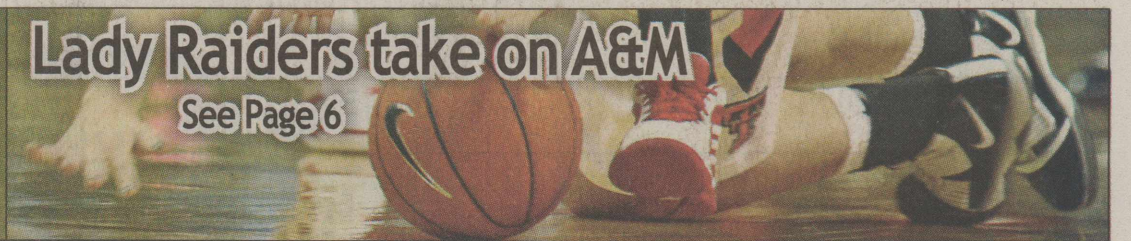


Poets rock  
the mic  
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Lady Raiders take on A&M  
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WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10, 2010  
VOLUME 84 ■ ISSUE 88

# THE DAILY TOREADOR

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## Experts review student success, advising system

By JOEANN BON-JORNO  
STAFF WRITER

Two Noel-Levitz consultants made a visit to the Texas Tech campus Feb. 2 to Feb. 4 to review the advising system at the university.

Brenda Williams and David Trites were the two consultants to visit the campus.

"A lot is going well at Tech, like the Pegasus program. But some of the suggestions on improvement I plan to give are for advising, which appeared uneven across the campus with examples of both good and bad advisers," Trites said.

*"... some of the suggestions on improvement I plan to give are for advising, which appeared uneven across the campus with examples of both good and bad advisers."*

DAVID TRITES  
CONSULTANT  
NOEL-LEVITZ

"Tech has a level of student satisfaction that is significantly higher than national averages for similar universities," Trites said.

The exit briefing on the last day of consulting stated the intention of implementing identified opportunities for improvements and realistic goals for advising, retention, enrollment, along with observations and recommendations.

Elizabeth Teagan, managing director of Academic Operations and Services, said she has been waiting for consultation like this for about seven years and is pleased that Tech organizations and officials participated at a rate close to 99 percent.

was important enough to them to go and not only did they attend — they participated and engaged," Teagan said.

According to Noel-Levitz Web site, the organization is a leader in higher education consulting committed to helping institutions meet their goals for enrollment and student success.

Tech provost Robert Smith said it is common to have outside consultants visit a campus.

He said he has worked with Noel-Levitz before and said they have the best consulting of their type in the country.

"Initial feedback in my mind has been very positive," Smith said.

The consultants interacted with students, he said, and those students had the right perspective.

"Students really care about quality of programs and facility and that perspective is somewhat fresh," Smith said.

Michael Shonrock, senior vice president for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, said Tech has numerous engagements with Noel-Levitz.

Trites said he talked to about 15 to 20 students and was impressed.

They didn't have to go, but it

REVIEW continued on Page 2 >>

## ON THE GRIND



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

CHRIS WALNOHA, A graduate student from Pittsburgh focusing in sculpture, grinds down welds holding together a cylinder Tuesday in the Art building. The cylinder will be placed in a furnace and smashed to create different effects.

## Payroll corrects errors in W-2 forms

By RALSTON ROLLO  
STAFF WRITER

Many Texas Tech system employees received inaccurate tax statements on their W-2 forms from the university this year, but they can be corrected with the completion of a separate tax form.

Sally Post, director of Communications and Marketing, said out of more than 22,000 W-2 forms sent, more than 5,000 inaccurately depicted employees' income.

The error resulted when software was not properly set up to compute and produce W-2 forms, Post said. Tech's Banner system, she said, was

not at fault in the issue.

Janet May, assistant vice president of Human Resources, said the error was discovered Feb. 2 and all affected employees were notified Feb. 3 through e-mail alerts from Payroll Services Director Babar Khan.

"Payroll caught (the error) immediately, and those folks were notified immediately," Post said.

The "Wages, tips and other income" box in the W-2 forms, according to an e-mail from Khan, was missing the imputed income of the employees.

Imputed income, the e-mail explained, is the term given to the Internal Revenue Service's require-

ment that Tech must report discounted life insurance premiums on coverage amounts exceeding \$50,000.

May said corrected W-2c forms were available online Friday and have since been mailed to each affected employee.

Khan's e-mail said employees should file both the original, inaccurate W-2 and the new, corrected W-2c forms.

Khan refused to speak with *The Daily Toreador* and other officials with the Payroll Services Department were not available for comment.

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## Democrats unveil jobs package

By ANDREW TAYLOR AND  
STEPHEN OHLEMACHER  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Democrats circulated a jobs bill Tuesday that's light on new initiatives on boosting hiring and heavy with provisions sought by lobbyists for business groups, doctors and the satellite broadcasting industry.

Senate Democrats were working to round up Republican support, but more snow in the nation's capital made it unlikely the Senate could pass it this week and hand President Barack Obama a quick, badly needed political victory. Republicans are willing partners because much of the bill is made up of tax breaks they support, though many GOP senators said they

were still waiting to see the details.

The 362-page measure is still in draft form and has not been officially released. The draft has very few new ideas for creating jobs, other than a \$10 billion plan to exempt companies from paying the employer's share of Social Security payroll taxes for new hires if they are unemployed and hired this year.

The idea, by Sens. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., and Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, is regarded as more workable than President Barack Obama's plan for tax credits of up to \$5,000 for new hires because it is simpler and gets the tax breaks to businesses faster.

The plan does give employers, however, a scaled-back credit of \$1,000 for new hires kept on payroll for at least a year.

## Haiti dealing with second stage of medical emergency

By FRANK BAJAK  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Fourteen-month-old Abigail Charlot survived Haiti's cataclysmic earthquake but not its miserable aftermath. Brought into the capital's General Hospital with fever and diarrhea, little Abigail literally dried up.

"Sometimes they arrive too late," said Dr. Adrien Colimon, the chief of pediatrics, shaking her head.

The second stage of Haiti's medical emergency has begun, with diarrheal illnesses, acute respiratory infections and malnutrition beginning to claim lives by the dozen.

And while the half-million people jammed into germ-breeding makeshift camps have so far been spared a contagious-disease outbreak, health officials fear epidemics. They are rushing to vaccinate 530,000 children against measles, diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough.

"It's still tough," said Chris Lewis, emergency health coordinator for Save the Children, which by Tuesday had treated 11,000 people at 14 mobile clinics in Port-au-Prince, Jacmel and Leogane. "At the moment we're providing lifesaving services. What we'd like to do is to move to provide quality, longer-term care, but we're not there yet."

Haiti's government raised the death toll for the Jan. 12 earthquake to

230,000 on Tuesday — the same death toll as the 2004 Asian tsunami. Communications Minister Marie-Laurence Jocelyn Lassegue said she expects the toll to rise as more bodies are counted, and noted the number does not include bodies buried privately by funeral homes or families.

The number of deaths not directly caused by the quake is unclear; U.N. officials are only now beginning to survey the more than 200 international medical aid groups working out of 91 hospitals — most of them just collections of tents — to compile the data.

Some 300,000 people are injured. At Port-au-Prince's General Hospital, patients continue arriving with infections in wounds they can't keep clean because the street is their

home. The number of amputees, estimated at 2,000 to 4,000 by Handicap International, keeps rising as people reach Port-au-Prince with untreated fractures.

Violence bred of food shortages and inadequate security is also producing casualties. Dr. Santiago Arraffat of Evansville, Ind., said he treats several gunshot wounds a day at General Hospital.

"People are just shooting each other," he said. "There are fights over food. People are so desperate."

Nearly a month after the quake, respiratory infections, malnutrition, diarrhea from waterborne diseases and a lack of appropriate food for young children may be the biggest killers, health workers say.

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### WEATHER

<b>Today</b>	Cloudy	<b>Thursday</b>	Rain/snow Showers
	37/28		40/25

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**IN BRIEF**

**STATE**

**ATF blames Texas church fires on serial arsonist**

TYLER (AP) — A spate of recent fires that destroyed or damaged several churches in eastern Texas were intentionally set, likely by the same person or group, federal authorities said Tuesday.

Fires that broke out at two churches near Tyler on Monday have not yet been ruled arson, but authorities are investigating them as such. They were reported within an hour of one another and there were signs that at least one of the churches had been

broken into.

Since Jan. 1, eight churches — seven in eastern Texas and one in the central part of the state — have been set ablaze deliberately, authorities have said.

The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which is heading the investigation into the blazes, believe they are the work of a serial arsonist or group of arsonists, said Clay Alexander, the head of the bureau's office in Tyler.

**NATION**

**Despite all the nice talk, partisanship reigns**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Partisanship is reaching new heights in Washington, even as President Barack Obama makes almost daily pleas to get along.

He's scheduled a bipartisan health care summit, and just Tuesday he hosted GOP leaders at the White House for the first time in two months.

But he often undercuts his overtures with his own jabs at Republicans. And there's little indication the GOP is taking his comments as anything but political.

Both sides' stances might be summed

up this way: We're ready to cooperate right now. All you need to do is go along with what we want.

On Capitol Hill, the minority Republicans routinely require a super-majority (60 votes out of 100) to move Senate bills. And only one GOP lawmaker, a House member, voted for the landmark health care bills approved separately by the House and Senate in December. The Democrats, meanwhile, wrote the House and Senate health care bills with virtually no input from Republicans.

**WORLD**

**Iran begins controversial new nuclear process**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's state TV says the country started enriching its uranium to a higher level of 20 percent, over the objections of the international community.

The Tuesday report said enrichment began after Iranian scientists injected 25 kilograms of 3.5 percent enriched uranium gas into a cascade of centrifuges in a laboratory in Natanz, south of Tehran.

It says inspectors from the In-

ternational Atomic Energy Agency were present during the process.

Uranium has to be enriched to fuel nuclear power plants.

Iran needs 20 percent enriched fuel for a research reactor producing medical isotopes.

Enriching uranium to 90 percent creates material for atomic bombs.

The West fears Iran's nuclear program will be used to produce weapons. Iran denies the charge.

**Museum curator to serve as interim director**

By JOEANN BON-JORNO  
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech officials have named Eileen Johnson, a 32-year university employee and director of the Lubbock Lake Landmark, as the interim director of the Tech Museum, following 24-year director Gary Edson.

Johnson said she was approached by the Provost's Office about serving as the interim director about a week or so after the former director left.

Rob Stewart, interim senior vice provost, said he and the Provost Robert Smith, went through a process of asking the museum staff as well as the Museum Association for individual recommendations.

He said based on those recommendations, he and the provost interviewed several candidates and decided on Johnson.

"She has a wealth of experience at the museum and she was highly nominated by her peers," Stewart said.

However, the search for the director of the museum is conducted differently, he said.

"A permanent position will involve a formal committee," Stewart said.

The formal committee for choosing the next museum director will be a good representation of the museum, Tech and the community, he said, possibly with a Board of Regents representative.

Although no committee has been formed yet, he said he hopes to form one soon.

Stewart said Johnson has the option of applying for the director of the museum when the selection process takes place, but Johnson



JOHNSON

said she does not know if she will put in to be the director.

Edson said Johnson is an excellent choice for interim director because she has a long history with the museum.

"She is familiar with most of the activities of the museum," Edson said, "and has been directly involved."

He said she is an outstanding teacher and researcher and is a museum professional with a reputation for high standards both in the classroom and her discipline area.

"I had the pleasure to recommend Johnson for the interim director position," Edson said, "but Smith, the provost, made the decision."

Johnson has served as senior curator of the museum, Horn professor in Museum science and as the director of the Lubbock Lake Landmark.

She said she has been a part of the museum since the early 1970s and as senior curator has had a long history with the museum administration.

Johnson said the position of interim director is an exciting challenge and she has been able to talk to staff from a different perspective.

"We have a lot of activities going on and it has been very lively," Johnson said.

As interim director she said she hopes to refocus and engage the local community more.

>>> joanne.bon-jorno@ttu.edu

*"She has a wealth of experience at the museum and she was highly nominated by her peers."*

**ROB STEWART**  
INTERIM SENIOR VICE PROVOST

**NY governor says he won't drop out of re-election bid**

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — New York Gov. David Paterson, defying calls from even fellow Democrats to drop out of the race for a full term, said Tuesday that he would leave only if the voters turned him out through the ballot box, or "in a box."

Paterson spoke to reporters after several days of rumors sweeping the state Capitol about carousing in the governor's mansion, all of which Paterson strongly denied.

Since Paterson took over from his predecessor, who resigned in a prostitution scandal, his popularity has plummeted and many Democrats have voiced their preference that Attorney General Andrew Cuomo run for governor when Paterson's term is up.

That infighting and the recent rumormongering have further fractured state Democrats and added a decidedly weird edge to the national party's struggle to maintain ground it gained in the last election.

Facing challenges from coast to coast amid voter frustration with incumbents of both parties, Demo-

crats in particular are girding for losses that could see states' chief executives go into Republican hands. New York, a traditionally Democratic-leaning state, would be a devastating blow to a party that just two years ago saw a landslide amid the election of Obama.

Paterson appeared to take heart from an interview earlier in the day with The New York Times, which had been widely anticipated to be preparing a story dealing with his personal conduct. He said that in the interview he was not asked about drug use in the governor's mansion or partying with women.

"The only way I'm not going to be governor next year is at the ballot box, and the only way that I will be leaving the office before is in a box," Paterson said during a news conference.

Paterson had decried the allegations Monday in an Associated Press interview.

He has been trying to end one of the weirdest travails yet in a weird place, a political "Twilight Zone" he often refers to as Planet Albany. This time, media coverage alternately derided as a feeding frenzy and a circus, involved one of

the world's most influential newspapers and became a scandal about a scandal that was yet to be written and which, according to Paterson, won't be.

"Obviously we are not responsible for what other news organizations are reporting," said Times spokeswoman Diane C. McNulty. "It's not coming from The Times."

Paterson attributed the rumors to news outlets and blogs other than the Times. He said that three sources contacted reporters at the start of Sunday's Super Bowl to leak word that he was about to resign, which he said he never contemplated.

"It seems to be somewhat orchestrated," Paterson said Tuesday of the rumors, on whose source he has declined to publicly speculate.

One item by the New York Post on Jan. 30 stated he was caught by state police in a utility closet with a woman other than his wife. The Post has stood by its story, Paterson said a Times reporter who interviewed him Tuesday in the mansion couldn't even find such a closet.

He said Tuesday that after his in-

terview with the Times, he expects its article to be a profile, not about sexual escapades or drug use.

"No such questions, really, to any of that was asked of me," he said.

He said his two children and his wife have been supportive through the week of innuendo, with one consistent message: "Don't give up, even if you are ridiculed."

Most of Paterson's fellow top Democrats were silent as the governor sought to snuff out the rumors. Cuomo refused to comment on the unsubstantiated tales, and his office wouldn't comment on whether he supports Paterson in his battle.

"We don't comment on rumors," a Cuomo spokesman said. "There are serious problems facing our state and the attorney general is busy doing the job he was elected to do."

Many Democrats have voiced wishes that Cuomo run for governor instead of Paterson, a former lieutenant governor who took the post in 2008 upon the resignation of Eliot Spitzer, named in a prostitution investigation 23 months ago.

**Corrections**

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

It is The DT's policy to correct mis-

takes in this spot as soon as possible.

If you feel there is an error in a story, please call Editor-in-Chief Kevin Cullen at 806-742-3395 or e-mail kevin.m.cullen@ttu.edu.

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**Review**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He said the Board of Regents approved a long-term consulting agreement with the organization for three years with an option of up to five years on Aug. 8, 2008.

The visit to campus about advising and retention was one of several separate engagements Tech has with the company, he said.

Teagan said the consulting also was about tweaking the system to support ways to become more effective.

By working with the systems in place, Teagan said, one goal is to increase retention.

"It's rarely a people problem, it's usually a system problem," Teagan said.

According to the agenda, Williams stayed in Philosophy building Room 251B and focused mostly on advising while Trites stayed in English building Room 201 and focused mostly on student success.

According to the Noel-Levitz Web

site, Williams has received numerous scholastic and professional awards and has more than 35 years of experience in higher education.

Trites has 20 years experience in higher education, including as dean of Student Services at Alexandria Technical College.

The written statement the consultants will give to Tech is being worked on, Trites said, and it will be ready in about two weeks. He said the statement will include observations, analysis of what is going well, what needs improvement, and specific recommendations about what can be expanded.

During the consultants' time on campus, numerous representatives of the university community met with the consultants including President Guy Bailey, Smith, associate deans, student support groups, the Strategic Enrollment Planning Council, Resident Life professional staff, Student Government Association officers and college coordinators and advising and retention groups.

>>> joanne.bon-jorno@ttu.edu

**Nigerian VP to run country while president is absent, ill**

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — Nigeria's parliament empowered Vice President Goodluck Jonathan to run Africa's most populous nation Tuesday in place of an ill and absent president, striving for a political end to a crisis that ground the government to a virtual halt and triggered the resumption of an insurgency in the vital oil sector.

But the move is not contemplated in the constitution, legal experts say, and could cause more friction between the Christian south, which gains the presidency at least temporarily, and Muslim north, which finds itself out of the seat of power.

Jonathan told the nation in a televised address Tuesday night that he had assumed power as acting president and commander in chief of the country of 150 million people. He urged all Nigerians to continue to pray for elected President Umaru Yar'Adua, who left Nigeria for Saudi Arabia on Nov. 23. Yar'Adua's physician has said the 58-year-old, who long has suffered from kidney ailments, is being treated for acute pericarditis, an inflammation of the sac surrounding the heart.

"The events of the recent past have put to the test our collective

resolve as a democratic nation," Jonathan said. He later added: "We have all shown that our unity as a people, our love for this country, and our hope for its great future cannot be shaken."

Much of the Nigerian government has been at a standstill. Yar'Adua did not write a letter to the vice president alerting him of the medical absence and empowering him to act as president, as called for in the 1999 constitution. Yar'Adua's absence has caused a cease-fire he negotiated with insurgents in the country's oil-rich Niger Delta to unravel and oil contracts have gone unsigned. The political turmoil in a powerful country with a long history of coups and military dictatorships recently prompted U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and European leaders to call on the nation to follow its constitution.

Newspapers began worrying about possible coup scenarios as Yar'Adua's absence grew longer. However, military leaders insist they have no ambitions to take power and will respect the constitution. Jonathan thanked the security services during his Tuesday night address "for their loyalty and devotion to duty during this trying period."

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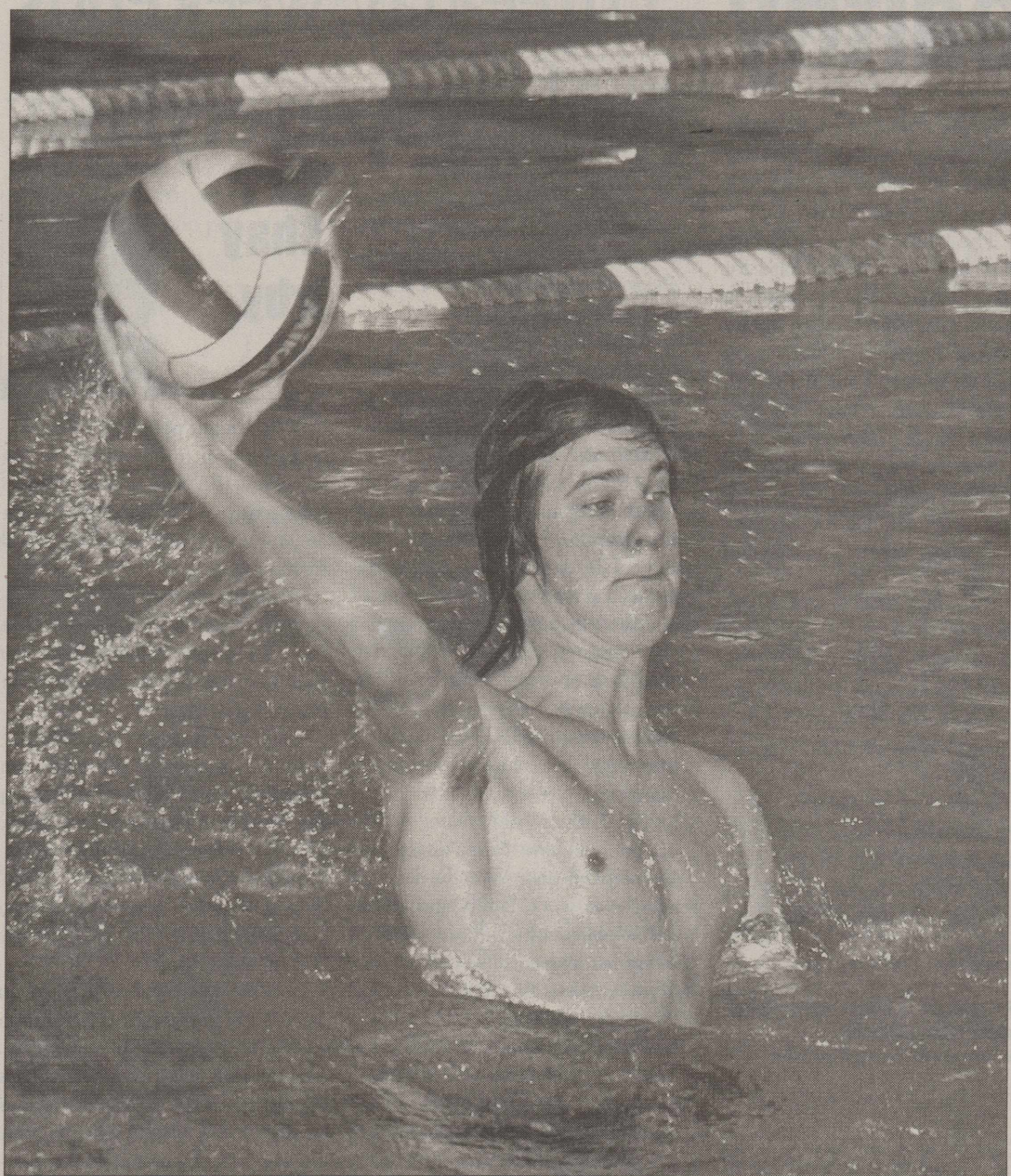


PHOTO BY MATT MOFFATT/The Daily Toreador

GRAYSON HATFIELD, A freshman international business major from Flower Mound, plays water polo Monday at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

## Whaling sparks water cannon firing

ADELAIDE, Australia (AP) — Activists vowing to stop the killing of whales exchanged water-cannon fire with a Japanese whaling fleet they are tailing in the Antarctic Ocean, as sea confrontations that have led to collisions and a sunken vessel continue.

The Sea Shepherd conservation group said its ships, the Steve Irwin and the Bob Barker, confronted the Japanese factory ship Nisshin Maru early Monday.

"The factory ship turned on their water cannons and were surprised when the Steve Irwin responded with a more powerful water cannon that had a couple of the whalers diving for the bridge doors," said a Monday statement from the group.

On Saturday, the Bob Barker and a Japanese harpoon boat collided in icy Antarctic waters, causing minor damage to both vessels. A Japanese whaler struck Sea Shepherd's high-tech speed boat *Ady Gil* and sheared off its nose on Jan. 6. The Bob Barker then came to rescue the

crew of the *Ady Gil*, which sank a day later.

Japanese Fisheries Agency official Shigeki Takaya condemned the use of water cannons after Monday's confrontation. "As we have always said, we condemn the act. It is totally unforgivable," he said.

A Japanese foreign ministry official said Japan lodged a protest with the Netherlands and Togo

*"We intend to turn these three whaling-free days into three whaling-free weeks."*

**PAUL WATSON**  
SEA SHEPHERD  
FOUNDER

over the water cannon fire in the Antarctic Ocean — the countries where the Steve Irwin and Bob Barker are registered.

"We asked the respective governments to stop the ships from obstructing our whaling activities," the official said, speaking anonymously, citing departmental policy. He declined to elaborate further.

Sea Shepherd, a U.S.-based activist group, sends vessels to confront the Japanese fleet each year. Two major clashes have already occurred this year, one a collision that destroyed a Sea Shepherd vessel.

Sea Shepherd founder Paul Watson said his activists have prevented the whalers from catching any whales since Saturday.

"We intend to turn these three whaling-free days into three whaling-free weeks," Watson said in the statement. "I am confident that once again we will severely cut their kill quotas and we will once again negate their profits."

Japan has a six-vessel whaling fleet in Antarctic waters as part of its scientific whaling program, an allowed exception to the International Whaling Commission's 1986 ban on commercial whaling. It hunts hundreds of mostly minke whales, which are not an endangered species. Whale meat not used for study is sold for consumption in Japan, which critics say is the real reason for the hunts.

Watson estimated the whaling fleet has so far killed about 350 minke whales. Sea Shepherd activists try to block the whalers from firing harpoons, and they dangle ropes in the water to try to snarl the Japanese ships' propellers. They also hurl packets of stinking rancid butter at their rivals.

The whalers have responded by firing water cannons and sonar devices meant to disorient the activists. Collisions have occurred occasionally.

## Police question living statue at first TAB mystery event

By ALEXANDRA PEDRINI  
STAFF WRITER

Rather than taking his marketing degree and joining the workforce after graduation, Mark Abbati chose to follow his passions and become a living statue.

Tech Activities Board brought in Abbati, from joyUN SPEAKABLE, after seeing him at a National Association for Campus Activities conference. The daytime events committee wanted to bring him in because his act is unlike anything they've seen done before, said Christi Figueroa, a junior psychology major from Katy. TAB kept not only students, but faculty staff, and the campus police out of the loop on the event because part of the fun of a living statue is for people to not realize it, she said.

This plan worked until the hour before Abbati was set to leave, an officer stopped him from interacting with students to ask him why he was on campus.

Because real statues can't speak, Abbati was forced to find a way of showing

the officer why he was there in a manner that wouldn't be considered evading arrest. He picked up a TAB event calendar and slowly made his way, with the officer, to the TAB members' table that explained why he was there.

"I thought that was ridiculous," said Kristina Fore, a sophomore psychology major from Plainview. "I thought that it was pretty silly because it was obvious that he wasn't posing a threat. He's been here for a while and the campus police just now stopped him."

TAB members explained why the live statue was there and he was free to continue interacting with students for until he left campus.

"We advertised this as a mystery event and we did not specifically say that we were having a live statue man because we wanted it to be a surprise for people," said Sonia Moore, unit coordinator for student activities.

Throughout the day, Abbati dressed in his most popular bronze costume and spent the day in the Student Union Building.

TAB chose the costume because he

originally was supposed to pose outside among the other statues between the library and the SUB. Because of the cold weather, he was moved inside, Moore said.

Because he's a living statue, Abbati wasn't limited to simply standing in one place all day, but interacted with students and faculty walking by.

"He walks pretty funny; he'll be pretty robotic," said Erin Rinderknecht, TAB event daytime coordinator and sophomore pre-communications disorders major from Taylor.

Student's reactions toward Abbati varied from fascination to fear of what was happening, Moore said. Since he moved from one position where he appeared as just another statue to reaching out to students to interact with them, some students were taken by surprise.

"I was scared and freaked out because it looked so unnatural," said Shannon Ector, a sophomore finance major from Grand Prairie. "I think it's really cool and fun because he looks like a real statue but it's surreal."

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## Dad of Palin grandson bares all

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — The teen father of Sarah Palin's grandson is featured on the cover of the upcoming print version of Playgirl magazine — sporting nothing but a sultry gaze.

The photos of Levi Johnston — the 19-year-old former fiance of Palin's daughter — were a huge hit last fall on the magazine's Web site. The publisher expects the same results with other photos from the same shoot running in the newly resurrected print version available

on newsstands Feb. 22.

Johnston fathered a son with ex-fiance Bristol, the 19-year-old daughter of the former Republican vice presidential candidate who resigned as Alaska's governor last summer. The young couple broke up after the birth of their son, Tripp, in late 2008.

The upcoming Playgirl print spread includes an interview with Johnston, who discussed his strained relationship with the Palins, said Daniel Nardicio, a spokesman for

the magazine. An hour-long behind-the-scenes look at the photo shoot also will be available on cable-on-demand programming from Friday to March 11.

Bristol Palin, who is in a child custody battle with Johnston, has called the Playgirl shoot "risque" in her legal petition. Claiming he made more than \$105,000 last year from media interviews and modeling assignments, she is seeking \$1,750 a month in child support and \$18,350 in back child support.

## Relatives: Cuban woman turns 125

HAVANA (AP) — Relatives in eastern Cuba claim to have held a 125th birthday party for a woman named Juana Bautista de la Candelaria Rodriguez, but it is not clear if she is really that old.

The state-run news agency Prensa Latina reported on the party last weekend in the city of Bayamo in Granma province, attended by Rodriguez's family, including 15 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Prensa Latina said Rodriguez, known affectionately as "Candulia," is "presumably the oldest person on the planet, although that has not been confirmed."

In a phone interview with Cuban media, Rodriguez said she was happy and looking forward to many great years ahead.

The agency added that civil registry documents confirm she was born on Feb. 2, 1885, in the village of Santa Rosa, where she continues to live.

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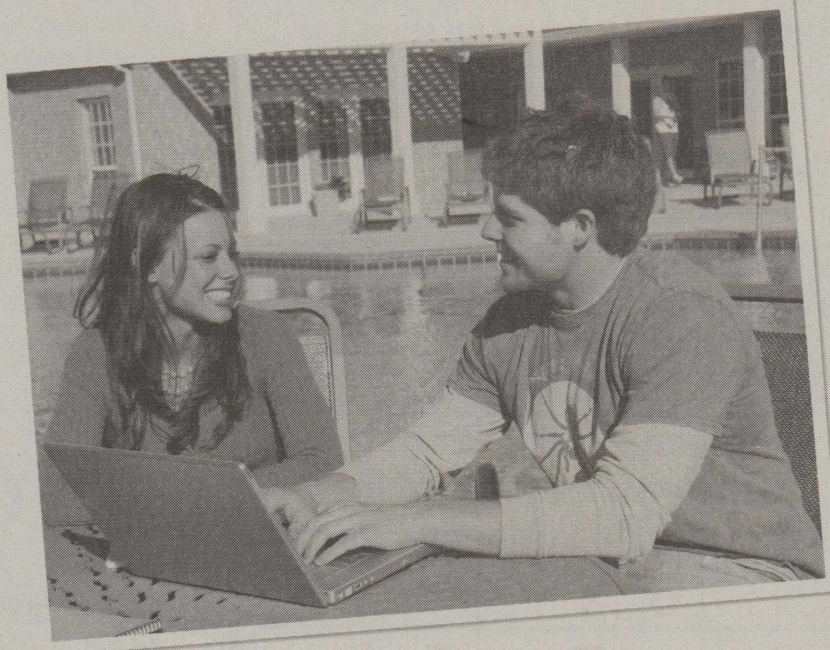


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## Romance novels unhealthy

The strong whiff of various perfumes at the midnight release of "Dear John" was not shocking. If anything, it was expected. This latest chick-flick allowed romantics an excuse to cry and live vicariously through the characters.

"Dear John" is not the beginning or end to romance movies. Most importantly, it — along with other romance novels and movies — inspires and, at times, blinds romantics.

"Dear John" was released Friday, and is based off Nicholas Sparks' novel. Sparks is a recognized name to most women, having written the acclaimed "The Notebook" and "A Walk to Remember," both of course romance novels.

Romance novels are categorized through their focus on the romantic relationships of people and their consistent fairy-tale ending. There is also another common trait of romance novels: the struggle.

There are general basics in storytelling: the beginning, conflict, rising action, climax, falling action and the resolution. Often the conflict arises between other love interests, lack of interest, physical and emotional distances

**Elizabeth Custy**



and, for some, the paranormal. The latest example of this being the "Twilight" series.

However, despite the struggle there is always a satisfying ending to romance novels. That being said, romance novels are fairly predictable and if read consistently can be mundane.

But why wouldn't writers want to produce these predictable, mundane novels?

First of all, romance novels have, and will always be, on constant demand. The 2008 ROMstat report, conducted by the Romance Writers of America, reported romance novels not only generate \$1.37 billion in sales but also hold the largest share of the consumer book market at 13.5 percent.

In short, people — especially women — enjoy reading happy endings. For some it is an escape from their reality and for others a hopeful future.

Yet, the fiction aspects of romance novels are at times ignored, and with Nicholas Sparks producing "inspired by a true story" novels, it gives some reality to hopeless romantics.

In reality, the happy ending isn't always achievable. Chances are slim the bad-boy in your life will change for you. Or that the cheater will never cheat again. It is also near impossible your first love will be your final love or that you will find a secret vampire to give yourself to.

The implication all romance novels implant false hope in all readers is untrue. However, for some it subconsciously introduces unhealthy relationship habits.

The belief it is worth the loss of one self's being, career and friends for their significant other is absurd in most cases. It is important, especially at our age, to be selfish and focus on ourselves. It is most important to maintain and hold our self-esteem at its highest.

A good read for women is "He's Just Not That Into You," a short, coffee-table like book turned into a movie. Unlike romance novels, it does not fulfill women's excuses for their hopeful significant other.

It causes readers to reconsider why he hasn't called back — not because he's playing games, but because he doesn't like you.

The truth of "He's Just Not That Into You" is too hard for many women and is simply a laugh. This simple-laugh book's content needs to implant itself into all women's minds; it will not only give answers but provide a healthy alternative.

Despite the possible negative messages romance novels produce, they are read by millions of readers across the United States.

Romance Writers of America 2009 Reader survey reported 74.8 million Americans read at least one romance novel a year and the romance fiction market has more than 29 million regular readers.

Knowing there are more than 29 million regular romance novel readers, we can only hope these readers are not expecting the same emotionally satisfying ending.

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## Three-day weekends could help everybody

As a northerner, I believe I'm in the minority when it comes to my feelings about the weather the greater Lubbock area has experienced lately.

One thing most of my southern friends don't know about me is that I love snow. Not quite the kind you all are used to around here, but I guess I have to take what I can get.

Although I might be in the minority in regards to my love of cooler temperatures, it's hard to imagine that most of you didn't enjoy the snow days as much as me a couple of weeks ago. I got plenty of studying finished, cleaned the house, ran some errands and even caught up on sleep, if that's possible. To my surprise, I even returned to class Monday morning feeling rejuvenated and ready to explore all avenues of academia.

So that's probably taking it a bit far, but I did have a more relaxed and focused demeanor. With the demands of school, work, family and all the other obligations we face daily, 24 hours hardly seems like enough time to accomplish all the tasks we have day in and day out.

Some of us are able to manage this stress in productive and beneficial ways, but more and more college students are beginning to succumb to the pressures of life away from home. Some react through violence. Others turn to substance abuse, and still there are those who find themselves in dangerous battles with eating disorders or mental ailments of some sort.

So what can be done about this? Is there any way to alleviate the stresses faced by today's college students? I believe there is, and the solution comes in the form of three-day weekends.

That's right, we'll give our all Monday through Thursday and we're out of here Friday through Sunday. Seems simple enough doesn't it? Now all we have to do is bring it before the correct board members and gain approval.

OK, so nothing is ever that simple, but raise your hand if you liked the three-day weekend idea. No, no, not literally, in your mind I mean. I know, I know, some of you are opposed to this idea for one reason and one reason only. If we are successful in securing four day academic weeks at Texas Tech, we'd most likely also have successfully transformed all 50-minute courses into 80-minute courses.

As a friend of mine pointed out, not everyone is capable of maintaining focus in a classroom setting for longer than 50 minutes, which is why many people only take classes MWF, avoiding TR classes. I'm not one of those people, but I can see

**Shay Irby**



how this might pose a problem. Don't you just hate when you formulate the perfect plan only to have someone like my treasured but dream-killing friend come along and snatch it from you?

Do not fret my weary Raider Family; I'm not giving up that easy. Where there are sleepy students, there too shall I be, fighting for extra hours of rest and relaxation.

Not really, but what if more 80-minute courses were available on Mondays and Wednesdays making the creation of a four-day school week possible for more students? Would the enrollment in these classes increase? Would it provide some of those who have more than school on their plates with more free time?

I argue yes. Yes, I would love to have every Friday off to relax, catch up on school work or get ahead. Granted, not everyone would use this extra time efficiently, but for those of us who would, I think it's a plausible option. I can only speak from my perspective, which includes work, school, extracurricular involvement, a long-term relationship and various family commitments. To make a long story short, in my case, a four-day school week would have been tremendously helpful, especially during my freshman year.

I'm not saying this small proposal would yield enormous benefits. Surely there is a lot of red tape to cut through when addressing changes to educational operations at the university level especially in addition to many other important considerations that would have to be made.

Despite all this, I still believe it's an option to be considered and not abandoned until evidence can be provided to its contrary. We can't deny that due to the increased competition in the job market, students are experiencing more and more strain within academic institutions.

Many of us tend to spend most of our time on the things that strain us the most, i.e. school and work. If you had the option to lengthen your Monday and Wednesday courses in exchange for Fridays off, would you?

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## Job openings plunged by one-quarter last year

WASHINGTON (AP) — Finding a job got much tougher last year, as the number of available openings fell by nearly one quarter.

At the same time, the unemployed population soared by more than one-third, leaving more laid-off workers competing for fewer jobs.

All told, there were 6.1 unemployed workers in December, on average, for every available position, according to Labor Department data released Tuesday.

That's a sharp increase from 3.4 jobless workers per opening in December of 2008, and much worse than the 1.7 unemployed people per opening in December 2007, when the recession began.

The economy grew in the second half of last year and gross domestic product, the broadest measure of output, rose by a healthy 5.7 percent in the fourth quarter.

That should lead to more hiring,

but employers are reluctant to add jobs. Many companies are unsure about whether the recovery will continue, economists say, and how health care reform and other government policies will affect them.

"No business hires into uncertainty and right now there's too much uncertainty in the markets," said Harry Griendling, CEO of DoubleStar Inc., a consulting firm specializing in recruitment.

Much of the economy's recent growth stems from government stimulus and one-time factors such as restocking of inventories. As those supports evaporate, many analysts expect the economy to grow at a slower pace.

"Businesses can't look forward a quarter or two and say, 'I'm definitely going to be growing,'" Griendling said.

There were 2.5 million jobs available at the end of December, according to the Labor Depart-

ment's Job Openings and Labor Turnover survey. That includes all jobs publicly listed by companies and government agencies.

That may seem like a lot given the severity of the recession, but that's down from 3.2 million in December 2008, a drop of 22.5 percent. And it's way below the 4.8 million openings that existed in June 2007, the peak reached before the recession.

The drop is a slight improvement from the 26.4 percent annual decline experienced in 2008.

The picture eased slightly in December from the previous month, as available jobs increased by about 60,000 from November. December's ratio of 6.1 unemployed workers per job was better than November's 6.3, the highest on records dating from 2001.

As a result of the uncertainty, many companies are hiring temporary workers rather than creating permanent jobs, Griendling said.

But the Labor Department's survey on job openings doesn't include temporary agency jobs. Temp jobs have been one of the job markets' few bright spots recently, adding

about 250,000 jobs in the past four months.

Small businesses, which create most of the new jobs in the United States, are still reluctant to hire, according to a survey released Tuesday by the National Federation of Independent Business.

More small companies plan to cut workers in the next three months than add them, the NFIB's report said. Only 10 percent of small firms had jobs available last month, the same as December, but far below the 21 percent with open jobs in December 2007, when the recession began.

The Labor Department's report on job openings shows that even in a recession, millions of Americans are hired and fired. Employers hired more than 4 million people in December, the report said, while about 4.2 million were laid off, fired or quit.

The gap between those two figures is roughly equivalent to the net loss of 150,000 jobs in December that the Labor Department reported last week.

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Puzzles by PageFiller

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**Southwest launches 3-day fare sale**

DALLAS (AP) — Southwest Airlines Co. is offering a sale geared toward leisure travelers who want to make short trips this spring.

The discount carrier said Tuesday it will sell tickets starting at \$39 each way on some routes under 500 miles.

As usual, the airline didn't say how many seats it will offer at the sale prices, and Friday and Sunday flights aren't included. The sale ends Thursday and covers travel from March 15 through May 25.

Delta, American, United, Continental and US Airways matched the sale prices on routes where they compete with Southwest, said Tom Parsons, CEO of BestFares.com. Fellow discount carriers JetBlue and AirTran matched on some routes, he said.

Southwest has reported steadily rising traffic for several months — up 7.1 percent in January compared with a year earlier. The Dallas-based airline broke its own record for average occupancy in January. Still, 28 percent of seats were empty.

The sale shows that airlines are struggling to fill planes, especially during the relatively slow travel period between spring break and summer vacations.

"In order to fill up those last 20 percent of seats, Southwest still has to discount to get people off their couches and on to their computers booking tickets," said Rick Seaney, CEO of FareCompare.com.

Since the sale is mostly limited to short hops, the airline can still charge a reasonable price per mile, Parsons said.

"That's still money, and cost per mile is what they go by," Parsons said.

At \$39 one way from Dallas to Houston, Southwest would get more than 16 cents per mile. In 2009, the airline's operating costs were a bit more than 10 cents per mile times available seats, so it can make a profit even at the sale prices if it can fill the planes.

But flights between San Francisco and Los Angeles, which are longer and burn more fuel, would barely break even if every seat were taken at \$39.

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# After Hours contest brings poet, actress to Tech

By DEVIN SANCHEZ  
STAFF WRITER

The Tech Activities Board hosted its second After Hours of the semester at the Barnes & Noble Texas Tech Cafe.

After Hours presented Sabrina Gilbert, an up-and-coming poet from Richmond, Va. Gilbert was at the event to perform and judge a Spoken Word showcase, which featured Tech students who performed their personal poetry.

Gilbert, who began performing her poetry as a dare by one of her friends, attended Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond and majored in theater. Gilbert said her poetry is inspired by her experiences in life.

"If I see what's happening in my life or the life of my friends and family, that's what will inspire me," she said. "I also write about current events and incidents occurring around the world."

Gilbert, who is known for "pushing the envelope" with her work, said she likes to experiment with writing and performing. Gilbert often has pop/hip-hop backup dancers dancing while she recites a poem.

"I like to come up with metaphors

and thought-processes that are not cliché," she said. "I like to think of new ways to say the same things."

In addition to being a poet, Gilbert is also an actress, performing both on stage and in television. She recently worked on "Ugly Betty" and "The Good Wife." Gilbert said when it comes to poetry or acting, she does not have a favorite.

"Performance poetry and acting really go hand in hand," she said. "The technique I use when performing poetry is the same technique I use

in acting."

Gilbert said when she performs she focuses on what she is feeling, and hopes she is able to generate that to her audience.

"Fortunately, my audience can empathize with my experiences," Gilbert said. "A lot of writing is self-discovery, and we are all learning about ourselves, together, through one person's writing."

David Morgan, a freshman pre-law major from Mesquite, performed his poem titled "My Generation" for the crowd. The poem focused on the problems and moral issues facing this generation and what can be done to improve. Morgan said he writes everything from poetry to lyrics.

"Music inspires my poetry," he

said. "I like to write anything."

Other students who performed were Paul Julmeus, Ryan Hildebrand, Furtis Vanderpool and Yvonne Gonzalez.

Berea Orange, a freshman pre-pharmacy major from Arlington, attended the event in support of her friend who was performing. Orange said that although this was her first poetry reading to attend, she is drawn to poetry she can relate to.

"I like when I can feel the poet's emotions," she said. "I like to be able to relate to the words."

Tech Activities Board Nightlife Coordinator Aspen Teague, a junior restaurant, hotel and institutional management major from Keller, said plans to have Gilbert perform at the Spoken Word competition have been in the works since November.

"We do After Hours events once a month," Teague said, "and once a semester we try to hold an event targeted specifically at poetry."

Teague said TAB wanted the students to really get the feel of a coffee-house performance.

"This is our second event at our new venue, Barnes & Noble," Teague said, "and having it here really works well with the atmosphere."

Gilbert said her judging of the competition was based on sincerity, presence of different literary elements, and emotional connection to the work.

"As long as the performer believes what they wrote," she said, "then I can believe it too."

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PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

SABRINA GILBERT PERFORMED as the featured speaker during the spoken word contest hosted by Tech Activity Board on Tuesday evening in Barnes & Noble Cafe.

## Jamie Foxx delivers music, instruments to kids

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jamie Foxx wanted to entertain a group of musically inclined high school students with a few bars from his Grammy winning hit, "Blame It."

But since the song is an ode to the effects of alcohol, he changed the lyrics to "Blame it on the a-a-apple juice." The kids roared.

"I changed it so you guys could sing it," he joked.

Students from four high schools gathered Tuesday at Walt Disney Concert Hall, where Foxx helped present new violins, flutes, French horns, trumpets and drums valued at \$500,000 to students from 16 schools nationwide.

The instruments are part of the

Fidelity FutureStage program, an effort by the investment firm to enrich arts education in public schools.

Founded in 2006, the program provides instruments, specialized training by professional musicians, and a chance for aspiring artists to perform with renowned orchestras such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Boston Pops.

Foxx told students he began as a classical pianist and eventually won a scholarship to study the instrument in college.

"That allowed me to come to L.A. and work on my craft," he said. "Then I went into acting and comedy, and then it was Ray Charles..."

Foxx, 42, who won an Oscar

for his portrayal of Charles in "Ray," got the crowd fired up and had them chanting "music, music" before students came on stage to accept shiny new saxophones, clarinets and other instruments.

"This is way better than our old stuff," one student said.

Dominic Monaghan hosted the program, which was simulcast in Boston, Houston, Chicago and Los Angeles. Students in all four cities performed and received donated instruments.

After the program, Foxx praised Fidelity for stepping in where public funding had failed.

## Angelina Jolie visits Haiti with UN refugee body

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Angelina Jolie began two days of meetings with Haiti earthquake victims Tuesday in her role as a goodwill ambassador for the U.N. refugee agency.

The actress, representing the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, met with U.N. officials in Port-au-Prince and visited an SOS Villages camp for orphans outside the capital, where

she was cheered by Haitians yelling, "Angie! Angie!"

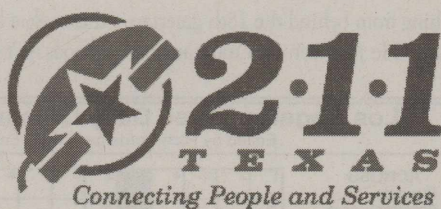
That same camp took care of 33 Haitian children after a U.S.-based Baptist group was arrested at the Dominican border trying to take the kids out of the country. It wasn't known if Jolie spoke with any of the children, and journalists were kept at a distance throughout her visit.

The American missionaries have been accused of trying to take the children out of Haiti without proper documentation. The group says it was heading to a Dominican orphanage following Haiti's quake and had only good intentions.

Jolie also toured a Doctors Without Borders hospital in a Port-au-Prince suburb, waving to onlookers.

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# SPORTS

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WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10, 2010

## Lady Raiders try to salvage season against Adams, No. 13 Texas A&M

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ  
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech head coach Kristy Curry probably knows Texas A&M better than most Big 12 Conference teams.

She has coached against the Aggies seven times, with Wednesday's game against A&M at 7 p.m. in the United Spirit Arena being the latest chapter in the rivalry between the schools. But Tech is 1-6 against A&M since Curry's arrival.

And this season may be the most difficult for Curry to turn her fortunes around against the Aggies.

"They're as good as they've been," she said. "I think it could be (Texas A&M coach Gary Blair's) best team. I know that they've struggled a little more. As far as years past, I think it's his deepest, most talented team."

Tech (13-9, 1-7 in Big 12 play) returns home after being on the road for back-to-back games at Iowa State and Texas.

The month of February however, will provide a much different environment at home.

Tonight's game will be the first of three Pink Treadmill Parties at Lady Raider home matches. The event will consist of members of the Lubbock community walking on Tech's CYBEX Pink Treadmill for approximately four minutes to secure

donations through sponsors.

The Marsha Sharp Leadership Circle and the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund are teaming up to host the occasion and raise money to benefit both Tech female student-athletes and women's cancer research, respectively.

So Tech forward Ashlee Roberson said being home will be uplifting. "We're back on our home floor. We're just ready to play," she said. "We're playing back in front of our crowd. It's a positive thing for us."

But if Tech wants to steal a win against No. 13 A&M (16-5, 4-4), the Lady Raiders will have to try to stop Danielle Adams.

The last time the teams met, Adams did the most damage with 27 points and 12 rebounds. She was one of three Aggies in double figures that day along with Tanisha Smith and Tyra White.

Not to mention Adams was being defended by Kierra Mallard, who will not be there this time around. Mallard has been suspended indefinitely.

Players know containing the 6-foot-1 Adams will be a difficult task.

"She's a very great player, you've got to give credit to her," Roberson said. "Overall, we've just got to play her straight up. She can put a hand in your face, block a shot, rebound. She's an all around great player.



PHOTO BY FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador  
TEXAS TECH'S JORDAN Murphree and Nebraska's Lindsey Moore fight for ball during the Lady Raider's game against the cornhuskers earlier this season.

We've just got to do our best in defending her."

Even though the last meeting resulted in a 69-54 loss, Tech has performed better against Big 12 South opponents at home thus far.

The Lady Raiders lost to Oklahoma by 15 points in Norman, Okla., only to lose by four to OU the following match up at home. Against Texas at home, Tech pushed the game into double overtime and lost by five. In Austin, the Longhorns were too much to handle and the Lady Raiders took a 30-point drubbing.

So the Lady Raiders now have an opportunity to get one of their most significant wins of the season.

"The good thing is we've had a chance to play them once," Curry said. "You draw from those experiences and you draw from the film that we have. It's more about team defense, not putting so much emphasis on Adams that you forget about the (Sydney) Colsons, the (Sydney) Carters, the Whites, and the Smiths.

"Again, I think it's his deepest, most talented team he's had so far."

—jose.rodriguez@ttu.edu

## Back end of lineup key for Tech men's tennis

By JOSHUA KOCH  
STAFF WRITER

Much of the rave in Texas Tech men's tennis has been about Raony Carvalho and Gonzalo Escobar.

That may be expected since they are ranked among the best singles players in the nation.

But assistant coach Marcelo Ferreira knows the Red Raiders are not going to get far without production from the No. 4, 5 and 6 spots in the lineup.

"We had matches where our No. 1, 2, and 3 guys won the match for us. In other matches the No. 4, 5, and 6 were just as important," he said. "That's the good thing about our team right now. I feel like I can rely on anybody."

Even in support of the top spots, victories this season have come from players at the top and bottom of the lineup. The No. 3 through 6 spots in the lineup have posted a combined 6-6 record thus far.

Part of this supporting cast is where the youth of this team lies. Freshmen Vitor Manzini, Raphael Pfister and sophomore Rafael Garcia are receiving their most extensive action this season.

In the No. 5 spot, Manzini is 3-1 so far. Manzini has three national championships under his belt already, notching those as a junior player in Brazil. He also has a Confederation Cup 18 Championship on his resume as well.

Expectations are high even toward the bottom of the lineup, Manzini said.

"We usually don't play against the tougher players in the course," he said. "I have some pressure to win the points because I'm in the bottom."

Before Tech, like most of the squad, Pfister played competitively

in Brazil. In 2006 he won the Brazilian Championship, and was also ranked in the Top-15 in the 16 and under, and 18 and under age divisions.

Pfister holds the anchor spot in the Tech lineup at the No. 6 spot.

With so many teams loaded from top to bottom on the schedule, Pfister said playing in the No. 6 spot has become more of a challenge.

"We have a really tough schedule," he said. "We are playing against a lot of ranked schools, and the lineup of these schools are tough from the No. 1 to the No. 6. It's been really hard to play the No. 6 in singles."

Although a sophomore, this is Garcia's first season playing as a Red Raider.

In Brazil he was the No. 1 ranked player in the 12 and under, 14 and under, and 16 and under age divisions. In 2005, he was the No. 6 ranked player in South America.

Garcia sits in the middle of Tech's lineup at the No. 3 spot. He has posted a 1-1 record so far.

Garcia holds all matches at all spots in high regard. He said that attitude has to be adopted considering the competition in each lineup.

"Every single match is important in the lineup," Garcia said. "Doesn't matter if you're playing one or six, your match is important as well. Every single spot has good players from every university, so it's the same. It's all competitive."

—joshua.koch@ttu.edu



GARCIA



MANZINI

# LADY T RAIDERS

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VS

# TEXAS A&M

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( DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 )

## FIRST 100 STUDENTS

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## Tiger's rule in US Open at Pebble Beach overstated

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP)—Two years ago on a course along the Pacific, the U.S. Open winner was never really in doubt.

And that was four months before the U.S. Open was played.

Tiger Woods opened the Buick Invitational at Torrey Pines with a 67 on the South Course, prompting a caddie watching from behind the 18th green to declare, "He just won two tournaments

with one round."

Sure enough, Woods went on to an eight-shot victory that week, his fourth straight at Torrey Pines and sixth overall, not including a Junior World Championship title. And when the U.S. Open rolled around that summer, Woods won again, even on a shattered left knee.

No one will make such a prediction this week at Pebble Beach, mainly because Woods isn't here.

Nor should they even if he were.

His 15-shot victory in the 2000 U.S. Open remains the most dominant performance in major championship history. Woods became the first player to finish the toughest test in golf at double digits under par (12 under), and no one else managed to break par. That's why this year's rotation of the majors — Augusta National, Pebble Beach and St. Andrews — looks so appealing.

### Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

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By Don Gagliardo 2/10/10

### Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

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AMERICAN	EAGLE		
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CEOS	NURSE		
SIX	PACK	GTE	ZIA
ALTERNATE	ENDING		
GIRD	BRAN	AANDE	
AAAS	CLUE	LYCOS	

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36 Have heated words  
37 Two tablets, say  
40 It doesn't cover much of a  
48 Across  
45 Ill-fated vessel  
47 Maxima maker  
49 Cleanup hitters, briefly  
50 Actor Jannings and pianist  
Giles

51 South Pacific island nation  
53 See 34-Down  
56 Periodic table fig.  
57 Peace symbol  
58 Put away  
59 "East of  
60 Means of determining proficiency  
63 Cheer syllable

## Lyon should be ready for spring

HOUSTON (AP)—Astros reliever Brandon Lyon had surgery to drain a small cyst in his pitching shoulder but is expected to be ready for spring training.

The team said in a statement Tuesday that Lyon had the cyst drained two weeks ago and has been throwing without discomfort since. The right-hander is expected to begin workouts with his new club Feb. 20, when pitchers and catchers report for spring training in Kissimmee, Fla.

He might be about 10 days behind in his throwing program, the Astros said.

Houston signed Lyon as a free agent in December to a \$15 million, three-year contract.

"Brandon was experiencing some weakness and discomfort in his shoulder, and we brought him in a couple of weeks ago to be seen," general manager Ed Wade said. "At the time of his pre-signing physical, his right shoulder MRI showed a very small cyst, and when the MRI was repeated recently, it showed that the cyst had enlarged and was pressing on some nerves.

"Since having it drained, Brandon reports no problems, but he will be making up for a little bit of lost time when he gets to Kissimmee."

Lyon was 6-5 with a 2.86 ERA and three saves in 65 relief appearances for Detroit last year.

In other news, minor league second baseman Jose Vallejo will undergo right hand surgery Wednesday and miss most of the 2010 season.

The 23-year-old Vallejo cut tendons in two fingers while preparing a meal at his home in the Dominican Republic during the Christmas holidays. His hand slid over the blade of a knife that he was using to cut meat, the team said.

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StrengthsQuest Month  
Wednesday, Feb. 10  
SQ Millionaire  
Matador Room  
1-3 p.m.

# Softball coaching staff bring winning history to Tech

By **TOMMY MAGELSEN**  
STAFF WRITER

After a complete revamping of the softball coaching staff at Texas Tech, new coach Shanon Hays' team is still a mystery to him — but he sees this as good news.

"Every year is a new year, a new challenge," Hays said. "You always have to forget what you did last year. You have to forget what you did the last game in this sport. So it is new for us. We expect to be bigger and better than we've been before and this year's the first step to that. A large number of the girls that played on this team were freshman, so I think they've grown up a lot since then."

Growing up wasn't the only problem for the Red Raiders last season — the squad was



HAYS

15-42 overall, 3-15 against Big 12 Conference teams.

Hays expects this year's team to have the ability to move out of the basement

of the Big 12, however. He already has established himself in Lubbock with an impressive multi-sport coaching resume.

After spending the early part of his coaching career focusing on basketball, including stops at Tech and Houston, Hays decided to concentrate solely on softball and returned to Lubbock to coach Lubbock Christian in 2006.

Then the son of former Tech baseball coach Larry Hays made his own name.

In Shanon's first year at LCU, he guided the Lady Chaps to the 2008 NAI A national championship and earned the 2008 NAI A coach of the year award.

The younger Hays — who was hired in July — brought in a whole new coaching staff to rebuild the program at Tech with hopes of kicking off a new era of winning.

"My hope is that we start to build something that Tech stu-

dents and alumni are proud of, and the community of Lubbock

wants to be a part of and come see," Shanon said. "You do that by winning some games."

New assistant coach Aly Sartini joined the Red Raiders last July after helping Arkansas to back-to-back postseason berths.

Sartini said all the coaches bring in a new attitude for Tech, one that can help players play to the best of their

abilities.

"We came in and told them, 'Hey, we're gonna be good, we're gonna go to regionals,' just kind of make it real positive," she said. "Give them goals that maybe they thought that they couldn't achieve before, but they actually can achieve now."

Sartini said she has experience rebuilding programs, and looks forward to laying down a good foundation for Tech to build on.

Also joining Shanon and Sartini is assistant coach Kristie Fox, a two-time national champion at Arizona as a player, where she amassed a .350 career batting average.

Fox also brings a winning tradition to Tech. Arizona softball is considered among the elite in the sport with eight national

championships.

The Red Raiders open the 2010 season on the road in Tempe, Ariz., in the Arizona State University Kajikawa Classic on Thursday against Wisconsin.

Sophomore catcher Holley Gentsch said the new attitude of the coaching staff brings already has given players more confidence than they had last year, and it continues to build because they have been scrimmaging almost every day.

"We're all just really excited to go out there and work together as a team and start building on this new program and trying to get more attention to us," Gentsch said. "(We want) to go prove to people how many good athletes we have, and how we are really going to be a great program."

►thomas.magelsen@ttu.edu

# Tech survives on road with 72-71 victory

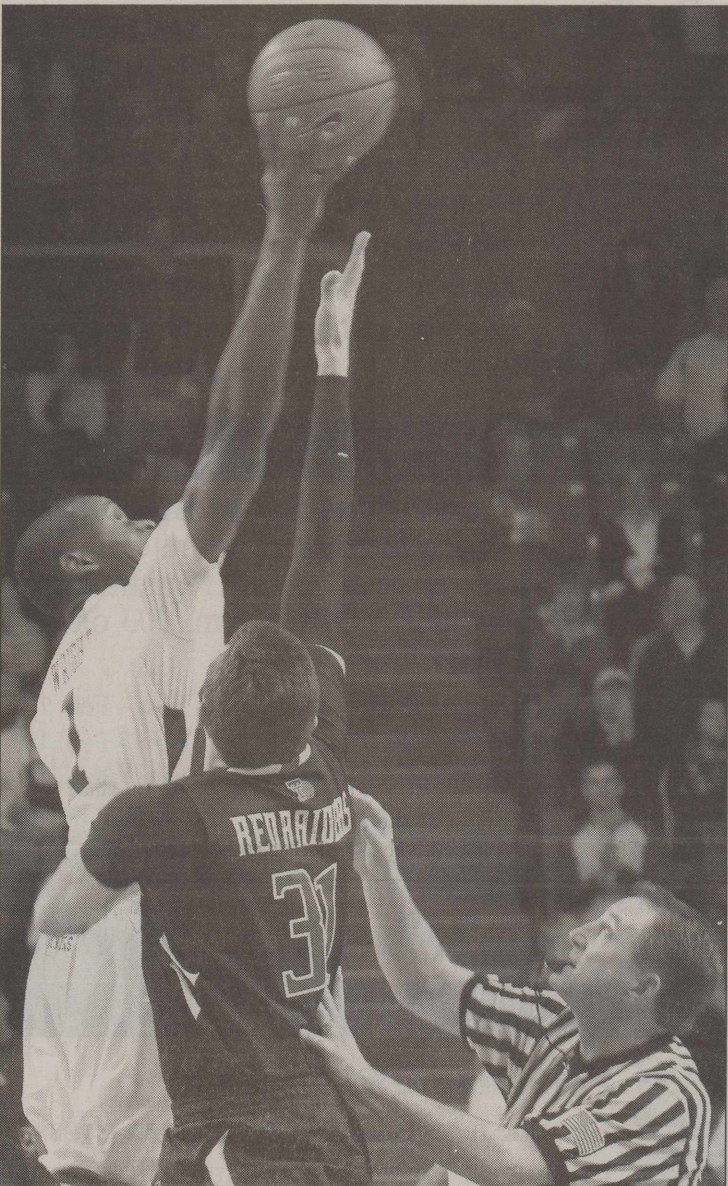


PHOTO BY NEIL MCGLOHON/The Oklahoma Daily

THE RED RAIDERS survived a late rally and outlasted the Oklahoma Sooners 72-71 on Tuesday in the Lloyd Noble Center in Norman, Okla.

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — John Roberson scored 22 points, Darko Cohadarevic added 12 and Texas Tech barely held off a second-half rally to beat Oklahoma 72-71 Tuesday night, snapping the Sooners' 31-game home winning streak against unranked opponents.

Willie Warren and Tommy Mason-Griffin each missed potential game-winning 3-pointers in the final 5 seconds as Oklahoma (13-10, 4-5 Big 12) absorbed a disheartening blow to its postseason hopes.

Texas Tech (16-7, 4-5) built a 12-point lead early in the second half and was able to stage off a series of comebacks to break a six-game losing streak and sweep the season series from the Sooners.

Warren had 18 points while playing his most significant minutes since missing two games with a sprained ankle, and Tony Crocker added 16 points and 11 rebounds for Oklahoma.

The Sooners played without suspended freshmen Steven Pledger and Andrew Fitzgerald, who were cited for petty larceny on Saturday, and had a 12-game home winning streak snapped. The run started with their final regular season home game last year.

Former Oklahoma star Blake Griffin, the No. 1 pick in last year's NBA draft, was presented with the NCAA Sportsmanship Award during a halftime ceremony.

The Sooners, who went 9 for 16 from 3-point range to build a commanding first-half lead in their win against then-No. 9 Texas on Saturday, were off the mark against a Tech defense allow-

ing a league-high 74.6 points per game. Oklahoma, which is first in the Big 12 in 3-point attempts but is shooting only 35 percent from long range, hit just three of its first 17 shots from behind the arc.

When the shots finally started falling, Oklahoma cut into Tech's 12-point advantage. Cade Davis followed a series of baskets inside by reserve Tiny Gallon to get the Sooners within 53-48, but the Red Raiders scored the next seven points to restore their lead.

Mike Singletary staved off the next rally by hitting a 3-pointer and a pair of free throws to extend a five-point lead back to 67-57. But the Sooners kept coming.

Gallon followed Mason-Griffin's four point play with a right-handed jam to get Oklahoma within four, and Mason-Griffin's driving layup made it 72-69 with 2:12 to play. Crocker missed a potential tying 3-pointer before stealing the ball and hitting two free throws to make it a one-point game with 55.6 seconds left.

Roberson lost the ball out of bounds with 21.5 seconds left to give Oklahoma one last chance at the win, but Warren was off target from the left wing and Mason-Griffin's contested shot from the right side caromed off the rim.

Oklahoma ended up 6 for 26 from 3-point range.

Texas Tech finished the first half with a 16-5 run which started when Roberson connected on a tying 3-pointer from the right wing. He then set up D'wain Roberts for a two-handed jam. Roberson's two free throws at the end of the half gave the Red Raiders a 36-28 lead.

# Good times roll at Saints SB parade

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Only a Super Bowl victory parade could upstage Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

Carnival floats carrying Saints players, coaches and team owner Tom Benson rolled past tens of thousands of jubilant fans in downtown New Orleans on Tuesday, two days after the 43-year-old franchise won its first NFL championship.

Players, wearing team jerseys instead of traditional Carnival masks and costumes, tossed beads into the crowd and signed autographs for throngs of screaming fans. Benson shouted "Who Dat!" into a microphone from his perch atop a float. Head coach Sean Payton blew kisses and held the Lombardi Trophy over his head.

"Here's to the best Mardi Gras week in the history of this city," Payton said, raising a glass of champagne during a toast outside the city's historic Gallier Hall.

The parade, a week before the city's signature Fat Tuesday celebration, started outside their home turf at the Louisiana Superdome. Black, gold and white confetti floated over the crowd and a man wearing a Saints jacket held aloft a sign that read, "Happy Lombardi Gras!"

The floats stopped at a reviewing stand so elected officials, including Mayor Ray Nagin, Gov. Bobby Jindal and Sens. Mary Landrieu and David Vitter, could toast the team's 31-17 win

over the Indianapolis Colts.

"How's the 'Who Dat' nation feel tonight?" Super Bowl MVP Drew Brees yelled when his float stopped at the reviewing stand. "This toast goes out to you. We love you and we won that championship for you."

Ten Carnival krewe lent floats for the team to ride. More than a dozen marching bands joined the team on its route, which passed by the edge of the French Quarter and ended at the city's convention center. An official crowd estimate wasn't immediately available, but many fans said the gathering seemed larger than any during Mardi Gras.

"This is wilder than Mardi Gras," said Frank V. Smith, 55, a lifelong New Orleans resident who shot photographs of players from the rear of a pickup truck. "I've never seen so many people out here like this. This is beautiful, man."

Shannon Cobb, 28, of Metairie, said the parade was a party with a purpose.

"Everybody is here for one reason: their love for the city and their love for the Saints and to show our appreciation for what they've done for us," she said.

The Super Bowl win, which capped just the ninth winning season in franchise history, was a stunning reversal of fortunes for a team once derided as the "Aints." Few players could appreciate that better than fan favorite Deuce McAllister, the team's retired all-time leading rusher who joined the team on the sidelines for the Super Bowl.

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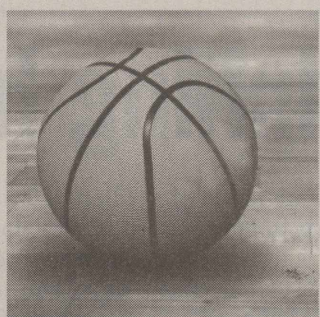
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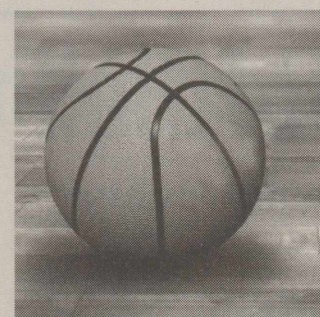
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The Rec Center is proud to offer a new kind of therapeutic massage technique: Hot Stone Massage!

Each hour long session is only \$50, compared to \$90 or \$100 at other spas. Relax and let the warmth of the stones and gentle pressure of the massage wash away any tension you might have.

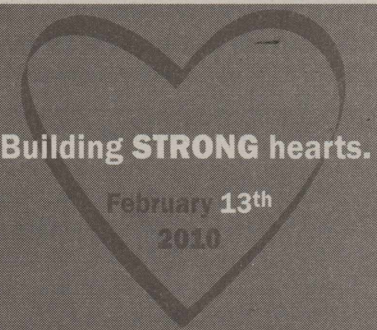
### Wellness Blood Screenings

Thurs. Feb. 18 6:30 - 8:30am

Make a commitment to better health. Begin by learning your current blood levels and continue with exercise, better nutrition and stress management. All tests are administered by Covenant Corporate Services. Once blood is drawn, a number of tests can be run. Tests listed on the Rec Sports Website. Rec Center membership is NOT required.

Please register by noon the day prior to testing by calling 742.3828. Cash, check, Visa, Mastercard or Discover accepted. Payment is due the morning of the tests.

## Fit/Well



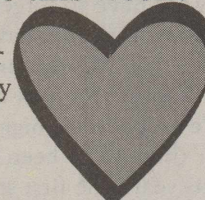
### Valentine's Day FUN RUN

### Valentine's Day Fun Run/Walk THIS SATURDAY AT 1:10PM

Free for everyone! The first 100 students with a valid student ID will get a free t-shirt courtesy of the TTFCU. Celebrate Valentine's Day with a 5k run or 1 mile walk around campus. The run/walk will also be the kick-off event for F.I.T Tech with booths and a captian's meeting. Registration will begin at noon in the North Lobby of the Student Rec Center.

### Need a Gift for your loved one this week?

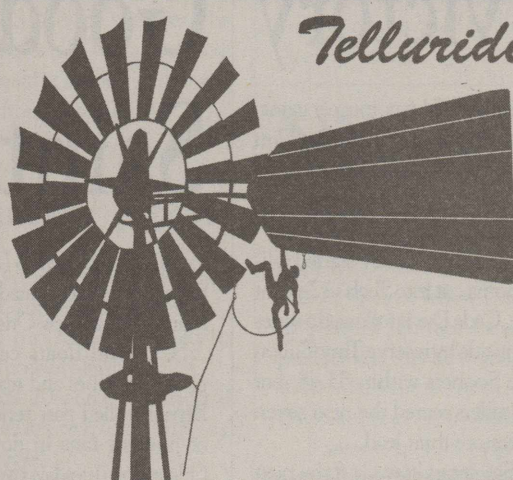
Stop by the Fit/Well office and pick up a massage gift certificate today! Even if your loved one is not part of the Rec Center, they can still enjoy a soothing massage by our licensed massage therapists!



Prices: Rec Member: \$25/Half hour \$40/Hour  
 Non-Rec Member: \$35/Half hour \$50/Hour

Or give the newest gift in the Fit/Well: A Hot Stone Massage. This technique is truly relaxing and a great gift for Valentine's Day. Price: \$50/Hour

## Outdoor Pursuits



### Telluride Mountainfilm On Tour

#### Telluride Mountainfilm On Tour

This FRIDAY! 7:00pm Allen Theatre  
 See some of the best films from the Telluride festival! The Telluride Mountainfilm on Tour is dedicated to educating and inspiring audiences about issues that matter, cultures worth exploring, environments worth preserving and conversations worth sustaining.  
 Free for all TTU students and VP competitors.

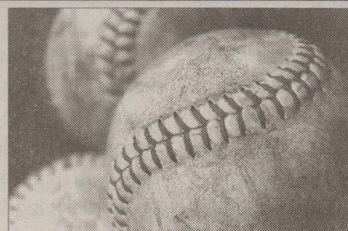
### Rent Ski's and Snowboards

The OPC has all of your ski and snowboard needs covered here in Lubbock! Ski package includes skis, boots and poles. Snowboard packages include board and boots. Helmets and other accessories are also available for rent! Already have equipment, but just need them waxed or P-texed? Waxing is \$25 and a -tex/gouge is only \$5!

## Intramurals

### Need a job? Become a Softball Official!

Students wanting to officiate softball must attend one of the two officiating meetings: Monday, Feb. 15th or Tuesday, Feb. 16th from 5:00 - 7:30pm at the Student Rec Center (SRC), Room 201. Softball officials make \$9 per game and are thoroughly trained in rules, mechanics, and sportsmanship. Knowledge of baseball or softball is mandatory but no officiating experience is needed. Any questions should be directed to the intramural staff by calling 742-2945, by coming by the SRC's room 203, or by visiting the web at: [www.rescsports.ttu.edu](http://www.rescsports.ttu.edu)



### Softball Registration Is Almost Here!

Register your team starting Tuesday, February 16 and ending Thursday, February 18. Stop by early to get the best time slots for your team! Don't have a team? Come to the Free Agent Meeting on Wed. at 7:00pm in Rm. 206 of the Rec. Don't forget that each team needs a \$50 forfeit fee deposit. Get your team sign up and ready for the 2010 Softball Season!

### Individual Sport Sign-ups

These Individual Sports are currently accepting registration in the IM Office, Rm. 203 of the Rec Center.

Racquetball League: Now - Feb. 17  
 Table Tennis League: Now - Feb. 17  
 Badminton Tournament: Now - Feb. 17



## Sport Clubs Scores & Updates



The 26th ranked TTU Men's Rugby Club defeated #13 UNT this past Saturday 36-19. Pictured is Rodrick Henderson carrying the ball against UNT.

Men's Lacrosse 5 - SMU 15

Women's Volleyball qualified for the SIVA Conference Finals this past weekend at the Texas A&M Tournament

## Aquatics

### Looking for a job?

The Leisure Pool will be opening on March 27th this spring. Join our team for the Spring and Summer.

#### We Need:

- Customer Service Workers
- Lifeguards
- Swim Instructors

#### Informational Meetings in SRC Rm. 206

- Monday, February 22 at 4:00pm
- Tuesday, February 23 at 6:00pm
- Thursday, February 25 at 5:00pm
- Monday, April 12 at 5:00pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 4:00pm
- Wednesday, April 14 at 5:00pm
- Thursday, April 15 at 6:00pm



### Lifeguarding Classes

Become a certified American Red Cross Lifeguard. This course includes lifeguard techniques, standard First Aid, and CPR for the professional rescuer. Cost is \$130 for Texas Tech students and faculty/staff and \$150 for the community. Includes the book and all certification costs.

#### Classes:

- April 6 - 29 on T/Th from 6-10pm
- April 10 -18 on Sat/Sun from 8am-5pm

#### Challenge Classes:

- Friday, February 19 at 3:00pm
- Thursday, March 11 at 6:00pm



Presents...



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11  
 SUB ALLEN THEATRE  
 7:00 PM

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
 Student Union & Activities  
 Division of Enrollment Management & Student Affairs



[www.tab.ttu.edu](http://www.tab.ttu.edu) | 806.742.4708 | [tab@ttu.edu](mailto:tab@ttu.edu)

## student union & activities

### Movie-- Paper Heart

Wednesday, February 10  
 SUB Allen Theatre | 8:00 pm

### Matinee Movie -- Paper Heart

Thursday, February 11  
 SUB Escondido Theatre | 3:00 pm

### Tech Price is Right

Thursday, February 11  
 SUB Allen Theatre | 7:00 pm

### Telluride Film Festival

Friday, February 12  
 SUB Allen Theatre | 7:00 pm

### Movie--New Moon

Tuesday, February 16  
 SUB Allen Theatre | 8:00 pm

### Matinee Movie--New Moon

Wednesday, February 17  
 SUB Allen Theatre | 3:00 pm

For more information visit [www.tab.ttu.edu](http://www.tab.ttu.edu)

## student organization update...

### S.O. Workshop: Know Your Campus Resources

Wednesday, February 10  
 SUB Lubbock Room | 2 pm

### S.O. Registration Meeting

Tuesday, February 16  
 SUB Senate Room | 2 pm