

**Bettis earns  
Big 12 honor**  
See Page 6



**K-State visits Tech**  
See Page 8



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LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

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PART FIVE OF A FIVE-PART SERIES ABOUT ALCOHOL AND ITS IMPACT

## classifying city consumption

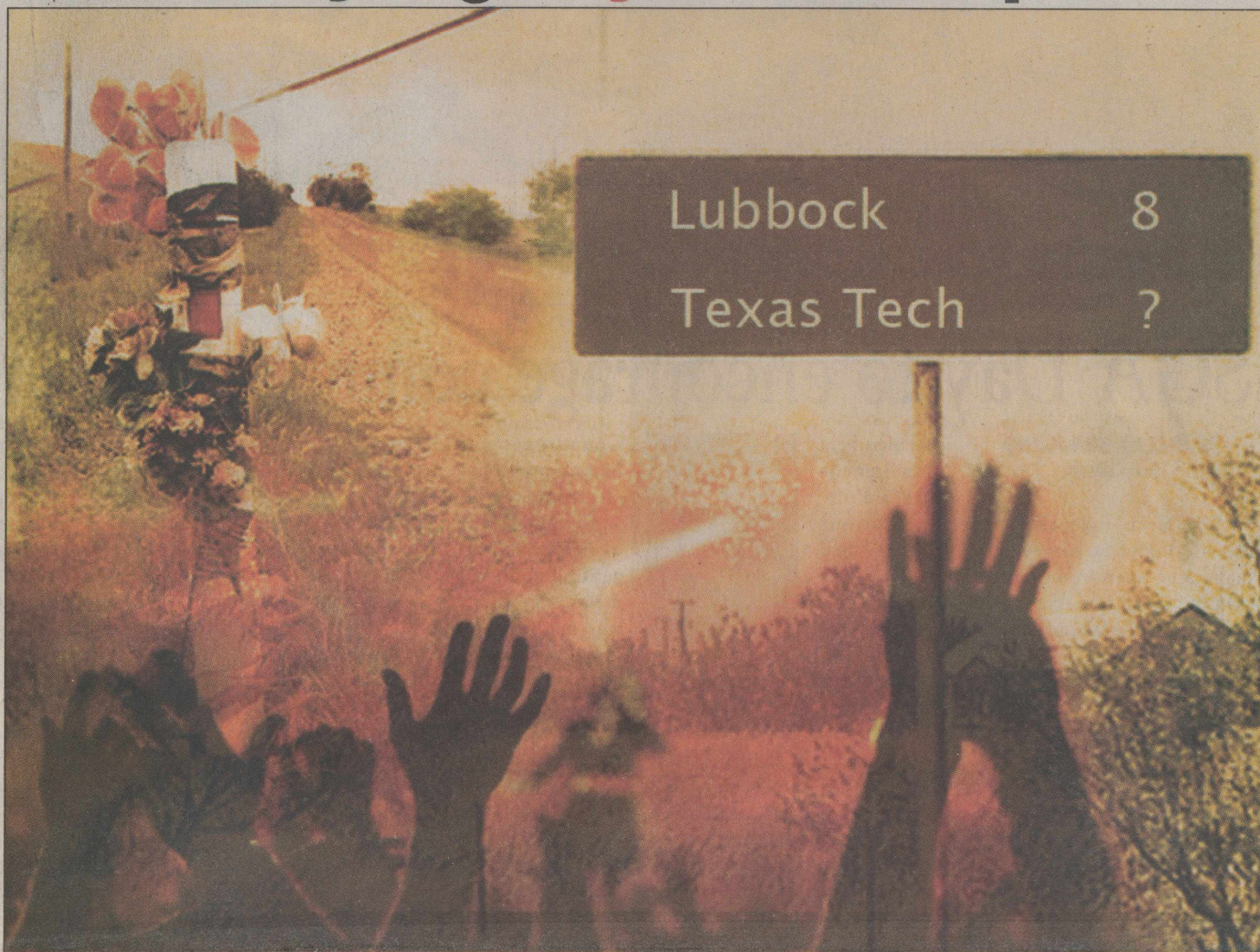


ILLUSTRATION BY JORDAN HILL/The Daily Toreador

### Driving under influence helps push Lubbock to 8th on drunkest cities list

By ALEXANDRA PEDRINI  
STAFF WRITER

After pre-gaming, drinking and partying all night, students who drive home while intoxicated help make Lubbock the eighth drunkest city in the United States, according to Men's Health Magazine.

The magazine examined at least one city from every state to create a list of the 100 drunkest cities, which examines how many people in each city have died from alcoholic liver disease, drunk-driving crash deaths, the number of driving under the influence arrests, severity of DUI penalties and the amount of binge drinking in the city. The magazine collects the numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's nation-wide survey, said Matt Marion, deputy editor of Men's Health Magazine.

The magazine stands behind its rankings because they believe numbers are very

accurate and reliable, he said. This is the second time the magazine created this list and he believes people should know where their city stands on the topic.

"People told them (about their binge drinking patterns) and it is commonly accepted that these numbers are underrepresented," Marion said. "But the numbers are accurately reported for the system."

Some of the cities on the list have large amounts of mass transit while others, including Lubbock, do not. Marion said the magazine believes this doesn't play a large role in the outcome of the list.

Large systems of mass transportation work in some cities and not in others, said Carolyn Beck, the public information officer for the Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission. Lubbock is not a place that large systems of mass transit would work well.

ALCOHOL continued on page 3

## Professors earn financial planning research grant

By KELSEY HECKEL  
STAFF WRITER

A \$40,000 grant was given to two Texas Tech professors by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards for research to help more Americans recognize the need and importance of financial planning.

The study, called "Estimating the Value of Comprehensive Financial Planning," is being conducted by professors Michael Finke and Sandra Huston.

"One of the reasons we are most excited about providing statistical evidence of outcome differences between those that use financial planners and those who self direct — our research can provide evidence that, even among those who are the most educated and informed, the use of a financial planner is more likely to lead to measurable success," Finke said.

This is due to the benefits of establishing and measuring progress toward goals through the financial planning process, he said, and also from the benefits of expert counseling that can help a client identify and confront barriers to meeting these goals.

Tim Stifel, manager of external relations for the organization that awarded the professors the grant, said Tech is the first school to receive a grant like this.

"We started a grant program in 2006 to request proposals," Stifel said. "2009 was the first year that a research project that was to be done by the CFP."

He said a deadline was set to receive applications and then a grant advisory group came together and made the selections of the recipients of the grants.

"There are two other grants that were given by the CFP," he

said. "These were more typical grants, like the ones given in the past. They focused on outreach for financial planning."

Information for the research will come primarily from data from the Survey of Consumer Finances, Finke said.

"It is the best nationally representative data set that has information on the use of financial planners," he said.

"We also have access to proprietary data that allows us to answer some very specific research questions about the value of using a comprehensive financial planner."

Finke said he also hopes more students will start using financial planning and will also consider it as a major.

"A lot of students don't go into financial planning," he said. "There are a lot of job prospects though. I would recommend it to anyone who wants to use their quantitative skills and people skills."

The Survey of Consumer Finances is a triennial survey sponsored by the Federal Reserve Board that offers a fully-representative source of information on the financial circumstances of U.S. households. Statistics for the survey are collected by the National Organization for Research at the University of Chicago.

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FINKE



HUSTON

## Dem. jobs bill advances past GOP filibuster

By ANDREW TAYLOR  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bipartisan jobs bill cleared a GOP filibuster on Monday with critical momentum provided by the Senate's newest Republican, Scott Brown of Massachusetts.

The 62-30 tally to advance the measure to a final vote on Wednesday gives both President Barack Obama and Capitol Hill Democrats a much-needed victory — even though the measure in question is likely to have only a modest boost on hiring.

Brown and four other Republicans broke with GOP leaders to advance the measure. Most other Republicans opposed the bill because Democratic Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada stripped out provisions they had sought and wouldn't allow them to try to restore them.

The bill featured four provisions that enjoyed sweeping bipartisan sup-

port, including a measure exempting businesses hiring the unemployed from Social Security payroll taxes through December and giving them another \$1,000 credit if new workers stay on the job a full year.

Though employers seldom make hiring decisions based on tax breaks, economist Mark Zandi says the measure could potentially create 250,000 new private-sector jobs. That's less than 4 percent of the 8.4 million jobs lost in the recession.

Joining Brown in voting to break the filibuster were two moderate New England Republicans, Sens. Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins of Maine, and two retiring GOP senators, Kit Bond of Missouri and George Voinovich of Ohio. Democrat Ben Nelson of Nebraska voted "nay" and Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., was absent.

Reid's bill is a far smaller measure than Obama's \$862 billion economic stimulus bill enacted a year ago. It's

also significantly smaller than a rival bipartisan bill unveiled earlier this month by two senior senators.

The legislation also would renew highway programs through December and deposit \$20 billion in the highway trust fund.

"I came to Washington to be an independent voice, to put politics aside and to do everything in my power to help create jobs for Massachusetts families," said Brown, whose election last month gave Republicans the 41st vote that could sustain GOP filibusters. "This Senate jobs bill is not perfect ... but I voted for it because it contains measures that will help put people back to work."

Sen. George Voinovich, R-Ohio, said he voted for the bill because the highway spending will create jobs and help states pay for important projects.

"If we don't do this we're going to miss the construction season, and this is an area where you absolutely create jobs," Voinovich said.

## COTTON CONCENTRATION

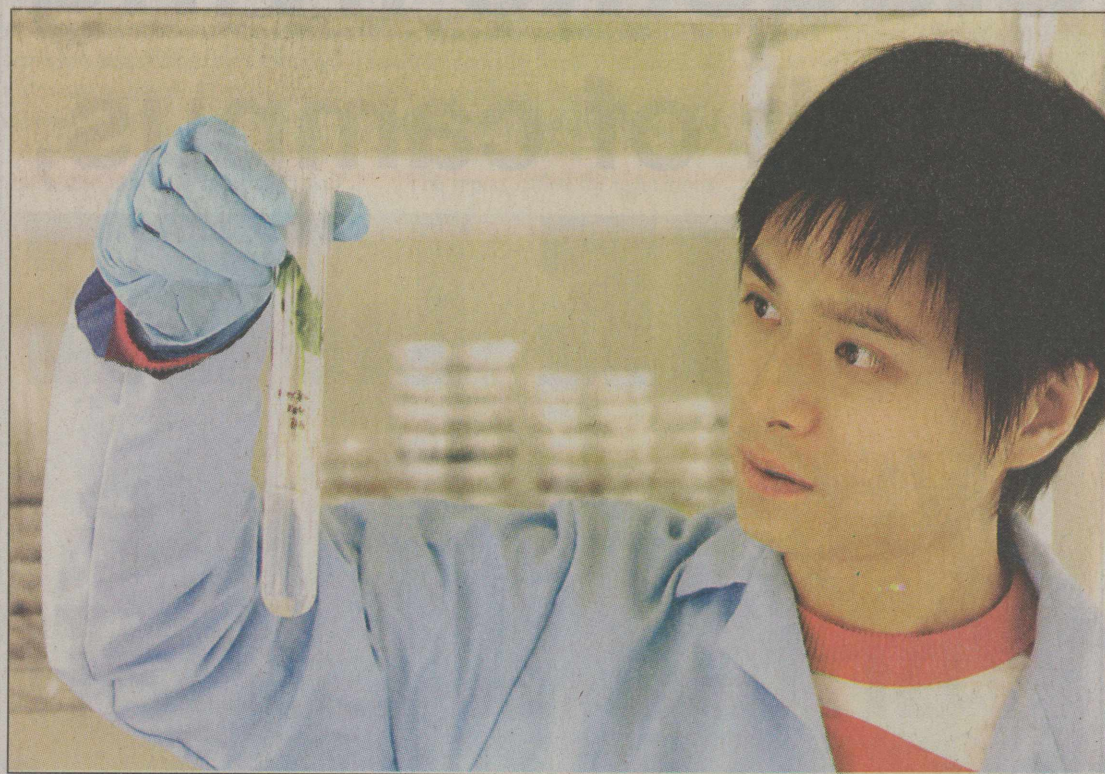


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

FAN JIA, A graduate plant molecular biology major from China, examines the phenotype of a piece of a transgenic cotton plant Monday in a grow room in the basement of the Experimental Sciences Building.

### INDEX

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

### WEATHER

Today	AM Snow Showers	Wednesday	Sunny
	42/25		53/32

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**IN BRIEF**

**STATE**

**Austin building hit by plane not sound**

AUSTIN (AP) — A service will be held Friday in Austin for an Internal Revenue Service worker killed when a tax protester flew his plane into an office building.

Texas Department of Transportation spokesman John Hurt says the U.S. 183 frontage road near seven-story Echelon I is closed until the building is determined to be structurally sound.

Investigators say Joe Stack on

Thursday crashed his plane into the building that houses IRS offices, killing himself and federal worker Vernon Hunter. Stack's multipage anti-government online rant was discovered after the crash.

Pastor Gaylon Clark of Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church, where Hunter attended, says a service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at a bigger church, St. James Missionary Baptist Church.

**NATION**

**Top US general: US has plan B for slower Iraq exit**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The top U.S. general in Iraq said Monday he could slow the exit of U.S. combat forces this year if Iraq's politics are chaotic following elections this spring.

Gen. Ray Odierno said there are no signs that will be necessary, but he says he has a Plan B and told his superiors about it during Washington meetings over the past week.

The U.S. has about 96,000 troops in Iraq nearly seven years after the American-led invasion that overthrew dictator Saddam Hussein.

That's the lowest number of American forces in the country since the invasion.

Under an agreement negotiated under former President George W. Bush, all combat troops are to leave the country by Aug. 31 although some 50,000 will remain behind to help train Iraqi security forces.

The remaining support troops are to be gone by the end of 2011.

"If you ask me today, I'm fully committed and that's the right course of action," Odierno told reporters at the Pentagon.

**WORLD**

**Ivory Coast PM: New government to be announced**

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — Ivory Coast's prime minister said he will announce the composition of the country's new government within 24 hours, a move that could bring an end to a week of violent protests sparked by the president's dissolution of the former government.

After a day of marathon meetings between the two sides, Prime Minister Guillaume Soro told reporters Monday that the country's "political players" had

come to an agreement and that he planned to announce the details of the new government on Wednesday morning.

His announcement came as at least two more protesters died Monday when an opposition demonstration turned violent, deepening the political crisis that has gripped this nation of 20 million since its government was summarily disbanded by President Laurent Gbagbo earlier this month.

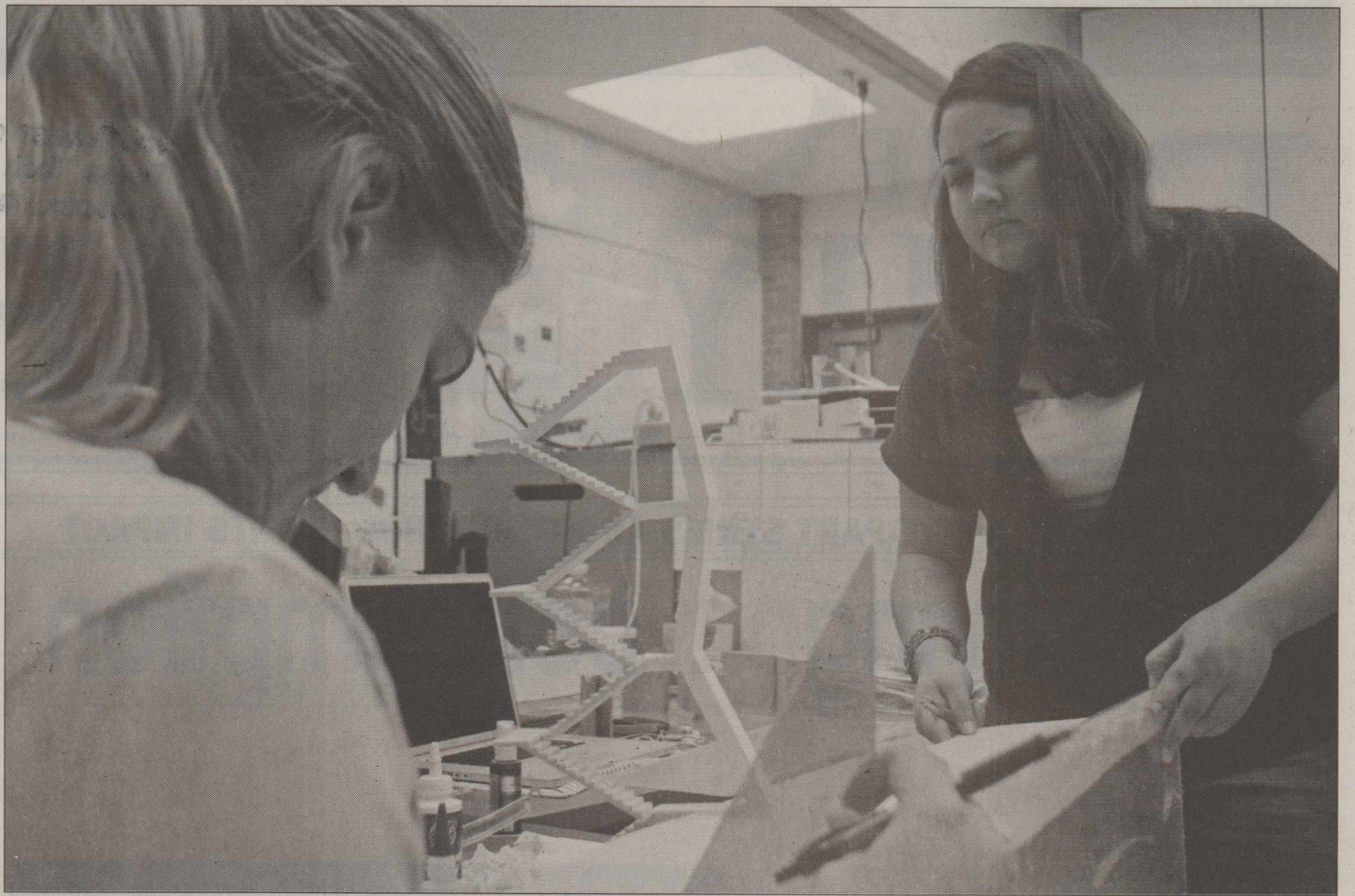
**Corrections**

The Daily Treador'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.



CHRISTIE MATTOX, LEFT, a first-year graduate student from San Antonio working on a dual master's degree in architecture and business, and Noella Cantu, a first-year graduate student from Floresville who is working on a master's degree in architecture, make measurements for a concept model based off of "montage" in the Architecture building Monday.

PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Treador

**CONSTRUCTING CONCEPTS**

**SGA Day to encourage communication**

By JOEANN BON-JORNO  
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech student senators are offering pizza, surveys, bus maps and open communication in celebration of Student Government Association Day on Wednesday.

Sarah Saunders, internal vice president of the association, said SGA Day is a way for the SGA and Tech students to have open communication and get feedback from each other. "We answer questions students have, hand out surveys and give away pizza," she said.

According to the SGA Web

site, members of the student senate Public Relations Committee host SGA days on campus so the association can gain feedback from students and promote initiatives.

Colton Smith, chairman of the committee, said a booth will be set up from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Student Union Building with about three to four senators taking volunteer shifts. He said all senators will be open for questions and feedback from students.

"We hope students stop and talk to senators and think about questions they want to ask them," Smith said.

Students will be asked to fill out two surveys, he said. The first survey is regarding Student-Administration Contact and

Commencement Ceremonies, he said and the second is about electronic textbooks.

Suzanne Williams, president of SGA, said the survey regarding commencement was made in an effort to get more student feedback about who is necessary to shake hands with at graduations.

Kyle Miller, Tech Student Regent, said the survey regarding electronic textbooks has to do with the initiative by Gov. Rick Perry to increase efficiency in higher education.

"The survey is to receive feedback on how students view

electronic textbooks," Miller said.

According to the wording of the electronic textbook survey, it has to do with how e-textbooks would benefit or hinder higher education.

Some questions in the Student-Administration Contact and Commencement Ceremonies include how well students feel they know administrators, whether it is important to shake the hand of their deans and which other administrators they would like to see at the commencement ceremonies.



SAUNDERS

*"We answer questions students have, hand out surveys and give away pizza."*

**SARAH SAUNDERS**  
SGA INTERNAL VICE PRESIDENT

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**Iran to build new enrichment sites**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran said Monday it plans to build two new uranium enrichment facilities deep inside mountains to protect them from attack, a new challenge to Western powers trying to curb Tehran's nuclear program for fear it is aimed at making weapons.

Ali Akbar Salehi, who is also Iran's vice president, said Tehran intends to use its more advanced centrifuges at the new sites, a decision that could add to growing concerns in the West over Tehran's program because the technology would allow Iran to accelerate the pace of its program.

The two plants are among 10 industrial scale uranium enrichment facilities Iran approved the construction of in November, a dramatic expansion of the program in defiance of U.N. demands it halt enrichment.

"Hopefully, we may begin construction of two new enrichment sites in the next Iranian year as ordered by the president," the semiofficial ISNA quoted Salehi as saying Monday. The Iranian calendar year begins March 21.

"As of now, our enrichment sites... will be built inside mountains," Salehi added, according to ISNA.

The decision appears to be aimed at shielding the facilities from potential military attack.

Israel considers Iran's nuclear program a strategic threat, and has hinted at the possibility of airstrikes against Iran if world pressure does not halt Tehran's nuclear efforts.

The Israelis have launched such strikes in the past. In 1981, an Israeli air attack destroyed an unfinished nuclear reactor in Iraq. Israel also hit a suspected nuclear facility in Syria in September 2007.

Iran's enrichment of uranium is the central concern of the United States and other nations negotiating with the country over its disputed nuclear program. The technology can be used to generate fuel for power plants and isotopes for medical purposes, but it can also be used to make weapons-grade uranium for atomic bombs.

## Rock climb begins Body and Soul Week

By BROOKE BELLOMY  
STAFF WRITER

A 53-foot rock climbing wall might be intimidating to some, but this was not the case to the students who attended Bouldering at the Rock Wall, the opening event of Feed Your Body and Soul Week on Monday afternoon.

Katy O'Dell, a freshman early childhood development major from Rowlett, said she heard about the rock climbing event from a friend.

"I've wanted to learn to rock climb for a while, and this seemed like a good opportunity," she said. "It's different from other workouts."

Thomas Matthews, a sophomore exercise and sport sciences major from Georgetown, said he stopped by the climbing wall after class.

"I've climbed here twice before," he said. "It's a fun workout."

Klint Hobbs, event organizer for the Student Counseling Center, said he has been working with other campus organizations for the past five months to plan the rock climb and other activities for this week.

Hobbs said he believes workout activity like rock climbing is more important than the outcome. The focus of Bouldering at the Rock Wall was to help people find a fun workout that would keep people healthy.

The events for the rest of the week range from a documentary movie screening and healthy microwave cooking lessons to belly dancing class and a recovery celebration.

Hobbs said the documentary movie is eye opening and funny.

The events are intended to promote healthy body image and self-acceptance, he said, and show people being healthy is more important than having a certain appearance.

"Everyone should realize that your genes dictate your body type," Hobbs said. "Accept the body that nature gave you, and work to make it healthy."

Hobbs also said eating disorders and unhealthy fitness activities such as excessive exercise and steroid use in men are on the rise. He hopes this fact will encourage more men to attend the events this week and to get help if necessary.

The media perpetuates unhealthy body image, he said, and positive motivation is necessary for a healthy body image. An example of a negative motivation is the pair of jeans most people have tucked away in the back of the closet that they hope will fit one day. This week, students can donate these "skinny clothes" on campus and start getting healthy in a positive way.

The rest of the events planned for Feed Your Body and Soul Week are sure to be as fun as Bouldering at the Rock Wall, and O'Dell and Matthews said they already are hooked on the new workout they tried during Feed Your Body and Soul Week.

"When I have a break from school and work, I will try rock climbing again," Matthews said.

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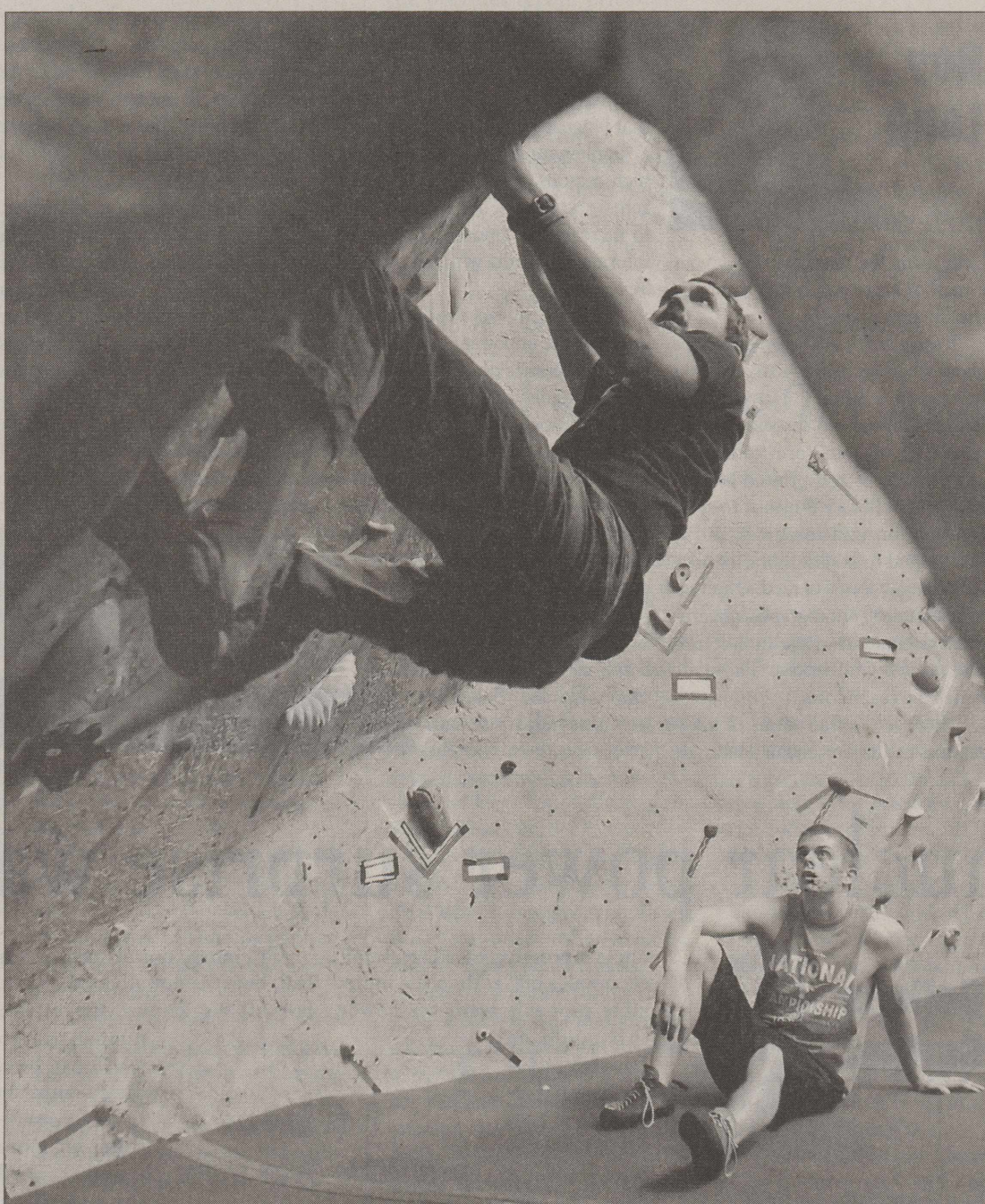


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador  
THOMAS MATTHEWS, A sophomore exercise and sport sciences major from Georgetown, watches Outdoor Program Director Curt Howell teach a bouldering clinic during Feed Your Body and Soul Week on Monday in the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

### EVENTS

#### Today

- Feed Your Body Fair  
WHEN: 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
WHERE: Student Union Building Main Entrance
- "America the Beautiful"  
WHEN: 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Human Sciences building Room 169

#### Wednesday

- Going Gourmet On the Cheap with Healthy Microwave Cooking  
WHEN: 4 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.  
WHERE: Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center Room 206
- Belly up for Body Image: A Belly-Dancing Class  
WHEN: 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Rec Room 114

#### Thursday

- Elisa Project Gathering  
WHEN: 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
WHERE: Human Sciences building Room 69
- Celebration of Recovery!  
WHEN: 7 p.m.  
WHERE: Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery Serenity Room

## Egypt to receive stolen sarcophagus from US

CAIRO (AP) — The U.S. will return to Egypt a 3,000 year old wooden sarcophagus confiscated at the Miami airport after being shipped from Barcelona, the Culture Ministry announced Monday.

The brightly painted sarcophagus dates back to the 21st Dynasty (1070-945 B.C.) and belonged to a private individual called Imesy, said the statement, though last year antiquities head Zahi Hawass linked it

to a pharaoh called Ames.

Customs officials at Miami International Airport seized the coffin in October 2008 from a shipment coming from Spain after the importer could not present the proper documentation to prove ownership.

In the ensuing investigation, U.S. authorities determined the sarcophagus had left Egypt some time after 1970 and was later exhibited in Madrid in 2007.

## Alcohol

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"People always have the option of a designated driver, which are always free of charge, so the amount of (public transportation available) doesn't play much of a role (in the outcome of the list)," Marion said.

Texas Tech students who may be under the influence or simply unable to get home safely between the hours of 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. can call SafeRide at 742-RIDE. The service, provided by the Student Government Association, is available free of charge for anyone with a Tech ID.

"The purpose of SafeRide is for students to get a safe ride home," said Dee Jay Wilde, the SGA external vice president. "Some are repeat (users) and some are first time riders."

During the last year, 6,700 people used the service, said Wilde, a senior agriculture and applied-economics major from Wall. Anyone with valid Tech ID can use the service whether they are under the influence or simply too tired to drive.

Not all students use the service, but he said SGA wishes they would, he said. The association does not encourage drinking to the point of intoxication of students older or younger than 21, but wants students to know they always have a safe ride home.

"Lubbock has a great night life and a great university, but we've worked to make sure that our students are taken care of," Wilde said. "If that does happen, we want students to know that we do have services like this to take care of them."

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## UN warns about tech waste in developing world

BALI, Indonesia (AP) — Sales of household electrical gadgets will boom across the developing world in the next decade, wreaking environmental havoc if there are no new strategies to deal with the discarded TVs, cell phones and computers, a U.N. report said Monday.

The environmental and health hazards posed by the globe's mounting electronic waste are particularly urgent in developing countries, which are already dumping grounds for rich nations' high-tech trash, the U.N. Environment Program study said.

Electronic waste is piling up around the world at a rate estimated at 40 million U.S. tons (36 million metric tons) a year, the report said, noting that data remain insufficient.

China produces 2.6 million U.S. tons (2.3 million metric tons) of electronic waste a year, second only to the United States with 3.3 million U.S. tons (3 million metric tons), it said.

UNEP Executive Director Achim Steiner said the globe was ill-prepared

to deal with the explosion of electronic gadgets over the past decade.

"The world is now confronted with a massive wave of electronic waste that is going to come back and hit us, particularly for least-developed countries, that may become a dumping ground," Steiner told The Associated Press ahead of a UNEP executive meeting in Bali.

He said some Americans and Europeans have sent broken computers to African countries falsely declared as donations. The computers were dumped outside slums as toxic waste and became potential hazards to people, he said.

The report predicts that China's waste rate from old computers will

quadruple from 2007 levels by 2020. Meanwhile, in India, waste from old refrigerators—which contain hazardous chlorofluorocarbons and hydrochlorofluorocarbon gases—could triple by 2020.

It said the fastest growth in electronic waste in recent years has been in communications devices such as cell phones, pagers and smart phones.

Most of the recycling of electronic waste in developing countries such as China and India is done by inefficient and unregulated backyard operators. The environmentally harmful practice of heating electronic circuit boards over coal-fired grills to leach out gold is widespread in both countries.

The report called for regulations

for collecting and managing electronic waste, and urged that technologies be transferred to the industrializing world to cope with such waste.

While electrical products such as refrigerators, air conditioners, printers, DVD players and digital music players account for only a small part of the world's garbage, their components make them particularly hazardous.

Prof. Eric Williams, an Arizona State University expert on industrial ecology who did not participate in the UNEP study, said it was difficult to comment on the credibility of the electronic waste growth forecasts because the report gives little explanation of how they were calculated.

"It is the environmental intensity of e-waste rather than its total mass that is the main concern," Williams told the AP via e-mail.

"If e-waste is recycled informally in the developing world, it causes far worse pollution than the much larger mass of regular waste in landfills," he said.

*"It is the environmental intensity of e-waste rather than its total mass that is the main concern."*

ERIC WILLIAMS  
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

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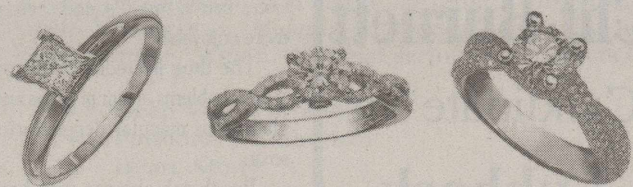
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## In multimedia age, don't disregard books

I am a book snob. I admit it openly and proudly. I have definite opinions about literature, authors and libraries.

Fyodor Dostoevsky, Victor Hugo and Thomas Hardy all top my list of personal favorites, (although I still have not overcome my childhood distaste for Charles Dickens). My life and world view has been constructed with influence from these writers.

Knowing I believe the book to be the most important invention in history, I think the Texas Tech University Library System is the most valuable resource on campus. It is also one of the most under-used resources here.

Yes, I know what you are thinking. Right now, you are saying to yourself, "This columnist is off his rocker. The library is always full of people. I always have to head up to the Mezzanine to use a computer because the library is so busy."

Well, the library system may have computers in it, but it is not an Internet café, nor should it be.

**Roy Long**



Only using the library to check your e-mail or Facebook is really missing the library's purpose.

Recently, I have heard questions about whether digital media or books belong in a library. Historically, libraries have been associated with books (from cuneiform tablets to papyrus, codices and printed books). However, a library is meant to store information and resources and is not limited to books. Libraries have stored many forms of media, including newsreels, photographs, government documents, magazines, letters and now, digital media. There are benefits to each format.

However, not all forms of information media are equal. Some are

more accessible and more effective than others. Reading a book about French is much less effective than hearing and being able to practice that language via digital media with a supplemental grammar text. For such reasons, the library, like most across the nation, has recently tried to increase the amount of different information media which it offers to Texas Tech.

But let's not go overboard and undercut the importance of the book, as we sometimes do. The expansion of other media within the library has led to logistical problems involving library space and the removal books and government documents from the shelves. The book is still a superior source for information and it builds character. Reading books teaches patience and diligence.

As in life, book shortcuts like Sparknotes or Wikipedia leave us disappointed and empty handed. Books are portable, and you can even read them without

batteries or expensive technology while in an airplane over Chicago. Also, when searching for obscure information, it is often unavailable on the Internet (If you don't believe me, you try to find health statistics from the 1959 Soviet Census).

Since the creation of other, quicker forms of sharing information such as the television, radio and the Internet, we have grown lazy as a society. We scream at a screen if our connection is less than 52 kilobytes per second. We accept any opinion addressed on the television as truth simply because we fail to spend the time required to critically think

about them. We have forgotten the written word, because it takes a significant amount of time to read the original texts, and we are much too busy.

I think Emerson would agree with me we must continue to use books, rather than fall into the trap of "quick information." He states, "One must be an inventor to read well ... There is then creative reading as well as creative writing. When the mind is braced by labor and invention, the page of whatever book we read becomes luminous with manifold allusion."

Our understanding will go further than just what the author originally conveyed as we ponder the wording of the author and the method by which he or she makes the point. We must keep as many library books on the shelf as possible.

Education is a process, not an end result.

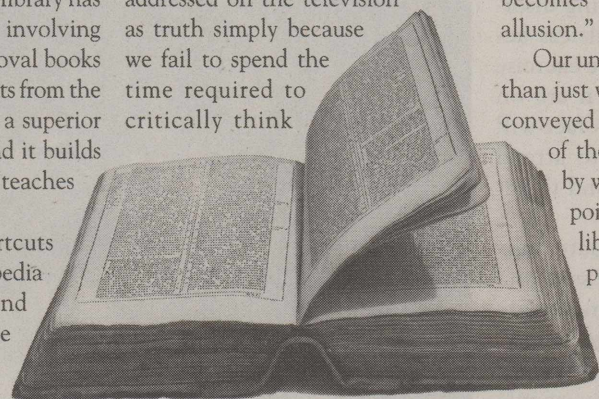
This is not to say that electronic media is bad. I

appreciate Amazon's Kindle e-reader, programs such as librivo.org and digital databases that store information so that it can be more accessible. I think making the Internet more accessible to students is a worthy goal. However, we must keep balance between books and other media, and this means we must continue to buy and use books here.

What is the solution to the space problem? My suggestion is the library ensures all removed books and documents are available online to patrons, and provide information on how to access these books. The library can encourage expanded use of the Interlibrary Loan Program, and more databases to provide this information. Moving books to an "off-site location" is, in reality, a step backwards, almost as egregious to the librarian as shouting in the stacks.

**Long is a junior Russian and area studies major from Lubbock.**

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## Iranian nuclear power surprise was buzz, not shock

Sometimes I really wonder about Iran.

Rival countries, particularly those in the east, like Russia, like to manipulate the minds of their enemies. Now, while the population of Iran has limited control over what their leaders do or say, I have to ponder how the society of Iran — or even the society of North Korea for that matter — regards the tactics of its leaders.

Diane Sawyer of ABC was allowed exclusive access to the North Korean people in 2006. Many of those interviewed seemed unaware, shy or guarded. Of course, we don't know exactly how it is there because we can only base it on her reporting, but it is a glimpse of their life. It's better than nothing at all, and it most likely cost ABC a pretty penny to even grant her access to that little sliver of experience.

Although not as isolated, Iran has restrictions as well. They prefer people go there to learn about their culture rather than critique

**Colleen Gartner**



I enjoy optimism and positivity as much as the next person, but how can there be advances in their culture without critique? That then begs the question whether Iran really wants to advance their culture as they have always been a traditionalist country resistant to change.

This is where I have to pause and think about what Keith Olbermann would say. Do we defend the growth of a country that clearly wanted another energy source but most of us do not trust? Or do we frown upon this "surprise" that, quite honestly, has been expected for years now, considering we helped jumpstart their original program in the 1950s?

Now, if the move toward

nuclear power is based on simple economics rather than the intangible pinnacle want for power, this could be considered a good thing. Like many Americans, however, I have my reservations. Something just doesn't quite feel right, like a hint of Adolf Hitler's fine propaganda waves that swept Germany during World War II.

Similarly, it is strong speakers like President Barack Obama, Hitler and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad that make the goal of "progress" scary.

Of course, not all progress is bad, but it is not all good either.

For all we know, this entire nuclear fiasco could just be a distraction to cover up something far more sinister, and the attention they are trying to draw to it could be more of a wake-up call than anything else.

So, did Iran really expect to shock us with such a leap? I'm not surprised with the jump toward nuclear, considering the leader, Ahmadinejad, has tried to attract the idea of going nuclear and in doing so, he has also

tried to attract scientists willing to help.

Not to be stereotypical, but the Middle East and India generate many bright individuals, many of whom end up practicing here in the United States as doctors or lawyers. It is not as primitive over there as some people may lead to believe; Iran was not starting from scratch.

It's no wonder the Arabic world is scared — Iran is like many other civilized countries in that they are capable of innovating in such a way that could defeat the technologies of countries that surround them.

Now, what I really am concerned about is how far they will take the technology. Like most subjects, once the concepts are understood, it only takes the application of those concepts to put the pieces into motion. Do we know how many nuclear

concepts they understand? How much farther are they since we left the program? I mean, North Korea has a lot of puzzle pieces, but at the same time, we all know they have failed tests.

Of all of these questions that I ask, I know I'm not alone in asking them. Even if we had answers for every single one of these questions, the answers could change. That is the scariest part of all of this. The leaders, the people that run the technology and the minions involved in such a movement are mere blips in the long run, or at the very least their assurances are blips. The choice to go backward or forward always remains, so the future can change as fast as the blink of an eye.

**Gartner is a senior business major from The Woodlands.**

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“It is not as primitive over there as some people may be lead to believe; Iran was not starting from scratch.”

### Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

**ACROSS**

- 1 Have status
- 5 Less adorned, as walls
- 10 Wordless singing style
- 14 Land parcel unit
- 15 Big gig venue
- 16 Heading for a chore list
- 17 Devotee of a Sistine Chapel feature?
- 19 Charles Lamb's nom de plume
- 20 Sixth sense, briefly
- 21 Carnival city
- 22 Portage vessels
- 24 Devotee of green ice cream?
- 27 Final furniture coat
- 30 Round at the tavern
- 31 Pennsylvania Dutch group
- 32 Buddy of Tom and Dick?
- 33 Important time
- 36 Pop choice
- 37 Numbers after the decimal point
- 38 Top of the glass
- 39 out: barely make
- 40 Tadpoles' milieu
- 41 Like fresh celery
- 42 Capital where "Aids" premiered
- 43 Trained animal's repertoire
- 44 Devotee of thunderstorms?
- 48 Idolizes
- 49 Fish eggs
- 50 In the style of
- 53 Hand, in Juárez
- 54 Devotee of a classical language?
- 58 "Beg pardon"
- 59 Express a view
- 60 Uncooperative contraction
- 61 Annoyed
- 62 Looks after
- 63 Stopping points

**DOWN**

- 1 Meet event
- 2 Suit toppers
- 3 Vacation option
- 4 Sushi choice
- 5 Send into exile
- 6 Special lingo
- 7 Arbitr with a whistle
- 8 "Bambi" doe
- 9 Oater
- 10 Landowners
- 11 Workers with pads
- 12 Punctuation in play dialogue
- 13 French farewell
- 14 Best man's offer
- 15 Joyce's
- 16 Countrymen
- 17 Like a screened porch
- 18 Tower city
- 19 Leave high and dry
- 20 "Two mints in one" sloganer
- 21 Confront
- 22 "No harm done"
- 23 River where baby Moses was found
- 24 Artist, Matisse
- 25 Rock star
- 26 Clapton
- 27 Insurer's exposure
- 28 Casualty
- 29 Nine-to-five routine, to many
- 30 Ringer of many bells
- 31 Allow to use for a while
- 32 Creative fields
- 33 Class clown, often
- 34 Anchovy holder
- 35 Be in the hole for

### Monday's Puzzle Solved

S	C	A	R	S	O	A	H	U	B	A	N	K
T	A	I	N	T	S	P	U	N	A	L	E	E
A	R	R	A	Y	L	E	G	O	N	A	M	E
R	E	P	L	O	S	E	C	A	N	N	O	N
S	T	O	L	E	N	A	L	L	E			
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A	S	K	S	P	L	E	A	D	S	U	A	W
C	H	E	R	P	A	L	T	I	T	L	E	
M	I	T	O	E	S	S	A	S	O	L	E	
E	A	S	L	I	S	T	E	N	I	N	G	
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R	E	L	A	X	E	D	H	A	I	R	A	R
O	V	E	R	M	E	A	D	A	P	P	L	E
M	E	W	L	M	A	Z	E	E	T	H	R	
A	N	D	Y	A	R	E	S	L	A	S	S	O

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## Marijuana use by seniors goes up as boomers age

MIAMI (AP) — In her 88 years, Florence Siegel has learned how to relax: A glass of red wine. A crisp copy of The New York Times, if she can wrest it from her husband. Some classical music, preferably Bach. And every night like clockwork, she lifts a pipe to her lips and smokes marijuana.

Long a fixture among young people, use of the country's most popular illicit drug is now growing among the AARP set, as the massive generation of baby boomers who came of age in the 1960s and '70s grows older.

The number of people aged 50 and older reporting marijuana use in the prior year went up from 1.9 percent to 2.9 percent from 2002 to 2008, according to surveys from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The rise was most dramatic among 55- to 59-year-olds, whose reported marijuana use more than tripled from 1.6 percent in 2002 to 5.1 percent.

Observers expect further increases as 78 million boomers born between 1945 and 1964 age. For many boomers,

the drug never held the stigma it did for previous generations, and they tried it decades ago.

Politically, advocates for legalizing marijuana say the number of older users could represent an important shift in their decades-long push to change the laws.

"For the longest time, our political opponents were older Americans who were not familiar with marijuana and had lived through the 'Reefer Madness' mentality and they considered marijuana a very dangerous drug," said Keith Stroup, the founder and lawyer of NORML, a marijuana advocacy group.

"Now, whether they resume the habit of smoking or whether they simply understand that it's no big deal and that it shouldn't be a crime, in large numbers they're on our side of the issue."

Each night, 66-year-old Stroup says he sits down to the evening news, pours himself a glass of wine and rolls a joint. He's used the drug since he was a freshman at Georgetown, but many older adults are revisiting marijuana after years away.

"The kids are grown, they're out of school, you've got time on your hands and frankly it's a time when you can really enjoy marijuana," Stroup said. "Food tastes better, music sounds better, sex is more enjoyable."

The drug is credited with relieving many problems of aging: aches and pains, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and so on.

But there's also the risk that health problems already faced by older people can be exacerbated by regular marijuana use.

Older users could be at risk for falls if they become dizzy, smoking it increases the risk of heart disease and it can cause cognitive impairment, said Dr. William Dale, chief of geriatrics and palliative medicine at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

He said he'd caution against using it even if a patient cites benefits.

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MANNEQUIN MAKEOVER



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

WHITNEY FLUEGEL, A junior apparel design and manufacturing major from Amarillo, drapes a cocktail dress on a mannequin during an apparel product development class Monday in the Human Sciences building.

Tuesdays with Tina: Words with Friends

I discovered a new iPhone app this weekend, and it's taking over all my free time.

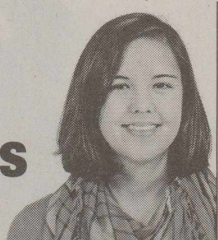
I overheard some of my classmates talking about Words with Friends and adding each other to their contact lists last week. Someone said it was similar to Scrabble. So I made a mental note to check it out, because Scrabble is my favorite board game.

I finally got around to looking it up in the App Store on Sunday — a free version and an ad-free paid version were available for download.

As soon as I began a few games with random people, my boyfriend looked over my shoulder and decided to download it, too. We've been playing each other ever since — he's winning the current game, much to my chagrin.

The app is set up so users can play random opponents or friends from their contact list. The game resembles Scrabble and is played with the same

Tina Arons



rules, except players don't lose a turn if their word isn't valid. A little box pops up to say it isn't an acceptable word and the player can try again until they place one that works.

The biggest perk to the game is that it's played at the user's pace, which means no time limits. That means I don't have to set aside an hour or two of my day to play. I can just fit in moves while I'm on the bus or waiting for class to start.

Because of this, it's possible to play multiple games at one time. I have three games going at the moment, but I think that might be a bad idea. It takes an excruciatingly long time to sub-

mit a word or to load a word just played by an opponent.

The app also offers a chat option for each game, but I've found it also takes an extremely long time to post a message or receive one.

I'm hoping the app will run faster when I have fewer games open at once. If it doesn't, the problem may be that the application can't handle the number of users playing.

Hopefully that will be fixed soon or I might get too frustrated and give up. That would be too bad, though. I have a feeling Words with Friends stimulates my brain a lot more than the Facebook app.

For anyone interested in playing a game with me, my user name is Tarons.

Also, check out my blog this week for a list of my other favorite apps.

■ Arons is a DT columnist  
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Plastic bags — worth the cost?

WASHINGTON (AP) — For decades the standard question at U.S. grocery store check-out counters has been "Paper or Plastic?" But since January, consumers in the U.S. capital have faced a different question: "Will you pay 5 cents for a bag?"

Europeans have long accepted the idea of providing their own baskets, bags or nets to carry their purchases, or paying for bags. But in the United States, where retailers go out of their way to cater to customers' needs, being given a free paper or plastic bag to carry purchases is largely taken for granted. So not all Washingtonians are pleased.

"I think it's unnecessary," said Daniel Koroma, 57, as he toted groceries home from a supermarket in a plastic bag that he'd paid for. "They sell you the groceries, they should give you something to put them in."

Superman's debut comic book issue sells for \$1M

NEW YORK (AP) — A rare copy of the first comic book featuring Superman sold Monday for \$1 million, smashing the previous record price for a comic book.

A 1938 edition of Action Comics No. 1, widely considered the Holy Grail of comic books, was sold from a private seller to a private buyer, neither of whom released their names. The issue features Superman lifting a car on its cover and originally cost 10 cents.

The transaction was conducted by the auction site

ComicConnect.com. Stephen Fishler, co-owner of the site and its sister dealership, Metropolis Collectibles, orchestrated the sale.

Fishler said it transpired minutes after the issue was put on sale at around 10:30 a.m. Eastern time. He said that the seller was a "well known individual" in New York with a pedigree collection, and that the buyer was a known customer who previously bought an Action Comics No. 1 of lesser grade.

"It's considered by most

people as the most important book," said John Dolmayan, a comic book enthusiast and dealer best known as the drummer for System of a Down. "It kind of ushered in the age of the superheroes."

Dolmayan, who owns Torpedo Comics, last year paid \$317,000 for an Action Comics No. 1 issue for a client. Others have sold for more than \$400,000, he said, but this copy fetched a much higher price because it's in better condition. It's rated an "8.0 grade," or "very fine."

School recognizes Tex Avery

DALLAS (AP) — Tex Avery's cartoons were funny 70 years ago, and they're still funny today.

Avery created the wisecracking Bugs Bunny and awarded him the signature, "Eh, what's up, doc?"

He first heard the line at North Dallas High, where he graduated with the Class of 1926. Standing in the cavernous hallways, one can almost hear Roaring '20s teenagers passing one another during class changes. "Hiya, doc." "What's new, doc?" "What's up, doc?"

Avery, who died of lung cancer in 1980, once told an interviewer that Daffy Duck was born on White Rock Lake in East Dallas, where he and his friends hunted ducks.

Avery's animated films that's what academics call cartoons are enjoying a renaissance at his alma mater this month. In a narrow, whitewashed hallway between the cafeteria and a computer lab, students are painting color-drenched murals depicting the Avery characters Bugs, Daffy, Elmer, sad-eyed Droopy the dog, and the rest.

"I grew up watching them on Cartoon Network," said Jesus Martinez, one of the student muralists.

"I like the ones with Foghorn Leghorn and Droopy," said Noland

Sowels, a 17-year-old senior.

Even though Avery created his best cartoons in the 1930s and '40s, they still appeal to young people today. The reason, probably, is because the stories are fast-paced and infused with satire, irony, sex and violence. Above all, they're funny.

These cartoons started out among the "short subjects" preceding a feature film. In the late '40s, some were resurrected for television. Today, they live in DVD collections and on cable channels.

Walt Disney was the cartoon king of Avery's era. Think of Mickey Mouse and Goofy or Jiminy Cricket and Snow White. Disney characters were sweet, earnest and without rough edges. Avery and his crew decided to go the other way, creating edgy characters such as Red Hot Riding Hood and the wolf who lusted after her.

"I think he brought Texas attitude to his work," said Robert Musburger, professor emeritus at the University of Houston and a noted animation historian. "His characters had a certain cockiness get out of my way because I'm always right. Bugs was the epitome of that character."

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# Mallard's return good timing as freshmen contribute

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ  
STAFF WRITER

One could guess that the Lady Raiders lack experience just by looking at the roster.

Of the 14 players Tech suits up, only three of them are seniors: guards Jordan Murphree and Tilmila Martin along with forward Ashlee Roberson.

This may leave a lot of pressure on some of the younger players

to step up and contribute immediately.

For instance, sophomore Kierra Mallard was Tech's leading scorer until she was suspended prior to facing Texas in Austin. When she returned Sunday in a 68-51 home win against Kansas, it gave reason for her teammates to be positive.

"It's definitely going to help us," Murphree said. "If she brings energy like she had (Sunday) every game, we'll be a much better team."

Some of the freshmen helped ease the pain in Mallard's absence.

Tech guard Chynna Brown was inserted into the starting

role against the Longhorns, only to suffer a concussion that would keep her out of the following game against Texas A&M. It was then Christine Hyde's turn to take over in Brown's absence. Since then, the team hasn't looked back.

The Lady Raiders have won three of four games since Hyde earned a starting role. She scored 12 points on the road at Oklahoma State and has bumped up her scoring average since Big 12 Conference play started.

Tech head coach Kristy Curry said the move has been the right fit to this point.

"Just the rhythm and the routine we've been in," she said. "Obviously, (Brown) played great at Texas. Then with her concussion, we put Christine in the lineup, we've had some success. You don't go away from what's working."

Brown and Hyde have formed a rotation at the guard spot in place of Martin, who has seen limited action in the past couple weeks.

Murphree said it's just a matter of them growing up.

"I'm impressed," she said. "They had a lot coming in. They had to mature really quickly and I think that they've done a really nice job."

"I think they'll continue to mature throughout the years."

Additionally, Marissa Ashton had split time with Jordan Barncastle while Mallard was out and made herself noticed. Ashton scored eight points in 20 minutes in Tech's first game without Mallard, and has received at least 18 minutes of playing time in four of the last five games.

Tech guard Monique Smalls has started every game at the point guard position and has received recognition from opposing coaches. Many of those coaches believe she will be on the Big 12 All-Freshman team when the season closes.

With such a large core of youth on the squad, one could think that playing time is scarce.

But Curry said this group is not the selfish kind.

"Not one of these kids, not one of their parents have complained about playing time or complained about their role," she said. "That's astonishing in this day and time to have that big of a freshmen class and nobody pout, nobody complain, everybody just be for a team cause."

"Whether or not people complain or not makes no bearing on my decision making. Again, it's about character and the kind of people they are."

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PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Treador

TEXAS TECH CENTER Kierra Mallard shoots over Kansas State defender Ashley Sweat in one of the Lady Raiders' games last season.

*"It's definitely going to help us. If she brings energy like she had (Sunday) every game, we'll be a much better team."*

**JORDAN MURPHREE**  
GUARD  
TEXAS TECH

## Baseball, softball games canceled because of weather forecasts

Inclement weather is forcing two Texas Tech teams to reschedule games.

The Tech baseball team announced Monday that its game against New Mexico today at Dan Law Field was postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date. The game was to begin at 3 p.m.

The Tech softball team postponed both games of its series against Texas-San Antonio, which was scheduled to start today at Rocky Johnson Field. The first game was set to begin at 6:30 p.m. and the second was set for 1 p.m. Wednesday.

Weather forecasts predicted snow showers for Monday night and today.

According to a news release, Tech softball and UTSA are trying to fit a single game into the schedule later this spring.

The cancellations might cool down two squads on a hot streak.

Tech baseball swept its games to win the Red Raider Classic this weekend. Tech beat Jacksonville State 8-3 and 11-8,

and took care of Michigan 4-2 and 18-5 to start the season 4-0.

The New Mexico game could have been the perfect opportunity for Tech baseball to gauge itself after the wins — the Lobos are coming off a season-opening series win against then-No. 1 Texas.

Now Tech baseball turns its attention to the Brooks Wallace Memorial Classic at Dan Law Field, which begins Thursday and ends Sunday. The tournament features Bethune Cookman and Washington State.

Tech softball has turned heads with its best start in program history. Tech is 10-1 on the season, winning eight consecutive games heading into the UTSA series.

Tech softball goes back on the road to face Texas Southern, Prairie View A&M, UT-Arlington, North Texas and Houston Baptist in Arlington.

►►adam.coleman@ttu.edu

## Pitcher Bettis earns second Big 12 weekly honor

By ADAM COLEMAN  
SPORTS EDITOR

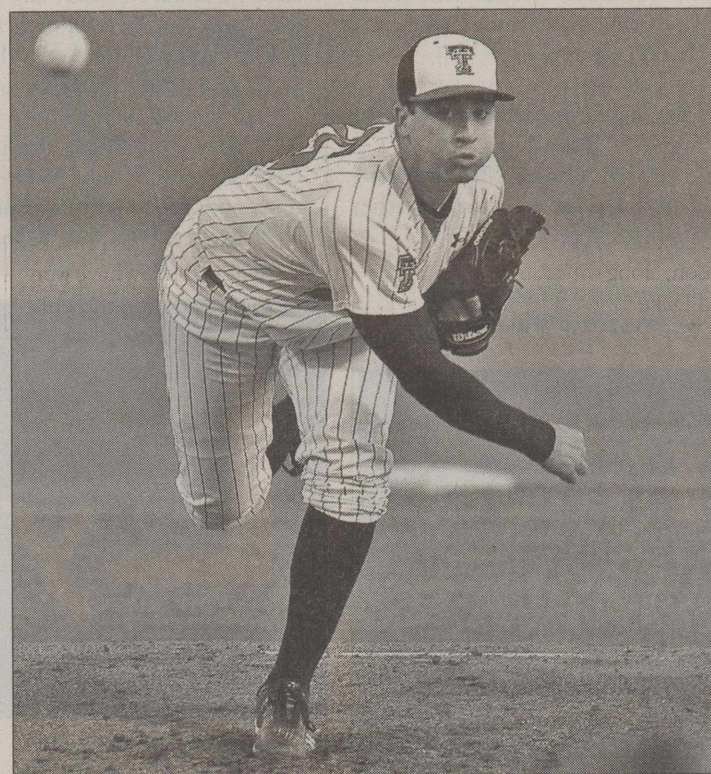


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Treador

TEXAS TECH PITCHER Chad Bettis throws a few warm-up pitches to catcher Jeremy Mayo before the start of an inning during Tech's 8-3 win against Jacksonville State on Friday at Dan Law Field.

Texas Tech pitcher Chad Bettis got off to a perfect start in the 2010 season opener, and he has the Big 12 Conference to back him up.

The junior was named Big 12 Co-Pitcher of the Week Monday after a solid performance on the mound against Jacksonville State Friday at Dan Law Field.

His four strikeouts, four hits, one run and two walks in seven innings of work fueled the Red Raiders to the 8-3 win against the Gamecocks.

"It felt great," Bettis said after the game Friday. "Just went out there, I felt good. (Tech catcher Jeremy) Mayo called a great game, made a number of defensive plays behind me. Barrett Barnes was amazing on offense (Friday). Everything went right (Friday)."

Bettis earned the honor along with Baylor's Shawn Tolleson, who struck out 11 hitters in six innings against Duke.

The honor is the second for Bettis and his first since April 13, 2009.

Bettis' performance Friday set the tone for a Red Raider team that swept all four games this weekend. Tech beat JSU another time, 11-8, and won two games against Michigan, 4-2 and 18-5.

During the Friday game, Bettis was lights out until the seventh inning when he allowed his only run against. He retired Jacksonville State's first 13 batters behind a solid Tech defense.

Bettis gave credit to Mayo for the performance, but Mayo

said these types of performances from the junior should come as no surprise.

"It's what's expected," he said Friday. "That's what I expect out of him. That's what the team expects out of him."

"When he comes out and sets the tone like that, it puts everybody's confidence above normal and everybody just starts playing and then we run off eight runs and we just keep rolling."

In fact, Bettis is expected to be the Red Raiders' ace atop the rotation this season after going 6-1 with a 3.59 ERA and seven saves last year.

"I thought he was outstanding," Tech coach Dan Spencer said of Bettis' performance Friday. "I really did. He was very efficient early. He had basically just one long inning — his last inning — and we got him out and that was about where he needed to be."

Tech may not have to wait long to see Bettis back on the mound.

Although the mid-week game against New Mexico scheduled for Tuesday was canceled Monday because of the ensuing snow, Tech has games against Bethune Cookman and Washington State this weekend in the Brooks Wallace Memorial Classic at Dan Law Field.

Until then, Bettis said he believes there still are some changes to make before his next start.

"Just be a little more efficient," Bettis said Friday. "Need to work on my off-speed a little bit better and just throw strikes, compete."

►►adam.coleman@ttu.edu

### Today's su | do | ku

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	4				7	6	8		
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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.

3	8	9	5	6	1	4	2	7
2	6	5	7	4	9	8	3	1
7	1	4	2	8	3	9	6	5
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Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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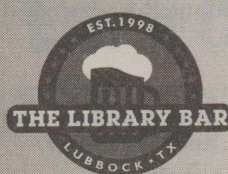
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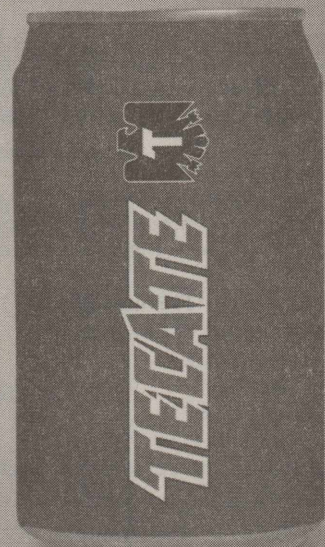
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# Tech track eager to compete after weekend off

By **TOMMY MAGELSEN**  
STAFF WRITER

When leaving College Station on Feb. 13, the Texas Tech track and field team knew they would not have to wait too long to get another crack at the No. 1 ranked track and field program in the nation.

On Friday and Saturday, Tech track and field will compete in the Big 12 Conference Indoor Championships in Ames, Iowa, for a chance at the 2010 indoor track and field conference title.

The team did not have a meet scheduled this weekend in anticipation of the conference indoor championships.

"Last week we just had a good training week," said Tech coach Wes Kittley. "We came out of A&M and we took it easy on Monday but on Tuesday through Friday we really tried to work some quality in the kids."

Kittley said Tech does not schedule a meet before the Big 12 Championships to make sure as many of the athletes are as close to 100 percent as possible.

Tech track and field competed alongside Texas A&M in the Texas A&M Challenge on Feb. 13. This was Tech's first look at a Big 12 school as a team so far this year.

In preparation for the Big 12 Championships, Tech has hosted three track meets this season but only traveled as a team one time — to College Station.

Kittley said he is excited to see

what the rest of the Big 12 has to offer, and he knows his team will compete with some of the top programs in the nation.

Tech track and field is going into the Big 12 Championships with some impressive early season marks that should garner them some attention from their competition.

Tech already has 18 provisional marks in individual competitions, and four marks in relay races.

Three Red Raiders also have earned NCAA automatic qualifying marks so far this season. Freshman Bryce Lamb and senior Darrell Roddick both own top five marks in the men's triple jump, while freshman pole-vaulter Shade Weygant is in the top 10 in the women's pole vault.

Weygant said she believes having a chance to see the Aggies in action has allowed the team to train harder heading into the Big 12 Championships.

"Just get in the right mindset and figure out where we want to go with that," she said. "So just with seeing (A&M) is giving us a little preview in order for us to bring it up to the next level for this coming week."

Sophomore runner Markus Henderson said the majority of the team is healthy and athletes utilized the week off between meets well.

This will be Henderson's second indoor Big 12 Championships appearance, so he should be used to some of the added pressure of competing against some of the best athletes in the country.

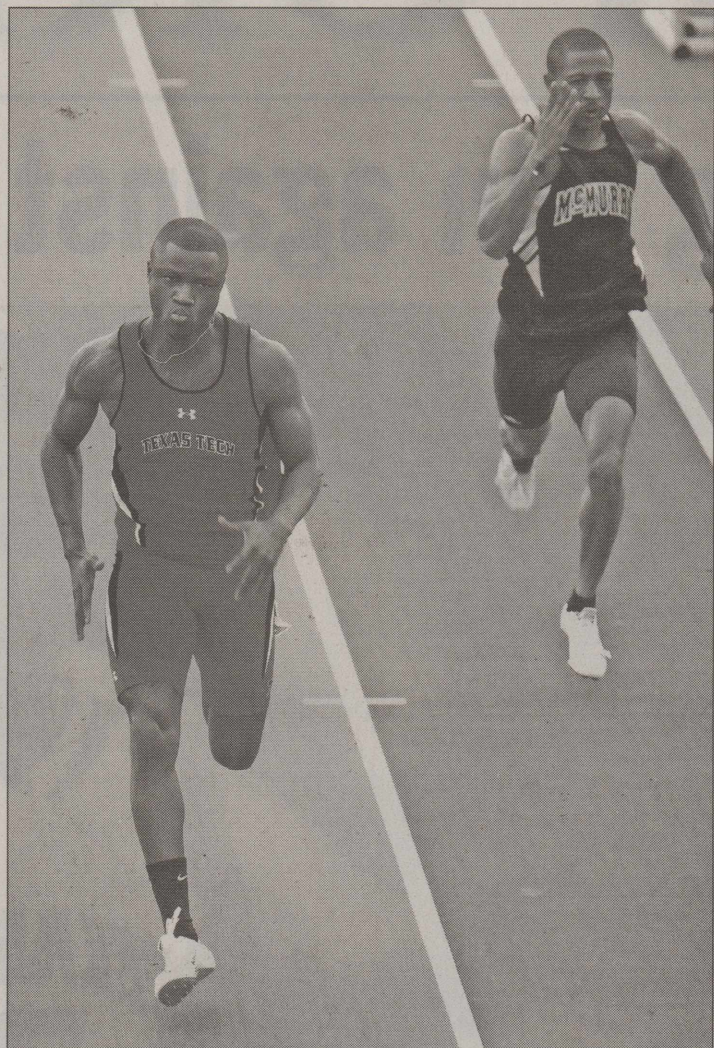


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador  
TEXAS TECH'S MARKUS Henderson and the track and field team are ready for the Big 12 Championships this weekend in Ames, Iowa.

"I feel a lot more confident going into the Big 12 this year," Henderson said. "I feel for one I'm a lot healthier and that my times have also been a lot lower this year than freshman year."  
—thomas.magelsen@ttu.edu

# Astros new addition Myers content with life in Houston

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Brett Myers lobbed pitches to his 4-year-old son on a practice field on the second day of Houston Astros spring training, happy and relaxed in his new setting.

For the first time in his major-league career, Myers is starting a season with a team other than Philadelphia.

He may have some hard feelings about how things ended after eight years with the Phillies, but he'd rather look ahead to this season.

"It's definitely business," Myers said Monday. "That's fine, they wanted to go in a different direction. Like I've always said, there are 29 other teams out there, hopefully, that need somebody like me. Houston's a good fit for me, hopefully, I can play here for a while."

The Astros signed the 29-year-old Myers to a one-year, \$3.1 million contract with a mutual option for 2011. He's likely to fill the No. 3 spot in the starting rotation behind Roy Oswalt and Wandy Rodriguez.

*"Like I've always said, there are 29 other teams out there, hopefully, that need somebody like me."*

**BRETT MYERS**  
PITCHER  
HOUSTON ASTROS

Myers went 73-63 in 240 appearances for the Phillies between 2002-09. He started Game 2 of the 2008 World Series, appeared in seven play-off games and started Philadelphia's last three season openers.

Instead of feeling sentimental, Myers said on the day he signed with the Astros that he wanted to feel feeling sentimental, Myers said on the day he signed with the Astros that he wanted to "stick it" to the Phillies when he faces them. And he did say he needed a change of scenery anyway because he felt like he was "the goat a lot when things would go bad in Philly."

# RCR showing early signs of progress

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Richard Childress Racing was shut out of almost everything last season, from Victory Lane to the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship and just about everything in between.

A mediocre race team has never been acceptable to Childress, a former driver who had successfully transitioned into ownership of an organization that boasts six Cup championships. So he swapped entire crews, moved around management and hired new people. After a year of numerous moves designed to get his team back on track, Childress is finally seeing tangible progress.

Kevin Harvick, Jeff Burton and Clint Bowyer have opened the year with very strong races, putting RCR cars in contention to win late at both the season-opening Daytona 500 and Sunday's race at California. Although RCR is still looking for its first points victory since Burton's win at Charlotte in Oct., 2008, it's become clear the organization will win its share of races this season.

"We feel like the effort we've put in is starting to pay off," said Mike Dillon, vice president of competition. "But we still didn't win a race. We had an opportunity to, and giving yourself an opportunity leads to wins. Saying anything beyond that right now is just like people celebrating on the white flag lap."

"We're just 10 laps in with a long way to go."

But RCR has come so far that their strong start to this season can't go unnoticed. A year after all four of its teams failed to win a race and missed the Chase — Bowyer at 15th was RCR's highest ranked driver — the organization is now holding down three of the top five spots in the standings.

Harvick is the current points leader with two top-seven finishes this season. He won the exhibition Budweiser Shootout, and might have won the Daytona 500 if not for a final caution. He chased down leader Jimmie Johnson on Sunday, only to bump the wall in the closing laps of his pursuit to cause just enough damage that he had to settle for second place.

# Kansas still tops AP Top 25, New Mexico in Top 10

(AP) — This is what Steve Alford had in mind when he left the Big Ten for New Mexico, a program with a rich tradition that had fallen on hard times.

The Lobos moved into the top 10 in The Associated Press college basketball poll Monday for the first time in 12 seasons, after a pair of wins over Wyoming and Air Force last week. New Mexico has won 11 straight and at 25-3 has the best record in school history at this point.

"These are exciting times," said Alford, who's in his third season since leaving Iowa for the Mountain West school. "To crack the Top 10 is special. It's another step that is really remarkable for us. It's very encouraging for the future of our program."

Alford was especially pleased with his team's performance against Air Force, even though the Falcons are last in the conference. The rugged win represented a good tune up for

Saturday's game against second-place BYU, and eventually the league and NCAA tournaments.

"It was a game that everyone is saying we should win," Alford said, "but you've got to play the games, and at this level anything can happen."

While the Lobos are climbing, the ACC is sliding, with only fifth-ranked Duke in the poll.

The last time the conference had only one ranked team was Dec. 13, 1977, when North Carolina was No. 5 in what was then the Top 25. Seven schools from the 12-team league have been ranked at some point this season: North Carolina, Georgia Tech, Clemson, Maryland, Florida State, Miami and Wake Forest.

Kansas (26-1), one of five ranked teams from the Big 12, was again the runaway No. 1 with 61 first-place votes from the 65-member national media panel. The Jayhawks were on

top for the fourth straight week and 13th this season.

Kentucky (26-1), which was No. 1 on the other four ballots, held onto second after surviving its trip to Vanderbilt last weekend. Purdue, Syracuse, Duke and Kansas State all moved up one spot from last week to round out the first six.

Villanova, which lost to Connecticut and Pittsburgh last week, dropped four places to seventh. The Wildcats have been in the top 10 all season, along with Kansas, Kentucky and Duke.

West Virginia, Ohio State and New Mexico rounded out the top 10.

Georgetown was No. 11, followed by fellow Big East powerhouse Pittsburgh, BYU, Michigan State, Butler, Vanderbilt, Wisconsin, Gonzaga, Tennessee and Temple.

The last five ranked teams were Texas, Texas A&M, Richmond,

Baylor and Northern Iowa.

Texas, which was ranked No. 1 last month for the first time in school history, dropped to its lowest ranking of the season at No. 21. The Longhorns have gone 4-6, including a loss to Missouri last week, since starting the season 17-0.

Northern Iowa (24-3) returned to the poll after being out for one week. The Panthers, who beat Old Dominion 71-62 in a BracketBuster game on Friday, have won eight of their last nine, the only loss coming at Bradley.

Wake Forest (18-7) left the ACC with just the one ranked team after falling from 23rd with losses to Virginia Tech and North Carolina State. Meanwhile, the Big East has five ranked teams this week — all in the top 12 — while the Big Ten has four and the SEC has three.

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# SPORTS

PAGE 8  
TUESDAY, FEB. 23, 2010

## Tech needs big win against Kansas State

By **MIKE GRAHAM**  
STAFF WRITER

John Roberson and the Texas Tech basketball team have gone from a point where they felt secure about their postseason hopes to uncertainty.

But one thing is certain — with a Big 12 Conference record of 4-8, the Red Raiders are going to have to win more games. Defeating a Top 10 team at home would not hurt their postseason resumes.

Tech (16-10, 4-8 in Big 12 Conference play) has a big opportunity to reach out to NCAA Tournament and NIT selection committees if it can upend No. 6 Kansas State at 7 p.m. today in the United Spirit Arena.

"We're not thinking about the (implications) right now," Roberson said. "It's a real big game for us, but we're only concerned about winning."

Tech coach Pat Knight said Saturday he thought his team was heading back in the right direction after nearly overcoming a 15-point deficit against then-No. 15 Texas on Saturday.

Unlike Texas, which has lost six of its last 10 games, K-State (22-4, 9-3) has been tested and has earned some big wins.

The Wildcats defeated a then-undefeated and No. 1 Texas team

but lost to No. 1 Kansas by two in overtime. The Wildcats also stumbled in two away games to Missouri and Oklahoma State.

K-State is led by Denis Clemente, who averages 16.1 points per game, good enough for the 11th best scoring average in the conference. Additionally, he won a Big 12 Player of the Week award Monday for his contributions in wins against Nebraska and his 27 points against Oklahoma on Saturday.

Clemente also leads K-State in assists.

"He's probably one of the fastest guys in our league," Roberson said. "We're just going to have to try to slow him down so he can't create anything for his team."

In addition to Clemente, the Wildcats have three other players who average double-digit scoring figures, including Jacob Pullen with 18.5 — the third leading scorer in the conference. KSU's Jamar Samuels and Curtis Kelly both average more than 11.

But there is good news for Tech for the remainder of the regular season — the schedule favors Tech.

Tech will square off with its toughest teams, K-State and Baylor, at home and will play Nebraska and Colorado on the road.

Perhaps more inspiring, the last two Top 10 teams to visit Lubbock, then-ranked No. 10



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH NEEDS a win to help its case for a postseason berth and John Roberson and the Raiders will try to accomplish that against No. 6 Kansas State at 7 p.m. today in the United Spirit Arena.

Washington and a No. 9 Kansas team last season, were upset by the Red Raiders.

"We always think we've got a chance to win out," forward Mike Singletary said after the Texas loss. "We always think we can win every game. That's the way we compete. At home we can beat anybody, and I think we've proven that."

Realistically, just a two or three wins could put Tech in the NIT if they fail to win out and win a game or two in the Big 12 tournament.

That's just fine with Knight who said the NIT is a special tournament to him and his family, and has been a good launching point for other successful teams in the conference.

Former Tech coach Bobby Knight qualified for the NIT three times during his time at Indiana.

For Bobby Knight, after every year his team qualified for the NIT, they made the NCAA tournament the succeeding year.

"To go to the NIT would be great," Pat said. "We haven't been to the postseason in two years. You see what the NIT did for

Baylor. I think if you ask (Baylor coach) Scott (Drew), because he had a lot of good guys returning, adding some good guys like we're going to have in the same situation for next year. He got a lot of really good games in the NIT, you get the TV exposure being on ESPN. It would be a great honor for these guys."

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## US, not host Canada, owning podium at Vancouver Games

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Losing a hockey game to the United States was embarrassing enough. Now Canada is raising the white flag — giving up on its rash goal of winning the most medals at the Vancouver Games.

The U.S. remains on course for a historic medal haul, with a chance to take home the most hardware at the Winter Games for the first time in almost 80 years.

But Canada's Own the Podium program is in tatters. And a surprising, demoralizing loss to a young American team in ice hockey — a sport Canada invented — is only making the pain deeper.

"Woe Canada: U.S. sticks stake in our hearts," read the headline in Monday's Vancouver Sun.

"It was very disappointing," said George Assaf, a Vancouver firefighter who was wearing a Canada hockey jersey as he took photos of the Olympic cauldron Monday. "The Canadians didn't play up to

their standards. But I'm still hopeful we'll pull it out in the end."

With one medal event left on the 10th day of competition Monday, the U.S. led the overall medal count with 24 — three more than Germany. The U.S. and Germany were tied for the most golds, seven each.

Canada had just four golds and nine medals overall, a disappointment for a country that spent \$117 million over five years to give extra support to contending athletes and dominate the medals stand.

On Monday, they conceded defeat.

"We'd be living in a fool's paradise if we said we're going to catch the Americans and win," said Chris Rudge, chief executive of the Canadian Olympic Committee.

The USOC has been careful not to make medal forecasts, boast about the success so far or take pleasure from Canada's failed attempt at

medal supremacy.

The United States hasn't topped the medals table — gold or overall — at a Winter Olympics since the 1932 Games in Lake Placid. The Americans could also challenge their record of 34 total medals from the 2002 Salt Lake City Games.

"Certainly it would be a bonus, but we're not focused on that outcome," said Mike English, the U.S. Olympic Committee's director of sports performance. "We're focused on the athletes' performance, not medals."

The United States had a good chance of picking up another medal later Monday, with ice dancers Meryl Davis and Charlie White in second place heading into the free dance.

The Americans are assured of at least a silver medal in women's hockey after beating Sweden 9-1 in a semifinal game. The U.S. will face either Canada or Finland in Thursday's final.

TEXAS TECH  
RED RAIDER  
BASKETBALL

GAME TONIGHT  
VS

KANSAS STATE  
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23RD  
7:00 PM