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Eighthmy named LEDA board member

By JON VANDERLAAN
NEWS EDITOR

Texas Tech Vice President for Research Taylor Eighthmy was appointed as a member of the Board of Directors for the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance to continue a tradition of Tech administrators serving on the board.

Tony Whitehead, vice chairman, said the board is appointed by the city council and the mayor and serves as a governance and oversight for the LEDA staff.

"It's obvious that Dr. Eighthmy understands the role of LEDA and what it is trying to accomplish," he said. "And with his knowledge of Texas Tech, he can bring those two together."

Whitehead said former Chancellor John Montford, former President David Smith and former HSC President John Baldwin have served on the board. However, Eighthmy brings a slightly different perspective because he is "in the trenches."

"Particularly with Dr. Eighthmy's position with the university, he brings to us some of the insight from Texas Tech and their capabilities and objectives in terms of the research and development that's going on," he said.

Tech Chancellor Kent Hance said the



EIGHTHMY

appointment will help foster relations between Tech and LEDA.

"I think it's good for Texas Tech, and I think it's also good for LEDA," he said. "He's doing research and research leads to new technology and jobs, and I think that's really where their interest was."

Hance said he talked about Eighthmy with some members of the organization when they were still searching for a new member. Eighthmy's membership on the board will help the university because he can talk and connect with people who are wanting more economic development in the area relating to research.

Eighthmy could not be reached Monday, but in comments on the Tech Web site, he said the economic development of West

Texas is closely tied with the university's success.

"Our growth and maturation in research and development depends on a vibrant corporate research and development community here in Lubbock," he said in the release. "The future economic and cultural development in Lubbock really goes hand-in-hand with our development as knowledge engines. I am a firm believer that knowledge drives economy."

Whitehead said the main benefit Eighthmy can provide to the organization is providing the resources Tech has to the alliance. When LEDA is looking to bring a company to Lubbock or helping a company grow, Eighthmy can help foster

that development through a Tech partnership, support or expertise.

Eighthmy also has a knowledge of the major players in the technology industry and provides a perspective from outside of Lubbock, he said.

Because Tech is the main economic engine for the economy in Lubbock, Whitehead said, the university should be involved in every decision made by the board.

The focus of the alliance is to help grow the Lubbock economy through job growth, sustaining existing jobs, helping companies expand and ensuring the workforce is developed to fill the jobs when they are created, he said.

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A CUT ABOVE

A behind-the-scenes look at a top-choice team



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

MARK MILLER, A professor with the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, shows Daily Toreador staff writer Carrie Thornton, how to evaluate and rank pork carcasses Saturday in the Gordon W. Davis Meat Science Laboratory.

By CARRIE THORNTON
STAFF WRITER

As vibrations of my cell phone became louder, my heart sank.

It was 7 a.m. Saturday, and time for me to head to the Gordon W. Davis Meat Science Laboratory to learn what exactly the students on the Texas Tech Meat Judging Team do.

They, on the other hand, had been at the science lab since 4 a.m., and must have been wide-awake by then.

To me, it seemed unnatural to arise before the sun on a Saturday morning. It was dark outside, and Lubbock still wore its frosty exterior.

"It's just part of the package," said Collin Corbin, who has been a member of the Tech Meat Judging Team for one year. "Yeah, we'd like to sleep in, but we know it's helping us get better. It's something we have to live with."

And for that, I admire Corbin, a junior animal science from Webster, and his fellow teammates.

Mark Miller, a Tech professor and San Antonio Livestock Show Distinguished Chair in Meat Science, told me the team members are required to commit 80 hours a week to the science lab during judging season — August through March. Every Saturday their class

time begins at 4 a.m., and on the weekdays at 5 a.m.

Their dedication was evident when I walked into the science lab that morning; the classroom they were gathered in was silent, and each was bent over a sheet of paper, writing furiously.

The long hours and concentration put in by the students made it possible for the Tech Meat Judging Team to secure seven national championships and four second-place honors in the past 20 years.

I made sure to lower my voice as I asked Miller whether I should take off my thick jacket.

"Oh, no. You'll need that," he said with a smile.

I attempted to smile in return, but I am afraid it might have come off as more of a grimace; I hadn't warmed up yet from the icy drive from my apartment.

A large metallic-colored door stood at the front of the classroom, and as he slid it open, vapor seeped through its frame. I pulled my white lab coat tight around me.

We entered what appeared to be a maze of coolers, each containing an assortment of carcasses and cuts of meat.

In the first room we stopped at, four pigs hung with numbers tagged on their feet. They

THE BASICS

Although examining and evaluating meat is complex, it can be condensed to three primary steps:

1. Quality

The cut of meat should be examined for its quality, which can be determined by identifying its grade. Prime being the best cut primarily because of the distribution of marbling, or fat, followed by choice, then select, then standard.



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

A LARGE AMOUNT of fat distributed throughout the muscle, called marbling, earned this ribeye steak a prime rating. Fat makes the meat more tender when cooked.

2. Muscle

The last thing to be considered is the amount and quality of muscle. Excellent quality meat will have firm muscle of a bright color, with a liberal amount of marbling spread throughout. There should be more muscle than trim.



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

A SMALL AMOUNT of fat distributed throughout the muscle, called marbling, earned this ribeye steak a standard rating. Fat makes the meat more tender when cooked.

3. Trimness

Trimness refers to the amount of fat lining the cut. More trim means more must be sliced off for it to be considered a good cut, thus cuts with minimal trim and more muscle are considered the best.

Information from: Mark Miller and the Meat Evaluation Handbook published by American Meat Science Association

were cut in half, which enabled students to observe the animal's trimness and muscle quality.

After explaining how to tell how much trim is too much by examining the layer of fat on the animal's back, Miller asked me to rank the pigs from highest to lowest according to muscle and trim ratio.

This is something the members of the meat judging team must be efficient at, and I found it more difficult than I first assumed because at first glance, the trim layers looked incredibly similar.

He then turned around to face the room's opposite wall where four lambs hung. I temporarily zoned out while staring at the stubs

for heads they were left with.

Lambs are judged differently, where the better carcass should appear to have an hourglass shape.

"You want it to be narrow in the middle and wider at the top and bottom," Miller said.

The next room we entered was much bigger, containing tables holding different cuts of meat. Each table held cuts from a different animal, and Miller explained what parts would be used for what kinds of food. He also emphasized the importance of trimming related to shipping cuts to companies.

JUDGING continued on page 6 »»

Instructors aim to help students as finals near

By JON VANDERLAAN
NEWS EDITOR

No matter how few classes his students have attended or how many tests they received a poor grade on, Phil Pope wants to help anyone who seeks assistance with his Texas History class — even in the last week of classes.

"If they're coming to me, that shows me they have some level of concern for the class," said the Tech instructor of Texas history. "And in response, I'm going to show some level of concern for the student."

Pope also said he offers extra credit to students in his class. Although not all of them participate, about 60 percent to 70 percent are doing well in the class while the rest that complete the extra credit do so to bump their grade to an acceptable place.

"(I offer it) just to reward effort," he said. "I believe when students put forth the effort, that shows something."

Jodi Martinez, the assistant director of the PEGASUS program and an academic adviser, said most professors do not offer extra credit, and students should be concerned about their grades before the end of the semester.

"At this point, study a lot for your final," she said. "The best advice that we offer to students is go see your professor and see how you can best prepare for your final."

The PEGASUS program helps first- and second-year students make a proper transition into the college life through academic programs including mentoring and tutoring.

Students often do not visit professors, Martinez said, possibly because they feel the professors are unreachable.

"Most students are afraid. As advisers, that's the first thing we suggest after mid-term grades are posted," she said.

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WEATHER

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INBRIEF

STATE

Texas prisoner captured after week on the run

HOUSTON (AP)—A convicted sex offender who was the subject of a weeklong manhunt after pulling off a daring escape during a prison transfer was captured Monday after authorities received several phone tips, including one from a salesman who recognized the inmate outside his business.

A hungry, wet and barefoot Arcade Joseph Comeaux Jr. was caught in northeast Houston, about 25 miles northwest of where he escaped, said Alfredo Perez, a spokesman for the

U.S. Marshals Service. The area is heavily wooded but includes various businesses, a charter school and some residential neighborhoods.

Comeaux, 49, was in a wheelchair Nov. 30 when he pulled a gun on two guards and fired it during a transfer from a prison unit in Huntsville to one in Beaumont. The guards, who were unharmed, were forced to drive to the Baytown area, where Comeaux took their weapons, handcuffed them together and ran away.

NATION

Senate Dems seek expansion of Medicare, Medicaid

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senate Democratic liberals are seeking expansion of two large federal programs, Medicare and Medicaid, in exchange for dropping a government-sold insurance option from health care legislation sought by President Barack Obama, several lawmakers said Monday.

Under the potential trade-off with party moderates, near-retirees beginning at age 55 or 60 who lack affordable insurance would be permitted to purchase

coverage under Medicare, which generally provides medical care beginning at 65. Medicaid, the federal-state health care program for the poor, would be open to all comers under 300 percent of poverty, or slightly over \$66,000 for a family of four.

Senators and aides said the changes have been discussed extensively in recent days as a small group of moderate and liberal Democrats search for a middle ground to assure passage of the bill atop Obama's domestic agenda.

WORLD

Chavez: Venezuela acquires thousands of missiles

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez said Monday that Venezuela has received thousands of Russian-made missiles and rocket launchers as part of his government's military preparations for a possible armed conflict with neighboring Colombia.

"They are preparing a war against us," Chavez said during a televised address, repeating a charge he has been making for months. "Preparing is one of the best ways to neutralize it."

Both Colombia and Washington

deny having any plans to attack Venezuela, but Chavez argues they are plotting together a military offensive against Venezuela. Chavez says his government is acquiring more weapons as a precaution.

"Thousands of missiles are arriving," Chavez said. The former paratrooper-turned-president did not specify what type of missiles, but said Venezuela's growing arsenal includes Russian-made Igla-1S surface-to-air missiles and rocket-propelled grenades.

Correction

In Monday's issue of *The Daily Treador*, the article "Turkish night emphasizes cultural diversity" incorrectly associated the Raindrop Turkish House with the Harmony

Science Academy. It should have stated the Harmony Science Academy is also a helpful place for Turkish students. *The DT* regrets the error.

STUDY SUPPLEMENTS



PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Treador

MARGARET CRAVEN, A senior interior design major from Dallas, buys a math final from a previous semester for study purposes from Kimberly Shipley, a senior math major from Beaumont, Monday in the Math building.

Officials recommend postponing Iraqi elections

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's electoral commission on Monday recommended a 45-day delay in parliamentary elections until Feb. 27, raising concerns that the postponed balloting could complicate the planned withdrawal of U.S. combat troops and bring a possible surge of violence.

American commanders have noted the chance of increased pre-election bloodshed aimed at destabilizing the pro-Western government. A series of attacks struck around the country as officials tried to hammer out the election timetable, including an explosion outside a Baghdad elementary school

that killed 10 people, including six children.

The recommendation for Feb. 27 voting was sent to Iraq's presidential council, which still must approve it, said Qassim al-Aboudi, a senior electoral commission official. Though other dates remained on the table, there was little reason to believe the council would raise objections.

The delay from the original Jan. 16 date is needed to give authorities time to prepare after months of political stalemate that was finally broken with a dramatic vote by lawmakers Sunday just minutes before a midnight dead-

line on adopting new voting rules.

"The passage of the elections law proves we have entered a new stage based on respect and dialogue, and that the language of dialogue has prevailed over the language of violence and rift," President Jalal Talabani, the Kurdish representative of the three-member presidential council, said Monday in a televised address.

At the center of the dispute were demands by Vice President Tariq al-Hashemi for a greater political voice for minority Sunni Arabs and changes in the distribution of seats in Iraq's expanded 325-seat parliament.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon congratulated Iraqi leaders and lawmakers for overcoming their differences to reach a compromise, new U.N. spokesman Martin Nesirky said.

"The secretary-general firmly believes that these elections will be an important step forward for Iraq's political and democratic progress," Nesirky said at U.N. headquarters in New York.

Ban reaffirmed the U.N.'s commitment to provide technical assistance and support to Iran's Independent High Electoral Commission, he said.

Grades ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Michael Payne, a freshman in the College of Engineering from

Lubbock, said he does not visit his professors because he believes he has a solid grasp on the material when he goes into tests.

He sometimes will visit with the professors before class, he said. Although he would like some of his grades to be higher than they are, he does not feel they are bad enough to warrant a trip to a professor's office.

Mark Stoll, a professor of U.S. history and U.S. religious history, said he does not offer any extra credit because of the students who generally take part in the opportunity.

"Usually a person who wants extra credit is the student who doesn't do the required work," he said.

In West Texas, Stoll said, students live in a self-reliant culture. However, he offers review questions online and makes himself available during office hours if a student has a question.

Although he rarely sees a student come to his office hours, he said,

some students visit to check attendance numbers and make sure their grades are where they want them to be. But those are not the students he is worried about.

Attendance trails off at the end of the semester despite an attendance policy in his class, Stoll said, and he believes a student who does not regularly attend class will not be motivated to attend when faced with a poor grade because they do not care.

Pope said he sees a positive correlation between high attendance and good grades, which is one reason he has an attendance policy.

If the student attends class, he said, they most likely will pick up something their instructor said.

Pope also said about 80 percent of the students who visit his office show up in the last week of class.

Payne said he does not miss class because of bonus quiz opportunities and because he pays for the classes.

He also visits the professor right

before or after class to ask a question if he is unsure of something, he said.

Michelle Kiser, the interim director for Support Operations for Academic Retention, said the programs the organization offers often see increases in the number of people at the end of the year.

"We have a higher volume of people coming in to seek tutoring, and we have a higher volume of people coming in to seek supplemental instruction," she said.

The programs, such as Supplemental Instruction and The Learning Center, can provide a good addition to students who are having trouble with a specific part of the course, Kiser said, but cannot replace teaching from the instructor.

Student leaders from the Supplemental Instruction program will sit in on classes to take notes, and often will visit with the instructor to gain a better knowledge on what will be in final exams, she said.

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Passion takes student to new heights

By MEREDITH HILLGARTNER
STAFF WRITER

Cody Dieterich is a normal college student. He enjoys playing soccer, listening to Lil Wayne and hanging out with his fraternity brothers. Unlike other college students though, Cody is a pilot.

Always having expressed an interest in flying, Cody, a freshman broadcast journalism and political science major from Colorado Springs, Colo., wanted to be a pilot since he was a kid and is fascinated with military planes and pilots. His interests in planes and flying have been passed down from his grandfather and parents Didi and Dirk Dieterich, who also always have had an interest in flying.

Dirk, a 1978 Texas Tech alumus, started earning his license while living in Midland shortly after graduating from college. A lack of time and financial resources put his lessons on hold until Cody decided he wanted his pilot's license.

Didi, an architect, was interested in planes as a child. Her father took her to the airport, where she could identify almost every plane and they frequently visited the control tower. Didi followed Dirk and decided to get her license as well.

"When Cody and Dirk started flying lessons, I thought they were having a lot of fun and I didn't want to miss out," Didi said.

As Cody grew older and his interest in aviation continued, his dad said when he reached a certain age, he could begin pursuing his license. Meanwhile, Cody was able to maintain an active role in flying-related activities.

The summer before his eighth-grade year, Cody joined the Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary, a non-militant branch of the U.S. Air Force. Cody was a staff sergeant and conducted duties such as search and rescue, civil service, and disaster relief.

In 2006, a 16-year-old Cody and his family started researching how to obtain pilot licenses. Searching for places to take lessons, the Dieterichs struggled to



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DIETERICH FAMILY
CODY DIETERICH, A freshman broadcast journalism and political science major from Colorado Springs, Colo., stands in his family's Piper Cherokee, which he uses to practice flying, at a hangar in Colorado Springs.

find a place that would allow a minor to fly.

"We checked into Pike's Peak Flyers, a flying club at a local airport here in Colorado Springs," Dirk said. "They owned a couple of planes but weren't set up due to insurance restrictions to accept a minor."

While searching for an instructor, the Dieterichs purchased a half interest in a 1964 Piper Cherokee 180 airplane for training with a local preacher who also was learning to fly with his son. The preacher then introduced them to Certified Flight Instructor Al von Ahlfeldt, who later became their instructor as well.

Cody and Dirk began lessons, and Didi started shortly after in May 2007. Due to scheduling conflicts with school, sports and work, Cody put his flying lessons on hold. After about a year, Dirk and Didi earned their licenses.

Didi received her Private Pilot Certificate, or "ticket" as seasoned pilots call

it, which allows her to fly single-engine airplanes. Dirk received his Private Pilot Single Engine Land with a checkoff approval to fly high performance and complex aircraft.

In November 2008 the Dieterichs purchased a Piper Saratoga, a high-performance six-seater airplane Cody said he prefers to the Piper Cherokee that "held a very uncomfortable four."

Although Cody has yet to earn his license, he continues to fly in his spare time and frequently uses the plane to travel back and forth between his home in Colorado and school.

"We use the plane when we have to come to Lubbock," Cody said. "It makes a seven-and-a-half-hour drive into a two-hour flight, so it's nice."

Dirk, who flies the planes most often, uses the plane frequently for business purposes. Owing businesses in Texas, Oklahoma and Colorado, Dirk travels often. Didi, who was used to flying at least once a week, has spent some time

away from the plane but hopes to return to a regular flying schedule after the holidays.

Cody said his friends are usually in disbelief when he tells them his family owns planes and he is earning his pilot's license, but it is not usually something he tells everybody. Although he continues to fly, he has made a lot of promises to his friends who want rides in the plane.

"I haven't taken anyone up yet," Cody said. "The opportunity hasn't come up, but I've promised many. Everyone wants to be the first."

For now, Cody is continuing to earn flying hours of practice so he can fully obtain his license.

A life-long dream and family legacy Cody is enjoying his time flying, which he said takes him out of this world.

"There is a certain, I guess, mystique to flying," Cody said. "You seem more released from the real world than any other thing."

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Feds hold horse roundup hearing

SPARKS, Nev. (AP) — A federal advisory panel was trying to decide Monday whether to back a proposal to relocate thousands of wild horses from Western rangeland because the government believes they are suffering from a lack of forage in their current habitat.

The Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management has decided as many as 25,000 of the horses need to be removed from public lands, an alternative to euthanizing some of the mustangs to control their growing population.

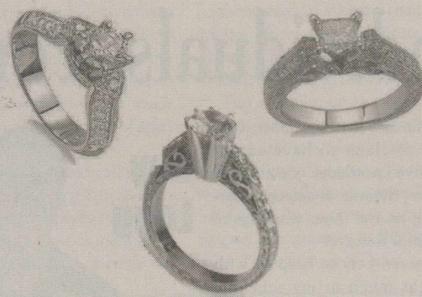
Critics argue that the motivation for ongoing roundups of the mustangs — and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar's proposal

to ship thousands to preserves in the Midwest and East — is pressure from ranchers who don't like the horses competing with their cattle for food.

Dozens of wild horse advocates who want the animals to remain in their natural habitat were planning to testify before the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board during a daylong hearing at a hotel-casino in Sparks near Reno.

Among them are leaders of the California-based Defense of Animals, which filed a lawsuit last month to try to block a proposed roundup of about 2,700 horses in northern Nevada before the end of the year. Several celebrities have lined up against the government, including Ed Harris, Sheryl Crow and Bill Maher.

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ITA HE STU

ORDER PIZZA AT RESTAURANT

What began as a typical dining-out experience quickly turned into a scary situation yesterday when sophomore Danny Rivers and his friends realized that the Italian restaurant that they had chosen for lunch... was completely Italian-speaking.

"I swear it was the scariest moment of my life," Karl Winsey, a friend of Danny's, recalled. "It was like we time-warped into Italy or something. The waiter came over and started talking in Italian! Um... what? I had no idea what to do."

Fortunately for the group, Danny Rivers did.

"I've been taking Italian 101 this semester," Danny explained, "so I was pretty comfortable in that environment. Once I heard him say 'amici' I knew he wasn't mad at us or anything, so I just stuck with what I remembered... 'saluti,' 'il mio nome è Danny,' that kind of stuff."

After breaking the ice, Danny managed to tell the waiter that he and his friends wanted one very much good pizzas on the large. It was exactly what they received, much to everyone's surprise.

"It was a good day," Danny

Looking for something more authentic than local fast-food pizza? Barn, the

added. "Professore Vacanti would've been proud of me. Or maybe I

liberty.

"Did we eat too many pizzas? Maybe. Throw a little around? Sure. But teachers have to have a little fun too. And it like it hurt anyone," said the 27-year-old Fineman. "In fact, I think the students should be thankful they were so hungover the next day they gave everyone A's in favor."

Students are demanding answers, but no word yet on how the school intends to respond. The money is now in the hands of Chancellor Debra Pittman, who is rumored to have streaked through the tailgate earlier that day.

thinking of hiding in a closet for the rest of its life hoping to be forgotten and never found.

GREEK SYSTEM RUNNING OUT OF LETTER COMBINATIONS

Panic struck the heart of fraternities and sororities across the nation this

just about every option out there," said National Greek Board President, Henry Boggins. "There were only about 18,000 possible letter combinations to begin with, so you had to know it was coming."

The news certainly left the Greek System in a state of turmoil, as rumors began to fly immediately. Some suggested a move to a 4-letter system, while others questioned why it always had to be Greek. "I think English is a pretty good language," said Debra Boomgard. "I mean, this is the United States, not a foreign domestic country."

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It was before Jay Lir As were Dr. De everyone question ing.

Acco Higgins, et those me spotted in behind the watching football and playing hacky-sack.

"They were freaking tailgating?" Ben exclaimed furiously. "Charcoal grill, coozies, Chinese horseshoes... the whole shebang! They're supposed to be helping ushere... not grilling hotdogs and high-fiving."

The faculty did not deny the claim. In fact, Art History professor Michael Fineman spoke with great

finished it. Apparently, Money is all better than books.

"It's not really a shock," Steven Kim stated at a conference. "I don't know of many books that people would prefer over straight cash money. Maybe a stack of inappropriate magazines or something, but not textbooks."

The Money mascot was released based on evidence proving it was right, while Book was

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has buy with ing day led and I and a negoti-food, tries. pretty a real obably has buy with confidence. ent." Mick tel story of renting his apartment which is "waaaaay cheaper than buying one", which led to renting cars, renting cars and even renting his textbooks.

OPINIONS

PAGE 4
TUESDAY, DEC. 8, 2009

Student protests enter theater of the absurd

Aristotle once said, "Anybody can become angry — that is easy, but to be angry with the right person and to the right degree and at the right time and for the right purpose, and in the right way — that is not within everybody's power and is not easy."

Most people are driven to take action to achieve some sort of sensual pleasure. As humans, it is our goal to be prosperous in the mind, health and experience. But we become so focused on an individual enterprise we fail to place our successes in perspective. The first assumption of economics is humans act rationally, but herein lays the fallacy. There are far too many parameters to our decisions to know what rational choice even is.

Students tend to be idealists. In our perfect world, there is no war, there is no crime, there is no debate.

As a society on the other hand,

Ben Jones



we tend to be dualistic. In the home we have a husband and wife, in politics we have liberal and conservative, and in the marketplace we have the buyer and the seller. Neither one of these are perfect, but when it comes to students facing an imperfect situation, we almost always shy away from the issue.

A lot has been made about the protests at University of California campuses during the past several years. The University of California system slowly developed a budget shortfall of \$1.2 billion. As a result, system officials increased fees 32

percent anticipating almost an additional \$505 million in revenue.

Predictably, students were outraged. Across the state, students organized mass protests. Walkouts and sleep-ins became commonplace as police were forced to intervene. Two weeks ago, on Nov. 20, students at the UC Berkeley campus took over Wheeler Hall, preventing several hundred students from attending class. But the real story came when 185 police officers came in full riot gear only to batter pro-

“Across the state, students organized mass protests. Walkouts and sleep-ins became commonplace as police were forced to intervene.”

testing students with batons and pepper spray.

Across the country, students are trying to understand what the fee hikes in California will mean to them, and I will address it here as well. While one theory indicates the UC case is an isolated instance, another states massive fee increases will be commonplace. The truth is that the consequences of UC's fee increases are entirely unpredictable.

California administrators applied simple economics to their

dilemma, meeting supply with demand. The textbook tells us that eager students would justify the increasing fees, but not surprisingly the students acted — what they believed was — rationally. University officials had to have expected students to take to the streets and were ready for the pressure.

But they failed to let the students' protest simply dissolve. Students have short attention spans; one complaint only lasts as long as it takes for the next subject to emerge. No, Berkeley ordered the protests come to a halt, forcing the alleged "police brutality" and further strengthening the students' sympathies.

As a general rule, tuition and fee increases are completely necessary. Universities, public and private, have become a multi-billion dollar business. Tuition and fees have increased 180 percent at state universities since 1982.

Fortunately, here in Texas we

don't face a billion-dollar budget deficit. A few weeks ago, the University of Texas Tuition Advisory Committee recommended an 8 percent tuition increase during the next two years. At Tech, with rising enrollment and research, we have no reason to believe tuition and fees will increase more than 5 percent per year during the next several years.

The University of California faced a difficult situation and made a difficult decision. Everything that happened after that was, like most things, just chaos. The UC system will live through this episode. Some students may be forced out of school, some officials may even lose their jobs. But for now, we can look at this episode as another example of the randomness of human response.

■ Jones is a sophomore economics major from Lubbock. >> ben.jones@ttu.edu

Individuals, companies don't deserve bailout

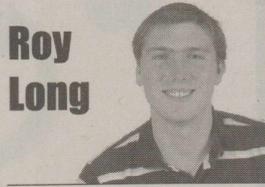
I am not an economist. I do not claim to have extensive knowledge of economic processes, theories or a deep understanding of the inner workings of the Federal Reserve.

However, I try to keep up with events as much as my schedule allows and to keep my understanding of world events current. The economic downturn has turned our society upside down with talk of bailouts, corporate greed and Ben Bernanke.

I have noticed — this semester particularly — we often blame corporations for problems that are, in reality, our responsibility. Perhaps people do not like being called out on their faults, so they pass this blame.

Karl Marx claimed the "oppressed" working class, or proletariat, would eventually rise up in revolution against the bourgeoisie to establish a society free of corporate excess. I have listened to talk among academics this semester at Texas Tech about how the condition on Wall Street and the problems with our economy are due to companies abusing the oppressed poor

Roy Long



in this country. I cannot count the number of times I have heard the phrase "corporate greed on Wall Street."

The notion Wall Street should be altruistic is simply ridiculous. Corporations are not people. The health of a corporation is dependent on its ability to earn money for stockholders, owners, employees and others. Therefore, corporations are created to be greedy and attempt to earn as much money as possible. It is their lifeblood. Ethics policies and regulations are placed to prevent this mission statement of a corporation to result in unethical behavior, but ultimately, the goal of a corporation is to earn money.

It is easy to observe the financial crisis from a sympathizing perspective. It is unfortunate when people lose their homes to foreclosure.

However, it is also important to note companies cannot and do not force us to use their products or services. These individuals chose to use the products and services of these corporations.

All of those experiencing foreclosure are quite simply unable to fulfill their contractual obligations. At one time or another, all of these former homeowners signed documents stating they would uphold their part of the agreement, namely to pay their mortgages. Whether intentional or not, they are responsible for their mortgage and therefore, their foreclosure.

Some politicians have attempted to remedy this situation by blaming corporations, advocating governmental regulation of corporate management and generally absolving the public of guilt. Those who try to shift blame to these companies are trying to win votes from embittered individuals. We must take responsibility for our actions, even when unforeseen circumstances cause innocent, well-meaning people to fail in their responsibilities and suffer the consequences.

Thrift is an underrated principle.

A good portion of the population has been contributing to the housing bubble by buying huge homes they cannot afford. For some reason they had an incorrect view that money can buy happiness in the form of a new house, car or a giant yacht. While under our capitalist economy, we agree they should be free to pursue their dreams of real estate hegemony. We also bear no obligation to bail them out when they are unable to meet their obligations.

Bailouts represent a loss of self-reliance and self-sufficiency. By supporting bailouts, we deny the ability of others to rise from dire circumstances. This usually results in a loss of confidence. I was not surprised to hear that General Motors is still struggling, while the Ford Motor Company appears to be earning more than before. Who wants to buy a car from a company that had to borrow money from the government? Shielding our citizens, like our car companies, from failure does not encourage success and actually hampers economic growth.

Holding ourselves and our companies responsible for our contrac-

tual obligations encourages self-sufficiency and the faithful fulfillment of our obligations to others. So, what can students at the university do to impact this situation?

We should try to be self-sufficient. We can work and save money to pay for our education. We can differentiate between good debt (positive investment, higher education, a modest home and transportation) and bad debt (a Ferrari, a mansion resembling Monticello and bad investments, like Pogs and Uggs). We can save money and try to find happiness without a pricetag.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe said, "Treat a man as he is, he will remain so. Treat a man the way he can be and ought to be, and he will become as he can be and should be." As Americans, if we respect the principle of equality, we must also uphold the principle of equality in accountability, meaning no special bailouts for anyone, corporate or corporate.

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

McDonald's refuses to hire transgender

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — A transgender teenager says a McDonald's restaurant in Florida discriminated against her when managers refused to interview her for a job, according to a complaint filed Monday.

Zikerria Bellamy, 17, said two managers at an Orlando restaurant wouldn't give her an interview on two separate occasions in July. Later, she said a manager left her a voice mail, using a gay slur to let her know she wouldn't be hired.

A spokeswoman for the local restaurant, Allison Garrett, said in a statement the employee who left the voice mail "acted outside the scope of his authority and was not responsible for hiring." He no longer works at the restaurant. The statement did not mention the other manager.

McDonald's "has a zero tolerance policy prohibiting discrimination or harassment in the restaurant," the statement said.

Bellamy is a male who has been living as a female for about the past six years. She said she completed a job application online, then was called to the store for an interview. When one manager refused to see her, she called later and was granted an interview with another manager.

Mullen to troops: Afghanistan casualties to rise

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP) — The nation's highest-ranking military officer Monday told soldiers, including many bound for Afghanistan, that he expects casualties to rise next year as additional U.S. troops pour into the war.

Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, answered soldiers' questions for about an hour at this sprawling Army post on the Kentucky-Tennessee line. Many at Fort Campbell already had orders for Afghanistan before President Barack Obama unveiled his plan last week to add about 30,000 new troops to about 70,000 already there.

"I am sure we will sustain an increase in the level of casualties and I don't want to be in any way unclear about that," he told about 700 troops. "This is what happened in Iraq during the surge and as tragic as it is, to turn this thing around, it will be a part of this surge as well."

"I expect a tough fight in 2010," Mullen said.

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Puzzles by PageFiller

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

Ombuds Office
A safe place for students & staff to bring concerns.

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Emotions, reality bond in 'Brothers' on big screen

This is the kind of movie review where I wish I could simply say, "Go see it," and you all would, no questions asked. But alas, that isn't my job and reading something so short in between Sudoku and the opinion articles doesn't quite kill enough time before class. So here we go...

Jake Matthews



The atrocities he was put up against as a POW, and all hell breaks loose as his deteriorated mind begins playing tricks on him.

My roommate made the point as we were leaving the theater Saturday night this is a film that could go one of two ways in people's minds. It could be seen as a scathing critique on war and the effects it can have on the people who serve, or it could be interpreted as a noble ode to combat veterans and a sympathetic glimpse into the struggles one is up against upon returning home from a worthy cause.

I'll be up front with you in saying as I walked out of the theater, I was in that latter group, but the more I allowed the tour de force that is "Brothers" to sink in, the more I wished to be in neither the left-leaning nor the right-leaning group.

I wanted this to be a film that stood alone in my mind; that stood separate

from political ideology and simply told a riveting story. I would encourage anyone reading this to watch this film for what it is, not what you want it to be.

"Brothers" goes to an extreme of post-traumatic stress disorder so one may be more inclined to appreciate the true circumstances for what they are.

The most brilliant part about this film is the way Maguire is utilized in every scene he is involved in upon returning from his own hell. The director, Jim Sheridan, is able to manipulate the palpable duality within Maguire's scenes to build up a tense and unnerving emotion within the audience just by having Maguire stare intently at something or someone.

It sounds odd, but it follows the understated flow of this film and is brilliantly handled.

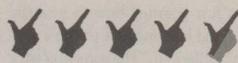
The movie has a difficult time establishing the tone it is going for early on in the picture and in spaces, is rushed just for the benefit of moving the story to the next point, but this tendency subsides quickly as the movie grabs its composure and gets a good footing early enough that you don't become too distracted by it.

Special attention needs to be given to Bailee Madison, who plays Isabelle,

the oldest of Sam and Grace's kids. She is, to put it plainly, damn good at presenting the complex emotions a child faces when promises are broken and parents they love change, seemingly for no reason.

The cast here is exceptional; Gyllenhaal lets his character grow subtly and doesn't try to compete with Maguire's explosive performance. It complements the film well. Portman does a fine job with Grace here; it's obvious from past films she can act and it rings true here as well. Maguire is the star and it will be criminal if his name does not pop up during award season. The evolution of his character is handled to near perfection.

"Brothers" is powerful, uncompromising and moving. It moves past the politics behind the issues and simply tells a story of a family fighting for normalcy; a family fighting for one another in impossible odds.



■ **Matthews is a DT movie critic.**
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COLD FEET AT WORK

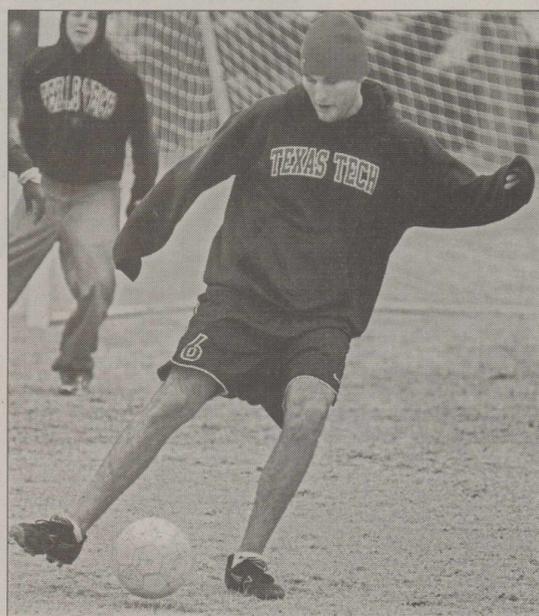


PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

JARED REED, A senior exercise and sport sciences major from Princeton, plays soccer during his personal fitness and wellness class Monday by the soccer fields.

Naked statue in Texas depicted as Santa

BIG SPRING, Texas (AP) — A Texas homeowner who adorned his front lawn with Michelangelo's "David" as a jollyly clad Santa got more than just a jolly laughs from his neighbors.

Barry McBee says he was aiming to make people chuckle by adding a Santa hat and white beard to the 5-foot-tall replica of the Renaissance statue with six-pack abs — an image at odds with usual depictions of a fat, jolly St. Nick.

Then, parents started calling Big Spring city officials saying their children were asking why Santa was naked.

"I just like to shock people to make them laugh, kind of break the

monotony around here," said McBee, who has all kinds of animal yard ornaments in his garage. "I just bring them out occasionally."

Last week, code enforcement officials received an informal complaint and an officer went to photograph where McBee had placed the statue, which is normally in the back yard.

The sculpture on the corner lot along a main road into McBee's subdivision did not violate any town ordinances, and the copy of one of the world's most well-known statues did not involve any obscenity issues, said Linda Sjogren, city attorney in Big Spring, about 290 miles west of Dallas.

Freshmen see first college semester come to close

By **JULIE ANN DAVIS**
 STAFF WRITER

The Fall 2009 semester saw Texas Tech boast a total enrollment of 30,054. More than 4,000 freshmen have almost completed their first semester, but about 80 percent are likely to return, according to the retention rate for 2008 reported by the Office of Institution Research and Information.

For many students, coming to college is more than an escape from parents, from the dull halls of high school or the monotonous toil of the working world. For others, the change is harder to make. Sharla Boyd, assistant director for the Student Counseling Center, has seen the effects of college life on freshmen.

homesickness in the form of missing family, friends, familiar environments, etc. Depending on what their level of independence was before, a student may have some difficulty in setting their own structure for balancing studying, social life and taking care of themselves," Boyd said. "There may be cultural differences such as moving from a large city to a smaller town that take some time learning to adjust to. Forming new social relationships and making choices given all the options of what to be involved with can feel overwhelming."

Shayla Szalay, a sophomore general studies major from Tucumcari, N.M., said after working for a few years after graduating high school, college was her chance to make her life better.

"As a freshman, I was very fo-

cusated," Szalay said. "I realized I didn't want to do this forever and wanted to improve my life." Once students begin to embrace the experience, college is a great time of growth, said Elvis Lafosse, a junior communications major from Lubbock. Everyone has to realize there are good and bad results of college, but college freshmen have to adjust.

"When I was a freshman, I had looked forward to what seemed like the next natural step," Lafosse said. "College opens doors when you're finished; while you're here, it's a learning experience. You get the chance to experience things you didn't have the opportunity to try in high school."

Jose Valenciano, University Student Housing director, said between semesters, the number of residents

in the halls remains fairly constant. There are students who don't make the grades and can't come back, but the policy requiring freshmen to live on campus is designed to keep them wanting to come back after those first months.

"Living on campus lets students feel more connected to the school," Valenciano. "Once students get used to sharing the space with someone else, they realize students have more support here for studying, socializing and can more easily participate in the school's traditions."

For those freshmen returning, Boyd is hopeful. She said college is a wonderful time of growing into adulthood and learning many new things that are a combination of overwhelming, difficult, scary, thrilling, fun.

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Greenhouse gases harm humans

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration took a major step Monday toward imposing the first federal limits on climate-changing pollution from cars, power plants and factories, declaring there was compelling scientific evidence that global warming from manmade greenhouse gases endangers Americans' health.

The announcement by the Environmental Protection Agency was clearly timed to build momentum toward an agreement at the international conference on climate change that opened Monday in Copenhagen, Denmark. It signaled the administration was prepared to push ahead for significant controls in the U.S. if Congress doesn't act first on its own.

The EPA finding clears the way for rules that eventually could force the sale of more fuel-efficient vehicles and require plants to install costly new equipment or shift to other forms of energy.

Energy prices for many Americans probably would rise — though Monday's finding will have no immediate impact since regulations have yet to be written. Supporters of separate legislation in Congress argue they could craft measures that would mitigate some of those costs.

Environmentalists hailed the EPA announcement as a clear indication the United States will take steps to attack climate change even if Congress fails to act. And they welcomed the timing of the declaration, saying it will help the Obama administration convince delegates at the international climate talks that the U.S. is serious about addressing the problem. Obama will address the conference next week.

But business groups said regulating carbon emissions through the EPA under existing clean air law would put new economic burdens on manufacturers, cost jobs and drive up energy prices.

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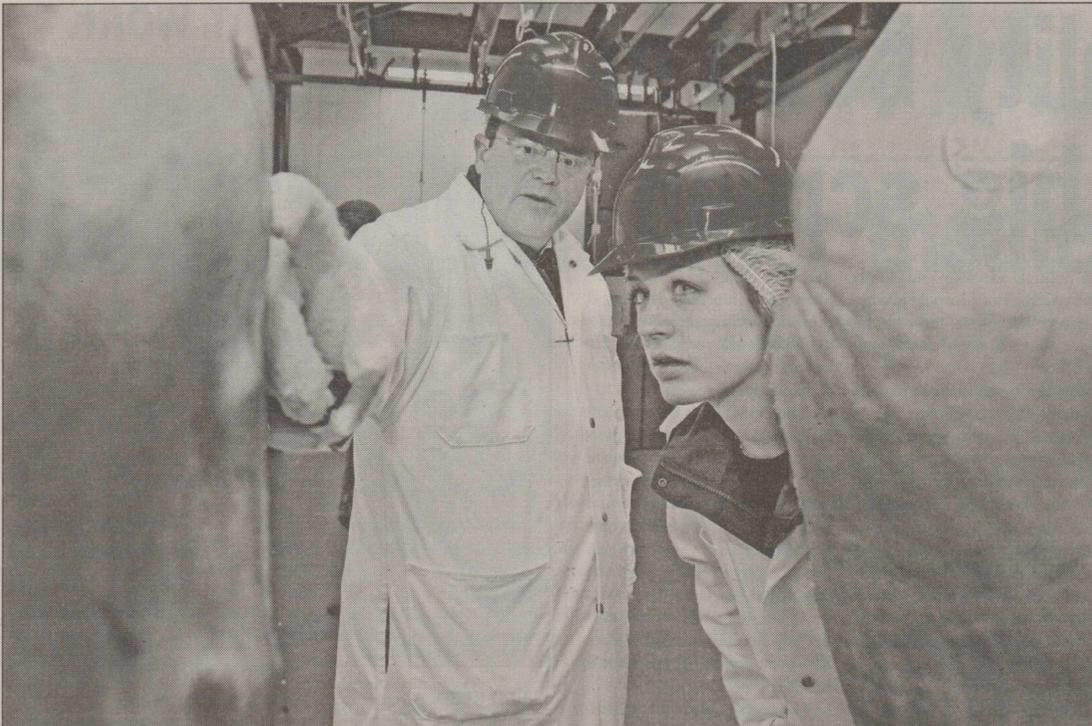


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

MARK MILLER, A professor with the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, shows *Daily Toreador* staff writer Carrie Thornton, a junior public relations and English dual major from Houston, how to evaluate and rank pork carcasses Saturday in the Gordon W. Davis Meat Science Laboratory.

Judging ←
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"When you ship a cut of meat off, you can only send (a certain number) of pounds," he said, "which is why it is important to trim off the extra fat and remove bones to reduce shipping weight. It costs you and the other company more money."

From there, we moved onto an even larger room where smaller cuts of meat lay on tables, including one displaying four different hams.

Out of the four, one was noticeably paler than the rest.

"Can you see the difference?" He asked me. "(It's PSE pork) which means pale soft and exudative. It means it's very low quality and not very tasty. PSE is a

genetic problem or caused by stress prior to harvest." Judges have to look out for this defect when examining meat.

After giving me a tour of the room and showing me boxes of already packaged cuts, he led me to our final destination: the cow room.

It wasn't really called the cow room, but as soon as I crossed its threshold, he pulled a massive steer carcass in our direction. It must have been about six feet in length.

He pointed out the steer's trimness among other things, and that was the end of my tour.

Other than being extremely interesting, the

experience showed me just how much members of the judging team have to know. Their knowledge must go beyond anatomical memorization, and Miller

said the department's goal is to teach them more than meat judging skills.

"The meat judging team is more than just learning how to evaluate meat and learning how to win a contest," Miller said. "The purpose of what we do is to teach people life skills they can use wherever they go; to teach them to strive for honor and pursuing excellence in making decisions and

having a really good work ethic."

Regardless of Miller's ultimate teaching goal, his effectiveness is evident in the team's numerous successes.

I left that morning with a deeper appreciation for the judging team's accomplishments, and wondered where I could get a good steak for lunch.

►►carrie.thornton@ttu.edu

"The purpose of what we do is to teach people life skills they can use wherever they go."

MARK MILLER
MEAT EXPERT
TECH MEAT JUDGING TEAM



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

MARK MILLER, A professor with the department of animal and food sciences, inspects a lamb carcass Saturday in the Gordon W. Davis Meat Science Laboratory.

BIZ WEEKLY

Weezer cancels tour after bus crash in upstate NY

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Weezer has canceled the rest of its December tour after the lead singer was injured in a bus crash in New York.

Rivers Cuomo and band assistant Sarah Kim suffered minor injuries when the group's tour bus skidded on ice, struck a guide rail and slid into a ditch Sunday morning.

Cuomo and Kim were hospitalized after the accident in the upstate

New York town of Glen. That's about 40 miles west of Albany. They were traveling to a show in Boston.

Cuomo's condition isn't clear. A message on the band's Web site says Weezer is canceling the rest of its Ratitude tour and will try to reschedule those dates.

Publicist Jim Merlis says he won't comment on the crash.

Al Pacino set to play Shylock in NY's Central Park

NEW YORK (AP) — Al Pacino meets William Shakespeare next summer in New York City's Central Park.

The 69-year-old Pacino will portray Shylock in "The Merchant of Venice," one of two offerings by the Public Theater's 2010 Shakespeare in the Park series, running June 9-Aug. 1.

Artist director Oskar Eustis (YOO'-stih) says the series will also include

"The Winter's Tale," which will alternate in performance with "Merchant." Among the actors who will appear in both plays: Jesse Tyler Ferguson, Jesse L. Martin, Lily Rabe, Ruben Santiago-Hudson and Max Wright. Pacino will only appear in "Merchant."

Daniel Sullivan will direct "The Merchant of Venice" and Michael Greif (GRYEFF) will direct "The Winter's Tale."

Alexa Ray Joel staying with dad after pill scare

NEW YORK (AP) — A publicist says the daughter of Billy Joel and Christie Brinkley is staying with her father two days after being treated in New York for a possible overdose of pills.

Alexa Ray Joel's publicist Claire Mercuri won't say where the 23-year-old is staying. Billy Joel has homes in Manhattan and on eastern Long Island.

His daughter was hospitalized for

several hours Saturday after police received a 911 call saying she had taken several pills.

Police say it is not clear whether she accidentally overdosed or attempted suicide.

On her MySpace page, Joel says she attended New York University for a short time before dropping out to focus on her music career.

Quaid announces system to prevent medicine errors

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Actor Dennis Quaid is helping launch a national program to help prevent medication errors like the one that hurt his newborn twins in 2007.

Quaid on Monday was expected to announce the National Alert Network for Serious Medication Errors at a conference in Las Vegas for pharmacists and other health professionals.

The alert system will send e-mail alerts to roughly 35,000 pharmacists, doctors, nurses and other medical professionals when a serious or potentially serious error happens in giving medication.

Quaid's newborns were given overdoses of a blood thinner by a Los Angeles hospital in November 2007. The hospital was fined, apologized and settled with the Quaid.

Comcast: No plans to sell fourth-place NBC network

NEW YORK (AP) — Comcast executives say they have no plans to sell NBC Universal's broadcast TV business when they take control of the company.

Speaking Monday at the UBS media conference in New York, Comcast CEO Brian Roberts acknowledged NBC Universal's cable channels were the driving force behind Thursday's deal to buy a 51 percent stake from General Electric Co. The channels

include CNBC and Bravo.

But he says Comcast's goal will be to improve the fourth-place network's ratings rather than abandon the broadcast business.

Overall, the cable model has emerged stronger during the recession. The slump in advertising sales has hurt the broadcast stations. Cable networks have been able to soften the blow by also drawing fees from cable and satellite providers for carrying the channels.

UK broadcaster says sorry for rat-eating episode

LONDON (AP) — British broadcaster ITV has apologized after two contestants on a reality TV show skinned, cooked and ate a rat during filming.

Chef Gino D'Acampo and actor Stuart Manning have been charged with animal cruelty after preparing and

eating rat risotto on the wilderness show "I'm a Celebrity ... Get Me Out of Here" last month.

They were charged after complaints by animal welfare activists in Australia, where the show is filmed. The maximum penalty is three years in prison.

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Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Caught some z's
- 6 Solheim Cup co-sponsoring org.
- 10 With 10-Down and "and," rigidly formal
- 14 Moth-eaten
- 15 Problems
- 16 McEntire of country
- 17 "Art class supply
- 19 Birthstone for a 6-Down, often
- 20 Words of apology
- 21 Left, at sea
- 22 Nostra
- 23 Not as ruddy
- 25 Egyptian city on the Nile
- 28 Like some chocolates purchases
- 31 Graceful bird
- 32 Actor Delon
- 33 Ohio A.L. team, on scoreboards
- 34 Commercial suffix with Water
- 35 "Suitcase attachment
- 37 Bottom-row PC key
- 38 Rage
- 39 Apple models
- 40 Soft cheese
- 41 In the dark
- 43 Judaic feast
- 44 Fourth estate, as it's known
- 45 Thai bread?
- 47 Food that's filled and folded
- 49 Brockovich portrayer
- 52 "... my lips!"
- 53 "Arcade attraction
- 56 Author Stanley Gardner
- 57 San __, Italy
- 58 Furry aquatic frolicker
- 59 Bought, to a retailer
- 60 Jet-black stone

DOWN

- 1 NYSE units
- 2 Mythical trickster
- 3 K-6
- 4 X-ray alternative
- 5 Business big shot
- 6 Fall sign
- 7 Tricky maneuver
- 8 Shine, in product names
- 9 Inquire
- 10 See 10-Across
- 11 "Dreaded end-of-semester handout, perhaps
- 12 Reinforcing beam
- 13 Soda shop buy
- 18 Slugger's stat: Abbr.
- 21 As a companion
- 23 Tests for jrs.
- 24 Big land mass
- 25 Meat garnish
- 26 Frosting feature

By Timothy L. Meaker 12/8/09

Monday's Puzzle Solved

PROPSAUNA SMUG
HEROCANAL CONE
ADESARISE RODE
SALTINGTHEMINE
ENSNTHUMBRA
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Porn stars gather at karaoke nights

BURBANK, Calif. (AP) — Even the most ardent fans of porn star Julie Meadows are unlikely, it seems safe to say, to have ever seen her like this.

But there she is, the star of "Alice in Fetishland" and more than 200 other hardcore sex films, standing on a stage, dressed demurely in jeans, matching vest and white top, her blonde hair piled up under a fetching white watchman's cap, belting out an enthusiastic but entirely PG-rated version of that old garage-band rock classic "Wild Thing."

"Wild Thing I think I love you — BUT I WANT TO KNOW FOR SURE!" Meadows growls, as fellow porn star Nicki Hunter, in a white mini-dress, leaps on stage to harmonize. A moment later, when Meadows breaks into some impressive air-guitar moves, the crowd howls its approval.

Don't get the wrong idea. This isn't the opening scene for a porn video. It's simply Porn Star Karaoke Night at Sardo's Grill & Lounge, a friendly little hole-in-the-wall place that six nights out of the week is just another karaoke pub.

The club, in fact, offers Family Fridays when parents can bring their children. On Mondays, people play Rock Band 2 while they sing. On Wednesdays there are trivia games.

But on Tuesday nights, when just about everybody else is getting ready for bed in this quiet suburb on the edge of Los Angeles, Sardo's becomes the place to be for anyone who has ever been, or who wants to be, connected with the porn business.

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Lady Raiders hope to continue winning ways against Lamar

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

For Kristy Curry and the Lady Raiders, it's never wise to look past any opponent.

But what follows Texas Tech's game against Lamar at 7 p.m. today in the United Spirit Arena may make the game a little more important for Tech.

After this game, Tech has 10 days before the Lady Raiders get back on the road for the first time in seven games.

It'll be the longest stretch of days between games for Tech during the regular-season and players hope it starts with a win against the Cardinals.

"We want everybody on the same page in this game because we need this win," said Tech guard Jordan Murphree. "What we did last week can't look big to us tomorrow night. We got eight days off after that too, so you want those eight days to be good eight days."

During those days off, players will have time to stay sharp in the gym and deal with finals, which Curry said usually is good for her squad at this point in the season.

After the Lamar game, Tech (7-1) will face UCLA Dec. 18 in Los Angeles — only the second game away from home for the Lady Raiders this season.

"A lot of times, it's a time where they can get more rest," Curry said. "Not have to go to class, go to class, go to class, go to class. And with the weather being so cold, I know they're excited, and I'm excited about not having to get out in it so much."

But before the extended time off, Curry said there's still a tough, but familiar opponent to face in Lamar.

The two teams have played each other nine times and Lamar doesn't have much to show for in this series — the Cardinals'

only win against the Lady Raiders was a 55-39 victory in 1974.

It's not hard to search for the most recent Tech win against Lamar either. The Lady Raiders slipped past Lamar, 59-50, in 2008.

But Curry said this is not the same team that visited the United Spirit Arena last year. She pointed out names such as Jenna Plumley and Kalis Loyd, two guards that make the Cardinals difficult to handle.

The guards have an interesting background as well. As a redshirt freshman, Loyd comes all the way from Sweden to play at Lamar and Plumley is no stranger to Big 12 Conference teams. The junior transfer made 41 starts for Oklahoma from 2006 to 2008.

If Lamar (7-2) aims to prevent the series from getting more lopsided, the Cardinals will have to beat a Tech team carrying some momentum.

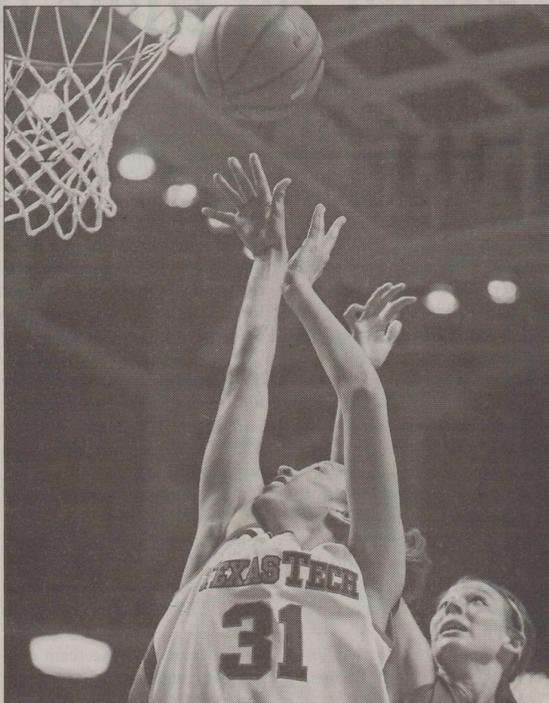
The Lady Raiders are coming off a 65-55 win against New Mexico on Saturday, pushing their winning streak to six. Still the only blemish on their record is the 91-53 loss to then-No. 6 Tennessee.

The six-game winning streak could be a result of how Tech's frontcourt has played recently.

Kierra Mallard and Ashlee Roberson have come up big as of late, with the winning streak including Mallard's career-high 25 points against Texas State and Roberson's back-to-back double-doubles.

Roberson had 12 points and 10 rebounds against Texas State and followed it up with 11 points and 13 rebounds against New Mexico.

Getting boards may not be too easy for most 5-foot-11 forwards, but Roberson said it has been all about having the right mindset against taller opponents.



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S ASHLEE Roberson shoots the ball with Lubbock Christian's Brandi Raindl defending during one of the Lady Raiders' games earlier this season. Tech takes on Lamar at 7 p.m. today in the United Spirit Arena.

"I like to help my teammates out, so having that mentality to go in there, go aggressively," she said. "Just do my part and find the loose balls."

But Curry believes that mentality needed for a smaller player to be effective in the frontcourt always has been one of Roberson's traits.

"She practices as hard as she plays,"

Curry said. "I think people are made a certain way."

"Maybe it's having five or six little brothers or sisters. Surviving at home. I know how I used to fight with my brother. I'm not saying she does that, but it's more just kind of an aggressive mentality. It's a culture. She just plays so hard."

—adam.coleman@ttu.edu

Much talk, little action as winter meetings open

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — In a town known for fast moves around the speedway, baseball's wheelers and dealers were slowly mulling their options at the winter meetings.

Roy Halladay, Curtis Granderson and Dan Uggla were some of the big names being dangled on the trade market as baseball's annual swapfest opened Monday. Toronto appeared to be moving quite deliberately in talks involving Halladay, the much-coveted 2003 AL Cy Young Award winner.

"Nothing's happened. If he comes to a team in our division, I would be interested. He's really good," Boston Red Sox manager Terry Francona said.

Detroit right-hander Edwin Jackson was another player who could be traded, but there were just two minor deals that actually were made in the first few hours of the four-day session.

Washington acquired right-handed reliever Brian Bruney from the New York Yankees for a player to be named and Texas obtained left-hander Clay Rapada from Detroit for a player to be named or cash.

Among free agents, St. Louis and right-hander Brad Penny were close to a \$7.5 million, one-year contract, a deal that won't be completed until after a physical, a person familiar with the talks said. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal was not yet final.

Detroit agreed to a \$1.55 million, one-year contract with shortstop Adam Everett. Also, the Yankees said left-hander Andy Pettitte's representatives told them he wants to return for 2010. New York was prepared to make him an offer upward of \$10 million, a baseball official

familiar with the talks said. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because talks were ongoing.

"I've been told in the right circumstances he wants to pitch," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said.

Cashman also acknowledged he was interested in right-hander Jason Marquis. The GM said he traveled to Indianapolis on Sunday on "Air Levinson" — the private plane of the pitcher's agents, Sam and Seth Levinson.

"Obviously, he's very successful — pitched in tough markets," Cashman said. "He's a New Yorker, so he's tough."

Cashman, who received his budget only last Friday, also must decide what offers to make to left fielder Johnny Damon and designated hitter Hideki Matsui, who like Pettitte became free agents. Matsui, the World Series MVP, wants to stay in the major leagues.

"I manage two Japanese players and it's fun," Chicago White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said. "I love it because all of a sudden when you get fired from the United States, you might have a chance to manage in Japan. You never know."

Jason Bay and Matt Holliday, the top two free-agent hitters, appear to have slow-moving markets. Given the recession, many teams are reluctant to spend top dollar for stars.

"We are not in that bidding at all," Atlanta Braves manager Bobby Cox said.

Even the Yankees appear to be trying to reduce their \$200 million-plus payroll. Cashman said one of the reasons he traded Bruney was that he was eligible for arbitration after making \$1.25 million last season.

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SPORTS

PAGE 8
TUESDAY, DEC. 8, 2009

Red Raiders with target on their back against TCU

By **MIKE GRAHAM**
STAFF WRITER

Pat Knight said Thursday's thrilling win against Washington could have been the biggest during his coaching era.

But the Washington win may not mean much in retrospect if No. 23 Texas Tech doesn't keep winning.

The Red Raiders have a big test tonight when they face TCU at 6:30 p.m. in Fort Worth, and they must put their first big win of the season behind them.

"It's a mental approach," Knight said. "Look at all the pro teams, college teams in any sport that have a big game. I've talked with my dad about this, and you can't let them get caught up in all the publicity."

Knight said what made the Washington win as big as it was for

his program was the fact it came early in the season. Thursday's win pushed Tech's undefeated record to eight wins, rather than being a big upset surrounded by a string of losses that already killed Tech's postseason chances.

The big win also has brought more media attention to the Red Raider program. On Monday, the weekly AP Top 25 poll was released with Tech as No. 23. Additionally, guard John Roberson was awarded the Big 12 Conference's Player of the Week award.

"I rather take a win any day than any individual honor," Roberson said Monday. "It's pretty neat but at the same time, I'm worried about the game (today)."

"I think it's big because the recruits are going to see that and realize that Texas Tech has players too, just like all the other teams in the Big 12."

But Roberson said the Red Raiders have to put last week's glory behind them.

The 8-0 mark — the Red Raiders' best start in almost 80 years — will be in jeopardy with Tech, who plays its second road game of the season against the Horned Frogs (5-3).

And the Red Raiders' single road game of the season thus far was not a pretty victory. Tech beat Stephen F. Austin in Nacogdoches, 63-61 after the Lumberjacks missed the game-tying shot at the buzzer.

TCU should be a tougher opponent than Stephen F. Austin. The Horned Frogs are 3-1

at home with wins against Mid-America Christian, Colgate and Texas State. The loss came against Louisiana Tech.

While TCU's opponents at home this season thus far probably are not of the caliber of Tech, the Horned Frogs have played major conference opponents on the road. TCU took a 3-point loss at Arizona State and was defeated at Nebraska, 90-77.

Although the Red Raiders have enjoyed seeing their highlights on ESPN's SportsCenter and their first ranking since 2005, there is undoubtedly a target on their backs.

The Washington win kicked off the tougher portion of non-conference play with Tech still to face Wichita State in Wichita, Kan., Stanford, McNeese State and UTEP following tonight's game.

Roberson said the team cannot get caught up in its big win and forget about the teams on the schedule ahead.

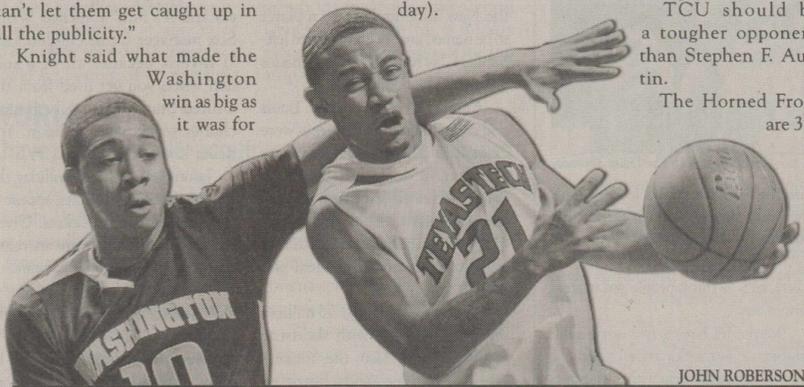
"One of the bulletin boards in our locker room says 'If it's on the schedule, you might as well win it,'" he said. "There's not going to be any letdown. I'm not going to let that happen. I mean, if we lose against TCU, none of this means anything."

>> michael.graham@ttu.edu

BY THE NUMBERS

- 23** — Tech's AP ranking
- 78.1** — Points per game
- 15.3** — Avg. margin of victory
- .475** — Field goal %
- 35.4** — Rebounds per game
- 14.4** — Assists per game
- 8.3** — Steals per game
- +4.3** — Turnover margin
- 4.8** — Blocks per game
- 247** — Weeks since ranked

DESIGN BY KEVIN CULLEN/The Daily Toreador



JOHN ROBERSION

Red Raiders ranked in AP poll for first time since 2005

By **ADAM COLEMAN**
SPORTS EDITOR

Texas Tech coach Pat Knight took note of what Alabama football coach Nick Saban is doing to keep his players motivated before the BCS National Championship game.

Knight heard Saban explain how his players can't listen to all the glorifying remarks they may receive on their way to the national title game — there's still a lot of work to do.

Tech men's basketball isn't Alabama football, but now that the Red Raiders are ranked for the first time since 2005, Knight is teaching the same lesson to his players.

"(Saban has) 32 or 34 days to deal with it," Knight said. "You can't control their computers, you can't control their phones. You can't control what they watch on TV."

While the Red Raiders hope to stay focused on the season, being No. 23 in the latest Associated Press Top 25 rankings indicates they're in the limelight, for now.

The ranking comes after the 99-92 overtime upset of then-No. 12 Washington on Thursday. The Red Raiders also received votes in the ESPN/USA Today Poll, sitting 26th with 49 votes.

In the AP Poll, they are just ahead of Georgia Tech and Ole

Miss. In the ESPN/USA Today Poll, Tech is just below Vanderbilt and Clemson.

Tech was 14-19 last season.

March 14, 2005 was the last time Tech was in the rankings. That was the year Tech advanced to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tournament.

"I'd rather have a target on our back than be the underdog. That's where you're trying to build this program to: back up."

PAT KNIGHT
HEAD COACH
TECH BASKETBALL

Although it shows his team can play with anybody in the country and it gives his players some confidence, Knight said the ranking doesn't mean much at this point.

But it seems like the Red Raiders are shedding the underdog label, which Knight said he is pleased with. He said he enjoys being the team to beat, especially with two road games looming.

"I'd rather have a target on our back than be the underdog," he said. "That's where you're trying to build this program to: back up. Because that's where it was a few years ago."

Tech guard John Roberson — who was named Big 12 Conference Player of the Week Monday after scoring 25 points against Washing-

ton — would rather stay away from the extra attention.

He said the ranking is nice, but he hopes it will not prevent Tech from focusing on the task at hand.

"I feel like we deserve a little bit of it," Roberson said.

"I could do without it just because it can be a distraction sometimes and it can get to people's heads and all that. I rather just stay focused on the game. I think we deserve it, but I don't think any of us are worried about all this stuff."

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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
Copper Mtn.	22	0	Vail	20 2
Crested Butte	20	0	Winter Park	20 4
Keystone	20	2	Wolf Creek	28 2

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texastech.com/students for more info

McCoy, Tebow among Heisman Trophy finalists

NEW YORK (AP) — Tim Tebow added another Heisman first to his long list of accomplishments just by being selected a finalist for this year's trophy.

Tebow became the first player to be invited to the Heisman Trophy presentation ceremony three times when the Florida quarterback — along with Colt McCoy, Mark Ingram, Toby Gerhart and Ndamukong Suh — was named a finalist Monday for college football's most prestigious player of the year award.

"Having the chance to go back to New York means a lot to me," Tebow said in a statement. "It is a special honor but it wouldn't be possible for me to have this opportunity without my teammates and coaches."

The Heisman Trophy will be awarded Saturday in Manhattan. The presentation ceremony has been televised since 1981 and since 1982 at least three players have been invited to attend.