

SCANNED COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79408

Price is Right
See Page 5

Tech men's
home opener

See Page 8

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New garage to benefit student, stadium parking

By JON VANDERLAAN
News Editor

A former Texas Tech student, who described parking on campus five years ago as frustrating, started a project aimed at easing some everyday parking problems and providing more game-day parking for Tech football games.

Clayton Isom, a Tech alumnus and CEO of Tao, said the project was inspired from the frustration he had when parking at the university as a student.

"Since I moved out of the dorms, every day was a battle to find space without getting on a bus," he said. "We knew there were enough students and Tech fans that wanted to get closer to the stadium and campus that it would work."

The development, dubbed Raider Park, will host student parking during the week at \$350 per year and will host Tech football game-day parking for \$1,500 per season. The garage will be located north of Jones AT&T Stadium

across the Marsha Sharp Freeway, just east of the pedestrian bridge leading to the stadium.

According to a release about the development, more than 1,200 students are on a waiting list for commuter parking and more than 4,000 are on a waiting list for covered parking. The only covered parking lot on campus is the Flint Avenue Parking Garage.

The group hopes to open the garage Sept. 1, in time for the first Tech football game.

The Red Raider Club and Texas Tech Alumni Association partnered with the group for the 563,584 square-foot garage.

Isom said the development group wanted the Red Raider Club and the alumni association to join the venture instead of competing against the university for game-day parking.

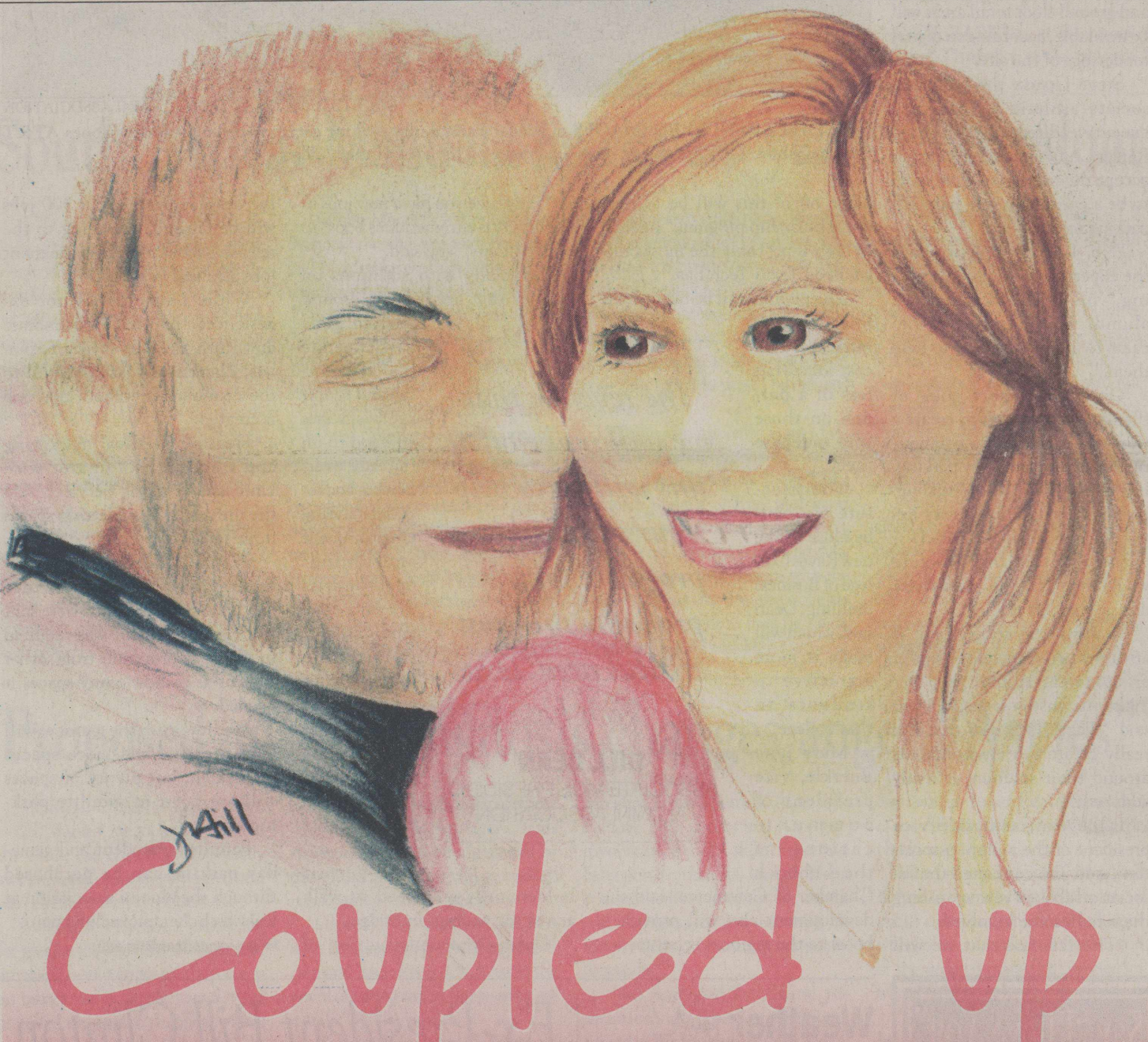
"This project should overhaul the environment for a Texas Tech game day," he said.



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON the new Raider Park at the corner of Fourth Street and University Avenue on Thursday.

GARAGE continued on Page 2 >>



Coupled up

Some Tech students celebrate first Valentine's Day together

By DEVIN SANCHEZ
Staff Writer

It happens every February.

Thoughts of love, romance, flowers, candy and Hallmark cards fill the air in anticipation of Valentine's Day. While some may decide to ignore the holiday completely, others become completely enthralled by it and can hardly wait to share the day with their special someone.

Samantha Lippard, a freshman Russian language and area studies major from Martin, Tenn., is excited to spend Valentine's Day with her boyfriend of almost six months, Eric Brannigan.

Lippard and Brannigan met last May in a more contemporary manner: online.

Lippard lived in Tennessee at the time and Brannigan was in Lubbock,

and neither one imagined that nine months later they would be spending their first Valentine's Day together. The two began corresponding in May and didn't think much else would become of the relationship.

"I had lived in Tennessee and was moving to Oklahoma," Lippard said, "and he made jokes about us visiting each other."

That joke became a reality, and Lippard soon found herself in Lubbock attending Texas Tech.

"We tried to do the long-distance thing for awhile," she said, "but this is better, because I get to see Eric every day."

This will be the couple's first Valentine's Day together, and Lippard said she would rather spend time with Brannigan than make a big to-do about the holiday.

BE MINE continued on Page 5 >>

ILLUSTRATION BY JORDAN HILL/The Daily Toreador

Lubbock snow totals pass seasonal average

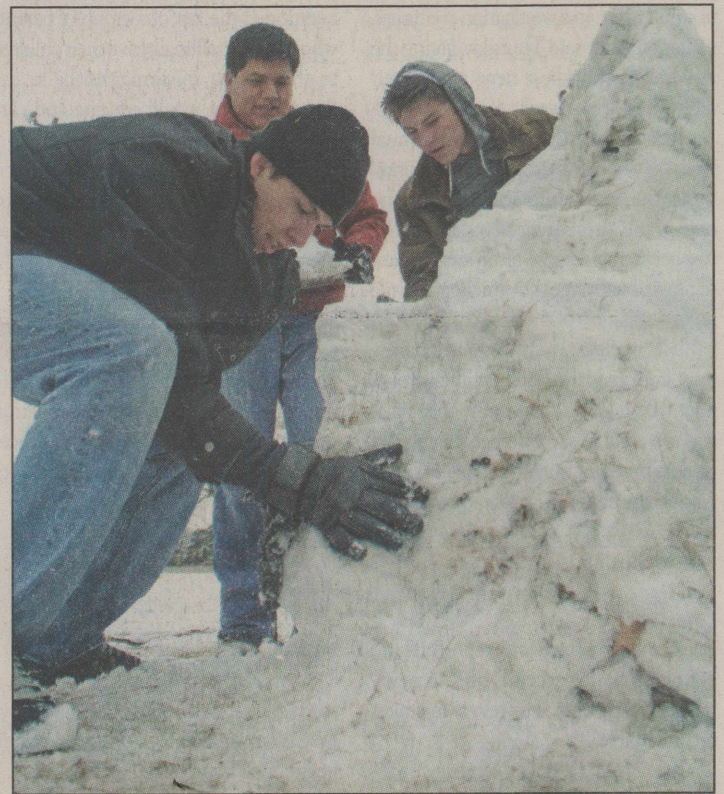


PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Toreador

FROM LEFT, PATRICK Walsh, a sophomore communication studies major from McKinney, Tele De La Cruz, a freshman international business major from Anson, and Mason Vrana, a freshman exercise and sport sciences major from Kelley, build a snow throne Thursday outside Murdough Residence Hall.

By RALSTON ROLLO
Staff Writer

While New England has been faced with mounting snowfall this week, the Lubbock community has passed seasonal and monthly snowfall averages.

Gary Skwira of the National Weather Service said Snowfall levels for the month of February were brought to a total of 2.5 inches by a winter storm Thursday.

Lubbock's average February snowfall is 2.4 inches, he said.

Snowfall totals for this winter have reached 10.8 inches. Skwira said Lubbock's average winter snowfall is 10.4 inches.

"We're definitely on the wet side so far this year," he said.

Since temperatures were expected to reach the mid-20s last night, Skwira said, road conditions could be hazardous this morning because of ice.

According to the Texas Depart-

ment of Transportation Web site, travel was discouraged on many Lubbock county roads as of Thursday afternoon.

Texas Tech Emergency Management Coordinator Ronald Phillips said administrators considered the possibility of cancellation and delay of Thursday's classes in the same manner that they always have.

"As always, we checked weather and road conditions," he said. "There was not a strong recommendation put forward to delay or cancel classes."

During potentially dangerous weather conditions, Phillips said, administrators follow a strict procedure to make a cohesive decision about delaying or canceling classes.

First, he said, Tech Police Chief Ronald Seacrist gathers reports from the National Weather Service, Department of Public Safety and other agencies.

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WEATHER

Today	Partly Coudy	Saturday	Partly Coudy
	53/30		59/29

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BRIEF

STATE

Texas gov. candidate questions any US role in 9/11

AUSTIN (AP) — A candidate for governor in Texas has said she has questions about whether the U.S. government was involved in the Sept. 11 attacks. But now Republican Debra Medina is backing away from that statement.

Debra Medina said on the Glenn Beck Show that there were "some very good arguments" that the U.S. was involved in bringing down the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. She released a statement

later saying she did not believe the government was involved in the attacks.

Medina is vying for the Republican nomination with Gov. Rick Perry and U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, both of whom criticized her comments.

Perry said Medina's remarks were an insult to Americans who lost loved ones. Hutchison stressed that the attacks were the work of al-Qaida terrorists.

NATION

Obama report: 95,000 jobs to come each month

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is likely to add an average of 95,900 more jobs each month this year, while personal savings will remain high as credit remains tight, according to a White House report released Thursday.

With the public souring on Obama's handling of the economy, the White House's Council of Economic Advisers' report trumpeted the \$787 billion economic stimulus package as creating or saving some 2 million jobs. Facing a tough election season for fellow Democrats, Obama's team used its annual report to blame the economy they inherited. The report is required by law within 10 days of the White House's budget proposals.

Obama called on lawmakers to pass a jobs bill to help the economy recovery — and to help incumbents from both parties keep their jobs come November.

In a message to Congress, President Barack Obama looked back at the challenges and ahead to his agenda for dragging the country out of its recession.

"I can report that over the past year, this work has begun. In the coming year, this work continues," Obama said in a letter he sent to the Capitol attached to his economic update to lawmakers. "But to understand where we must go in the next year and beyond, it is important to remember where we began one year ago."

Casting its first year as positive, the administration's 462-page report served as a summary of its logic and a pitch for Obama's future agenda. The economic report to the president is an annual document prepared by the Council of Economic Advisers, the White House's three-person internal think tank.

WORLD

Haitian judge poised to release US missionaries

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — The 10 U.S. missionaries charged with kidnapping for trying to take a busload of children out of Haiti should be released from jail while an investigation continues, a Haitian judge said Thursday, giving the Americans their best news since their arrests nearly two weeks ago.

Judge Bernard Saint-Vil has the final word on whether to free the missionaries, though he gave the prosecutor-general the opportunity to raise objections. He said he was accepting defense attorneys' request to provisionally free the Americans while an investigation of the case continues.

It is unclear when the missionaries, most from an Idaho Baptist church group, might be released, and Saint-Vil said it was too early to say whether they would be able to leave this earthquake-crippled Caribbean nation if granted provisional

freedom. It is also unclear what bearing releasing the missionaries might have on whether they go to trial.

Saint-Vil on Thursday privately questioned the last of a group of parents who said they willingly gave their children to the Baptist missionaries, believing the Americans would educate and care for them.

"After listening to the families, I see the possibility that they can all be released," Saint-Vil told The Associated Press. "I am recommending that all 10 Americans be released."

Saint-Vil said he delivered his recommendation to prosecutor Joseph Mannes Louis on Thursday. Louis said he would respond with his own recommendation next week. Haitian government offices are closed Friday for a national day of mourning.

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 believe 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.

Art exhibit presents land-inspired work

By JOEANN BON-JORNO
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech College of Architecture is collaborating with the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts to bring a land-inspired exhibit to Lubbock today.

The 2009 Land Arts Exhibit will be displayed at the new warehouses of the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts. The exhibit presents work done by students who participated in the College of Architecture's semester-long interdisciplinary field program, Land Arts of the American West.

According to the Land Arts Web site, the program was founded in 2000 and expands the definition of land art through

direct experiences of the complex social and ecological processes that produce contemporary landscapes. The Web site states participants travel more than 8,000 miles to live and work for more than 50 days in various landscapes.

Participants of the field program were Adrianna Alter, Sean Cox, Jason Fancher, Meredith James, Adrian Larriva, Kyle Robertson, Jose Villanueva and Stephen Wollkind.

According to the itinerary of the field program, participants visited about 20 locations including White Sands, N.M.; Grand Canyon, North Rim, Ariz.; Sun Tunnels, near Lucin, Utah; Chiricahua Mountains, Ariz.; and the Mimbres River, Gila Wilderness, N.M.

Alter, an architecture graduate student from Austin, said students

did everything from making video clips and designing habitats to writing.

Alter said the art made by the students captures the feeling of what it was like to be out there. She said her favorite part of the program was the total immersion and seclusion in unfamiliar places.

"In architecture we have about 10 studios from undergraduate to graduate school and a lot of them are kind of the same," Alter said. "Sitting inside this studio allowed you to immerse yourself in the project."

She said the exhibit will make people see art in a different way.

"It will definitely make people relook at things they might normally just pass by without thinking about," Alter said.

Karen Wiley, executive director

of the center, said Chris Taylor, the director of the field program, inquired about the two warehouses when the center acquired them. She said he made arrangements with the center to use the warehouses to show work done by students in his field program.

Wiley said no air conditioning or heat in the warehouses complement the spirit of the exhibit.

"Being in the elements is part of the experience, they worked in the elements of nature," Wiley said.

The Land Arts exhibit is at the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts warehouses from today until March 7 at 1001 Mac Davis Lane in Lubbock. The opening reception is from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. tonight, and the closing reception is from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. March 5.

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

Garage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The structure also will host a sports bar and grill and a rooftop bar that will be exclusive to game-day permit holders on game day but will be open to the public from Monday through Friday year round.

Student parking permits will not provide parking rights in the garage on game day.

The rooftop open-air lounge also will overlook the stadium and ground-floor retail areas will be available, according to digital renderings of the site.

Steve Uryasz, the senior associate athletic director and executive director of the Red Raider Club, said they decided to accept the invitation from Isom to be a consultant and help sell parking to members.

"No. 1 is obviously we have the expertise on game-day parking," he said. "So when the alumni association and Tao came to us, we were able to help them."

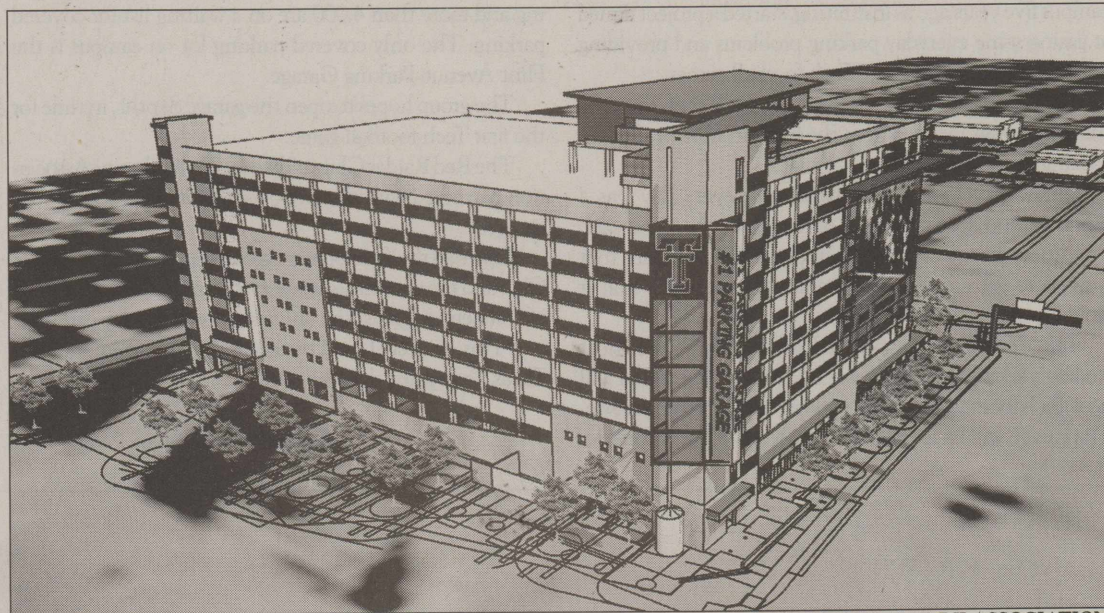
One of the main goals of the organization was to create a situation in which no competition exists for game-day parking, Uryasz said. And as the stadium expands and the university expands, that demand is raised.

He also said the structure would help with the atmosphere during game days.

"I think the reality of it is any time you can create a better environment around your stadium, the answer is yes," Uryasz said. "Those (schools) that can really create fun environments around their stadium, it really adds to it."

Bill Dean, associate vice president of the alumni association, said Tao contacted the association about a year ago asking them to become involved.

"The revenue that we will



COURTESY OF TEXAS TECH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

DIGITALLY RENDERED IMAGES OF Raider Park, a new parking garage to be built north of Jones AT&T Stadium, show 11 floors and an open-air lounge on the roof of the building.

make off of this will be to help our scholarship program," he said, "which is probably the most critical need Texas Tech has."

The permits will be tax deductible, he said, making the cost somewhat less of a burden on those who purchase them.

The structure also will be close to the new Rawls College of Business building, Dean said, which will make it more attractive to students in that college.

Mary Jane Buerkle, vice president of communications at the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, said the development also will provide a boost to the regional economy.

"Any time you have new jobs in the city, it is a tremendous boost to our economy," she said.

Especially with additions on campus that are focused around

football game days, Buerkle said the dining and beverage businesses will add to an "already overflowing bucket of outstanding entertainment and dining" opportunities around the city.

Isom said the restaurant and bar will alleviate the need to walk from the stadium to Broadway for those businesses, and permit holders only will need to walk across the pedestrian bridge.

During the construction of

the development, about 300 jobs will be created, according to the release. About 25 to 30 permanent jobs also will be created.

While Lubbock has not experienced the kind of economic downturn the rest of the nation has, Buerkle said, it is helpful to the economy anytime a new job is created.

Heather Medley, marketing and training coordinator with University Parking Services, said the university is subletting spaces from Tao.

Despite conducting surveys to find out how many spaces they need, she said the results were split and the department was required to glean information from other sources as to how many spaces it needed.

Medley said the garage will give the students more spaces to park in, but plenty of spaces still are open in satellite parking lots.

Permits for student and game-day parking can be purchased through the alumni association at www.techchampionsclub.com.

>>> jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu

"The revenue that we will make off of this will be to help our scholarship program, which is probably the most critical need Texas Tech has."

BILL DEAN
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Weather

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Next, Phillips said, Seacrist reviews those reports and puts forth a recommendation to cancel or delay classes if necessary.

That recommendation would then need to be approved by both the Office of the Provost and Tech President Guy Bailey before classes could be delayed or canceled, he said.

If administrators decide to delay or cancel classes, Phillips said, they use various forms of communication including TechAnnounce and local media to alert the Tech community.

"We try to get the word out to as many people as we can using multiple tools," he said.

In any decision process, Phillips said, the primary concern of Tech administrators is the safety and welfare of the Tech community.

>>> ralston.rollo@ttu.edu

Ex-President Bill Clinton undergoes heart procedure

NEW YORK (AP) — Former President Bill Clinton had two stents inserted in one of his heart arteries after being hospitalized with chest pains, an adviser said Thursday.

Clinton, 63, "is in good spirits and will continue to focus on the work of his foundation and Haiti's relief and long-term recovery efforts," said adviser Douglas Band.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton left Washington and headed to New York to be with her husband, who underwent the procedure at New York Presbyterian Hospital.

Stents are tiny mesh scaffolds used to prop open an artery after it is unclogged in an angioplasty procedure.

Doctors thread a tube through a blood vessel in the groin to a blocked artery, inflate a balloon to flatten the clog, and slide the stent into place.

That is a different treatment from what Clinton had in 2004, when clogged arteries first landed him in the hospital. He underwent quadruple bypass surgery because of four blocked arteries, some of which had squeezed almost completely shut.

Angioplasty, which usually includes placing stents, is one of the most common medical procedures done worldwide. More than half a million stents are placed each year in the United States.

With bypass or angioplasty, patients often need another procedure years down the road because arteries often relog.

"It's not unexpected" for Clinton to need another procedure now, said Dr. Clyde Yancy, cardiologist at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas and president of the American Heart Association.

The sections of arteries and veins used to create detours around the original blockages tend to develop clogs five to 10 years after a bypass, he explained. New blockages also can develop in new areas.

"This kind of disease is progressive. It's not a one-time event, so it really points out the need for constant surveillance" and treating risk factors such as high cholesterol and high blood pressure, he said.

Today's
su | do | ku

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

Puzzles by PageFiller

In Sudoku, all the numbers 1 to 9 must be in every row, column and 3 x 3 box. Use logic to define the answers.

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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Tech students guess for prizes at TAB event

By HALLIE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

The crowd cheered, the announcer's voice sounded on the loudspeaker and the game began.

This wasn't a football game, though. This was Texas Tech's version of "The Price Is Right," an event hosted by the Tech Activities Board on Thursday night in the Student Union Building Allen Theatre.

Matthew Payne, president of Tech improv troupe Alternative Fuels and a senior English major from Amarillo, hosted as Bob Barker; and junior Drew Swenson, an industrial engineering major from Houston, was the voice of Rich, who announces all the contestants and prizes.

This was the third year for TAB to host the event, which offers dozens of prizes to newcomers and die-hard fans alike.

"I've been the past two years. Last

year I won a massage from the rec," said Katie Kellagher, a junior speech, language and hearing sciences major from Dallas, "I thought I'd try my luck again this year."

Kellagher won an 8 GB flash drive, but didn't make it to the end of the game.

The showcase showdown, the grand finale of the show, featured Christopher Nunez, a junior mechanical engineering major from El Paso, and Matt Garcia, a freshman civil engineering major from Frisco.

"I wasn't planning on coming but it was worth it," Garcia said.

Garcia won cologne, luggage and a Papa John's gift card worth \$100. Nunez, however, won the whole game. Among his many prizes was a printer and a \$250 gift card to Main Event.

Josh Blankenship, a sophomore public relations major from Coppell, said he wanted to win some of those gift cards. He attended last year and knew about

all the prizes, although he said he wasn't good at guessing prices.

The prizes ranged from a toothbrush to a George Foreman Grill. Students whose names were drawn to participate in the games left the stage with a prize, and at the end of the night, all the leftover prizes from the games were given away through a combination of a raffle and a spin of the famous wheel, which was complete with signature beeping noise.

TAB built the set, which included the wheel, game-show favorite Plinko and another game called Punch-a-Bunch. This event was in the works since October when TAB began planning and asking for donations of prizes.

From the start at 7 p.m., the audience participated as much as the real show's studio audience, yelling prices at the contestants and cheering for winners.

"It went really well," said TAB President Amanda Cruse, a senior business management and marketing major from Happy, "The crowd was enthusiastic and got into all the different games."

This is what made Thursday night's event a success, she said.

"I think TAB does a lot of cool events," Blankenship said. "It keeps campus life interesting."

hallee.davis@ttu.edu



PHOTO BY MATT MOFFATT/The Daily Toreador

MATT GARCIA, A freshman civil engineer major from Frisco, competes in the TAB event "The Price Is Right" Thursday in the Student Union Building Allen Theatre.

South Africa: Mandela marks 20 years of freedom

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — South African lawmakers sang Nelson Mandela's praises Thursday as the anti-apartheid icon settled into parliament's public gallery for a State of the Nation address scheduled in tribute to his 20 years of freedom.

Mandela was released in 1990 after spending 27 years in prison and went on to lead South Africa through the last stretch of a stunning, peaceful revolution from apartheid to democracy.

His release was remembered as triumphant Thursday, but the moment was uncertain and anxious for South Africa, and it is a testimony to Mandela's statesmanship that things went so well.

"When Mandela was released we did not know what was going happen," said Nontuntuzelo Faku, who joined thousands of people who marked Thursday's anniversary near Cape Town at what was known in 1990 as Victor Verster, the last prison where Mandela was held.

Being at the prison 20 years later, Faku said, "makes me realize how far the country has come."

In 2008, a 3-meter (10-foot) high bronze statue was erected at the prison depicting Mandela's first steps as a free man. Exactly 20 years ago, Mandela emerged from Victor Verster on foot, hand-in-hand with his then-wife Winnie, fist raised, smiling but resolute.

The release of Mandela, known af-

fectionately by his clan name, Madiba, was the culmination of an eventful few days for South Africa. On Feb. 2, then-President F.W. de Klerk announced the unbanning of the ANC and other organizations. On Feb. 10, de Klerk announced at a press conference that Mandela would be released the next day.

Whites conditioned to see Mandela as a shadowy enemy — most did not know what he looked like because images of him had been banned — were shocked and confused. Blacks were uncertain that Mandela, who had begun negotiations with the white government from the isolation of prison, was right to trust de Klerk. Civil war seemed possible.

"I think the imprint of February is deeply etched into the psyche of our nation," Mac Maharaj, a key ANC leader at the time, told The Associated Press. "That image of Madiba, Winnie, walking out of Victor Verster, holding hands. Madiba looking quite, quite somber, not celebratory, not pumping the air and jumping about like a victorious boxer, but walking very sternly, and I think I see a sense of bewilderment in him."

In a chapter of his autobiography titled simply "Freedom," Mandela said he was surprised so many people had come to greet him outside the prison. He described his joy, but also his realization that much work remained ahead.

O'Keeffe exhibit shows different side

FORT WORTH (AP) — The elegant Georgia O'Keeffe is known for her large-scale paintings of vibrant flowers and trees, but inspiration for her other works came during many rustic camping trips out West.

That little-known side of O'Keeffe is the focus of a new exhibit at the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame. It features some never-before-displayed art, photographs, clothing and camping gear — including her tent, sleeping bag, lanterns and cooking utensils — from her time in New Mexico in the 1940s.

"She appreciated nature and felt she had to be close to nature to capture it," said museum curator Tricia Taylor Dixon. "We wanted to show her as a person, a woman and a nature lover, and not just the iconic, distant artist as she was known by most people."

The "Georgia O'Keeffe and the Faraway: Nature and Image" exhibit opens Friday and runs through Sept. 6 at the museum in Fort Worth.

O'Keeffe, who was born in Wisconsin and later studied art in Chicago and

New York, may be best known for her watercolor or oil paintings of larger-than-life flowers, leaves and trees.

But she later became inspired by the expansive vistas and vivid landscapes of the West, discovered while living in Texas to teach art in Amarillo schools from 1912-14 and at a college in Canyon a few years later.

She started summer camping trips to New Mexico in 1929 — when she began depicting colorful cliffs, large rocks or desert skulls in her oil paintings — and moved there several years after her husband's death in the 1940s.

"She referred to that as the 'faraway,' the romantic idea of open spaces, where she didn't feel as confined as she did in the East," Dixon said. "She definitely captured the Southwest in her art work, especially after 1929."

The 3,500-square-foot exhibit replicates an O'Keeffe campsite in great detail, but it also features nine of her paintings, six sketches and more than two dozen candid photos of her.

Proposed autism diagnosis changes anger "Aspies"

CHICAGO (AP) — In the autism world, "Aspies" are sometimes seen as the elites, the ones who are socially awkward, yet academically gifted and who embrace their quirkiness.

Now, many Aspies, a nickname for people with Asperger's syndrome, are upset over a proposal they see as an attack on their identity. Under proposed changes to the most widely used diagnostic manual of mental illness, Asperger's syndrome would no longer be a separate diagnosis.

Instead, Asperger's and other forms of autism would be lumped together in a single "autism spectrum disorders" category. Some parents say they'd welcome the change, thinking it would eliminate confusion over autism's variations and perhaps lead to better educational services for affected kids.

But opponents — mostly older teens and adults with Asperger's — disagree.

Liane Holliday Willey, a Michigan

author and self-described Aspie whose daughter also has Asperger's, fears Asperger's kids will be stigmatized by the autism label — or will go undiagnosed and get no services at all.

Grouping Aspies with people "who have language delays, need more self-care and have lower IQs, how in the world are we going to rise to what we can do?" Willey said.

Rebecca Rubinsten, 23, a graduate student from Massapequa, N.Y., says she "vehemently" opposes the proposal and will think of herself as someone with Asperger's no matter what.

Autism and Asperger's "mean such different things," she said.

Yes and no.

Both are classified as neurodevelopmental disorders. Autism has long been considered a disorder that can range from mild to severe. Asperger's symptoms can vary, but the condition is generally thought of as a mild form and since 1994 has had a separate

category in psychiatrists' diagnostic manual. Both autism and Asperger's involve poor social skills, repetitive behavior or interests, and problems communicating. But unlike classic autism, Asperger's does not typically involve delays in mental development or speech.

The American Psychiatric Association's proposed revisions, announced Wednesday, involve autism and several other conditions. The suggested autism changes are based on research advances since 1994 showing little difference between mild autism and Asperger's. Evidence also suggests that doctors use the term loosely and disagree on what it means, according to psychiatrists urging the revisions.

A new autism spectrum category recognizes that "the symptoms of these disorders represent a continuum from mild to severe, rather than being distinct disorders," said Dr. Edwin Cook, a University of Illinois at Chi-

cago autism researcher and member of the APA work group proposing the changes.

The proposed revisions are posted online at <http://www.DSM5.org> for public comment, which will influence whether they are adopted. Publication of the updated manual is planned for May 2013.

Dr. Mina Dulcan, child and adolescent psychiatry chief at Chicago's Children's Memorial Hospital, said Aspies' opposition "is not really a medical question, it's an identity question."

"It would be just like if you were a student at MIT. You might not want to be lumped with somebody in the community college," said Dulcan who supports the diagnostic change.

"One of the characteristics of people with Asperger's is that they're very resistant to change," Dulcan added. The change "makes scientific sense. I'm sorry if it hurts people's feelings," she said.

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OPINIONS

PAGE 4
FRIDAY, FEB. 12, 2010

Google buzzing too far, spreading too thin

I'm here today to talk to you about the birds and the bees. A few years ago a group of innovators started up Twitter, a micro-blogging platform that has grown to proportions nobody on the planet could have predicted. It has become no less than the pulse of the Internet. All around the world, on all subjects imaginable, we are tweeting.

Now Google wants us to start "buzzing" too.

Apparently there is some law written into the Internet's consciousness commanding all successful, ingenious products be copied ad nauseam until they become sickeningly ubiquitous.

This week, Google followed that rule to a tee by releasing Google Buzz. It's billing Buzz as a social component to Gmail, the Google e-mail service

Stephen Torrence



that still offers ridiculous amounts of online storage and the best Web mail experience in existence.

Buzz is essentially a social stream. It combines a Twitter-like status update component with the ability to post photos, links and activity from a number of services such as YouTube, Flickr and (yes) even Twitter.

All of these updates appear inside the Gmail Web app. You can comment on posts, "like" them, control who can see them and archive and label them like e-mails.

It's all very reminiscent of Friend-Feed, a service you probably forgot about after Facebook bought it not too long ago. Buzz is your activity on the Internet combined into a single stream other users can follow.

My first thought upon learning of Buzz was, "Do we even need this?" Seriously, I already have Facebook and Twitter to keep up with. Do I really need another social media status to update and check?

Google is hoping Buzz will be more than just another social media gimmick; however. The mobile features of Buzz are well fleshed-out. On the iPhone app you can see what other public users are buzzing in your vicinity in real time. Posts are also instantly searchable.

Meh. Buzz is just the latest piece of evidence in the growing geek sentiment

Google quickly is becoming the next Microsoft. In addition to entering the social media realm with Buzz, they've announced a plan to enter the ISP business by installing gigabit Internet access for half a million U.S. residents in the near future.

Let's not forget Google's foray into the mobile OS world with Android, a platform that's taken a year or two to get usable but still lags behind iPhone OS by a significant margin. Soon you'll see netbooks shipping with Chrome OS, Google's minimalist Web operating system.

All of these efforts have been pretty good, sometimes even really good. However, I can't help but believe Google is stretching itself too thin. When it came to supporting their first Google-branded phone, the Nexus One, they failed miserably. Google has neither the resources nor

the expertise to manage so many things simultaneously.

I feel about as enthused with Google doing social media as I did when Microsoft came out with a Wi-Fi router (they did, seriously, Google it). Buzz feels like a naive attempt to steal market share from Twitter and Facebook, both of which have years of experience in the area and are doing quite alright last time I checked.

Granted, Buzz is in its infancy. Twitter didn't offer much more than 140-character messages when it first launched. Now that developers are building crazy-awesome things with its API and users have developed a culture around it, the service has grown into a staple of the Internet.

Who's to say Google won't add some nifty things to Buzz that make it even better? They've certainly

improved Gmail quite a bit over the years, and some of the recent additions to Google Docs are downright paradigm-shifting.

However, I don't see the Internet community embracing Google Buzz. It's a good product, and if it were the first or only tool of its kind, geeks would flock to it without restraint. Sadly though, it's about two years too late.

Buzz offers nothing compelling over the main social media tools of the Internet. As so many attempts at "convergent" tools have done recently, it succeeds adequately at many tasks but fails to excel at any of them.

The world keeps on tweeting.

Torrence is a senior philosophy major from Georgetown.
» stephen.torrence@tu.edu

Calling all Lubbock liberals to stand

I am a Liberal. Admitting it is the first step to correcting it. I mean, I did not just choose to be liberal. I just cannot help but have these liberal urges.

It is really difficult trying to just be myself when out in public. I often get looks and stick out like a sore thumb. Especially in this hyper-conservative part of the world.

I tried being conservative. I faked myself into thinking former President George W. Bush was a competent president. I tried to defend Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity. I even, gulp, once believed Sarah Palin was a viable candidate for anything other than saying "you betchya," and killing moose.

But I knew deep down inside I was lying to myself, my friends and family. I was hiding the real me.

So now I have to come to grips with who I am. Now that I have, I have felt the backlash. I have been told I somehow hate the United States and I am a Socialist.

Oh come on now, people. Just because I am in favor of President Barack Obama and (some of) his policies I now hate the nation?

It is absurd when I read comments on my articles on dailytoreador.com and e-mails I receive. It just shows the mindset of some Conservatives. It is "either you are with us or against us." Period. There

Paul Williamson



is no middle ground with them.

Now, there are some Conservatives I know that are not like that. I want to be clear I know not all Conservatives are like this; however, they definitely are being drowned out by the Glenn Becks and Bill O'Reillys of the world.

Unfortunately, they are the ones with the loudest voices.

This cannot be seen more than in the recent debates on health care and on Obama's nominees. Sen. Richard Shelby has put a hold on Obama nominees just to try to secure spending for his home state, Alabama, according to a CBS News report.

He is using the ridiculous senate rules to block a functioning government. I just cannot believe there has not been more outcry from Senate Democrats. But this just shows how quiet Liberals in Congress really are. It blows my mind when I hear Conservatives argue the Democrats are stealing the country away.

If anything, we are caving in to

conservative mindsets. Too many lawmakers are afraid to be called a Liberal or a Socialist.

I say we need people to start to embrace the notion of being a Liberal. In GOP debates, they debate about how conservative the candidate really is. They all started to claim how right wing and conservative they are and how much they love former president Ronald Reagan. I just saw a political campaign ad on TV for Charles Perry running for a State Representative seat where he wears the term conservative with pride.

In Democratic debates, you do not see the candidates talking about how liberal they are. That has become a taboo term. If you are liberal you are painted as someone who hates America and our values. Right wing pundits have successfully hijacked the term liberal. O'Reilly and Hannity constantly

claim how liberals are destroying our nation.

Even the term "progressive" has been bashed. Never do you hear that term anymore because O'Reilly has paired that term with the word "secular" and now it is somehow bad to be progressive too.

So now I ask all liberals (all five of you here in Lubbock) to stand up and be proud of who you are. Do not let anyone stop you.

I am in favor of gay marriage (no, I am not gay), I am against the war (yes, I support the troops), I despised the Bush administration (no I am not a huge fan of Obama), and I am liberal (no, I love the United States) and proud of it. If you do not like it, tough.

Williamson is a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Crosby.
» paul.w.williamson@tu.edu

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The column in which the race for District 84 was discussed was, I must say, very well thought out.

I found the description of the Republican primary to be quite accurate. Ysidro Gutierrez will never carry any good weight with the Conservatives of this city. His former Democratic ties and his limited appeal assure that. Also Mark Griffin's long service on the school board leaves him entering the campaign with quite a bit of baggage, much of it not good. The Hutchison endorsement debacle coupled with some unfavorable actions on the Board of Regents will make for some tough going.

The question is: Will Lubbock Republicans go for their establishment, rank and file, sit and obey candidate or turn to the candidate of the new dynamic conservative movement seemingly sweeping the country at this moment? It is hard to tell. Lubbock politics, especially in a district that encompasses basically just the city limits, except the strip up University belonging to District 83, are notorious for their good of boy style.

Will the establishment win or the new comer triumph? Your guess is as good as mine. But we can be sure of one thing: In this election, the dearly sainted Lubbock County Republican Party will once again do everything in its power to cement its iron fist rule over this city and county. They have assured themselves that they can triumph in a year when the Democratic president's approval rating has fallen to below 50 percent and his party is seemingly "unorganized" and headed for disaster. Not in the least, my friends.

Residing in this district, in this city and throughout this country and entire

region are a people constantly ignored, shut out from even a shot at a decent living by a patrician ruling class, not so unlike those that dominated Rome, Britain and the American South. The irony is that this election depends on turning just a few precincts in an election which historically has low turnout.

The Democratic candidate has been reduced to a watery Oldsmobile coffin under a bridge in Massachusetts before the election has really even begun. The auto-crats have chosen their candidates, now it is just a matter of deciding which one.

I would simply like to tell my friends here on campus that your campus is part of this district and that whatever the newspapers like to tell you, the race has but begun. Are we really prepared to send a man who voted along with the rest of the Board of Regents to raise our tuition, like the members of his party did statewide, to represent "our best interests?"

Are we going to send to Austin a representative who paints a laughably ridiculous picture of a people in enslaved by its government? A man proud to stand with Gov. Rick Perry, the man who wishes to steal property from the very taxpayers he so ardently claims to want to represent. Poppycock, I say.

There is a voice out there who wants to unite the people of Lubbock County and Tech campus with some no-nonsense progressive policies that will get our state out of the mess the Republican party has so effortlessly caused. That candidate is Carol Morgan.

So on March 2 and Nov. 2 consider voting for a representative of all the people and give the lady a chance to escape Mary Jo Kopechne never had.

Stuart Williams is a sophomore History major from Lubbock and the president of Tech Student Democrats.

Condoms used in endangered species crusade

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — An Arizona-based environmental group that fights to protect endangered species plans to distribute 100,000 free condoms across the U.S. beginning on Valentine's Day.

The Center for Biological Diversity in Tucson says the promotion is meant to call attention to the impact of human overpopulation on endangered species.

The group will hand out six dif-

ferent condom packages with original artwork. Slogans on the packages include "Wrap with care, save the polar bear," and "Wear a condom now, save the spotted owl."

The center's Randy Serraglio says human overpopulation is destroying wildlife habitat at an unprecedented rate.

The endangered species condoms will be distributed in bars, supermarkets, schools, concerts, parties, and other public events.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- Big theme park star
- Fancy dance
- Cookie fruit
- Fabulous storyteller
- Reed instrument
- Katz of "Hocus Focus"
- Mill input
- Two-time 1980s skating gold medalist
- German wheels
- Theft with a clean getaway?
- Bruse treatment
- Corruption
- Filling the shelves with no leftover merchandise or space?
- Manx, for one
- Insult
- Attractive locale
- Short range
- Play for time
- It's gone!
- No-frills
- Word repeated in a famous FDR quote
- St. whose northernmost division is Boundary County
- Loud signal when the flies are done?
- Without means of support?
- Mill, rank
- Yoko?
- Take too much of, briefly
- Fictional plantation
- They have their pride
- Ascend
- Valley
- Reagan Library site
- 1940s-'50s NFLer "Crazylegs"
- Frisch
- Turndowns
- Carrier since 1948
- Heads to sea

DOWN

- Droop
- Bierce defines it "his"
- "... stands now ..."
- Inlaid work
- Market advances
- Get a spare, perhaps
- Irish Rose's guy
- Plenty
- Doesn't bother
- Suspense movie sound
- Rock and Roll Hall of Fame architect
- Epithet for many leaders, with "the"
- Frivolous
- Diamond et al.
- Mine stratum
- Line crosser of a sort
- "Later"
- Plains natives
- Enthusiast
- Plant connection
- Prepare to strike, snake-style
- It can't be understood until it's broken
- Whence the wise men?
- Some crop dusters
- Sign before Virgo
- Music player
- Strike ... model
- Funny
- Bombeek
- Leave in a hurry
- slangily
- Actress
- Petty
- Hydroxyl compound
- Method; Abbr.

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EDITORS

Editor-in-Chief: Kevin Cullen
Managing Editor: Alex Ybarra

CONTACT US:
Newsroom: (806) 742-3393
Sports: (806) 742-2939
Advertising: (806) 742-3384
Classified: (806) 742-3384
Business: (806) 742-3388
Circulation: (806) 742-3388
Fax: (806) 742-2434
E-mail: dailytoreador@tu.edu

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Phone: (806) 742-3393, Fax: (806) 742-2434
E-mail: dailytoreador@tu.edu

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FIT Tech challenge encourages students, faculty to get active

By ALEXANDRA PEDRINI
STAFF WRITER

The sixth annual Fitness, Information, Technology Challenge kicks off Saturday with the intent to get students, faculty and staff interested in healthier and more active lifestyles.

The program shows participants how to "get moving and eat better" by teaching the importance of increasing physical activity and improving nutrition, said Betty Blanton, associate director of recreational sports.

"Healthy workers are more productive, and nationally one of the most important things employers want students to learn in college is healthy habits," said Debra Reed, a nutrition, hospitality and retail professor.

People sometimes rely on cars or buses instead of walking from place to place, which cuts out simple and basic movement from their lives, Blanton said. Any type

of movement is important to living a healthy lifestyle, she said.

"We're trying to make people aware that small changes in their lives can have a big impact on their health," Blanton said. "As a general rule, Americans have gotten kind of lazy. Our lifestyle is not very physically active anymore and that's really a necessary part."

During the eight-week challenge, participants put themselves in teams of six and try to become more active. Each team selects its level — Raider Rookie, Raider Power or Raider Warriors — and members exercise between 120 to 360 minutes each week depending on their athletic abilities. The three levels were introduced to allow people to participate, regardless of how active they are before the program begins, Blanton said.

"Having that set number is kind of a motivation for people to reach their goal," said Shweta Gohel, FIT Tech student coordinator and a senior nutritional sciences major from Lubbock.

At the end of each week, team members go online and input the minutes they spent being physically active. This helps hold members accountable for their own workouts, Blanton said.

"We hope that teamwork is involved and people talk to each other and encourage each other," he said. "We've really found that the team

— having other people to rely on and also not to disappoint — helps keep them more motivated than if they were trying to achieve a fitness or nutrition goal by themselves."

Blanton said FIT Tech also wants people to know becoming more active isn't the only way to live a healthier life.

In previous years the program offered seminars teaching topics ranging from "drinking away calories" to the importance of goal setting. This year, she said, FIT Tech will instead post "webinars" online every Wednesday at noon because people were not always able to take time from their schedules to attend the seminars.

"We used to have seminars last year and we'd all get together in a room, but this year we have webinars so that people can be nutritionally advised on their own time," Gohel said.

Last-minute registration for the challenge will begin at noon during the event kick off at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. After registering teams and a short training session for team captains, "FIT Tech" participants can take part in the 5K/1 mile fun run/walk. The

CALENDAR

SATURDAY
Kick-Off event

•When: 12 p.m.
•Where: Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center
•Cost: Free unless registering a team

THURSDAY
Healthy food demo

•When: 5:30 p.m.
•Where: Human Sciences building Room 287
•Cost: \$8

FEB. 18
Healthy food demo

•When: 12 p.m.
•Where: Human Sciences building Room 287
•Cost: \$8

MARCH 27
Palo Duro Canyon Hike

•When: TBD
•Where: Palo Duro Canyon
•Cost: \$5

APRIL 16
FIT Tech VI Challenge Final Event

•When: 12 p.m.
•Where: Human Sciences Canyon Room 169
•Cost: Free

SOURCE: FIT Tech

challenge costs \$8 for students and \$10 for faculty to participate, which includes fees for T-shirts.

In addition to the challenge, FIT Tech organizes two walks at 12:30 p.m. every Wednesday and two at noon every Friday. The walks begin at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center flagpoles and the Preston Smith statue. The organization also will have healthy food demonstrations at 5:30 p.m. Thursday and noon Friday in Room 287 of the Human Sciences building.

►alex.pedrini@ttu.edu

A WINTRY WALK



PHOTO MATT MOFFATT/The Daily Toreador

FROM LEFT, CHLOE Sturgeon and Sidney Yoes, both freshman exercise and sport sciences majors from Coppell, and Sarah Scroggins, a freshman broadcast journalism major from Dallas, walk to class under the cover of umbrellas Thursday near Stangel Residence Hall.

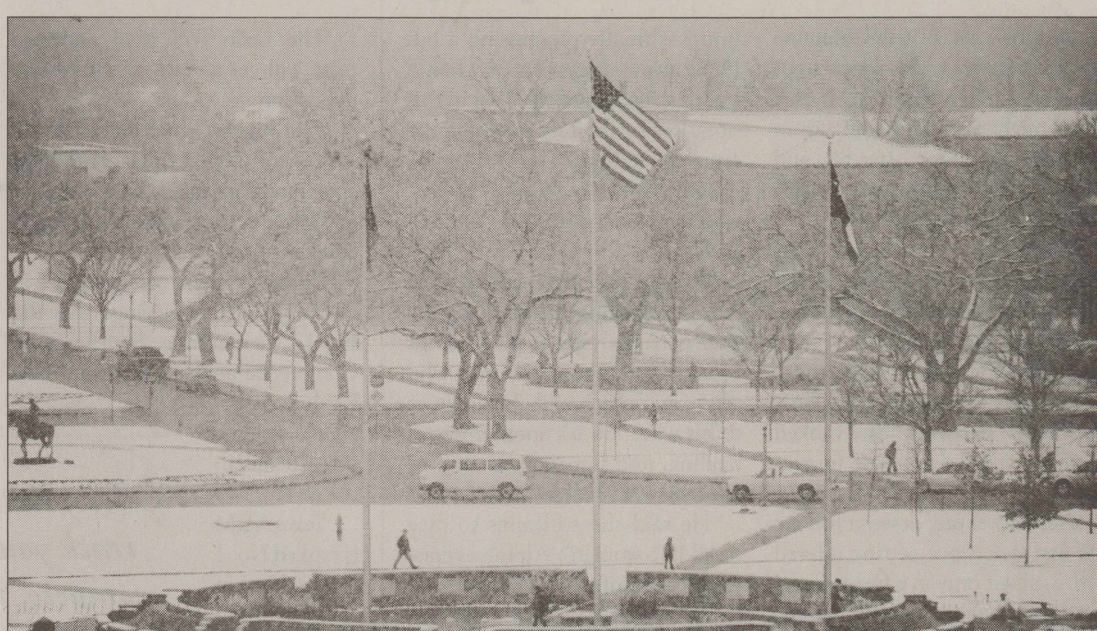


PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Toreador

SNOW COVERS THE Texas Tech campus Thursday.

Telluride Film Festival to preclude competition

By JULIE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Friday night may bring tents to the practice fields at Urbanovsky Park, as competitors for this weekend's Vertical Plains Climbing competition are invited to stay at Tent City, in the spirit of celebrating the outdoors.

The sixth annual Telluride Film Festival will precede the climbing competition this weekend, hosted at Texas Tech as a part of the Collegiate Climbing Series. Competitors are students from Texas and surrounding state colleges. They will participate in a series of climbs on Tech's 53-foot wall in the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center, levying for prizes and the thrill of the sport.

Curt Howell, the assistant director at the outdoor pursuits center, said the competition draws a great deal of public interest and participation, but the opening event typically brings 300 visitors.

"Mountain Film on Tour presents a large festival every May in Telluride, Colo., in which people from all across the globe come and show films of their adventures," he said. "They take the best of these films and show them in different venues across towns and colleges worldwide."

Howell said the films themselves vary in their adventures, from rock climbing, surfing, fly fishing and scuba diving with acoustic guitars and great white sharks. Usually, themes revolve around celebrating achievements in different aspects of outdoor adventures, to include philanthropies as much as recreational sports.

Working with Tech Activities Board, the Outdoor Pursuits Center brings the unique, cul-

tural showing to Tech to add another element to individuals' experiences. He said being outdoors, rather than any particular activity, connects people to one another and to the planet. The film festival helps to showcase that and the center's various activities.

"It's all in the spirit of adventure and being outside," said Howell. "We have the film festival Friday night, the climbing competition all day Saturday, and in the past we've had on Sunday an adventure race. Saturday's event is all day long. We usually draw about 100 climbers, and we'll be on the wall from 9 a.m. until 10 at night. It's a very big event and our 10th anniversary to do it."

The films are made in an effort to promote environmental conservation, cultural awareness and preservation of outdoor activities. The festival will be hosted 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. today in the Allen Theatre at the Student Union Building. Admission is free to students with a valid Tech ID; others may purchase tickets for \$7 through Select-a-Seat.

►julie.davis@ttu.edu

DeGeneres judges herself as honest in 'Idol' debut

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ellen DeGeneres is glad that her "American Idol" debut drew big ratings and high praise from the show's creator, media mogul Simon Fuller. But the real test, she says, was judging herself.

She decided she didn't let the contestants down, DeGeneres said Wednesday, the day after she watched the broadcast of her first "Idol" episode.

"I was honest with them (the singers). I was concerned going into it I would be tiptoeing around too much, but I wasn't," DeGeneres said.

Fellow judge Kara DioGuardi told a teleconference Wednesday, before that evening's "American Idol" episode on Fox, that DeGeneres did "an incredible job for the first time here."

Fans had been divided over how the comedian and talk show host would do in assessing vocal talent, but DioGuardi said DeGeneres proved herself able — and was kind as well as candid.

DeGeneres received a post-show flood of congratulatory Twitter messages and calls from friends and celebrities, including one from Fuller, who founded the TV franchise in Britain with "Pop Idol." He pronounced himself "really, really happy," she said.

She also got a rave review from her wife, Portia de Rossi. ("Well, she loves

me no matter what," DeGeneres conceded).

For DeGeneres, "Idol" is another milestone in a career that includes her Emmy-winning daytime talk show, a deal with CoverGirl make-up, and her 1990s sitcom "Ellen," the first on prime-time network TV to have an openly gay lead.

On Wednesday, "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" show was renewed for three more years, through the 2013-2014 TV season, on 10 owned-and-operated NBC stations that have been airing it.

"American Idol," which has long reigned as TV's No. 1 series but has seen viewership slip, got a welcome ninth-season ratings boost with her on board.

Viewership was up by double-digits over last Tuesday's episode among total viewers (12 percent) and the advertiser-favored young adult audience (10 percent), according to preliminary Nielsen Co. figures. Next to the season premiere, DeGeneres' first show was the second-highest rated of the season among both groups of viewers.

Ratings also rose compared to last season's first Hollywood week episode, up by 4 percent among total viewers, at least 1 percent among young adults and by 8 per-

Be Mine

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I would like flowers," she said, "but spending a quiet evening together would be just fine with me."

Lippard and Brannigan are not the only couple spending their first Valentine's Day together. Esteban Barrera, a freshman psychology major from Coppell, is pulling out all the stops to make sure this Valentine's Day is extremely special.

Barrera and his girlfriend have an ongoing disagreement concerning the color of her eyes, so he painted her a picture of her eyes the way he sees them.

"She thinks her eyes are blue, and I think they are green," he said. "In the picture I painted her, I gave her green eyes."

In addition to the painting, Barrera also said he has a few more tricks up his sleeve to make this Valentine's Day unforgettable.

"I wrote her a song," he said, "and I am going to play it for her at midnight on Valentine's Day."

Ashley Kavanaugh, a freshman pre-nursing major from Spokane, Wash., will travel to Dallas to see her boyfriend this

Valentine's Day.

"My boyfriend is going to take me to dinner and then to go see the Valentine's Day movie," she said. "He knows how much I've wanted to see it."

Lippard and Kavanaugh said they realize the annoyance the holiday can bring to those who are flying solo. Their advice is just to have fun with it and not take things too seriously.

"It can be sad if you don't have someone to share the day with," Kavanaugh said, "but try to make the day fun, go out with your friends."

Lippard said she believes the commercialization of Valentine's Day overshadows the true meaning behind the day.

"People take this holiday way too seriously," she said. "People are really polarized on their views of Valentine's Day, and really, it's just another day."

Both women said they realize having someone to share the day with makes the holiday more appealing, but Kavanaugh hopes the day doesn't cause too much anxiety.

"People shouldn't be spiteful on Valentine's Day just because they are single," she said. "Love can come in many forms."

►devin.sanchez@ttu.edu



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Lady Raiders face Riley, No. 15 Cowgirls

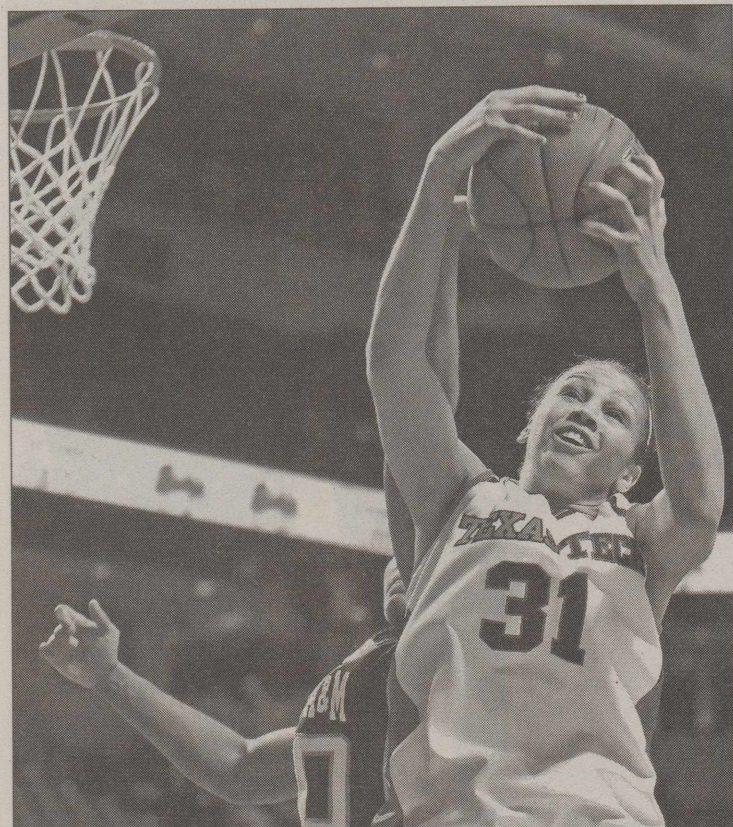


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Treador

TEXAS TECH'S ASHLEE Roberson grabs a rebound during the game against Texas A&M Wednesday in the United Spirit Arena.

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

The are few women's basketball players who have a Web site dedicated to their career. The Lady Raiders will be sharing the court with one Saturday.

Texas Tech hopes the win against Texas A&M Wednesday will lead to another victory in its matchup against No. 15 Oklahoma State at 6 p.m. Saturday in Stillwater, Okla.

The problem is, the Cowgirls have arguably the best player in the nation in guard Andrea Riley. The senior leads the nation in scoring with 26 point per game.

But Tech forward Ashlee Roberson said Riley is not the only weapon the Cowgirls possess.

"They're a very great team," she said. "They've got Andrea Riley, who's leading the nation in scoring. They've got (Tegan) Cunningham, who's a great 3-point shooter and player. They're just a good team all around. We've got to defend them the best we can and do what we have been doing and hopefully get the same outcome we got against A&M."

The attention on Riley is warranted, considering she has led the Big 12 Conference in scoring the last two seasons. The Web site www.riley10.com is dedicated to a career filled with her numerous accolades.

Cunningham, who averages 17.1 points per game, rounds out what is the fifth-ranked offense in conference play. OSU's third-leading scorer is Precious Robinson with 8.7 points per game.

The Cowgirls' lack of balance may be something Tech (14-9, 2-7 in Big 12 play) looks to exploit when it takes on Oklahoma State.

OSU (18-5, 6-3) had the bye week to get ready for the Lady Raiders, but Tech head coach Kristy Curry knows

what it's like to win there. The Lady Raiders have won two of their last three meetings at Oklahoma State.

"We know they're going to be ready," she said. "It's a very difficult place to play, but we've had a lot of success up there."

Curry knows her team will have to score in case it wants to win a shootout against Riley and company.

In seven games against the Lady Raiders, Riley has averaged 21.1 points per game, including a 33-point outburst last season

in Lubbock.

This season, Tech's offense ranks 10th in the Big 12 and has only scored more than 60 points in three of its nine conference matches thus far. OSU on the other hand, has hit that mark in

every Big 12 game to this point.

"We've got to do a good job of making shots," Curry said. "They're going to be in the zone and you're going to have to make shots. You've got to find the gap in the zone. You've got to be willing to look to score, and we definitely need to take that mentality into Oklahoma State."

The team hopes to ride momentum into Saturday's bout.

The Lady Raiders beat No. 13 Texas A&M Wednesday night, which may not have come at a better time since the team has only three more games in the United Spirit Arena.

So even Texas A&M coach Gary Blair realizes pressure is starting to mount on Big 12 teams at this point in the season.

"That's what the Big 12 is going to do for you," said Blair after his team lost to Tech 57-54 Wednesday. "You've got seven teams in the Top 25. That's the way it's going to be in the Big 12 South. You've got Hall of Fame coaches in here and Hall of Famers that are retired. This is what this league is all about."

► jose.l.rodriguez@ttu.edu

Vonn tests shin on skis for 1st time since injury

WHISTLER, British Columbia (AP) — Each of Thursday's steps was seen as a sign that, yes, Lindsey Vonn might very well compete in five Olympic races, after all, and might be able to think once again about medals, not medicine.

Painkillers and a Novocaine-like numbing cream for the American's badly bruised right shin? They seemed to dull the aching.

Wearing ski boots, something painful and depressing every time she tried it last week? She yanked them on and did a course inspection.

Actually skiing down a hill for the first time since getting injured Feb. 2, albeit only in a free run and not on the official course? It hurt, sure, but was the most exciting step of all, one that convinced Vonn she was ready to take part in the opening women's Olympic downhill training session later Thursday.

Alas, that practice wound up being called off after only two racers because of thick fog and low visibility — yet even that development was deemed encouraging by the group known as the Vonn tourage.

"I was happy to be back on snow today," said Vonn, who lives and trains in Vail, Colo. "My shin was still very painful, but I feel like the

injury is finally progressing a bit. I am always disappointed when a training run is canceled, but in this situation I definitely welcome the extra day to heal."

Indeed, her husband, Thomas, called the cancellation "fantastic."

"It's not like all her competitors are getting multiple runs down the course. Nobody got to ski it, really, today," said Thomas Vonn, who serves as a coach and chief adviser to his wife. "So it's another day of healing, and hopefully tomorrow she feels even better."

He said she still aims to race in all five women's Alpine events, which certainly would be a relief to the U.S. Ski Team, U.S. Olympic Committee and her fans — to say nothing of NBC and her various sponsors.

"She's never taken any races off the table. It's going to be a day to day: If she can do it, she's going to do it," Thomas Vonn said. "But she's not pulling out of anything at this point, and it's looking better than it was yesterday."

U.S. Ski Team women's coach Jim Tracy was as optimistic as anyone.

He knows full well her history of brushing aside injuries and pain

Tech track prepared for Texas A&M Challenge

By TOMMY MAGELSEN
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech track and field team will get a crack at the best in the nation.

The biggest track meet of the season for Tech before conference championships takes place Saturday in College Station at the Texas A&M Challenge.

Three different conferences will be competing for bragging rights: the Big 12 Conference, Southeastern Conference and Conference USA.

Each conference is sending three teams to the meet.

Texas A&M is ranked No. 1 in the nation in men's and women's track and field.

"I think we have pride about that," said Tech coach Wes Kittley, "and if you ask A&M or Texas, I think they're going to feel like we definitely feel like we have the best conference in America and it gives us opportunities when we go into meets like this to prove it."

Texas, A&M and Tech will be pitted against the SEC's Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi and C-USA's Rice, UTEP and Houston.

Kittley said this meet is important because the Red Raiders will see the best competition of the year so far, highlighted by the top-ranked Aggies.

"This is our last opportunity before the Big 12 (Championships),

so we still want to try and get some really good marks for the Big 12 so our seeding is good," he said. "And also we want to try to keep getting more people provisionally qualified or nationally qualified with an automatic mark."

Tech already has recorded provisional marks in 16 events this year, including the men's 55-meter hurdles, men's and women's pole vault, and both the men's and women's distance medley relay team.

Two freshman standouts, Shade Weygant and Bryce Lamb, have set national marks in pole vault and triple jump, respectively.

The meet will be the first scored meet of the season for Tech. The top performers in each event will earn points for their conference.

Trudeann Clarke, a senior runner from Jamaica, said she always looks forward to running as a team because she feels she runs best that way.

"I think I run better on the 4x400 than an open 400 because an open 400 I'm just running by myself," she said. "On the 4x400, I have my other teammates depending on me so I think I always run better on the 4x400."

Similar to the national championships, the A&M Challenge will be run on a banked track, which is at an angle as opposed to a flat track. It will be the first banked track Tech will run on this season.

Terra Evans, a provisional qualifier in the women's 200, said she is excited

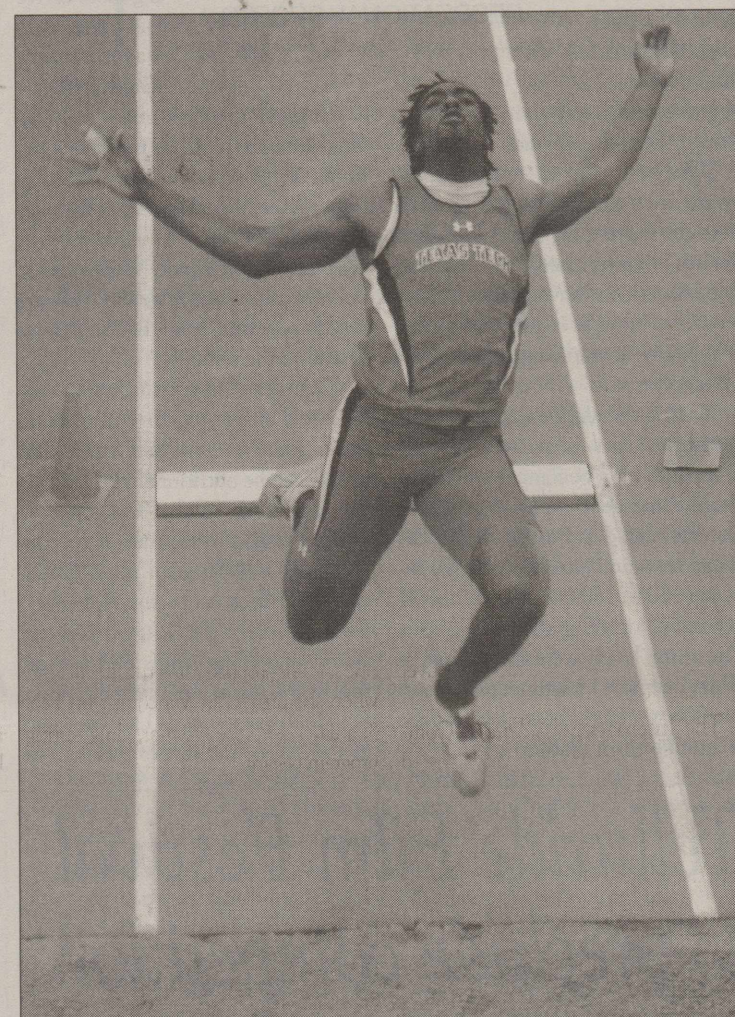


PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Treador

TEXAS TECH'S BERNARD Hammonds and the Red Raiders have the biggest meet of the season so far in the Texas A&M Challenge Saturday in College Station. This is the final meet before Big 12 Championships.

to travel to compete in the first true road meet this season.

Tech's dual meet on Jan. 30 at Nebraska was canceled because of poor weather in Lubbock, preventing the team from flying out safely.

But not much beats taking on the No. 1 team in the nation.

"Once you step on the track you have to compete, there's no laying down," Evans said. "So if you want to be successful and run well, you have to compete. And being in the confer-

ence with A&M, it's great because you get the competition year-round instead of waiting until the end."

Tech also will send distance runners Lillian Badaru and Winrose Karunde to Seattle to run the 5,000 in the Husky Invitational Friday night.

The 5,000 will not be run at the Texas A&M Challenge, so sending the duo to Seattle gives them an opportunity to remain in top running condition.

► tommy.magelsen@ttu.edu

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Johnson leads in Pro-Am

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Dustin Johnson wanted to make sure he got off to a good start as the defending champion of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. He succeeded Thursday because of a phenomenal finish.

Johnson overpowered the par 5s on a pristine day at Pebble Beach and closed with five consecutive birdies to tie the tournament record with a 30 on the back nine. He finished with an 8-under 64 and was atop the leaderboard.

Charley Hoffman had a 6-under 64 on the Shore Course at Monterey Peninsula,

the newcomer to a three-course rotation that opened to rave reviews and scenery to match.

"One of my favorites now on tour," Phil Mickelson said after a 68 at Monterey Peninsula.

The best round might have belonged to David Duval, who played bogey-free until the final hole for a 5-under 67 at Spyglass Hill, traditionally the toughest course of the bunch. The average score at Spyglass was 71.52, compared with a 70.89 at Pebble Beach and a 69.97 at Monterey Peninsula.

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Kobe, AI out of All-Star Game

DALLAS (AP) — Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers and Allen Iverson of the Philadelphia 76ers won't play in the All-Star game this weekend.

Both former NBA MVPs were voted into the starting lineups by fans.

The NBA announced Thursday that Bryant will be replaced by Dallas point guard Jason Kidd on the Western Conference roster. Iverson's spot in the Eastern Conference will be filled by New York forward David Lee.

Bryant missed his third straight game for the Lakers Wednesday night with a sore left ankle.

Iverson missed his fifth straight game for the 76ers Wednesday night to be with his sick daughter.

Kidd will be making his 10th All-Star appearance, while Lee is a first-time All-Star.

The coaches will determine which players will replace Bryant and Iverson in the starting lineup.

Tech hopes alumni game serves multiple purposes

By MIKE GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

The official arrival of baseball season on Texas Tech's campus still is about a week away, but fans won't have to wait long to catch a glimpse of the 2010 baseball team.

The latest version of the Red Raiders is set to take on the old one in the Alumni Game Saturday at 1 p.m. at Dan Law Field.

"It's going to be fun playing against guys who have already played here," Tech catcher Jeremy Mayo said. "It'll be a good way to get our season started. It's a way to get a jumpstart ahead of the season instead of just being thrown in there the first day."

Tech has had organized practices since late January, but the alumni game presents a chance for the Red Raiders to test their skills against a team that will not necessarily be familiar with them.

An official roster will not be released until later today, but according to a Tech athletics news

release, the alumni team will feature 1995 first team All-American Clint Bryant and other former Tech players who went on to play professional baseball.

Additionally, Chris Richburg — a Cincinnati Reds prospect and a member of the 2009 Red Raider team — said he will participate in the game.

The alumni game will be the first of its kind since the 2003 season. But Tech coach Dan Spencer said it will serve more than one purpose.

The second-year skipper said the game will not only benefit the Red Raiders, but also some of the alumni players still

playing in professional leagues. The game also should enhance the relationship between the alumni and the baseball program.

"Those guys that are coming back for the alumni game, those guys are always going to be Red Raiders," he said.

"Those guys are welcome any time, all the time. We've had a great turnout of guys just since I've been here. I think it's going to be an extremely competitive game on Saturday."

Admission to the alumni game is free, and Dan Law Field will open at 10 a.m. as pre-game warm-ups begin.

At noon, there will be a two-

inning "Old Timer's Game" for older alumni to play in.

The alumni game will commence an hour later and there will be an autograph session at 4 p.m.

The game also will allow fans to see many of the newcomers to the Tech program.

Transfer pitchers Bobby Doran, Brett Bruening, John Neely and Jay Johnson as well as freshman Brandon Petite will all take the mound for the Red Raiders.

Shortstop Joey Kenworthy said the game will be a good way for the current Red Raiders to see if they are in shape or have if they more work to do before the season opener against Jacksonville State at 4 p.m. on Feb. 19 at Dan Law Field.

"I'm really looking forward to seeing how far we've progressed as the Red Raiders," Kenworthy said.

► michael.graham@ttu.edu



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH COACH Dan Spencer will welcome former players this weekend to play in the Alumni Game at 1 p.m. Saturday at Dan Law Field. Admission is free to the general public.

Holyfield's wife says boxer hit her several times

FAYETTEVILLE, Ga. (AP) — Evander Holyfield's wife claims the boxing great hit her several times after an argument about her payments to their church, and she has received a temporary protective order against him.

Candi Holyfield, the boxer's third wife, said her 47-year-old husband hit her in the face, the back of the head and her back on the night of Feb. 1 after she refused to show him check stubs of her giving to the church, according to Fayette County court records. He was

concerned she was not giving to the church.

"He said that I was being disrespectful," Candi Holyfield, 30, said in the Feb. 3 court filing. "He started telling me that I needed to start putting God first in my life."

The argument started in the middle of the night, and when the boxer turned on the light and saw her face, she said he apologized, according to the court documents.

Evander Holyfield did not return sev-

eral phone calls to his cell phone seeking comment. Belinda Foster, a publicist for the couple, said in an e-mail Wednesday to The Associated Press that she'd spoken to both of them and that they remained a "strong married couple."

It was unclear whether there was a criminal investigation. Police in the couple's hometown of Fayetteville, which is about 20 miles south of Atlanta, declined to comment.

A magistrate judge signed a temporary order Feb. 3 banning Evander

Holyfield from being within 500 yards of his wife and their two children, a 6-year-old boy and 5-year-old girl. A hearing is scheduled for Feb. 18.

Candi Holyfield said in the protective order that the abuse against her began about six months after they were married July 1, 2003, and started again when she was pregnant with their first child. She said at first it was "mainly emotional" abuse but physical incidents have escalated since 2008.

Female Russian hockey player cited for doping violation

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — A female Russian hockey player was reprimanded Thursday but escaped a ban after testing positive for a stimulant in the first doping violation of the Vancouver Olympics.

The International Olympic Committee said Svetlana Terenteva tested positive Saturday for a "light stimulant" contained in a prescription cold medication. The substance — tuaminoheptane — is banned during competition but not out of competition. It is found in inhalers and nasal sprays.

Terenteva, a 26-year-old forward who has played in four world championships, told the IOC she used the drug Rhinofluimucil in Russia to treat a cold last month. She said she stopped using the medication when she arrived in Vancouver on Feb. 3, a day before the Olympic drug-testing program began.

A three-man IOC disciplinary panel ruled that Terenteva committed a violation because the substance was found in her system.

Normally, an athlete testing positive at the Olympics is automatically disqualified

and expelled from the games. But IOC vice president Thomas Bach, who headed the panel, said this was a "special case" that necessitated leniency. Russia's first game is Sunday.

The IOC said the Russian team doctor was aware Terenteva had been taking the medication and the player was "totally open and cooperative" with the investigation. The IOC also noted it was the first violation in a long career.

The Olympic body told the Rus-

sian national Olympic committee to ensure "by all means" that its athletes and officials comply with all doping rules.

More than a half-dozen Russian biathletes and cross-country skiers have been suspended in the past year for using blood-boosting drugs. IOC president Jacques Rogge said this week that he urged Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and other officials to crack down on cheaters.

Johnson, Kahne win qualifiers, Waltrip almost misses big race

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — It was two close finishes and one close call for Michael Waltrip — exactly what NASCAR needed.

Two stirring finishes to a pair of Thursday qualifying races, Waltrip's nervous waiting game to see if he'd get a spot in the Daytona 500, and the roller-coaster ride of emotions between those who made the show and those who did not combined to give NASCAR the boost it's been so desperately craving.

Jimmie Johnson nipped Kevin Harvick by .005 seconds in the first race, then Kasey Kahne edged Tony Stewart by .014 seconds to set the stage for what should be an exciting season-opening Daytona 500.

"I think we put on one heck of a race," said Johnson, who had to hold steady in a door-to-door battle with Harvick across the finish line.

"I definitely feel like (the racing) has been pretty exciting and good from my standpoint," said Kahne, who passed Stewart and then had his own side-by-side race to the finish.

There was more drama off the track, as well.

Waltrip, a two-time Daytona 500 winner, had planned to make his final

start at Daytona on Sunday's race. Only he wrecked out of the first race, and was at the mercy of the finishing order of the second race to claim a spot in the field.

He needed either Bobby Labonte or Scott Speed to grab one of the "transfer" spots into the race, and Waltrip settled into a television studio to watch the second race on a slew of monitors.

Waltrip was riveted as he cheered on as Speed used a late-race pass that helped him make the 500.

"I know I had an interest in what was happening for myself... but I've never seen anything more exciting in my whole life than that (race)," Waltrip said. "The race for the win, those guys mixing it up, that's hard. If you don't like that, then you need to become a fan of a different sport because that right there is as good as it gets."

That's exactly what NASCAR needs heading into its version of the Super Bowl.

The sport has been battered over the past few years by critics who argue the racing has grown stale and the drivers are too boring. A series of off-season changes to various rules, and an edict to the drivers to loosen up and show more personality, has created hope for some much-needed energy in NASCAR.

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SPORTS

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FRIDAY, FEB. 12, 2010

Rangers minor leaguer suspended for steroids

NEW YORK (AP) — Texas Rangers minor league pitcher Danny Gutierrez has been suspended for the first 50 games next season following a positive test for an amphetamine under baseball's minor league drug program.

A right-hander who turns 23 on March 8, Gutierrez told the Rangers the positive test was caused by his failure to obtain a therapeutic use exemption for Adderall, which is used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Gutierrez was 1-0 with a 1.65 ERA in four starts and four relief appearances last season for Class-A Wilmington, spending part of the season on the disabled list while recovering from an injured elbow. He was traded from Kansas City to Texas on Sept. 3 for catcher Manny Pina and left fielder Tim Smith.

"I sincerely apologize to the Texas Rangers organization, Major League Baseball, and to my family," Gutierrez said in a statement issued by the team. "I understand that it was my responsibility to obtain a TUE, even though the drug was prescribed by a doctor, and that I have let down myself and many others with my failure to do so."

Gutierrez made one appearance last season for Double-A Frisco, then was selected among the Rising Stars of the Arizona Fall League.

"We're disappointed. While it appears this may have been the result of taking a legal drug, it demonstrates poor judgment that Danny didn't let us know he needed a TUE, and that violates MLB's program," Rangers general manager Jon Daniels said in a statement.

Floren named to watch list for top golfer in Division I

Nils Floren gave Texas Tech a little more recognition than the program already has Thursday.

The Golf Coaches Association of America announced the junior is on the Ben Hogan Award Watch List.

Along with Division II, Division III, NAIA and NJCAA, the award recognizes the top golfer in Division I.

"He deserves all the credit he gets, but he's one of our hardest workers," Tech coach Greg Sands said. "He's always out there trying to get better, analyzing the game. He's just so good mentally that it seems like no matter how he's playing, he's always going to be in contention, because he's just good mentally."

Floren is No. 12 among the Top 50 golfers, according to Golfweek's rankings. Floren shot the Red Raiders' lowest round of the year, with a 66 in the Gary Koch Intercollegiate in October.

Floren's selection leaves Tech and Oklahoma State as the only two Big 12 Conference teams to have a golfer on the list. But four Cowboys golfers were selected: Morgan Hoffmann, Kevin Tway,



FLOREN

Peter Uihlein and Trent Whitekiller.

Past winners of the award include Clemson's Kyle Stanley last season and OSU's Rickie Fowler in 2008.

Floren in 2008.

Being named to the watch list gives Floren something in common with a relative and former Tech standout.

Oscar Floren, Nils' brother, was named to the watch list in 2007.

Oscar was an All-American for the Red Raiders and played from 2003 to 2007. Oscar is regarded as one of the best golfers in the program's history.

Sands said some high expectations from Nils could have come from what Oscar did during his time at Tech.

He also said Nils has done well in making a name for himself.

"He's done a really good job of doing that," Sands said. "If Oscar was still here, it may be an issue, but he's not here."

>> adam.coleman@ttu.edu

Red Raiders hope fans power them to victory against Aggies

By MIKE GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech-Texas A&M game in Lubbock always attracts an influx of Red Raider fans who consider it one of the biggest rivalry games of the season.

Forward Darko Cohadarevic thinks it is too.

"Since I came in here, I've kind of liked going up against A&M, it's a big rivalry," he said. "It's something going on between us and A&M. I think the students can help us if they come to this game, if they just show up, and with 15,000 people in the arena, we have the chance to beat anyone."

The excitement about the A&M game has not gone unnoticed by the players, who are expecting a large turnout when the teams play at 4 p.m. Saturday in the United Spirit Arena.

Guard John Roberson said he is especially excited after seeing flyers being passed out and all the discussion and invites on Facebook regarding the game.

Aside from fans, the Red Raiders (16-7, 4-5 in Big 12 play) will use all the advantages they can get against the Aggies — who beat the Red Raiders 85-70 in College Station two weeks ago.

One advantage may be confidence.

After starting conference play 0-3, Tech has fought back to win four out of six games. A win against A&M would put the Red Raiders at a .500 conference record, and the outcome of the game could very well set the tone for the remainder of Tech's Big 12 schedule.

One of the things Tech has going in

its favor is an improved defense.

Tech spent several days emphasizing defense after the A&M loss leading up to its game against James Anderson and Oklahoma State. Anderson — the Big 12's top scorer — had lit up the Red Raiders with 28 points in their first meeting, but was held to just 10 in an 81-74 Tech victory last week.

The defense also helped Tech to its first Big 12 road victory in more than a full season Tuesday at Oklahoma.

Tech led through the second half, but OU had the chance to win the game in the final seconds after a turnover with 24 seconds left. But the Red Raiders played tough defense during the final possession and OU missed a shot as time expired.

"We're buying into the defense," Roberson said. "Everybody has bought into it, and it's helping us."

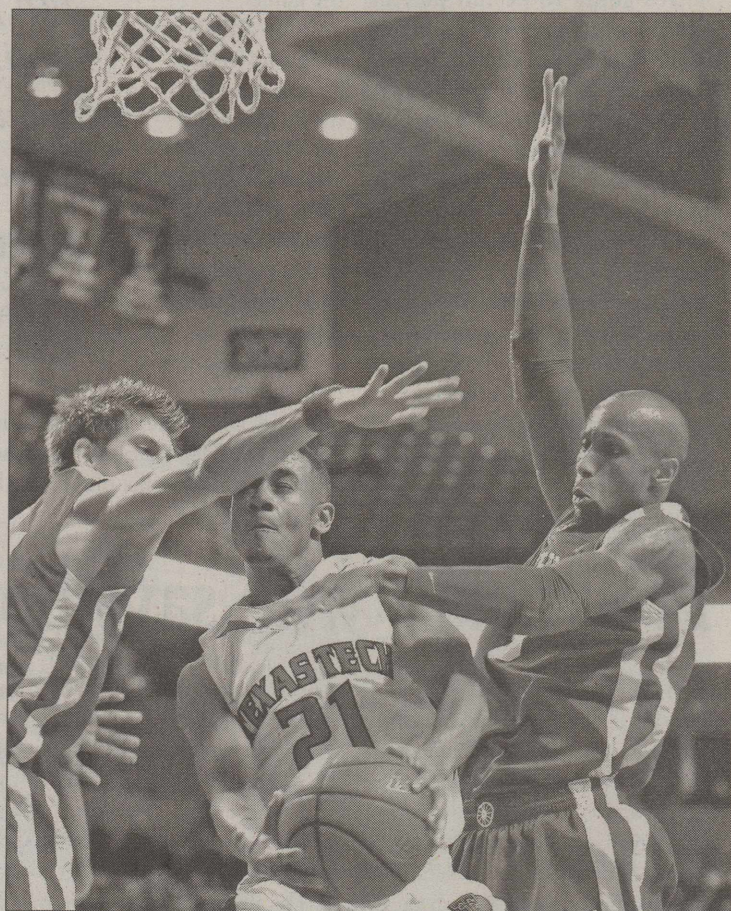
The defensive improvement and results also have revived discussions about Tech's postseason hopes. The A&M game could make a big statement.

A&M enters the game with the 17th best RPI ranking. Tech follows close behind at 29th.

The Aggies (17-6, 6-3) enter the game in a three-way tie for second place in the conference standings and are on a three-game win streak that began against Tech.

A&M is led by senior guard Donald Sloan, who is fourth in conference scoring, averaging 18.5 points per game and the Aggies rank 10th in the Big 12 in scoring — Tech ranks fifth.

Defensively, A&M ranks fifth in the conference and, despite improvement during the past two games, Tech



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Treador
TEXAS TECH'S JOHN Roberson will lead the Red Raiders against Texas A&M at 4 p.m. Saturday in the United Spirit Arena.

rank last.

However, statistics don't seem to matter as much in these games and no one on the Red Raiders' side is going to deny they approach this as a rivalry game.

"It's Texas A&M," Roberson said.

"They're our rivals. It's going to be alive, everyone is talking about this game especially since we need this game to be 5-5. It's a huge game for us as well as being a rivalry game. I just hope everybody comes out and supports us."

>> michael.graham@ttu.edu

Men's and women's tennis gearing up for key weekend

By JOSHUA KOCH
STAFF WRITER

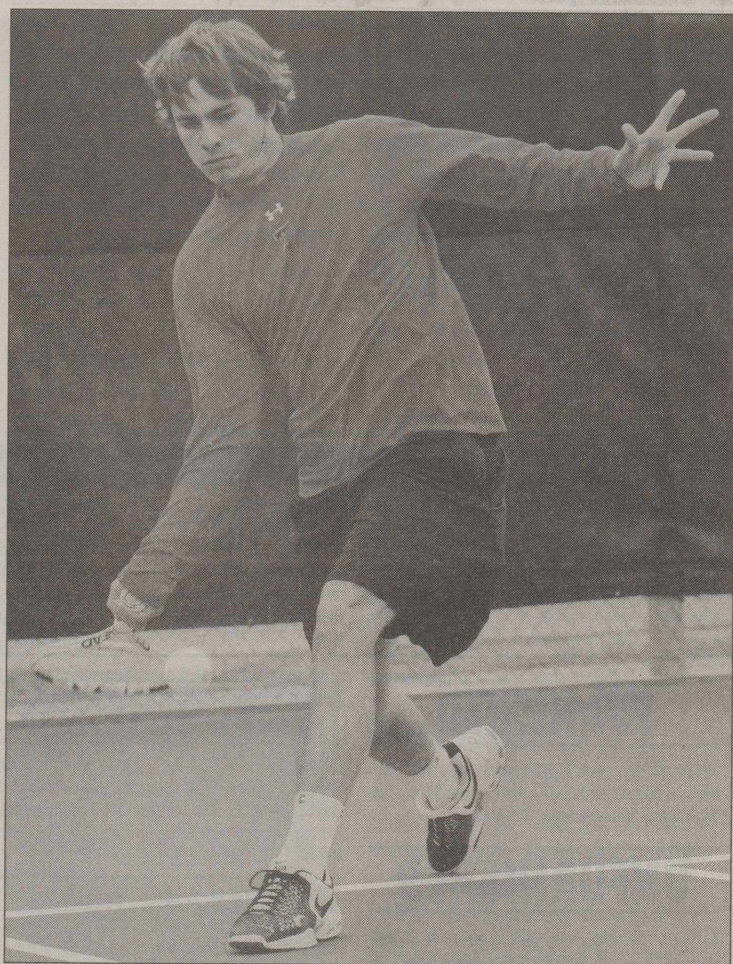


PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Treador

RAONY CARVALHO RETURNS the ball during practice on Wednesday at the McLeod Tennis Center.

The Texas Tech men's tennis team doesn't play home often, so players look forward to savoring every moment of this weekend.

"I think we are going to have more support," Tech's Raony Carvalho said. "I think the whole team is excited to see how our first match is going to be. If we are going to have all our people come, we are real excited to see everybody here."

The team opens its season at home with a doubleheader against McMurry and Abilene Christian at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., respectively, on Saturday at the McLeod Tennis Center.

McMurray has only played one game this season, but the familiar opponent for Tech is ACU.

The last time these two met up was nearly three years ago in Lubbock, and Tech dominated by sweeping the match.

Senior Luke Hawk is the player to watch this weekend for Abilene Christian. He finished last season 17-7 in singles and is 2-1 in singles so far this season.

But it seems like it doesn't

matter who the opponents are — players are just glad to be at home for once.

"We are all excited about the season since four of the guys in the line up are freshman here," freshman Rafael Garcia said. "We are excited about how our team is going to deal with the pressure of playing at home. We just want to have fun together and do the best we can."

The matches this weekend also give Tech a chance to get back on the courts after an off week.

"We've had a little bit of a break — didn't play last weekend," Tech coach Tim Siegel said. "These are matches that we are obviously heavy favorites in, but at the same time we are going to prepare as if we are playing against a top 10 team."

The Lady Raiders return on the road again this weekend after recording their first loss of the season last weekend against North Texas.

This weekend the team travels to Houston to play Arizona and Rice on Saturday and Sunday, respectively.

"We had a tough weekend last week," Caroline Starck said. "We lost a tough one to North Texas, and I know that we are all really excited to turn it around and prove ourselves."

These are not new opponents for the Lady Raiders. Last season, they faced both Arizona, losing 3-4, and Rice, losing 2-5.

Rice is 3-1, with its only loss this season coming against Fresno State, while Arizona is 5-0 this season.

The player to watch on the squad is senior Ariane Masschelein. Masschelein finished last season with a 21-14 record, but one of those losses came against junior Kelsy Garland.

Garland said how the freshmen respond will be key, considering the Owls and the Wildcats will be new opponents to them.

"We pretty much have a different team than last year," she said. "We have four freshmen playing in the lineup, so they don't really know how Rice or Arizona plays."

With just one match last weekend, the Lady Raiders had a lot of time to improve this week.

>> joshua.koch@ttu.edu

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