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COMIC CON CRAZE

Lubbock welcomes Vader, Scout Trooper, slew of comic writers



PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador
FROM LEFT, ELISE Brown, Jeff Clemens, and Mike Naylor talk to Sebastian Gomez, a sophomore mechanical engineering major from Houston, about their new comic book, "Vesuvius Johnson." The comic book made its debut Saturday during the West Texas Comic Con in the Science Spectrum Museum and OMNI Theater in Lubbock.

By SHERREL JONES
STAFF WRITER

View a related video at
www.dailytoreador.com

Darth Vader stormed through the Science Spectrum on Saturday not to kill Luke Skywalker, but to attend the West Texas Comic-Con. "The West Texas Comic-Con is a celebration for the fans of comics," said Robert Mora, owner of Star Comics and co-coordinator of the South Plains Comic Book Alliance. "In the past, we have done Lubbock Comic-Con Expos, which is more about the art and appreciation of comic books, but this event is about the people who love comics."

One thing special about this event that comic book fans have never seen at a Lubbock venue before was the guest speakers in attendance.

"This is the first time where we have really special guests who work for major comic book

publishers," Mora said. "We are excited to have Matt Sturges, Josh Howard, Dirk Strangely and Paul Benjamin."

All of the comic book professionals spoke at panels in front of audiences to tell people how to become successful in the comic book industry.

The fans in red and white Comic-Con T-shirts sat at the edge of their seats, listening to the professionals tell them they do not have a set process for creating their masterpieces and encouraging them to find a process that works best for them.

The best advice the creative panel had for fans was to learn to work with comic book artists because artists will not work with writers who write long narratives. The panel said it is

a tedious process for artists to draw every action that is written.

"Comic books are a really structured medium," said Matt Sturges, a writer from Austin. "Typically, they are exactly 22 pages, no more, no less, and when you're telling a story you have to know where you're going with the story. The story has to fit in that space."

Paul Benjamin, a writer, editor and video game writer from Austin, said he loved the fact Comic-Con was at the Science Spectrum.

"A lot of the times, these conventions are held in a hotel," Benjamin said, "and it's not a good place for an entertainment venue. It's clear that the science center is a place that people in Lubbock think what's going on there this weekend. So, the fact that the show is at the science center makes it feel like a destination."

COMIC CON continued on page 6

Hance names presidential search advisory committee

Texas Tech Chancellor Kent Hance named an advisory committee Friday in the search for the new president of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center which will help identify nominees and applicants, screen candidates and ensure their constituencies are kept up-to-date on the search.



HANCE

According to a release by the university, the 24-person committee will work closely with the five-person search committee already established. The advisory committee is made up of faculty, staff, students, members of the Tech Board of Regents, administrators and members of the communities in which the HSC operates.

"The committee will play an extremely important role in the search process," Hance said in the release. "The new Health Sciences Center president will work with all groups represented on the advisory panel, so it is essential

that they have a voice as we move forward. We have an outstanding group of individuals who have agreed to serve and we are looking forward to the collaboration between the search committee and the advisory committee."



NEAL

Board of Regents member Nancy Neal will chair the committee.

Former HSC President Dr. John Baldwin stepped down from his position Sept. 18, citing personal reasons for his resignation. Baldwin is staying on staff as a tenured professor and adviser to Hance.

Elmo Cavin, HSC executive vice president for finance and administration, was named interim president until a replacement for Baldwin is found.

Hance named the search committee Oct. 16, which also includes Neal as an ex-officio member and Cavin.

>>> jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu

House passes health care bill

By DAVID ESPO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a victory for President Barack Obama, the Democratic-controlled House narrowly passed landmark health care legislation Saturday night to expand coverage to tens of millions who lack it and place tough new restrictions on the insurance industry. Republican opposition was nearly unanimous.

The 220-215 vote cleared the way for the Senate to begin a long-delayed debate on the issue that has come to overshadow all others in Congress.

A triumphant Speaker Nancy Pelosi likened the legislation to the passage of Social Security in 1935 and Medicare 30 years later — and Obama issued a statement saying, "I look forward to signing it into law by the end of the year."

"It provides coverage for 96 percent of Americans. It offers everyone, regardless of health or income, the peace of mind that comes from knowing they will have access to affordable health care when they need it," said Rep. John Dingell, the 83-year-old Michigan lawmaker who has introduced national health insurance in every Congress since succeeding his father in 1955.

In the run-up to a final vote, conservatives from the two political parties joined forces to impose tough new restrictions on abortion coverage in insurance policies to be sold to many individuals and small groups. They prevailed on a roll call of 240-194.

Ironically, that only solidified support for the legislation, clearing the way for conservative

Democrats to vote for it. The legislation would require most Americans to carry insurance and provide federal subsidies to those who otherwise could not afford it. Large companies would have to offer coverage to their employees. Both consumers and companies would be slapped with penalties if they defied the government's mandates.

Insurance industry practices such as denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical conditions would be banned, and insurers would no longer be able to charge higher premiums on the basis of gender or medical history. In a further slap, the industry would lose its exemption from federal antitrust restrictions on price fixing and market allocation.

At its core, the measure would create a federally regulated marketplace where consumers

could shop for coverage. In the bill's most controversial provision, the government would sell insurance, although the Congressional Budget Office forecasts that premiums for it would be more expensive than for policies sold by private firms.

A cheer went up from the Democratic side of the House when the bill gained 218 votes, a majority. Moments later, Democrats counted down the final seconds of the voting period in unison, and let loose an even louder roar when Pelosi grabbed the gavel and declared, "the bill is passed."

The bill drew the votes of 219 Democrats and Rep. Joseph Cao, a first-term Republican who holds an overwhelmingly Democratic seat in New Orleans. Opposed were 176 Republicans and 39 Democrats.

"I look forward to signing it into law by the end of the year."

BARACK OBAMA
U.S. PRESIDENT

Big 12 SGA conference brings ideas to Tech

By JETT THOMPSON
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Student Government Association hosted the Big 12 SGA Conference this weekend on campus to encourage interaction between member universities.

Each school in the Big 12 sent SGA representatives to the conference to discuss campus issues, share ideas and foster friendly relations between the universities.

The conference took place from Thursday afternoon to Sunday morning, mostly on the Tech campus. Visiting delegations were housed in the Overton Hotel.

The group discussed gathering student opinion, campus transportation and effective lobbying at the state and federal level throughout the weekend. Many ideas also were exchanged between the universities on how to improve services.

Tech SGA President Suzanne Williams said the roundtable discussions

allowed every school to discuss its weaknesses and learn from other universities.

"It's been great to say that we really want to make sure we are assessing those areas that we know we're weak in," Williams said. "Every school gets to present two or three of their strongest programs and their structure of student government, so then all the other students know how things run at other universities."

Sarah Saunders, internal vice president of the Tech SGA, said Tech senators were able to tell the other groups about the Tech campus transportation system because they believe it is one of the best university transport systems in the nation. Saunders said other universities were interested in the SafeRide program.

One thing Tech senators were able to learn from the group was how to imple-



WILLIAMS

ment better recycling programs on campus, she said.

"We got to talk to Colorado University and how they set the standard on recycling," Saunders said. "Their office has a zero-waste program. They enforced all of their organizations to do zero-waste too."

A successful zero-waste program would ban the use of Styrofoam on campus, create more recycling bins around academic buildings and use soy ink in campus printers, she said.

The SGA is considering a recycling program like this for the Tech campus, but there are no specific plans for its implementation yet.

Kolin Loveless, president of Texas A&M University's SGA, said the Big 12 SGA Conference has been interesting for his group to see the differences in structure between other universities and to share ideas that could benefit everyone.



SAUNDERS

"One thing I would like to address is the idea of the Big 12 lobbying for some sort of textbook agreement," he said. "Textbooks are incredibly expensive and if the Big 12 was put together working on that, it could become even more cost effective."

Phillip Gall, a senator of the Tech Health Sciences Center SGA said his group was at the conference primarily to foster healthy relations between other Big 12 schools.

"It's been pretty interesting to see how other schools go about running their Health Sciences Center and how they set it up," Gall said. "Also, for people who go to other universities that are looking for graduate schools this is kind of a PR for Texas Tech."

The group held several social outings throughout the weekend as well to help promote interaction between students of different universities, Saunders said, including a barbecue at the National Ranching Heritage Center and a trip to Main Event.

>>> jett.thompson@ttu.edu

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WEATHER

<p>Today</p> <p>72/46 Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Tuesday</p> <p>70/45 Partly Cloudy</p>
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INBRIEF

STATE

Texas withholds details of flu vaccine distribution

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas health officials are defending a decision not to disclose the names of doctors in Dallas County who received large swine flu vaccine doses.

The state recently ordered a shipment of H1N1 vaccine doses as large as 22,600 to be sent to a doctor in Dallas County. But officials won't provide any details.

State health department

spokeswoman Carrie Williams says it's not a good idea to disclose the names because officials don't want to create more confusion among the general public.

Dallas County health director Zachary Thompson disagrees, saying the process needs to be as transparent as possible. He says people are anxious because the vaccine is scarce and the public doesn't know where it can find it once the supply increases.

NATION

La. Gov. declares state of emergency ahead of Ida

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Gov. Bobby Jindal has declared a state of emergency in Louisiana ahead of Hurricane Ida.

The declaration, signed Sunday, is considered a precaution allowing for state resources to be used for emergency or disaster situations. Officials said the Louisiana National Guard and state Wildlife and Fisheries have been placed on high alert, with equipment and personnel avail-

able if necessary. State troopers in southeast Louisiana are also on alert.

Coastal stretches of southeast Louisiana, particularly areas outside levee protection, are the main concern. Forecasts indicate those areas could see winds, rains and high tides that could create localized flooding.

Ida was a Category 2 storm Sunday as it began moving across the Gulf of Mexico.

WORLD

Iranian lawmaker warns Russia over missile delay

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — A senior Iranian lawmaker warned Russia that its delay in delivering an anti-aircraft missile defense system to Tehran could harm relations between the two countries, state television reported Sunday.

Russia signed a contract two years ago to sell the S-300 surface-to-air missiles to Iran but has not made any deliveries or given any explanation for the delay. The United States and Israel strongly oppose the deal because it would significantly boost Iran's air defense capabilities at a time of height-

ened tension over the country's nuclear program.

Russia and the U.S. are among six nations leading an effort to ensure Iran does not use what it maintains is a civilian nuclear program to develop an atomic bomb. But Moscow also has close ties with Iran and is helping build its first nuclear power plant, forcing Russia into a delicate balancing act.

Russia's president warned over the weekend that Moscow could back sanctions against Iran if it fails to take a constructive stance in the nuclear talks.

TEERING OFF

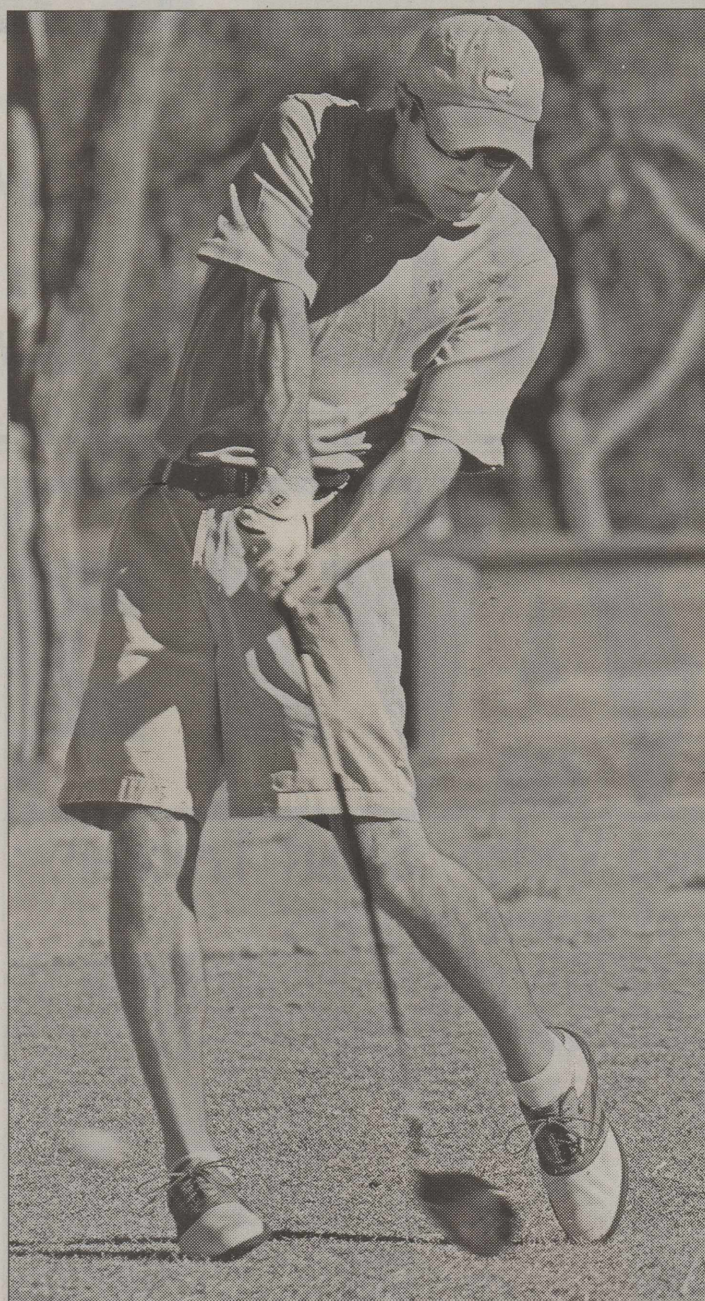


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador
CHRIS MAYNARD, A senior economics major from Tullia, tees off at Hole 17 during the Zeta Crown Classic Saturday at Meadowbrook Golf Course.

Iran, NKorea top Clinton's agenda

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nuclear impasses with Iran and North Korea are the dominant issues for Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on her trip to Europe and Asia, which begins with a stopover in Germany to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Berlin Wall's fall.

Developments in both stalemates are expected in the coming days with international patience running out over Iran's refusal to come clean about its suspected nuclear program and North Korea's refusal to return to stalled disarmament talks.

As Clinton departed early Sunday for Berlin, U.S. officials said they anticipated that the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog soon would give up hope that Iran would accept a confidence-building deal under which it would ship uranium abroad for further enrichment. That would set the stage for consideration of new U.N. Security Council penalties against Tehran.

In addition, the officials said the U.S. is nearing an announcement that it will send a special envoy to North Korea in a bid to get the North to resume the negotiations, known as the six-party talks. The envoy, Stephen Bosworth, has been invited by the North Koreans, but the Obama administration has not yet accepted.

The centerpiece of Clinton's

two days in Berlin will be celebrations marking the anniversary of the Nov. 9, 1989, opening of the wall, the symbolic end of the Cold War. But behind the scenes, in meetings with German and other visiting foreign officials, the Iran question looms.

The administration is seeking support for fresh penalties against Iran. In particular, the U.S. is hoping for help from Russia, which along with China, has in the past resisted and is giving mixed signals about whether it will back them if the uranium transfer proposal is rejected.

Clinton will be at events with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, French President Nicolas Sarkozy and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, all of whose countries are involved in the Iran talks. U.S. officials said Iran will be a prime topic of conversation.

"This is a pivotal moment for Iran, and we urge Iran to accept the agreement as proposed," Clinton told reporters in Washington last week after meeting with German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle. "We will not alter it and we will not wait forever."

The proposal would see Iran send 1.2 tons of low-enriched uranium — around 70 percent of its stockpile — for reprocessing in Russia in one batch by the end of the year as a way to ease concerns that the material would be used for a bomb — something Iran denies.

Japanese FM: no relocation deal during Obama visit

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's foreign minister said Sunday that no deal on relocating U.S. troops on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa can be expected during President Barack Obama's visit this week, saying the issue needs more time to resolve.

Obama is scheduled to arrive Friday, and a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama is

on the agenda. Foreign Minister Katsumi Okada said Sunday on TV Asahi that "an agreement between the heads of state holds heavy meaning," but cannot be expected to be completed during Obama's visit.

Washington and Tokyo agreed in 2006 that the Marine airfield in Futenma, a crowded city on Okinawa, would be relocated to another part

of the island. But Japan's government changed in August elections, and Okinawans have pushed to move the base off the island entirely.

The new administration is pushing for a slightly more assertive Japan, and Hatoyama has said he wants to resolve the base issue more democratically than previous governments and that he wants to win the support of Okinawa.

Okinawa residents have long been concerned about base-related crime, noise and environmental damage.

On Sunday thousands were gathering to protest in Nago city on Okinawa, the most likely site for the troops transfer, police said. Details were not immediately available, but Japanese media reported some 30,000 participants were expected.

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.

The ONLY Official Texas Tech Class Ring "Strive for Honor"

The Texas Tech Alumni Association wishes to congratulate our fall class of Official Ring recipients for their commitment toward receiving a degree from Texas Tech University. We wish you the best of success as you "Bear our Banners Far and Wide."

Official Ring Ceremonies for fall recipients will be November 9 and 10, 2009 at the Merket Alumni Center.

Monday November 9, 2009	Michael Gregston Mitchell Gries Justin Hackleman Jon Hall Constance Haugeland Patrick Helfer Hunter Helms Justin Hernandez John Herrera Ryan Herrick Thomas Hickman Aaron Hobratschck Jordan Hollimon Clay Hooker William Hughes Jonathan Irwin Beau Itchner Kindahl Jackson Matthew Jacobs Jonathan Jernigan Millerann Jockel Thomas Johnson Kaldar Johnson Jessica Johnson Phillip Kahlich Joseph Kammilah Patrick Kanaby Scott Kelly Sara Klinicki Jenni Krnavek Jessica Kruse Oscar Larsen Brice Letcher Eric Lloyd Steven Logan Kristie Lopez Brad Macafee Ryan Martin Cody Martin Will Martin Brandon Martin Stephen Martin Cody Matthews Dylan Matthews Brittany McBlain Courtney Mcguire Joey Melton Rolando Mendez Aaron Michaelson Luke Miller Kelli Minardo Mindy Montgomery Michael Moore Sean Munson Kimberly Nathanson Craig Newman Lisa O'Keefe Rex Oliver Lauren Papierz Trent Parker Kaylyn Pearson Brentus Perea Maria Perez Ray Perez	Jack Phelps William Pickett Matthew Pilkington William Pope Jessica Potts Joshua Price Jacob Ramirez Jonathan Rebenack Kyle Reddell Jon Reddy Lance Reese Thomas Reich John Rich Jarred Riley Megan Robare James Rodgers Richard Rodriguez Kyle Romero Kendall Rompf Manuel Rosales Alex Roudier Jordan Ruckman Peter Shaw Michael Shipman Kerry Sisson Tim Smith Jayme Smith Lauren Smith Jeff Specht Levi Speer Jayden Spencer Mark Spencer Danielle Stolley Stephen Sweny Bradley Tann Hunter Temperton Alexandra Templet Jessica Tippee Clinton Tippy Laurie Umfleet Matthew Vanderbrook Matthew Vavra Jonathan Vorndran Dusty Walker Jana Walker Mark Watson Dustin Wentz Ryan Whaley Adam Wilkinson Tyler Williams Blane Womack Austin Wright Kimberly Wright Merick Yamada Zach Yarwood Joseph Yenzer	Christopher Barnes Spencer Barnett Adam Beyer Donovon Blakeley Ryan Blair Ryan Borg Michael Bowles Trey Braddock Clinton Brown Julie Broyles Jordan Burdine Tyler Buschman Taylor Bynum Jewel Caillet Tanya Chavez Brian Conard William Condotta Rogelio Corral Turney Coultre Jason Davis Diana De Quevedo John Dewitt Michael Dickerson Jeffrey Drakeford Carl Ebbren Bryan Elliott Bolor Enkhbat Adrian Escudero Alicia Estrada Jeff Evans Laura Fox Lucas Franklin Edgar Gallegos Shannon Gann Aaron Gonzalez Nicholas Gordon Jessica Grabham Kaitlin Grace Andrew Gubitosa Jennifer Guzman Monet Harkin Jennifer Henley Micah Henry Amanda Hess Sarah Holmes Caleb Hopson Travis Isom Carlyn Jacobs Jane Janda Shae Janda Amanda Johnson Michael Johnson Kara Jones Tyler Kasinger Cody Key Nicholas King Jessica Lankston Alex Lavergne Taleigh Lechinger Bryce Leggett Joseph Lemoine Deidra Littleton Laura Luker Molly Mabery	Terrance Magee Anthony Magliaro Matthew Marshall Allison Masaki Brady Melton Sean Miller Jimmie Minchew Trent Moore David Murdock Ethan Noble Michael Odom Aloys Okello Noemi Ortega Eric Otto Humberto Paredes Alisha Phillips Keith Pignone Izvan Porras Ashley Price David Price Charles Pruitt Sarah Ragan Tucker Read Brandi Richards Justin Roberts Anna Rodriguez Mark Rodriguez Brian Sandmann Yvonne Santana Justin Schlankey Monica Serowski Christina Sheroke Joshua Shive Mckenzi Skinner Taylor Skidmore Andrew Smith Jeremy Sonnier Jennifer Steele Catherine Stephenson Nathan Sykes Laura Tanner John Tatum Anup Tavkar Justin Taylor Nicole Thomas Kimberly Thornburg Brian Thornton Michaeldae Thurston Christopher Torres Jason Turnbow Samantha Valdez Larissa Vallejo Jonathan Vangundy Rudy Villa Wesley Wagner Isaac Walker Lair Wells Jennifer Wimer Paul Woods John Ysasaga
Tuesday November 10, 2009	Courtney Aiken Andrea Arnold Mitchell Austin Chance Barkley			

Karzai vows against corruption in gov't

KABUL (AP) — The embattled Afghan president pledged Sunday that there would be no place for corrupt officials in his new administration — a demand made by Washington and its international partners as they ponder sending more troops to confront the Taliban and shore up his government.

Also Sunday, NATO reported three more coalition soldiers — one American and two Britons — died in combat in the Taliban-infested areas of the west and south. The latest losses pushed Britain's combat death toll in the eight-year Afghan war to 201.

NATO forces said they were still searching for two American paratroopers who disappeared Wednesday while trying to recover airdropped supplies that had fallen into a river. Afghan police said the two Americans were swept away by the current and may have drowned.

With casualties mounting, corruption has become a frontburner issue in Afghanistan, with President Barack Obama and other world leaders under pressure from their own constituents to explain why they are sending young soldiers to fight and die in defense of a government riddled with graft, crony-

ism and fraud.

Obama is considering a request from the top U.S. and NATO commander to send tens of thousands more U.S. troops to curb the growing Taliban insurgency.

Hamid Karzai was proclaimed the winner last week in a fraud-marred presidential election after his only remaining challenger dropped out ahead of a runoff, saying he did not expect a fair vote.

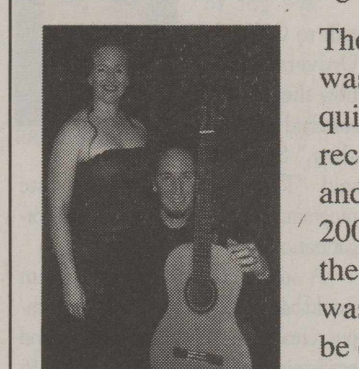
With his reputation sullied by the messy election, Karzai gave assurances Sunday that he would rid his government of corrupt officials.

"Individuals who are involved in corruption will have no place in the government," Karzai said in an interview with the U.S. Public Broadcasting Service. The presidential press office released comments from the interview.

Karzai also said donor countries share some of the responsibility for rampant corruption because of a poorly structured system to manage projects. The U.N. and some donor countries have also cited the need for a more efficient system to guarantee the money serves the Afghan people.

"There is no accountability of their contracts, and there is a serious corruption in the implementation of those projects.

Concert Thursday, Nov. 12 at 7:00pm
David Isaacs on Classical guitar Soprano Chelsea Camille



Their group, Chanson du Soir, was established in 2005. They quickly garnered national recognition as a premier guitar and voice duo. In April of 2007, Melancholie et Espoir, their debut studio recording, was released. An offering will be collected for them.

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'You hit a what?' SUV nearly slams into elephant

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — It's not unusual to see a deer or a cow crossing Oklahoma's rural highways. But an elephant?

A couple driving home from church nearly slammed into a giant pachyderm that had escaped from a nearby circus late Wednesday.

"Didn't have time to hit the brakes. The elephant blended in with the road," driver Bill Carpenter said Thursday. "At the very last second I said 'elephant!'"

Carpenter, 68, said he swerved his SUV at the last second and

ended up sideswiping the 29-year-old female elephant on U.S. 81 in Enid, about 80 miles north of Oklahoma City.

"So help me Hanna, had I hit that elephant, not swerved, it would have knocked it off its legs, and it would have landed right on top of us," he said. "We'd have been history."

The couple, who own a wheat farm, weren't injured. But the 8-foot, 4,500-pound elephant was being examined Thursday for a broken tusk and a leg wound. A local veterinarian said it appeared to have escaped major injury.

"I thought this can't be happening. Out here you could hit a deer or a cow, but this can't be happening. The good Lord was with us," Carpenter said. The elephant's tusk punched through the side of the SUV, tearing up sheet metal.

After sideswiping the elephant, his wife, Deena, flagged some people down and used their cell phone to call police.

"The dispatcher didn't believe her: 'You hit a what?'" he said. "I told my wife, I don't know whether to cry or laugh."

Ohio man dressed as Breathalyzer accused of DUI

VALLEJO, Calif. (AP) — The California Highway Patrol say a man stole a car to make a court appearance on a previous auto theft charge.

Patrol investigator Chris Linehan says he arrested Samuel Botchvaroff Tuesday as he sat inside a stolen 2000 Range Rover

at the Vallejo courthouse. The 24-year-old Botchvaroff had just left his arraignment on auto theft charges stemming from an Oct. 31 arrest.

Linehan said the Range Rover's Lojack system helped him locate the vehicle, which had been stolen from Oakland earlier Tuesday

morning. Authorities say Botchvaroff told officers his car had been impounded, and he had no other way to get to his arraignment.

He was booked into Solano County Jail on suspicion of auto theft and possession of stolen property.

Man appears alive at own funeral in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — A Brazilian bricklayer reportedly killed in a car crash shocked his mourning family by showing up alive at his funeral.

Relatives of Ademir Jorge Gonçalves, 59, had identified him as the victim of a Sunday night car crash in Parana state in southern Brazil, police said.

As is customary in Brazil, the funeral was held the following day, which happened to be the holiday of Finados, when Brazilians visit cemeteries to honor

the dead.

What family members didn't know was that Gonçalves had spent the night at a truck stop talking with friends over drinks of a sugarcane liquor known as cachaca, his niece Rosa Sampaio told the O Globo newspaper. He did not get word about his own funeral until it was already happening Monday morning.

A police spokesman in the town of Santo Antonio da Platina said Gonçalves rushed to the funeral to let family members

know he was not dead.

"The corpse was badly disfigured, but dressed in similar clothing," said the police spokesman, who talked on condition of anonymity as he wasn't authorized to discuss the case. "People are afraid to look for very long when they identify bodies, and I think that is what happened in this case."

Sampaio told O Globo that some family members were not sure the body was Gonçalves.

Pa. woman, daughter hold signs admitting theft

BEDFORD, Pa. (AP) — In exchange for no jail time, a woman and her adult daughter have agreed to stand outside a Pennsylvania courthouse holding signs saying they stole a gift card from a 9-year-old girl on her birthday.

Fifty-six-year-old Evelyn Border and 35-year-old Tina Griek-

spoor stood outside the court for 4 and a half hours Tuesday. They held signs that read: "I stole from a 9-year-old girl on her birthday! Don't steal or this could happen to you!"

Because the women agreed to hold the signs, Bedford County District Attorney Bill Higgins says he'll ask for probation in-

stead of jail when they plead guilty to the theft.

Higgins says they swiped a gift card that the girl set on a shelf while a Walmart employee helped her.

The girl's mother planned to drive by the courthouse to teach her daughter the importance of obeying the law.

Pakistani gov't looks for post-offensive plan

ISLAMABAD (AP) — As Pakistan's army plows ahead with its offensive in South Waziristan, its success is at risk because the government has yet to come up with a plan to run and rebuild the lawless territory so that the Taliban and al-Qaida don't re-emerge.

The Pakistani army launched a ground offensive in the Afghan border region in mid-October, pitting some 30,000 troops against up to 8,000 insurgents in an operation praised by U.S. officials. In recent days, the soldiers have entered three major Taliban bases in South Waziristan, largely securing one of them, though many militants are believed to have simply fled the fighting.

But the army's battlefield success could be pointless in the long-run, critics say, because lawmakers have yet to present a clear post-conflict plan for the tribal region — a dithering that

could give space for the Taliban and their al-Qaida allies to regroup.

"I think they are running out of time," said Rasul Bakhsh Rais, a Pakistani political expert.

Pakistan's northwest tribal regions lie outside the normal government structure in the rest of the country. Power is vested in tribal elders and appointed "political agents." Residents are subject to colonial-era laws whose features include collective punishment.

Many of the tribal leaders are dead or in hiding, brought down by the Pakistani Taliban in their climb to power in recent years. Much of the economy is based on drugs and weapons smuggling. Islamic conservatism is the norm, and education is so limited that the female literacy rate is just 3 percent.

The army has undertaken four major operations in South Waziristan since 2004, the most recent being the

biggest. And the military has pledged this time to avoid the peace deals and stalemates that undermined previous offensives.

But an October report by the Brussels-based International Crisis Group warned that unless Pakistan brought South Waziristan and the rest of the tribal belt into the mainstream political system, extremism would continue to spread, despite the army offensives.

Army and paramilitary forces fought the Taliban in another part of the tribal belt, Bajur, late last year and early this year. The army declared it had vanquished the Taliban there in February. But the governance system has not changed, rebuilding efforts have been patchy — and insurgents have again stepped up attacks.

Leading newspapers on Friday urged the civilian government to come up with a plan for the impoverished region, where lack of opportunities — and fear — have led many in the population of 500,000 to aid or sympathize with the Taliban.

"Unless this happens, the victory being anticipated now could be rendered meaningless, with a new generation of militants rising," wrote The News, an English-language daily.

"I think they are running out of time."

RASUL BAKHSH RAIS
PAKISTANI POLITICAL
EXPERT

Iraqi parliament passes delayed key election law

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's parliament has passed a long-delayed electoral law, paving the way for nationwide elections.

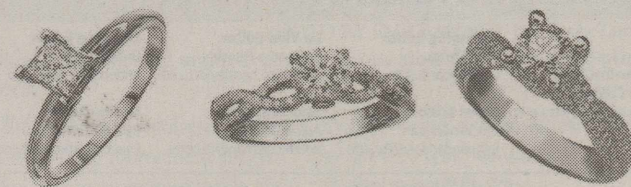
The key hurdle to the law's passage was how to apportion votes in the oil-rich city of Kirkuk, a city claimed by both Arabs and Kurds.

There were no details immediately available on exactly how lawmakers decided this issue.

The election law debate has been closely watched due to worries that the January vote might have to be delayed, possibly affecting U.S. plans to withdraw their forces.

The lawmakers approved the bill after a tense day-long session in parliament.

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What last week's results mean for Obama

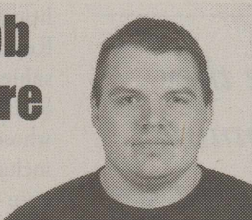
The sting of last week's elections is surely wearing off for President Barack Obama. But the consequences to his agenda won't fade so quickly.

Why? In short because once members of Congress get to Washington, D.C., they tend to want to stay, which means knowing which way the political winds are blowing. Last week Republicans Bob McDonnell and Chris Christie were elected governor of Virginia and traditional Democratic stronghold New Jersey, respectively — both states Obama carried just 12 months ago.

With independent voters saying they were fed up with government spending, these losses are a bad omen for Obama's self-proclaimed ambition to "fundamentally change America."

Three pieces of legislation critical to this transformation are "Obamacare," "cap-and-trade" and

Jacob Moore



"card check." The noble aims of the first two are matched only by the enormous costs and government expansion required, while the third is blatant political patronage designed to prop up unions.

Boiled down, Obamacare is meant to ensure all Americans have health insurance. The downside is that in trying to help the uninsured, the government would charge premiums no private insurer could compete with. Eventually the "public" option would be the only option and government would effectively control health care.

Cap-and-trade is meant to both

reduce pollution and raise money to help pay for the rest of Obama's agenda. It would set up a system of emissions credits companies would have to buy to pollute.

This basically is a corporate energy tax. Companies would respond by passing the cost on to consumers — effectively a hidden tax — or outsourcing operations altogether. Meanwhile, China has no interest in emissions reduction treaties, but according to the *New York Times*, has more coal-fired power plants than the U.S., Europe and Japan combined and opens a new one each month.

Finally, card check would change how employees vote on whether to unionize. Secret ballots that protect employees from pressure and intimidation would be replaced with a petition. If signed by more than half its employees, a company would be unionized.

Besides opening employees up to intimidation, "card check" would allow 49 employees out of a company of 100 to be forced to unionize against their will. The bill's ironic official name: "The Employee Free Choice Act."

After the 2008 election, consensus among political pundits was that the country had entered a new era; one friendlier to big government. Obama's election wasn't thanks to public fury toward former President George W. Bush, nor the fortuitous timing that made Obama's message of change exactly what millions of Americans wanted to hear.

On the contrary, Americans were ready for Uncle Sam to take over health care, stop the oceans from rising, end partisan politics and do it all without raising taxes a cent for 95 percent of us. It was so exciting, MSNBC's Chris Matthews, "felt this thrill going up

(his) leg!"

Last week's elections are the strongest evidence yet that this conclusion was seriously mistaken. It's increasingly clear the United States retains deep reservations about the high-tax, high-service government model common in Europe. In former President Ronald Reagan's words, "Government isn't the answer to our problems; government is the problem."

For Democrats in districts that lean Republican, last week's results are especially alarming: forty-nine House Democrats from districts Republican Presidential nominee John McCain won last year. Two Senate Democrats seeking re-election next year, Blanche Lincoln of Arkansas and Byron Dorgan of North Dakota, represent states McCain carried, putting them in a similar position.

Further, unlike in 2006 and 2008, declaring "George W. Bush

is evil and I'm not him" at every opportunity apparently won't be enough to win election in 2010. Democrats Creigh Deeds and Jon Corzine tried that in Virginia and New Jersey to no avail.

In coming months, many Congressional Democrat members will face a choice. They could support Obama's goals regardless of political consequence. More likely, they'll act like politicians and protect their careers at all costs.

By no means is all lost for Obama. Given his charisma, if Obama moderates his goals, a generally successful presidency is still within his reach. However, the chance to transform the United States into a statist utopia has likely — hopefully — passed.

■ Moore is a graduate law student from Indianapolis, IN. >> jacob.moore@ttu.edu

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 Postmaster: send address changes to The Daily Toreador, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

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Cheating won't lead to happiness

I have recently seen many buses and signs around campus promoting morals at the university. They frequently state something on the lines of "do the right thing," or some other cliché promoting a code of conduct for the students.

The problem of academic dishonesty is quite significant at Texas Tech and it all stems from an incorrect perspective on life.

According to a recent study by Donald McCabe of Rutgers University, about 95 percent of high school students admit to cheating some time in their education. This is a very surprising number, but cheating is not limited to the teenage years. McCabe continues by stating 66 percent of all college students admit to cheating.

Deep down, everyone knows cheating is wrong. For this reason, we called it "cheating" instead of "being resourceful" or "thinking out of the box." Cheating is disobeying the accepted rules of conduct, which



everyone knows but apparently few still follow.

So if everyone agrees cheating is wrong, what has caused 66 percent of college students to admit to having cheated?

The reason is simple: We have placed too much value in circumstance. Those who cheat do so to get to the next level as if they were one of the Super Mario Brothers. The rationale for students to cheat is simply to get that good grade and get on to the next stage in life. The lie under all of these bad behaviors is that somehow, the cheating student will be happier if he or she does better in school, gets that better grade and eventually gets that better job.

The problem with this rationale is simply that happiness does not come from external sources. Happiness is distinct from pleasure or luck, even though many languages connect those concepts. Happiness, like all good and desirable attributes in

life, is not to be gained in a vacuum. It does not simply happen to us.

The Welsh language, in this instance, offers more insight into this concept than English. Happiness, in Welsh, originated from the word for "wisdom" (See the online etymological dictionary). To be happy, the Welsh language would suggest, one must be wise and follow those courses of action which will produce happiness.

Happiness operates on natural laws, just like everything else. For example, if one is a drug dealer, obviously he or she will not be following the way of happiness and therefore will not reap it. He or she may feel pleasure or stimulation from his or her actions, but lasting satisfaction and content will be lacking.

The idea happiness and contentment stem from circumstance has widely influenced life. Not only does it give rise to cheating, but also it gives birth to the feeling of entitlement. Some think because they are human, they deserve happiness to be given to them, and they demand from others and the government those things which will "make" them happy.

This often prevents them from happiness instead of promoting it, because often happiness comes from providing for oneself and one's family. I think it is important to note that the Constitution does not promise happiness. It only promises citizens the opportunity to pursue it.

Also, if happiness is perceived to derive from mere circumstance, then the accumulation of goods becomes first priority in life. This often excuses the breadwinner to work long hours and neglect his family, perhaps unselfishly saying he or she is working to provide the family with the "good things in life." Being absent from those who love you is not a good thing in life.

This attitude produces workaholics and, sadly enough, excessive debt. The world would teach that if a yacht is the only thing that will bring happiness, then one should ignore the family and instead work to earn enough money to pay for that yacht. If one cannot afford it, charge it now and pay the difference later.

What is the solution? We must focus on contentment on those good things in life which are often free: family, friends, love and the development of character. Happiness is not limited to the rich or the poor, the healthy or the sick (what does this mean for Obamacare?). No, happiness is free to all that will have it.

Helen Keller, who would certainly know what one can and cannot develop from within, stated, "Happiness cannot come from without. It must come from within. It is not what we see and touch and that which others do for us which makes us happy; it is that which we think and feel and do, first for the other fellow and then for ourselves."

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

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

ACROSS

- Sends a duplicate to, for short
- Half-baked, as ideas
- Tended
- Fink
- 15-3-1 or 7-2, e.g.
- Easy to understand
- Thurman who played June in "Henry & June"
- Maine college town
- Improvise lines
- Toy that might answer "It is decidedly so"
- Pub orders
- W. Hemisphere defense gp.
- "Cats" poet's monogram
- Average prefix
- Ancient moralist
- Despair's opposite
- Knight fight
- Mus's medium
- Sly inquiry
- Appears to be
- Charlatan
- Helen of Troy's mother
- OnZip bag maker
- Strong wind
- Cell "messenger," briefly
- Critic Reed
- Barbecue equipment brand
- Cesar Millan dog-training apparatus
- Just right
- Packaging foam
- Despair's opposite
- Crooner Mel
- November birthstone
- Meditative sect
- Where many vows are exchanged
- Covered with marsh vegetation
- Finish

DOWN

- Bread bits
- Chevy muscle car
- Puts on, as a show
- Gators' kin
- Steak order
- Yours, in Paris
- Criticize in a witty way
- Classic chocolate drink brand
- Picket line
- Alan of
- "M*A*S*H" equipment brand
- Affluent
- Sudden and precipitous downturn
- Sphere
- Pacific island on which a memorable WWII photo was taken
- Audible dance style
- 26 Job listing initials
- Northern diving bird
- Attorney's abbr.
- Fill, as with padding
- Styling goo
- Military training acad.
- Hwy.
- Miley Cyrus, for one
- Ready-for-the-worst status
- Gobble down
- Wild blue yonder
- Camera type, for short
- "So Fine": 1963 #1 hit
- 43 Is
- 45 On fire
- 46 Hard to move
- Quick t "run"
- Foot-long stick, often
- Reeling from a blow
- Tibetan priest
- Native Nebraskan
- "Law & Order" gp.
- Jagged rock
- "Let's call ___ day!"

Friday's Puzzle Solved

J A D E P I M A S J O U R
 A L A N A D E L E U N T O
 P P O R R I D G E L E I S
 E S P E L O I W I N C E
 E G G O C C T H E D A Y
 B A R W A R E L O O T
 U N D E R C H A P T S P
 Y Y A N D W H E R E F O R E S
 S A N J O N E I R I N A
 J O K E T A X C U T S
 G L O U I S E M A A M
 E R E C T L A I T P J S
 R E E K J I W I D E S H U T
 M A Z E R O A D S L E D A
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By Barry C. Silk 11/9/09

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"The world is moving so fast these days that the man who says it can't be done is generally interrupted by someone doing it."
 — Elbert Hubbard

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Tech bowling club hosts tournament

By EMILY MOSER
STAFF WRITER

Some people consider bowling a great way to have fun with family and friends; others consider bowling a competition.

The Texas Tech Bowling Club hosted a collegiate bowling tournament at the Whitewood Bowling Lanes Saturday. The owner of the lanes and the club's coach, Bill Wood, said there is a misconception about the game of bowling.

"Everybody thinks bowling seems like one of those recreational games," he said, "but it's really a big thing."

Wood, a Tech alumnus, said the tournament housed about 22 teams. He said the teams, comprised of eight people, each came from several universities ranging from Kansas State to West Texas A&M. Throughout the day, each team played several games, including a game in a baker format, a common format for intercollegiate bowling.

The tournament in Lubbock is part of a series of collegiate tournaments in which university teams aim for a chance to play in the championship game. Wood said he would like to see the students at Tech at the championship game but notes the team is in need of some improvement.

"To be brutally honest," he said, "we have a good opportunity, but we are not to the level we're supposed to be."

Wood said as far as he knew, the Tech bowling club has not had a coach. This is his first year as the club's coach. When he went to Tech, he said he was a part of the team after getting his start with bowling in his home of Puerto Rico.

"I bowled on the team when it was a team in '91," Wood said. "That was the last year it was a team. They kind of disbanded us then."

Wood said the lack of success and cost of the Tech bowling team were some of the reasons of the disbandment of the team. He compared Tech's bowling club to the bowling program at Kansas State and The University of Oklahoma where students are recruited for the bowling team from high school.

Wood said his goal is to advance the bowling club at Tech. He said the bowling club practices on a regular basis and already has a wide range of talent. Chris Picazo, vice president of the bowling club, said he began bowling in high school for fun and has continued for enjoyment though he observes there are times when the game is more focused.

"There are times when it's fun, and then there's times when it's serious," he said.

Picazo, a sophomore computer science and management of information systems major from Spring, said the club is down in membership. He said the shrinking numbers are because of several

students leaving after graduation but the club is looking to grow.

"This has been a year of rebuilding," Picazo said. "We don't have the number of veterans."

Stephen TenBrook, treasurer of the bowling club and a sophomore civil engineering major from Sugar Land, said he found out about the bowling club through the Internet. TenBrook said he thinks the lack of numbers in the club is because of lack of awareness among students. He said he felt it might be a couple of years until the club is at the point to compete in the championship, but until then he is working on improving.

"I'm the competitive one," TenBrook said, "that's how you get better."

Sean Stroyrick, a member of Texas A&M's bowling club, said the students in the A&M club don't take the game too seriously. Stroyrick, a junior marketing major at A&M from Houston, said he attended another collegiate tournament in Louisiana and believed the one in Lubbock was better because the lanes were in better condition. The A&M student said overall the club is hoping to excel further next year.

"We're not exceptional. We're not horrible. We're average," he said.

The winner of Saturday's tournament was one of the two teams from West Texas A&M and Tech's team ended up in 10th place. Wood said the tournament



PHOTO BY EMILY MOSER/The Daily Toreador
MORGAN SHOCKLEY, A freshman computer engineering major from Houston, aims for a couple of pins in the tournament Saturday at Whitewood Lanes.

will make an impact on the economy of the community by the pull of visiting universities. Ultimately, he said, he hopes

to turn Lubbock into a regular stop on the collegiate bowling tournament circuit.

"Obviously we're trying to make a big

enough impact to host our own tournament every year," he said.

emo.moser@ttu.edu

Staring at goats engages audience

"The Men Who Stare at Goats" starts off just like any number of your typical, run-of-the-mill Hollywood pictures.

There's a man, Bob Wilton (Ewan McGregor), who carries on a fairly normal existence: He writes for the paper, he loves his wife and he pays his taxes. When his wife suddenly leaves him, he heads to the Iraqi border looking for a story and a chance to find himself once more.

As fate would have it, he runs into Lyn Cassidy (George Clooney), who claims to have once been part of a top-secret task force of psychic soldiers charged with the quest to bring an end to war as we know it.

Wilton decides to follow around this incredibly odd individual and find out some more information about what this man is claiming and, hopefully, find a story along the way. The typical Hollywood fare is thrown out the window at this point with Cassidy and Wilton carousing around the desert; and Wilton trying to

Jake Matthews



keep up with Cassidy's backstory and his "new mission."

This is a film that relies heavily on a backstory that, in all honesty, I found 10 times more interesting and entertaining than the primary plot conflict.

The movie shows the evolution of this new branch of the military and the odd journey and revelations that its creator, Bill Django (Jeff Bridges, channeling a more coherent version of "The Big Lebowski" here) puts himself through to establish an entirely unique approach to military conflict.

It's not a film that tries too hard to

force the ridiculous stories and dialogue you hear the characters discussing it simply presents them in all their weirdness, and that's why you love it. It would have been so easy for the writers to look at this story of psychic soldiers funded by the United States government and the character options people like Cassidy and Django allow for you to have and to make an over-the-top film with gaudy interjections of history and climax scenes that are just plain idiotic, but that isn't the case.

They treat the story with respect. This in turn helps you appreciate the film that much more because you understand they aren't catering to you, they're entertaining you.

George Clooney is the balls. Barring "Batman and Robin," this has always been the case and it holds true here. I can't help but love what Jeff Bridges can do with a drugged-up, free-spirited hippie and McGregor does a fine job playing Wilton, who is just trying to keep up with

these people around him.

Don't get me wrong, "The Men Who Stare at Goats" has plenty wrong with it. Whether it be the unnecessary story points they force into the movie or the underdevelopment of certain characters (Kevin Spacey being the most jarring example), I'm not anticipating this film popping up much come award season.

But hell, you let most of that slide because it's hilarious and interesting and engaging and just an all-around good movie experience.

"The Men Who Stare at Goats" is great because it takes itself seriously but doesn't ask you too. It is well-written, well-acted and well-directed. And well, it's just a fun flick. Enjoy.

Matthews is a DT movie critic.
jacob.mathews@ttu.edu

New fair targets France's 260,000 annual divorcés

PARIS (AP) — The city of romance got a lesson in love's hard knocks Sunday, as thousands flocked to the French capital's first divorce fair.

In France, nearly one out of two marriages ends in divorce, according to the country's National Institute of Demographic Studies. More than 130,000 divorces were registered in 2007, as compared to just 50,000 three decades ago.

The "New Start" trade fair aimed to tap into that booming market by bringing together 60 stands offering up both services obviously related to separation — law firms and counselors

— and also more obscure disciplines aimed at helping people get back on their feet, like tarot card readers, makeover specialists and self-esteem coaches.

Conferences held throughout the two-day-long fair included talks entitled "Plastic surgery's role in re-conquering your image" and "How to re-seduce your partner using the Gestalt method," as well as "Meeting on the Web" and "Separation: What does a lawyer do?"

The fair's organizer, Brigitte Gaumet, said she had the idea for the event after President Nicolas Sarkozy divorced his second wife months after taking office in 2007.

Expanding drug treatment talk

NEW YORK (AP) — Based on the rhetoric, America's war on drugs seems poised to shift into a more enlightened phase where treatment of addicts gains favor over imprisonment of low-level offenders. Questions abound, however, about the nation's readiness to turn the talk into reality.

The economic case for expanding treatment, especially amid a recession, seems clear. Study after study concludes that treating addicts, even in lengthy residential programs, costs markedly less than incarcerating them, so budget-strapped states could save millions.

The unmet need for more treatment also is vast. According to federal data, 7.6 million Americans needed treatment for illicit drug use in 2008, and only 1.2 million — or 16 percent — received it.

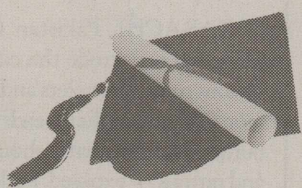
But the prospect of savings on prison and court costs hasn't produced a surge of new fiscal support for treatment. California's latest crisis budget, for example, strips all but a small fraction of state funding away from a successful diversion and treatment program that voters approved in 2000.

"It's easy to talk a good game about more treatment and helping people," said Scott Burns, executive director of the National District Attorneys Association. "But it smashes head on into reality when they don't put their money where their mouth is."

Money aside, the treatment field faces multiple challenges. At many programs, counselors — often former addicts themselves — are low-paid and turnover is high. Many states have yet to impose effective systems for evaluating programs, a crucial issue in a field where success is relative and relapses inevitable.

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GO-KART CRAZY



PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toreador

KAYLA HUDSON, PRESIDENT of the Best Buddies and a senior human development and family studies major from Odessa, helps Paul steer a go-kart at Putt Putt Golf & Games on Saturday after the Best Buddies Putt Putt Golf Tournament.

Comic Con

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
Benjamin said his favorite part about traveling to conventions like Comic-Con is meeting the fans.
"What's cool about the people is no matter where you live, fans are always the same," Benjamin said, energetically signing autographs. "They are all people like me and love reading the stories. For me, it is always exciting to get to hang out with those people."
Many of the works Benjamin has created were at Comic-Con for fans to purchase and get autographed.
"I created 'Pantheon High,'" Benjamin said, "a high school for demigods in modern-day Los Angeles. I have written for a lot

of stuff including 'The Hulk,' 'Spiderman' and 'Monsters Inc.'
In "Pantheon High," all of the gods are walking the earth and having affairs with mortals. As a result of these love affairs, demi-gods are created, which are children who are half god and half mortal.
"I wouldn't be fair for Thor's kid to play football against a mortal," Benjamin said, "so they

go to Pantheon High."
Fans at Comic-Con showed excitement by dressing for the occasion. Cory Farley, a doctoral student in mechanical engineering, dressed as Scout Trooper, a character from Star Wars who was an imperial Stormtrooper specially trained for scouting.
"I like the idea of the costume and its flexibility," Farley said. "I like to dress for the little kids

because it is fun to watch them go crazy and get excited."
Farley said he is a member of the 501 First organization, which is a group of people who dress up for a variety of events including charity events and the West Texas Comic-Con.
Will Terrell, co-coordinator for West Texas Comic-Con, writer and artist, said he liked creating an experience for families and students.
"We tried to bring guests in to let fans interact with them and get autographs," Terrell said. "I have been going to conventions for about 15 years, and I learned to draw and write comics from going to panels with special guest like we had here today."
sherrel.jones@ttu.edu

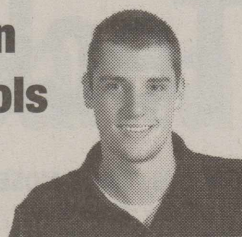
What's cool about the people is no matter where you live, fans are always the same.

PAUL BENJAMIN
CREATOR OF
"PANTHEON HIGH"

Latest 'Christmas Carol' may be best

Walt Disney Pictures released its third telling of Charles Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" this weekend.
The first film was adapted to the casting of Mickey Mouse while the second used the Muppets in the roles. This version features the combined talents of Jim Carrey, Gary Oldman, Carey Elwes, Robin Wright Penn and many others.

Aaron Nichols



For those who do not already know, "A Christmas Carol" tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a man who despises the world and its surroundings. He is offered a chance on Christmas Eve to redeem himself for his life's misdeeds with the assistance of three ghosts. Through the events that unfold, Scrooge finds the true meaning of Christmas.
This film tells the classic tale in the classic style by remaining faithful to much of the original text. It achieves this without adding any 2009 dialogue or slang terms Disney films have frequently been guilty of in recent years. This is a tale of redemption and the moral isn't lost at any point.

an audience to sway with the direction the camera takes.
I believe no Christmas is complete without some telling of "A Christmas Carol," and this year's version ranks up there with previous animated and live-action efforts which featured such talents as George C. Scott, Jim Henson and Patrick Stewart.

Carrey, who I consider a genius of his craft, gives it his all in his multiple roles as Scrooge and the ghosts. His voice performance is near-flawless in his ability to emulate authentic English and Irish accents and he still manages to add just a bit of that trademark offbeat humor in the more joyful scenes.

As of now, I consider this film to be the front-runner for Best Animated Feature at the upcoming Academy Awards.
For those who love Christmas and this particular story in general, I highly recommend Zemeckis' film. It will leave you breathless, and if only for a brief second you will be overcome by the sheer emotional power of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol."

The performance capture visuals are easily what set this film apart from its predecessors.

AARON NICHOLS
MOVIE CRITIC

As of now, I consider this film to be the front-runner for Best Animated Feature at the upcoming Academy Awards.
For those who love Christmas and this particular story in general, I highly recommend Zemeckis' film. It will leave you breathless, and if only for a brief second you will be overcome by the sheer emotional power of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol."
The performance capture visuals are easily what set this film apart from its predecessors. The frequent use of a rapid steadicam-esque technique cause

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Hopper: All's 'good right now' despite cancer

ARCADIA, Calif. (AP) — Prostate cancer couldn't keep Dennis Hopper away from the Breeders' Cup on Saturday.
The 73-year-old actor and artist attended the Breeders' Cup in support of The V Foundation for Cancer Research, the official charity of the year-ending thoroughbred championships Saturday at Santa Anita Park in Southern California.
It was revealed last month that Hopper had been diagnosed with cancer, although he said Saturday he's been battling it for the past nine years. He's started a new, experimental treatment at the University of Southern California that he says he hopes will help.
"It has great promise," Hopper said. "Everything's good right now."
Hopper recently canceled his appearance at an exhibition of his artwork and photography at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne. He was hospitalized in New York last month and treated for dehydration.
Hopper is one of racing's biggest and best-known fans. He's been to five Breeders' Cups, including last year when he said he cashed a \$17,000 trifecta ticket in the Classic, the signature race on thoroughbred racing's championship day.
He's disappointed horse racing has lost some of its luster among the public but he believes the sport carries its own style and swagger that is alluring.
"It would be a drag to see the industry come down," Hopper said. "It's such a great tradition. I hope it gets well and goes on forever."
Hopper wouldn't say who he was going to choose in the Classic, only to note that Zenyatta, a 5-year-old mare, is a formidable foe for her male rivals.

Today's su | do | ku

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

Funsies by PageFeller

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.

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

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After two delays, Pakistan models defy Taliban with 1st fashion week

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — Some women strode the catwalk in vicious spiked bracelets and body armor. Others had their heads covered, burqa-style, but with shoulders — and tattoos — exposed. Male models wore long, Islamic robes as well as shorts and sequined T-shirts.
As surging militant violence grabs headlines around the world, Pakistan's top designers and models are taking part in the country's first-ever fashion week. While the mix of couture and ready-to-wear fashions would not have been out of place in Milan or New York, many designers made reference to the turmoil, reflecting the contradictions and tensions coursing through this society.
The four-day event, which was postponed twice due to security fears and amid unease at hosting such a gathering during an army offensive in the northwest, is aimed at showing the world there is more to Pakistan than violence and at helping boost an industry that employs hundreds of thousands of people, organizers said.
Many of the models, designers and well-heeled fashionistas packing out each night said the gathering was a symbolic blow to the Taliban and their vision of society, where women are largely confined to the house and must wear a sack-like covering known as a burqa.
"This is our gesture of defiance to the Taliban," said Ayesha Tammy Haq, the CEO of Fashion Pakistan Week. "There is a terrible problem of militancy and political upheaval ... but that doesn't mean that the country shuts down. That doesn't mean that business comes to a halt."
The shows are taking place in Karachi, the country's largest and most cosmopolitan city, in a five-star hotel just next door to the American consulate, which was bombed by Islamist militants in 2002. It's two hours by plane from the northwest, the heartland of al-Qaida and the Taliban, and has largely been spared the violence sweeping the country over the last month.
"Unfortunately, it is the bad side of Pakistan that gets everybody's attention," said top Pakistani model Nadia Hussain as hairdressers and makeup artists fussed over her backstage. "It has never been this bad, I don't know what will happen," she said, as fellow models chain-smoked cigarettes.
While many of the city's 12 million people live in slums, hip cafes and restaurants in wealthy neighborhoods draw sophisticated crowds of young men and women into the early hours, more often than not speaking English with each other and wearing Western dress.

This is our gesture of defiance to the Taliban.

AYESHA TAMMY
CEO OF FASHION PAKISTAN WEEK

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Tech volleyball drops match to CU, hits road for K-State

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech volleyball coach Trish Knight summed up her team's losing ways after Saturday's loss to Colorado with three words: lack of effort.

The 3-0 loss to the Buffaloes extends Tech's Big 12 Conference losing streak to 52 matches dating back to 2007.

"It's really frustrating for the kids who do care," she said. "I

thought we had four kids on the floor who cared and two who just didn't even show up to play. Those girls are fighting, fighting and fighting, while the others are just pouting and not leading their team."

"They're the oldest kids and they should be wanting to get out of here with a win and they just didn't do it."

Tech (2-20, 0-13 in Big 12 play) hoped to knock off Colorado (7-17, 2-13) after taking a set from the Buffaloes earlier this season in Boulder, Co. — that set is the only one the Red Raiders have won in Big 12 play this season.

The win puts Colorado two games ahead of Tech in the Big 12 standings with just six games left to go in the season following the weekend's match ups.

Although the Red Raiders have not been within reach of a postseason berth, Knight said she has seen a loss of drive from a few of the older players as the end of the season draws near.

"I think that I'm just going to

go with my younger players at this point," she said. "If the seniors don't care anymore than what I saw from a couple of them, then they don't deserve to play anymore. I don't feel like they give enough back, so I'm pretty much just done with a couple of them."

Sticking with younger players may not be such a bad thing.

Freshman outside hitter Miara Cave is emerging as a reliable producer in kills since returning from an illness that kept her out of

a match with No. 10 Nebraska on Oct. 28. Cave has tallied a total of 14 kills in Tech's last two matches and has taken some pressure off middle blocker Amanda Dowdy to produce points.

Aside from the numbers, Cave said energy wasn't lacking from players and the loss won't slow them down as they continue to progress through conference play.

"I think we just keep going after going for so long," she said. "A lot of people can get discouraged when you're not doing so well, the team really is trying and doing the best we can."

Despite being swept, the Red Raiders had many opportunities to seize control of the match.

Tech led the first set 20-18 until the Buffaloes reeled off four straight points to take the lead 22-20. CU rolled on to take the opening set 25-21.

The Red Raiders competed in every set, but did not recover from the loss in the first set.

Every lead Tech owned would

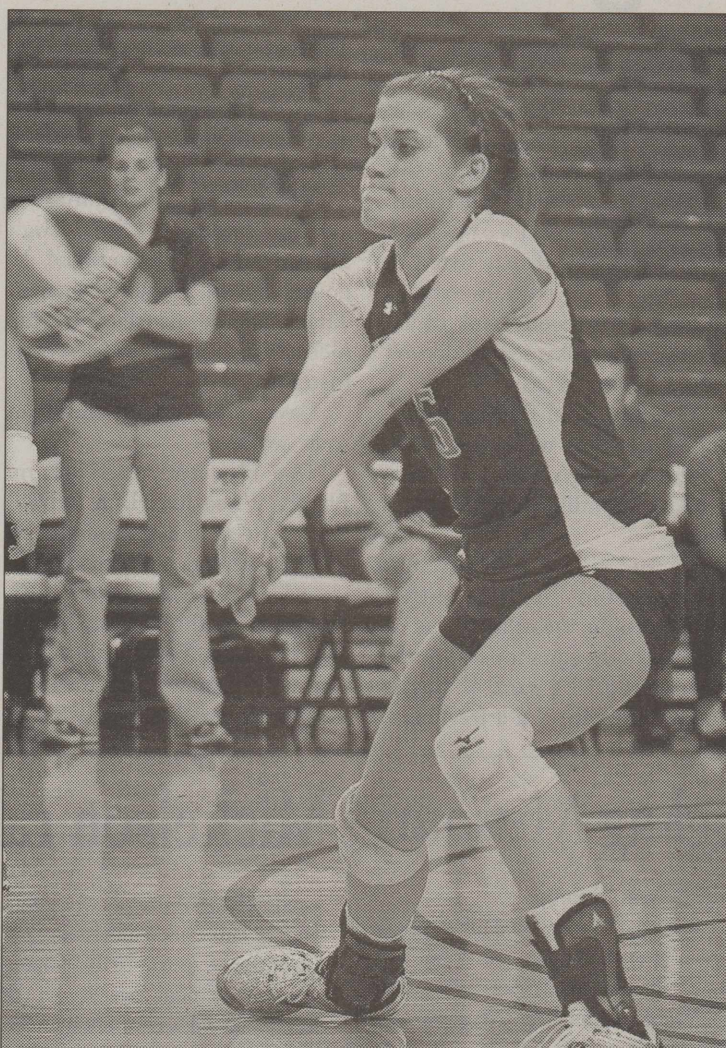


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Treador
TEXAS TECH DEFENSIVE specialist Jackie Vincent returns a ball during the Red Raiders' loss against Colorado Saturday in the United Spirit Arena.

not last in a match that saw a total of 40 tied scores and 11 lead changes. Libero Jackie Vincent said the team's inability to sustain momentum is what cost the team the match.

"We just can't give away the lead," she said. "We have to start from point one to the last point. When the game ends is when we need to stop."

The team had little time to make changes as a make-up match against Kansas State in Manhattan, Kan., Sunday forced the Red Raiders to get on a plane and travel the night of the CU

match. Tech rescheduled this match back in September because a few players had flu-like symptoms.

As of press time, results for the K-State match were unavailable.

A loss like the one against CU can be heart-breaking, but players and coaches are confident that the team will overcome it.

"A lot of us get down on ourselves," Vincent said. "It's something we have to work with but I think for the most part, we pick each other up as much as we can and I think we're fine."

— jose.l.rodriguez@ttu.edu

AP TOP 25

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. FLORIDA | 14. OREGON |
| 2. TEXAS | 15. IOWA |
| 3. ALABAMA | 16. UTAH |
| 4. TCU | 17. OKLA. ST. |
| 5. CINCINNATI | 18. ARIZONA |
| 6. BOISE ST. | 19. PENN ST. |
| 7. GA. TECH | 20. VA. TECH |
| 8. PITTSBURGH | 21. WISCONSIN |
| 9. LSU | 22. BYU |
| 10. OHIO ST. | 23. SOUTH FLA. |
| 11. USC | 24. CLEMSON |
| 12. MIAMI | 25. STANFORD |
| 13. HOUSTON | |

BOLD indicates Big 12 Conference team

For UT, Johnson an option at RB

AUSTIN (AP) — A wrecking ball of a runner, Cody Johnson has been the short-yardage specialist for No. 2 Texas for the last two seasons.

It's when he bounces that squat little body to the outside for touchdowns that he gives the Longhorns an extra dimension in their late-season march toward the goals of winning Big 12 and national championships.

Johnson scored Texas' first two touchdowns Saturday in a 35-3 win over Central Florida, a team that ranks among fourth in the NCAA against the run.

Texas is 9-0 for just the ninth time in 117 years of playing football and the first since 2005 when the Longhorns went 13-0 and won the national championship.

Johnson's first touchdown Saturday was a 20-yard burst up the middle when the offensive line opened a huge hole. The second came on a third-and-1 from the Central Florida 13. Texas sent in its "jumbo" package with 300-pound defensive tackle Lamarr Houston at fullback.

Johnson leaned his 5-foot-11,

250-pound body into the left side of the line, then used a quick burst of speed to the outside to beat two defenders to the corner and scamper to the goal line.

Pretty sharp for a guy whose early season carries were limited in part because he wasn't in the best of shape in training camp.

"I'm getting more opportunities right now," Johnson said. "Right now, I'm trying to settle down and learn new stuff and keep dropping weight."

Johnson's 44 total yards wouldn't turn heads on a day Texas passed for 470. What Texas needs him to do is keep pounding out the first downs, the touchdowns and hold onto the ball.

"The first time we've seen him bounce outside and walk in," Texas coach Mack Brown said. "At the end of the game he carried a bunch of (defenders) with him. He was carrying about five there at the end I saw him wrap his off hand over the ball to make sure they couldn't strip it out."

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SPORTS

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MONDAY, NOV. 9, 2009

Tech freshmen trying to find suitable roles with team

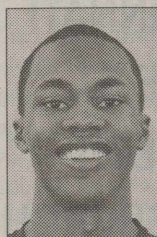
By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Jaye Crockett is used to having the ball in his hands during the last seconds of a game, having to be the vocal leader for his teammates and being the marquee player.

But all that changed once he got used to being around the Texas Tech men's basketball team.

"Coming from high school, we just played every second of the game," he said. "We had to come to a team where it's a bunch of people like you. You just gotta compete all the time and work hard to get your spot. It's not just given to you."

As the only two freshmen on Pat Knight's squad this season,



CROCKETT

guard Mike Davis and Crockett, the 6-foot-6 forward from Clovis, N.M., welcome that challenge of competing against players with more experience.

With the season opener against South Dakota looming for the Red Raiders, Davis and Crockett are trying to find where they fit in on a revamped Tech team this season.

What may make that difficult is Davis coming in as a guard and Crockett coming in at forward — two positions the Red Raiders already are abundant at.

Tech already has players such as Mike Singletary, Robert Le-



DAVIS

wandowski and transfer Brad Reese — all who could see a lot of time at the forward positions. Trevor Cook also is listed at that position,

but even his recent back injury dating back to last season doesn't help Crockett's case.

Crockett said finding meaningful minutes with this group could be tough and a redshirt could be coming the freshman's way.

"I feel like I'm ready, but the situation I'm in is with a lot of people, we're in the same type of body, same position and everything," he said. "They're upperclassmen; I'm a freshman.

But when the time comes, I'm ready."

Crockett does come in with a hefty amount of credentials, however.

The freshman is coming off a senior season at Clovis High School where he averaged 29 points and 12 rebounds a game. That year, he also became the second-leading scorer in school history.

Davis' situation is similar in some ways.

The Houston native from Phillis Wheatley High School has to fit in a backcourt with John Roberson and Nick Okorie, who already are established. Junior transfer David Tairu's arrival makes it a little bit more difficult for Davis to fit in too.

But also with the possibility

of being redshirted his freshman season, Davis said he's learned to be open to that idea or any role Knight sees fit for him.

"From first coming into it and first hearing about redshirt out of high school, of course you're 'No, I want to play, I want to do this,'" he said. "But as time goes on and you're finally understanding and you're finally getting the process of what it takes to play on this level, then you could start thinking about some more things."

But while the two freshmen have been busy at practice trying to find ways to gel with the team, the Red Raiders have been busy preparing for a three-game stretch at home to open the season.

The Red Raiders have had

closed scrimmages against Arizona State and New Mexico State, which probably gives Knight a more personal approach at evaluating his team compared to exhibitions.

Besides the South Dakota game at 6 p.m. Friday in the United Spirit Arena, Tech has games against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and Oregon State at 6 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Nov. 14 and 15, respectively.

For Davis and Crockett, those games could be their first indication of what their roles will be this season.

"It's been about four, six months that we haven't played a game," Davis said. "I'm anxious to get back on the court and get back after it."

adam.coleman@ttu.edu

Baylor's second half buries struggling Missouri

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Blaine Gabbert missed the Missouri single-game record for yards passing by only 12 yards. He didn't have a lot to show for his 468 yards, though, especially in the second half of one of the most dispiriting setbacks in nine seasons under coach Gary Pinkel.

The Tigers (5-4, 1-4) were thoroughly outplayed after the break by Baylor (4-5, 1-4), usually an easy touch in the Big 12, in a 40-32 loss Saturday that squashed aspirations of escaping the North cellar to make a third straight conference championship game appearance. They're back in a tie for last place with Kansas with only three regular-season games to go.

Missouri has gotten blown out a few times recently, losing 41-7 to Texas at home last month and getting whipped by the Longhorns and Oklahoma in 2008. Unlike Baylor, those are dominating opponents.

"We'll talk about it as a staff, talk about how to get out of it," coach Gary Pinkel said. "But we're certainly running out of time."

Missouri hasn't found enough play-makers to replace its departing stars. Gabbert shows a lot of promise as a sophomore now that he's shaken off a sprained right ankle that hampered him for three games. Danario Alexander is the unquestioned go-to wide receiver after setting career bests against Baylor, redshirt freshman Aldon Smith is only two sacks off the school record, and

Grant Ressel has been one of the nation's most accurate kickers.

Otherwise, the Tigers are still waiting for a young squad to develop.

Pinkel has emphasized finishing strong in practice, simulated second-half situations and done his best to motivate. But after a big first half, Missouri was stymied. More importantly, it failed throughout to control a Baylor offense that had been averaging only 8.5 points in conference play and allowed a school-record 427 yards passing by Baylor freshman Nick Florence.

Gabbert piled up 322 yards passing in the first half and Missouri seemed to take control on Wes Kemp's 7-yard scoring catch with one second to go for a 27-16 lead.

But the Tigers totaled only 35 yards in their first five possessions of the second half, going three plays and out three times, while Baylor was seizing control with 17 points. Missouri's biggest play during that stretch was a punt by Jake Harry that was downed at the 1, resulting on a safety the next play.

Missouri mounted its best drive of the second half at the finish before running out of downs at the Baylor 18. Gabbert fell just short of Jeff Handy's school-record 480 yards passing against Oklahoma State in 1992.

The Tigers' running attack was woeful, with De'Vion Moore, Kendal Lawrence and Derrick Washington combining for 43 yards on 15 carries. Factor in four sacks on Gabbert, and

the net was 10 yards.

"We did a pretty good job stopping them after they had a pretty hot first half," Baylor coach Art Briles said. "We got our momentum going and momentum makes plays."

The Tigers have lost three straight at home for the first time since 2004 and have been outscored 51-5 in the second half of two of those losses, getting outscored 24-5 on Saturday and also squandering a 12-0 lead after three quarters in a 27-12 loss to Nebraska.

The victory was momentous for Baylor, which had been 0-7 against Missouri in Big 12 play and hadn't won at Columbia, Mo., since 1973. The Bears pulled it off with a quarterback who was third on the depth chart at the start of the season.

"Our guys have never lost hope and they never lost focus and that says a lot about their character," Briles said. "After so many losses, it feels good to finally let them celebrate."

Both schools had two players with 100-yard receiving games, Missouri with Alexander (13 for 214 yards and a TD) and Jared Perry (7 for 145) and Baylor with Kendall Wright (10 for 149, 2 TDs) and David Gettis (8 for 110). A third Baylor player, Lanear Sampson, just missed with five catches for 85 yards and a TD.

"Nobody respects us," Florence said. "It wasn't about gaining respect. We knew we were a good team, and we just wanted to get the 'W.'"

Mickelson rallies to win HSBC Champions

SHANGHAI (AP) — Thousands of fans caused a bottleneck at the entrance to the HSBC Champions, all of them eager to see the Sunday showdown at Sheshan International between Phil Mickelson and Tiger Woods.

The Shanghai surprise? Woods turned out to be merely a spectator, too.

Mickelson built a six-shot lead over the world's No. 1 player on the front nine, then rallied to beat another familiar foe, Ernie Els, with two clutch putts for a one-shot victory in the final World Golf Championship of the year.

Mickelson closed with a 3-under 69 and won for the first time playing with Woods in the final group.

Even with Woods out of the picture — he shot 72 and wound up five shots behind — Mickelson provided his usual dose of entertainment.

Trailing by one shot, Mickelson whiffed on a risky flop shot below the 16th green, only to save par with perhaps his best putt of the year, an 18-foot slider that dropped on its final turn. He followed that with

a 10-foot birdie on the 17th, which turned out to be the difference when Els hit into the water on the par-5 18th and made bogey.

"We all expected that Tiger and myself would be shooting in the mid-60s and pull away a little bit," Mickelson said. "And yet, our group was not making any birdies. It was the groups in front of us. And I was very fortunate to come out on top by a shot. But this feels terrific, because I had to fight very hard throughout the day. Nothing came easy."

That was particularly true for Woods.

He looked out of sorts from the start, missing birdie putts of 4 feet and 10 feet, then taking double bogey on the par-3 fourth when he hit into a canal left of the green where residents on the other side routinely dump their garbage.

Hearing a series of camera shutters in the middle of his swing on No. 7 caused him to hit his tee shot into a plugged lie in the bunker, and it took Woods three shots to cover the final 75 yards and reach the green for another bogey.

"Anything that could go wrong went wrong for me today," Woods said. "Just one of those days."

It ended with a wedge too strong that went down the bank and into the water on the 18th, then having to wait for Mickelson to tap in for par and walk off the green to affectionate applause.

In the last four times Woods has played in the final group dating to the PGA Championship in August, he has won only once. And the last three times he and Mickelson have played together in the final round, Lefty has come out on top every time.

"I didn't really envision shooting even par today," Woods said. "The guys took it deep, and I didn't."

Mickelson finished at 17-under 271 and earned \$1.2 million for his fourth victory of the year, matching his career-best. And while the PGA Tour does not count this World Golf Championship as official, it sure felt that way.

"It would be great if it would count, but it doesn't take away from the fact that I beat 15 of the 20 best players in the world, and the gratifying feeling of having this trophy," he said.

Bo Bae Song wins Mizuno Classic for first tour title

SHIMA, Japan (AP) — South Korea's Bo Bae Song won the Mizuno Classic on Sunday for her first LPGA Tour title, closing with a 4-under 68 for a three-stroke victory over top-ranked Lorena Ochoa, Brittany Lang and Hee Young Park.

"Honestly I couldn't sleep last night because I was so nervous," said Song, the Japan Women's Open winner last month at Abiko. "I went to bed at 11 last night, but woke up around 3. Usually that doesn't happen."

The 23-year-old Song finished at 15-under 201 at Kintetsu Kashikoji-

ma and earned \$210,000 in the event co-sanctioned by the Japan LPGA.

She's comfortable on the Japanese tour, making it difficult to decide if she'll accept an LPGA Tour exemption.

"I don't know yet," said Song, also the 2008 Daikin Orchid winner in Japan. "I've played in several big tournaments when I lived in Korea, but I felt that Japan suits me more. So I still don't know yet. I've been playing in Japan for three years, and if I were to go to the U.S. tour, it's all a new start for me, so ..."

Ochoa shot a bogey-free 64, and Lang and Park had 68s.

"Now, I can go home happily," said Ochoa, set to begin play Thursday in her own Lorena Ochoa Invitational in Guadalajara.

"I just thought about doing my best today. I played aggressively."

Jiyai Shin, the 2008 winner who is trying to hold off Ochoa in the player of the year points race, closed with a 69 to tie for fifth with Yani Tseng (67), Mi-Jeong Jeon (69) and Inbee Park (69) at 11 under.

After opening with rounds of 68 and 65 to take a one-stroke lead, Song had six birdies and a bogey — on the par-4 14th — to hold off Ochoa and the other challengers.

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