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Air quality in Holden Hall concerns employees

By ALLYSON SCHELL
STAFF WRITER

The Graduate Admissions Office, located in the basement of Holden Hall, is awaiting results on final tests from the Environmental Health and Safety Department at Texas Tech as to whether the work environment is safe.

The department inspected the office Sept. 15 to assess the indoor air quality after carpets were reported damp and mildewy and black material was precipitating out of air ducts. The analysis did not reveal levels of mold growth greater than those present in the outdoor air. Recommendations were given by the report to clean out the air ducts and seal the windows to prevent possible water intrusions. Since then, concern has continued to be voiced about the situation.

"We were prompted by an anonymous letter to ask for a follow-up investigation," said Fred Hartmeister, dean of the Graduate School. "There's no current update, but preliminary findings have indicated that there are no health problems."

Terri Kirkpatrick, an adviser in the college and one of those concerned with the air quality, has an office in Room 03C and said the air duct in her

office contained black material. All the rooms that have air ducts connected to the central heating ventilation and air conditioning system — Rooms 03C, 03D, 03E and 03F — have reported the same black material.

"You could see it when they took the screen off," Kirkpatrick said. "In the office next door, the vent is above the desk and you can come in the mornings and see a layer of black on the desk."

Kirkpatrick recently developed a staphylococcus infection. She said when she went to her doctor, he suggested it may have been caused by breathing in the air that was being circulated where she worked.

"We're all just very anxious to get something taken care of," she said. "It's not safe to be working here for eight hours a day breathing in unclean air."

A list was compiled of other employees who voluntarily submitted symptoms they have experienced that may be correlated to the basement offices in which they work in. The list showed seven employees with a history of thyroid-related problems since working in the offices. One employee developed asthma during her time working there.

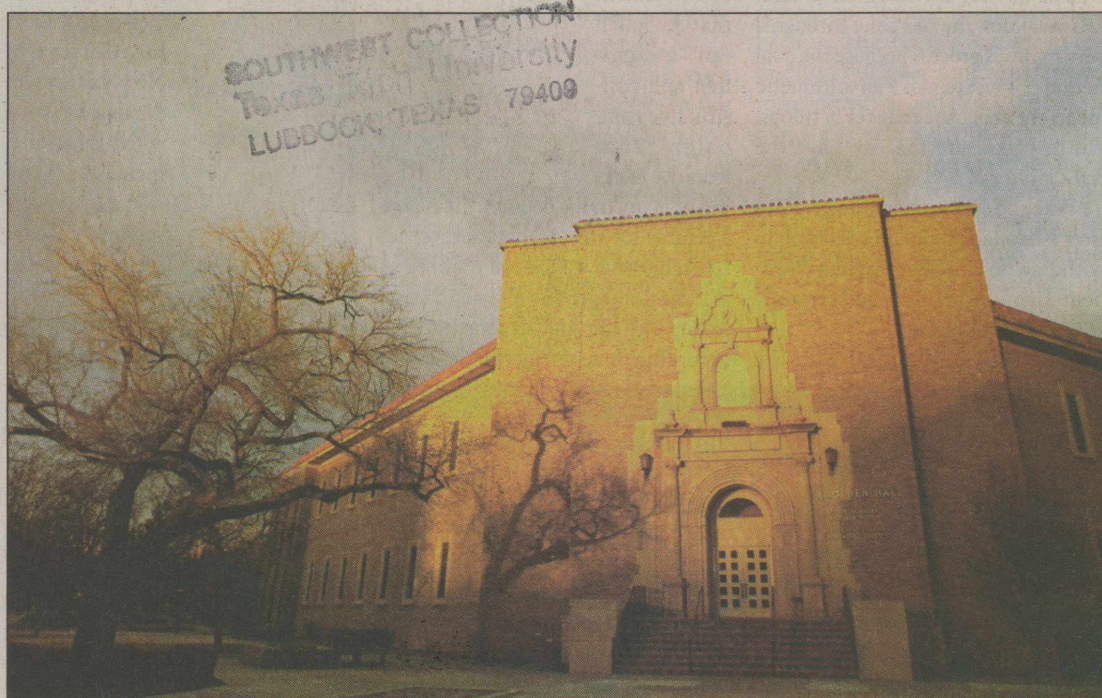


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

DESPITE INITIAL TESTS showing otherwise, some employees at the Texas Tech Graduate School Office remain concerned with the quality of air that is circulated in the basement of Holden Hall.

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PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

GINNY MAHAN, A featured artist and a South Plains College professor, looks at "Madame X" by Shannon Samson at the Dia de los Muertos exhibit Friday at the International Culture Center.

Dia de los muertos in art

ICC celebrates Day of the Dead

By SHERREL JONES
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech and Lubbock community crowded the International Cultural Center on Friday to view art that celebrated Dia de los Muertos.

The holiday, also known as the Day of the Dead, is a day to celebrate dead friends, relatives and even pets.

The ICC celebrated by displaying art and providing food for the community to enjoy.

"There was an exhibit called 'Celebración,' and it is an annual group exhibit by artists from across the United States," said Jane Bell, director of the International Cultural Center. "It is traditionally held at the Buddy Holly Center, but because the

center is closed this year due to renovations, we gave it a home here at the cultural center."

Momentum was not lost due to change of venue, she said, because it was a popular and crowded event.

"Each year the artists and musicians are different," Bell said, "but the idea behind Dia de los Muertos remains constant."

Bell walked from piece to piece, talking about some of her favorites, which included "Catrina 2009" by Randy Hall, "Dead (fill in the blank)" by Ginny Mahan, "Constellation" by Sang Mi Yoo and "Elegy for 16 Ming Concubines" by Yvonne Armitage Greene.

Bell said "Elegy for 16 Ming Concubines" did not mean much to her until she heard the story behind the piece that displays

vivid colors of a grave site with 16 skulls and two Japanese women spirits.

The artist learned of the story while visiting her daughter in Japan. The two walked past the grave site and the artist felt compelled to paint the delicate grave, she said, even after learning the main emperor at the time demanded his 16 favorite concubines enter the grave with him when he died and be buried alive.

Bell said a piece she found to be fun and festive was "Dead (fill in the blank)," which was a Scrabble game board with words glued to the board. The board was inspired by the occasion Dia de los Muertos and had words such as, wrong, sea, heat, beat, meat, end and Day of the Dead.

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS continued on page 2 >>

Women's cross country wins second straight Big 12 title

By ZANE TURNER
STAFF WRITER

Some of the other Big 12 Conference teams may not be able to tell the difference between last year's Texas Tech women's cross country team and this year's.

But Tech coach Jon Murray sees one key difference that allowed the Lady Raiders to stay atop the Big 12 with a second consecutive conference championship Saturday.

"You've got to have a total team effort like what we had," said Murray, who has led the Lady Raiders to their second conference title in five seasons. "It was pretty good across the board, every lady stepped up and did their job and that's why we won."

"It was pretty good across the board, every lady stepped up and did their job and that's why we won."

JON MURRAY
TEXAS TECH
CROSS COUNTRY COACH

The Lady Raiders won Saturday in Columbia, Mo., in the same way they have every meet this season — in dominating fashion.

In a season in which the Lady Raiders did not lose a meet as a team, Tech saw consistently strong performances from now All-Big 12 runners Lillian Badaru, Purity Biwott, Winrose Karunde, Caroline Karunde and Gladys Kipsang.

The Lady Raiders were once again paced by Badaru, who finished in fourth with a time of 21:22.35. Coming in one second behind her in fifth place was Biwott, who like the Karunde sisters, earned All-Big 12 honors their first season at Tech.

Kipsang — who won the first

meet of the season in Ruidoso — placed seventh. Caroline Karunde followed Kipsang in ninth place and Winrose Karunde was the fifth Lady Raider to cross the line in 13th-place to wrap up the team title.

Winning back-to-back championships in any sport can be a tough task, Murray said.

"It was really outstanding, we really needed this effort in order to win," he said. "For us to get two in a row is really outstanding, we

had those All-Big 12 runners and we really needed that in order to win this championship."

Tech staved off No. 3 Colorado, No. 19 Iowa State and No. 26 Baylor to earn another conference title. The Lady Raiders also are the second team, other than Colorado, to win two consecutive titles on the women's side.

The victory for the No. 14 Lady Raiders may push them into the Top 10 of the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coach Association rankings, making it the third time in the last three seasons.

The women's runners were not available for comment as of press time, but they arrived back in Lubbock Sunday with about two weeks to prepare for regionals.

With high hopes coming into the Big 12 Championships, junior Nathan Milles said the Red Raiders grabbed the short end of the stick.

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Afghan troop decision to take 'weeks'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is still weeks away from deciding whether to send more troops to Afghanistan, the White House said Sunday amid pressure from lawmakers to settle on a war strategy despite muddled politics and concerns of corruption in Kabul.

Top White House advisers said Obama's painstaking review, ongoing since early September, would not be hampered by Sunday's announcement from the top challenger in the Afghan presidential runoff election that he would withdraw from a race he was likely to lose.

"I expect the president will make a decision within weeks," senior Obama adviser David Axelrod said. "As you know, he has gone through a very rigorous process because the goal here is not just to make an arithmetic judgment about the number of troops, but to make sure that we have the right strategy."

Axelrod said former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah's decision to withdraw means that Afghan President Hamid Karzai all but certainly will remain in power.

"We are going to deal with the

government that is there," Axelrod said. "And obviously there are issues we need to discuss, such as reducing the high level of corruption. These are issues we'll take up with President Karzai."

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, traveling in Morocco, said the U.S. will support the next president and the people of Afghanistan, "who seek and deserve a better future."

She said in a statement that Abdullah ran "a dignified and constructive campaign" that won the backing of many in his country. "It is now a matter for the Afghan authorities to decide on a way ahead that brings this electoral process to a conclusion in line with the Afghan constitution," according to a statement released by

the State Department.

The runoff was scheduled in wake of widespread claims of election fraud from the August vote. The Obama administration had planned to wait until after the runoff before deciding whether to continue targeting the Taliban in Afghanistan with more

U.S. forces or focus on eliminating al-Qaida and other terrorists with unmanned spy planes in Pakistan.

Before Obama left the White House to campaign for Democratic Gov. Jon Corzine in New Jersey on Sunday, he spoke with his national security adviser

by telephone. White House spokesman Ben LaBolt told reporters aboard Air Force One that Jim Jones updated Obama on the situation in Afghanistan and that Jones had spoken with the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan,

Karl Eikenberry.

About 68,000 American troops already have been ordered to report to Afghanistan by the end of the year.

The top U.S. and NATO commander in Afghanistan, Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal, wants the Pentagon to send him an additional 40,000 troops to prevent the Taliban from letting al-Qaida once again use Afghanistan as a haven — as it was in the days leading up to the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

Faced with growing troop deaths and bloody fighting in the 8-year war, the White House has signaled it likely will send over more forces — but likely far fewer than what McChrystal wants.

Lawmakers called on Obama to decide on a war strategy, saying the continued impasse has put U.S. troops in danger.

"The longer this decision hangs, the more jeopardy and the more danger our troops on the ground there are in the middle of," said House Republican leader John Boehner, R-Ohio.

INBRIEF

STATE

Search for Calif. crash survivors now recovery

McALLEN (AP) — With more than 1.7 million military veterans in Texas and just nine Veterans Affairs hospitals, long drives are not uncommon in the Rio Grande Valley and some other parts of the state with large veteran populations.

For decades veterans along the U.S.-Mexico border have had to travel five hours to San Antonio for many medical procedures.

On Nov. 3, Texas voters could enlist

the state's aid in establishing more VA hospitals with Proposition 8, a ballot measure that would allow the state to partner with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to build hospitals in Texas.

State Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr., a co-author of the legislation that put the question on the ballot, said he remembered making that drive from the Valley to San Antonio many times with his father, a disabled war veteran.

NATION

2 veteran-related propositions on Nov. 3 ballot

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The search for nine people missing when a U.S. Coast Guard plane collided with a Marine Corps helicopter over the Pacific Ocean is now a recovery mission, officials said Sunday.

Petty Officer First Class Allison Conroy said there was little chance of finding survivors among the seven military personnel aboard the Coast Guard C-130 and the two in the Marine Corps

AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter.

"We always hold out some hope, but at this point the Coast Guard has suspended the active search for survivors," Conroy said.

The two aircraft collided Thursday evening as the Coast Guard was searching for a missing boater. The Marine helicopter was flying in formation with another Cobra helicopter and two transports on a nighttime training exercise.

WORLD

Afghan challenger drops out of election

KABUL (AP) — Afghan presidential challenger Abdullah Abdullah announced Sunday he would not participate in next weekend's runoff election but stopped short of calling on his supporters to boycott the balloting.

Abdullah also said the Afghan people should not accept results of an election from the current election

commission and told supporters President Hamid Karzai's government had not been legitimate since its mandate expired last May.

He made no mention of agreeing to take part in any future unity government with Karzai, which the U.S. and its international partners believe is the best hope for curbing the Taliban insurgency.

Corrections

The Daily Treador'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.

Holden

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We asked staff members to comply in order to provide information about our concerns," Hartmeister said. "We don't know if it's a disproportionately high level of incidence, but we are just asking for the proper folks to insure safety on our behalf."

Matt Roe of Environmental Health and Safety said nothing in the offices has been found to be a health hazard at the time.

"I don't think that it's a toxic envi-

ronment," Roe said. "There have been several health complaints from down there, but we have tested for many things and it all came out at negative or at low levels."

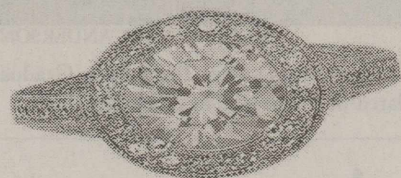
Hartmeister said all the employees in the Graduate Admissions Office can do now is wait for the final results.

"We are just hoping that all the thyroid problems are a coincidence and it's not an unsafe environment," he said. "We are just waiting for data to see if it's a yes or a no."

If it is a yes, Hartmeister said the employees would have to leave the offices while it would undergo treatment.

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Dia De Los Muertos

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ginny Mahan, artist of the Scrabble piece and professor of psychology at South Plains College, said she did a monopoly piece last year and will continue to do a series of game pieces.

She had two collaborative pieces with Dan English, artist and associate professor at South Plains College. The pieces were "Cocina de Catrina," which was two photos of a skeleton with a skeleton apron on cooking angel food cake, and "Dead C scroll," which was an open scroll with a skeleton in the center.

English and Mahan celebrated the event by painting their faces to look like skeletons. English said it was Mahan's idea to dress for the occasion.

"We went to something at Tech Thursday night that was a dia celebration, and a lot of people were dressed up to celebrate," Mahan said.

"We have seen people at these events made up before, so we just decided to do it."

Elle Bettes from Amarillo said she thought the exhibit was great, and was happy to see the community celebrate Dia de los Muertos.

"My children are partially Hispanic, and their father died while I was pregnant," Bettes said. "So to help me get through that, I celebrate his culture. I have a really big spot in my heart for this holiday."

She said her favorite artist is Frida Kahlo, who painted using bright colors in a style that was influenced by cultures of Mexico, and many of her pieces are self-portraits that portray her own pain.

"There was a tribute to Kahlo and it made this exhibit worth it for me to come," Bettes said.

She said it was amazing to see so many people celebrate this holiday in Lubbock.

"In America we're supposed to be a melting pot of cultures and we're not," she said. "So, to celebrate this holiday is absolutely amazing. In other cultures, this day is important and is a part of who people are. I think it should be more widely celebrated in the United States."

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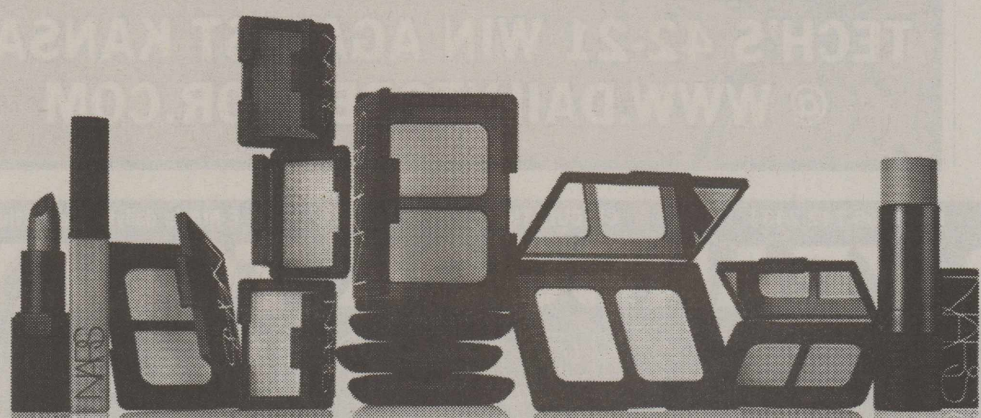
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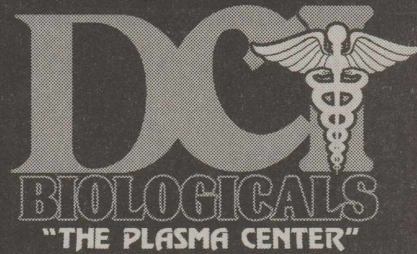
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Heritage brings ranching to Halloween

By **EMILY MOSER**
STAFF WRITER

Witches, goblins and ghouls wandered the grounds of the National Ranching Heritage Center on Friday.

The Ranching Center hosted the Third Annual Heritage Halloween Friday. Heritage Halloween is an event for all ages to dress up in their Halloween best and visit the historical park to trick or treat, learn how to rope, make cornhusk dolls, or take a hayride.

Emily Arellano, manager of education program for the National Ranching Heritage Center and Tech alumna, said the idea of the event originated from the historical structures in the park.

"We have houses out there, so it was kind of a natural thing to do," she said.

Arellano said through the event, children are able to learn about the origins of different candy. Each historic building had treats that are period correct

for the time period the building came. For example, Super Bubble bubblegum, established in 1948, was passed out at the Pitchfork Cookhouse, which is a building from the 1950s.

A cake walk, fall crafts, stick-horse races, hayrides through the park and traditional demonstrations of taffy pulling by the center's volunteers were also available at the Halloween festival.

Members of the Tech Rodeo team taught children how to "rope dummies," which were bales of hay used

to portray calves, and supervising stick-horse races.

Tye Jones, a Tech Rodeo member, could be seen at the festival with his lasso, instructing children on roping. Jones, a junior in agriculture economics and business administration major from Levelland, said this was his first time to help out he was more than do so.

"We think it's great," Jones said, "and it's a good thing for the kids instead of having to go out to trick or treat."

Arellano said the event has continued because of the community's positive response. For example, 3,200 people were counted as attending Heritage Halloween last year.

A parent of one of the trick-or-treaters from Frenship, Tracy Bunting, said her daughter had just arrived to Heritage Halloween from school. She considers the event to be safe and she didn't have to worry about her child, going missing if she ran off.

Bunting said the center provides a Halloween event that is educational as well as safe.

"The kids learn a lot here," she said. "You don't think they do but they do."

Bunting said, while her child was riding the hayride through the park, her daughter was happy to come to the festival and is particularly looking forward to seeing the taffy pulling.

Candy wasn't the only thing being passed out at the Halloween festival. Kool Smiles dentistry also was at Heritage Halloween

handing out toothbrushes and educating children on oral health care. Allison Martin, community relations specialist for Lubbock's Kool Smiles, said the dentistry is always promoting healthy smiles, even during Halloween.

"We give out anything that is non-food," Martin said. "We don't give out candy at all. We just want to remind people to brush their teeth."

She said this was her second year to attend the event for her dentistry and she was glad to be back. She said the event is beneficial to the



PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

BRAXTON TURNER, 5, left, tries to lasso a calf with help from Tye Jones, a junior agriculture communications and business major from Levelland, during the Heritage Halloween event Friday at the Ranching Heritage Center.

community because she believes everyone is enjoying Heritage Halloween.

The president of the Tech Rodeo Association, Erica Creswell, said this was her second year of volunteering at Heritage Halloween. Creswell, a senior in psychology from Weatherford, Okla., said she supports the event because it gives a safe alternative for trick-or-treaters as well as the children's reactions.

"I think the little kids really enjoy it," Creswell said, "and they learn a little bit of history."

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Tech graduate student's play takes center stage

By **ALEXANDRA PEDRINI**
STAFF WRITER

Looking back on her past lives, the spirit of a woman searches for answers in the theater department's production of "Arya, an original piece written by Orda Lelanyja, a graduate student in playwriting and theater history criticism from Thailand.

The play "Arya" follows a spirit who tells her stories to the other spirits, so she can move on from one life to the next. The Buddhist beliefs of reincarnation play a major role in this play; the spirit woman has lived three lives already, and to move into the afterlife, she must learn something from all of them.

"The play talks about the nature of suffering, and how suffering can help you grow," Lelanyja said. "People have a negative thought about suffering and always ask, 'Why can't we be happy?' But everybody has to get sick and suffer somehow. If you look at it and try to understand it, you can overcome it. To me, the play has a lot of Buddhism in it, but it is not a Buddhist play or a religious play. It's very universal, other than the reincarnation, I think that the play focuses more on people and their relationships."

Lelanyja, who moved to the United States from Thailand, used theater and acting to improve her English. Her theater classes during her undergraduate years got her speaking and using the language in a way she couldn't learn at home. Along with improving her speech, these classes paved the way for her playwriting.

"I was a theater major for my undergrad, and I had to learn

everything — writing, acting, directing, design — and I found that I liked play-writing most," Lelanyja said. "You can just sit alone and put your ideas and thoughts into it and you get a play, and then if you're lucky people will want to perform it."

Before "Arya," Lelanyja wrote several one act and 10-minute plays because she hadn't yet mastered English, but over time she decided to keep writing and make the others play longer than her others.

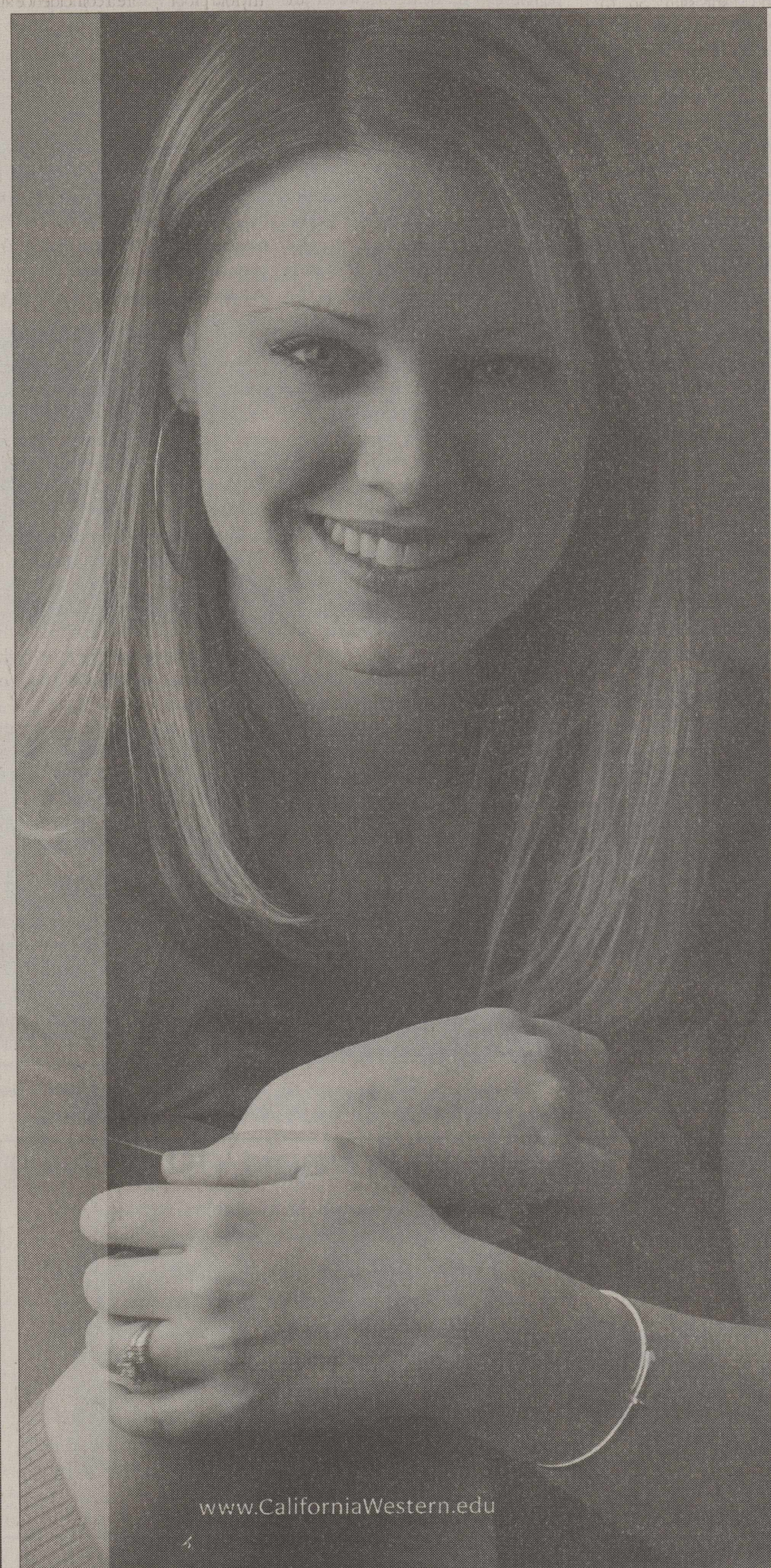
"Arya" is different than most plays you get to do," said cast member Kayla Fields, a junior theater major from Sonora. "It has a different type of feel than most plays. It's a bunch of different lives, and there isn't one main lead. Everyone on stage is important to the play."

The technical side of this production also differs from the norm of typical production. The lighting on stage is always a colored light, and a white light never shines down on an actor. The lighting, set design and costumes reflect how the play takes place in the spirit world and in a series of memories.

"Arya" is a lot different from other shows I've designed costumes for because they way it was written was very broad," said costume designer Katie Kloosterman, a junior technical design major. "There is no specific year or time period, so I had a lot of freedom to pick the specific time period and areas of time that I thought worked, it was a lot of fun but hard at the same time."

"Arya" hit the stage Sunday evening and will continue through next Sunday in the Lab Theater. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. General admission is \$10 and student tickets are \$5.

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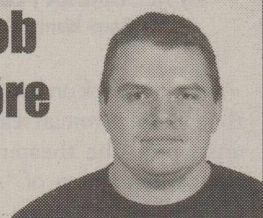
Public should keep eye on Iranian situation

The following two sentences state incontrovertible facts: A) Iranian leaders have consistently denied the Holocaust and called for the literal obliteration of Israel. B) On multiple occasions Israel has struck and destroyed nuclear facilities in states hostile to it and Israeli leaders say they absolutely will not accept a nuclear armed Iran.

The next two sentences are believed by virtually every objective, knowledgeable party (which excludes certain members of the United Nations Security Council): A) Israel isn't given to bluffs or idle threats and likely will attack if necessary to prevent a nuclear Iran. B) Iran is working feverishly to develop nuclear weapons capability and is unmoved by threats of U.N. economic sanctions which China and Russia will never allow anyway.

Something must give. This loom-

Jacob Moore



ing conflict grows more likely by the day as Iran's two nuclear plants — one of which Iran tried to keep secret in violation of international agreements and is built into the side of a mountain on a military base — operate around the clock, enriching uranium and bringing Iran closer to a nuclear weapon.

An Israeli strike would almost certainly result in an exchange of missiles, hopefully armed with only conventional warheads. One of the reasons this fight is important to the United States is that Iraq sits right between Israel and Iran.

This makes all out war less likely,

but if the United States were to shoot down Iranian planes over Iraq, tensions would skyrocket and there's even a chance the entire region would descend into war.

Amongst the American public and most politicians, the surprising reaction to this dangerous situation seems to be near total indifference. How can this be? I'd point to three factors.

First, we all have our own lives and many simply don't follow international news closely. Fair enough, though if you've read this far, this likely doesn't describe you.

Second, some may understandably be preoccupied with ongoing controversy in Afghanistan. In September, General Stanley McChrystal, handpicked by President Barack Obama to lead our forces there, requested more troops to stabilize the country.

Since then, Obama has been in

"strategy review" mode, apparently weighing competing proposals. One involves adding troops to stabilize the situation and is advocated by McChrystal and Centcom Commander David Petraeus.

The other proposal, much more palatable to most Democrats and incidentally endorsed by Vice President Biden (a military expert if ever there was one), largely entails withdrawing and conducting the war with drones and cruise missiles.

Third, I suspect some are dismissing belligerent talk from Tehran and Tel Aviv as mere bluster meant to please certain constituencies at home. Perhaps this group has become accustomed to American politicians who have the regrettable habit of talking a lot, but actually saying little.

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates provided an example of this unfortunate habit Oct. 21 declar-

ing, "We do not today — nor will we ever — accept a North Korea with nuclear weapons." This echoed declarations from the Clinton and Bush administrations. But Gates' statement didn't seem to cause the North Koreans much anxiety, perhaps because we have accepted North Korea with nuclear weapons since it tested a bomb in 2006.

Israel is less casual about these matters. In 1975, Saddam Hussein declared Iraq's purchase of a nuclear reactor from France was the first step toward an Iraqi nuclear bomb. Israel said this was unacceptable. In 1981, after six years of failed diplomacy, as Iraq's nuclear plant neared completion Israel leveled the facility.

In September 2007, a Syrian nuclear reactor was covertly destroyed by a similar strike. The first to acknowledge Israel was behind the strike was then former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who

bragged about supporting it and has since returned as Prime Minister.

Violence isn't yet inevitable. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad — best known for denying the Holocaust and being "reelected" via a rigged election earlier this year — suggested Friday that Iran would consider a deal to turn over much of its uranium. Just maybe, behind closed doors, Iran has finally been convinced that one way or another, it won't have nuclear weapons.

The United States military and government must be prepared for the fallout of an Israeli attack on Iran's nuclear facilities (no pun intended). Meanwhile, we in the public would do well to acknowledge the coming danger.

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Defection, court fights test Scientology

By ERIC GORSKI
AP RELIGION WRITER

The Church of Scientology is going through a difficult season.

Over the course of two days last week, a French court convicted the church of fraud and Oscar-winning filmmaker Paul Haggis' resignation from the church over a litany of concerns was aired publicly. On one hand, it was just another bad press week for the embattled institution founded in 1953 by the late science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard.

But for former Scientologists and scholars of the movement, the setbacks pose a greater challenge coming on the heels of defections of top-level Scientologists who lifted a veil of secrecy on the organization and alleged a culture of violence and control under Hubbard's successor, David Miscavige.

"With any organization, the loss of a substantial number of your most experienced people and chaos at the upper levels is problematic," said David Bromley, a Virginia Commonwealth University professor who studies new religious movements and has written on Scientology. "There are PR implications, the possibility of legal actions ... That dwarfs the other things."

The church has strenuously denied the allegations against Miscavige, portraying the accusers as lying disgruntled ex-employees.

Church spokesman Tommy Davis said Scientology is flourishing, with more than 8,000 Scientology churches, missions and groups in 160-plus nations. He said assets and property holdings have doubled over the past five years, including a new church in Rome and another opening this weekend in Washington, D.C.

"From our perspective, things are going pretty great," Davis said. "In fact, that's downplaying it. Actually, what's happening with the church right now is frankly spectacular. To the degree there are these various things happening, it really is a lot of noise."

One major survey of American religion shows Scientology declining in the U.S., however. The estimated number of Americans who identify as Scientolo-

gists rose from 45,000 in 1990 to 55,000 in 2001, then plummeted to 25,000 in 2008, according to the American Religion Identification Survey.

Davis said that while the church avoids membership estimates, it's "absolutely in the millions" globally and growing in the U.S.

Scientology has long been controversial. The Internal Revenue Service granted the church tax exemption in 1993 after a nearly four-decade battle over whether it should be considered a religion. Critics say Scientology is a business, preying on people by charging exorbitant sums for services.

The church continues to fascinate, fueled by interest in celebrity adherents such as Tom Cruise, John Travolta and Kirstie Alley, as well as beliefs that don't fit into typical American religious boxes.

Hubbard taught that the "thetan," the equivalent of a spirit, can be cleared of negative energy from this and previous lives through a process called auditing. With the aid of auditors, Scientologists seek a state called "Clear" and then advance through various levels of "Operating Thetan."

To critics of Scientology and ex-members who have grown increasingly vocal in recent years, it's a breakthrough — critical voices from former members of the inner circle, not the media or outsiders.

"When you have dozens of people speaking out, it's no longer too credible to say they're all malcontents and criminals," said Jeff Hawkins, a former Scientology marketing guru who defected in 2005. "(The church) is either going to reform or collapse, and I think it's going to be the latter because they're incapable of reform or admitting any wrongdoing."

One defector, Marty Rathbun, who served on the church's board and was a top lieutenant of Miscavige's, said a growing movement of people hold to the tenets of Scientology, but reject the institutional church.

"I don't foresee another church," Rathbun said. "That was the first attack on me — that this was a coup, that I'm trying to tap a schism or start another church ... That's not an objective of mine

or a positive way to go."

Haggis, the Oscar-winning director of "Crash," was not a high-ranking Scientologist. But his defection is significant, said actor Jason Beghe, who left the church in 2007 and has become a critic.

"He was somebody the Scientology community was proud of, and therefore I'm sure he helped hold some of their base in place," said Beghe, who appeared in the film "G.I. Jane" and TV's "Everwood" and is cast in Haggis' next film, now shooting in Pittsburgh. "Anybody who is a Scientologist is harboring doubts."

It was Rathbun who obtained a copy of Haggis' critical letter to Davis and posted it on his blog. Haggis complained that Davis didn't do enough to distance Scientology from proponents of California's gay marriage ban. He criticized the church's "smearing" of the high-level defectors.

The filmmaker also wrote about the church's practice of "disconnection," in which members cut off contact with loved ones who leave or advocate against the religion — something Davis said is not mandated.

A day after Haggis' letter went public, a Paris court convicted the Church of Scientology of fraud and fined it more than \$900,000, but stopped short of banning the group's activities in France. The organization's French branch likened it to a modern-day Inquisition and said it would appeal.

Davis questioned the attention paid to the French verdict, saying that little notice was given when the church won court victories in Italy and Russia that cemented the church's presence in those countries. He said the top-level defections are not troubling, but rather a gain for the church.

Some scholars of Scientology believe the recent setbacks are momentary.

Defectors are overly optimistic about doing any real damage, said J. Gordon Melton, director of the Institute for the Study of American Religion in Santa Barbara, Calif., and editor of a book on Scientology.

"If five cardinals walked out of the Roman Catholic Church and turned on it and said there are bad things happening, it'd be a storm, but the church would weather the storm," Melton said. "I think Scientology is big enough to where it can and will weather the storm."

Others think the Church of Scientology is in trouble. Along with the defections and French court setback, Scientology has been unable to stop Internet leaks of confidential material that members must pay a premium for, said Hugh Urban, a professor in the department of comparative studies at Ohio State University.

"They're really losing what has been the bread and butter," Urban said.

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Leach ties record for most wins, Tech rolls 42-21

By **ALEX YBARRA**
MANAGING EDITOR

Last week, Texas Tech coach Mike Leach didn't elaborate on the notion that he was one win shy of tying former coach Spike Dykes for most wins in school history.

But after the Red Raiders beat Kansas 42-21 on Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium, it seemed the gravity of the accomplishment finally took effect.

Tied with Dykes at 82, it's clear Leach hasn't broken the record yet. But as he fought back tears after the game, it was obvious that it means something to him.

Leach decided to thank those coaches who paved the way, something he said doesn't happen enough.

"Well, Spike's, you know, it's funny," Leach said. "I think the young guys don't do maybe as good a job of thanking the older guys as they really ought to. You know, when I was coming up in coaching, Spike's a guy that I always really admired."

"I think that I learned a lot from Spike like all of us do. Well I just really want to thank him, you know. But, you know, there's no new guys without the old guys. The old guys are what made it happen."

It took Leach 10 years to reach the 82-win plateau, which took Dykes 14 to achieve, mainly because of more difficult non-conference schedules.

But regardless of semantics, running back Baron Batch, who had a career-high four touchdowns on Saturday, said it's an honor to play for Leach and be part of a

winning program.

"The thing about Tech, the reason I came here is because it's a winning program. We win," Batch said. "I think sometimes people take for granted just how good of a coach he is, and how much we win here."

"I think at times, when we're not driving up and down the field on everybody, people get disappointed. But that just shows how good of a coach Leach is, and people expect that from him."

Tech senior center Shawn Byrnes gave Leach credit for raising the bar at a school that rarely got prominent attention before he arrived.

"That's great," said Byrnes, who has been around long enough to be part of 43 Leach wins since 2005. "It just shows how good of a coach he is and what he can do. How he's brought Texas Tech up in the football ranks as a program. It's a big tribute to him. He's just done so much for this town and this program. So congrats to him."

Now that Leach has tied the record, the Red Raiders get a bye week to rest up before hitting the road for the first time in two weeks and taking on No. 20 Oklahoma State in Stillwater, Okla., where Leach could break Dykes' record.

And although it took a whole half to get everything going, Tech bounced back from an embarrassing 52-30 loss to Texas A&M last week and dominated the Jayhawks.

It was a stark contrast considering A&M had 321 rushing yards and more than 500 total in the game. Kansas fin-



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador
KANSAS COACH MARK Mangino shakes hands with Texas Tech coach **Mike Leach** after losing 42-21 to the Red Raiders on Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

ished with its lowest offensive output of the season and three turnovers.

Tech recorded six sacks and cornerback LaRon Moore returned a fumble 32 yards for a touchdown to pad the lead in the fourth quarter.

Tech defensive end Brandon Sharpe, whose 2.5 sacks against KU now gives him 10.5 on the season, said last week's poor outing against the Aggies was a wake-up call.

"I mean, any time you have a loss you have to just fight back and build yourself back up," he said. "You just don't sit there and wander on and pout about it. You just

have to build yourself up, go play hard. It's a brighter day the next day. Joy comes in the morning."

Offensively, the joy came in the second half.

Redshirt freshman Seth Doege, making his first career start, had two fumbles in the first half, one of which was returned for a touchdown.

Tech could only muster two touchdowns by halftime, so Taylor Potts replaced Doege in the second half and seemed content in the role of game manager.

Batch, who did most of the dirty work by hitting pay dirt four times and amassing

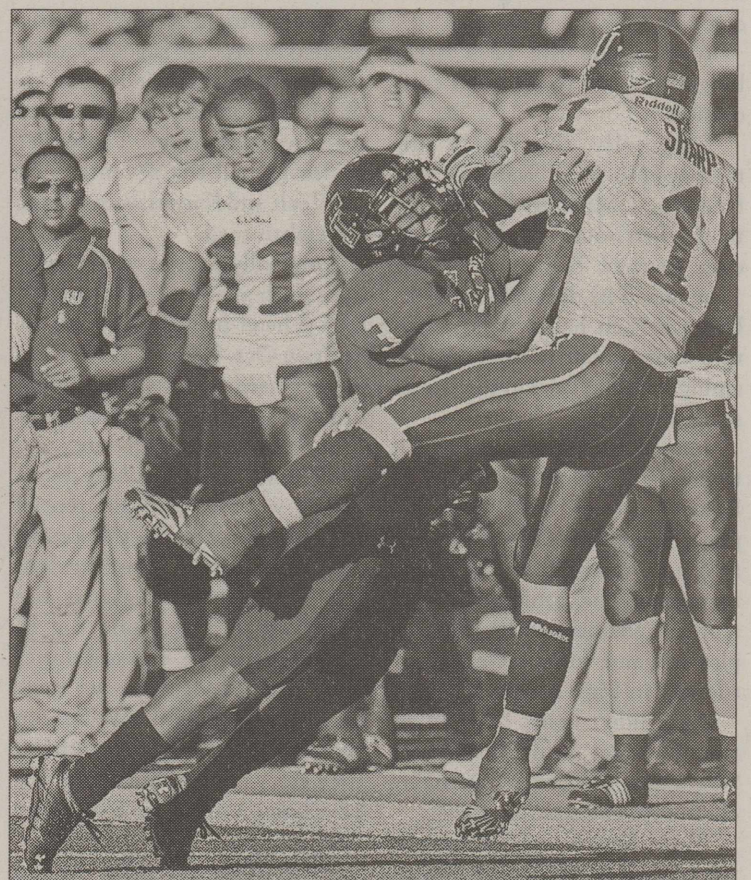


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH DEFENSIVE back Jamar Wall tackles Kansas running back **Jake Sharp** during Texas Tech's 42-21 victory against Kansas on Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

123 rushing yards, said Potts did a good job of checking at the line of scrimmage to give him more chances.

"I don't think many of those, maybe two of the plays that we scored on were called in the huddle," Batch said. "But

every other run, pretty much, was checked into. That's a great job by Potts just doing what he's supposed to, and recognizing what they're giving us and being a smart player."

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PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador
KANSAS QUARTERBACK TODD Reesing throws a pass under pressure from Texas Tech defensive end **Brandon Sharpe** during Texas Tech's 42-21 victory against Kansas at Jones AT&T Stadium.



PHOTO BY SAM GRENAIER/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH RUNNING back Baron Batch stiff arms KU cornerback **Daymond Patterson**, during the Red Raider's 42-21 victory over the Jayhawks. Batch led the team scoring a career high four touchdowns.

KU's Reesing benched as Jayhawks keep sliding

By **ADAM COLEMAN**
SPORTS EDITOR

All-Big 12 Conference quarterback, three-year starter, one of the more respected signal callers in the conference—Todd Reesing isn't supposed to be benched.

But in the 42-21 loss to Texas Tech Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium, Reesing was surprised he was not given the chance to lead his team to a comeback when he was benched late in the game.

"I'm not gonna lie," he said. "At that point, we were two possessions down, but by no means was the game over. But it's not my decision. Obviously, I gave (Mark Mangino) a reason to turn the ball over (to Kale Pick). I accept it and move forward."

Describing this point in the season as the roughest in his career, all Reesing can do is move forward.

At the 7:10 mark in the fourth quarter and with KU down 35-21, Reesing was benched for the first time in his career and replaced by the redshirt freshman Pick.

Reesing had a Tech defensive lineman in his face for most of the game. He was sacked six times for a loss of 45 yards and he had two fumbles—one of which was returned by Tech's LaRon Moore for a 31-yard touchdown and another that led to a Tech score earlier in the game. He finished the game completing 20-of-35 passes for 181 yards and a touchdown.

But it's the culmination of the past few

weeks that bothers Reesing.

Against Oklahoma, Reesing was 22-of-42 for 224 yards, but he had no touchdowns and threw three interceptions in the Jayhawks' first three drives. The Jayhawks were held to 200 yards fewer than their season average and KU lost 35-13.

The week before, Colorado completed its upset bid against the then-No. 17 Jayhawks, when Reesing took another six sacks. That game was close in the second half, but the Buffaloes prevailed.

Now Kansas is on a three-game skid, and the Jayhawks are struggling to make the best of their season even with the standout talent they have on offense.

KU coach Mark Mangino said all players and coaches have to take responsibility for the team's struggles, but he did not bench Reesing solely on the quarterback's play.

Mangino said he thought Pick could give the Jayhawks a little spark, but he mainly was concerned with Reesing's safety, considering he was taking a lot of sacks. Mangino said the play from the offensive line prompted the decision.

"To be honest with you, I'm concerned about the protection," Mangino said. "I didn't want him to take another hit. I didn't want him to get sacked again from the blindside or scramble, take a hit when our offensive line play is not up to snuff."

Pick finished the game for the Jayhawks, but he did not give them the spark Mangino thought he would. The

Red Raiders, whose offense was struggling during the first half as well, got comfortable and the Jayhawks could not keep up.

Reesing's performance during the past few weeks also has led some to believe he's hurt, and the senior said he's been dealing with a groin injury since the Colorado game. But Reesing said that is not to blame for the losses.

This stretch of games is far from the Kansas offense fans have seen in recent years.

The Jayhawks have Kerry Meier and Dezmon Briscoe, who both are ranked in the top 10 in the nation in receptions per game.

Aside from the standout quarterbacks in the Big 12 South, Reesing has made a name for himself in the North during his three years as starter. Now with 10,607 total yards in his career, he has the sixth most career total yards in Big 12 history. His lone touchdown pass to Briscoe was the 26th time the two have connected during their time as teammates, the most of any duo in the nation right now.

Meier, Reesing and Briscoe have been instrumental parts to the program, leading the Jayhawks to a victory in the Orange Bowl during the 2007 season.

That same offense has not been able to lead KU to a win in recent weeks. Kansas' 258 yards against Tech is the lowest output of the season for the Jayhawks.

"Take away the second half at Colorado, that's 10 bad quarters right there on offense," Reesing said. "You wish you could say you had all the answers because we have been very consistent over the last few years on offense."

Meier said the answer to whether Kansas can turn things around might not be practice or preparation—there have been no problems in that area.

"We go through a week of practice, it looks like we're ready to roll," he said. "And then we come out and do something like this on Saturdays and these past few weeks. It kind of throws me for a curveball."

>>> adam.coleman@ttu.edu

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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69						70				71			

By Pancho Harrison

11/2/09

DOWN

- Crystalline stone
- Beyond bad
- Cosa Nostra
- NBC show with Baba Wawa skits
- Military forces
- IOU
- Queens ball team
- Unchallenging college course
- Oblong cream puff
- "One-armed bandit"
- Prefix with -cycline
- Trouble greatly
- Clear, as a tape
- "My guess is ..."
- Movie that evokes prior times
- 26 TV's Nick at
- 28 'Zine on the Net
- 29 Runner-up
- 31 Initials on a Cardinal's cap
- 32 Dove sound
- 33 Golf ball path
- 35 Other, in Mexico
- 37 Had followers

Friday's Puzzle Solved

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Tech has play-in game for Big 12 tourney berth

By **MIKE GRAHAM**
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech soccer coach Tom Stone knew his team was in the Big 12 Conference tournament as he watched other league results come in.

It took the Big 12 a little longer to come to a similar conclusion.

Originally, the Big 12 announced No. 8 seed Kansas would face No. 1 Missouri Wednesday in the first round of the conference tourney. However, the Big 12 reversed its decision Saturday because Tech had a valid claim to a tournament berth based on ambiguous language in the Big 12 soccer manual.

Now if Tech wants to make it to the Big 12 tournament, the Red Raiders have to beat Kansas in a play-in game for the eighth seed at 6 p.m. today in San Antonio to precede the conference tournament Wednesday. It's the first play-in game for the conference tourney in Big 12 history.

"We didn't really have an argument to get us in," Stone said. "We knew we had a legitimate claim into the tournament."

Tech, Baylor and Kansas tied for seventh place in the conference standings after the Red Raiders lost to Colorado 2-0 Friday. Tech finished the regular season with 12 points.

Tech (3-4-3) could have clinched at least the seventh spot with either a win or draw against the Buffaloes.

Baylor (3-4-3) tied with Oklahoma 0-0 to earn one point and tied Tech in the standings, and Kansas (4-6) won its final match to tie the Red Raiders and Bears in the standings as well.

The Big 12 tiebreaker rules state there are several steps to follow when breaking a tie.

First, records against the tied teams are compared. The three

teams all went 1-1 against each other.

The second step is goal differential, in which all teams were tied against each other head-to-head with a zero point differential.

The third procedure in the tiebreaker process is goals scored against among the tied teams in which Baylor had the fewest of the three tied teams. Therefore, Baylor earned the seventh seed and Tech and Kansas were left for the eighth seed.

Originally, Kansas was awarded the eighth and final seed based of its 3-2 head-to-head win against Tech on Oct. 9, but that decision was reversed Saturday by the Big 12 because of ambiguous language in the tiebreaker procedure.

"The manual for soccer didn't specify whether goal differential should be between the teams that tied (in the standings) or goal differentials against the entire conference," said Big 12 senior associate commissioner Dru Hancock. "I think we made the right decision. We're not going to tell any student-athlete they can't have a shot at the Big 12 Championship in a situation like this one."

If Tech defeats Kansas, the Red Raiders will face No. 1 Missouri Wednesday. If Tech loses tonight, their season is most likely over.

Tech and Kansas are in unique territory.

The tournament begins Wednesday and runs through Sunday. The winning team must win four consecutive games during the week. With the play-in game, the Red Raiders would have to win five games in seven days to win the tournament, while never having played more than two games a week all season.

"Obviously, this is a huge advantage for Missouri," Stone said. "Beyond Wednesday, there will have to be some special team



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH MIDFIELDER Taylor Lytle, left, fights for possession of the ball in a Big 12 Conference match earlier this season. The Red Raider has a play-in game against Kansas to determine the final spot for the Big 12 tournament today in San Antonio.

management (to keep the team fresh)."

Players were unavailable for comment as the team was traveling from Lubbock to San Antonio on Sunday.

Hancock said the rule that has allowed for both Tech and Kansas claims into the tournament most likely will be fixed by the Big 12 soccer coaches during their annual meeting

in January. "I feel confident they'll look at the rule and use clearer language in defining what goal differential is," she said.

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AP TOP 25

1. FLORIDA
2. **TEXAS**
3. ALABAMA
4. CINCINNATI
5. BOISE ST.
6. TCU
7. OREGON
8. IOWA
9. LSU
10. GA. TECH
11. PENN STATE
12. USC
13. HOUSTON
14. PITTSBURGH
15. OHIO ST.
16. MIAMI
17. UTAH
18. **OKLA. ST.**
19. NOTRE DAME
20. **OKLAHOMA**
21. ARIZONA
22. VIRGINIA TECH
23. CALIFORNIA
24. WISCONSIN
25. BYU

BOLD indicates Big 12 Conference team

Today's su | do | ku

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Puzzles by PageFiller

In Sudoku, all the numbers 1 to 9 must be in every row, column and 3 x 3 box. Use logic to define the answers.

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

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Serena beats Venus in WTA championships final

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — Serena Williams bested big sister Venus again Sunday, winning 6-2, 7-6 (4) in the season-ending Sony Ericsson Championships final.

Serena broke twice in the first set and lost just seven points on serve in her last match of the year. She looked sharper than Venus in every facet of a match that featured few long rallies and little of the spectacular tennis the two have provided in some of their previous meetings.

Serena sealed the match with a crosscourt forehand winner, and celebrated calmly with a simple fist pump before hugging her sister at the net.

"It feels great," said Serena, who also won the WTA Tour's season-ending event in 2001. "I totally didn't expect to come here and win."

It was Serena's fourth straight win over her sister. She also beat Venus in the round-robin stage of the Doha tournament, the Wimbledon final and the semifinals in Miami this year. She leads their head-to-head record 13-10.

"Playing a final against Venus is really tough," Serena said. "Even though she wasn't really feeling great, she kept hitting every ball back."

Serena earned \$1.55 million for the win after finishing the event undefeated. She also clinched the year-end No. 1 ranking earlier this week after Dinara Safina of Russia pulled out injured in her first match.

"It feels great. I totally didn't expect to come here and win."

SERENA WILLIAMS
SONY ERICSSON
CHAMPIONSHIPS WINNER

The tournament featured the eight top-ranked women in the world divided into two groups, with the semifinals decided by a round-robin stage.

Venus lost two of her three round-robin matches but still advanced. The defending champion looked tired after rallying for a three-set win over Jelena

Jankovic on Saturday, and each of her other group matches went three sets.

She played with her left knee strapped while Serena had strapping on her left thigh.

"It was the end of the season, so I have no complaints," Venus said about her fitness level. "You have to show up and play no matter what. So that had nothing to do with it."

Serena, who advanced after U.S. Open finalist Caroline Wozniacki retired injured in the semifinals, held five of her last seven service games at love and lost just one point in each of the other two.

It was her third tournament win of the season after Wimbledon and the Australian Open.

"I haven't won a tournament that wasn't a Grand Slam in a while, so that was even more exciting," she said. "My losing streak in (other) tournaments is over."

Choi picks up 2nd win

INCHEON, South Korea (AP) — Na Yeon Choi made birdie at the last hole for a 5-under 67 on Sunday, giving her a one-shot victory over Maria Hjorth and Yani Tseng at the Hana Bank KOLON Championships.

Choi and Hjorth played in the same group and were tied heading to 18, where they both hit nice tee shots to the left side of the fairway. Hjorth hit a 4-iron into a water hazard, while Choi laid up in front of the green.

The Swede managed to save par, while Choi chipped within inches for the tap-in birdie.

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Tech volleyball falls to No. 22 Baylor

By **JOSE RODRIGUEZ**
STAFF WRITER

Now with eight matches remaining for the Texas Tech volleyball team, time is running out for the Red Raiders.

The team still is trying to get a win against a Big 12 Conference team.

Tech (2-18, 0-12 in Big 12 play) was swept by No. 22 Baylor (19-5, 8-5) Saturday in Waco — extending the Red Raiders' struggles with what is now a 51-match losing streak to Big 12 opponents.

However, solid production from players such as setter Karlyn Meyers and the return of outside hitter Miara Cave has the Red Raiders peaking going into a bye week. Tech's next match against Colorado is on Nov. 7.

“The girls communicated well on the court, which led to much better shots. They have been doing a much better job doing that lately.”

TRISH KNIGHT
TECH VOLLEYBALL COACH

Baylor reeled off three consecutive points to end Tech's bid for a set win with the help of outside hitters Tori Campbell and Katie Sanders along with middle blocker Anna Breyfogle, who all combined for 32 of the teams' 51 kills.

Tech players and coaches said the close call is another building block for the team, but they are not satisfied.

“We gave the girls a really good gameplan since we have already faced Baylor prior to tonight,” Knight said.

“The girls communicated well on the court, which led to much better shots. They have been doing a much better job doing that lately.”

The Red Raiders finished the match with 46 digs as a unit, 13 of those coming from Jenn Goehry. The play from the defense propelled Tech to that lead in

the final set and put them in position to extend the match to a fourth set, but it could not capitalize.

Although they finished strong, the Red Raiders didn't start that way.

Baylor came out much stronger than Tech in the first set, winning it 25-17 and Baylor wrapped things up in the second set 25-20.

“We need the right attitude from the beginning of the match,” Goehry said. “We need to just come out aggressively from the very start and play like that through the whole match.”

Tech picked up the offense in this match thanks to contributions

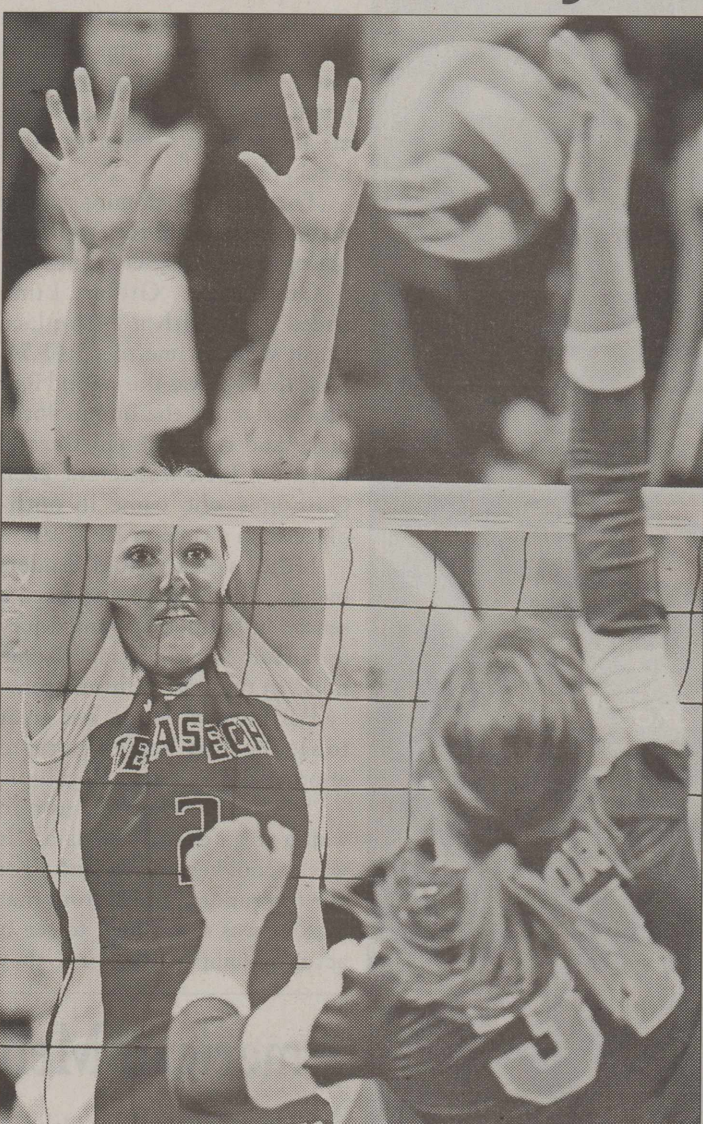


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Treador

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

from many players. Middle blocker Amanda Dowdy led the team with 11 kills, but the 20 combined kills from Meyers, Cave, Barbara Conceicao and Caroline Witte kept the Red Raiders within pace of the Bears.

Knight said the balanced production can be a result of having seen Baylor's defense before — the Bears swept Tech on Sept. 7 in Lubbock. That might help when Tech takes on Colorado at home after the bye

week. The Buffaloes are the last Big 12 team Tech defeated, and they are the last Big 12 team Tech has won a set against.

“We have to pull it all together and focus on our side of the court,” Cave said. “We have been working hard as a team and giving it our all, we just have to put in that extra work that will put us over the top.”

»»jose.l.rodriguez@ttu.edu

SPORTS SHORTS

Bills rookie S Byrd has 2 more interceptions

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Bills rookie safety Jarius Byrd joined San Francisco's Dave Baker as only the second NFL player to have two or more interceptions in three straight games.

Byrd intercepted Houston's

Matt Schaub twice in the first quarter of Buffalo's game Sunday. The second-round draft pick out of Oregon also had two each in Buffalo's previous games, wins over the New York Jets and Carolina.

Consistent Cowboys cruise past Seahawks 38-17

ARLINGTON (AP) — At last, the Dallas Cowboys are showing the consistency they sought.

Miles Austin caught a touchdown pass for the third straight game and Patrick Crayton returned a punt for a score for the second consecutive week, sending Dallas past the Seattle Seahawks 38-17 and into a share

of first place in the NFC East on Sunday.

Tony Romo went a third game in a row without an interception. Since a herky-jerky first month, the Cowboys (5-2) have found quite a groove, winning three straight, setting up a showdown next Sunday night against the co-leading Eagles in Philadelphia.

Ravens drop Broncos from unbeaten ranks, 30-7

BALTIMORE (AP) — The Baltimore Ravens handed Denver its first loss by using the same blueprint the Broncos employed to win their first six games.

Rookie Lardarius Webb returned the second-half kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown, and the Ravens ended a three-game losing streak with a surprisingly easy 30-7 vic-

tory Sunday.

It was Denver's first loss under rookie head coach Josh McDaniels. The Broncos (6-1) came in with the NFL's top-ranked defense, a plus-seven turnover differential and one of the league's best kick returners in Eddie Royal. Denver had also outscored the opposition 76-10 after halftime.

Texas TE Daniels sprains right knee against Bills

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Texans tight end Owen Daniels was ruled out after spraining his right knee in the first quarter of Houston's game at the Buffalo Bills.

Daniels was hurt during Hous-

ton's second possession Sunday. It's unclear how he was hurt, the player going down near the line of scrimmage before Matt Schaub underthrew a pass intended for Kevin Walter.

McMurray snaps 86-race winless streak

TALLADEGA, Ala. (AP) — Jamie McMurray has snapped an 86-race winless streak with a victory at Talladega Superspeedway.

Three-time defending series champion Jimmie Johnson is being credited with an eighth-place

finish — enough to likely wrap up a NASCAR record fourth consecutive title.

The race ended under caution because of a last lap accident that sent Mark Martin's car flipping across the track.

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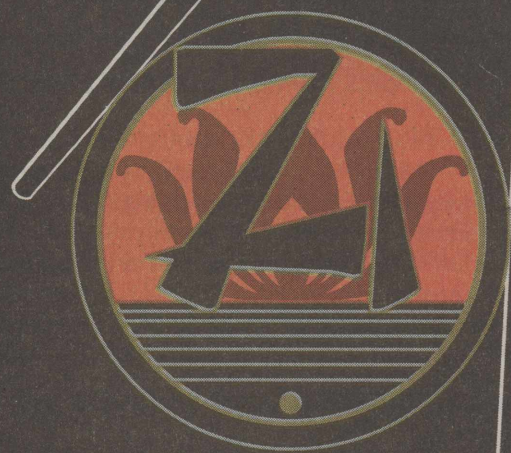
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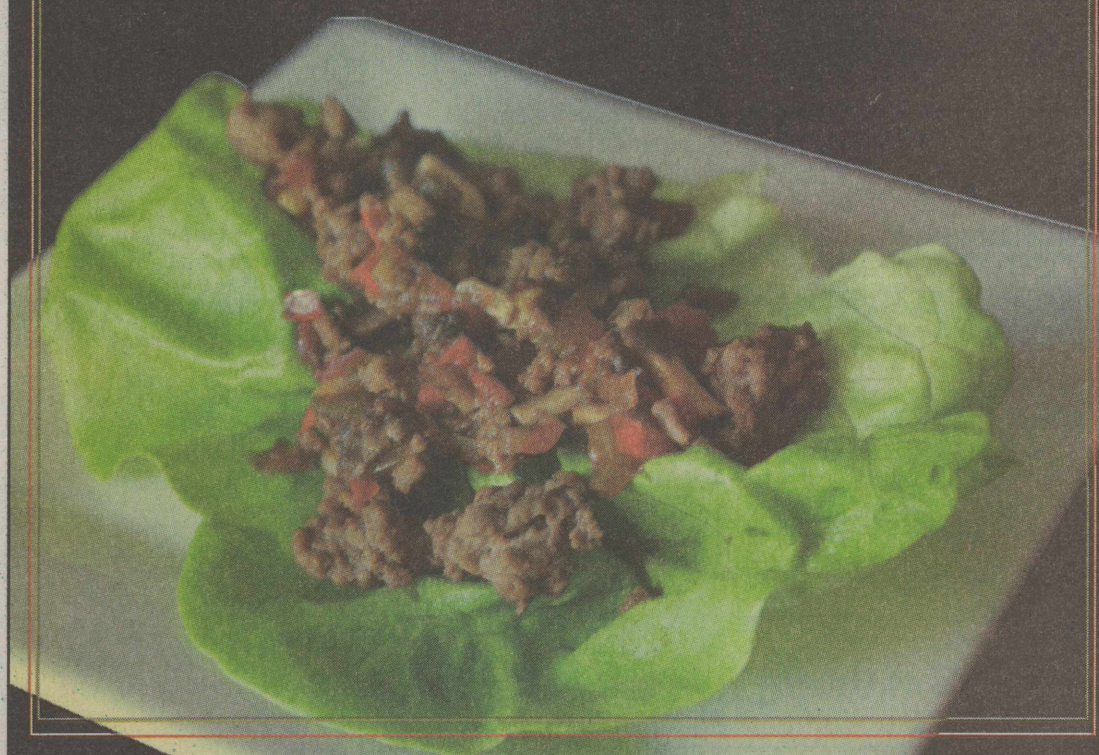
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Cross Country

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Red Raiders hoped to finish in the top half of the conference, but teams such as No. 3 Oklahoma State were too much for Tech. The Red Raiders finished as a team in 10th place.

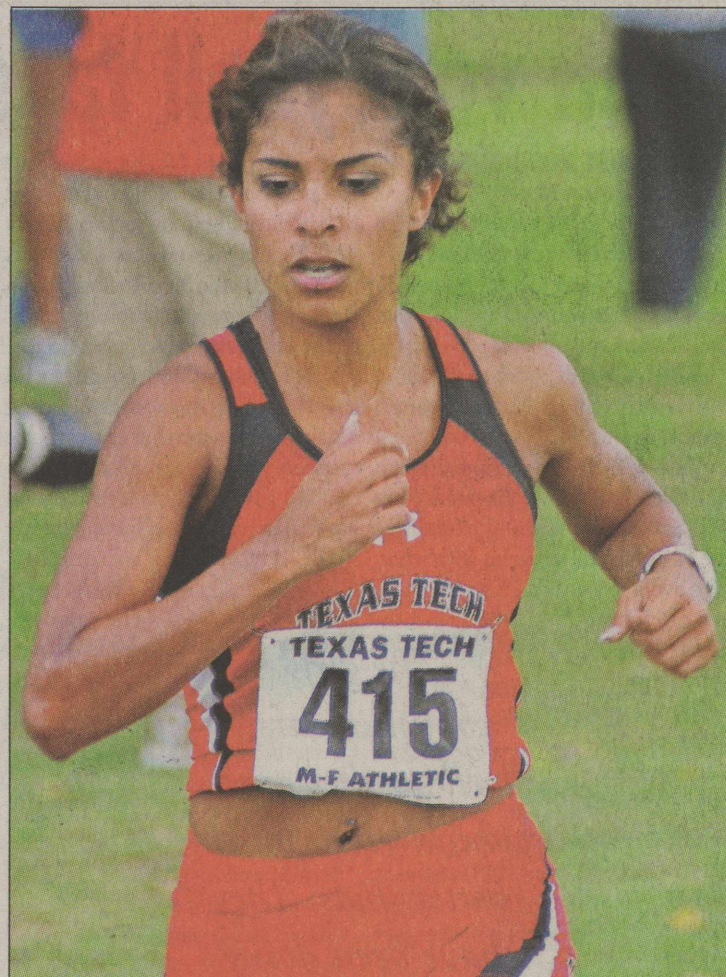
The Cowboys dominated the men's race with the top four places going to OSU runners.

Once again, Gilbert Limo paced Tech with a 24th-place finish with a time of 25:43.54. Silas Kemboi was the second Red Raider to cross the line in 46th place and rounding out the top three for Tech was senior Zach Quinones who came in 66th place with a time of 26:57.07.

Milles said the Red Raiders had an unlucky race and faced a season full of sickness and injury for a team hoping to make some noise in the Big 12 this season.

But he also said it was great to see the Lady Raiders storm to another Big 12 Championship.

"This was beautiful, just to watch it go down," he said. "It was so cool because we had all of our top runners finish from that race. It was really neat to see it actually happen. Because, they



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

MICHELLE Guzman finished 26th at the Big 12 Championships.

knew we were that good but to see it actually happen, puts everything else in perspective." zane.turner@ttu.edu

American Meb Keflezighi wins NYC Marathon

NEW YORK (AP) — Meb Keflezighi became the first U.S. man to win the New York City Marathon since 1982 on Sunday, a victory that capped an outstanding day for American distance running.

Derartu Tulu of Ethiopia captured the women's race, with two-time defending champ Paula Radcliffe falling back to fourth then grabbing her left leg in pain after finishing.

Keflezighi, the 2004 Olympic silver medalist, learned after a disappointing performance in the U.S. Olympic trials in New York two years ago he had a stress fracture in his hip. He capped the long and painful comeback with a landmark victory against a deep field for his first major marathon title.

That day in 2007 he also lost close friend Ryan Shay, who collapsed and died during the race. Keflezighi said the tears he shed after winning were

for Shay.

Born in Eritrea, the 34-year-old runner became a U.S. citizen in 1998. He was second in New York in 2004 and third in 2005. Wearing "USA" on the front of his jersey, Keflezighi won in 2 hours, 9 minutes, 15 seconds.

"The USA gave me all the opportunities there is in education, sports and lifestyle," he said. "To be able to represent the USA is a big thing for me."

A field of nearly 44,000 started the 40th edition of the race. The 53-degree weather was about perfect for the runners, although they were slowed by 14 mph winds.

Keflezighi pulled away from Robert Cheruiyot of Kenya in the 23rd mile to beat the four-time Boston Marathon champ by 41 seconds. Alberto Salazar had been the last American men's champion, taking three straight titles

from 1980-82.

Morocco's Jaouad Gharib finished third and Ryan Hall of the U.S. was fourth on a day when six Americans were in the top 10 for the first time since 1979. The race doubled at the national men's marathon championship.

Ludmila Petrova, a 41-year-old Russian, was the runner-up for the second straight year in the women's race, while Christelle Daunay of France was third.

Radcliffe said she had tendinitis behind her knee. The world record-holder from Britain failed to win a marathon for just the third time in 11 starts.

The 37-year-old Tulu won Olympic gold medals on the track in the 10,000 meters in 1992 and 2000. Her only marathon title came in London in 2001.

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