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Students give back in Panama



Tech baseball begins series
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BACK TO WORK

PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH COACH Tommy Tuberville looks on as his players stretch during practice Monday at Jones AT&T Stadium. It was the first of 15 spring practices.

After rollercoaster offseason, players happy to get back to football

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Through an offseason that ended one era and ushered in a new one in turbulent fashion, one of the few talking points about Texas Tech football was the product on the field.

So now that Baron Batch is entering his last handful of spring practices as a senior, he is just glad to get back to normalcy.

"We come here to play football, and a lot of stuff happened and there was a lot of stuff we had to go through," he said. "It's just nice to get to do what you're here for and that's play football. And everybody feels like that. Just to get out here and do what we love to do."

That turbulent offseason — which included Mike Leach's abrupt firing after allegedly mistreating Tech receiver Adam James — still lingers with a lawsuit that seems far from over.

But Monday, it was all about taking a step in a new direction with

Tech coach Tommy Tuberville. The first day of spring practice featured an array of changes players weren't used to seeing the past three or four years.

Although players have had about three months to get acclimated with Tuberville and the new assistants, they hadn't seen how they coached until Monday.

For one, practice was much more fast paced to fit more reps in, a style Tuberville said is a part of his philosophy. He also said he wants expose his players to as many plays as possible before they scrimmage Saturday, and a fast-paced practice helps that. Conditioning is key for Tuberville as well, as players ran sprints after practice.

Additionally, there are nine new coaches on staff this season including Tuberville — a complete overhaul of the coaches from Leach's staff, with the exception of offensive line coach Matt Moore.

"We spent a lot of time with them in offseason, so they pretty much know what we expect," Tuberville said. "It's

a lot easier what we did (Monday) than what we did in offseason drills. It was more running and conditioning and agility. ... This is more learning and teaching and we want to do a lot of running in the spring.

"We've got a long way to go to have a chance to get to the championship game and win it. But it's not just in the football part, it's in conditioning and running and lifting."

Players also are trying to get used to the new wrinkles offensive coordinator Neal Brown and defensive coordinator James Willis bring. For instance, more focus is being placed on man-to-man on the defensive side of the ball, which could be one of the more drastic changes as far as scheme is concerned. Zone coverage has been Tech's forte.

Willis and his assistants did their fair share of yelling on the first day of spring practice, too. But Tech linebacker Bront Bird said it's what the defense needs.

FOOTBALL continued on Page 5

Professors' grants total more than \$1.2 million

By JON VANDERLAAN
NEWS EDITOR

For Shiren Wang, the first time was a charm when applying for a prestigious National Science Foundation grant.

He is one of three Texas Tech professors who were notified that they earned a Faculty Early Career Development, or CAREER, grant during spring break, according to a Tech news release. The grant is the most prestigious NSF grant in support of junior faculty, who have been assistant professors for fewer than six years.

The three grants total more than \$1.2 million in research funding.

Wang, a professor of industrial engineering, said it was his first time applying for the grant and he considers himself lucky to have earned the award. Professors have three attempts at earning the grant.

"For this CAREER award, it gives me a chance that fund agencies and other research colleges to know my job and know my work," he said. "So next time it gives me a reputation for the continuous funding. That's why they call it a CAREER award."

Wang's research that earned the \$400,000 grant focuses on creating new materials that can take thermal energy and convert it into electrical energy. His research started in early February and it will conclude in about five years.

According to a release from the College of Engineering, the grant can be applied to computer processors and vehicle engines.

Ranadip Pal, an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, and Luis Grave de Peralta, an assistant professor of physics, also earned grants. Pal earned a \$404,000 grant for research on genomic signal processing and control of genetic regulatory networks and Grave de Peralta earned \$397,000 for his research on plasmonics.

However, Tech Provost Robert Smith said the dollar amount attached to the grants does not matter nearly as much as the prestige that comes with them.

"From my experience across several universities, I've seen how these types of grants have literally helped to launch careers," he said. "These awards can truly impact a person's career."

Although some of the top institutions in the nation require these types of grants from all their

junior faculty, Smith said expecting that from the university's faculty is not realistic with the limited number of CAREER grants available. The university does expect junior faculty to apply for and have some success with other grants available.

Wang said he was surprised when he was notified that he received the grant because of the competitive nature of NSF grants, especially the CAREER grant. But he also had support from numerous other faculty members, including some Horn professors.

That type of help is common at Tech, Smith said, and the administration tries to foster collaboration and mentoring by senior members of the faculty.

"The culture here is very favorable to helping people along," he said. "That's just such a wonderful aspect to this institution. And an aspect and a culture that really, frankly doesn't exist everywhere."

Wang also said the grants should help spread the reputation of Tech and help the university earn more research grants in the future.

Taylor Eighmy, vice president for Research at Tech, said the National Science Foundation is investing "serious dollars" into the researchers who earned the grant.

"This is the one area where it selects and recognizes an individual faculty member," he said. The grants also will help Tech in its push to Tier One status.

"There's a direct benefit in that all three of these awards are very large awards from the National Science Foundation," Eighmy said.



WANG



PAL



GRAVE DE PERALTA

GRANT continued on Page 2

SGA hosts Big 12 on the Hill

By JOEANN BON-JORNO
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech Student Government Association officers are serving Tech students from more than 1,000 miles away this week as the association hosts an annual get-together of Big 12 Conference schools at the U.S. Capitol.

Tech SGA representatives flew to Washington, D.C., today for Big 12 on the Hill. Representatives for Tech are Suzanne Williams, Dee Jay Wilde, Trey Horkey, Alex McCammon, Brandon Taylor, Drew Graham and Tyler Patton. The representatives will stay in Washington on Wednesday for Big 12 Day, Thursday for State Day and then return to Lubbock on Friday.

Williams, SGA president, said the officers from every Big 12 school will have the opportunity to form a sense of camaraderie.

"Big 12 on the Hill is really a neat opportunity," Williams said.

Sarah Saunders, SGA internal vice president, attended the event last year and said Tech is sending more representatives this year than it has in the past and is hosting Big 12 on the Hill in Washington.

"This is the first time in about eight years

for Tech to host," Saunders said.

Hosting Big 12 on the Hill alternates between Big 12 North and Big 12 South schools, she said. Kansas State hosted the event last year.

Groups of four to five members will have appointments throughout the day Wednesday about legislative issues such as financial aid overhaul, health care overhaul and increased funding for higher education, according to the Big 12 on the Hill agenda.

"There are around 45 appointments for Wednesday and around 25 appointments for Thursday," Williams said.

Each university will make their own appointments Thursday and coordinate with other universities within their state, according to the agenda.

"Tech students will meet with Texas representatives and senators along with A&M, UT and Baylor students on Thursday," Williams said.

The Tech SGA has participated in several conference calls with other Texas schools to determine what legislation is applicable to the Big 12, she said.

"It's neat to see how representatives really do want to take your perspective," Williams said.

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IN BRIEF

STATE

Republican Neugebauer says he shouted 'baby killer'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas Republican Rep. Randy Neugebauer acknowledged Monday that he is the lawmaker who shouted out "baby killer" during a floor speech by Rep. Bart Stupak, an anti-abortion Democrat whose vote was crucial to passing the Democratic health care bill Sunday evening.

Neugebauer, who has represented a solidly GOP district that includes the city of Lubbock since 2003, said he had apologized to Stupak for his outburst, which drew a rebuke from the chair during the often-rowdy debate.

"Those that are shouting out are

out of order," said Rep. David Obey, D-Wis., who was presiding in the chair at the time.

Neugebauer insisted in a statement that he was not referring directly to Stupak but to the agreement that the Michigan Democrat helped work out with the White House. That eleventh-hour agreement, under which President Barack Obama said he would issue an executive order pledging that no federal funds be used for abortions, helped seal the last votes Democrats needed to pass the bill.

He said his exact words, referring to that agreement, were "it's a baby killer."

NATION

Opponents take last stand against health care bill

(AP) — In a defiant last stand against a newly passed health care overhaul, opponents are trying everything they can to stop it from becoming the law of the land.

Republicans in the Senate are planning parliamentary maneuvers to keep a companion bill from reaching the president's desk. And lawmakers in at least 30 states are working to prevent what they say is an unconstitutional mandate forcing Americans to have health insurance.

Experts say none of it is likely to work, but it will keep the issue,

and the outrage, alive until Election Day.

"I am surprised by the mobilization of the states. It does strike me as a kind of civil disobedience, a declaration that we're not going to follow the law of the land," said Mark Hall, a professor of law and public health at Wake Forest University.

"It doesn't make sense. The federal Constitution couldn't be any clearer that federal law is supreme," Hall added.

The House passed the plan late Sunday, sparking a variety of protests and threats less than a day later.

WORLD

Karzai studying peace offer from militant group

KABUL (AP) — Afghan President Hamid Karzai held an unprecedented meeting Monday with representatives of a major Taliban-linked militant group, boosting his outreach to insurgency leaders to end the eight-year war.

Less certain is whether the talks with the weakened Hizb-i-Islami faction represent a game-changer in the conflict, given its demand to rewrite the Afghan constitution and force a quick exit of foreign forces.

It is the first time that high-ranking representatives of the group, led by warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, have

traveled to Kabul to discuss peace. The reconciliation offer from Hekmatyar contrasts with his reputation as a ruthless extremist.

Hekmatyar's power has waned over the years and he commands far fewer fighters than the Taliban. Nevertheless, Hizb-i-Islami is very active in at least four provinces of eastern Afghanistan and parts of the north. His defection from the insurgency would be a coup for Karzai and could encourage some Taliban commanders to explore their own peace deals.

Correction

In Monday's issue of *The Daily Toreador*, the article "Mass communications no longer offering minors," should have stated that an assistant

dean in the College of Communications at The University of Texas at Austin is Darrell Rocha.

The DT regrets the error.

SGA officers Williams, Saunders visit Tech Center in Seville, Spain

By **CARRIE THORNTON**
STAFF WRITER

SEVILLE, Spain — Halfway across the world, two Texas Tech Student Government Association officers and one Tech administrator spent their spring break getting to know the students and professors who live in Seville, Spain.

SGA President Suzanne Williams and Internal Vice President Sarah Saunders visited the city with Jan Childress, associate vice president for Student Affairs and External Relations and her husband. The four got a glimpse of the Tech Center and accompanied the group to Toledo and Madrid for the remainder of the week, observing the students interact with one another and their professors.

"Our goals were to experience what our students do in Seville," Childress said. "To see what the Texas Tech students who live in Lubbock can experience when they go over there and to see what that whole cultural exchange is like."

The group discussed the state of the program as well as future plans with Douglas Inglis, director of the center, after they arrived March 14.

"We were very impressed with it, I think all of us were," Childress said. "It was really neat to see the building. We had heard the façade was nothing fancy, and it was cool to see this old Spanish building and inside is our facility."

A presentation by Williams and Saunders will be given to the administrators of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, including general information and suggestions, she said. Its purpose will be to inform and enable the administrators to speak with other students about the program with adequate knowledge on it and its functions.

Suggestions made will also be taken into consideration by Michael Shonrock, senior vice president of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs.

The camaraderie among students and faculty members impressed the group, she said. Although they were not able to sit in on a class, Childress said she could see the hard work the faculty puts in to their job. Other notable features included the accessibility to study areas and computers and how the students seemed to become family to their temporary mothers and fathers.

"The host families seem to be such an incredible part of the experience there," Childress said. "It's interesting how everyone calls them their mom and their own families."

Many aspects of the program im-

pressed the visitors, but they also expressed interest in change.

"We noticed one classroom needs (double-paned windows) because it is right off of a main street," Williams said. "We talked about having a lounge area within the center to have a retreat where (students) could go to and talked about books and building up library."

Despite the few observations of features in need of improvement, Williams said she and Saunders were impressed with the center and what it has to offer for its students.

Williams said the benefit of sending two students along with an administrator to report on how the center is functioning is important because as fellow students they can identify different issues than adults.

"We're students, so we can be like, what if we were like this student who struggled and saved money all semester and comes to this city, what are their needs? Or what if we are a student whose parent made us come here?" she said. "There are so many student viewpoints administrators can't necessarily understand."

Although the trip went well, Williams said they are interested in finding another week for them to visit in the future that would allow for classroom observation where the students are living out a more normal routine.

Inglis said visits from SGA officers and

administrators benefits the program the most by providing visibility and a way for administrators in Lubbock to get a feel for the program.

In terms of suggestions, Inglis said he is aware certain changes need to be made, such as adding double-panes to certain windows and updating the electricity in specific rooms.

"I can already tell you I am not going to buy couches for the back room," he said with a smile. "It's counterproductive to what we are doing here. The students should go out and see the city."

Inglis said he hopes the suggestions and proposals made by Williams and Saunders will bring more funding for necessary improvements, but the center is functioning well with what it has. The visit, like its predecessors, will benefit the center regardless of what suggestions are accepted.

"The main thing we get from them is the support on campus that we probably had not had before," Inglis said. "That is slowly building in time. When we first started this, nobody knew who we were."

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WILLIAMS



SAUNDERS

Combest center offers free diabetes testing

By **DEREK MOY**
STAFF WRITER

The Larry Combest Community Health and Wellness Center is giving free screenings today to test students and members of the community for the National Diabetes Alert Day.

The center will test from 8 a.m. through noon and 1 p.m. through 5 p.m. today at 301 40th St.

Christie Hust, director of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Diabetes Education Center, said the test would take about five minutes of the patients' time, from paperwork to results. The center is testing blood sugar levels, which requires the prick of a finger to get a drop of blood to analyze.

"It's free and it's less than five minutes," she said. "I think that's worth your life."

Increasing amounts of people getting Type 2 diabetes is attributed to genetics, poor exercise, not eating right or a combination, Hust said.

She said Type 2 diabetes is prevalent in people older than 40 and overweight. Patients must change their habits or take medicine to combat the disease's effect on the body's cells. Type 1 diabetes is more common in thin people younger than 25, Hust said. Type 1 diabetes is treated with insulin injections to keep the body's sugar levels in balance.

"As our culture increases in size, we're seeing more and more instances of diabetes — more and more people have it," she said. "But more and more people have it who are either not treating it properly or not diagnosed. And without proper treatment and diagnosis the complications from

that increase the health care cost."

Dr. Daina Dreimane, associate professor at Department of Pediatrics, said living a healthy lifestyle and getting tested every year could prevent Type 2 diabetes.

If diabetes is caught early, health care costs are lowered. Diabetes medication is not too expensive, she said, but the complications like kidney failure or amputations can be.

"It's better to diagnose in the early stage than opposed to waiting until the disease becomes more severe and the patient already has complications," Dreimane said.

Awareness of Type 2 diabetes is the key goal in the alert day, she said. By raising awareness, prevention can lead to a decline in overall costs of treatment.

"It's far less expensive to prevent it than treat, and people lose years

of their productive life from diabetes complications," Dreimane said. "So as a society we're all vitally interested to prevent it."

The number of people affected by diabetes is increasing nationally and costs to treat it are rising as well. In 1997, diabetes health-related issues cost \$98 billion and in 2008 it nearly doubled to \$174 billion. It is estimated 23.6 million Americans have the disease.

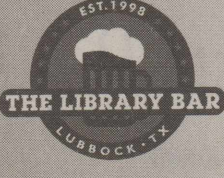
Hust said up to 6 million Americans do not know they have diabetes.

In 2009 diabetes was the fifth leading cause of death in the United States.

"A lot of people say, 'Well, they didn't die of diabetes,' and that's true," Hust said. "It's the complications that come from the diabetes that ultimately will kill that person."

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Tecate Tuesdays



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Grant ←
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Because of the competitive nature of the grant, Eighmy said only a few hundred out of thousands of proposals are awarded, yielding about a 5 percent to 6 percent success rate in proposals. Tech faculty members only received 10 of the awards during the last 20 years until this year, he said, and faculty members should be proud of the three-out-of-20 success rate this year.

"We're very grateful that we have such talented young faculty that have been hired here," Eighmy said. "And we would like this to be even more of a trend-setting moment in the institution."

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TTFLAA was formed in 1985-1986 when then President Lauro Cavazos sought to replace the existing tenure system with a system of five year contracts. Academic freedom involves the freedom of faculty to continue research, create art, music, drama, new technology and make them public.

The scholarship was created with money contributed by many faculty members to a fund that could be used to challenge the Cavazos proposal in the courts. Since that proposal was later modified, and tenure and academic freedom are still protected at Texas Tech, interest from the fund has been used to fund the scholarship and encourage student interest in the topics of academic freedom and tenure.

Typed entries must be no longer than 1,000 words with a cover sheet that indicates the name of the student. The essay should be submitted in three copies by

Monday, April 5, 2010

Typed entries with a cover sheet that includes the name of the student may also be submitted to Prof. William G. Hartwell, School of Music, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Tx. 79409-2033.

A faculty committee will judge the essays. The winner will be announced by April 28, 2010. Deanna Kramer of Spring was the 2008 winner. Eric Braden from Katy was the 2007 Winner. Joshua Lyte from Lubbock was the 2006 winner.

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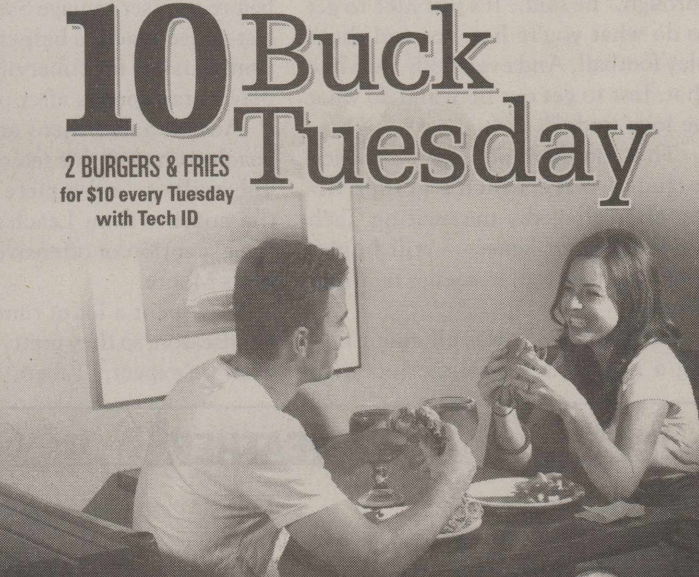

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Students spend break helping Panama village

By HALLIE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

A trip to the mountains or the beach takes about five hours by car, but members of Texas Tech's chapter of Engineers Without Borders took two planes, three buses, two taxis and a boat to get to their spring break destination.

Four students and an adviser went to Solong, Panama, to design a water filtration and piping system for the remote village.

Although there was water for the villagers from an existing set of pipes, it was not safe or sanitary.

"It's made out of PVC that I don't think you can even buy in the U.S. because it's so bad," said James Casias, the Tech chapter's president. "There are a lot of leaks and problems with the design; on top of that it's really dirty water."

Casias, a senior mechanical engineering major from Ralls, said he saw cows tracking mud into the stream just upriver from where it feeds into the village. A team that had been to the village previously had done

coliform testing and proved the water source to be contaminated and a health risk.

"We're trying to clean it up, make it more reliable, make the system sturdier," Casias said. "We have to repair deterioration and then make it sanitary water."

Adrienne Sanchez, the vice president, said the goal was also to make it sustainable. After everything is finished, the chapter will be responsible for it for the next five years.

The system should be implemented on the next year's trip. The students collected data and surveyed the area to design the actual piping and systems between now and when they return. Casias and Sanchez said they couldn't

wait to get back.

"They were the nicest people I've ever met," Casias said. "They were so hospitable."

The whole group stayed in Solong for two nights, in an elevated hut about the size of a large walk in

closet, Casias said. Though much of the break was spent in transit and in hotels, for the two nights in Solong, there were no showers, and avoiding the mosquitoes became impossible.

"I got excited seeing soap again," said Sanchez, a junior environmental engineering major from Houston.

Casias said group members worked hard and applied things they learned at Tech while in Solong. He used what he learned in design courses and labs to test the system and measure data.

"We were very limited on time," Casias said. "Sometimes there wasn't something you could measure, and you just had to make a call — some of my engineering courses helped me to make those decisions."

It wasn't all schoolwork, though. Sanchez said people think engineering is difficult when it's a lot about instinct. Some other classes were important though, and Sanchez said a Spanish major, Holly Yearly, was a huge help on the trip.

Communication was one of the biggest obstacles for the group; out of the five people on the trip, Casias said "about three and a half" were fluent in Spanish. Sanchez said she was nearly fluent and enjoyed interacting with the villagers more than anything else.

"It was really moving," Sanchez said. "We were just talking and you could hear the struggles these people go through and just how willing they are, and how grateful they are to have us there."



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES CASIAS /The Daily Toreador

STUDENTS AND FACULTY involved in Texas Tech's chapter of Engineers Without Borders spent their spring break in Solong, Panama, designing a sustainable water filtration and piping system for a village.

Casias said he returned from the break with a whole new perspective.

"Even just walking around campus, I feel different," Casias said. "This is a world that is completely different from that one."

He said the chapter sees this difference in worlds as a way to help, by sharing resources of time, supplies and

skills with the people of Solong.

"It's not that far, and that's what's so insane," Sanchez said. "The infrastructure, the knowledge, it's there; we have it."

Solong needs these things. Casias said that to just make warm water for coffee, the villagers had to start a fire. What the village lacked in technol-

ogy, though, it made up for with its surroundings.

"I had trouble even sleeping at night, because of the beauty of the area," Sanchez said. "I woke up in time for the sunrise. They don't have electricity, they don't have water, but, man, that view."

►► julie.davis@ttu.edu

Tuesdays with Tina: Being biracial

Two things happened to me during spring break that made me start thinking about my racial identity again.

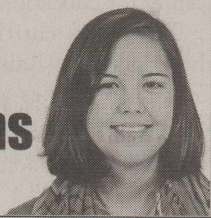
I read a book for class called "What are you?" by Pearl Fuyo Gaskins. After interviewing mixed-race young people, Gaskins wrote a non-fiction book about their stories. As I read it, I found myself thinking about when my boyfriend and I filled out our census form earlier during the week.

He asked me what I wanted to put for Question 9 — "What is Person X's race? Mark 'x' one or more boxes." I marked "Other Asian" and jotted down "Thai" in the box that asked for specification. My boyfriend rolled his eyes and said I was as "white" as he was.

After all, I had grown up in a household that spoke English only and I haven't been to Thailand since I was a toddler. It was an off-the-cuff remark. Harmless, right?

In the case of my boyfriend, yes. We discussed it later — after I read the book and gave it serious thought — and he had no problem understanding where I

Tina Arons



got two to share.

The motivation behind the question makes a difference. It bothers me the most when guys ask me about my race while trying to flirt. When I tell them about my heritage — my mom is Thai and my dad is white — I've been told that Thai women or mixed women are really beautiful.

Um ... they can be unattractive, too. They can also be ugly on the inside, just like everyone else.

In her book, Gaskin stated, "... the 'What are you?' question reveals a lot about the person asking the question. It also says a lot about our society. The frequency with which racially mixed people are asked this question tells us that race is extremely important."

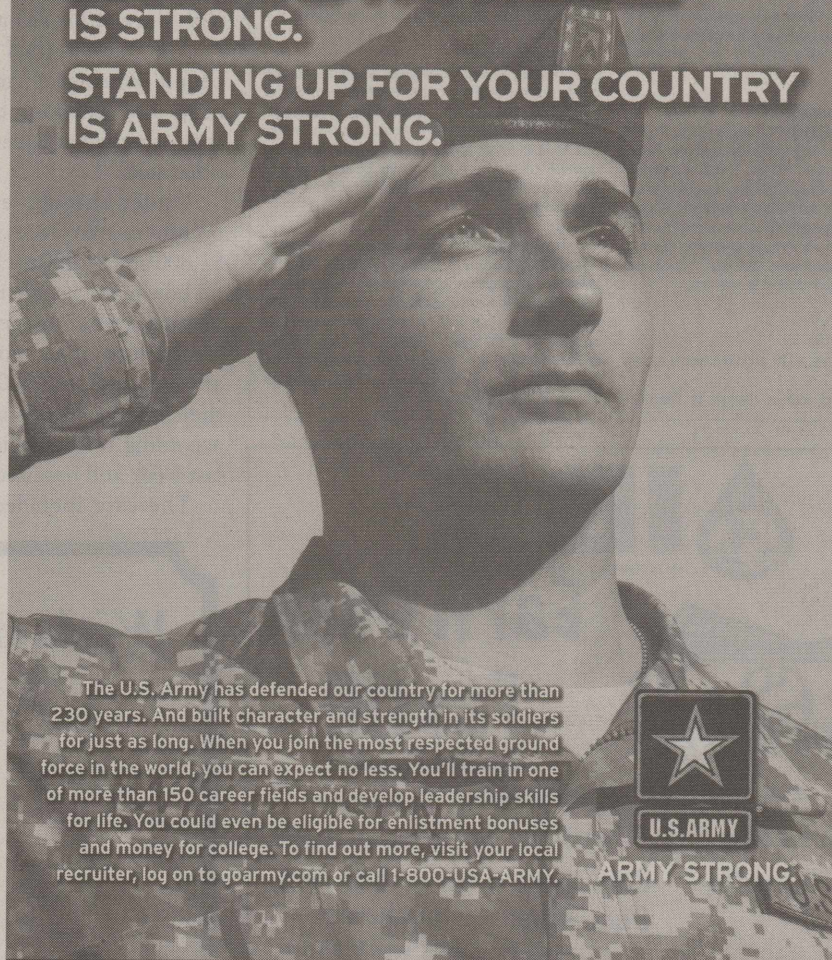
Gaskin later cites Teresa Kay Williams, a sociologist and professor in Asian-American Studies at California State University.

was coming from and respecting my feelings. I wish all my racial quandaries could be solved as easily.

The book also made me think about why, within the first half hour of meeting some people, I'm asked, "So, what are you?" Or sometimes strangers play a guessing game and ask, "Are you Asian? Are you Mexican? Filipino?"

It makes me a little angry, now that I really think about it. It's not that I don't want to talk about my race or my cultural heritage. I love talking about culture, and I think it's special that I've

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Burglary suspect may have hidden stars' goods

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Police suspect the alleged mastermind behind a rash of celebrity burglaries may have hidden a large amount of the stolen property with her father's help, court records show.

A search warrant affidavit filed earlier this year in Los Angeles seeks phone and Internet records that police said might help recover items stolen from numerous celebrities.

An affidavit filed in support of the warrant states that police believe Rachel J. Lee, who has been charged with some of the break-ins, and her father, David Lee, hid the items before their Las Vegas home

was searched last year.

Authorities have identified Rachel Lee as the suspected mastermind of a string of burglaries at the homes of several stars, including Orlando Bloom, Lindsay Lohan, Paris Hilton and Megan Fox.

Los Angeles Police Officer Brett Goodkin said Monday that there is a substantial amount of property stolen from the stars' homes that hasn't yet been recovered. He said the value could be up to \$2 million.

Goodkin declined to elaborate on the details included in the search warrant or leads he may have received but said police are presenting evidence to prosecutors as needed.

Today's
su | do | ku

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

Puzzles by PageFiller

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

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.

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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Avoid intellectual snobbery at all cost

If there is one thing I hate, it is intellectual snobbery. Intellectual snobbery is defined as, "the feeling of superiority over others due to more education or years in a chosen field" (Long's Everyday Dictionary).

It is an attitude of entitlement due to one's dedication to his or her chosen profession. The intellectual snob is distinguished from the common snob by background only. They have a variety of forms including doctors, lawyers, professors, politicians and, alas, even presidents of the United States.

Let it be known, however, that I am not in favor of the common snob either. Anyone who feels superiority over others, whether it stems from a distinguished education or from the perfect orange tan and Uggs, should be ashamed.

Intellectual snobbery is elitism in its highest form. It assumes that for one to be better than others, one must be smarter, and that intelligence only comes through a

Roy Long



specified curriculum in an institution of higher learning.

I believe Amy Bishop, a former professor at the University of Alabama who is charged with murder, shows a prime example of intellectual snobbery. According to the *Boston Globe*, she allegedly had a conflict in 2002 with an IHOP employee over a booster seat. When the employee informed Bishop the last seat had gone to another customer, she, "demanded the seat and, after a profanity-laced rant, punched her in the head while yelling 'I am Dr. Amy Bishop!'"

Her statement implies her position as a professor means she is more deserving than others of a

booster seat for her child. She is basically stating that, based solely on her vocation, she is "higher on the hog" (or pancake, in this instance) than the customer who already had requested the seat. She felt entitled. I think many of us experience this feeling from time to time, and it must be avoided as much as possible.

Entitlement is dangerous. The statements of Bishop imply that education makes her a better person and therefore deserving of perks that the ordinary citizen does not deserve. I am sad to report I see this attitude frequently at Texas Tech, among faculty, staff and stu-

dents alike. We believe we can be rude to each other because we have tenure, we are studying in a hard department or even if we are only talking to staff members.

Those who truly are educated do not hold enmity for others who are less or more educated than themselves. They look to help all those around them. Education is not a magic lamp, meant to make all of our personal desires come true. It is a tool to help improve life for others.

There are other tools which we often overlook. Diligence, hard work and the "School of Hard Knocks" often help us develop skills

to help others. Some of the most impressive individuals I know are those who have not spent a day at the university. They have learned true intelligence is not memorizing a set curriculum from an institution, but rather developing ourselves for the assistance of others.

Former President Abraham Lincoln taught himself law and eventually became the president of the United States. If anyone has a right to be prideful and a snob, he does. However, he said, "Whatever you are, be a good one." Lincoln understood excellence does not come from position, but rather from individual effort.

The focus is not on vocation, but rather on the individual. Skilled doctors, English teachers, farmers and businessmen can equally influence the world for good, because the ability to help others is not a vocational skill, but rather an action that we each can choose to do.

Besides, do we not focus on the

wrong things? When someone asks, "What are you?" we often respond by telling them what we do for a living. Vocation is not identity and complete self-fulfillment will never come from a job. The correct response to this question is a statement of who we are, what are our relationships with our family members like, what attributes we choose to develop and what we want for ourselves and others around us.

Is it really that difficult to appreciate others? I appreciate janitor and dean alike, because I know that they play important roles at Tech. I expect the same kind of respect from them. In my book, the ability to solve differential calculus ranks far below the ability to give anyone a warm handshake and a West Texas grin.

Long is a junior Russian and area studies major from Lubbock.
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Spring season brings more than flowers

I am allergic to Lubbock. Literally, I am. I have come back from spring break to the same old sniffles I had before.

Like the peanut gallery in the backseat of a car, it drives me nuts, perhaps even bonkers. I can't carry around enough tissues to suffice its never-ending desire to irritate me. I feel that I am in for more surprises this semester than I bargained for.

Of course, spring brings more than sneezing. It also brings holidays, rain and warmer weather. I don't think I need to elaborate on how crazy this year has been for weather. The term bipolar is an understatement.

Like many other students before me, I will be staying here in Lubbock during Easter break. I have decided I am going to blame last minute projects for this. Read a book here, give a presentation there, and get a nap in the Student Union Building somewhere. Seriously, I have been cranking out homework like Dr. Seuss cranked out children's books. I might as well start writing those, too.

Now, Easter is ... Well, it is

Colleen Gartner



not supposed to be about the Easter bunny, but that's the part I always look forward to. Bunnies are adorable, and there's chocolate involved. Also, being the sugar-holic I am, there's no way that Easter does not attract me like a magnet.

Yes, my name is Colleen Gartner and I have just admitted I am a sugarholic. It's a 12-step process, you know. Quite honestly, I could care less about who decided bunnies and light baby colors should be somehow involved with the rising of Jesus. My brain, like millions of other brains across the United States, just blinks milk chocolate.

Is the commercialization of Easter a sign of the times? Look what it's done to me. I know it is wrong, but I still get so excited over things

like scavenger egg hunts, even those without chocolate. There are colored baskets, colored eggs and colored grass.

All of the color makes me want to sing "The Age of Aquarius." At the very least you all should be thanking your lucky stars I am not the 40-year-old virgin prancing around Urbanovsky Park in a white blouse right now.

Which brings me to my next point about the springtime: Spring is about cleansing. I am not trying to insinuate that people around Lubbock should shower more; it is about all renewal. Rearranging a room is one way I can feel renewed.

Another way is to go through a list of short- or long-term goals. Forget the weight-loss goals, though. Those are soon to be shattered by the Hershey kisses that taunt us all in waiting rooms across the city. Not trying to make

anyone feel bad, but those darn kisses taunt us all. They tease us until we give in to "just one more."

Ah, I am indeed talking about temptation. Those who celebrate Lent often choose a tempting item to forgo for 40 days and 40 nights. Needless to say, temptation exists everywhere every single day of our lives. We must renew in order to prevent ourselves from becoming worn down as I have for yummy, luscious chocolate. Don't be chicken like the 40-year-old virgin. Show how strong you can be by renewing yourself right now. Go ride a bike, go sing in the car, go prance in the park. I promise I won't judge.

Gartner is a senior business major from The Woodlands.
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Hispanics in Texas less likely to graduate college

DALLAS (AP) — Hispanics are less likely to graduate from public and private universities compared with whites in Texas and nationwide, a new study finds.

The nonprofit American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research used data from six-year graduation rates from the National Center for Education Statistics.

The study, entitled *Rising to the Challenge: Raising Hispanic Graduation Rates as a National Priority*, found that 51 percent of Hispanics who started college earned a bachelor's degree within six years, compared with 59 percent of whites.

The Texas figures indicate that 40 percent of Hispanics graduated within six years, compared with 45 percent for whites, according to results released last week.

"When the students aren't graduating it suggests there's something going on there at the institutional level," research fellow Andrew Kelly said.

The study recommends a greater focus on retention and graduation rates, along with better financial

information for students and their families. Hispanic students were less likely to be aware of loan and scholarship assistance, the study found.

Southern Methodist University in Dallas graduated 71 percent of Hispanic students and 73 percent of white students. The flagship Austin campus for the University of Texas graduated 69 percent of Hispanic students and 77 percent of whites.

Texas State University in San Marcos expects to become the largest public university in the state designated as a Hispanic-serving institution. The designation, which means at least 25 percent of full-time students are Hispanic, could attract additional federal funding. The school has nearly 31,000 students.

TSU President Denise Trauth expanded the school's admissions office, with more recruiters in Houston, Dallas, San Antonio and south Texas targeting Hispanics.

"It wasn't proper to recruit Hispanics and not graduate them," Trauth said. "That was, in a sense, using Hispanic students."

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91

By Merle Baker 3/23/10

Monday's Puzzle Solved

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

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33 ___ of robins ...: Kilmer
35 Capital east of the Elbe River
37 Substantial
38 Elation
40 Base melody
43 Boring
44 Like a ___ bricks
47 Obama attorney general Eric
50 Tyke's blocks
52 Arc lamp gas

53 Granola ingredient
54 Word after flight or floor
55 Ancient Peruvian
57 Contributed
58 Away from the wind
59 Farmer's place, in song
62 "Wheel of Fortune" buy
63 Printer need

THE DAILY TREADOR
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NYC settle jail strip-search suit

NEW YORK (AP) — Two women who claimed they were forced to have gynecological exams and others strip-searched in city jails have settled a class-action lawsuit with the city for \$33 million.

The suit was filed on behalf of people arrested on misdemeanor drug and weapons charges and strip-searched at Rikers Island and other jails.

Under the agreement, class members can receive between \$1,800 and \$2,900 each, depending on how many people respond. The plaintiffs who claimed they were forced into gynecological exams are entitled to \$20,000 each for their alleged injury and suffering, according to the decision reached last week and finalized Monday.

The case included people ar-

rested, but not convicted, between July 15, 1999 and Oct. 4, 2007. The court has already ruled that the practice violated the prisoners' constitutional rights.

Genevieve Nelson, senior counsel of the Special Federal Litigation Division at the New York City Law Department, said the settlement is the final step in a process where Correction Department procedures were modified in 2007.

"The City of New York and its Department of Correction have worked diligently to ensure that both safety and privacy are given high consideration during intake search procedures," she said in a statement.

A lawyer for the plaintiffs planned a news conference later Monday.

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Lady Raiders in Wyoming for second-round of WNIT

The 2009-10 season for Texas Tech has been up and down for the most part, but the Lady Raiders seem to be on a mission to finish it on a high note.

Tech finds itself at 18 wins — the most in a single season under head coach Kristy Curry — with a chance to improve on that.

The Lady Raiders travel to play Wyoming at 8 p.m. today in Laramie, Wyo., in the second round of the 2010 Women's National Invitation Tournament. Tech (18-14) defeated Houston last Thursday 80-77 in the United Spirit Arena to advance to today's second round action.

The Cowgirls finished 9-7 in the Mountain West Conference and are familiar with the WNIT. Wyoming won the tournament in 2007.

So the Lady Raiders may want to slow down Wyoming's (20-11) trio of double-digit scorers if they hope to stay alive and make a run of their own toward a WNIT title.

The Cowgirls are led by Hillary Carlson, Aubrey Vandiver and Emma Langford who average 15.5, 14.5 and 11.3 points per game, respectively. The three combined to score 53 points in Wyoming's 74-53 win against Nevada in the first round of the tourney.

But the Lady Raiders also know about having multiple options to go to when they need to score.

The Lady Raiders got 16 points from Christine Hyde, 12 from Jordan Barncastle and 11 from both Ashlee Roberson and Marissa Ash-ton in the win against UH. Another solid output from its top performers and Tech may have the possibility of getting its third win against the Cowgirls. The Lady Raiders are 2-1 against Wyoming.

Today's game also will be the first for Tech in Laramie, Wyo. The Lady Raiders played the Cowgirls in Casper, Wyo., when the two teams last met.

The winner of this game moves on to play the winner of the Arizona-BYU game, which also is today. The date and location of the third round matchup will be determined after tonight's game.

Tech coaches and players were not available for comment because of traveling arrangements.

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MALLARD



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

REDSHIRT FRESHMAN WIDE receiver Eric Ward struggles to catch a pass while being defended by defensive back Eugene Neboh during the first day of spring practice Monday in Jones AT&T Stadium.

Football

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"This was really our first opportunity to see how they coach as far as football goes," he said. "We've been doing some drills out here and stuff like that, but as far as seeing what they expect, play recognition and stuff like that, this was our first experience. I think everybody is adapting well and everybody's onboard."

Position battles will ensue as spring rolls on, and Tuberville said it's not worth putting too much emphasis on those this early or even as two-a-days approach.

But the most intriguing battle this spring may be too interesting to avoid.

Tech quarterbacks Taylor Potts and Steven Sheffield shared reps with the first team Monday, and after switching spots regularly last season, the two are expected to

compete for the starting job.

Both players had up-and-down seasons in 2009 with injuries and mid-season battles for the starting spot. But now, both players start fresh with a new coach. Tuberville said Potts and Sheffield will have a chance to play this season, with both players being seniors.

Another subtle change can be found on Potts' jersey. The senior changed his number from 15 to 12 this year to bring in the new season.

"I wore this number in high school," he said. "My grandma loved Roger Staubach, I loved Roger Staubach, so 12's our number. They gave me 15 when I got here and I stuck with it, but I kind of had a little twist this year, so I went

back to 12."

But the "Nick" on the back of his jersey fans saw for a few games last season — famously dubbed by Leach — is history.

"Nick's been thrown in the trash," he said. "Long time ago."

►► adam.coleman@ttu.edu

"I think everybody is adapting well and everybody's onboard."

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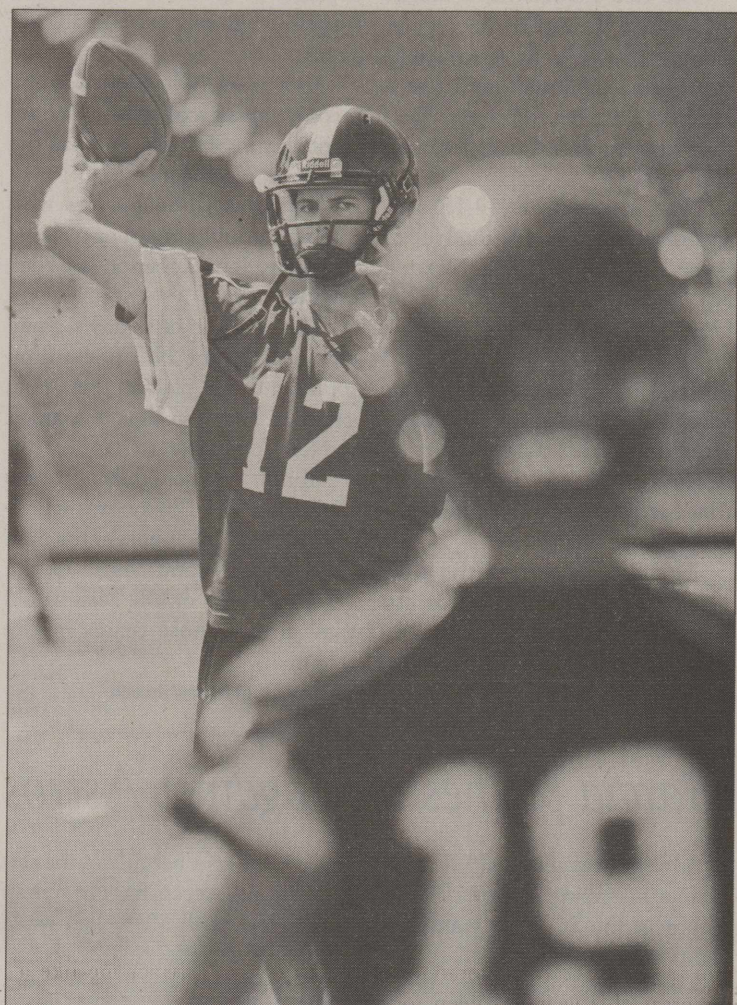


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

QUARTERBACK TAYLOR POTTS throws a pass to receiver Lyle Leong during the first day of spring practice Monday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

Rangers lose, Zito pitches into 7th

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Barry Zito pitched into the seventh inning but was charged with four runs and 10 hits in the San Francisco Giants' 5-4 victory over the Texas Rangers on Monday.

Vladimir Guerrero, who signed a free-agent deal with the Rangers in the offseason, had two hits and two RBIs against Zito, who struck out four and walked none in 6 1/3 innings.

Kevin Frandsen hit a sacrifice fly in the ninth to give the Giants the win.

C.J. Wilson, getting an opportunity to join the Texas rotation after working as a reliever, pitched five innings. He gave up three runs and four hits.

"(Pitching coach) Mike (Maddux) made a speech the other day, saying that you can have a rough first inning,

get a lot of bad bounces, but what matters is how you finish," said the 29-year-old Wilson, who was 5-6 with a 2.81 ERA and 14 saves in 74 games last season.

"My delivery was pretty good, my change up was pretty good and my cutter was working. I'm proud of my change up and how far it's come. It's keeping guys off-balance."

Wilson said his progress in the remaining two weeks for the spring will be gauged on "going out there and getting extended (more innings)."

He understands the difficult decisions facing team officials about where to put certain pitchers.

"It's like riding a teeter-totter," Wilson said. "You need a good bullpen, but you need good starting pitching.

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SPORTS

PAGE 6
TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2010

Tech faces Ole Miss in NIT quarterfinals

By MIKE GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech basketball team will take on Mississippi in the quarterfinals of the National Invitation Tournament at 6 p.m. today on the Rebels' home floor in Oxford, Miss.

The game can be seen on ESPN or the Web site ESPN360.com.

Tech players and coaches were unavailable for comment Monday.

The Red Raiders have caught stride since the end of the regular season with a Big 12 tournament win against Colorado and lost a competitive game to Kansas. Tech then was awarded a bid to the NIT.

No. 5-seeded Tech (19-15) won a game against No. 4 Seton Hall at Seton Hall's home floor in Newark, N.J., and topped Jacksonville in the United Spirit Arena last week.

No. 2-seeded Ole Miss (23-10) finished its regular season as the second-best team in the Southeastern Conference's western division behind Mississippi State, a team that has been eliminated from the NIT.

The Rebels started the SEC tournament with a bye in the first round and were defeated by Tennessee, 76-65, in the SEC quarterfinal round. The Rebels defeated Troy

and Memphis in their first two NIT games.

Ole Miss has five players that average more than nine points per game, including leading scorer Chris Warren — the SEC's third leading scorer. Terrico White averages 15 points per game and Murphy Hallaway averages 10 per game.

As a team, Ole Miss was the second-highest scoring team behind Kentucky in SEC play and had the third-best scoring margin.

Tech has three players who average double figures in Mike Singletary, John Roberson and Nick Okorie.

The winner of today's game advances to the NIT's semifinal round and will play its remaining games in Madison Square Garden in New York City.

Illinois was scheduled to play Kent State and Dayton was scheduled to play Cincinnati in the final day of the second round of the NIT, and Tech or Ole Miss would play one of those teams in the semifinals.

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SINGLETARY

Red Raiders try to regain momentum, stay healthy as mid-week series begins

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Surviving what has been a turbulent month for his team is Dan Spencer's focus.

Texas Tech baseball just nabbed its third win in March with a 13-7 victory in this weekend's series finale at No. 23 Texas A&M.

Before that, the Red Raiders were riding a seven-game losing streak, which included being swept by No. 7 TCU and two other losses to A&M.

It won't get easier either, with No. 10 Texas paying a visit this weekend at Dan Law Field.

"We've played a lot of good people in the month of March," Spencer said. "It'll continue and I think that some of the places we've been early and with the pitching we've seen early, Texas is going to run real arms at you, but they're going to be a lot like the guys you've seen the last three weeks."

But Tech (9-12) is just looking forward to a chance to keep the momentum going in its mid-week series against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi (10-9). The series begins at 6:30 p.m. today and ends at noon Wednesday at Dan Law Field.

The games against A&M-Corpus Christi are slated before

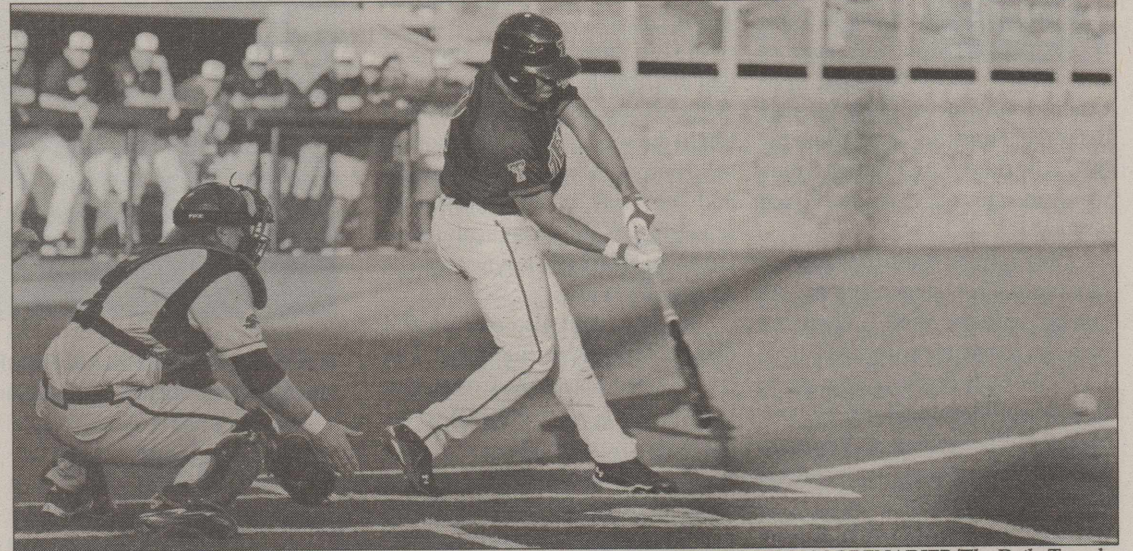


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH INFIELDER Barrett Barnes hits a ball during one of the Red Raiders' games this season. Tech beginning a mid-week series against Texas A&M Corpus Christi today at Dan Law Field.

a big three-game series against Texas this weekend, and Spencer said getting a few more wins before that showdown is key.

The Red Raiders might not want to experience anything like they have for most of this month.

Besides the losses to TCU and A&M, Tech dropped a game to Texas State 13-7 on March 16. Then there are injuries to infielders Nick Popescu and Justin Berry.

Team spokesman Blayne Beal announced Monday that Popescu, who is out with a hamstring injury, could return for the Texas series this weekend. He also announced

Berry could miss at least another week with a groin injury.

But as far as those losses are concerned, there were a few close calls that didn't fall in Tech's favor.

The Red Raiders had the tying run on base in the top of the ninth in the opening game of the TCU series. But, after getting on base with a triple, Jamodrick McGruder was tagged out with two outs to end the game. Tech also dropped the first two games 6-3 and 5-4 at A&M before taking the series finale.

"We tell them all the time, and

they know it, the line is fine between winning and losing, playing good people," Spencer said. "To get a win and get out of there in a cold, windy and tough environment, it was good. Good for our guys. Proud of the way they responded, we gotta get a little more momentum if we can."

Gaining that momentum starts with Brandon Petite (1-0, 13.50 ERA) on the mound today. Louis Head (1-1, 11.05 ERA) is expected to start Wednesday's game. Players were not available to the media Monday.

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Garcia pitches well against Astros

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Jaime Garcia is making a strong bid for a spot in the St. Louis Cardinals' rotation.

Garcia threw four crisp innings, David Freese and Joe Mather hit their first spring homers and a Cardinals split-squad beat the Houston Astros 6-4 on Monday.

Garcia, who missed last season after undergoing reconstructive left elbow surgery, allowed one run and two hits in relief of Kyle Lohse. He has yielded two runs while striking out 15 in 12 2-3 innings over four outings this spring.

"My arm feels awesome," he said. "It feels better than it has ever felt. I did everything I could in the offseason. Finally now I feel like everything is paying off. It's feeling good and everything is going the way it's supposed to go."

Garcia is competing with non-roster invitee Rich Hill and Kyle McClellan for the final spot in the rotation behind Chris Carpenter, Adam Wainwright, Lohse and Brad Penny.

Garcia was thought to be a long

shot for the spot because of the surgery, but his success has put him in a close race with McClellan while Hill has struggled.

"I thought Garcia really composed his delivery," manager Tony La Russa said. "He wasn't rushing or flying all over the place. He was impressive. This is the beginning of the next to last week. So everything you do now has extra significance. He added another credential to his spring training resume."

Lohse worked five innings in his fourth spring start. He gave up three runs and eight hits, struck out two and walked one.

"There are some things I would have done differently if it was a

regular-season game," he said. "But you don't want to show all your stuff to a team that you're going to be facing four times. I felt like I did what I needed to do to get my work in and got out of it relatively unscathed."

Freese, competing to be the starting third baseman, has been having a so-so spring but he finished with two hits and three RBIs against Houston.

"I did everything I could in the offseason and now I feel like everything is paying off."

JAIME GARCIA
CARDINALS PITCHER

Goodell supportive of overtime modification

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell likes the proposal to modify overtime in the playoffs. Can his support sway enough owners to approve it for next season?

The competition committee recommended Monday to the 32 owners that a team losing the coin toss and then surrendering a field goal on the first possession should have a series of its own in OT. Such a rules change would need 24 votes for ratification.

"This stays true to the integrity of the game," Goodell said. "The competition committee has come up with something very much worth considering. It keeps the tradition of sudden death, and I think it is responsive to some of the issues that have been brought up."

"It's getting a lot of thought. It's

got potential to be a better system."

Statistics examined by the committee showed that since 1994, teams winning the coin toss won the game 59.8 percent of the time. The team that loses the toss wins the game 38.5 percent in that 15-year span, or since kickoffs were moved back 5 yards to the 30.

Those numbers alarmed Indianapolis Colts president Bill Polian, a member of the committee.

"We felt the stats are so arresting that

something needs to be done," Polian said. "The original framers of the rule did not project the movement of the kickoff, or (the trend) in improvement of kickers."

One owner who would seem to have reason to favor the modification, Minnesota's Zygi Wilf, is not convinced it's a wise move. The Vikings lost the coin toss for overtime in the NFC title game, then saw the Saints march to a winning field goal on the first — and only — series.

Still, as of Monday, Wilf was leaning toward voting no to a switch.

"We need consistency of the regular season and postseason," he said.

But, as Polian and other committee members point out, the playoffs already have different overtime rules.

"We play until there is a winner," Polian said.

During the regular season, a winner must be decided within a 15-minute extra period.

The reason the proposal is only for the playoffs is player safety.

"We are very concerned about injuries occurring, which is the one great reason it has not been proposed before," Polian added.

Goodell's positive outlook on the overtime modification can't hurt its chances of passing, according to competition committee co-chairman Rich McKay.

"The competition committee has come up with something very much worth considering."

ROGER GOODELL
NFL COMMISSIONER

Bears sweetly prove they are better than 10th in Big 12

WACO (AP) — Tweety Carter and Lacey Darius Dunn knew before even playing a game this season that Baylor had a much better team than the Big 12 coaches expected.

They have already proven that, and have a chance to accomplish even more since they are still playing.

"Being picked 10th, we took that as disrespect," Dunn said Monday. "We knew we're a better team than 10th. ... We knew we had to come out and prove a point."

The Bears (27-7) have made it to the NCAA round of 16, joining Kansas State as the only Big 12 teams still left with a chance to play for the national championship.

What about Kansas, the pre-season Big 12 favorite by the

coaches and the No. 1 overall NCAA seed? The Jayhawks have already been eliminated along with Texas, the league coaches' pre-season No. 2 which started 17-0 and reached No. 1 in the AP poll in mid-January.

"I don't play this game to worry about what anybody else thinks. As long as this family here is tight, I'm all right," said Carter, the point guard and one of only two Baylor seniors. "At the same time, it comes up in the back of your mind, you've got to come out and show them why we're better than 10th."

In an NCAA tournament filled with upsets, most notably Kansas' second-round loss to Northern Iowa, Baylor has remained unscathed as the No. 3 seed in the South Regional.

After defeating Sam Houston State and 11th-seeded Old Dominion

in New Orleans, the Bears will be even closer to home for their next game. They play in Houston on Friday night against No. 10 Saint Mary's (28-5), which advanced with victories over Richmond and Villanova.

Before last week, Baylor hadn't won an NCAA tournament game since 1950. The Gaels, often overshadowed in the West Coast Conference by Gonzaga, had gone only nine years fewer without an NCAA victory.

"Both teams had similar roads. Both teams have been competitive the last few years," Baylor coach Scott Drew said. "They've been knocking on the door, and we've been knocking on the door. Both of us have just entered together."

Baylor has its third consecutive 20-win season, has already set a school re-

cord for victories and has not lost any game by more than seven points.

The Bears made it to the NCAA tournament two years ago, but lost to Purdue in the opening round. (The Boilermakers are also in Houston and play top-seeded Duke in the other game Friday night).

Baylor overcame a late-season slump last year to make it to the Big 12 tournament championship game then had an extended farewell for seniors Curtis Jerrells, Kevin Rogers and Henry Dugat, making it to the NIT final before losing to Penn State in Madison Square Garden.

That trio's career began in 2005-06, when Baylor was limited to playing only a half-season. The Bears played only conference games as part of NCAA penalties for wrongdoing under previous coach Dave Bliss that was uncovered following the shooting death of player Patrick Dennehy by teammate Carlton Dotson in the summer of 2003.

Jerrells, Rogers and Dugat played significant roles in the rebuilding of the program, including that NCAA appearance two years ago.

When they graduated, there was some uncertainty about how the Bears would fare — at least outside, based on how the Big 12 coaches picked.

"That goes to respect of what the guys who left the program last year did. We were picked low for a reason, and it was out of respect to them," Drew said. "With the returning players, give all the credit to them for having great chemistry, great upperclassman leadership."

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