAMUKONG SUH (RIGHT) — PHOTO COURTESY OF UN ATHLETICS

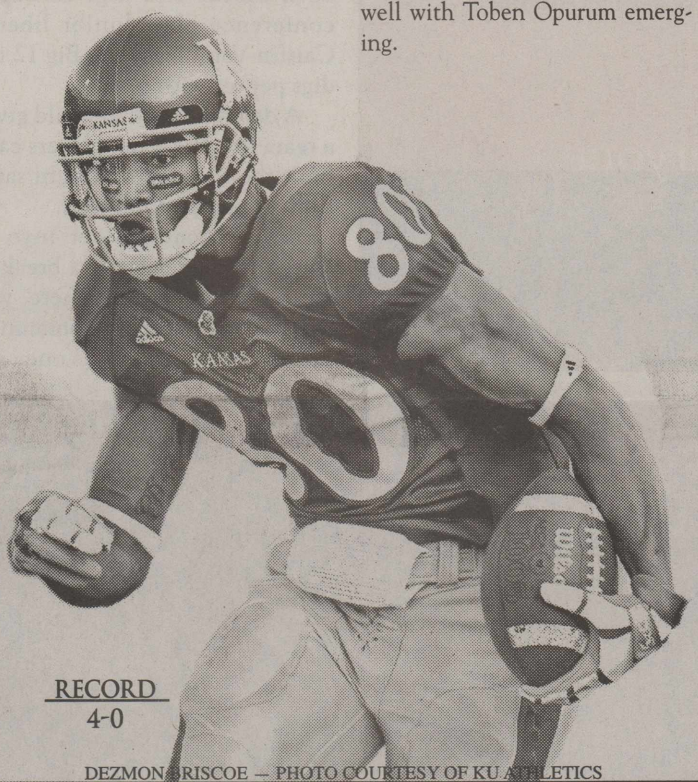
KANSAS UNIVERSITY

What we know: They're not that Kansas team that could have played for the national championship a few years ago, but they're still pretty good. A lot of talent on offense, solid defense and Mark Mangino has turned Kansas into a football school, sort of. Their nonconference schedule raises a lot of questions. Home against Northern Colorado, Duke and Southern Miss and at UTEP will keep you in the Top 25, but the Jayhawks aren't exactly turning heads. Starting off against Iowa State and then at Colorado — the team that lost to Toledo — won't help either. So, Jayhawk fans should circle Oct. 24 and Oct. 31 when No. 19 Oklahoma visits Lawrence, Kan., and Kansas has to go down to Texas Tech. We should find out more then.

What we don't know: Is Kansas going to show up in big games? In 2008, the only significant

win for this team was against then-No. 13 Missouri. Given, it is a new year, but there are new challenges. Besides the OU and Tech matchups, the Jayhawks also have Nebraska at home, at Texas and Missouri at a neutral site to finish Big 12 play. A win against Nebraska or Texas could be key. Kansas has a chance to be more than the 8-win team it was in 2008, but it needs more big wins this year.

Players to watch: In a quarterback's conference, Todd Reesing probably does not get enough respect because of those gunslingers in the Big 12 South. Look for him to put up big numbers as usual. Dezmon Briscoe is a handful for any Big 12 cornerback and Kerry Meier makes the duo a good 1-2 punch. Briscoe has one touchdown catch on the season, so a big game could come his way soon. Jake Sharp is key for the backfield as well with Toben Oporum emerging.



RECORD
4-0

DEZMON BRISCOE — PHOTO COURTESY OF KU ATHLETICS

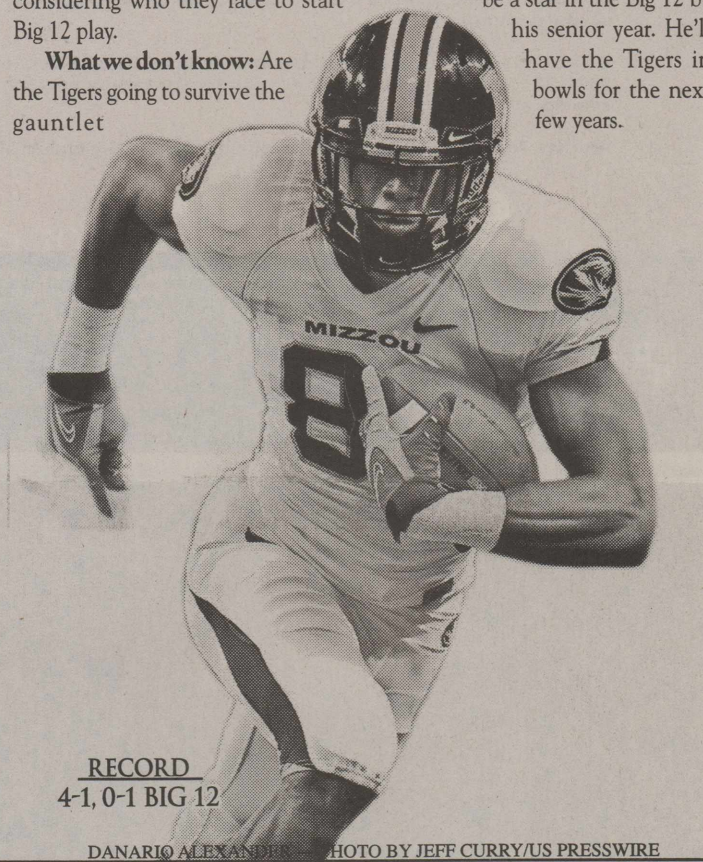
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

What we know: Losing Chase Daniel and Jeremy Maclin wasn't that big a deal after all. First glance at the schedule before the season started, it was easy to say the Tigers would drop a game against Juice Williams and Illinois and lose at Nevada. But Blaine Gabbert made sure that didn't happen. In a college football season as crazy as any, the Tigers are a big win away from shooting up the Top 25 and a loss away from dropping out of it. That loss came on Thursday at home to Nebraska. They're the underdog to win this division, which is weird because they won it last season when Nebraska and Kansas weren't strong enough. Now everybody loves Kansas' offense and Nebraska's defense, but the Tigers will have to bounce back from the Nebraska loss to grab the spotlight back. That may be hard considering who they face to start Big 12 play.

What we don't know: Are the Tigers going to survive the gauntlet

that is their first three games in Big 12 play? Missouri could be out of the conversation real quick after losing to Nebraska at home. Next is at No. 15 Oklahoma State and back home against No. 2 Texas. It's been a season filled with parity, but all three of those games are tough to come away from with positive results. Missouri should be happy if it wins two of those games, which it looks like it will have to do. If they lose all three, it will be hard to climb back into the race for the division crown.

Players to watch: Danario Alexander is a big-play threat (see Nevada) and should continue to make those types of plays. It's hard not to talk about Gabbert. He's just a sophomore and in a conference where Colt McCoy, Sam Bradford and Reesing are in their last seasons, he is going to be a star in the Big 12 by his senior year. He'll have the Tigers in bowls for the next few years.



RECORD
4-1, 0-1 BIG 12

DANARIO ALEXANDER — PHOTO BY JEFF CURRY/US PRESSWIRE

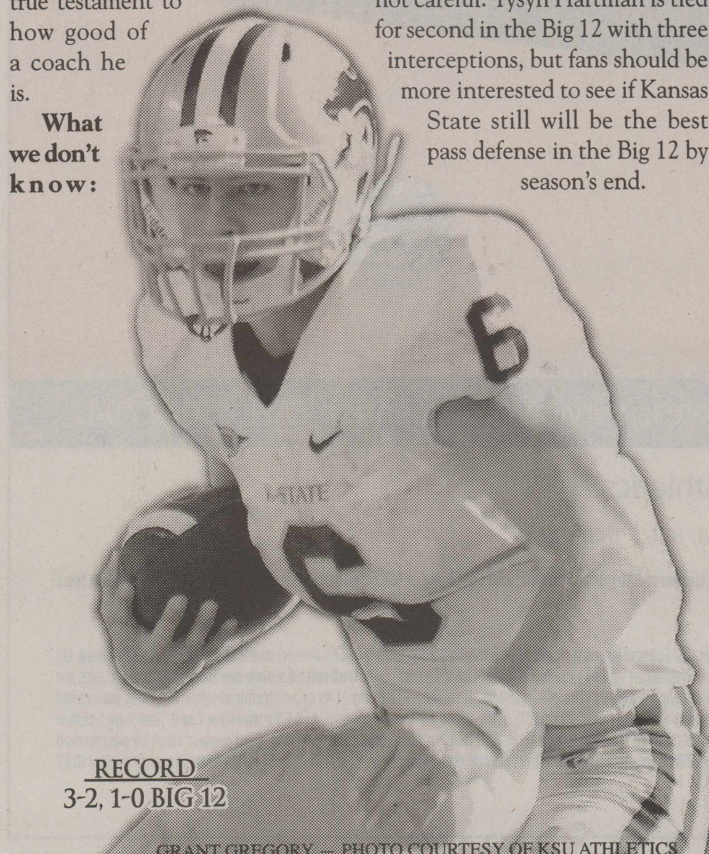
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

What we know: Whether Bill Snyder's return was a good idea is going to be determined in Big 12 play. The Wildcats have playmakers and yes, the pass defense is statistically the best in the Big 12. But losing to Louisiana-Lafayette doesn't help anything. The Wildcats can get to a bowl, but they probably need to beat someone they're not supposed to. They finish Big 12 play against all the headliners in the North — Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. Kansas and Missouri are in Manhattan, Kan., however. Everywhere the Wildcats go, the media is going to focus on Snyder. A lot of coaches have the utmost respect for him, and if he can get this team to a bowl after it won five games last season, it'll be a great story and true testament to how good of a coach he is.

What we don't know:

Carson Coffman, Grant Gregory or both? Probably not a good time to have a quarterback dilemma, but replacing Josh Freeman is supposed to be this hard. Snyder went with Coffman to start the season, but Gregory is the one that led the Wildcats to a Big 12 win against Iowa State. Gregory can use his mobility to make plays, but he's a sixth-year senior. Coffman is a junior. Should Snyder put the team's hopes on Gregory for one year? The quarterback controversy should play out during the next few weeks.

Players to watch: That guy you're not supposed to kick the ball to in the Big 12 North is Brandon Banks. He's fast, small and shifty. He's pretty exciting to watch and will hurt a team if it is not careful. Tysyn Hartman is tied for second in the Big 12 with three interceptions, but fans should be more interested to see if Kansas State still will be the best pass defense in the Big 12 by season's end.



RECORD
3-2, 1-0 BIG 12

GRANT GREGORY — PHOTO COURTESY OF KSU ATHLETICS

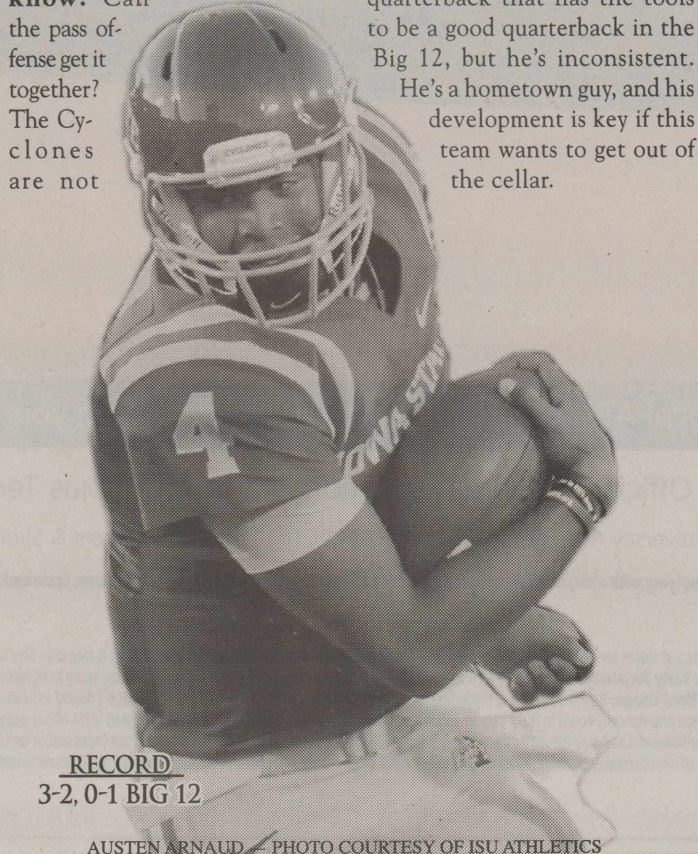
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

What we know: Hard to build a winner when there is not much room for anymore of them in the Big 12. Iowa State has had its fair share of problems this season. Linebacker Matt Tafoou reportedly was charged with stealing from the campus bookstore and earlier this season, three players reportedly were caught with marijuana. Paul Rhodes has had his hands full. The Kansas State loss was tough to take. A blocked extra point kick would have tied the game at 24 with 32 seconds left and ISU would have had a chance to pick up the win. Three of the Cyclones' next four Big 12 games are on the road; two of those teams are ranked. Not looking good for ISU.

What we don't know: Can the pass offense get it together? The Cyclones are not

moving the ball the way they want to — 171.6 passing yards a game is last in the Big 12. Marquis Hamilton leads the team with 313 yards receiving and two touchdowns. Quarterback Austen Arnaud has talent, but has been up and down this season. Fixing things in the pass game could be key to picking up a few Big 12 wins.

Players to watch: Alexander Robinson is one of the best running backs in this division, maybe the Big 12. He has 83 carries for 500 yards and three touchdowns, so the Cyclones give him the ball a lot. It will be interesting to see if he can continue to be a bright spot for this team against other Big 12 defenses. Arnaud is a dual-threat quarterback that has the tools to be a good quarterback in the Big 12, but he's inconsistent. He's a hometown guy, and his development is key if this team wants to get out of the cellar.



RECORD
3-2, 0-1 BIG 12

AUSTEN ARNAUD — PHOTO COURTESY OF ISU ATHLETICS

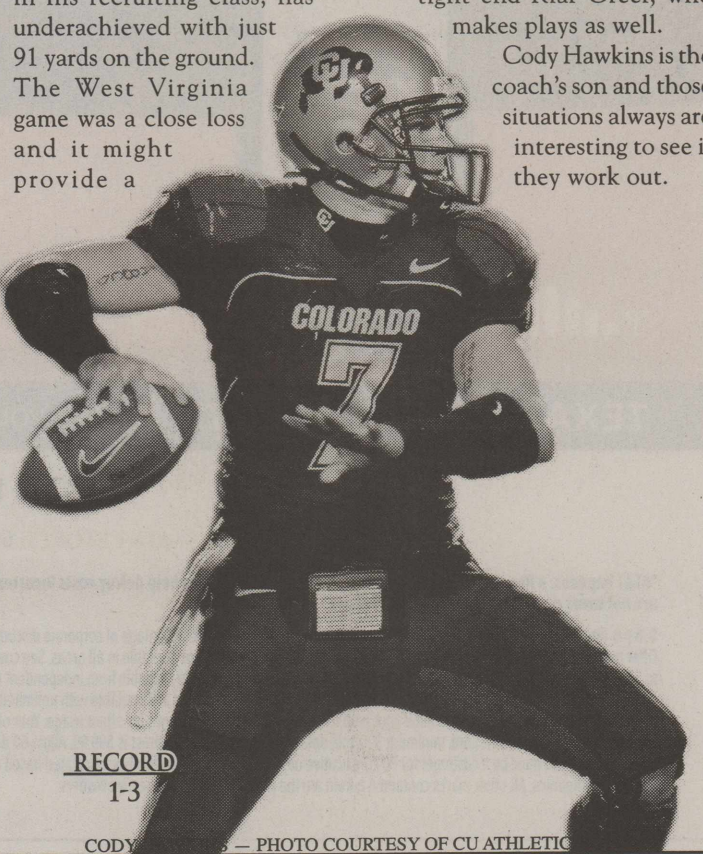
COLORADO UNIVERSITY

What we know: We know Iowa State is no longer the worst team in the Big 12. The Buffaloes have lost to rival Colorado State, Toledo and West Virginia. Can't find an excuse for the Colorado State and Toledo losses, and this team is going nowhere fast. It's not looking good the next two weeks either, with a trip to No. 2 Texas and back home for No. 16 Kansas. If Iowa State has the worst pass offense in the Big 12, but a good tailback, Colorado just has the worst offense period. The Buffs are averaging 355 yards a game — last in the conference. Cody Hawkins is a solid quarterback, but running back Darrell Scott, who was the top running back in his recruiting class, has underachieved with just 91 yards on the ground. The West Virginia game was a close loss and it might provide a

positive for a team in need of one.

What we don't know: Should Dan Hawkins' job be in danger? He's in his fourth season, he's 14-27 as Colorado's coach and the Buffs don't have much to show for. There's been no reported speculation of Hawkins losing his job at season's end or any time before that, but one only can wonder with the direction the Buffs are heading in.

Players to watch: Scotty McKnight is a solid receiver capable of catching anything thrown his way. He's a talented player in a struggling offense. He leads the team with 327 yards receiving. Right behind him is tight end Riar Greer, who makes plays as well. Cody Hawkins is the coach's son and those situations always are interesting to see if they work out.



RECORD
1-3

CODY HAWKINS — PHOTO COURTESY OF CU ATHLETICS

Tech volleyball takes new defensive mindset to Mizzou

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech volleyball team hasn't had a break during Big 12 Conference play, having played five of the top six teams in the conference standings.

The result is a 44-match losing streak to conference opponents — the Red Raiders have not won a Big 12 match since 2007.

That could soon change as Tech (2-12, 0-5 in Big 12 play) faces off with Missouri (11-6, 3-3) at 6:30 p.m. Saturday in the Hearnes Center in Columbia, Mo.

Tech is coming off a 3-0 home loss at the hands of No. 17 Baylor.

However, it was the energy and style of play during that match that has Tech players and coaches excited about Saturday's

match.

Tech head coach Trish Knight implemented a defensive lineup that showed promise, keeping the Red Raiders in each set against Baylor. Tech assistant coach Beth Falls said the team feels much better going into Saturday's match after its performance Wednesday.

"We look forward to going to Missouri," she said. "Baylor had no problem with Missouri, and they have always been exactly like us. We've had the same kind of personnel in each position, and I think that's going to be a great match for us. It is hard to play in Missouri, but I think the girls can do it. All they need is confidence, and now they have that."

Tech's new look will provide for a good matchup against Mizzou.

Tech sophomore Amanda



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

AMANDA DOWDY SPIKES the ball against Baylor's Katie Sanders, Anna Breyfogle and Elizabeth Graham during Texas Tech's loss against Baylor on Wednesday in the United Spirit Arena.

Dowdy was moved to middle blocker, something that solidified the lineup. Despite the move, her production in the of-

fense has not dropped — she led Tech with 11 kills against Baylor on Wednesday.

Falls said Dowdy will give the team a better chance to win if she plays in the middle, and her void on the outside will be filled by junior Caroline Courtney and senior Hayley Ball.

"We decided that she's going to make more points and she's going to be more active playing in the middle," Falls said. "Outsides Hayley Ball and Caroline Courtney have done great, so we didn't have a problem there. This is just the best system for us right now."

With that said, Mizzou will be ready for the changes Tech has made.

The Tigers' strength lies on the defensive side of the ball. Mizzou ranks in the top four in both blocks and digs through conference play. Junior libero Caitlin Vann leads the Big 12 in digs per set with 5.48.

A defense like that could give a team fits, but if her players can limit their mistakes, Knight said they should perform well.

"Every time we get into a match we just get a bad break," she said. "We're right there, we still make a couple of communication errors that get us once in

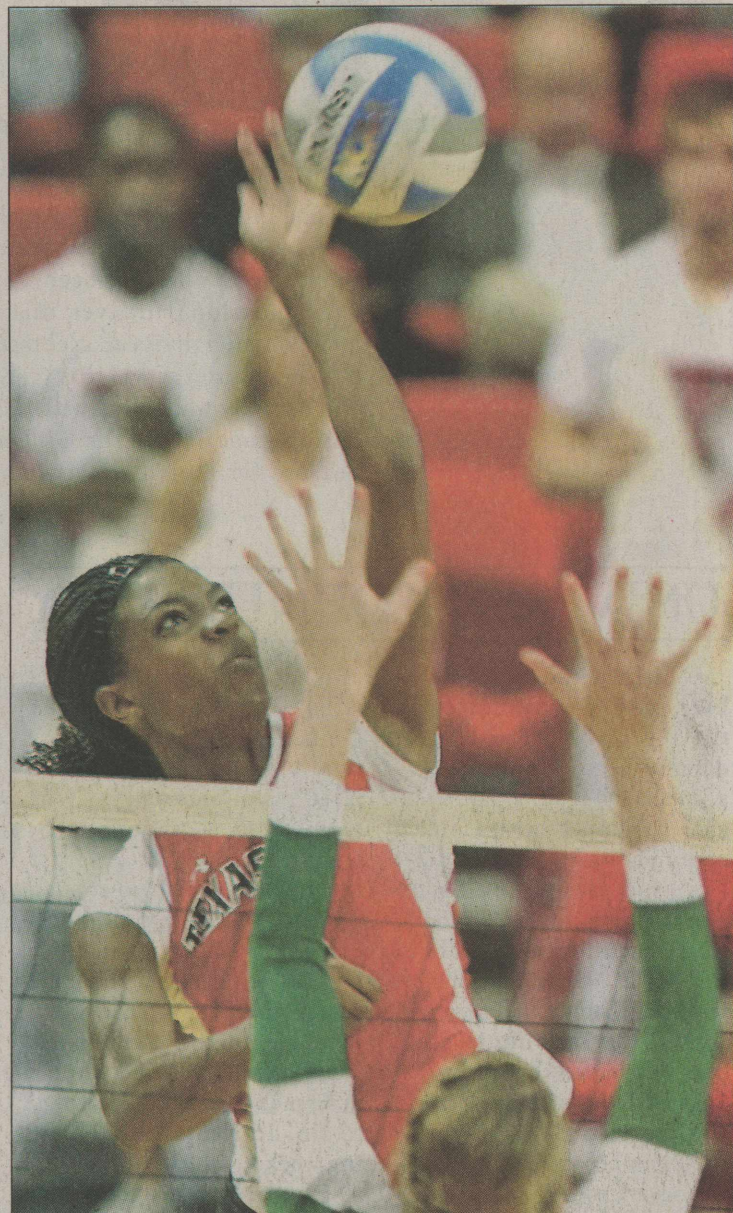


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S MIARA Cave spikes the ball against Baylor's Ashlie Christenson during Texas Tech's loss against Baylor on Wednesday in the United Spirit Arena.

a while, but we're right there. As much as we get better every week, we're going to get there soon enough."

Players believe the performance against Baylor has Tech poised to get a win and turn its season around.

Knight said strides in the right direction are obvious, and the team is given constant reminders it is on its way to dropping a losing tradition.

Wednesday's match with

Baylor was just one step toward finding that first win, but Tech freshman libero Tory Vaughan said it may be enough to get a good result against Missouri.

"We feel really confident because we did really good against Baylor who is ranked (17) in the nation," she said. "Missouri is not as good, so we're thinking that we can pull it off. We're confident going into this game."

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