Students reach out to community, deliver meals

By CARRIE THORNTON STAFF WRITER

To show support of the Lubbock community, students spent their Saturday afternoon delivering holiday meals to families in need.

Alma Pena, president of Texas Tech LULAC, organized United to Give along with students from the Hispanic Business Student Association, Gamma Beta Phi, Student Finance Association and Unidos por un Mismo Idioma — United by the Same Language.

Pena, a senior international business major from Plano, said the LULAC organization she was involved with in Plano hosted the same event every year, feeding thousands of families, and she believed Tech needed to begin one as well.

"I know lots of organizations hold food drives, but there can never be enough," she said. "Hopefully in the coming years we can expand and get close to feeding thousands."

Participating organizations were chosen at random, Pena said. She would approach organizations with booths in the free speech area to see if they would be interested in joining the cause.

One of the event's goals was to offer genuine help to Lubbockites in need, with no alternative motives.

"Most organizations are concerned with what will look good on a resume," Pena said. "We wanted to do something more than that."

At 10 a.m. Saturday, students met at the Rawls College of Business to sort through a variety of foods donated by the participating

Each family received a basket including one or two turkeys, depending on the family's size, macaroni, bread, canned goods, a box of stuffing and cookies.

"Some families are in great need for food," Pena said. "We wanted to provide a basic holiday meal."

Joel Obaseki, president of the Hispanic Business Student Organization and service coordinator for the Student Finance Association and Gamma Beta Phi, said the food they collected provided for 60 families, and he hopes that number will increase in the years to come.

"We want to represent the student body of Texas Tech and reach out to the families of Lubbock," Obaseki said. "And let them know though many of us will go back home during the break we still care for them. Personally, I believe the people of Lubbock have been so accommodating to us, that it is only right to do this."

UNITED continued on page 5



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreadon

NINA GOMEZ, A freshman biology major from El Paso and member of United by the Same Language, gives a laundry basket of food to Roderick Keys at his home Saturday. The roughly 60 food packages, which contain a turkey and other holiday food items, were later driven to Lubbock families suffering economic hardships.

They are specially

trained to go in

and be able to get

the person out of

the tunnel quickly.

STEVE ODORIZZI

DIVISION CHIEF

Odorizzi said.

Fire department trains underground for emergency situations



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

STEVE ODORIZZI, A division chief with the Lubbock Fire Department, is rescued from a utility tunnel approximately 20 feet below the entrance of the Biology building during a training exercise Friday. Members of the Lubbock Fire Department had to immobilize Odorizzi and move him about 100 yards to a tunnel exit near the Experimental Sciences building.

By KELSEY HECKEL STAFF WRITER

The Lubbock Fire Department traveled underneath the Physics and Geosciences and Biology buildings Thursday and Friday, practicing emer-

gency heavy rescues to keep upto-date on safety procedures.

"For example there are situations like a steam leak where some one could be burnt," said Fire Marshall Walter James. "Also someone could have fallen off of a ladder or had a heart at-

tack. There are a number of things that could go

The scenario the department trained for was a simulated rescue

by the heavy rescue team for a steam valve leak, said Division Chief Steve Odorizzi.

"They are specially trained to go in and be able to get the person out of the tunnel quickly," he said.

The scenario requires firefighters to

enter the underground tunnel, find the victim stabilize them and get the victim out of the tunnel, Odorizzi While work-

ing in the situation Thursday, Tech and Lubbock firefighters encountered an actual version of the situation when a steam

LUBBOCK FIRE DEPT. The incident was small and only Police Roger Ellis.

fire department. "We've never not finished one yet," James said.

"We were only delayed for a short

The fire department does a number

time while the valve was turned off,"

he said. "Then we were able to con-

of training scenarios throughout the

year with the simulations Thursday

and Friday as the last of three within

two weeks. The scenarios must be

completed by every member of the

tinue the stimulation."

University Parking Services and the Lubbock Police Department were a major role in the success of the training by keeping the area clear,

The Lubbock Police Department also uses buildings on campus for training. The used Thompson and Gaston halls before their demolition Sept. 22, 2008. They also use Weeks Hall but are unsure if they will be able to continue training there because of the possible demolition, said Assistant Chief of

FIRE continued on page 2

INDEX

Classifieds.....7 Crossword.....6 La Vida.....3 Opinions.....4 Sports.....8 Sudoku.....5

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NBRIEF

STATE

Total, Exxon Mobil most fined polluters in Texas

DALLAS (AP) - In one industrial accident alone, Total Petrochemical's sprawling oil refinery in southeast Texas sprayed tons of sulfuric acid and carbon monoxide into the sky.

The French company's 62-yearold facility also has released toxins such as cancer-causing benzene, regularly surpassed allowable pollution limits, failed to report dozens of emissions - or to even fully identify what or how much was released.

Such incidents helped make Total the most heavily fined polluter in Texas in the 2009 fiscal year, according to a year-end report summarizing how companies were punished in the state that produces the most industrial pollution. Total, assessed \$1.58 million for 11 violations over several years, says from The Associated Press.

it has since resolved many of the problems at the Port Arthur plant and continues to look for ways to

"They have tried to be a fairly good neighbor, but it seems like they've had some problems out there," said Hilton Kelley, an activist who lives about three miles from the refinery and says flares, plumes of smoke and a strange chemical scents are commonplace. "Too many times they'll come out and tell you nothing was wrong, and we found out later that there was something wrong."

Exxon Mobil Corp., the world's largest publicly traded oil company, was third at about \$1.1 million but was the most frequently fined company with 23 separate actions. Exxon did not immediately return messages

NATION

Election board certifies Atlanta major vote

ATLANTA (AP) — A Georgia elections board has certified the vote making former state mayor-elect.

Fulton County Elections director Barry Garner says that the board certified the election result Saturday.

With 84,383 votes cast on Tuesday, Reed beat city councilwoman Mary Norwood by 715 votes, a margin of less than 1

percent. The Associated Press has not called the race because Georgia law automatically grants Sen. Kasim Reed Atlanta's a recount request when the margin is less than 1 percent.

> Norwood's campaign manager Roman Levitt say the campaign plans to request a recount Monday.

> If Reed's win is confirmed after the recount, he will take Mayor Shirley Franklin's place on Jan. 4.

WORLD

Iran chokes off Internet on eve of student rallies

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) - Government opponents shouted "Allahu Akbar" and "Death to the Dictator" from Tehran's rooftops in the pouring rain on the eve of student demonstrations planned for Monday. Authorities choked off Internet access and warned journalists working for foreign media to stick to their offices for the next three days.

The measures were aimed at depriving the opposition of its key means of mobilizing the masses as Iran's clerical rulers keep a tight lid on dissent. Government opponents are seeking, nonetheless, to get large numbers of demonstrators to turn out Monday and show their movement still has momentum.

Opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi threw his support behind the student demonstrations and declared that his movement was is still alive. A statement posted on his Web site said the clerical establishment cannot silence students and was losing legitimacy in the Iranian people's minds.

"A great nation would not stay silent when some confiscate its vote," said Mousavi, who claims President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad stole the June 12 election victory from him by fraud.

Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has final say on all state matters, accused the opposition Sunday of exposing divisions in the country and creating opportunities for Iran's enemies.

Corrections

The Daily Toreador's reporters and takes in this spot as soon as possible. editors strive for accuracy in the newsgathering process. However, mistakes

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

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Ohio inmate to be first in slower, 1-drug, execution

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Con- attempt to try again. demned killer Kenneth Biros could become the first person in the country put to death with a single dose of an intravenous anesthetic instead of the usual — and cause inmates severe suffering. faster-acting — three-drug process if his execution proceeds Tuesday.

states to eventually consider the switch, which proponents say ends arguments over unnecessary suffering during injection.

Though the untested method has never been used on an inmate in the United States, one difference is clear: Biros will likely die more slowly than inmates put to injection, and 35 rely on the three-drug death with the three-drug method, which includes a drug that stops the heart.

Lethal injection experts on both sides of the debate over injection say thiopental sodium, which kills by putting people so deeply asleep they stop breathing, will take longer.

How much longer is unclear: Mark Deron its switch to the single drug, has written death should occur in under 15 minutes.

Ohio inmates have typically taken cessfully used in over 75 executions and about seven minutes to die after the repeatedly been upheld as constitutionally three-drug IV injection, which combines thiopental sodium with the drugs pancuronium bromide — which paralyzes muscles — and potassium chloride, which a court filing last week that a single dose executive director of the Death Penalty of thiopental sodium would take longer than the three drugs, though he didn't

was ordered last month because of the state's botched attempt on Sept. 15 to execute convicted rapist and killer Romell Broom. His executioners tried unsuccessfully for two hours to find a usable vein for injection, painfully hitting bone and muscle in as many as 18 needle sticks. Gov. Ted Strickland halted the execution.

Broom, 53, has appealed the state's injection," Dieter said.

Ohio officials contend the single-drug method should end a five-year-old lawsuit against the state that claims injection can

Lethal injection experts and defense attorneys for death row inmates have said The execution could propel other the one-drug method, a single dose of an anesthetic, would not cause pain.

Biros, 51, killed 22-year-old Tami Engstrom near Warren in 1991 after offering to drive her home from a bar, then scattered her body parts in Ohio and Pennsylvania. All 36 death penalty states use lethal

method. Nebraska, which recently adopted injection over electrocution, has proposed the three-drug method but hasn't finalized the process. States with active death chambers are keeping an eye on Ohio's switch but have

no immediate plans to switch. Florida, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia are shwitz, an anesthesiologist who advised Ohio among those keeping the three-drug system for now. "Virginia's method has been suc-

acceptable," state prisons spokesman Larry Traylor said Friday. States will likely watch Ohio's experience and the court challenges before causes cardiac arrest. Dershwitz also said in making a decision, said Richard Dieter,

Information Center. The U.S. Supreme Court said last year that states would only have to change The switch from three drugs to one the three-drug process if an alternative method lessened the possibility of pain. Defense attorneys have also supported the one-drug option, reducing the possibility of legal challenges, Dieter said.

If Ohio is successful "in making this transition, and if a few other states follow that lead, I think we will see the majority of states changing to this method of lethal

FIRE -

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Our training is geared toward active shooters and room clearing versus the rescue-related situations like the fire department," he said.

Unlike the fire department, the police department does not have a set date for their training sessions, Ellis said. They are based on the shifts of the police officers and the availability of the building.

"They vary from what could be a 30-minute scenario to some that last four to five hours," he said. "We have to do them in shifts because of the officers different schedules and shifts."

Both the fire department and the police department will continue training on campus next semester. The next situation will be an evacuation of a high rise building such as Coleman Residence Hall and the Chitwood/Weymouth Residence Halls.

»>kelsey.heckel@ttu.edu



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Tore

Steve Odorizzi, a division chief with the Lubbock Fire Department, is rescued from a utility tunnel during a training exercise Friday. Members of the Lubbock Fire Department had to immobilize Odorizzi and move him about 100 yards from under the Biology building to a tunnel exit near the Experimental Sciences building.

Iraqi official: deal reached on January election

way for parliament elections early next the agreement. year that are seen as an important step

The framework of the deal was al-Mishhadani, the spokesman for Parlia- August. ment Speaker Ayad al-Samarie.

from parliament, which was meeting in an emergency late-night session to vote on the deal, state television reported.

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at least 6 credit hours during Summer 2010

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraqi leaders But no objections are expected from critical test for the Shiite-led govern- had a so-called "closed list" with only the reached agreement Sunday to clear the lawmakers since party bosses have backed ment of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, parties — which then announced their

the main points of the agreement.

demands for greater political voice for appears likely. A longer postponement Muqtada al-Sadr. minority Sunnis and the distribution of could have complicated the withdrawal

The accord needed final approval mediately clear. But it appears to resolve as Christians and Turkomen. objections from Vice President Tariq al-Hashemi, who has vetoed the election law to demand equal voting rights clout in the next parliament.

> tion of seats among the country's 18 provinces, claiming they were being underrepresented at the expense of Sunnis and majority Shiites, who suffered widespread repression under Saddam Hussein but took command of Iraqi's political leadership and security forces after his fall.

The pact must receive final approval pro-Western political coalition with were counted. toward political reconciliation and eas- from lawmakers. But no objections are Sunnis and other factions. His main ing the withdrawal of U.S. troops, an expected since party bosses have backed challenge comes from within the Shiite al-Attiyah. ranks: an alliance of religious-oriented The election is scheduled for Jan. Shiite parties that include the biggest accord. Al-Hashemi's veto expired Sunreached after being mired for weeks over 16, but a delay of a month or more now Shiite political group and anti-U.S. cleric day and he had threatened to reinstate

The new parliament will be expanded seats in Iraq's expanded 325-seat parlia- timetable for U.S. forces, which are from the current 275 seats to 325, said ment in next year's election, said Omar scheduled to end combat missions in Deputy Parliament Speaker Khalid al-Attiyah. At least 15 seats are set aside The details of the pact were not im- for religious and ethnic minorities such

Kurds, some seats that had been shifted sides, said the officials close to the talks. to Sunni areas were returned, said for Iraqis living abroad — mostly fellow al-Attiyah. But Kurds, who are over- Iraqi policemen at a checkpoint west of Sunnis whose votes could increase Sunni whelmingly Muslim, also demanded at Baghdad, police officials said. least two of the special minority seats for Kurds also had objected to the distribu- Christian Kurds, said political officials warned of a possible rise in insurgent close to the talks.

> anonymity because they were not allowed to speak to media.

Another important change also was the same area. agreed for the coming election: voting lists will be "open" and have all the names Abu Ghraib, on the outskirts of the Iraqi

which has staked its future on a broad parliament members after the ballots

"It will be an open list election," said

There was great pressure to reach an it if his demands were not met - which would have sent the election planning process into a tailspin.

Up until the last moment, al-Hashemi had warned he would again use his veto power. During the showdown talks, however, al-Maliki and U.S. diplomats In an apparent concession to the appealed strongly for concessions on all

Earlier Sunday, gunmen killed four

The attack came as security officials attacks before next year's election and The officials spoke on condition of the U.S. withdrawal of combat troops due by the end of August. It also follows an attack last month that left 13 dead in

Gunmen stormed the checkpoint in The next election will also be an of the candidates. In past elections, voters capital, at about 7 a.m. and killed one policeman on duty and three others on a break, according to two police officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to give information to the media.

Last month, 13 villagers in the Abu Ghraib area were killed in an attack possibly linked to tribal rivalries.

Witnesses said gunmen in Iraqi army uniforms abducted and killed the 13, whose bodies were later found with gunshot wounds to the head. They included a local leader of Iraq's largest Sunni party, which once helped fight al-Qaida.

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"Health Care for the Young to the Young at Heart"

Turkish night emphasizes cultural diversity

By ALEXANDRA PEDRINI STAFF WRITER

The Turkish Student Association and the Raindrop Turkish House presented a role play and other performances by students in the Escondido Theatre on Friday

The entire role play was used as a chance for these students to show off what they've learned in their classes, performing the entire show in Turkish.

Students performed their role play about an American student going to Istanbul and living with a local family, for a room full of other Turkish performers and their families. Other acts included short dances and poems read in the language.

"They were pretty good, but it will get better next year," said Matt Onay, a mechanical engineering graduate student from Turkey. "This is the first time they're doing something, and every year it will just get better.'

The performances revolved around what these students have learned from their biweekly Turkish classes at the Raindrop Turkish House. The Raindrop Turkish House, part of the Harmony Sci-

Turkish culture and language.

"We have the option for our students, so if they want to take Spanish, they can," said Gultekin Kaya, Harmony's principal. "We have native-speaking teachers that are great."

The center works with students between the second grade through the 12th, but recently has partnered with Tech to create a Turkish program for students in the

"We'd like to give the importance of learning a foreign language (to students)," said Zeynep Kese, a Raindrop volunteer. "It's important that we teach them, not just the language, but the culture as well."

The role play consisted of four Tech students: two undergraduate and two graduate students. They have been studying the Turkish language for three months and are fairly new to speaking it, but Kaya said the group was able to pull of a good performance with practice. Other than their pronunciation, he said the group did very well seeing as this was their first time to perform an all-Turkish play.

"It went great and we all had a good time," said Anani Zaier, a semesters." doctoral candidate for education ence Academy, teaches its students fully there will be more in future another culture, Kese said. Learning



PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

GULIA ALLAMBERGENOVA, LEFT, an applied linguistic graduate student from Uzbekistan, gives a pendant to Vanessa Diamos, a junior art major from Lubbock, as Maria Worth, a freshman from Itasca, looks on during the Turkish play put on by the Turkish Student Association on Friday at the Escondido Theater.

The goal of the classes is to widen psychology from Tunisia. "Hope-students' minds and teach them about the language can only help students of that country, it is pointless. so much, and without knowing how another society works and what is expected when interacting with people

"This helps makes our culture a lot closer to each other," Onay said. "This way you can figure out what I >>> alexandra.pedrini@ttu.edu

feel. I have my culture, it's a part of me and (events like this) help us try to understand each other."

A quiet turnover for ABC News

NEW YORK (AP) — This may come listening tour. as a surprise, but ABC's Charles Gibson is anchor. Really.

what has been traditionally the top job in network television news, it's understandable if many viewers don't realize it's com- didn't like what they saw. Couric was in morning TV (questions never posed to ing. Sawyer has given no interviews about trying to change the mold of the evening Gibson) and nobody's raising those points her new job since the change was an newscasts with interviews and lengthier

nounced on Sept. 2, and none are planned. Neither has Gibson, although he may do some valedictory interviews before his last broadcast on Dec. 18. No advertisements are planned, outside of those on ABC.

The obvious contrast is late summer 2006, when CBS trumpeted the arrival of Katie Couric at the "CBS Evening News." And the Couric hype is exactly what's kept Sawyer un-

der the radar. ABC officials believe the end," Hartman said. "Frankly, it was, and attention paid to Couric's move from the "Today" show backfired, leaving CBS a distant last in the evening news ratings. more traditional newscast that is widely Instead of a big splash, ABC hopes for a respected. Unfortunately, many viewers steady swim.

Three years ago, Couric's face was everywhere, plastered on the sides of city buses and on the cover of magazines including Good Housekeeping. She kept a grueling schedule of interviews with journalists and local anchors at 48 CBS affiliates. She went to six different cities for question-and-answer sessions with viewers, a trip quickly dubbed Couric's

It worked. People knew she was there. retiring at the end of next week and Diane An estimated 13.6 million people watched Sawyer will replace him as "World News" the "CBS Evening News" on Couric's first night, more than double what she gets Given ABC's stealth transition for on a typical night now, according to the

The problem was that many viewers

features, and longtime TV said. news watchers We could have straight rundown of the day's events found it jarring. program in an the broadcast's executive producer at the time, recalls bunker in Siberia, telling people repeatedly not to and it still would place too much emphasis on that have been as hot a first show and give Couric a chance spotlight. to work into a

rhythm.

"We knew

there was a dan-

ger that our be-

ginning would

ROME HARTMAN FORMER CBS BROADCAST **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

launched the

underground

be treated as our it was unfair.' Couric has since settled into a harder,

didn't give her a second chance.

CBS also faced some barriers that ABC doesn't. Couric was the first woman given

Luke 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

Daily Proverbs: 12/7 - Pr. 7:27 12/8 - Pr. 8:14-16 • 12/9 - Pr. 9:12 12/10 - Pr. 10:14 • 12/11 - Pr. 11:12 sponsored by CFSA

a chance to anchor the evening news by herself, something that was a real issue for a format with so many older viewers. Couric was moving to a new network after many years at NBC; Sawyer, meanwhile, is wellknown to ABC's audience. Couric dealt with questions about whether she had the "gravitas" for the job after working so long about Sawver.

"Katie inoculated Diane," Hartman

CBS wasn't trying to go overboard with attention, but it happened. Many people requested interviews, and "we didn't want to be jerks," he said.

"We could have launched the program Rome Hartman, in an underground bunker in Siberia, and it still would have been as hot a spotlight,"

> Couric's newscast began in September, back-to-school time and a period where people are used to looking for something new on television. Sawyer, instead, starts Christmas week, when presumably many viewers have other things on their minds.

Italy police seize secret stash of masterpieces

police said Saturday that they had a crackdown on assets hidden by in Italy, Iovino said. the disgraced founder of the collapsed dairy company Parmalat.

Authorities estimated the 19 100 million (\$150 million).

Parma Prosecutor Gerardo was about to be sold.

there were negotiations under way to sell one of the paintings" and raid three apartments in the area of Parma, near Parmalat's headquarters, Laguardia said in an interview on Italy's Sky TG24 TV. He didn't bondholders. identify the painting.

Bologna-based tax Police Col. that Tanzi bore the brunt of respon- assets squirreled away. Piero Iovino told The Associated Press by telephone that investi-

Cezanne and other giants of art in buyer was a Russian, possibly living in one of multiple probes. He is cur-

No arrests were announced as part bankruptcy. of the art seizure.

bankruptcy case. Parmalat, the dairy conglomer- pany's collapse.

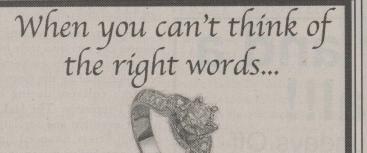
Laguardia said that, based on ate known for its long shelf-life milk wiretapped phone conversations, grew from a small dairy distributor was rumored to have had a "hidden officials believed at least one of the in Parma, into a diversified, multreasure" somewhere. On Nov. 29, a paintings hidden by Calisto Tanzi tinational food company by 1990, state TV show alleged that Tanzi had "We got lucky. We learned that billion in debt — eight times what to shelter himself from the effects of it had previously acknowledged in what remains Europe's largest corporate bankruptcy. Many small

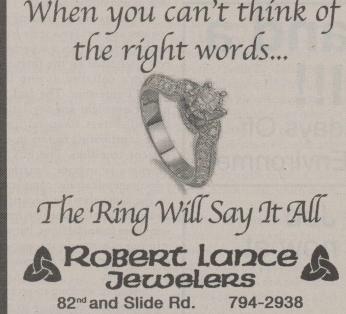
ROME (AP) — Italian tax gators believed the entire batch of sibility for the collapse. Tanzi was paintings, watercolors and drawings convicted by a Milan court last year seized works by Van Gogh, Picasso, were up to be sold. The prospective of market-rigging and other charges rently on trial for alleged fraudulent

Tanzi has blamed the banks for Tax police said Parma prosecu- the labyrinth of deals that helped masterpieces stashed away in attics tors are opening a probe into alleged swell the company to a global empire and basements were valued at some concealing of assets in Parmalat's with operations in more than 30 countries, but also led to the com-

For years after the collapse, Tanzi but collapsed in 2003 under 14 hidden a collection of artwork to try looming collapse of Parmalat.

"I don't have any secret cache" of paintings, Tanzi told reporters investors who lost their life savings the next day on the sidelines of his were among some 40,000 defrauded current trial in Parma, repeating his ongoing dismissal of reports that he Italian courts have already ruled had a so-called "little treasure" of







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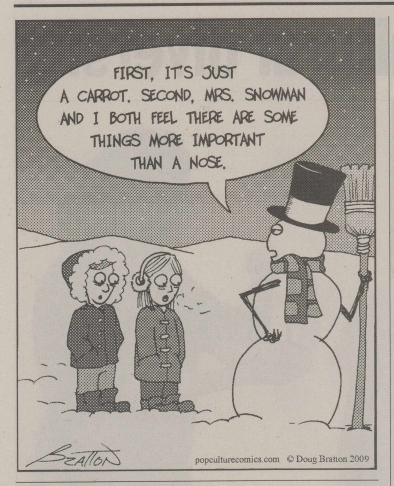
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PINIONS



Palin pokes fun at herself at press dinner

ah Palin poked fun at herself in als, "or as I like to call it, a death a speech to journalists Saturday panel." night, drawing laughter when she announced she "came down from came in for a barb from the former my hotel room and I could see the Alaska governor when she said she Russian embassy."

The 2008 Republican vice presidential candidate also joked that she had originally thought of titling her from inside the bus than under it," book "How To Look Like a Million she said, referring to the poisonous Bucks For Only \$150,000" before relations between her and some of settling on "Going Rogue." In one the McCain campaign staff. of the controversies surrounding her candidacy, the campaign spent about \$150,000 on her wardrobe.

Palin was the Republican speaker at the winter dinner of the campaign manager I guess I'm left Gridiron Club, an organization of Washington-based journalists.

represented the Democrats.

Palin targeted her hosts, Democrats and Sen. John McCain's campaign staff, as well as herself.

If the election had turned out who has Down syndrome. differently, she said, "I could be the one overseeing the signing of following her vice presidential cambailout checks and vice president paign, is a potential contender for Biden could be on the road selling the 2012 Republican presidential his book, 'Going Rogaine." Biden nomination. has sparse hair.

sian embassy from her hotel referred he hoped for newspapers to make to Palin having told an interviewer a recovery. during last year's campaign that her qualifications for high office riosity, but I'm not that interested included that "you can actually see in what Claire McCaskill has for Russia from land here in Alaska."

As for her hosts, she said she

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sar- elite audience of leading intellectu-

McCain's campaign staff also is touring the country by bus as she sells her book.

"The view is so much better

Focusing on criticism she has received from Steve Schmidt, a senior strategist in McCain's presidential campaign, she said, "If I need a bald with James Carville," a Democrat.

In her book, she wrote that Rep Barney Frank, D-Mass., Schmidt felt she wasn't prepared enough on policy matters and even wondered if she was suffering from postpartum depression following the April 2008 birth of her son Trig,

Palin, who resigned as governor

In his remarks, Frank poked fun The crack about seeing the Rus- at new media like Twitter and said

"Maybe I lack intellectual culunch," said Frank.

McCaskill is one of the most was glad to be appearing before an avid users of Twitter in Congress.

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A Yankee's thoughts on Texas

or two-and-a-half years, I've lived in Texas, but Jacob I am originally from the North. By the time you read MOOTE this I'll be within two weeks of graduation, after which I'll be moving back to my home state.

During my time here I've things about Yankees — which questionable. I've discovered to many Texans means anyone from Oklahoma Texas, I've lived or further north. I've heard in the South-Yankees are prissy, nerdy, snobby west for four and one of my friends who went years. Also, I to Texas A&M occasionally actually hail even dusts off the term "carpet- from Indiana,

Fine, then. Want to know ally is a lot more what I think of the precious like West Texas "Republic?" Of the home of than New Engoversized belt buckles and un- land. necessary cowboy boots everyone seems so proud of?

Are you good and upset? Are ern "Yankees" you ready to hear it?

Texas actually is great. In can't pronounce fact my wife and I have nothing the letter "R," but warm feelings for the Lone get psyched for Star State and the great people sailboat races we've met here.

so hopefully the reflections that own. follow won't seem so sweet that readers get diabetes. You see, spective from most Red Raiders. I've had a good couple years So what will I take from my years Dream is alive and kicking. here. I got married while living here? here, picked up a couple degrees and made a lot of good friends.

which cultur-

In fact, genuine northeast-— the sort who

The flooding was over 600 miles than in Arizona or Indiana.

few drinks one of my friends are beautiful. I've heard sounds sur-Yankees are prissy, nerdy, snobby and the Hill.") one of my friends Economics is one of Texas's who went to Texas

most important strengths. Ac-A&M occasionally cording to a report by Forbes even dusts off the earlier this year, term "carpetbagger." able regulations and low taxes,

and look forward to an annual the best economic climate in the Sorry for the head fake. I had maple syrup festival — wouldn't country. Compare that to Califorto try to get your Texas pride up likely consider me one of their nia where, according to The Economist, the top 1 percent of earners

Being a huge fan of steak and Like most people not from here, football, I feel like I've enjoyed I didn't appreciate the enormity of some of the best of each in Texas. For the sake of full disclo- Texas when I first arrived. Shortly In fact, a part time job I had here » jacob.moore@ttu.edu

after moving in I saw a headline caused me to see a lot of high about "Flooding in Texas." I excit- school football. It's not hype; edly read the story to see if it was there's a noticeable difference besomething I should worry about. tween how the game's played here

I knew about the Alamo when Another thing I learned early I moved here but have learned is there isn't just one Texas. There much more since. My wife I visited heard some less than flattering sure, my Yankee credentials are are three or four several different it earlier this year. As corny as it ones, each with distinct cultural sounds, you get a humbling feeling Between Arizona and West twists. (There are as many ac- standing there, knowing the odds cents; after a the defenders faced. The River Walk and the rest of San Antonio

> I only spent a couple days prisingly like there, but the Metroplex is great Boomhauer as well. I had a great time at Six from "King of Flags Over Texas; meanwhile the amazing Cowboys Stadium looks like what you'd get if luxury and intimidation had a baby.

> Speaking of cities, I regret not making it to Austin and Houston. Then again I bet I haven't seen the last of Texas. There are always vacations and friends to visit. Plus with its reason- if things go well financially I have a feeling the Texas Tech Alumni Association will keep me posted on Texas boasts developments here in Lubbock.

Sometimes when you're used to a great thing, it's easy to lose your appreciation for it. Texans (fellow Texans for a couple more But, I do have a different per- pay 48 percent of income tax. weeks), thank you for your hospi-In Texas at least, the American tality and remember to enjoy this great state.

> Moore is a graduate law student from Indianapolis, Ind.

FCC should step in, block NBC buyout

here are very few media providers in the United States today. Sure, there are 800 channels, but most of them are owned by a conglomerate.

CBS, Viacom, News Corp, NBC Universal and Disney are the top five conglomerates major broadcast network.

the content to your TV. In my hometown of San Antonio, which has a population of 1.5 million, there are only two viable non-satellite options: lar across the country.



today. Of these, four have a with mostly dreadfully boring of NBC Universal from General Electric for a massive \$13 billion, sum of money. AT&T's U-Verse and Time according to CNBC.com. This step in and block the deal.

telecommunications companies prices considerably cheaper. in the same way the Securities ministration.

the American citizen from the channels owned by Comcast. from San Antonio.

into an organization like the FAA tions, DirecTV said there was no the companies.

NBC Universal is a massive Web site. media company. In addition to Opening an opinion piece mun2, Oxygen, Sleuth, Syfy a mandate for DirectTV to agree facts isn't typically eye-catching; emundo, USA Network and the were many NHL fans who may There also are very few however, it illustrates the relative Weather Channel are all cable have dropped the service, but delivery companies - com- scarcity of media options in this channels owned by the company. there wasn't a mass exodus. With panies that actually deliver country. These few options are Currently, NBC Universal has 11 major channels, however, all sure to be further limited if cable contracts with companies such the power will be with Comcast, operator Comcast gets its way. as Time Warner Cable and Sud- and the aforementioned situa-Comcast wishes to buy 51 percent denlink that allow them to re- tion will force the competition broadcast the stations for a large to Comcast's terms.

Warner. The situation is simi- is an absolutely terrible deal for competitor to these companies, While Comcast is prohibited by consumers, and the Federal Com- and with control over the con- regulations from preventing acmunications Commission must tracts, can raise rates consider- cess to the channels, there is no There are many reasons no who would pay for cable if they country can survive a truly free- didn't get any of those channels, market system. This was perhaps and therein is the issue. It would best illustrated by the financial force the competitors to pay cable TV subscribers. system's collapse during the more to get the package. These Great Depression. The lack of competitors will put the burden plays a key role in any type of proper oversight and regulation back on the consumer, raising legislation. Comcast is a major of Wall Street financial firms rates on cable subscriptions to player on Capitol Hill, spending were contributing factors in the compensate. In the regions where millions a year on lobbyists and current recession. The FCC is Comcast provides cable service, it supposed to oversee American could easily make the companies'

> and Exchange Commission over- this before. Earlier this year, Di- a large corporation. The state sees those financial firms, but was recTV's contract to carry Versus of American politics, however, stripped of a significant amount expired just a few weeks before leaves me with little hope. of power during the Reagan ad- the NHL season started. Versus, Instead of working to protect is one of several smaller cable computer engineering student large media companies, it's turned During the contract negotia- >>> tony.cardone@ttu.edu

> > EDMORIA SOARD

that is supposed to promote com- acceptable contract offered to petition and innovation among them by Comcast, according bluow learn 1x3to a statement on the DirecTV

It's definitely a case of "he said the NBC broadcast network, she said," but with the smaller Bravo, Chiller, CNBC, ION, lineup Comcast has, there wasn't (formerly Sci Fi Channel), Tel- to the contract. Certainly, there

This is why the FCC needs Comcast, however, is a major to step in and block the sale. ably. There aren't many people regulation that requires prices to be fair or reasonable. It will only help Comcast's bottom line at the expense of the United States'

But, as with anything, politics on pro-Comcast representatives. I think it's fair to say the interests of the government should Comcast has already done side with its citizens rather than

a major provider of NHL hockey, Cardone is a freshman

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'God of War' games rereleased into gaming world, improve game design

It looks super

sharp and provides

a greater thrill

through combat

than before,

especially since the

game somehow got

even bloodier

The "God of War" series has always been held as somewhat of a standard in frenetic hack 'n slash action games. The games have impeccably responsive controls, an uncanny ability to take camera control away from the player without making them mad, and disgustingly epic set pieces. Effectively, "God of War" games are another step towards discovering the Holy Grail of game design.

This is why rereleasing "God of War" and "God of War II" in a collection for the PS3 is an amazing idea. Not only does it provide a solution to the huge backwards compatibility issue with newer PS3s (i.e., there is none), but this collection also reminds everyone what a damn near perfect game

The first "GoW" sold admirably in retail, but the second one got unfairly shafted because of to its late release in regards to the PS2 lifecycle. Putting those two games, which many hold as some of the greatest ever made, is pretty much the best advertising possible for the impending "God of War III" since those that never played a "GoW" game before will realize what they've been missing out on, and old fans will remember how great those oldies were.

Of course, a straight port wouldn't be the "God of War" MO. No, there are actually some pleasant surprises to be had with



the collection. First off are the graphics. In various interviews and press statements, it's been revealed that all of the game's textures have been redone and sharpened

up, the frame rate has been locked into a silky smooth 60 frames per second, and the resolution has been cranked up from the PS2's 512 x 448 to a deliciously HD 720p.

This all may not sound like much on paper, especially for 4-year-old games, but it makes a world of difference in

so good it could easily pass for a current gen release. Never has ripping people in half been so

In an awesome fever of fan service, Bluepoint Games also saw fit to include Santa Monica Studio's original behind the scenes videos with the collection. It's odd you have to fire these extras up from the video section of the XMB, but that slight inconvenience is easily negated by how awesome the featurettes are.

There's also the mild annoyance regarding switching between the two releases while in game: you can't. It's unlikely you'll find yourself needing to go in and out of the two

games this will become a real problem, but it's unfortunate nonetheless.

Of course, being that nothing else has changed in these games, there's also nothing else you can read here than reviews back in the day haven't covered. Kra-

practice. "GoW II" actually looks tos' storylines are always amazing, fighting feels intense without being overwhelming, and the controls make everything you do feel immensely satisfying. With the right stick dedicated to evasive maneuvers, the camera is completely controlled by the game, but it is handled so masterfully you won't care at all. Best of all, though, these two games are so unapologetically brutal. "Metalocalypse" fans will definitely be

There's also a nice little surprise to be had that's completely unrelated to "GoW" I or II, and that's a code to download the E3 demo of "God of War III." This demo alone makes this collection

All those things stated for the full games goes double for the download, and that's saying a lot given that it's just a demo of an unfinished game. It looks super sharp and provides a greater thrill through combat than before, especially since the game somehow got even bloodier.

For \$40, you just can't go wrong with this collection. You're getting two full, universally praised games, a smorgasbord of video featurettes and one of the most hyped demos to come out of E3. All of that will easily provide you at least 50 hours of fun, which is undoubtedly the best value you're going to find in just about any medium. Hopefully this rerelease idea continues with other PS2 staples ("Shadow of the Colossus" / "Ico" collection anyone?). Anyway, happy revenging!

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

Kennedy Center honors Brooks, Springsteen, De Niro, others

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really hard for our

music to be part of

American life and

our fans' lives

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

MUSICIAN

Burnett, a new star from the hit It's satisfying.' TV show "Glee" and other top entertainers, political Washington is saluting five of the nation's ter Honors this weekend.

Mel Brooks Sunday night during a show attended by President Barack Obama and other power House security Nov. 24.

players from Washington and Hollywood.

Also receiving the honors. which recognize individuals who have defined American culture through the arts as a living memorial to John

F. Kennedy — are jazz pianist and composer—the honorees Saturday night after a Dave Brubeck and opera singer

'It's different than everything So it's an acknowledgment that racy and communism.

WASHINGTON (AP) — you've kind of threaded your way With a little help from Carol into the culture in a certain way.

> The show will air nationwide Dec. 29 on CBS.

State Department officials would top artists with the Kennedy Cennot say whether security for Saturday's event had been heightened A surprise list of star perform- after a Virginia couple recently ers will honor Bruce Springsteen, sneaked into a White House State Robert De Niro and comic genius dinner. The gala Sunday is Obama's first big event since Micheale and Tareq Salahi slipped past White

The Secret Service runs security for Kennedy Center events the president attends, and everyone who enters must have a ticket that will be checked at the door.

Burnett led a series of toasts at a more private celebration for

dinner for about 200 hosted by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Several of the honorees, Clinton else," Springsteen, 60, said of the said, have been at the forefront of award Saturday night at a State cultural diplomacy. Brubeck, who Department dinner honoring turns 89 on Sunday, was sent abroad the group. "We worked really in the Cold War, she said, to serve hard for our music to be part of as an ambassador with his music in American life and our fans' lives. countries teetering between democ-

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

To find families in need, Obaseki, senior finance and economics major from Dallas, said he contacted the South Plains Food Bank, and from there your life, and what Christmas churches and local organizations means to you," she said. "And contacted him with the names of then think about how it would more than 120 families.

we had food for more," he said.

Caleigh Beauchamp, a senior people," she said. electronic media and communications major from Rochester, were completely unaware of the people in Lubbock find them- a basket full of food. selves living in.

when some people cannot even smile. "It's a good thing. Right buy food," she said. "The most now, we are just trying to make valuable thing (we) can donate it through." is time, not money.'

Beauchamp said she hopes United to Give grows to include many more organizations in the following years, and encourages students to look past their desires to help others.

"Think about what you have and what is important to you in be like to worry about where your "It was overwhelming, I wish next meal would come from. I'm hungry, I'm tired, but so are these The families receiving food

said she had never participated students' delivery, and Roderick in a food drive before, but the Keys was pleasantly surprised experience made her fully realize when he opened his door to a the unfortunate situations some group of three students holding "I don't know if I was in col-

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"Some people get wrapped up lege I would be giving out food JOEL OBASEKI, A senior finance and business economics double major in Christmas presents and money, on a Saturday," he said with a from Dallas and member of United by the Same Language, places canned food in a laundry basket Saturday in the Rawls College of Business Administration rotunda. About 60 food packages, which contain a turkey and other holiday food items, were later driven to Lubbock families suffering

trates the potential dilemmas of living with robots by telling the story of how he once got stuck in an elevator at Stanford Hospital with a droid the size of a washing machine.

"I remembered thinking, 'Whoa, this is scary,' as it whirled around, almost knocking me down," the Microsoft researcher recalled. "Then, I thought, 'What if I were a patient?' There could be big issues

We're still far from the sci-fi dream of having robots whirring about and catering to our every need. But little by little, we'll be sharing more of our space with robots in the next decade, as prices drop and new technology creates specialized machines that clean up spilled milk or even provide comfort for an elderly parent.

Now scientists and legal scholars are exploring the likely effects. What happens if a robot crushes your foot, chases your cat off a ledge or smacks

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Terminators to attack or a "2001: A Space Odyssey" computer that takes control, even simpler, benign robots will have legal, social and ethical

Scientists, lawyers mull effects of living with robots

"As we rely more and more on automated systems, we have to think of the implications. It is part of being a responsible scientist," Horvitz said.

Horvitz assembled a team of scientists this year when he was president of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence and asked them to explore the future of human-robot interactions. A report on their discussions is due next year.

For years, robots have been used outside the home. They detect bombs on the battleground, build cars in factories and deliver supplies and visit patients in hospitals.

But the past few years have seen the rise of home robots. Mainly they are used for tasks like vacuuming (think Roomba). There are also robotic lawn mow-

PALO ALTO, Calif. (AP) — Eric Horvitz illus- your baby? While experts don't expect a band of ers, duct cleaners, surveillance systems and alarm clocks. There are robotic toys for entertainment, such as Furby. Robotic companions, like Paro the harbor seal, comfort the elderly. By 2015, personal robot sales in the U.S. will exceed \$5 billion, more than quadrupling what they are now, according to ABI Research, which analyzes technology trends.

> "You won't see Rosie from 'The Jetsons,' but you're going to see more and more robots that help maintain your home. They'll pick up stuff off the floor, stock your fridge, carry stuff from the car," said Colin Angle, CEO of iRobot Corp., which makes

> As such 'bots become more sophisticated, they could complicate questions about product liability. Ryan Calo, a fellow with Stanford's Center for Internet and Society, pointed out in a recent panel discussion at Stanford Law School that the original manufacturer might not always be liable if a robot went haywire.

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Study: Missing DNA can promote childhood obesity

NEW YORK (AP) - Some Cambridge University. children get severely obese because

the DNA of 300 children who'd become very fat, on the order of 220

eral rare deletions may promote studied further and found in less for overfeeding them. than 1 percent of about 1,200 severely obese children.

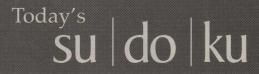
16, apparently causes trouble under discussion, she said. because it removes a gene that leptin, said Dr. Sadaf Faroogi of she said.

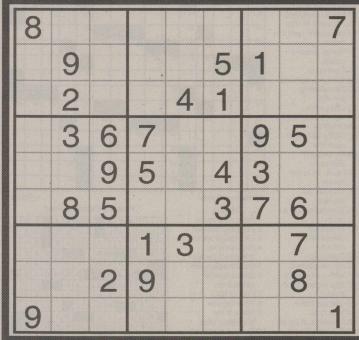
In her study, children with a chrothey lack particular chunks of mosome 16 DNA deletion "have a DNA, which kicks their hunger very strong drive to eat," said Farooqi, into overdrive, researchers report. who co-led the research. "They're The British researchers checked very, very hungry, they always want

The work, reported online Sunday pounds by age 10. They looked for by the journal Nature, has already deletions or extra copies of DNA produced a real-world payoff. Faroogi said four children with the They found evidence that sev- chromosome 16 deletion had drawn the attention of British child welfare obesity, including one kind they authorities, who blamed the parents

"We were able to intervene" and get the parents of two children off That deletion, on chromosome the hook, and the other two cases are

That's happened before when the brain needs to respond to the the scientists uncovered genetic appetite-controlling hormone causes for severe childhood obesity,





In Sudoku, all the logic to define the answers. 7 4 3 2 6 5 9 8 1 6 1 2 9 8 3 7 4 5 9 2 6 1 5 7 8 3 4 3 5 8 6 4 2 1 7 9 4 3 9 8 5 2 6 2 3 5 8 1 6 4 9 7 4 6 1 7 3 9 2 5 8 8 9 7 5 2 4 6 1

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Colts beat Titans 27-17, extend win streak to 21

dianapolis tied the NFL record for second half protecting the lead longest winning streak Sunday, beating Tennessee 27-17 for their 21st consecutive regular-season need a fourth-quarter comeback

The only other team to win that many in a row: New England from 2006-08. The Colts (12-0) can break the record next week at home against Denver.

Peyton Manning threw one TD pass, Joseph Addai ran for

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — In- two scores and the Colts spent the against the Titans (5-7). It was the first time in six games Indy didn't

> Tennessee's Chris Johnson ran 27 times for 113 yards, his seventh straight 100-yard game, but failed to become the first player in league history to top 125 yards rushing in seven straight.

Garrard, turnovers help Jaguars beat Texans 23-18

the Jacksonville Jaguars continue finding ways to win at home.

David Garrard threw two touchdown passes, Josh Scobee kicked three field goals and the Jaguars stayed in the AFC wild-card hunt with a 23-18 victory over injurydepleted Houston on Sunday.

It was Jacksonville's fifth straight victory at home and came in front of an announced crowd of 42,079 — the lowest in franchise history. Garrard threw for 238 yards,

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — completing passes to nine differ-No matter how many fans show up, ent receivers, and enjoyed his first turnover-free game in a month. He had four fumbles and an interception the past three weeks. Two of his four turnover-free games this season have come against the Texans (5-7), who have lost four in a row and appear out of the playoffs for the eighth time in as many years.

The Jaguars (7-5) rebounded from last week's 20-3 loss at San Francisco and remained in position for a wild-card berth.

Tar Heels win 21st women's soccer championship

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Jessica McDonald scored in the third minute and North Carolina won its second straight NCAA championship on Sunday with a 1-0 win over Stanford in the Women's College Cup final.

The Tar Heels (23-3-1) earned their 21st national title (20 NCAA, one AIAW) and their sixth NCAA crown since 1999. They recorded their 10th shutout in 11 games, holding the high-

scoring Cardinal to nine shots. bid to join North Carolina as the only teams to finish a perfect she nearly tied it with a 20-yard season — no losses or ties with a championship. The Tar keeper Ashlyn Harris leaped to Heels have done that four times punch away.

(1991-93, 2003).

The Cardinal was the nation's second-highest scoring team, with 80 goals this season, but the Tar Heels allowed only two shots on goal and finished their 19th shutout in 27 games.

Stanford's comeback hopes virtually ended when Kelley O'Hara, the nation's leading goal scorer, was issued her second yellow card — an automatic ejection — with 17:45 left in the game.

That left short-handed Stan-Stanford (25-1) failed in its ford's chances of a rally to secondleading scorer Christen Press, and shot that North Carolina goal-

Jim Furyk rallies to win Tiger Woods' event

- Iim Furyk ended more than two years without a victory Sunday when he holed key putts on the final two holes for a 5-under 67 and a one-shot victory in the Chevron World Challenge.

It was a fitting conclusion to a w dominated by talk of host Tiger Woods: A guy wearing red shirts and dark pants came through with the clutch putts with the tournament on the line.

Woods, the tournament host, wasn't around to present the trophy to one of his favorite players on the PGA Tour. He withdrew because of injuries from his Nov. 27 car crash, although he was part of every conversation because

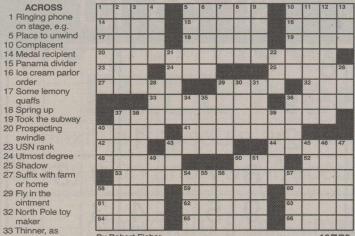
THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) of the worldwide publicity over allegations of extramarital affairs.

> "Tough times," Furyk said. "So they need the support of their friends right now, and I know that people are thinking about them."

> Over the final fe shifted to a golf tournament in which six players had a share of the lead at some point Sunday.

Furyk finished at 13-under 275 for a one-shot victory over Graeme McDowell, who replaced Woods in the 18-man field. McDowell needed to hole out from the fairway to force a playoff, and it looked for a moment as if it had a chance.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle



DOWN 1 Parts of a cycle 2 Stinging crawler 3 Ultimatum words 4 Big name in

breakfast cereal 5 Barely adequate 6 Stereotypical

41 Accomplished with a single try 42 Slip signed by a pirate's cry 7 Part of ICU 8 Poet Ogden debtor 43 Quiche base 44 Inuit craft 9 Toward the sheltered side 10 Curtain material

48 Essence of roses 50 Sigma follower 52 King beater 53 Sleight-of-hand sidewalk swindle 58 Prit's elevator 11 Ray from a natural satellite 12 Be situated

smoke 36 Temptation on a

investment swindle 40 Stratagem

hook 37 Multilevel

59 Cube or sphere 60 Similar (to) 13 "My goodness" 21 Gandhi's land 61 Load to bear 22 Java holder 26 Shipboard direction

planet 63 Golfer 28 Bad way for 64 Like the stepsisters in "Cinderella"

as a golf ball

31 St. Louis's quality alert

plans to go 29 Go-with dishes 30 Loch of lore

38 Like kids' enthusiasm 39 Folderol 40 Actress Zadora 43 Before, of yore 45 Derek Jeter, e.g. 46 Busy

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Friday's Puzzle Solved

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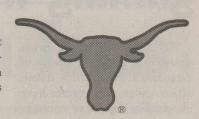
BCS BOWL SELECTIONS

BCS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

No. 1 Alabama vs. No. 2 Texas

Jan. 7 — Pasadena, Calif.

The Crimson Tide just put a wrinkle in college football's most recent dynasty and the Longhorns escaped upset in the Big 12 Championship. The Longhorns will be going for their second national title in five seasons. Alabama has returned to prominence this season, and is seeking its first national title since 1992.



ROSE BOWL

No. 8 Ohio State vs. No. 7 Oregon

Jan. 1 — Pasadena, Calif.

"The Granddaddy of Them All" features the Terrelle Pryor-led Buckeyes against high-powered Oregon. It'll be the eighth time these two teams meet, but Oregon has never beaten the Buckeyes. This is Ohio State's 14th appearance in the Rose Bowl. The two teams first met in the Rose Bowl back in 1958. Ohio State is 18-22 all-time in bowl games. The Buckeyes lost to Texas last year in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, 24-21.



FIESTA BOWL

No. 3 TCU vs. No. 6 Boise State

Jan. 4 — Glendale, Ariz.

This BCS bowl features two non-BCS teams in TCU and Boise State, But both team haven't shown many flaws this season as both are undefeated. It's the first BCS bowl for the Horned Frogs and the Broncos should feel at home. The program is known for its 43-42 win against Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl during the 2006 season.

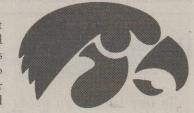


ORANGE BOWL

No. 9 Georgia Tech vs. No. 10 Iowa

Jan. 5 — Miami

This BCS bowl has a stingy defense in Iowa up against Josh Nesbitt and Georgia Tech's dangerous ground attack. Iowa is in a BCS bowl for only the second time in school history. Georgia Tech comes in as Atlantic Coastal Conference champions. Not much has been able to slow the Yellow Jackets down this year. Nesbitt and Jonathan Dwyer have combined for 2,337 yards and 32 touchdowns on the ground



SUGAR BOWL

No. 5 Florida vs. No. 4 Cincinnati

Jan. 1 — New Orleans

Florida is not in the national championship game like it's used to, but Tim Tebow and company still have a chance to win yet another BCS bowl. The Gators are coming off a loss to Alabama in the SEC Championship, allowing the Crimson Tide to take their place this year in the title game. Cincinnati has impressed spectators with an offense able to score at any second. Tony Pike and Mardy Gilyard lead the Bearcats.



LOGOS COURTESY OF LOGOSHAK.COM COMPILED BY ADAM COLEMAN — DESIGN BY KEVIN CULLEN/The Daily Toreador

Welcome back, No. 7: Vick runs, throws for TD

ATLANTA (AP) — Michael Vick took the snap, sprinted to his right, made a quick cut to the left, broke a tackle and dove into the end zone.

He wasn't done, either.

Turns out, No. 7 still rules At-

Making quite a return to the Georgia Dome, Vick accounted for a pair of touchdowns - one running, the other passing - and basked in the cheers of his former home as the Philadelphia Eagles thoroughly dominated the short-handed Atlanta Falcons 34-7 on Sunday.

The Eagles (8-4) pulled two games

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race. But most of the attention was on Vick's first game in Atlanta since he went off to prison for dogfighting.

Vick, a three-time Pro Bowler with the Falcons and one of the NFL's most dynamic players before his stunning downfall, ran for a 5-yard touchdown in the third quarter, his first score since Oct. 15, 2006. With the game out of hand, he slipped a 5-yard scoring pass to Brent Celek early in the fourth, his first TD throw since that final season with the Falcons.

By then, all the fans who had showered Vick with boos when he came in for a couple of snaps on Philadelphia's opening possession

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Vick! We want Vick!"

Deciding that two touchdowns was enough, Philadelphia coach Andy Reid let third-string quarterback Kevin Kolb finish out of the game, much to the chagrin of those fans who hoped the ex-Falcon would get even more playing time.

Still, the day was everything and then some — that Vick could've hoped for. He played sparingly in his first nine games with the Eagles, but coming back to the city that once hailed him as its biggest star finally gave him a chance to shine.

Vick went 2-for-2 passing, setting up his touchdown throw with a 43and ran four times for 17 yards.

their former quarterback.

Five offensive starters, including quarterback Matt Ryan, were sidelined by injuries. That was simply too much to overcome, even with the Eagles missing a couple of key offensive players, running back Brian Westbrook and receiver DeSean Jackson.

Atlanta scored on the final play to avoid a shutout.

Before the game, Vick chatted with Falcons owner Arthur Blank and several former teammates, including receiver Roddy White. When it was time to get down to business, No. 7 led the Eagles out of the tunnel, served as one of the captains for the coin toss and got a chance to take a couple of snaps on Philadelphia's very



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Lady Raiders take out New Mexico, 65-55

By ADAM COLEMAN SPORTS EDITOR

No one could probably tell the in 2008 after Texas Tech's 65-55 from the free-throw line. win Saturday in the United Spirit

opinion, everything her team didn't show in last year's matchup against the Lobos and earlier this season against other opponents was present Satur-

day. "Talking to them a lot about energy and attacking and being aggressive and being passionate," Curry said. "Every word that I could possibly

come up with in my vocabulary.

and Jordan (Murphree) and Ashlee seven points on 2-of-9 shooting. (Roberson) out there, they under-

Indeed, it was the seniors who while Best led the Lobos with 14. made things happen for the Lady

Lady Raiders lost to New Mexico points on 4-of-8 shooting, 11-of-15 effective.

consecutive double-double, with 11 Mexico's top player to get the ball In Tech coach Kristy Curry's points and 13 rebounds. She also had

My goal on defense

is no second chance

points. So I go

in there with the

mentality of

getting the ball

and helping my

ASHLEE ROBERSON

LADY RAIDERS' FORWARD

team out.

three blocks and two steals.

"Just going in and getting the rebound," Robis no second chance points. my team out.

New Mexico

fueled the Lobos in last year's win the game. Tech still won, 75-71, but "You have to give the kids credit. against Tech with a career-high 27 after that game, Curry said the Lady I think that with (Tilmila) Martin points, she finished this game with Raiders were lacking energy.

stand and I think that it started with get contributions from center Val- around. New Mexico was down by the three of them today really com- erie Kast off the bench and forward seven at the 2:07 mark in the second

Curry gave credit to Tech's de-

Raiders (7-1) in Saturday's win, help-fense and the way it carried out ing Tech even the score from a 63-54 the game plan. She said she wanted loss last year in Albuquerque, N.M. the Lady Raiders to have the abil-Murphree had a season-high 20 ity to change defenses and still be

As far as Beggin is concerned, she Roberson nabbed her second said the goal was not allowing New back in her hands after she passed it off. Curry also said full-court pressure and forcing the Lobos to rush into their offense helped out.

> But while New Mexico coach Don Flanagan said Tech defended erson said. "My Beggin well, his guard is a little ingoal on defense jured right now, affecting how quick she can be on the court.

> "I try not to play her so much So I go in there because she is a little bit limited and with the mental- we've been trying to rest her," he said. ity of getting the "In fact, she has not gone through a ball and helping full practice in two weeks.

> "Now, they did play her well. I Not letting them give them that."

> Getting a little revenge is not the But one of only plus for the Lady Raiders. Curry the storylines of said she was pleased with the way this game was Tech closed the game out Saturday.

> Against Texas State Dec. 2, Tech guard Amy Beg- had a 17-point lead in the second half, but the Bobcats cut it down to Although she four during the closing minutes of

A similar situation came up Sat-Instead, the Lobos (5-3) had to urday, as an 11-0 run kept the Lobos



TEXAS TECH'S KIERRA Mallard's shot gets blocked by the Lobos' Valerie Kast during the Lady Raiders' 65-55 win Saturday at the United Spirit Arena.

close the game out from the charity stripe this time, and the player who benefited from that the most was Murphree.

Right when the Lobos started ing out and being aggressive early." Amanda Best. Kast had 10 points, half after Tech had been up by 18 to make a push, Murphree went to with five minutes left in the game. the line four times, going 6-of-8 in But foul trouble allowed Tech to the last 1:16 of the game. She was

10-of-14 from the free-throw line in the second half.

Murphree said it simply was realizing the situation and driving to the basket against the got to the free-throw line a lot. Lobos' defense that put her at

"I think in past performances,

we haven't been being aggressive," she said. "I think that we knew that that's what we had to do (Saturday) and that's how I Just pulling the forward out and driving on that forward."

» adam.coleman@ttu.edu

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MIP?

SPORTS

Tech to play Michigan State in Alamo Bowl

By ALEX YBARRA MANAGING EDITOR

Texas Tech defensive coordinator Ruffin McNeill remembers the Alamo.

It was in 2001 when the Red Raiders played Iowa at the Alamo Bowl in San Antonio. The game ended in a close 19-16 loss to the Hawkeyes, who boasted talent such as the NFL's Dallas Clark (Indianapolis Colts), Ladell Betts (Washington Redskins) and Bob Sanders (Colts).

McNeill said the game served as involvement in the Nov. 22 fight. a valuable learning experience and confidence booster in regards to post-sive back Chris L. Rucker and wide season football.

bowl preparation and bowl mentality," McNeill said.

Since that loss, Tech has gone 5-2 in bowl games, and now the Red Raiders are headed back to San Antonio.

televised on ESPN.

The Red Raiders (8-4, 5-3 in Conference.

hard-nose, physical Big Ten football team that's really good at the funda- festivities, awesome arena and envimentals," Tech coach Mike Leach ronment to play our last football game said. "I think it will definitely be a in," he said. "What's most important, good challenge, and I think it'll be our fans and our support of Red exciting to see the two teams play."

Ten Conference play) began the seatime down." son with a 1-3 record before winning the next three games.

the stretch before ending the season at that time. with a distraction stemming from an players and a fraternity.

and suspended eight others for their Michigan State.

4615 50th Street



Players suspended include defenreceivers Mark Dell and B.J. Cun-"That was a time I thought that ningham, who was second on the team we started turning the corner as far as in receptions (48) and receiving yards (641). Dell was third with 26 catches for 449 yards.

"The majority of our football team It gave us a little taste of that." is intact," Dantonio said. "Actually, ence Sunday that Tech will play in the opportunities for others. Usually Valero Alamo Bowl at 8 p.m. on Jan. when things of this nature happen,

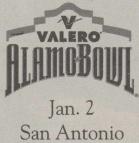
It's the 16th-straight season Tech that way. Big 12 Conference play) will play has been bowl eligible — a Big 12 Michigan State from the Big Ten record — and the 19th time it has ference from top to bottom," he said. played in the state of Texas for a bowl, "What comes to mind is just a which McNeill said has its benefits.

"It's a great bowl site, great bowl week-out like we do in the Big 12. We >>daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu Raider Nation will be very strong in Michigan State (6-6, 4-4 in Big San Antonio just like it was our last

Tech's game against Iowa in 2001 drew 65,232 fans — the second-But the Spartans went 2-3 down highest attendance in bowl history

And based on what McNeill saw on-campus fight between football in a neutral-site, bowl-game environment contest against Baylor two weeks Michigan State coach Mark Dan- ago at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, tonio kicked two players off the team he said players should be prepared for

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Michigan State

Texas Tech

season finale.

"I'm sure it'll be the same way in ponent." San Antonio," he said. "I thought the kids handled the Dallas game very well. It was a bowl-type atmosphere.

The last time Tech got a taste of we only lose two starters, the other the Big Ten Conference was a 35-It was announced in a press conference was a part-time starter. Provides point comeback victory against Minnesota in the 2006 Insight Bowl.

So when it comes to criticism of 2 in San Antonio. The game will be somebody's going to step to the the prestige of the Big Ten, McNeill said players and coaches don't see it have practiced four times since the

> They always have a strong conday-in and day-out, week-in and and are available on all levels.



And fans should travel just as well know we're facing a tough opponent — there were more than 70,000 to in Michigan State regardless of where watch Tech beat Baylor in the regular they fell within the conference, but we know we're facing a tough op-

> The Spartans are tops in their conference in passing efficiency, sacks allowed and passing offense. However, Dantonio's team is 10th in opponent passing efficiency and last in turnovers gained (12) and passing defense. The Spartans allow 251 yards per game through the air, which ranks 103rd

McNeill said the Red Raiders, who Baylor game, won't start game planning for the Spartans until later.

According to the Alamo Bowl Web "We know they face top competition site, ticket prices range from \$25 to \$70



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreado LARON MOORE AND the Red Raiders will square off with Michigan State in the Valero Alamo Bowl on Jan. 2 in San Antonio. The game is the 16th consecutive bowl for Texas Tech. The Red Raiders lost last season in the Cotton Bowl.

BIG 12 BOWL SCHEDULE



COTTON BOWL

Jan. 2 Arlington

No. 21 Oklahoma State vs. Ole Miss



INDEPENDENCE BOWI

Shreveport, La. Georgia vs. Texas A&M

This is a bowl both teams are familiar with. The Rebels were just in the Cot- After finishing tied for fifth in the Big 12 Conference South Division last ton Bowl last year, beating Texas Tech 47-34. Oklahoma State has been to season, Mike Sherman has the Aggies back in a bowl. It will be the 31st bowl the Cotton Bowl three times, including 2004 when the Cowboys lost to Eli game for the Aggies. It is the third time Texas A&M makes an appearance Manning and the Rebels, 31-28. The Cowboys' season was filled with high in the Independence Bowl. Georgia enters this bowl after a season with five expectations early, when they were ranked No. 5 in the Associated Press Poll losses — the most under coach Mark Richt. The two teams have not faced after the first week of the season. But losses to Houston, Texas and Oklahoma each other since 1980, when the Bulldogs handed A&M a 42-0 loss. have OSU in Arlington come January.



HOLIDAY BOWL

Dec. 30 San Diego, Calif.



Iowa State vs. Minnesota Nebraska was a second away from a BCS bid, but the Cornhuskers will settle for the Holiday Bowl against Arizona. The Wildcats knocked USC out of the rankings this week, while Nebraska is looking to follow up last year's win in the Gator Bowl with another postseason win. Arizona coach Mike

INSIGHT BOWL Dec. 31 Tempe, Ariz.

Iowa State coach Paul Rhoads and Athletic Director Jamie Pollard writing a letter to the fans in appreciation for their support is something this program does not get to do often. Iowa State is headed to a bowl for the first time since 2005. Both teams come in with six wins, but for Iowa State, it's a year after the Cyclones only had two. Minnesota hasn't had the best luck at the Insight Bowl. The last two times the Golden Gophers were there, they took losses to Kansas and Texas Tech. The Cyclones do have quarterback Adam Weber, who has thrown for 2,321 yards and 12 touchdowns this season.



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NEW MEXICO	Base	New		Base	New
Angel Fire	18	12	Santa Fe	22	5
Red River	18	0	Sipapu	20	0
Ski Apache	20	14	Taos	30	6
COLORADO	Base	New		Base	New
A-Basin	22	0	Loveland	20	2
Aspen	28	0	Durango	16	0
Beaver Creek	22	0	Steamboat	14	1
Breckenridge	24	0	Telluride	22	0
The state of the s	distr 1				

20

20



4.5 sacks against Texas.

SUN BOWL

Stoops and the Wildcats will have their hands full with defensive tackle

Ndamukong Suh, who put on a show at the Big 12 Championship, grabbing

El Paso No. 19 Stanford vs. Oklahoma

This matchup pits an explosive Oklahoma team against Heisman Memorial Blaine Gabbert will lead the Tigers into Houston to face Navy, whose biggest Trophy contender Toby Gerhart and the Cardinal. For Stanford, an invitation to the Sun Bowl erases an eight-year drought from bowl appearances. The Cardinal finished in a three-way tie for second place in the Pac-10 Conference. The Sooners had an up-and-down season after losing Sam Bradofrd and have been in BCS bowls, including last year's national championship.

COMPILED BY ADAM COLEMAN — DESIGN BY KEVIN CULLEN/The Daily Toreador LOGOS COURTESY OF LOGOSHAK.COM



TEXAS BOWL

Dec. 31 Houston

Navy vs. Missouri



win this year was arguably against Notre Dame. Missouri finished at 4-4 in Big 12 play, just behind Nebraska. It's the fifth consecutive bowl appearance for the Tigers, a school record. Navy is famous for its triple option, which should make the matchup interesting considering Mizzou has some firepower Jermaine Gresham to injury early in the year. The last three years, the Sooners on offense as well. Danario Alexander leads the Tigers with 1,644 yards receiving and 13 touchdowns.



BIG 12 STANDINGS NORTH (overall, conference)

- 1. Nebraska (9-4, 6-2)
- 2. Missouri (8-4, 4-4)
- 3. Kansas State (6-6, 4-4) 4. Iowa State (6-6, 3-5)
- 5. Colorado (3-9, 2-6)
- 6. Kansas (5-7, 1-7) SOUTH
- 1. Texas (13-0, 8-0)
- 2. Oklahoma State (9-3, 6-2)
- 3. Texas Tech (8-4, 5-3) 4. Oklahoma (7-5, 5-3)
- 5. Texas A&M (6-6, 3-5)
- 6. Baylor (4-8, 1-7)



Winter Park

Wolf Creek

Texas Tech students pay an athletic fee each semester and swipe their ID card for admission at athletic events. Traditionally, student attendance declines over the Christmas break as students head home for the holidays. Tech Athletics is giving the students an opportunity to "donate" a ticket to those games simply by electing to do so online.

In the spirit of giving, the SGA is encouraging students to take just a few minutes to go online and donate their tickets," said Suzanne Williams, SGA president. "It's an easy way for Tech students to make a difference in the lives of kids in the community over the Christmas break."

To donate their tickets, students must login to their raiderlink account, click on MyTech (for students) tab. select "Raiders Sharing, Raiders Caring" and then select the games they wish to donate tickets to and the Athletics department will make sure to make the tickets available for underprivileged kids in Lubbock and the surrounding communities (up to 500 per game). Games available over the student break include Dec. 21 women's basketball vs. Mercer, Dec. 22 men's basketball vs. Stanford, Jan. 1 men's basketball vs. McNeese State, Jan. 2 women's basketball vs. Savannah State and Jan. 3 men's basketball vs. UTEP.



Students who attend six non-conference men's games AND four non-conference women's games will receive a special admission card distributed at the men's basketball game vs. Missouri on Wednesday, January 13th. The card will gain students early admission, through a designated and the men's area with the men's area with the men's area with the men's area. entrance, to men's and women's premium conference games. Those games include Texas, Texas A&M, Oklahoma, and Oklahoma State for men and Texas, Texas A&M, Oklahoma, and Baylor

texastech.com/students for more info

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