



See Page 5
Tech softball picks up 9 wins

Red Raiders advance
in NIT

See Page 6

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PADRE OR BUST

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID ALVEY

COLLEGE STUDENTS PARTICIPATE in a tug-of-war contest during Spring Break 2010 at Coca-Cola Beach in South Padre Island. More than 20,000 students flocked to the island during "Texas Week" and many celebrated at the all-day beach party.

Students flock to island vacation spot

By ALEXANDRA PEDRINI
STAFF WRITER

Sun on the sand, the smell of the ocean and the sounds of more than 20,000 college students filled the beaches of South Padre Island for spring break during the island's busiest week of the season: Texas Week.

During March, the island's convention and visitors bureau expects more than 45,000 visitors for spring break.

"There are so many marketers and so many attractions, people can relax and really enjoy themselves," said Dan Quandt, executive director of the bureau.

Tourism is an important part of business in South Padre

and is part of the reason people enjoy visiting, Quandt said. Coming out of "recovery mode" from Hurricane Dolly, businesses on the island have now been able to get up and running and almost all of the hotels are operating again, Quandt said, allowing for more guests to visit the island.

The only difference between Spring Break 2009 and 2010 on South Padre Island is the marketing techniques. He said in the past they advertised through university campus newspapers, but decided to try using the Internet this year.

"The economy is better this year and especially for students in Texas," Quandt said. "We've been very blessed this year and students have all responded."

One of the main attractions bringing students onto the is-

land is Coca-Cola Beach, an all-day beach party, said George Fuller, with Coca-Cola marketing. Since 1995, Coca-Cola has sponsored the event to provide students with a fun and safe environment, he said.

"Coca-Cola Beach was one hell of a party," said Jillian Crompton, a freshman undecided major from Frisco. "It was the place to be when the sun was out. I had the best time, ran into people from Tech and even from my high school. We danced and talked; it was amazing."

Coca-Cola Beach offered music, occasionally live disk jockeys, tug-of-war, water balloon tosses and Guitar Hero competitions for beach goers. The activities were typical of what Coca-Cola Beach offers every year, but the Guitar

Hero contests were new.

"It's something we have never done before and we look each year to improve," Fuller said.

The event runs through the three main weeks of spring-break season free of charge and is a focal point for many people's visits to the island, Quandt said.

"I'm not aware of someone who has been here for spring break and hasn't gone to Coca-Cola Beach," Quandt said. "You don't go to New York City without seeing the Statue of Liberty, and you don't go to South Padre without going to Coca-Cola Beach."

PADRE continued on Page 3

HSC students earn residencies on Match Day

By DEREK MOY
STAFF WRITER

The culmination of four years in medical school lead up to one day for Texas Tech Health Sciences Center students — Match Day.

The annual Match Day was hosted at 11 a.m. March 18, when medical students from around the United States opened envelopes to see where they would begin their residencies. About 40 students attended the match day event at the HSC, and almost 140 were enrolled in the match program.

Each student tours different medical centers, gets to know the certain residency programs, has interviews with potential employers, and submits a list of their preferred residency locations to the National Resident Matching Program. Residency programs also submit lists of their favorite candidates. Once the lists are put together a computer algorithm matches students to residency programs.

JoAnn Larsen, assistant dean for Student Affairs for the School of Medicine, said Match Day is an exciting time for students. On average,



PHOTO COURTESY OF TEXAS TECH HSC/The Daily Toreador

ASHLEY STURGEON, A fourth-year medical student with a focus in preliminary medicine and dermatology at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine, opens her Match Day envelope March 18 at the International Cultural Center. Sturgeon will spend her residency at the HSC in Lubbock.

about half of students will stay in Texas to complete residency training, and 15 percent to 25 percent choose to stay in the Tech system, she said.

"Certainly one of our key mis-

sions is to train physicians for the citizens of West Texas," Larsen said. "To have people stay here is really a wonderful thing."

She said it is nice to see students match into top schools all around

the country and gain an education at top hospitals such as Johns Hopkins University and the Mayo Clinic.

MATCH continued on page 2

House votes in favor of historic health care bill

By DAVID ESPO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Summoned to success by President Barack Obama, the Democratic-controlled Congress approved historic legislation Sunday night extending health care to tens of millions of uninsured Americans and cracking down on insurance company abuses, a climactic chapter in the century-long quest for near universal coverage.

Widely viewed as dead two months ago, the Senate-passed bill cleared the House on a 219-212 vote, with Republicans unanimous in opposition.

Congressional officials said they expected Obama to sign the bill as early as Tuesday.

A second measure — making changes in the first — was lined up for passage later in the evening. It would then go to the Senate, where Democratic leaders said they had the votes to pass it.

Crowds of protesters outside the

Capitol shouted "just vote no" in a futile attempt to stop the inevitable taking place inside a House packed with lawmakers and ringed with spectators in the galleries above.

Across hours of debate, House Democrats predicted the major bill, costing \$940 billion over a decade, would rank with other great social legislation of recent decades.

"We will be joining those who established Social Security, Medicare and now, tonight, health care for all Americans, said Speaker Nancy Pelosi, partner to Obama and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., in the grueling campaign to pass the legislation.

"This is the civil rights act of the 21st century," added Rep. Jim Clyburn of South Carolina, the top-ranking black member of the House.

Republicans readily agreed the bill would affect everyone in America, but warned repeatedly of the burden imposed by more than \$900 billion in tax increases and Medicare cuts combined.

INDEX

- Classifieds.....5
- Crossword.....2
- La Vida.....3
- Opinions.....4
- Sports.....6
- Sudoku.....4

WEATHER

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BRIEF

STATE

Weather-related crash shuts down Texas interstate

DALLAS (AP) — Icy roads from a first-day-of-spring snow caused an accident that killed one person and closed an interstate for about eight hours in the suburban Dallas-Fort Worth area, officials said Sunday.

Five vehicles, including two 18-wheelers, were involved in the wreck Sunday morning, Arlington police spokeswoman Tiara Ellis Richard said. One of the 18-wheelers fell onto another vehicle, resulting in the fatality.

The accident happened along Interstate 30, shutting down the westbound highway for about eight hours until the early after-

noon. One of the 18-wheelers landed on its side and blocked all three lanes of traffic, with the cab hanging over a concrete divider onto the shoulder of the eastbound lanes.

Richard said icy road conditions were a factor.

The unusual late March snowfall dumped about six inches on parts of Collin County, north of Dallas. The snow came after nearly a week of mild weather that saw temperatures climb into the low 70s. College tennis matches at Texas A&M and Baylor were moved indoors because of the cold weather.

NATION

Toyota shareholders sue over fallen stock price

MIAMI (AP) — Toyota shareholders incensed over a sudden drop in the Japanese automaker's stock price are heading to court with lawsuits claiming company executives deliberately misled investors and the public about the depth of accelerator problems in millions of its vehicles.

At least three proposed class-action lawsuits filed by Toyota investors say the company gave false initial assurances that the sudden acceleration problem was a simple matter of floor mats trapping gas pedals, helping prop up the stock price.

The shareholder cases are part

of an avalanche of potentially costly lawsuits against Toyota Motor Corp. over the acceleration issue, including those filed by crash victims and their families and those brought by Toyota owners contending their vehicles are worth far less because of the recalls.

The investor lawsuits say Toyota spread misleading information through press releases, conference calls with stock analysts and TV interviews to assure stockholders and the public that the accelerator problem was easily fixed or might be the driver's fault.

WORLD

Recount calls add to Iraq's political tension

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's president on Sunday demanded a recount in this month's historic parliamentary elections, intensifying the political conflict over the not-yet-completed tally and increasing the chances that the vote will be a long, chaotic test of the nascent democracy.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's coalition is narrowly trailing in the overall vote tally to one led by former prime minister Ayad Allawi, with 95 percent of the vote counted. President Jalal Talabani, whose own coalition is losing to Allawi's secular alliance in a key province, invoked the power of his office in calling for a recount.

On his official Web site, Talabani demanded that the Independent High Electoral Commission manually

recount the ballots to "preclude any doubt and misunderstanding" about the results. He said he was making the demand "as the president of the state, authorized to preserve the constitution and to ensure justice and absolute transparency."

Al-Maliki on Saturday called on the election commission to quickly respond to requests from political blocs for a recount.

The commission has rejected such calls, and Iraqi law empowers neither Talabani nor al-Maliki to force the issue. The panel is an independent body appointed by parliament, and submits its results only to the country's supreme court for ratification.

Corrections

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

It is The DT's policy to correct mis-

takes in this spot as soon as possible.

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

Legal teams in Leach-Tech case make noise during spring break

By ALEX YBARRA MANAGING EDITOR

While Texas Tech students were on spring break, former football coach Mike Leach, along with Craig James and Adam James, were in Lubbock giving depositions.

Their sworn testimonies on March 5 and March 6 had both legal teams hosting emergency press conferences to disseminate information that could make their cases stronger.

Leach was suspended Dec. 28 after a complaint from injured receiver Adam James, who was allegedly mistreated by Leach while recovering from a concussion. A temporary restraining order was filed soon after in hopes of being reinstated as head coach for the Alamo Bowl on Jan. 2.

Leach was fired two days later on Dec. 30.

The sequence of events spurred a lawsuit for defamation and wrongful termination from the former head football coach, who denies mistreating James.

Since then, Tech attorneys have

claimed sovereign immunity for the university as a branch of the state, although the judge has not yet ruled on that claim.

Judge William Sowder of the 99th District Court requested both sides to mediation and a gag order was placed on the negotiations.

The embattled coach testified under oath on videotape March 5 in the basement of attorney Ted Liggett's office building, one day after Tech Chancellor Kent Hance gave sworn testimony and one week after attorney Charlotte Bingham gave sworn testimony.

Leach, who moved to Key West, Fla., after the firing, fought back tears during an emotional statement he gave after his deposition.

"Well I appreciate everybody showing up, it's good to see you again, and anybody I haven't seen it's good to see you too," he said. "It's great to be back



LEACH

in Lubbock. We've had 10 incredible years here. And had a really good day today. What can I say? It's 10 years. But thank you for showing up."

Paul Dobrowski, an attorney for Leach, said "poorly" executed depositions from Hance and Bingham made the former coach's case "substantially stronger," and he specifically described how their testimonies supported Leach's position.

"They also confirmed and the documents confirm that Craig James wanted Mike Leach terminated and directed that communication to Chancellor Hance who directed that to the (Board of Regents)," Dobrowski said. "That Chairman (Larry) Anders and Vice Chairman (Jerry) Turner of the Board of Regents were involved in the termination process. They were the ones who recommended that coach Leach be terminated for cause."

Tech attorney Dicky Grigg responded to Leach's legal team's statements with information from Leach's sworn testimony, saying the former coach's intent was "vindictive" and "not therapeutic." Along with a profanity-filled

quote from Leach, Grigg said the coach admitted he never treated a player who was suffering from a concussion in the manner he treated Adam James.

After the James depositions — Leach sat in the room with Craig James but not Adam James — Grigg hosted a press conference on March 6, which was followed up by another one later that day from Liggett's house.

Grigg spoke of evidence indicating Leach did not believe that Adam James had a concussion.

"He asked Mr. Pincock, 'Did you see him vomit? Do you have a sample of the vomit? This is a bunch of BS.' Those kind of things, not believing anything," Grigg said.

Liggett said Leach's legal team "categorically" denies that assertion and there is no "credible" evidence to suggest it.

Liggett also said that Craig James admitted he was "glad Mike was fired," and that Adam James testified that nothing that happened to him should have led to Leach's termination and that he "thought it was funny."

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Mass communications no longer offering minors

By KELSEY HECKEL STAFF WRITER

Students who entered the College of Mass Communications starting the fall of 2009 and all other students following no longer will be allowed to claim a minor either within or outside of the college, according to the 2009-2010 catalog.

The change was made to enhance the majors offered within the college and is supposed to make students more prepared to work within their major upon graduation, said Marijane Wernsman, adviser and unit supervisor in the College of Mass Communications.

"We were told there were too few classes offered with the College of Mass Communications and that students were not as prepared to be in jobs dealing with their major," she said. "Students will take more classes relating to their major and instead of a minor, they can take classes outside of mass communications as elective classes."

Wernsman said she does not think the change will affect the number of students

who enroll in the college, and if anything more will come because the program will be stronger.

"The only people this will really affect are the dual-degree majors," she said. "Because of the amount of classes now required, the work load could be too much."

Administrators within other mass communications programs said they were unsure if the change at Tech will actually benefit students.

Darrell Roach, the assistant dean in the College of Communications at The University of Texas at Austin, said his college will be doing the opposite — instead of no longer allowing minors, the college will be offering minors for the first time starting the fall of 2010 after students asked to be allowed the choice.

"The idea of a minor is to allow students to reach out and explore with their



WERNSMAN

education," he said. "Texas Tech has an excellent mass communications program but it should be up to the students if they want to take advantage of available resources and do more with what they are learning and they can't make that choice if it's not even offered."

Roach also said students still can do well without a minor; they just need to look for other opportunities to enhance their resume and to make them marketable.

"Nowadays it takes so much more to make it in mass communications," he said. "A degree doesn't guarantee you a job; it's what you have done in the area of your major."

Roach said that includes taking advantage of internships, networking and taking the right classes to guarantee that students are getting the most out of their education.

Melissa Cox, administrative assistant for Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va., said her university also will allow minors for the first time.

"We will encourage students to have a

minor that compliments their major," she said. "The more information that students can get dealing with the fields they are going into will only make them more marketable. This is true not only for mass communications but for all areas."

While both UT and WLU changed their programs after listening to student input, Wernsman said the students she has talked to accept the change as an improvement to the program.

"We had a couple students who have seemed surprised, but after we explained it to them they were behind what we are doing," she said. "The only reason we changed this was to benefit the students and the faculty and advisory board in the College of Mass Communications are totally behind this."

The College of Mass Communications is the only college on campus to make this change; all other colleges still offer minors to their students.

Wernsman said she believes Tech is also the only school in Texas to have made this change.

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Match

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Johannes de Riese, a 26-year-old senior born in Germany whose parents teach at the HSC, said he hoped to stay in Texas to be closer with his family and settle down with his wife, Chelsea de Riese. The program lets students have an easier time finding residency spots rather than going out on their own time.

He was matched with the Scott and White Healthcare System located in Temple.

Waiting for residency placement is like putting life on hold, he said.

"Most programs stop interviewing in December or January, so you have anywhere from two to three months where pretty much everything is done with," de Riese said. "And you really don't know what's going to happen."

For students, the anticipation is an accepted part of the process, de Riese said. After four years of medical school, most find it a relief to move on to the next stage of their lives.

"There's this anticipation of waiting for Match Day," de Riese said. "And then when it finally arrives, there is a lot of excitement because you're opening this

envelope and within that envelope is the next four years of your life."

Dr. Steven Berk, dean of the School of Medicine at the HSC, said he looks to the matched students as an important source of pride for the HSC.

He said Match Day is to celebrate all the years spent as medical students and congratulated the students on gaining residency.

"Each student will interact with thousands of patients over the next 30 years," Berk said, "using the knowledge, skills and professionalism that they have acquired over the past four years."

Larsen said if students are not matched through the Match Day program, they are alerted on the Monday before. Students then have a "Scramble Day" to seek a residency that has not been filled.

This system will change next year with a more controlled re-match process, she said.

According to the NRMP Web site, 31,000 potential students compete for almost 24,000 residency positions. Match Day has been successful in matching students since 1952, but the residency positions do not increase fast enough to keep up with the student population.

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Militant group in Kabul presents peace deal draft

KABUL (AP) — Thirteen Afghan civilians died in violence Sunday as the nation's hard-line vice president expressed hopes for reconciliation and representatives of a militant group with ties to the Taliban brought their own draft of a peace deal to the capital.

Talk of reconciling with insurgents has done little to slow the fighting across Afghanistan, yet the issue is gaining steam, partly fueled by a "peace jirga" that Afghan President Hamid Karzai will host in late April or early May.

The Afghan government and others from the international community have had secret contacts with the Taliban, or their representatives at the same time that thousands of U.S. and NATO reinforcements are streaming into the country to slow the insurgency.

Helmand province in southern Afghanistan was the scene of Sunday's deadliest violence. A suicide bomber killed 10 civilians and wounded seven others when he detonated his explosives near an Afghan army patrol at a bridge

in Gereskh.

In eastern Afghanistan, two civilians died when a roadside bomb exploded near a crowd celebrating the Afghan new year in Khost province. And in Wardak province, NATO said an elderly man was shot and killed by a joint Afghan-international force that mistakenly believed he was a threat.

Also, NATO said two rockets landed Sunday around the military complex at Kabul airport. A third landed nearby and a fourth hit in the eastern part of the capital. There were no initial reports of casualties.

Besides working on ways to reconcile with the Taliban's top leaders, the Afghan government is finalizing a plan to use economic incentives to coax low- and mid-level insurgent fighters off the battlefield. Pakistan, Iran and other international players, meanwhile, have begun staking out positions on possible reconciliation negotiations that could mean an endgame to the 8-year-old war.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle. Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis. Includes Across and Down clues and a grid.

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Students welcome warm season

By DEVIN SANCHEZ
STAFF WRITER

Saturday marked the first official day of spring, and now that spring break has come and gone, many students now have full-on "spring fever."

Alyssa Williams, a junior public relations major from Brady, spent her spring break in Las Vegas, and said, like most students, her break went by really fast.

"After spring break, everything else goes by really slow," Williams said, "probably because you begin the countdown to summer."

Williams also said she tends to favor spring over winter mostly because of the warmer weather.

"I am a bigger fan of spring than winter, because it is supposed to be warmer," she said. "Of course, that isn't always the case in Lubbock."

Not all students find it difficult to concentrate on school during the spring semester. Travis Hamel, a sophomore geology major from Houston, said he typically does better in school during the spring time.

"I am not quite sure what it is," Hamel said, "I guess after spring break, I am back in school mode."

Hamel, who spent his spring break in South Padre Island, said he prefers spring to winter mainly because of the weather change.

"I like the spring time, I do better in school, and it's warm outside," he said. "What's not to like?"

Like Hamel, Merrick Passingham, a freshman business major from Chicago,

said he also tends to do better academically in the spring semester.

"I'm out doing things and am busy, I try to schedule school work in," he said. "If I'm sitting around, which is what I usually do in the winter, I procrastinate and think I can do it later."

The weather, and not having to worry about being cold or dressing in multiple layers, seems to be something that weighs on many of the students' minds. Passingham said the warm weather of spring time makes life a little more effortless.

"When you don't have to worry about the weather, it is like one less stress lifted off your shoulders," Passingham said. "It really makes going to school easier in the mornings."

Spring has sprung, and for some, with the new season comes a new attitude. Students said with the warmer weather, it is hard to not be in a better mood. Caitlin Trevino, a freshman business management major from Cypress, said her better mood in the spring time has to do with her comfort level.

"I am in a much better mood in the spring than in the winter," Trevino said. "When the sun is shining and you're warm it's more comfortable, rather than worrying about being cold."

Trevino also said her favorite thing about spring time is being in the sun.

"It doesn't really matter what it is, as long as it is in the sun," she said. "Laying out, going to the pool, really just doing anything outside when the weather is beautiful."

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FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

WITH THE BEGINNINGS of spring on Saturday, the colors, warmer air and closeness of the end of the school year raise students' spirits.

Central Texas woman can't help but to help

ROBINSON, Texas (AP) — As the area's only licensed wildlife rehabilitator, Jane Thomas cares each year for 600 to 800 battered, bloodied and needy animals that otherwise wouldn't have a prayer. Hawks that slam into 18-wheelers. Deer tangled in shredders. Pelicans shot by children given a gun for Christmas.

For the past 32 years, the 54-year-old Thomas has spent her days wrapping broken limbs, cleaning foul-smelling cages and chopping up meat and vegetables to feed a variety of animals — from bobcats and deer to baby rabbits and roadrunners.

She says she saves about 85 percent of the wildlife. Although she's the go-to person for animal shelters in McLennan County and its surrounding counties, Thomas does not get paid.

"I always say I don't want to do it anymore," said Thomas, who lives in Robinson with her husband, Dennis. "But who else is going to do it?"

"I get people all the time who come to me and say, 'Oh, I just love animals.' Then, I tell them to clean one of the crates, and I never see them again."

Karen Froehlich, director of the Waco Humane Society, said good Samaritans consistently bring

wildlife to her organization at 2032 Circle Road.

"Oh, gosh, you name it, and they bring it in," Froehlich said. "Wild rabbits, squirrels, cranes, bobcats. A lot of birds. Especially this time of year — people start mowing their lawns and mow over all sorts of critters."

When a woman in Limestone County on Monday found an injured great horned owl in her driveway, she called the county's game warden, who brought the bird to the society's animal shelter.

The owl sat in the group's conference room until Dennis Thomas picked it up and brought it home.

Wearing a pair of elbow-high gloves, Jane Thomas cradled the bird in her arms and examined his swollen and wounded talon.

In a shelter next to her house, permeated with pungent odors and deafening screeches of about a dozen birds of various species, Thomas cared for the owl with peroxide and a smiley-face bandage wrap.

She then placed it in one of her dozens of cages.

"Does that hurt, baby?" she said to the bird as she put it in an empty cage.

A self-proclaimed tomboy, Thomas downplays her volunteer work with animals. She shrugged her shoulders when asked why she has given so much of her life to wildlife.

Mythological RPG good, not legendary

For fans of RPGs and Greek mythology, "Glory of Heracles" for the Nintendo DS seems to have a lot to offer. After all, Nintendo is known for publishing some fantastic games on their handheld, and the "Heracles" series has been around in Japan for some time now (although this is the first game to make it to North American shores).

The story begins when a young boy washes up on the shore of Crete, with no knowledge of his past or even his name. However, he soon discovers he is immortal and bands together with a few other immortals to try to discover why they all seem to have been gifted by the gods of Olympus. The story can be incredibly generic at times, but it also has some nice touches of humor, and the mythological setting could appeal to a lot of gamers.

The gameplay is competent enough, boasting a rather typical turn-based system with a few twists thrown in as an effort to differentiate itself from other RPGs. At the start of each round

of a battle, you select actions for each of your party members to perform — be it simply attacking, using a magic spell, etc.

This is standard RPG fare, but the way magic works is a little different. In addition to a character's person pool of MP, you must draw on a set amount of ether that is present in each battle. Different types of ether relate to different types of elements (fire, water, etc.) and the ether totals change as magic is used and the battle moves forward. If there isn't enough fire ether to cast your fire spell, for example, you may pay for it with a serious blow to your health bar.

In addition to this, you have the option of playing a sort of mini-game every time you cast a spell. These are extremely simple exercises that use the DS's touch screen and stylus, and mostly relate to you tapping symbols in a specific order or furiously hitting a circle in order to charge up power. Successfully complete a mini-game like this and your spell will be more powerful than normal.

These sorts of touches can be interesting and provide some good depth to a fairly technical combat

Britton Peele



system. However, much of the first half of the game is so easy that a lot of it feels moot. It isn't until later that the difficulty ramps up — particularly in boss battles — and you find yourself really needing to watch things like ether levels.

But "Glory of Heracles" has a rather major flaw in that it doesn't do a good enough job of standing out amongst the RPG greats that the DS is populated with.

Even as a big fan of Greek mythology, I often found it hard to care about the story. And although the gameplay does its job, it doesn't feel fresh enough to keep me coming back. I found that when playing it, I would sometimes get addicted to leveling up my characters and optimizing their equipment, but after I set it down, it was hard to convince myself to pick it up again.

The problem isn't really with "Glory of Heracles" itself. The game does a lot of things right. But the DS market is so full of great RPGs, many of which are also published by Nintendo. "Mario and Luigi: Bowser's Inside Story," for example, was one of last year's top games across all platforms. And with the promise of more huge games, such as a new "Golden Sun" title coming soon (hopefully by the end of this year), it's as easy as it used to be to care about RPGs that are anything less than superb.

"Glory of Heracles" feels a bit average, but there's still some stuff to be liked here. If you're a huge fan of Greek mythology, or if you absolutely need a handheld game to satisfy your RPG lust, this should satisfy you. But if you're looking for one of the best RPG experiences you can have with your DS, this probably isn't it.

■ Peele is *The DT's* opinions editor. E-mail him at britton.peele@ttu.edu.

'Alice' still reigns at box office with \$34.5M

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alice remains the queen of the box office.

Johnny Depp and Tim Burton's "Alice in Wonderland" took in \$34.5 million to remain the No. 1 movie for a third-straight weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The Disney release raised its domestic haul to \$265.8 million and its worldwide total to \$565.8 million after just three weekends in theaters, a huge result for a film playing in the typically slow month of March.

"You rarely see this kind of domination by one movie at this time of year," said Paul

Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "Normally at this time of year, films don't make this kind of money, and they don't hold in this long."

"Alice in Wonderland" easily beat a rush of new movies led by 20th Century Fox's family film "Diary of a Wimpy Kid," which opened at No. 2 with \$21.8 million. The movie is adapted from Jeff Kinney's cartoon novel about a sixth grader maneuvering through the intricate social structure at his middle school, which includes its own "cooties" game known as the "cheese touch."

"I think cheese touch equals magic touch at the box office," said Chris Aronson, head of

distribution at 20th Century Fox.

Debuting at No. 3 was Jennifer Aniston and Gerard Butler's action comedy "The Bounty Hunter" with \$21 million. Released by Sony, the movie follows a bounty hunter chasing his ex-wife, a reporter with an arrest warrant over her head after she misses a court date while pursuing a story.

"We had figured an estimate in the high teens, so 20-plus million is a good number for us," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony.

Jude Law and Forest Whitaker's action thriller "Repo Men" flopped with a No. 4

opening of \$6.2 million. The Universal release features Law as a repo man on the run in a future where organs are bloodily repossessed if patients miss their payments.

In narrower release, Kristen Stewart and Dakota Fanning's Joan Jett music drama "The Runaways" opened weakly with \$803,629 in 244 theaters, averaging \$3,294 a cinema.

That compared to an average of \$9,229 in 3,739 theaters for "Alice in Wonderland," \$7,085 in 3,077 theaters for "Diary of a Wimpy Kid," \$6,831 in 3,074 cinemas for "The Bounty Hunter" and \$2,440 in 2,521 locations for "Repo Men."

Padre ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

With thousands of college students on the beaches at a time, safety is always a concern for island residents, guests and parents, Quandt said. The first thing the South Padre Island law enforcement does is remember to not abandon the laws. Just because students want to have fun on spring break does not allow them to break the law, he said.

"We're working hard to get people to do things safely and not do something foolish," Quandt said.

Yanni Sarwon, a freshman pre-pharmacy major from Cypress, said he believed the police were willing to "arrest anybody and everybody that was drunk and causing a problem," but Quandt said they were not looking to fill a quota and the number of fines actually goes down during this time of year.

"It would make sense to have more, but people aren't here to break the law, they're here to relax and a high percentage does just that," Quandt said. "Spring break isn't what you see on 2 a.m. on infomercials."

Law enforcement doesn't look the other way when it comes to students breaking the law, he said, helping ease the minds of local residents and parents of students on break.

"Everyone from chief of police down is tourist oriented and won't allow to mess themselves up or others," Quandt said. "Parents are more comfortable because they know they're being watched over and without having law enforcement lining the beaches."

Because of the island's close proximity to Mexico, many students have enjoyed taking trips across the boarder. But with the recent warnings about traveling into the country, the organized trips hosted by South Padre businesses have been canceled, he said.

"It's sad because it's a unique part of being here," Quandt said.

With the warm weather and long-standing reputation, he said he believes this adds to the legend that is spring break on South Padre Island.

"South Padre welcomes the students and not just for spring break but for bringing your friends and your family anytime," he said. "We want South Padre to be a life long part of their lives."

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Lady Gaga says producer's suit is unlawful, fires back

NEW YORK (AP) — Lady Gaga is firing back at a music producer who claims he launched her career and is suing her for \$30.5 million.

Her lawyer said in a court filing made public Friday the agreement at the heart of the suit was "unlawful."

Song writer and music producer Rob Fusari filed the lawsuit Wednesday in Manhat-

tan against the Grammy Award-winning performer. He said his protege and former girlfriend, whose real name is Stefani Germanotta, ditched him as her career soared.

The lawsuit said they co-wrote songs such as "Paparazzi" and "Beautiful, Dirty, Rich." Fusari also said he came up with her stage name and helped get her record deal.

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SPORTS

PAGE 6
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010

Red Raiders advance to 3rd round of NIT

By ALEX YBARRA
MANAGING EDITOR

Through the first half on Saturday, Texas Tech's three leading scorers were not living up to their regular stat line.

But neither was the rest of the team, especially forward Brad Reese, who averages seven points and less than three rebounds a game.

He helped Tech erase an 11-point deficit with 19 points and 10 rebounds — his first career double-double — in a 69-64 victory against No. 8-seed Jacksonville in the United Spirit Arena, advancing the Red Raiders to the third round where they will play Mississippi at 6 p.m. Tuesday in Oxford, Miss.

"I was just trying to go to the rebound," Reese said. "Coach always talking about, 'Go to that rebound. That's the easiest bucket.'"

Forward Mike Singletary added 13 points and eight rebounds, guard John Roberson had 14 points and D'wain Roberts fell one rebound shy of a double-double with 10 points and nine boards.

Tech coach Pat Knight said he's never been a part of such a sluggish first half, as he witnessed the Red Raiders (19-15) miss their first nine shots and fall behind 11 points early on.

Singletary, Roberson and Okorie — the team's top three scorers — had eight points on 3-of-10 shooting at the half, mirroring the team's overall shooting percentage of 29.6.

A lot of it was because of bad shot selection. A full-court press by the Dolphins (20-13) had Tech scurry-

ing to get its motion offense going, but there wasn't much driving and dribbling. It was mainly catching and shooting, with little movement.

"When you come down and dribble around, just pass the ball and jack it up, that's not very good. That's what we had," Knight said. "We had no cutting, we had no screening. It was five guys around the semi-circle, whoever got the ball tried to make a move off the dribble while the other four just stood and watched."

Probably the biggest play of the game, Tech capped a 17-8 run in the second half with a game-changing alley-oop from Roberson to Roberts.

Sprinting down court on a fast break, Roberson lobbed a ball from just past half-court and Roberts sent it through the rim as he drew a foul. He made the free throw and Tech took a 45-43 lead with 14:51 remaining.

Just before the dunk, Knight told his players during a timeout that if Tech can take the lead, "this place is just gonna go nuts."

He was right.

"I think the guys got going, got their momentum going," Knight said. "We're a team that can push it up. Now you got the crowd, the crowd is with you."

The Dolphins lingered the rest of the way, with their largest deficit at eight points.

Knight had to go with a smaller, more athletic lineup in the second half in hopes of matching up better with Jacksonville. Guard Ben Smith led the Dolphins with 17 points and Ayrton Hardy and Lehmon Colbert had 12 and 13 points, respectively.

"(Jacksonville is) skilled," Knight

said. "That whole league is that way. There's not a lot of big men in that league. They're skilled 6-6, 6-7 kids. From a defensive standpoint, we wanted to be able to switch off."

It worked. The Dolphins' shooting percentage dipped from 43 percent in the first half to 35 percent in the second. With less shots going down for Jacksonville, Tech started pulling down more rebounds, winning the battle of the boards, 47 to 36.

But Tech still couldn't close out the Dolphins.

"They're real quick," Reese said. "We tried to front them, make it hard for them, but they're real quick though, quick moves to basket. We just tried to use our athletic ability to keep them out of the lane."

A tough layup by Smith with 2:11 to go tied the game at 62 before Singletary went to the free throw line and made one of two.

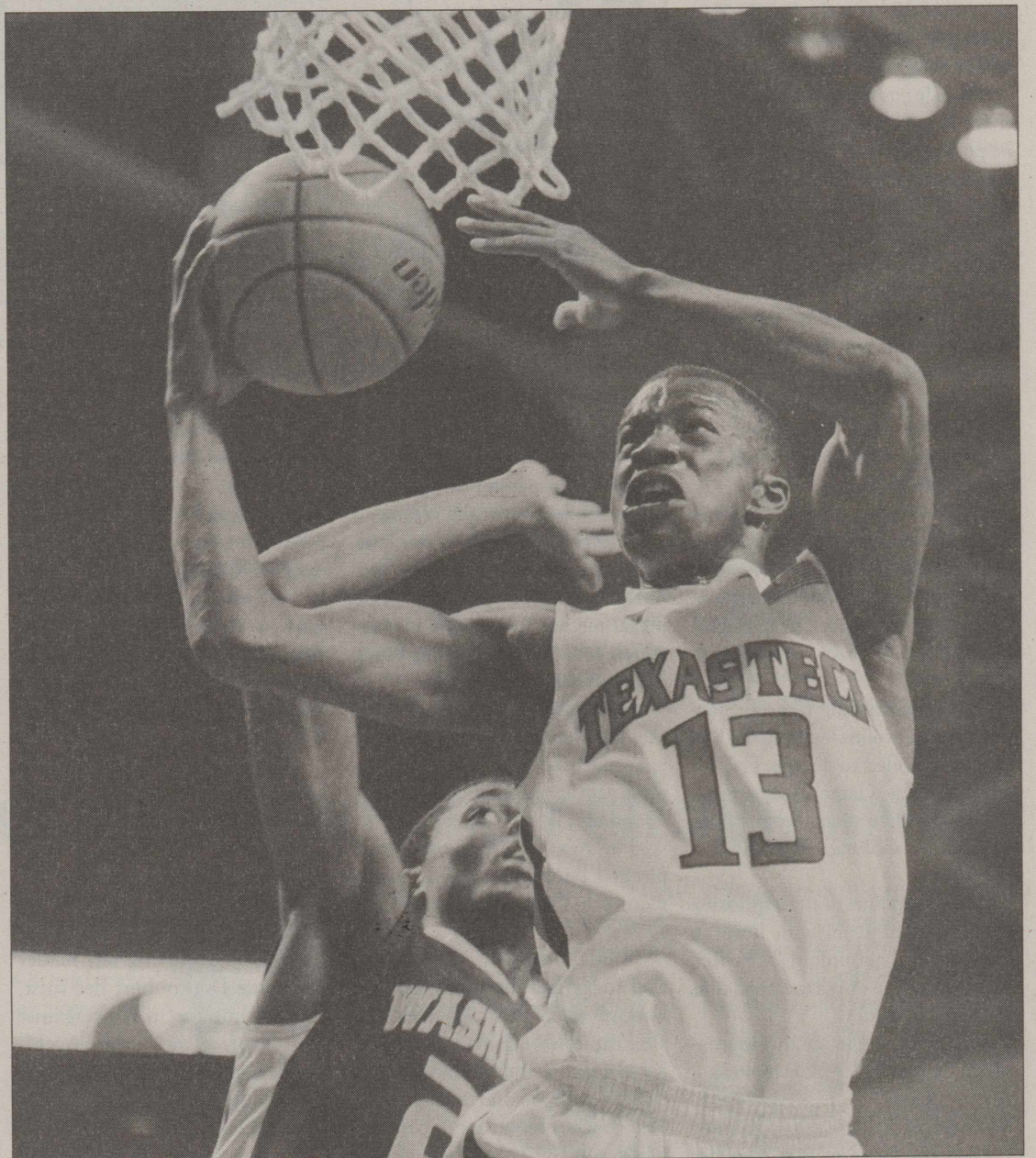
Jacksonville wasted its opportunity to take the lead though, turning the ball over to Tech.

The game was over when guard David Tairu caught a deep outlet pass and dunked the ball, sending the crowd into a frenzy and Tech to the third round of the NIT, one game away from the semifinals in Madison Square Garden.

"I think this team is focused," Singletary said. "I think we're focused on the team that we got coming up next. We know they're a good team. We watched them play yesterday."

"They're athletic. They play well together, so we're gonna have our hands full."

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FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

THE RED RAIDERS advanced to the third round of the National Invitational Tournament on Saturday when they beat Jacksonville State 69-64. Texas Tech beat Seton Hall in the first round of the tournament.

Track teams complete indoor season

By TOMMY MAGELSEN
STAFF WRITER

Despite expectations of a top-five finish at the Indoor NCAA Championships, Texas Tech's track and field team fell short and finished 14th in the men's competition and tied for 34th in the women's.

"It seems like every time you go to a NCAA Championships there's always some great things that happened and there's some bad things that happened," Tech coach Wes Kittley said. "And you know, I felt our kids competed really hard and overall I was proud."

Despite not finishing where they wanted to, the Red Raiders set a school record with 15 All-Americans during the two day competition March 12 and March 13 in Fayetteville, Ark.

Among the standouts at the championships was senior hurdler Omo Osaghae who set a school and personal best time of 7.60 seconds in the 60-meter

hurdles. Osaghae finished third and was .04 seconds away from a national title behind defending national champ Ronnie Ash of Oklahoma.

The men's 4x400 relay team also impressed, finishing fifth and garnering All-American honors for LaToy Williams, Jamaal Butler, Bryce Brown and Zach Plinario. The women's team of Candace Jackson, Trudeann Clarke, Erica Alexander and Taylor Evans finished eighth and also earned All-American status.

Other All-American honors for the scarlet and black include Clarke, Purity Biwott, Gladys Kipsang and Caroline Karunde in the distance medley relay. Karunde also was honored for her seventh-place finish in the mile.

Big 12 Indoor Performer of the Year Bryce Lamb was named an All-American for his fifth-place finish in the long jump.

Kittley said he believes the

national championships can be intimidating for some, but his team should be able to use the experience to continue to grow.

"I think it was a good learning experience and you know it's always good to be top 15 in the country in anything," Kittley said. "So I think it really gave us an opportunity to build on for the outdoor season."

With the indoor season over, Tech now turns its focus toward the outdoor season. Tech sent several athletes to compete this weekend, with two field athletes winning first-place at the Horned Frog Invitational in Fort Worth. Freshman Julian Wruck won the men's discus, and senior Ozie Okolie won the women's hammer throw.

Tech hosts its first outdoor meet of the season Saturday at the Terry and Linda Fuller Track Complex.

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Men's tennis wins 2nd tourney

By JOSHUA KOCH
STAFF WRITER

The Blue-Gray Classic title belongs to Tim Siegel's Red Raiders for the first time in program history after a successful weekend in Alabama.

No. 16 Texas Tech (16-1) defeated No. 17 Oklahoma (12-2) 4-3 on Sunday to capture the title.

"Today was as exciting and as high level of tennis that I've ever been a part of in all my years of coaching," Siegel said. "Both teams just played so hard and it was just one of those matches that could have gone either way. This team just showed so much heart and determination this weekend, played four incredibly difficult opponents and to finish by beating a Top 20 team, I just can't say enough. I'm just so proud of this group."

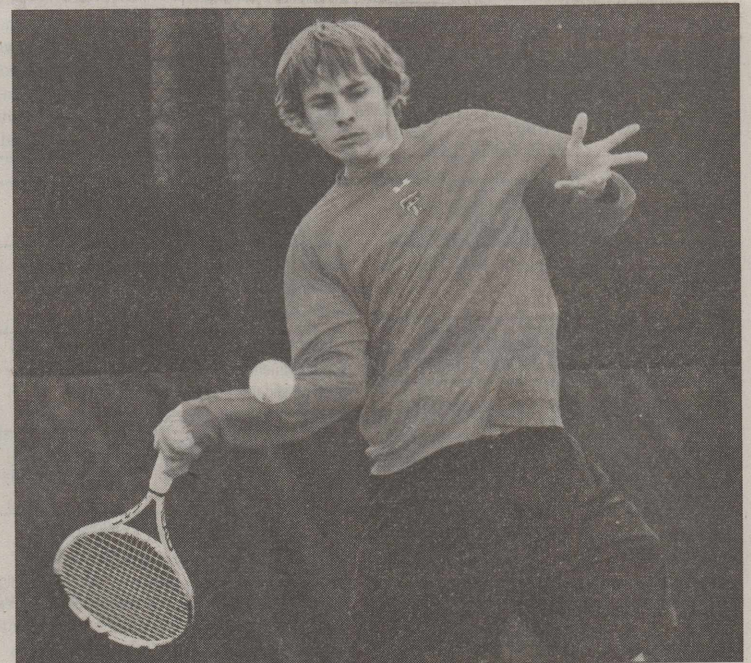
The Red Raiders began their pursuit for the title Thursday when they faced No. 63 Harvard, sweeping the match 5-0 to advance to the second round to face Big 12 Conference foe No. 54 Oklahoma State (6-6). In the quarterfinal match, sophomore Rafael Garcia guaranteed the Red Raiders spot in the semifinals when he defeated OSU's Ilija Martinovski in straight sets 6-4, 6-4.

Tech swept No. 38 Notre Dame (9-8), 4-0, in the semifinals Saturday to clinch its spot in the finals for the Blue-Gray Classic title, which turned out to be a Big 12 showdown against Oklahoma.

"Everyone had great victories in singles and doubles," freshman Vitor Manzini said. "It was great for the team. We are getting more confident, and this is going to help a lot when getting into the conference matches."

Because of bad weather the final match of the tournament changed venues from Montgomery to Auburn, Ala., at Auburn University.

The title match started with doubles, and after splitting the first two matches it



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

RAONY CARVALHO and the Red Raiders won the Blue-Gray Classic on Sunday in Alabama. The tournament is widely considered to be one of the most prestigious in collegiate tennis.

was up to No. 23 duo sophomore Gonzalo Escobar and freshman Andre Stabile to get the point for Tech. Escobar and Stabile won the tiebreaker to defeat sophomore David Pultr and junior Ionut Beleleu, 9-8 (8).

With the win, Tech claimed the doubles point and the early lead for the title. Singles play was a pure battle, but started off well for Tech as freshman Raphael Pfister defeated sophomore George Chanturia in straight sets 6-2, 6-2. But then Tech stumbled, losing the No. 3 and No. 4 matches to bring the match even at two apiece.

In the No. 5 spot, Manzini's match went to a third set to decide the winner. After dropping the first set 1-6 and falling behind in the second set, Manzini rebounded to take the last two sets, 6-4, and regain the lead for Tech.

After dropping the No. 2 match in three sets, the win and the title came down to the final match between two players

ranked in the Top 25 in singles. In the end, No. 15 Raony Carvalho defeated No. 20 Andre Daescu 6-2, 3-6, 6-4 to clinch the win and Blue-Gray Classic title for the Red Raiders.

"This week was amazing," said Carvalho, who was named the tournament MVP. "I was playing great tennis. I think we worked really hard the whole week. It was a good feeling. It was special to be the last player playing in the finals and everybody watching and winning the clinching match."

After their second tournament win of the season, the Red Raiders return to Lubbock for six straight home matches — three against Big 12 opponents.

"Now we are a team — a real team," Carvalho said. "We are just getting better and better."

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Dan Law Field
Sunday, 03/28 @ 1:00 pm
Dan Law Field

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vs
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Wednesday, 03/24 @ 2:00 pm
Rocky Johnson Field & Wednesday, 03/24 @ 2:00 pm
Rocky Johnson Field

LADY RAIDER SOFTBALL
vs
IOWA STATE
Saturday, 03/27 @ 2:00 pm
Rocky Johnson Field & Sunday, 03/28 @ 12:00 pm
Rocky Johnson Field

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vs
NEW MEXICO
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