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PART FIVE OF A FIVE-PART SERIES ABOUT STUDENTS OVERCOMING ADVERSITY



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Torea

GILBERT ESPARZA, A senior journalism major from Lamesa, stands underneath the archways in the Science Quad holding an Apple computer box. Esparza returned to Tech last semester to complete his journalism degree and be up-to-date on the latest broadcast and print technologies.

REVITALIZED

Student returns for senior year after more than two decades

By CARRIE THORNTON STAFF WRITER

eturning to college for the second time had to give." to finish his degree was a daunting but necessary decision for 58-year-old Gilbert Esparza.

"Coming back, I'm on the same playing field of a freshman who walks on: completely lost," said the senior journalism major from Lamesa.

Esparza first attended Texas Tech in 1986. During his senior year, just months away from graduation, he made a sudden decision to walk away from campus with no intention of

"I just couldn't handle it," he said. "There saw that happening at the radio station." was no drive for me anymore. If teachers wanted something by a certain date, if I had it, fine. If I didn't have it, that was fine too. It wasn't like I was taking it out on the teacher, but it was just

the attitude I had, the way I felt; I just couldn't handle it. There was so much pressure school wise, work wise and family wise. Something

he realized he had to complete his degree to company." continue to be successful at his job at Barton Broadcasting. Advances in technology have made the broadcast and print industries competitive, and to stay afloat, companies need to be updated.

"At the workplace, everything is changing. Back then, changes would occur every decade," Esparza said. "Evolution of everything was much slower. Nowadays, if you buy a computer, it's out of date by the time you take it out of the store. I

When Esparza began at Barton Broadcasting, he worked with vinyl records. Then came CDs, and now, mp3s and wav files dominate the field; CDs are not needed anymore.

"I figured if the media or broadcast and print is moving at such a tremendous pace, I need to do something about it," he said. "It's very difficult to keep up with the competition, the big But more than 20 years later, Esparza said boys, whereas I work for a small, independent

Esparza took action and faced the challenge of returning to school with students who he is about three times older than. He began taking classes in January 2009, and plans to graduate in December 2010.

"Tech accepted me under the condition that I had to bring up my GPA, because it was pretty poor since I left so much stuff unfinished," he said.

Coming back, Esparza said he is amazed by the changes Tech has undergone. With the support of his family and Tech faculty, he said he has been able to adapt and succeed.

REVITALIZED continued on page 3

DPS to increase patrols during Thanksgiving

STAFF WRITER

As Texas Tech students travel home for Thanksgiving break, Texas State Troopers will be stepping up patrols this weekend because of the dangers associated with holiday travel.

Tech administrators and state officials said they want to be sure students are prepared for the challenges long-distance travel

Lt. Steve Shatley, with the Texas Department of Public Safety, said all available troopers will be on patrol during the long

weekend because of the additional travel Students should be the Thankssure to get plenty of giving holiday brings. Officers rest. It's something posted along the highways that can be as will be looking dangerous as for hazardous driving, speeddrunk driving. ing vehicles and intoxicated

> LT. STEVE SHATLEY TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF **PUBLIC SAFETY**

for children to be in a proper child seat for safety.

drivers.

He said it is

important for

drivers and pas-

sengers to wear

seat belts and

Heather Medley, the marketing and training coordinator for Tech's University Parking Services, said students driving during the holiday should be sure to get at least seven to nine hours of sleep the night before a long drive. Drowsy driving poses a risk to drivers, especially during the holiday season.

According to the National Sleep Foundation's Web site, about 1,550 deaths and 71,000 injuries every year are caused by drowsy driving in the United States.

Texas DPS recommends drivers rest 15 minutes for every two hours spent driving on the road to avoid potential hazards.

"Students should be sure to get plenty of rest," Shatley said. "It's something that can be as dangerous as drunk driving.'

Speed is another factor students should keep in mind, he said, and a safe speed depends on the road conditions. He said hazardous weather and increased traffic would mandate a lowerthan-posted acceptable speed.

Medley said she recommends students check their cars before hitting the road this week by checking their belts, hoses, fluids and tires. She also said students can receive a discount at Scott's Complete Car Care in Lubbockwith a Tech ID.

The Tech Office of Parent

and Family Relations also sponsors the Road Raiders program, which publishes an updated list of Tech parents and alumni throughout the nation who can provide assistance to traveling students. Participants agree to render aid to students with car problems, give di-

rections or just provide a place for a short rest.

Camille Baker, a Tech parent in Seymour listed in the Road Raiders phone directory, said she signed up for the program when she joined the Tech Parents Organization a year ago. Though she has not received a call from a student help, she said she would be able to phone a local mechanic in Seymour at any hour to provide assistance to Tech students if needed.

Jan Smith, a mother of six in Sweetwater, said she added her name to the list during her oldest son's orientation at Tech and has assisted a student in the past.

"I would be able to get them whatever they need," Smith said. "Get them gas or give them a ride. Whatever they would need." >>> jett.thompson@ttu.edu

Tech cross country places 4th at nationals for highest finish ever

By ADAM COLEMAN SPORTS EDITOR

It seemed like the Texas Tech cross high standards. country team couldn't do much more to impress spectators except a strong seven, than we've ever had." finish at nationals.

But the No. 9 Lady Raiders found a way to make program history once

Tech finished in fourth place at the Course.

It's the highest finish in school history for the Lady Raiders at nationals and it comes a year after the departure top for most of the season. of All-American Sally Kipyego.

coach Jon Murray said. "She set the they did not come back to Lubbock place in 23:09. stage for success in the future. They empty handed. learned how to work from her. She set

"This was a better team one through

Indeed it was depth that helped the Lady Raiders out this season. Tech already had a handful of accolades in 2009 with a second consecutive Big 12 Conference championship and team NCAA Cross Country Champion- wins in five of the seven races this shined at nationals for Tech. ships on Monday in Terre Haute, Ind., season — the two being at nationals at the LaVern Gibson Championship and Mountain Regionals on Nov. 14 ished 38th at 20:48 and 47th at 21:00, in Albuquerque, N.M.

> And it was strong contributions from many runners that put Tech on Michelle Guzman and Kaci Westervelt

The top four teams received tro-

finished at 20:35. It was Badaru's second consecutive All-America selection and they year. Biwott's first.

Winrose and Caroline Karunde finrespectively. Gladys Kipsang finished in 66th place with a time of 21:11, leaving as the last two Lady Raiders to finish the race — Guzman in 202nd place with a "Sally did a great job for us," Tech phies, so the Lady Raiders made sure time of 22:57 and Westervelt at 205th Wayland Baptist, is a sophomore.

Lillian Badaru and Purity Biwott things about running in Terre Haute deck. Colorado's Jenny Barringer were named All-Americans with was the weather. He said last year at 17th and 23rd place finishes, respec- nationals, the weather was a little individual race without Kipyego to run tively. Badaru finished with a time of colder, but in Terre Haute on Monday, 20 minutes and 25 seconds and Biwott the temperature was in the 60s, which is unusual for that area at this time of the race.

They weren't the only runners who of the season, the Lady Raiders lose points, Florida State's 133 and Wash-Badaru and Kipsang, leaving the core of the group with another shot at a higher finish next year.

> Winrose and Caroline Karunde are achieve. finishing up their first cross country season after time at Abilene Christian and Wayland Baptist, respectively. Westervelt is a junior. Biwott, who also went to

The Lady Raiders already entered Murray said one of the strange the field with tough competition on was dubbed the favorite to win the against this season, but she finished in 163rd place after collapsing early in

Tech finished with 191 points as a 4. Texas Tech With nationals indicating the end team, putting it behind Villanova's 86 ington's 188.

> So Murray said it leaves the Lady Raiders with a few more goals to

"Just keep on working," he said. "We were almost third, three points away from third. So being in the top four of the national meet is a terrific goal." >>> adam.coleman@ttu.edu

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WEATHER

Today



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Student Media

BRIEF

STATE

Atty: Fort Hood suspect may seek insanity defense

attorney for an Army psychiatrist contradict his lifestyle and military accused of killing 13 people during an attack at Fort Hood says his client will likely plead not guilty and may pursue an insanity defense at his military trial.

John Galligan, the Fort Hoodarea civilian attorney for Maj. Nidal Hasan, told The Associated Press by phone Monday that the court must consider his client's mental status

FORT WORTH (AP) — An because the allegations against Hasan

Hasan is charged with 13 counts of premeditated murder in the Nov. 5 shooting. Galligan says military law requires that his client plead not guilty if prosecutors seek the death penalty.

Hasan remains in intensive care at a San Antonio military hospital, where he was taken after being shot during the attack.

NATION

Pipe-cutting led to radiation at Pa. nuke plant

- Radioactive dust unexpectedly blew out of a pipe being cut by workers during weekend maintenance at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant, and

The accident at the central Pennsylvania plant — the site of the nation's worst nuclear power

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) plant disaster — exposed a dozen employees to radiation, but the public was in no danger, plant officials and government regulators said.

Plant officials likened workofficials on Monday were trying to ers' maximum exposure to the determine exactly how and why it equivalent of two medical X-rays, while the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said the workers were exposed to a small fraction of the annual federal regulatory limit.

WORLD

Israel, Hamas near swap of prisoners for soldier

JERUSALEM (AP) — Hamas leaders raced to Egypt on Monday amid signs of progress on a deal to swap hundreds of Palestinian prisoners for a captive Israeli soldier held by the Islamic militant group for more than three years.

The exchange could boost Hamas at the expense of its key rival, Westernbacked Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, in part because one of the prisoners to be freed is Marwan Barghouti, his main challenger.

Officials on both sides cautioned against exaggerated optimism that a deal is about to be concluded. Even so, conditions for a deal appear to be ripening on both sides.

Israel and Hamas have been locked in on-again, off-again talks since Gaza militants tunneled into Israel and captured Sgt. Gilad Schalit in a 2006 raid that killed two other soldiers. Until recently, the Egyptian-mediated talks had made little progress.

Corrections

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

mistakes in this spot as soon as

If you feel there is an error in a story, please call Editor-in-Chief It is The DT's policy to correct Kevin Cullen at 806-742-3395 or

Woman found 25 hours after ferry sank

su do ku

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — island in western Indonesia. A Rescuers plucked a woman from second ferry ran aground nearby, choppy waters Monday, some 25 but all its passengers were said hours after she jumped from a to be safe. crowded ferry that sank in a storm off Indonesia's Sumatra island. At 30s was spotted by fishermen least 29 people drowned, and 20 and she was in stable condition others were missing.

been pulled from the sea since Indonesians, he only uses one Sunday when the Dumai Express name. 10 was hit by towering waves and sank about 90 minutes into an with a life jacket on the rough inter-island trip from Batam to Du- sea in the rain. ... She is very mai in Riau, a province off Sumatra tough," said Edwin.

Today's

The rescued woman in her in a hospital, said Lt. Col. Ed-A total of 255 survivors have win, a navy officer. Like many

"Fishermen saw her floating

Thanksgiving traditions



"We celebrate a multicultural Thanksgiving. It's a mix of the African-American, Anglo and the Mexican or Spanish cultures. We alternate between them every year for the food. If we are celebrating the Anglo side, we will have the more traditional dinner. If it's the African-American side, we will have gumbo and jambalaya. Then for the Mexican culture we will have tamales, beans and rice."

Junior early childhood development major from Rowlett

"My dad and I get up early and prepare everything. While everything is cooking, we all go to the movies. When we come back, we sit down to dinner, eat and catch up on everything. We also watch the Macy's (Thanksgiv-

Freshman zoology major from San Antonio

ing) Day Parade while we cook. My brother and I used to sit down every year and watch it."

We make something called yakgua. It's like rice



"Normally I go visit family in Korea. We don't have the same holidays, October is a holiday in Korea. For the Korean Thanksgiving we meet with cousins and family and share food. My mom cooks a big meal every year, but the food is different from Thanksgiving here. — CHOI YOON KYNG

Senior in the intensive English program from South Korea

"I always go home and have Thanksgiving at my grandparents' house. We normally cook and eat a lot of food. - BRIAN DILLON I like going home to see my family and old Senior Spanish major from Dallas friends.'

COMPILED BY KELSEY HECKEL/The Daily Toreador



Break allows students to recharge before finals

By LAUREN GLOVER STAFF WRITER

the return from Thanksgiving break and finals, Texas Tech officials and

"I think that students are excited for classes that are closing up once they return from Thanksgiving break," said Student Government Association President Suzanne Williams. "I do think students know that dents to get the grade they want."

professor for interior design, said he thinks the positivity or negativity of Thanksgiving break depends on the

"Interior design students need relations major from Houston, said visit their professors during office >>> lauren.glover@ttu.edu

to use school materials for studio she is thankful the break takes place hours to discuss new material and courses, so the break makes it difficult for students to complete their With only two weeks between projects" he said. "Some students put things off, thinking they will catch up during the break, and focusing on finals immediately after hard after returning; sometimes that before finals." doesn't happen."

Thanksgiving break also is a for the Christmas break and excited chance for students to lose focus gained during the semester, said Alan Arduain, a junior computer science and electrical engineering major from Lubbock.

the finals are the last chance for stu- switch back to study mode immediwork over the break."

Despite the short amount of time ter and do nothing to fix that." between the end of break and finals,

2416 BROADWAY & SOUTH PLAINS MAL

when it does.

"If we had to wait until Christmas break, students would be more stressed out," Halifu said. "With this short break, I get to be with students said the key to success is others think they will work really my family and refocus on my classes up to the end of the semester," San

> Monty Strauss, director of undergraduate programs for mathematics and calculus professor, said he believes the effect Thanksgiving break has on students depends on their work ethic.

'Sometimes I can lose some hard this semester, but some need break would be the result of student they need to buckle down because focus, but usually I come back and to work a little harder," Strauss said. "The break is positive if students ately," said Arduain. "It's pretty easy recharge their batteries and work on Zane Curry, program director and for me to do that because I have to what they need to, but it is negative said. "We have a fall break because

Mashairi Halifu, a freshman public break is an increase in students who change that we might consider."

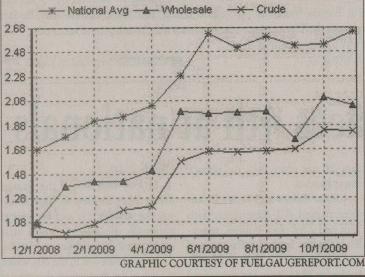
review old material, said Michael San Francisco, associate dean of the Honors College and honors professor of microbiology.

"We will still cover material right Francisco said. "I don't give my students a break the last few weeks because one thing I strongly believe is that students pay our salaries, so we have to strive to maximize the learning potential of students."

Tech President Guy Bailey said "Many students have worked any future changes to Thanksgiving

"From the point of view of the administrators, it's just fine," Bailey if they slacked off during the semes-students requested it, and I don't see anything about Thanksgiving break One of the positive effects of the changing unless students request a

Gas prices not slowing student travel as holidays approach



By ZACH QUIÑONES STAFF WRITER

Despite the increase in gas prices during the past week, Texas Tech students do not seem to be letting it change their more expensive it is," she said. "It's just minds about traveling back home for the more affordable to drive." Thanksgiving holidays.

driving home to see my family," said 15 cents less than the national average. Brandi Lockhart, a sophomore psychology major from Fort Worth.

spokeswoman, said 12 percent of the will be in El Paso at \$2.62. state's population — almost 2.96 million the holidays. Almost 200,000 Texans are expected to fly during the holidays, and

another 140,000 will use other transportation such as bus or train.

"Airlines are tightening and limiting their number of flights per destination, and the closer it gets to the holidays the

Schimmer said the Texas gas price "I don't care if gas is \$100, I'm still average for this week is \$2.48 per gallon—

"The least expensive gas prices can be found in Fort Worth and Galveston Sarah Schimmer, a AAA Texas at \$2.44," she said. "The most expensive

Compared to the rest of the nation, people — is expected to travel by car for Texans are expected to travel an average of 300 more miles than the rest of the country and expected to spend \$100 more than the national average, Schimmer said. However, it is not uncommon to see gas prices increase during holidays because gas stations are anticipating travel, she said.

Charles Bolton of Bolton Oil Company said various factors influence the cost of gas - the wholesale cost of oil, refineries and competition.

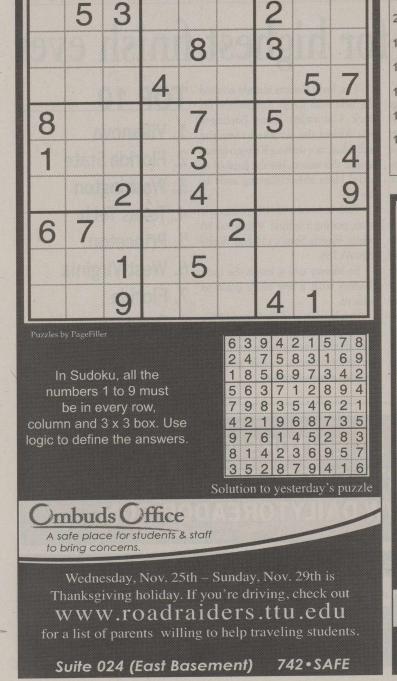
Refineries decide what the retailers will pay for gas and sometimes the price of gas goes up even when the wholesale cost decreases, he said.

"It's strictly on a cost basis along with competition," said Bolton. "People are going to be competitive. That's what drives it."

Gas prices had a slight increase during the past few months then tapered off and began to decrease, he said. Now that the holidays are closer, gas prices are starting increase again, but the market changes on a day-to-day basis and so do the prices passed from the gas station to

"It makes it more stressful cash-wise but most people are still going to travel," said Rebecca Kyle, a junior human development and family studies major from Dallas. "Especially for holidays that your supposed to be with your family."

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Gypsy Caravan hopes to leave mark on Lubbock

By MELISSA MCMILLAN CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Within the past several months, Lubbock has become home to a group of artists, musicians and performers who call themselves the Gypsy Caravan.

and theme of the caravan's events, said the Gypsy Caravan intends to change the label people put on gypsy culture.

"We're passionate about what we do," Casparis said. "We want to put a professional face on it and be taken seriously. We want to show that not all of us in the drugs, getting arrested stereotype. We can Lubbock needs this type of thing." be just as respectable and loving as everyone else — and make a difference too."

the caravan as Amiji, started the caravan with her husband and several of their artenthusiast friends. She said the caravan community and beyond.

benefit shows in the future to raise money and be free." for a few non-profits and charity organizations," McEldowney said. "Some of the looks bright. organizations we want to assist include the Lubbock Housing Authority, the American Cancer Society and Women's Protective Services."

Caravan hosted an event consisting of performance art.

to create the atmosphere of a Gypsy change the earth." Caravan," Casparis said. "It's made with recycled materials and is extremely funds for the caravan. colorful to say the least. We had a bongypsy village.

hosted Halloween night.

"We had a variety of musical performances from individual singer/songwriters, to full bands, to live DJs, to drum circles

with a didgeridoo," McEldowney said. "There was live black-light art, graffiti art, body art, sculpture, fire dancing and vendors. Since it was Halloween people could even dress up as characters using our costume closet."

In addition to providing entertain-Sandra Casparis, a senior art major ment, McEldowney said, the caravan from Odessa and head of cohesive design hopes to serve a greater purpose with its audience-involvement-oriented perfor-

"The Gypsy Caravan is all about loving and accepting everyone," McEldowney said. "It is important to unite as a species to preserve the planet and create peace. So far, everyone I have talked to said they underground culture fit that strung-out on had an amazing time. They always say that

McEldowney said the purpose of the events is not only to educate and entertain Amy McEldowney, known within but to provide a therapeutic experience.

"The bonfire, with the music and art, creates an energy that is almost unexplainable," McEldowney said. "Creating heals wants to make a difference in the Lubbock people. The more we create, the less we are focused on things that limit us. We provide "The Gypsy Caravan is planning some a safe place for people to be themselves

McEldowney said the caravan's future

"There are so many great ideas with enormous potential that our members have come up with," McEldowney said. "It was like we were each a finger in the On Halloween night the Gypsy clay; we didn't know there were other fingers at first. We realized that we are live music, a healing tent, vendors and like a hand working together and we can mold the clay. We want to find the other "We constructed a tent village fingers of the other hand so that we can

"All the gigs and all the parties we fire and lots of blankets, so there were throw on the side are to help raise some so far," Simmons said. "From a business places to keep warm in the haunted money," Casparis said. "It's all going to go right back into the caravan to get supplies McEldowney was one of the main and to get us to the next gig. We don't get orchestrators of the event the caravan paid, we make money and it goes right back into our shows.'

> Casparis said the Gypsy Caravan is raising funds to get to Dallas and



PHOTO BY MELISSA MCMILLAN/The Daily Toreado

VICTOR ANDREW JACOB Briggs dances with fire at the Gypsy Caravan's Halloween event in Lubbock. The event also featured live music, a healing tent, black-light art, body art and sculptures.

"We're currently raising money to pay successful. for the insurance on our vans and get to our next two gigs," Casparis said. "We're

Larry Simmons, owner of the Tornado All of their events are hosted to raise continue working with the group in the as a whole.

standpoint, they've been great. They're spontaneous enough that (their events) don't follow the same formula; they've gotten more people involved in a lot of things they might not have been involved in."

In addition to the caravan's professionalism, Simmons said there are other disasters." reasons the caravan will continue to be

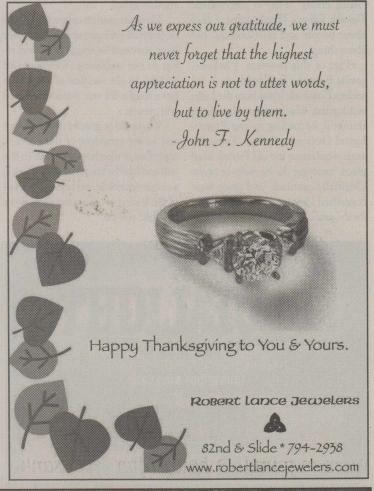
"It's a good concept, they've really taken the ball, and I'm really pleased about going to Dallas for the Dallas Harvest it," Simmons said. "They're very respon-Festival, which is an invite-only party. sible and organized. I think it's going to be Next, we're going to Denver, Colo., where successful in the future, and I hope that the Freezing Man Festival happens every we can help them. I'd like to see it as a monthly event here at the gallery."

Future events are sure to come, McEl-Gallery — a gallery that has worked with downey said, and the caravan intends to the Gypsy Caravan — said he hopes to leave its mark on Lubbock and society

"Eventually we plan to join other "They've all been real stand up people festivals to become a giant festival, with all types of visual and performance art and eco-friendly technologies and products to encourage the changes the earth needs," McEldowney said. "The profits could go to building eco-efficient homes for the homeless or to cities that have been involved in natural



SANDRA CASPARIS, A senior art major from Odessa and head of cohesive design and theme of the Gypsy Caravan's events, admires art created during the caravan's Halloween event in Lubbock.



Revitalized CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

supports me so much and my boss make time to help you." supports me big time," he said. "And the people here at Tech have been Barton Broadcasting, said he is imthe call of duty. They will sit down determination to finish his degree. and explain stuff to me and take into stuff that I don't know."

tough challenge.

"I'm pretty sure all students at new stuff." Tech have the same problem: not having enough time," Esparza said. age presents many challenges, not "They can't slow the classes down to only because of age, but being out of very first time I came onto campus at fit my schedule, so I have to keep up school for many years means study (age) 36. Everything is so different, with them. But if you tell the profes- habits are not what they used to be, but I thank my God that my family sors here you are struggling, they will he said. Returning to college is a

Ernest Barton, general manager of I know he is up to it." awesome; they have gone beyond pressed with Esparza's work ethic and

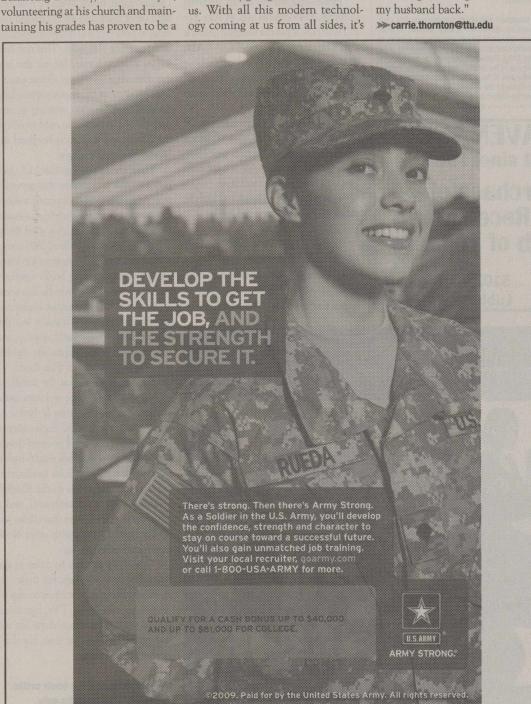
consideration that there is a lot of to go back to school, whether he was The biggest challenge he said us, which was secondary for him," proud of himself also. I know that he he faces is not having enough time. Barton said. "(What he is learning) is going to be very happy whenever Balancing a family, a full-time job, is definitely going to be beneficial for he does get his degree and I'll have

upside for him to be learning all the

Going back to school at an older "tremendously great challenge, but

Irene Esparza, Gilbert Esparza's wife, has seen how difficult going back to school has been on him, but "It's impressive that he did want continues to show her support.

"He's hanging in there, and I'm so doing it to better himself or better proud of him," she said. "I know he is





PINIONS

Show gratitude this Thanksgiving

hanksgiving is an American tradition. We often think of early morning football games, turkey and stuffing, pumpkin pie, family, friends, tryptophan and afternoon naps.

However, it is often a time of remembering and nostalgia. Literally, it is a day dedicated to thanking others. So, I pose a question: Is Thanksgiving all it used to be?

Today, gratitude is a highly undervalued and underdeveloped virtue. We live in a day of achievement. We tend to believe in our own lives; we deserve all we receive. We are somehow responsible for the blessings in our lives, tion guarantees freedom of religion, those with whom we greatly disagree and so, instead of being grateful to those which make success possible, we have a tendency to take credit ourselves. It is interesting to note in our society "Black Friday," a day of materialistic idolatry, follows Thanksgiving. Life is about things.

word gratia, which means pleasing or and present. thankful, according to the Etymological Dictionary Online. From this same word stems the old French word grace, meaning divine help or favor. Originally, gratitude and grace were connected ideas, and one was grateful for the grace of God.



believe in God cannot be as grateful, or even more grateful, than those in whom religious beliefs rest. However, I am concerned we have almost forbidden such expressions of gratitude from public life. We must remember the Constitunot freedom from religion. We should and build mutual ground. I am sure not fear expressions of gratitude from we can find at least one thing from religious groups, whether we believe every person in our society for which in God or believe in the same God as

about people and relationships, not be grateful, such as our families. They have invested so much time and ef-Part of this problem, I believe, fort to our wellbeing. We should be future accomplishment is established results from the secularization of our grateful for the sacrifice of those who on past success. It does not diminish society. Gratitude stems from the Latin have fought for our freedom — past our ability to succeed. It merely states

and to the president of the country, or have made investment in us. It regardless of whether we believe in the does not diminish us at all. It helps bills and laws he has promoted. There is us see our place in society, our niche a certain gratitude and honor due to all is history and how we can bless the of the leaders of our country and those lives of others. in public service.

What does gratitude do for us? Quite simply, it gives us perspective. It helps us understand we are not the only beings in the world and we benefit from the contribution of others. This, in turn, will motivate us to provide for others. In other words, gratitude helps promote connection. We are more connected to others because we are grateful to them for our blessings, or vice versa. We become anxious to bless the lives of others.

With this in mind, we can see the positive effect gratitude can have, both in us and in others. By being grateful, we can connect with we can be grateful. However, for this newfound understanding to function, There are many to whom we should we must voice that gratitude to those to whom the credit is due.

Gratitude is a recognition that we can progress in life because oth-We should be grateful to the country ers have contributed to our society

As we have a break from the university, let us use this time to reflect on and express gratitude to those who have contributed to our success. We can let our families know what we think of their contribution, or we can write a letter to a veteran. Let us use this Thanksgiving break to give thanks to those who deserve

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Editor-in-Chief

Waffle, vaccine shortages create great crisis

ast week, Kellogg Co. announced a dilemma the likes of which this country has never seen. In a strange twist of delicious breakfast fate, heavy rains in Atlanta wiped out one of the largest frozen waffle production facilities in the United States, leaving millions of Americans in panic.

Buttermilk, apple-cinnamon, blueberry, chocolate chip — you name it, they're missing. According to Kellogg, makers of the Eggo brand waffle, this is the first time the United States has faced a waffle shortage, and for the company's sake, I hope it's the last.

As if having a massive rainstorm break down the fabric of this country's great waffle line isn't compelling enough, it appears as if this crisis extends beyond just an isolated accident in Atlanta. It appears as if the waffle gods are behind this problem. In September, equipment at another waffle facility in Rossville, Tenn., unexpectedly shut down, forcing extensive repairs that could take months.

As if that wasn't enough, in September, Kellogg voluntarily recalled 4,500 cases of Eggo waffles after flooding in the Atlanta facility caused an outbreak of the harmful bacteria Listeria in the Eggo line. The problem is, Kellogg isn't disclosing what caused the flooding in the facility, how long it was flooded or how long it took to clean the bacteria, leaving waffle lovers skeptical about their frozen goodness.

Coincidently, about the same time Kellogg started facing these shortages, the Center for Disease Ben Jones

Control released the swine flu vacvaccine safe. Unfortunately, the some schools. vaccine has faced mass nationwide shortages since its release. Across the country, people have the frozen waffle and the swine been begging to get the vaccine, flu vaccine. Certainly, Americans waiting in line for hours only to will need to prioritize their rabe turned away.

under 24, those with children officials claim these shortages and those exposed to large crowds could last well into 2010, leaving are at a high risk of catching the Americans sick and hungry until virus, meaning almost 120 million at least June. Americans need the vaccine. But,

Well, it begins in the method the shortages. vaccine works. Essentially, all flu vaccines (swine or seasonal) work by injecting a strain of the actual the harmful virus from taking hold. But the vaccination virus for the swine flu has been spreading slower than the virus, making the virus economics major from Lubbock. spread faster than the vaccination >>> ben.jones@ttu.edu

is being produced.

Health officials are attempting to counteract this problem by prioritizing the distribution of the vaccine, letting younger children receive it first. However, the longterm effects aren't fully known, and the vaccine has been subject to a lot of negative publicity, not to mention the large corporations cine, just weeks after the Food and like Goldman Sachs and Citigroup Drug Administration declared the which received the vaccine before

Basically, this country is without two of its greatest achievements: tion of Eggo waffles and swine The CDC declared everyone flu vaccines. Kellogg and health

And for Tech students, the with only 50 million vaccinations consequences are even more seproduced to date, health officials vere. With frozen waffles a stuacross the country are left in the dent favorite and the swine flu a campus-wide problem, I can't even So, why the huge shortage? fathom the repercussions of these

As students go home for the Thanksgiving holiday, there are at least a couple things I can virus into the body that prevents be thankful for: I have a freezer stocked with pancakes and a cabi-

Jones is a sophomore

Holiday shopping list gets technical

s far as holidays go, the winter ones apparently have La Manifest Destiny on the rest of them. Each year, everything between Halloween and New Years takes one step closer to fusing into a kind of master holiday, analogous to some sort of Megazord of celebrations. However, this consequently also means lots of presents. Yav commerce.

This year saw a lot of gadgets enter the market, enough to leave the average consumer dizzy with model numbers, specs desperate need of an upgrade because that and hallucinations of blindingly shiny electronics. How fortuitous, though, you should be holding a holiday gift guide at this very moment. Even better is that said guide is broken down into categories for

your convenience. They're cheap, light and bursting with excellent battery life. All they lack are optical drives and high-performance components, but such additions would negate the netbook's edge and simply make them an expensive, yet excellent, source of eyestrain.

However, under the "cheap" umbrella of things, \$349 can net you an Asus Eee PC 1005HA. It has the standard netbook guts (Intel Atom N280, 1GB RAM, Windows XP), but the kickass six-hour battery life and fantastic keyboard and touchpad put this netbook way above the competition.

For slightly more money, though, at \$399, you can snag an HP Mini 311 which has an Nvidia Ion graphics processor, making it almost as capable as a full-sized laptop. However, you will have to put up with a subpar touchpad and slightly, almost negligibly worse Intel Atom N270

MP3 players are so Willenium. If your portable media player can't handle videos, apps, games and Web browsing on top of music, you have a problem, AKA a first-



Hear a related podcast at www.dallytoreador.com

generation iPod (zing), and you are in just won't suffice in this day and age.

Cream of the crop honors in this category goes to the iPod Touch (\$278), what with its almost endless App Store and the top-notch apps offered within. However, once the Zune Marketplace Netbooks — These pint-sized laptops starts to shape up, the Zune HD (\$289) are all the rage, and it's easy to see why: and its stupidly brilliant OLED display and superior audio quality will easily knock the socks off the Touch.

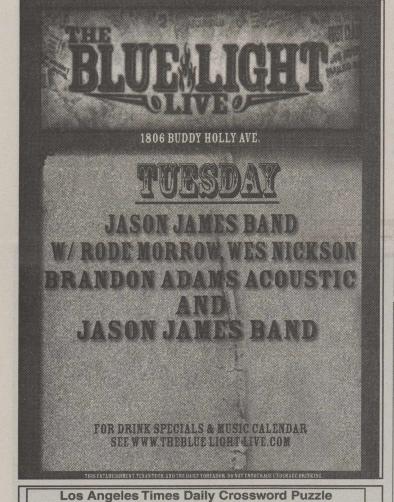
E-Reader — If you're unaware, ereaders are devices made for the express purpose of providing the user with things to read, namely books. What's the point, you ask? Well, they use this technology called e-paper, which works by reflecting light off of black and white charged particles to hold text and images indefinitely without using electricity. This not only means amazing battery life but also zero eyestrain since it operates almost exactly like regular paper, i.e., it uses ambient light for reading rather than emitting its own light. This eliminates the need to refresh the display and constantly bombard the user's eyes with direct light.

These are some things that LCD gadgets just can't provide, but that generally won't convince avid smartphone and laptop users to make the switch to an e-reader for their literary needs. It's a good thing, Portable Media Player — Strictly then, the Amazon Kindle (\$259) comes with a service called Whispernet for downloading and purchasing books wirelessly with the device. The Kindle has some issues such as its low-contrast display and lacking organizational features, but the Whispernet service is hard to pass up, and it is definitely more technically capable than the Sony Reader or iRex iLiad.

> For the same price as the Kindle, a couple weeks of patience and some faith, you could wait for Barnes & Noble to release the Nook Nov. 30. Such patience will net you an Android powered device that comes with a similarly sized 6-inch E Ink display, a 3.5-inch color touchscreen for input (compare this to the Kindle's comically pedestrian keyboard), and a pretty sweet share feature that allows you to share certain books with other Nook users for up to two weeks.

> There's plenty more to cover in the realm of gadget wish lists, but these categories seemed the most likely to require immediate attention. TVs, handheld gaming systems, cameras and the like will have to wait for another time, but don't worry, they're coming.

■ Poon is The DT's tech critic. » timothy.poon@ttu.edu.





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Red Raiders play SFA, attempt to reverse recent road struggles

By MIKE GRAHAM STAFF WRITER

John Roberson and the rest of the Texas Tech basketball team, like many students, will be out of town tonight.

However, after playing Stephen F. Austin tonight at 7 p.m. in Nacadogches, there's an early return trip to Lubbock for the Red Raiders — including a three-hour practice on Thanksgiving day and a game against Samford on Saturday in the United Spirit Arena.

"I don't expect my mom to come down here (for Thanksgiving)," Roberson said. "We're going to be together so hopefully we can get a bit more team chemistry while everyone else is gone."

Tech coach Pat Knight said after Saturday's victory against Lamar, Thanksgiving break will be business as usual among the

datory off day because of an NCAA rule from the Southland Conference. requiring at least one day off from the

Knight, who played college basketball that season. at Indiana under his father, said he carries on Bob Knight's tradition of inviting players to his home for a holiday dinner. However, the basketball season overlaps arguably the time off.

"I've never had a holiday off, Thanksgiving or Christmas growing up," Knight said. "We'll practice Thanksgiving — a long season in Lubbock 69-55. three-hour practice - but I'll reward them with a dinner at my house.

"There's no kumbaya or anything like that. They get a meal at my house, that's drills, rebounding. We have to get prepared for Samford."

But before Samford — the sixth early- mar. season game at home — Tech (5-0) enters

PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador THE RED RAIDERS have not won a true road game since they beat Colorado on Feb. 20, 2008. Tech takes on Stephen F. Austin at 7 p.m.

Knight said Wednesday will be a man- its first road game against Stephen F. Austin phen F. Austin will be about the same

today in Nacadogches looking to change that trend.

sport per week, but the players will have away from the United Spirit Arena last the trip lightly considering their road to work Thanksgiving day in preparation year when they topped Mississippi State at woes last season. a neutral site during Thanksgiving break

> Tech has not won a true road game since Feb. 20, 2008, when the Red Raiders coached. They're going to be ready to play defeated Colorado 69-55 in Boulder, Colo.

The Lumberjacks, on the other hand, us tough. We're going to be ready." two biggest holiday seasons of the year, and won the Southland Conference tournament the team can't afford to take too much last season and qualified for the NCAA home is a great start, but the Red Raiders Tournament, where the Jacks lost to Syracuse must win road games this year if they want in the first round.

Tech defeated the Lumberjacks last

61 comeback win against Jackson State. The games on the road," he said. "It's going to Jacks loss' came against Minnesota, 82-42. be tough. We haven't beat a Southland

about it. We'll still be doing our defensive against Southland teams this season with get wins on the road again — we have wins against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, to. If we don't start winning on the road, Northwestern (Louisiana) State and La- we're just not going to do anything in the

Despite the preconceptions that Ste- >>michael.graham@ttu.edu

talent level of the first three Southland The Red Raiders won just one game schools, the Red Raiders are not taking

> "It's going to be a hostile environment," Roberson said regarding the Lumberjacks. "They've got a good team, well us, they came in here last year and played

Knight said his team's 5-0 record at a chance to play postseason basketball.

"If you plan on being anywhere in the postseason, it's the guys who take The Jacks (1-1) enter the game off a 62- care of the home floor and can win some The Red Raiders have a 3-0 record opponent on the road yet. It'd be nice to postseason.

The DT Staff College Football Pick 'Em

comes ofalite.Week	Kevin Cullen Editor-in-Chief	Jon Arnold Electrons Media Editor	Adam Coleman	Sam Hensley to Vido/Copy Editor	Britton Peele Opinions Editor	Kyla Butterfield	Jon Vanderlaan News Editor	Karl Anderson Photo Editor	Alex Ybarra Managing Editor
OBINE WEEK	Overall Record 42-42	Overall Record 59-25	Overall Record 53-31	Overall Record 48-36	Overall Record 51-33	Overall Record 59-25	Overall Record 52-32	Overall Record \$3-31	Overall Record 56-28
Texas Tech VS Baylor	Texas Tech 42-6	Texes Tech 45-12	Texos Tech 38-10	Texas Tech 45-47	Texas Tech 52-6	Texas Tech 52-70	Texas Tech 133-56	Texas Tech 42.7	Texas Tech 35-17
No.3 Texas @ Texas A&M	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texus
No. 2 Alabama Auburn	Alobama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
No.12 Okla. State @ Oklahoma	Okla. State	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Olda, State	Okla. State	Okla, State	Oklahoma	Oklo. State	Okla. State
Florida State @ No. 1 Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florido	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida
No. 21 Utah @ No. 19 BYU	BYU	BYU	Utah	BYU	BYU	Utah	Utah	Utoh	BYU
Georgia @ No. 7 Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech

Mauer chosen as American League MVP

when Justin Morneau shouted out the deal. last question of the day.

"Are you finally going to buy din- when it needs ner now?" Morneau said to his team- to happen and mate from the audience, one MVP to I truly believe

Mauer became only the second "I'm not the catcher in 33 years to win the Ameri- kind of guy can League Most Valuable Player that, you know, Award, finishing first in a near-unani- says by this mous vote Monday.

The Minnesota Twins star received have something 27 of 28 first-place votes and 387 points done. in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Yankees teammates Mark Teixeira (225 points) and Derek Jeter (193) followed. Detroit's Miguel Cabrera preference is to drew the other first-place vote and stay with the was fourth with 171 points, one point. Twins. ahead of the Angels' Kendry Morales.

Morneau in 2006. Morneau gave would like to do."

Mauer a bottle of champagne. "Hopefully we can pop that open here a little later," Mauer said.

Born in St. Paul, the 26-year-old can leave the Twins and become a free another day," he said. "I'll just say in 1999-00.

NEW YORK (AP) — Joe Mauer agent after the 2010 season, when he one thing: If you think if he finished sat behind a table on a podium in a is to make \$12.5 million. Minnesota second that the price is going to come conference room at the Metrodome is expected to try to sign him to a new down ... No.'

that," he said. date we need to

He enjoys playing in front of his family and friends and his

"Can we win Mauer became the second Twins here? Yes. Definitely. I think so," he whether or not he feels like we can player to win in four years, following said. "And that's ultimately what I win every day."

business side.

Morneau, signed at \$14 million for

We're going to do

everything we can

to keep him

here as a

Minnesota Twin.

JUSTIN MORNEAU

FIRST BASEMAN

MINNESOTA TWINS

"I've always said it will happen each of the next four seasons, usually

picks up checks as the highestpaid member of the Twins. He might be losing that status to Mauer sometime soon.

"We're going to do everything we can to keep him here as a Minnesota Twin," Morneau said. "The biggest thing now isn't the money. It's going to be

Mauer set a major league record For now, Twins general manager for highest batting average by a Bill Smith didn't want to address the catcher and won his third batting title, becoming the first repeat batting "All that contract stuff, that's for champion since Nomar Garciaparra

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& foundation. BRAND NEW, moving fast, \$245.

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FEMALE ROOMMATE needed spring semester.

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SPORTS

Leach: 'We'll stick with Nick for now'

MANAGING EDITOR

Just as Baylor was making its way out of the Big 12 Conference cellar behind the playmaking ability of quarterback Robert Griffin, tragedy struck.

He suffered a season-ending knee Sept. 26, and the Bears' have lost six of seven since.

With Texas Tech and Baylor squaring off at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Red any compassion for the Bears' struggles

he said. "I've played three guys (at over that." quarterback).'

Make that four.

Doege, Taylor Potts and the most with inconsistencies. recent addition: Nick.

up any questions regarding the name sas linebacker and 2005 Big 12 Defen- for the next three weeks. sive Player of the Year Nick Reid, who football player — as Leach put it.

said the name is here to stay.

said. "Potts will be Nick, and we'll just redshirt freshman.

leave it at that and see how that goes for a while."

What was more confusing than didn't solidify him at quarterback. "Nick" on the jersey was how it got the name was his idea and it was Potts' week later. idea to have it on the jersey.

injury against Northwestern State on none of it was his idea. Then he was notified of Leach's comments and immediately took responsibility, tonguein-cheek, of course.

"He didn't have any say in it being "He did have some say on it going on 52-30 loss to the Aggies. the back of his jersey and now that "I have no sympathy whatsoever," it's there, he no longer has any say person to be able to withstand all that

microcosm of the entire season for the There's Steven Sheffield, Seth Red Raiders, which has been riddled

That was the name stitched to games against New Mexico, Kansas and he has a lot of heart." the back of Potts' jersey Saturday, State and Nebraska. He returned after when he threw for 388 yards and two fans already had lost confidence in mentioned an inside joke called "surtouchdowns in a 41-13 win against him and invested it in Sheffield, who round sound," that involves blocking After the game, Leach cleared victories in the aforementioned games. But then Sheffield had an injury of his fans once chanting against him, Potts change. It's in reference to former Kan- own against the Huskers and was out quickly said with a smirk, "surround

With Sheffield out, Potts started interceptions and be replaced by Doege Based off Potts' performance, Leach in the second half. Doege got his first career start against Kansas a week later "We'll stick with Nick for now," he but couldn't refrain from playing like a

win against the Jayhawks, but that still

Leach then shuffled Potts and there in the first place. During the Sheffield, who was coming off his foot postgame press conference, Leach said injury, in a loss to Oklahoma State a the lowly Bears, who nearly beat Tech

But after what Potts showed against Potts was confused about it, saying the Sooners, Batch came away impressed with the resilience it takes to absorb constant criticism only to tuck it away and be ready at a moment's

The disapproval got to the point his nickname," Leach said during his where fans at Jones AT&T Stadium Raider coach Mike Leach doesn't have weekly press conference on Monday. chanted, "No more Potts," during a

> "It takes a tough, tough, tough and come out of that on top," Batch Potts' situation this year has been a said. "That's what he's done. I don't know how I would've responded in that situation. I don't know how a lot of people would respond in that situation. A concussion knocked him out of He's shown that he's mentally tough,

seized the starting role with convincing out everything outside of football - good or bad. When asked about sound."

Potts admitted he learned a valupersonified the quintessential tough against Texas A&M only to throw two able lesson by watching Tech's receivers perpetually rotate in and out — sort of like the quarterbacks started too — and realized he has to be just as dialed-in as they are no matter the adversity.

"If I'm not starting," he said, "coach >>> daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu

Potts came in and led Tech to a pulls me or whatever — It's my responsibility to this team to stay focused and to stay with it and keep my head in the game and not just lose it."

> Now Nick turns his attention to a season ago. The Red Raiders rallied from 14 down to escape Jones AT&T Stadium with a share of the Big 12 South Division title.

> This year marks the first time in the 67-year history of the series that the game is played on a neutral site. However, that doesn't mean fans aren't paying attention.

> Cowboys Stadium — the \$1 billion brainchild of owner Jerry Jones — will have more than 65,000 in attendance as all reserved seats have been sold. This is the first year of a two-year contract that the game will be played in Arlington, meaning both Baylor and Tech lose a home game.

Leach said he had "little to none" input on the decision to move the series to a neutral site and acknowl-Potts and tackle Marlon Winn edged he'd rather play in Lubbock next season, but the end result is "kind of a wash really.'

Tech cornerback Jamar Wall has no problems playing there, and he said he fully expects Tech fans to try and make it a Jones AT&T Stadium atmosphere.

"I think we'll still have a majority of the people there," he said. "I honestly think we will have a lot of people there to support us. We have to come out and prepare. Even if it was an away game, we would do the exact same."

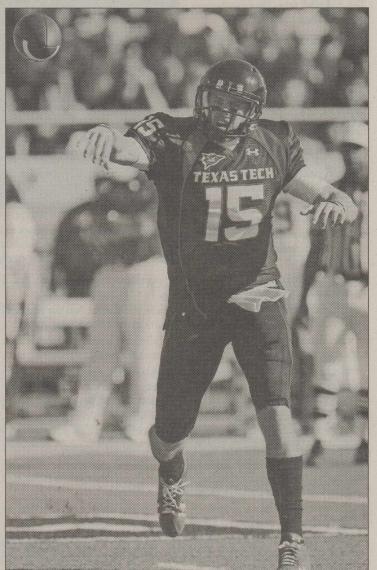


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH QUARTERBACK Taylor Potts throws a pass during a 41-13 victory against Oklahoma Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

Tech volleyball plays last road match against KU

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ STAFF WRITER

Setter Karlyn Meyers is quick to note the Texas Tech volleyball team has had more struggles at road.

So a match against Kansas for the Red Raiders.

ourselves. We're not nervous, and libero Jenn Goehry.

and that's how we need to be playing all the time. We just got the matches, limited rest is to go in there and play hard."

Conference play) was swept by weeks. Texas A&M Sunday, which gave before today's match.

Today's match also is the Red at 6:30 p.m. today in Lawrence, Raiders' final one on the road another loss, but the Red Raiders is going to have some sort of Kan., in the Horejsi Family Ath- before they face Kansas State at still won a set. letics Center may be a good thing 11:45 a.m. Saturday in the Unit-"I don't know why it's harder will be Senior Day. Tech's senior Texas team that had not surrenfor us to play at home," Meyers class consists of outsider hitters dered a set at home all season Tech players and coaches say can said. "On the road we don't know Hayley Ball and Caroline Witte prior to that. anybody, so we're just playing for along with defensive specialist

Despite little time between this season Tech (2-25, 0-18 in Big 12 have seemed to feed off in past the team has to overcome.

home compared to being on the the team only one day to rest earlier in the year, Tech had the have one day and so we need to

ed Spirit Arena. That match also the opening set from a No. 2 to deal with."

The Red Raiders have yet to

Meyers said the scarce amount something the Red Raiders of free time is another obstacle

"We can't let it affect us," After being swept by Colorado Meyers said. "We know that we misfortune of traveling to Kansas work at what we need to fix and State the next day. The result was be ready for Kansas. Every team adversity and right now this is Three days later, Tech took ours. It's just something we have

> Kansas (15-13, 7-11) is a team be defeated.

The last time the two teams win a set at home in Big 12 play played each other, the Jayhawks did more than just sweep the Red Raiders.

> KU held Tech to only 29 kills and a measly .050 hitting percentage, while the Jayhawks tallied 45 kills along with 57 digs. Kansas dominated the match and left the Red Raiders searching for answers.

large strides in the right direcways to put together a win.

"I think that once you play can't do it right now. It's one of win together is going to require >>> jose.l.rodriguez@ttu.edu

PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON /The Daily Toreadon

TEXAS TECH'S HAYLEY Ball spikes the ball past two Texas players. Although her team has made The Red Raiders take on Kansas at 6:30 p.m. today in Lawrence, Kan.

said her team still is looking for the strength to do some things we her players. need to carry out."

them you know how they'll do means time is running out to on them," she said. "If I knew things and we'll have a better put an end to a 57-match los- they were going to show up to game plan," she said. "We know ing streak to conference op- play every time it would be a lot what to do against teams, we just ponents. Knight said putting a easier."

tion, Tech coach Trish Knight those things where we don't have reliability and consistency from

"It's a matter of kids showing Tech's two remaining matches up and me being able to count





