

TTUHSC students participate in World AIDS Day 2009

By CARRIE THORNTON STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech participated in nationally recognized World AIDS Day 2009 on Tuesday night to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS.

The American Medical Student Association and International Medicine Club co-hosted the event at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

The theme of this year's event was Universal Access and Human Rights.

It featured a lecture on breakthrough research in the field of HIV and AIDS and a documentary and a candlelight vigil in honor of those who have suffered or are suffering from the disease.

"It's important to understand the disease has shown us it has no boundaries," said Revathi Ravi, president of the International Medicine Club. "HIV does not know race or demographic. We need to discover what it is that we are misswww.dailytoreador.com

ing, and what more we can do."

The opening lecture featured Premlata Shankar, co-director of the Center of Excellence for Infectious Disease Research at TTUHSC in El Paso, who spoke about her research findings concerning a new possible way to eradicate HIV.

"This epidemic began more than 30 years ago, over 40 million people have been infected," Shankar said. "It has ravaged communities and cultures, and knows no limits."

Yet during this period in which more than 25 million have died, long strides have been made to understand the virus, what it actually does and how it mutates, she said.

Doctors have the ability to give those infected a good life without much pain.

And the facts stand; most vaccine trials fail

and no cure exists. However, Shankar and her team have been working on new research that has provided some hope.

They have developed a new form of HIV vaccine that appears to be more promising than those in the past, but she said nothing is set in stone.

"RNA interference is a natural gene silencing mechanism," she said. "It can be harnessed as anti-HIV therapy.

Shankar said she was more than happy to speak at the night's event and believes it is important for students to learn about AIDS and how they can help.

"It's a great and positive event; everyone is so enthusiastic here," she said. "There is great need for AIDS awareness and the problems that still need to be solved."

AIDS continued on page 2



SOLEIL ARRIETA, LEFT, a first-year medical student from Following Shankar and a fellow researcher's Plano, and Revathi Ravi, a second-year medical student from Richardson, light each other's candles Tuesday during the World AIDS Day events at the TTUHSC.



Volunteering increases post-grad job prospects

By CARRIE THORNTON STAFF WRITER

In today's economy where students will go to great lengths to ence much like an internship," secure a job, volunteering may be the key to a career.

rience and broaden their resume, something)." but it is easy to forget volunteering at an organization can be just as effective at building relationships and finding a job.

tive, it makes perfectly good sense," said

as an internship, Kraus said. It is sometimes hard to distinguish the

"I look at volunteering experihe said. "It's an opportunity for students to get experiences for em-College students are encouraged ployment, make contacts, network to pursue internships to gain expe- and show how good they are (at

Kerbi Smith, program coordinator for group volunteering at the Volunteer Center of Lubbock, said volunteering is an effective way of "From the employers' perspec- finding jobs, especially considering today's job

> market. "Because

ABOVE: MANY STUDENTS' trips to class were made more interesting Tuesday morning as Lubbock received its first snowfall of the school year. Right: Amber Sager, a freshman in the College of Mass Communications from Cuero, throws a snowball through the bushes at another team during a snowball fight Tuesday in Urbanovsky Park.

Tech prepared for winter weather

By JETT THOMPSON STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech officials have been weather and the potential for hazardous conditions since Tuesday morning.

to Tech President Guy Bailey, said the President's Office was in the process Tuesday evening of determining the closure of roads and the potential for hazardous condithe potential delay or canceling of tions. Wednesday classes, although no decision was made as of press time.

He said the decision of canceling university classes is determined by Bailey and usually involves input classes canceled. from the Tech Provost's Office and the Tech Police Department in tions, he said students and faculty conjunction with the Texas De- should allow plenty of time for their partment of Public Safety and the commute and to anticipate prob-National Weather Service.

president to cancel classes, he said, the information would be released to students through several different media including the TechAlert system and local media.

Phillips said the decision by

the president would be made early enough that people could be made aware before class and work.

'We want to make decisions that keeping a close eye on the wintry are in the best interest of the Texas Tech community and its safety," Phillips said.

Col. Gordon Hoffman, deputy Ronald Phillips, special assistant chief of the Tech Police Department, said the department has been in contact with the National Weather Service and is assessing

> Hoffman said with the low temperature today at about 29 degrees and mix of precipitation on campus, roads may need to be closed and

In the event of hazardous condilems along the way. It is important If the decision was made by the for drivers to maintain good visibility, scrape ice from windshields and increase following distance between themselves and the car in front of them, he said.

WEATHER continued on page 2

PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

David Kraus, director of the Texas Tech University Career Services. "Why wouldn't (employers) strongly consider someone who has shown an interest and passion for the organization by volunteering?"

People tend to volunteer at places that mean something to them, he said. They

with similar values, causes and peo- can put to use in their future jobs, ple, which reveals to their potential employer their true character.

"They are more of a known quantity than another candidate who has not performed voluntary organization or company students service," Kraus said. "So, bottom should volunteer at, it depends on line is, yes, I think students should what the student's ultimate goals certainly see their volunteer work as are, Smith said. places of potential employment."

have any available positions at the time, if the student has done a good job in volunteering and made an impression, he or she likely assistance through contacts the atmosphere.' employer might have, he said.

Volunteering is just as valuable

Why wouldn't companies may be not ready or (employers) able to hire at the moment, strongly consider but they will someone who has take on a volunteer," Smith said. "And it shown an interest can really be a and passion for the great tool (for students) to organization by develop their skills or learn volunteering? something new in an environment where **DAVID KRAUS** they are not

DIRECTOR

TECH CAREER SERVICES

being paid." Like an internship, volunteering al-

are attracted to an organization lows students to learn skills they she said. It gives them a chance to experience several career paths without officially taking on a job.

There is no one specific type of

"There are opportunities for Even if the employer does not such a huge variety of people from doing legal work to tax preparation to organizing big events," she said. "The best thing to do is do research and find organizations that fit into will receive recommendations and your career goals in a non-profit

JOBS continued on page 3



DEC. 2, 2009

INBRIEF

STATE

Charities defend asking for social security number

on Tuesday of requiring at least one social security number for each family registering their children to receive Christmas gifts.

Some had seen the practice as a way to check immigration status but the charity said it's a way to cut down on fraud.

"Our work is not to verify immigration status," Juan Alanis, a spokesman for the Salvation Army in the Hous-

HOUSTON (AP) - The Sal- ton area, said Tuesday. "That's really vation Army defended its practice not something that we're concerned with.'

The controversy came up after the Houston Chronicle reported that the Salvation Army and another charity, Outreach Program Inc., were requiring Social Security numbers or documents that indicate immigration status.

The Salvation Army in the Houston area asks for at least a child or parent's social security number so a family can register children to receive toys.

NATION

Seattle police kill suspect in officer slayings

SEATTLE (AP) — A lone officer on patrol in the middle of the night Tuesday spotted a stolen car, its hood up and engine running, and pulled over to check it out. As the patrolman sat in his cruiser, a burly man with a large mole on his cheek came up from behind.

The officer turned and instantly recognized the most wanted man in the Pacific Northwest — the ex-con accused of gunning down four cops

at a coffee shop.

Moments later, Maurice Clemmons, 37, lay dead in the street. shot by the patrolman after Clemmons made a move for a gun he had taken from one of the slain officers, police said.

Clemmons' death brought to an end two days of fear across the Seattle-Tacoma area and one of the biggest manhunts the region has ever seen.

WORLD

Kosovo tells court its independence is permanent

(AP) — A decade after NATO airstrikes ended Serbia's bloody crackdown on its rebellious province, Kosovo told the U.N.'s highest court Tuesday its independence is irreversible and warned that any attempt to cancel it could set off a renewed conflict.

Serbia, noting that the case is the first attempt in the blood-soaked history of the Balkans to peacefully resolve a dispute, said Kosovo's unilateral independence tore at the very

THE HAGUE, Netherlands fabric of Serb national identity and breached international law.

> The 15-judge International Court of Justice is being asked to render its legal opinion on the validity of Kovoso's February 2008 independence declaration, which has been recognized by 63 countries but not by the Security Council.

> The opinion has no binding effect, but other countries with potential breakaway regions, like Spain with its Basque district, are closely watching the outcome.

Corrections

editors strive for accuracy in the newsgathering process. However, mistakes are story, please call Editor-in-Chief Kevin inevitable.

It is The DT's policy to correct mis- kevin.m.cullen@ttu.edu.

The Daily Toreador's reporters and takes in this spot as soon as possible. If you feel there is an error in a Cullen at 806-742-3395 or e-mail

Obama orders 30,000-troop boost in Afghanistan

WEST POINT, N.Y. (AP) -Declaring "our security is at stake," President Barack Obama ordered an additional 30,000 U.S. troops into the long war in Afghanistan Tuesday night, nearly tripling the force he inherited as commander in chief. He promised an impatient public he would begin bringing units home in 18 months.

The buildup to about 100,000 troops will begin almost immediately - the first Marines will be in place by Christmas — and will cost \$30 billion for the first year alone.

In a prime-time speech at the U.S. Military Academy, the president told the nation his new policy was designed to "bring this war to a successful conclusion," though he made no mention of defeating Taliban insurgents or capturing al-Qaida terrorist leader Osama bin Laden.

"We must deny al-Qaida a safe

U.S. military goals for a war that has dragged on for eight years. "We must reverse the Taliban's momentum. ... And we must strengthen the capacity of Afghanistan's security forces and government."

The president said the additional forces would be deployed at "the fastest pace possible so that they can target the insurgency and secure key population centers."

Their destination: "the epicenter of the violent extremism practiced by al-Qaida."

"It is from here that we were attacked on 9/11, and it is from here that new attacks are being plotted as I speak," the president said.

It marked the second time in his young presidency that Obama has added to the American force in Afghanistan, where the Taliban has recently made significant advances. When he became president last the Americans began to leave.

haven," Obama said in spelling out January, there were roughly 34,000 troops on the ground; there now are 71,000.

> After the speech, cadets in the audience — some of whom could end up in combat because of Obama's decision — climbed over chairs to shake hands with their commander in chief and take his picture.

Obama's announcement drew less-wholehearted support from congressional Democrats. Many of them favor a quick withdrawal, but others have already proposed higher taxes to pay for the fighting.

Republicans reacted warily, as well. Officials said Sen. John Mc-Cain, who was Obama's Republican opponent in last year's presidential campaign, told Obama at an early evening meeting attended by numerous lawmakers that declaring a timetable for a withdrawal would merely send the Taliban underground until

As a candidate, Obama called Afghanistan a war worth fighting, as opposed to Iraq, a conflict he opposed and has since begun easing out of.

A new survey by the Gallup organization, released Tuesday, showed only 35 percent of Americans now approve of Obama's handling of the war; 55 percent disapprove.

He made no direct reference to public opinion Tuesday night, although he seemed to touch on it when he said, "The American people are understandably focused on rebuilding our economy and putting people to work here at home."

"After 18 months, our troops will begin to come home," he said flatly.

In eight years of war, 849 Americans have been killed in Afghanistan, Pakistan and neighboring Uzbekistan, according to the Pentagon.



SNOW COVERS THE campus Seal and Christmas tree early Monday.

Weather 🛶

judiciously and "steer into the skid" in the event of slippage on ice, Hoffman said. Bikers should be cautious and be aware that cars may not be able to stop

Capt. Gregory Stevens, Lubbock Police Department public information officer, said 16 traffic accidents were reported on Lubbock streets between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. Tuesday.

During particularly bad episodes of icy roads, typically between 30 and 40 traffic accidents are reported on Lubbock roads, he said.

"There have been a few more wrecks than normal, but we haven't been inundated," Stevens said.

Municipal and Texas Department of Transportation sand trucks in the Lubbock area have been put on stand by, Stevens said. TxDOT sand trucks are meant to treat ice on state highways and interstate highways while municipal sand trucks will treat local roads.

"We're holding our breath, but we'll have to wait and see what happens," Stevens said.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lectures, a 30-minute screening of a documentary following two East African women as they lived infected with HIV.

At the candlelight vigil, students read the stories of others who have or are suffering from the disease.

Ravi, a second-year medical student from Richardson, said all students need to be aware and involved in efforts to stop the spread of AIDS despite whatever discipline they are interested in.

"Students are the future of this research," she said. "These are the people who will make a difference by their actions. People have the chance to be that light for a world that's in need."

Divva Danda, a first-year medical student from Houston, said because of the gravity of the issue, students should be knowledgeable of the latest on AIDS and HIV research.

"The event (was) great. It's good to see that everyone can come together and honor those who have suffered from (AIDS) and passed away due to it," she said. "It shows we as a community can come together and fight against it." »»carrie.thornton@ttu.edu

study + play + live

as quickly. **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** Drivers also should be cautious on

bridges and overpasses, use their brakes



still havent studied for the quiz. what about u?

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PAGE 3 WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2, 2009

Dana Alexandra sings blues Carol of Lights tradition evolves before finals, relieves stress

By ALEXANDRA PEDRINI STAFF WRITER

Indy, blues and folk singer Dana Alexandra visited the Student Union Building courtyard to perform a mix of her songs and favorite covers for students and faculty Tuesday.

Alexandra, who has been singing all her life, started playing guitar at 16. As she got older, she said she began taking it more seriously and decided to play at colleges.

Alexandra said she used to get her inspiration for songs from anything that touches her deeply. Her writing style transformed from writing about boys to situations in which she's torn between two options. Part of this stems from her forcing herself to live in new places, she said.

"I've forced myself to live in different places just to experience it," Alexandra said. "It's kind of like, once you're there you can't move already, so you try to stick it out for a year. It's situations like that that inspire me."

Just as her inspiration comes from different places, Alexandra doesn't stick to one particular musical style, and she said she listens to a little bit of everything.

"I like very unknown people," Alexandra said. "I listen to a lot indie stuff or my friends, but I also listen to Shakira too."

TAB learned about the singer at the National Activities on Campus Association conference. The to see different types of music ation event, especially before comedians, singers and other acts trying to get their names out.

pre-communication disorders major from Taylor.

TAB brings in two to three



PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador DANA ALEXANDRA SINGS to students to relieve their stress from upcoming finals during a TAB-sponsored event Tuesday in the Student Union Building.

group brings in up-and-coming and experience something they finals," said Figueroa. Alexandra's laid-back style normally wouldn't.

"It's a cool thing for (students) provided the atmosphere for the "Tons of TAB events that we to do during lunch," Rinderknecht relaxing atmosphere Figueroa put on, we see at NACA," said said. "All lot of kids here like said TAB hoped to create. She Erin Rinderknecht, TAB daytime Texas country, and this is just a performed acoustic songs with event coordinator and sophomore different sound. I think that they her guitar and harmonica, and are being exposed to (something sang a mixture of her own songs different)."

and covers, including "Hey, Jude," With finals just around the "Have Yourself A Merry Little artists a semester for similar small corner, Christi Figueroa, a TAB Christmas" and Jason Mraz's "I'm performances. Although the per- member and junior psychology Yours." formers are up-and-coming at major from Katy, said TAB events the time of their performance give students a chance to be en- Sarah Draper, a senior middle on campus, some even become tertained and relax from the stress school education major from Lubbock. "She has a good style "We try to get people to come and good music. I like her and years ago. Bringing these unknown during the day and in between her songs." artists gives students the chance classes because it's a great relax- »alexandra.pedrini@ttu.edu was offered a full-time position was so impressed by her abilities, for after graduation.

By ALEXANDRA PEDRINI STAFF WRITER

Fifty-one years ago, four men stood in Memorial Circle with hot chocolate, singing Christmas carols. This idea has since transformed into one of Texas Tech's most loved and anticipated traditions: the Carol of Lights.

"When Carol of Lights began, it was really just a small group of students that met outside," said Craig Kuehnert, Residence Life coordinator for student development. "People really enjoyed that experience and they worked with the student residence association to get some lights. Every year it has begun to grow and grow in terms of numbers of people that attend forward to being a part of it." and in terms as fame as well."

in Texas, Kuehnert said.

tried to replicate it but no one has been put up the event. able to with the amount of success that we have here."

thrown together overnight, nor can it build the history and tradition in just a few years. Tech is known for this event, happens rain or shine. and Kuehnert said other universities eventually realize how long this tradition has been a part of the school.

and they hear Tech students talking about the large number of people, and they all look forward to that one moment when the light switch is turned on," Kuehnert said.

The tradition is anticipated by original date. students and alumni alike; Carol of Lights is the official kickoff to the and the Lubbock community, Kuehnert said. Planning for an event such as this requires months of preparation and help from student organizations



THE PHYSICS AND Geosciences building will serve as the backdrop for the majority of Carol of Lights events, which start at 6:30 p.m. today.

The School of Music, Center for

The group of students and the Res- Campus Life, the grounds crew, Stuidence Hall Association added to the dent Disabilities Services and Alumni won't get to attend, but I do hope that event each year. The ceremony now Association play a role in making the has more than 25,000 colored lights event work. So many groups help plan around Memorial Circle, the Science the event they can't all be named, Wil-Quad and on a giant Christmas tree. liams said. McDonald's donates 3,000 What began as such a small event, paper bags for the luminaries that will quickly turned into one of the largest line Memorial Circle. The partnerships and best known Christmas traditions with businesses and volunteers from the originations are vital to the success of "We definitely have had a number setting up the event. RHA spends about of schools call and ask about how to \$7,000 a year on candles, posters and start similar traditions at their institu- invitations, not including the man power tions," Kuehnert said. "They have or the cost of the electricity to actually

With the time, money and effort put into the event, questions about the An event like this cannot be ever-changing West Texas weather arise, but Sean Duggan, University Student Housing director, said the Carol of Lights

Another important factor in Texas: wishing to have something similar the football calendar. Traditionally, the Carol of Lights happens on a Friday evening rather than Wednesday. The "Other people come and observe possibility of Tech making the Big 12 Conference Championship this year meant some of the groups that play the largest role in the event — the Masked Raider, High Riders, Saddle Tramps and Raider Red - would be absent on the

The event's change of date caused problems for some students and teachers. Christmas and holiday season for Tech People with tests scheduled this evening

WHOLENESS SERVICE

gentile * prayerfal * godly

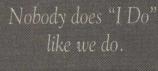
will have to choose between missing the event or their exams.

"I'm disappointed for them that they they will be able to enjoy the lights and the festivities on campus after the lights have been turned on," Williams said. "But with any date, there are always going to be some conflicts that arise.'

The 51st Carol of Lights begins tonight with a concert featuring soloists from the School of Music at 6:30 p.m. Then at 7 p.m., the Saddle Tramps will enter campus from the Broadway street entrance with their torches, and the High Riders with their candles, "lighting the path," Kuehnert said.

"It's one of the biggest traditions that. Tech has and is looked forward to," Kuehnert said. "If they haven't had the experience of coming to Carol of Lights before, then it's fun to spend time with your family and friends on that evening."

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household names like Colbie Cail- of exams. lat, who performed at Tech three

Jobs 🛶 **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

All volunteering provides a anything students choose to participate in will put them in a different circle of people than they are accustomed to, she said.

Caitlyn Shumaker, a senior ag-Because she has experienced the other ranchers. benefits of volunteering, she said vantage of such opportunities.

"I was asked by one of my professors to videotape a trip of 200 ing myself, they got to see who I Columbian (ranchers) who vis- was and how I worked without great chance to network, because ited Texas to see what techniques being under pressure," she said. ranchers here use, and how they "(As well as) my focus, discipline are different," she said.

As the group traveled from city to city, Shumaker was there meaning, she said. It is helpwith her camcorder. At the end ing advance a cause or making ricultural communications major of their excursion, the group of something happen without befrom Manor, works as a student Columbians brought her video ing paid. ambassador at the career center. back to Columbia to show to

she advises students to take ad- the group work for Sexing Tech- know what could come out of nologies, a livestock reproduction it," Shumaker said. "It's good By accepting a volunteer op- company, observed Shumaker as for others and helps you in the portunity a professor offered her she worked, she said. One of the long run." this semester, Shumaker said she observers, the marketing director, »carrie.thornton@ttu.edu

walk to class

he offered her a job.

"Its been really good," said

"Just by volunteering and beand work ethic."

Volunteering has no strict

"Students should take advantage of any volunteering Two men who traveled with opportunity because you never

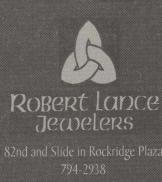
and sponsors, adding to the sense of community.

"My parents talk about the tradition and are always excited about it each year," said Suzanne Williams, Student Government Association president and senior advertising major from Arlington. "It's a loved tradition by so many and everyone looks

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vs. catching stoplights

PAGE 4 WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2, 2009

N-word not OK, no matter your race

onathan McCoy. Heard of him? If not, I'm certain you will. He's a 10-year-old on a mission to eliminate one of the most poisonous words in existence: the N-word.

Many feel educating the masses on the history of the word is essential to the decline of its casual use. On the other hand, many argue the word's history should be just that: history.

I guess there is some rationale for both arguments, but is there not another debate that needs to be resolved first. That which has been taken up by young McCoy perhaps? Although the argument about whether the epithet argue they've reduced the stigma by should be eliminated from the educational realm continues, shouldn't we be more concerned with eradicating it's "our" word. If words are contracted it as a popular phrase?

friend when a neighbor stopped by. the N-word. The change in pronun- among other things. My ancestral ties He began telling a story and in his ciation does not change the origins of do not give me a right to use such a excitement, he referred to a group of this hateful word. men by using the N-word. Whether the men were black was irrelevant the word's meaning. He stressed to my friend who immediately asked what the young man's race was.

After learning he was anything who identify with the black culture but aren't black feel it's OK to use the word. That was a good question, but



an even better question arose when five minutes later she used the same word to refer to another group of individuals. Why do some black people believe they have the right to use the word but are offended if it's uttered by those of differing races?

removing the -er and adding an -a. Or that it's OK for blacks to say because such as can't or don't, does the mean-

McCoy said it best when he gave how it was used when referring to uneducated, disenfranchised blacks - those who were seen as nothing but black, she questioned why others more than a burden to the political, United States.

suggesting its regular place in their one another. everyday dialogue. They shout, "This N did this," and, "That N did that," or, "Those N's," but then have the audacity to take offense at its use by someone of another race.

the problem as well. I've heard this word. venom spew from the mouths of those said nothing before today.

Sure, diehard N-word loyalists the word because of ancestral ties. Just as you can lead a horse to water, you can guide a man to education, but you can't make him learn. Remember, McCoy said the word was used to given about behavior and its effects. Recently I was visiting with a ing of the word change? Same goes for describe those who lacked education derogatory term; they obligate me to remove it from my vocabulary.

> I'm certain Martin Luther King Ir. would find many of the views on the use of word disturbing to say the least. The men and women, black, white, Asian, Hispanic and all others social and economic structures of the who walked, sat and died for equality would undoubtedly be repulsed Even a child has acknowledged by the nonchalant attitude some

this, but sadly I still hear other black display when discussing this topic students using the word openly, and how we use this word to refer to

> Yet as I walk through the Student Union Building, still I hear, "Hey my N, what's up?" This isn't our word; well, it certainly isn't my word. I'm educated and destined for higher

Words like "bro" and "homie"

Not only do we attract the company we keep through our behavior, we also tell of our beliefs by the way we conduct ourselves. There is nothing hip or cool about that word. It's a word used to denounce a people, no matter how you spell it. Should it be eliminated from daily conversation?

Irby is a senior general studies

It is time for us to choose

When the citizens

of a nation

surrender their

freedom into the

his appeal is one made to conservative minds, but also in part to moderate minds and, in a sense, the liberal brothers of political thought. The political battles fought are numerous: health care, the environment, diplomatic policy, etc. These are where our future is determined.

for or against

the good of our selves and those after us. Former President Ronald Reagan said, "There are no great limits to growth because there are no hands of a minority limits of human intelligence, of intellectuals, that imagination, wonder." This nation ceases to be concept is a truth we must recognized as free. acknowledge in order to better realize our potential.

this past year by the folly of socialist policies. The administration desires to disprove human history by



establishing in this nation a socializing By the will of the free American government. But doing so will only people history will be made, either cripple a potent world power. Comply-

ing with the folly of current proposals and plans can only further the injustice they in-

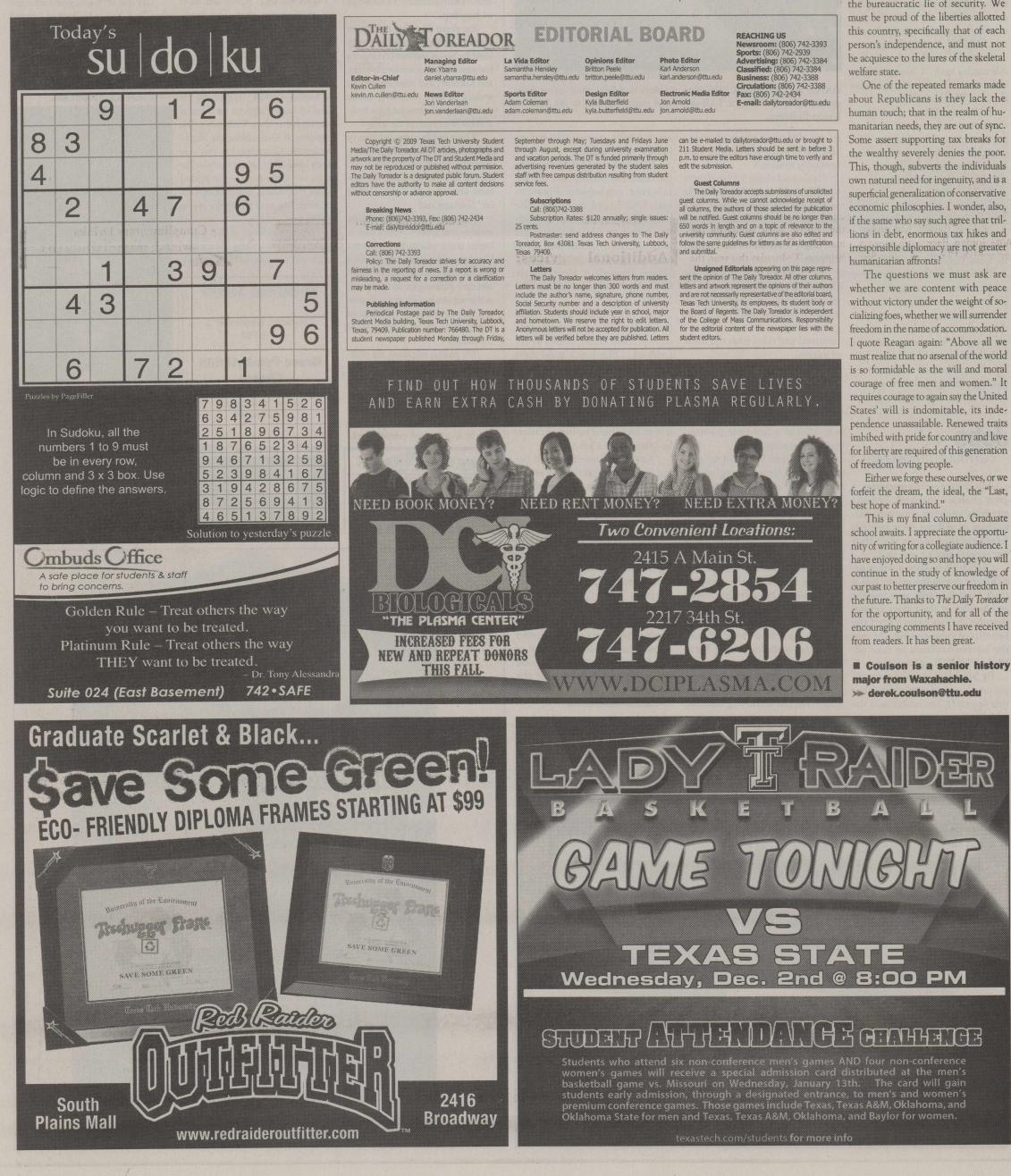
evitably cause. Some in the United States are acting under the mistaken ideal that people are beholden to the government for sustaining life and liberty. This is foolish. When the citizens of a nation surrender their freedom into

the hands of a minority of intellectuals, We have become encumbered that nation ceases to be recognized as free

> We Americans must not surrender the God-given right of freedom for the bureaucratic lie of security. We must be proud of the liberties allotted this country, specifically that of each person's independence, and must not be acquiesce to the lures of the skeletal welfare state.

One of the repeated remarks made about Republicans is they lack the human touch; that in the realm of humanitarian needs, they are out of sync. Some assert supporting tax breaks for the wealthy severely denies the poor. This, though, subverts the individuals own natural need for ingenuity, and is a superficial generalization of conservative economic philosophies. I wonder, also, if the same who say such agree that trillions in debt, enormous tax hikes and irresponsible diplomacy are not greater humanitarian affronts?

whether we are content with peace without victory under the weight of socializing foes, whether we will surrender



Here is where the problem starts, education. I have a job and pay taxes. but it's not where it ends. I'm part of I even voted last year. It is not my around me time after time, but I've have become regular expressions

UPINIONS

because of their common use. So why wouldn't the N-word take off like the I know there are those who will steadfastly adhere to their right to use swine flu if it's constantly being used as if it's perfectly OK? Some say members of other races should know better, but why should they if we don't?

A great sermon recently was

Yes. Will it? That depends on us.

major from St. Louis. » shay.irby@ttu.edu

SPORIS

PAGE 5 WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2, 2009

Tech players believe early season recognition unearned

By MIKE GRAHAM STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech basketball's John Roberson could not be more pleased with how the season has started.

The Red Raiders are off to their best start since the 1995-1996 season at 7-0 and, while not in the Top 25, Tech has earned two votes in the Associated Press and seven votes in the USA Today coaches' poll.

The recognition isn't a lot, but it's for a team that was nowhere near the Top 25 last season and lost to teams such as Lamar and UTEP early on.

"I wasn't even aware (of the polls)," Roberson said. "I mean it's too early to tell. We haven't really played top-notch competition yet as far as I'm concerned. I think this game on Thursday will be a good game for us to see where we're at and what we need to work on."

Indeed, Thursday's game could be a good gauge as to how good the Red Raiders are and if the few votes are warranted. Tech takes on No. 12 Washington at 6 p.m. Thursday in the United Spirit Arena.

Samford and

Oregon State.

The Red Raid-

ers did not win

a true road

game in 2008.

kies-who are

ranked No. 10

in the coaches

poll - nar-

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State, Belmont

Montana by four, 63-59.

The Hus-

against South Dakota, four South- Hardwood Series on ESPN2, deland Conference teams including a feating Washington could become road win against Stephen F. Austin, a springboard for Tech to break into

the Top 25.

Still, the

Red Raiders

seem to be ap-

proaching the

preceding it.

be on ESPN,"

Singletary said.

ry about being

"It's cool to

I mean it's too early to tell. We haven't really played top-notch competition yet as far as I'm concerned. **JOHN ROBERSON TECH GUARD**

on television. and San Jose State. The Huskies beat We've just got to go out and play our game.'

> Tech already has had some exposure to the Pac-10 with a private

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So far this season, Tech has wins of the Big 12/Pac-10 Conference exhibition scrimmage against Arizona State and a 64-60 win against Oregon State during the first weekend of the season.

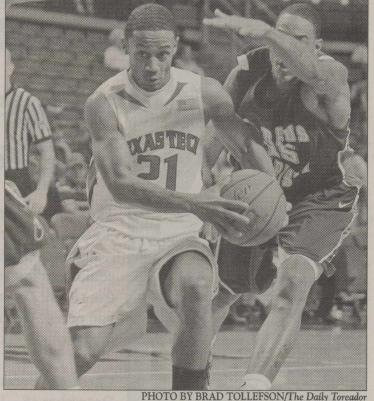
However, Oregon State and Arizona State lost its two respective games against Washington last season.

The Pac-10 Conference is a game like the league coach Pat Knight has said is seven others similar in talent level to the Big 12. In 2008, the two conferences tied at six games apiece in the Hardwood Series. Tech still has Stanford on the forward Mike schedule as well — possibly another opportunity for the Red Raiders to "But I mean, at pick up a quality win.

the same time, But the early season victories, it's just another especially the one against Oregon State in Lubbock, give the Red game. It's a big game, so we Raiders confidence for competing can't worry against one of the best teams in the about the disnation. tractions, wor-

"Right now we're riding pretty high at 7-0," Singletary said. "To beat a Top 10 team is going to be huge for us and to beat two Pac-10 teams, not many teams can say

that.' »michael.graham@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH GUARD John Roberson gets defended by Texas A&M-Corpus Christi's Kevin Palmer during the game Nov.14 at the United Spirit Arena.

Lady Raiders aim for 5th straight against Texas State

By ADAM COLEMAN SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Raiders have seen a few big performances during the past few games and Texas Tech coach Kristy Curry couldn't be happier.

It started against Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Nov. 22 with Ashlee Roberson scoring 21 points — one shy of tying her career-high — and grabbing five steals, which tied her career best.

The Lady Raiders had sophomore Jordan Barncastle score a career-high 17 points against San Francisco on Friday.

Then Kierra Mallard followed that up with her fifth career to accommodate those who want double-double and six blocks to attend both events. against Texas-Arlington on Sat-

and UTA by 34. The Prairie View A&M game was the exception. Tech beat the Lady Panthers by seven.

With the game being broadcast

for a national audience as a part

Texas State may suffer the same fate tonight, considering how the Bobcats' season has gone so far.

They have losses to Louisiana-Monroe, at Colorado State and at Houston.

Curry said this game holds a little more meaning, as she hopes the crowd from Carol of Lights today will spill over into the United Spirit Arena for the matchup. With Carol of Lights being on Wednesday this year, the game — originally scheduled for 7 p.m. — was pushed back an hour

But Curry believes there are

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urday. Mallard came up big once still tough games before her squad again with a 21-point performance against Prairie View A&M on Sunday.

gotten a lot people some minutes," Curry said. "We've been able to see how they're going to respond. It's good to see different faces at different times contribute."

could hand the Lady Raiders their fifth consecutive win with Texas ico, that's probably Texas Tech's State visiting at 8 p.m. today in natural rivalry to a certain degree. the United Spirit Arena.

Tech is in the middle of a sevengame home stretch before hitting the road for a date against UCLA on Dec. 18 in Los Angeles.

The Lady Raiders competition at home so far has seemed a little outmatched for the most part.

Tech beat Arkansas-Pine Bluff by 40 points, San Francisco by 31



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has its first true road game at UCLA.

Curry also said the New Mexico "I think it's good because we've matchup on Dec. 5 also provides a test for Tech. The Lady Raiders lost at New Mexico in 2008, 63-54.

"It's a big week for us," she said. "When you have a game on Another solid performance a Wednesday and you turn around and play a program like New Mex-So that's a big game too."

Players are unavailable to the media until Friday, the day before the Lady Raiders' game against Lamar at 8 p.m. Saturday in the United Spirit Arena. After the UCLA game, the Lady Raiders face Mercer at 7 p.m. on Dec. 21 in the United Spirit Arena. ≫adam.coleman@ttu.edu

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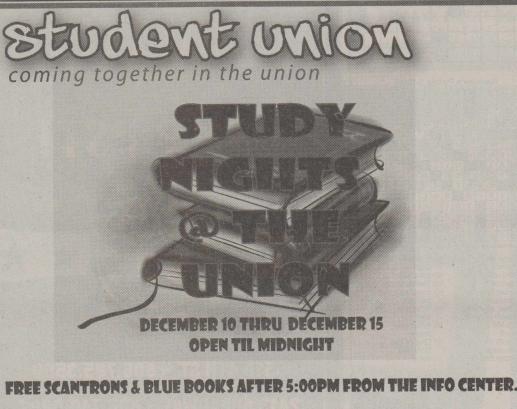
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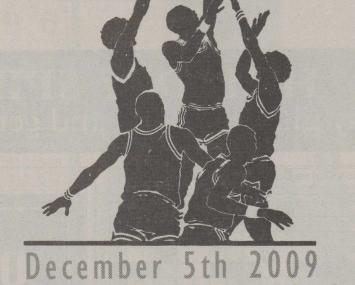
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SPORTS

ALL-BIG 12 SELECTIONS FIRST TEAM

- Brandon Sharpe

Sharpe has the most sacks in a single season in Tech history with 15 and earned Big 12 Defensive Player of the Week honors twice this season. He had two sacks against Baylor on Saturday to break the record. His standout game this season was against Nebraska exas ter on Oct. 17 when he finished with four total sacks. After that game, he earned his first Big 12 weekly honor. The first-year starter trails only Texas A&M's Von Miller for most sacks in the country.

Brandon Carter —

Carter, who played right and left guard during the season, was named one of the team's captains prior to the start of the 2009 season and a preseason All-America selection. He played in 48 games in his career at Tech and was part of an offensive line that helped the Red Raiders finish the regular season ninth in the nation in scoring offense, with 36.67 points per game this season. Tech also scored 22 touchdowns on the ground in 2009, fifth-best under Mike Leach and fifth best since the 1990 season.

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SECOND TEAM

-Daniel Howard

Howard is a force behind Sharpe on the defensive line with eight sacks on the year. He returned a fumble for a touchdown against Nebraska on Oct. 17. He has recorded 51 solo, 22 assisted tackles and 14 sacks in his career.

Jamar Wall -

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Wall has eight interceptions and 140 solo tackles in his career. He is a three-year starter, who saw playing time as a freshman in 2006. He has 13 pass breakups in 2009, tied for second in the conference. Wall has 32 pass breakups and two forced fumbles in his career.

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- Baron Batch

Batch leads the Red Raiders with 784 yards on the ground in 2009. He also has 13 total touchdowns.

- Bront Bird

Bird has 40 solo tackles, a sack, three pass breakups and a forced fumble this season. The two-year starter has played in 33 career games.

- Colby Whitlock

Whitlock started every game for the Red Raiders this season. He had three sacks in 2009, adding to a solid defense that collected 39 this year. - Marlon Winn

The senior offensive lineman has started at left tackle this season and was designated captain for the Oklahoma game. This is his first all-conference honor. Cody Davis

The redshirt freshman has started at safety this season and has six pass breakups to go along with 56 solo tackles. He was a finalist for Big 12 Defensive Freshman of the Year.

- Alex Torres

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Torres came up big as Tech's leading receiver this season. He has 5.4 catches and 65.9 receiving yards per game and has six touchdowns. He also was a finalist for Big 12 Offensive Freshman of the Year.

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gust. Raiders Pass, \$426/month. All bills included. Chicago. 3/2. W/D, cable/Internet. \$375/month plus deposit. Call 806.928.8789.

FEMALE ROOMATE wanted to share 3/2 house W/D, cable/Internet, \$100 deposit, \$350/month, All bills paid. Call 806-729-6356.

FEMALE ROOMMATE needed spring semester. 23rd and University. \$325. Dogs allowed with deposit. Call 832.771.3586.

FEMALE ROOMMATE

Raider's Pass. Available January 1st. \$450/month

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FEMALE SUBLEASER: Gateway Apartments

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