

Petitioning
for respect

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Sheffield out for spring,
Potts hurt too

See Page 8

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

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Board of Regents to discuss budget, tuition

By JON VANDERLAAN
NEWS EDITOR

The Texas Tech Board of Regents is meeting today to discuss the system and university budgets for Fiscal Year 2011 and approve caps for tuition and fees for each of the schools in the Tech system.

Regents and Tech administrators ultimately must decide whether to enact a 5 percent budget cut plan that was created because of a request from Gov. Rick Perry. The

reports may provide a glimpse into whether the cuts have a chance at being enacted and what kind of an impact they would have on the system.

The state is expected to encounter a significant budget shortfall for the next biennium, and all state agencies were required to come up with a plan to cut state-appropriated budgets by 5 percent.

Tech administrators have said if the plan is effected, most of the cuts would come in the form of not

filling open positions, implementing energy-saving procedures and cutting travel.

Potential cuts in the budget also could affect tuition and fees for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Tuition and fee caps will be approved in Thursday's meeting for Tech and Angelo State University, said Christina Martinez, executive secretary to the board, while the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center will approve its final tuition and fee assessment schedule.

The university raised tuition

by 9.9 percent in 2009-2010 after freezing tuition in 2008-2009.

Also on the agenda for the meeting are approving a revised institutional mission statement, the renovation and improvement of the Football Training Facility and practice fields, changing the name of a building and re-approving the construction on the north endzone of Jones AT&T Stadium.

Improvements for the football facilities will consist of replacing two natural grass practice fields with artificial turf fields and a run-

ISSUES FOR MEETING

- Fiscal Year 2011 budget
- Tuition and fees for Tech, Angelo State University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
- Renovations to Football Training Facility and practice fields
- Jones AT&T Stadium north-side construction

ning hill, as well as renovations to the locker rooms by replacing and rearranging lockers.

Existing strength and conditioning equipment also will be replaced.

The board will meet at 11 a.m. and the meeting is scheduled to last until 4 p.m. in Administration building Room 201.

» jon.vanderlaan@ttu.edu

APRIL FOOLS!



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

CHRIS BERGER, A freshman history major from Lubbock, laughs after pulling a prank on Robyn Szasz, a junior biochemistry major from Abilene.

Students enjoy pulling good pranks

By SARAH SCROGGINS
STAFF WRITER

On a local TV station during the snow days, the banner announcing cancellations read, "The study group basketball tournament was canceled due to the snow," and Jacob Fisher laughed to himself.

Fisher, a freshman honors arts and letters major from Wichita Falls, called into a local TV station to report the cancellation of events he had made up.

"I just made up a bunch of ridiculous events and reported them to the station and they had to read them," Fisher said.

But that wasn't the beginning of his love of pranks.

During October, Fisher and his friends spent the entire month pranking each other, and in the

process, he said, they renamed the month Pranktober in honor of their tradition.

Their pranking spirit continued through the holidays, and the group decided to turn their friend's room into a giant Christmas tree in the spirit of the holiday.

"We hung lights and candy canes everywhere," Fisher said. "We even wrapped his computer, guitar, chest of drawers and a bunch of other stuff in wrapping paper."

He said, some of his friends less frequently used items are still wrapped up.

Several months later, he said he may have a few things up his sleeve for April Fools' Day, but he's not spilling any details.

The spring holiday loved by pranksters has been around for several centuries, but its origins

are disputed, according to National Geographic's "April Fools' Day Facts: Behind the Laughs."

The most widely believed story is the holiday started in France during the 16th century when Charles IX adopted a new calendar called the Gregorian calendar. The new calendar switched the New Year's celebration from a week, March 25 to April 1, to only one day, Jan. 1. People reluctant to make the change were called fools, according to the article.

Regardless of its origin, Capt. Kenny Evans of the Texas Tech Police Department said the department rarely has any pranks reported.

"We have the occasional soap in the fountain," Evans said. "Everyone's pretty respectable and they keep things calm."

No April Fools' Day pranks

were reported last year, according to the Tech Police Department daily summaries.

However, as a community adviser in Bledsoe Residence Hall, Michael Atilano, a junior chemical engineering major from Austin, said he has seen, heard and done his share of pranks. He said he tries to be creative with his pranks and venture away from the typical "kick me" sign or telling his parents he's in jail.

"We Oreo-ed someone's car once — you know, where you lick them and stick them to the car," Atilano said. "We also Spam-ed someone's yard. We took Spam and placed it all over their yard so when they woke up in the morning they would have tons of cats everywhere."

FOOLS continued on Page 5 >>>

Obama clears way for drilling off US coasts

By PHILIP ELLIOTT
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reversing a ban on oil drilling off most U.S. shores, President Barack Obama on Wednesday announced an expansive new policy that could put oil and natural gas platforms in waters along the southern Atlantic coastline, the eastern Gulf of Mexico and part of Alaska.

Speaking at Andrews air base outside Washington, Obama said, "This is not a decision that I've made lightly." He addressed the expected outcry from disappointed environmentalists by saying he had studied the issue for more than a year and concluded it was the right call given the nation's voracious thirst for energy and the need to produce jobs and keep American businesses competitive.

"We're announcing the expansion of offshore oil and gas exploration but in ways that balance the need to harness domestic energy resources and the need to protect America's

natural resources," Obama said, according to his prepared remarks released in advance by the White House. "This announcement is part of a broader strategy that will move us from an economy that runs on fossil fuels and foreign oil to one that relies more on homegrown fuels and clean energy. And the only way this transition will succeed is if it strengthens our economy in the short term and long term."

He added: "To fail to recognize this reality would be a mistake."

Obama made no secret of the fact that one factor in his decision was securing Republican support for a sweeping climate change bill that has languished in Congress. But Obama has long stated his support in favor of the "tough decision" to expand offshore drilling.

The plan modifies a ban that for more than 20 years has limited drilling along coastal areas other than the Gulf of Mexico. It allows new oil drilling off Virginia's shoreline and considers it for a large chunk of the Atlantic seaboard. At the same time, he's rejecting some new drilling sites that had been planned in Alaska.

UN to pursue Iran sanctions

By MATTHEW LEE
AND ROBERT BURNS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Six major world powers agreed Wednesday to begin putting together proposed new sanctions on Iran over its suspect nuclear program after China dropped its opposition.

China, long a holdout against fresh international penalties against Iran, signaled its willingness to consider a U.N. Security Council sanctions resolution.

"China has agreed to sit down and begin serious negotiations here in New York ... as a first step toward getting the entire U.N. Security Council on board with a tough sanctions regime against Iran," Susan Rice, the American ambassador to the U.N., told CNN.

"We're gratified that now we're going to get down to the

nuts and bolts of negotiations. That's what's necessary," Rice said. "We will be working intensively in the coming weeks to build the strongest possible agreement to a set of sanctions that will put real pressure on Iran and clarify the stark choice that it faces."

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and Germany, known as the "P5-plus-one," were unified.

"There will be a great deal of further consultation, not only among the P5-plus-one but other members of the Security Council and other member nations during the next weeks," Clinton told reporters at the United Nations.

China's change of position improves prospects for passing a resolution aimed at pressuring Iran to scale back its nuclear ambitions, which Tehran insists are limited to developing nuclear power for peaceful purposes.

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CHECK MATE



PHOTO BY SAM GREINADIER/The Daily Toreador

STEVEN STECH, A freshman with no declared major from Fredericksburg, and Surinder Aulakh, a freshman with an undeclared major from Euless, congratulate each other on a game well played Wednesday on the chess tables outside of the Student Union Building.

UN official expects no climate deal until 2011

AMSTERDAM (AP) — A new legal agreement committing nations around the world to curb greenhouse gas emissions is unlikely to be completed before the end of 2011, two years later than originally envisioned, the top U.N. climate official said Wednesday.

Yvo de Boer, executive secretary of the U.N. climate change secretariat, said countries need to restore confidence in U.N. negotiations following the dismal results of the Copenhagen summit in December, which ended in a vague agreement of principles and a pledge of finances for poor countries most threatened by climate change.

"There was a great deal of frustration at the end of the Copenhagen conference in terms of process," de Boer said in a conference call with reporters from his office in Bonn, Germany.

The next annual conference in Cancun, Mexico, beginning in November should get negotiations "back on track" among the 194 participating nations, with the aim of agreeing on the main elements that could be enshrined in a binding agreement a year later in South Africa, de Boer said.

"My hope is that Cancun will deliver what I had hoped Copenhagen would deliver," said de Boer, who is resigning July 1 after nearly three years in office.

Negotiators will convene in Bonn

next week for the first time since 120 heads of state and government met in the Danish capital. The weekend conference was expected to do little more than set a timetable for several more preparatory conferences leading up to the Cancun conference.

In talks in London, Britain proposed a possible two-track process for a new global emissions pact, in hopes of reviving the stalled talks.

The country's Energy and Climate Change Secretary Ed Miliband suggested that if nations continue to founder in negotiations on a single binding pact there could be two treaties, rather than one. Miliband suggested the 1997 Kyoto Protocol — an emissions reduction pact which is due to expire in 2012 — could be extended to set binding targets for the countries signed up to the process. A second treaty would cover countries who have never signed up to Kyoto, including the United States and China, he said.

"We are interested in trying to break the deadlock and find ways through some of the issues raised in Copenhagen," Miliband said Wednesday, as representatives including White House economic adviser Larry Summers met.

"We do not want to let a technical argument about whether we have one treaty or two derail the process. We are determined to show flexibility as long as

there is no undermining of environmental principles," Miliband said.

De Boer urged the negotiators at next week's Bonn meeting to stop discussing key issues in isolation and to take a holistic approach toward adapting to climate change, deforestation, transferring technology to poor countries and curbing carbon emissions.

Formal U.N. negotiations were set in motion in 2007 to reach a deal within two years that would succeed Kyoto, which set targets for 37 industrial countries to cut carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions blamed for raising the Earth's average temperature.

Scientists warn that global warming will cause disruptions in agriculture, increase water shortages and could lead to a dramatic rise in sea levels and coastal flooding if the arctic ice sheets melt.

The Copenhagen Accord, a three-page deal salvaged in the closing hours of the summit, set a goal of limiting global temperatures to less than a 2 degree Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) increase above preindustrial levels, but didn't say how that should be achieved. It pledged \$3 billion over the next three years for poor countries to adapt to climate change and asked countries to submit pledges for curbing their carbon emissions.

POLICE BLOTTER

Stolen vehicle recovered at Tech

- March 24**
7:40 a.m., medical call in Murdough Residence Hall.
8:20 a.m., accident without injuries in the Z6-A parking lot.
11:09 a.m., criminal mischief in the Rawls College of Business building.
1:20 p.m., theft of a computer in Holden Hall.
3:11 p.m., medical call in the 1000 block of Akron Avenue.
4:13 p.m., accident without injuries in the C-16 parking lot.
7:13 p.m., medical call in Murray Residence Hall.
9:11 p.m., criminal mischief in the Z3-E parking lot.
11:38 p.m., non-student arrested in the 400 block of Flint Avenue for an outstanding warrant in Brady.
- March 25**
1:14 a.m., fire alarm in the Chemistry building.
3:47 a.m., student arrested for driving while intoxicated in the Z6-A parking lot.
12:45 p.m., criminal trespass at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.
1:08 p.m., theft of exams in the Foreign Languages building.
1:35 p.m., verbal altercation between employees in the Gordon/Bledsoe Residence Hall dining room.
3:50 p.m., accident without injuries in the C-11 parking lot.
6:33 p.m., documentation of a potential gas leak in the Biology building.
- March 26**
1:46 a.m., public intoxication, possession of alcohol by a minor and possession of more than one valid driver's license in Chitwood Residence Hall.
1:59 a.m., public intoxication in Chitwood Residence Hall.
2:57 a.m., non-student arrested for an outstanding Lubbock County warrant and criminal trespass at the HSC.
11 a.m., criminal trespass in the Student Union Building.
11:45 a.m., unwanted phone calls at the Texas Tech Physicians' Medical Pavilion.
12:09 p.m., accident without injuries in the C-14 parking lot.
3:04 p.m., terroristic threat in the Z2-B parking lot.
5:39 p.m., theft of an iPhone at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.
7:34 p.m., criminal mischief to a vehicle in the F-2 parking lot.
8 p.m., public intoxication in the 1800 block of Flint Avenue.
- March 27**
3:37 a.m., criminal mischief in Murray Residence Hall.
4:50 a.m., criminal mischief in Weymouth Residence Hall.
1:54 p.m., criminal mischief in the Z4-P parking lot.
2:38 p.m., accident without injuries in the C-11 parking lot.
3:05 p.m., documentation of a student receiving unwanted electronic communication.
4:53 p.m., damage to a vehicle in the parking lot of the softball complex.
6:08 p.m., accident without injuries in the C-1 parking lot.
9:43 p.m., accident without injuries in the 3300 block of Fourth Street.
- 10 p.m., criminal mischief in Coleman Residence Hall.
- March 28**
2:29 a.m., driving under the influence of alcohol by a minor in the R-18 parking lot.
11:56 a.m., non-student arrested for an outstanding Lubbock County warrant and failure to identify in the 1400 block of Flint Avenue.
6:02 p.m., theft of an iPhone in the rec.
11:39 p.m., theft of a toilet paper dispenser and two exit signs in Wall Residence Hall.
- March 29**
12:38 p.m., theft of a TI-84 calculator in the Student Union Building.
4 p.m., recovery of a vehicle that was reported stolen from Tulsa, Okla., in the 2800 block of 19th Street.
- March 30**
9:57 a.m., accident without injuries in the 3500 block of 19th Street.
10 a.m., documentation of a family's concern about a student whom they had not had contact with in almost a month.
3:15 p.m., criminal mischief to three vehicles in the Z5-C parking lot.
4:21 p.m., theft of a portable radio in the University Library.
6:42 p.m., medical call in the rec Center.
- March 31**
1:36 a.m., theft of an exit sign in Weymouth Residence Hall.
2:06 a.m., non-student arrested for an outstanding Lubbock County warrant in the 1200 block of Flint Avenue.
»raiston.rollo@ttu.edu

NKorean defector calls for SKorea-US trade accord

WASHINGTON (AP) — The highest-ranking North Korean official ever to defect to South Korea said Wednesday that Washington and Seoul should settle a stalled free trade accord as a way to thwart the North's efforts to weaken their alliance.

Hwang Jang Yop, speaking to reporters and academics during a rare visit to Washington, also said he has no regrets about defecting from the North in 1997. He said the heavy security

under which he lives in South Korea to protect against assassination is better than "a life of servitude as a high-ranked slave" in the North.

"Everybody other than (leader) Kim Jong Il in North Korea are slaves, serfs," Hwang said through an interpreter.

Hwang, the North's former parliamentary speaker, said he decided to flee the North after Kim's policies led to mass starvation in the mid-1990s.

His visit to Washington comes as

negotiators work to restart international talks meant to rid the North of its nuclear weapons program.

The best way to isolate and frustrate the North, Hwang said at the Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank, is for the United States and South Korea to strengthen their sometimes rocky alliance by ratifying the free trade agreement that has languished since the countries signed it in 2007.

Lawmaker facing husband in election

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — An eastern Missouri lawmaker is facing an election challenge from her own husband, whom she accuses him of physical violence. He denies the allegations.

Democratic Rep. Linda Fischer obtained a protection order against John Fischer last week. Three days later, he filed as a Republican candidate for his wife's state House seat, becoming her only challenger in the November election a day before the filing deadline passed.

Linda Fischer said Wednesday that she was not going to question her husband's motives, refusing to say whether she believed he filed as retaliation.

"It is a political campaign, and that's how I look at it," said the first-term lawmaker from Bonne Terre, adding that it was unfortunate that elected officials' private lives are potential theater for disclosure.

Linda Fischer, 39, filed court documents Friday accusing her husband of grabbing her arms and waist to try to wrestle away her cell phone and of sending her harassing text messages. She said she was so afraid that she has been sleeping in her daughter's room with the door locked.

"John has made statements within the past week that after he gets done with me there won't be anything left but ashes," Linda Fischer wrote in the court filing seeking the protection order.

The order issued that same day in St. Francois County was the second she had sought against her husband. A protection order was granted to Linda Fischer against John Fischer by neighboring Jefferson County in October, but it was dismissed the next month.

John Fischer, 51, told The Associated Press on Wednesday that he had a verbal confrontation with his wife in March, but he denied any physical confrontation. He said he has asked for a polygraph test to determine if he is lying.

Happy Easter!

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OPINIONS

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THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010

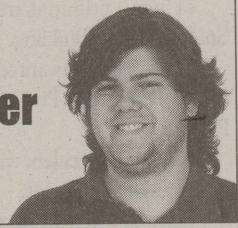
Death of local volunteer huge loss for city

I hope that we've all been lucky enough to know at least one person who always seemed so much better than the rest.

I'm not talking about through wealth or other earthly possessions, but those who are willing to help dedicate their time and energy to causes that make the world a better place for some in it. It can be done through many different ways, such as having a wonderfully positive outlook on life, working through charity or just being there when they're needed.

Last week, Lubbock lost one of these wonderful people. Evelyn Cash spent a majority of her 75 years on earth working to make things better for others. She was an extremely involved person, serving as a registered nurse, various music boards, Republican political organizations and three terms as president of the Hospice

Cole Shooter



of Lubbock Board of Directors.

For those who don't already know, Hospice of Lubbock is possibly one of the best charities anyone could hope to be involved with. The organization offers a certain type of physical and emotional care for terminally ill people and their families, which allows them to experience an improved quality of life at the end of their lives, often at the patient's own home or at other facilities.

Nobody is turned away for inability to pay, and the group hosts fundraisers regularly to help meet their needs. It takes a very special

type of person to deal with this type of grief all the time, and still keep their head up, knowing what they're doing is good for so many who may not have much left. Cash was that type of person.

I met Cash when I was in eighth grade or so, after participating in a fundraiser for the local Hospice organization. Despite the fact we were just some kids who had raised a few hundred dollars going door to door for the group, she talked to my organization as though we were adults (which is always nice) and stressed the impor-

tance of the work we had been doing, and the truly good works the proceeds we had raised would go toward.

"When such a selfless person goes on to their great rewards, I think it's good to consider the legacy that we'll leave as well."

Over the years, I got to know Cash and her husband Bob through choir at First United Methodist Church here in Lubbock, and I always was pleased to be around them. Cash had such a positive outlook and demeanor, and always seemed to be working constantly for one of the organizations with which she was involved.

About two years ago, Cash developed a cough which she first

thought to be fairly innocuous, but tests revealed that she had lung cancer. She had breast cancer in 1971, and despite a fairly poor prognosis, Cash beat the odds and lived to fight many more days. This time though, she found herself on the other side of the hospice care to which she dedicated much of her life. Even then, she still managed to keep her head up.

In a December 2009 interview with KCBD news, she said, "It's been a good life. And if it ends tomorrow, OK. It's been good, and I've been happy." Even while facing death, she handled life with an optimism that I'm still in awe of.

When such a selfless person goes on to their great rewards, I think it's good to consider the legacy that we'll leave as well. We shouldn't change who we are completely, but it never hurts to consider how what we do affects others, and try to make things a

bit better for those around us. Syndicated columnist Ellen Goodman, whose views are normally completely wrong, preached truth when she said, "I have never been especially impressed by the heroics of people who are convinced they are about to change the world. I am more awed by those who struggle to make one small difference after another."

Cash worked around pain and death regularly, and still managed to continue doing it because she knew that her work for these people was more important than any sadness she felt. Cash's legacy is cemented as being a wonderfully selfless and caring person who managed to find cheer throughout even the darkest of times. What will yours be?

Shooter is a senior political science major from Lubbock. >> cole.shooter@ttu.edu

Health legislation leaves many questions

After searching for more than an hour on possible topics for my column this week, I was left with fewer ideas than I started with.

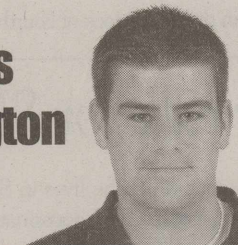
There already has been plenty of opinionated coverage by *The Daily Toreador* on the passage of the health care bill with an abundance of supporters, as well as critics, depending on which side of the aisle you tend to lean toward.

I have not had time to read the newest piece of legislation in enough detail to formulate a lengthy opinion on the issue.

Being a proud American, I put forth all my trust in our political leaders to do what is right for our country and what is best for our country. I have faith that they would not knowingly lead our great nation down a permanently destructive path from which we could not reverse or recover.

That is why I decided to take the time to offer valuable insight on behalf of those rightfully concerned Republicans, who are educated enough to respectfully disagree with the legislation, as well as give those in support of

Travis Ellington



the legislation a chance to think about the Conservative dismay.

Allow me to take this time to introduce some of the concerns "Conservatives" have over this piece of legislation. I have to put conservatives in quotations because it appears to be the last of a dying breed that will no longer exist based on the direction the Republican Party is headed with Sarah Palin as its catalyst.

In 1961, during the Operation Coffee Shop Campaign against socialized medicine, Ronald Reagan quoted House of Representa-

tive Aime Forand's statement, "If we can only break through and get our foot in the door, then we can extend the program after that."

This is a question for all those who are in support of this legislation. Do you feel like this is the "foot in the door" that Reagan warned us about nearly forty years ago?

I think that is the biggest concern of most of the people who oppose this legislation.

The possibilities are now endless for the government to control the lives of everyone they insure. This is a very slippery slope that people who look to the future are worried about.

How do you feel about the legislation forcing franchises to clearly state the amount of calories on the menu boards and drive-through displays so customers will be fully aware of the nutritional contents of the food they are preparing to eat?

At first, this doesn't seem like such a big deal, but what if years from now, they decide simply displaying the nutritional contents

is not enough and want to take this one step further? I am sure Starbucks is not happy about this little piece of legislation.

We have seen the whole idea behind displaying food contents evolve over time. There hasn't always been a label on everything you eat or drink to give the consumer an idea of how healthy or unhealthy an item is.

My number one concern is the constitutionality of the legislation. The 10th amendment clearly states; "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." I do not believe there is anything in the United States Constitution about providing health insurance to every legal citizen.

How do you feel about Congress ignoring the Bill of Rights to pass a piece of legislation that was neither delegated to the states nor voted on by the people?

I respect my fellow columnists who have done a great job voicing their opinions on these issues. As I stated before, I trust our leaders to do what is right for our country. Our leaders are some of the most intelligent men in the world.

These are just a few questions I have.

Ellington is a junior business major from Midland. >> travis.ellington@ttu.edu

Sight unseen, fans hear 'iPad' and think 'iWant'

SEATTLE (AP) — People who lined up to buy the first iPhone knew what they were paying hundreds of dollars for: a new cell phone that promised to be better. Apple Inc.'s newest gadget, the iPad tablet computer, falls into a category that's foreign to most people.

And yet plenty of them have already happily dropped \$500 or more for a device they've never seen, in the hopes it will be some previously unidentified missing link in their digital lifestyles.

"If Apple sold groceries, I would buy groceries from them," says Matthew Rice, who works for pharmaceutical company Merck & Co.

Apple won't say how many iPads it has sold in advance of their debut Saturday, and it's hard to predict how many enthusiasts will camp overnight and swamp Apple stores when the doors open Saturday at 9 a.m., as they did for last summer's launch of the most recent version of the iPhone. That happened even though people could "pre-order" the device, just as they can for the iPad.

Rice won't be ripping open any boxes Saturday, but only because he chose an \$829 iPad with a "3G" data connection, which won't ship until late April.

He has owned four iPhones and just about every model of iPod ever produced. He uses an iMac computer at home and a MacBook Air laptop on the road. He jokes about giving Apple his credit card number and having the company just ship new products as they're released. But despite his near-complete catalog of Apple goods, Rice can find holes for the iPad to fill.

It will be perfect for carting around PDF versions of scientific articles he needs to read for his job, he says. And Rice, an avid photographer, hopes it will be a way to hand people an "album" and let them flip through photos of his travels.

On Wednesday the Silicon Valley venture capital firm Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers said it is so excited about the iPad's potential that it is adding \$100 million to its fund for investing in developers

who make applications for Apple devices. The firm began its "iFund" two years ago with \$100 million and has invested in 14 companies.

Kleiner Perkins partner John Doerr, an early investor in Google Inc. and Amazon.com Inc., said the iPad is "going to rule the world. It feels like you are touching the future."

But even Doerr has trouble explaining why people already equipped with powerful laptops, lightweight netbooks and fancy mobile phones will feel compelled to buy an iPad. "I don't think you can anticipate the great new applications and uses that will be created," he said.

Not only Apple die-hards have been swept up in iPad hype. It has also turned the heads of folks who have been lukewarm on Apple gadgets.

Nick Braccia, a creative director at a digital advertising agency in San Francisco, uses a BlackBerry phone and music player that connects to the Rhapsody subscription service rather than Apple's iTunes.

"If anything, I was always kind of 'anti,'" Braccia says. "I get a little annoyed with people standing outside for an operating system update. I have no patience for rabid fan-boy-ness."

Braccia, 34, says he thought the iPad would be too expensive for him to even consider. When he learned that the starting price was \$499, he was sold. It didn't hurt that the iPad will come with electronic book-reading software, and can be used to replace the Nook e-book reader from Barnes & Noble Inc. his girlfriend monopolizes.

Braccia thinks he'll use his iPad for surfing the Web over morning coffee, for reading books and maybe watching movies. And he justifies it as a smart purchase for work, because his clients make video games.

"Professionally, I feel I should have at least one of those products in my pocket. Or my bag. Because an iPad isn't going to fit in my pocket," he says.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS
1 Start of a thrill-seeker's mantra
8 More of the mantra
15 Conductor's nickname
16 European car company with a prancing horse logo
17 Government heave-hos
18 "Million Dollar Baby" Oscar winner
19 Shoppe sign adjective
20 Set one's sights on, with "at"
22 Big ape
23 Artery; Abbr.
24 Poet who won the 1923 Nobel Prize for Literature
25 Juan's uncle
26 Piles
29 Reuben bread
30 Giant
32 Percentage on a bank sign
34 2007-'08 NBA Rookie of the Year
35 Trig, e.g.
37 Letter opening
38 Sounds of hesitation
41 Demure
42 Rotate, as a camera
43 Casual "I'll pass"
46 Floor exercise surface
47 "For a jolly..."
48 "Star Wars" saga nickname
49 Corrida shout
50 At the ready
52 Tablet alternative
54 Dungeons & Dragons creatures
55 Farmyard female
57 Kept
58 Banjo player
59 Step
61 Mason; asset management giant
62 Nabokov's title professor

DOWN
1 More of the mantra
2 Blamed
3 "Whatever you say, honey"
4 Bone; Pref.
5 Mountain West Conference athlete
6 Deck out
7 More optimistic
8 Decadent
9 Unlikely class presidents
10 Mine find
11 Hike
12 "Raging Bull" boxer
13 Shiraz resident
14 More of the mantra
21 Might
27 Kitchen spray
28 Hoards
30 Root vegetables

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

By Alex Boivent
63 Scorch slightly
64 Farmyard female
65 More of the mantra
66 More of the mantra
67 More of the mantra

4/1/10

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Springtime bringing back good vibrations

The serene spring season is about the aroma of fresh-cut grass and beautiful flowers all around our gorgeous Texas Tech campus. It's about baseball and sunshine. We become that much closer to summer vacation, and we can ponder upon the really fascinating mysteries the season brings, such as who will win the final spot in the pitching rotation for the Astros?

But spring also reminds us of rebirth and the seemingly newfound love for life that a bit more sun exposure can give you. For me, I get to break out of my seasonal depression and immediately sport a wide grin again, and I can also pop in some happy, colorful and above all hopeful tunes into my dashboard while I get to cruise around in my brand new ... er ... slightly used 2005 Chevy Malibu.

If, like me, you want to get excited about the new baseball season, or the pretty girls, or the end of school, then please check out my suggested top 10 all time songs (in no real order) for the spring season.

"Good Vibrations" by the Beach Boys — Some may tell me, "But Noel, this is a summer song." To which I'll respond, "In Houston you only get spring/summer for two months, and that's March and April. After that, you reach the fifth season of the Houston-area calendar year: hell." So let me enjoy this upbeat tune now, before my shirts become permanently ruined by a mixture of humidity and 110-degree sweat.

"How Bizarre" by OMC — My favorite one-hit wonder from 1996, I remember listening to this song on the radio in my garage as we played the most intense kickball games on the block in my front yard with neighbors.

"Mo' Money Mo' Problems" by Notorious B.I.G. — Nothing says happy, cool and carefree more than an overweight rapper with bling telling me about the direct graphical relationship between his money and his problems.

"Ride Wit' Me" by Nelly — It may just be me, but I'm pretty sure everyone dreamed about the warm spring weekend nights cruising around town in a convertible with the honeys all up in the back seat, right?

"Next Year" by Foo Fighters — Before college, there was this hilarious

Noel Bryant



and charming television show on NBC called "Ed." It was about a bowling alley owner/lawyer who comes back to his hometown to win back his high school crush. I watched every episode of that show one spring, and still to this day the Foo Fighters' "Next Year" (the show's theme song) conjures up many memories of good laughs in front of the tube that spring.

"Kate" by Ben Folds — I could have easily put "Rockin' the Suburbs" or a number of other upbeat piano driven Ben Folds pop classics, but this groovin' song about a special gal who is "everything I want" and yet "everything I'm not" has witty lines about daisies and dandelions and makes me want to frolic in a field of flowers.

"Sweet Caroline" by Neil Diamond — Five words: Boston Red Sox home games. Don't know what I mean? Google it. This song is part of a great tradition unbeknownst to me until my friend Zach enlightened me.

"Baba O'Riley" by the Who — I remember it as if it were yesterday. My friends and I, armed with a Spanish classical guitar and an electric keyboard, jammed to this song almost every day after class in the Tech Center in Seville, Spain, last spring. For obvious reasons, this song reminds me of joy and easy living in the spring time.

"Here Comes the Sun" by the Beatles — The mother of all happy springtime songs, this Beatles classic is not only fun and carefree, it also boasts of super nerdy and therefore musically awesome 11/8 and 7/8 time signatures.

"Ain't No Mountain High Enough" by Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell — This one doesn't really need explanation. It's the perfect spring getaway road-trip song.

■ Bryant is *The DT's* music critic. E-mail him at noel.bryant@ttu.edu

Audience pours in to witness first drag show at Texas Tech

By SARAH SCROGGINS
STAFF WRITER

Jonathan Martinez thought Lubbock was open-minded when he moved here eight months ago. Now, his perception has changed.

Martinez, a professional drag queen, said Lubbock is less accepting than he originally thought, but the Residence Halls Association and the Gay-Straight Alliance organizations at Texas Tech are working to change that.

"I think it's really cool that Tech is starting to do something different," said Martinez.

Martinez, also known as Geneva Lush, has been performing drag for almost three years. He started performing after one Halloween he dressed up as a Vegas showgirl and he realized how much fun it was for him to dress up. Now that he's been as drag queen for a while, he said he likes to switch up his character and take his time making them come to life.

"I'm very diverse in the songs that I do. One weekend you'll see me do a rock song with Mo-hawk and another I'm in an evening gown doing a slow Spanish song," Martinez said. "From start to finish, if I'm getting ready for a show, it can take me up to three hours to get ready."

RHA, GSA and Project CHAMPS hosted the first drag show at Tech on Wednesday night at the Frazier Alumni Pavilion to educate and entertain the community about homosexuality. Jesse Saldivar, a sophomore accounting major from Corpus Christi and the president of RHA, said the organization planned to set out about 150 chairs, but quickly added more as people came pouring in.



PHOTO BY SAM GRENIER/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S FIRST drag show, hosted by the Residence Halls Association, the Gay-Straight Alliance and Project CHAMPS, featured amateur and professional drag queens and kings.

Saldivar was the leader of this operation. The organization's members decided to try to include other organizations in dealing with diversity at Tech. He pitched the idea of a drag show to the GSA and it took off from there.

"I began contacting a number of different drag queens," Saldivar said. "We decided to add an amateur portion that would allow students to dress up as the opposite gender and

perform a song."

However, the show was developed for more than entertainment purposes. A group called Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, had a speaker at the show to explain and inform the audience about the hardships of homosexuality in Lubbock. Also in attendance to speak was the CHAMPS research com-

pany, which is best known for its research on AIDS in Lubbock.

Although the show was free to the public, CHAMPS accepted donations.

"We really wanted to raise awareness about diversity, so we didn't want it to be one sided," said Kimberly Stewart, a sophomore journalism major from Lubbock. "We wanted everyone to get the full experience of the life of a drag queen and drag king."

Ashley Liles, a sophomore nursing major from Katy, and Stewart performed as drag kings at the show. Their performance consisted of two other girls dancing to "Bye Bye Bye" by 'N Sync.

"I want the audience to have lots of fun, I want them to laugh and I want them to be entertained and enjoy being there," Saldivar said. "I also want the audience to understand that gay people are just as regular as any person on the planet. They deserve respect." >>>sarah.scroggins@ttu.edu

"I also want the audience to understand that gay people are just as regular as any person on the planet. They deserve respect."

JESSE SALDIVAR
TEXAS TECH STUDENT

Fools

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Even though he tries to change it up, Attilano said he's not against using some of the classic pranks. He believes the most successful prank he's pulled was wrapping a friend's car in cellophane.

He took the prank a little further by getting the keys to the car from the friend's mom and loading the car with random items for them to clean up after they finally got into their car.

"They were impressed we got the keys," Attilano said. "It wasn't too bad of a mess for them to clean up."

Although he wouldn't explain exactly what he may be planning for April Fools' Day, he said some people might want to check their mailboxes.

>>>sarah.scroggins@ttu.edu

5 EASY PRANKS

- Fill a manila folder with whipped cream or shaving cream, slide the open end under your friend's door and stomp on the other end of the folder to make the insides explode in the room.
- Take a little scoop out of your friend's deodorant and fill in the hole with cream cheese. No cream cheese? Place a thin layer of Icy Hot on your friend's deodorant, doorknob, toilet seat, pillowcase, etc.
- Staple 20 or more cups together, place them in front of your friend's bed or door, and fill them with water.
- Squeeze toothpaste into the toe part of your friend's socks.
- Block off a door with plastic wrap. When your friend tries to walk through, they will bounce off the wrap. This works on toilets as well.

SOURCE: prankspace.com

Sarah Palin show drops LL Cool J

NEW YORK (AP) — An upcoming Fox News Channel special hosted by Sarah Palin is titled "Real American Stories."

But rapper-actor LL Cool J says his participation in the show was bogus.

In response, the network has snipped him from the program.

In a Twitter posting late Tuesday, the entertainer wrote that "Fox lifted an old interview I gave in 2008 to someone else & are misrepresenting to the public in order to promote Sarah Palins Show. WOW."

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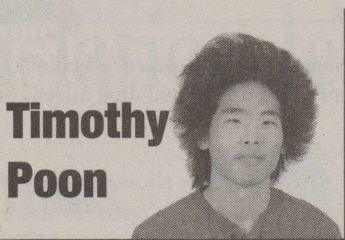
THE 7-DAY WEEKEND...

... because the Easter Bunny doesn't exist. We think.

<p>TODAY Fifth Annual International Talent and Fashion Show •Sure, you've been to a talent show, and maybe you've even been to a fashion show. But have you ever been to one that incorporates both talents and fashions from all over the world? Doubtful. Here's your chance as Students for Global Connections presents a show to thrill even the most seasoned globetrotter. And not the kind from Harlem. Your ticket purchase will help international students buy some furniture so they, too, can become couch potatoes. Just kidding, but they actually need furniture. WHEN: 7 p.m. WHERE: Lubbock High School Auditorium COST: \$4 with student ID</p>	<p>FRIDAY First Friday Art Trail •Oh the First Friday Art Trail. I (Electronic Media Editor Jon Arnold) must confess that I have never attended, despite overwhelmingly positive reviews from peers and a love of art. I suspect a lot of busy Tech students are the same way, but with the long weekend you have a perfect chance to right that wrong and check out the latest local creativity. Also, is it possible to find a more perfect storm for a date? Cheap and cultural, McDonald's can't compare. WHEN: 6 p.m. WHERE: Underwood Center COST: Free</p>	<p>SATURDAY 68th Annual ABC Pro Rodeo •The trailers have been parked outside the coliseum for few days, and the rodeo promises to be a (corny, old west-type adjective here) good time. So make sure you wear your (stereotypical Western attire) and (cliche about event enjoyment). If you're lucky, you'll even get to see a really good (rodeo event). Mad-Lib included free of charge; rodeo tickets are \$12. WHEN: 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. WHERE: City Bank Municipal Coliseum COST: \$12 at the door</p>	<p>SUNDAY Buffalo Springs Lake Easter Fiesta •Celebrate the risen Lord with a fiesta. Buffalo Springs Lake has one of the best radio advertising campaigns (If you haven't heard the radio jingles, you're truly missing out. They're not on Youtube. I've looked.) and is one of the best places to enjoy the outdoors. With the weather we've been having lately, you can bust out the paisley shorts and have an Easter to remember. WHEN: Noon WHERE: Buffalo Springs Lake COST: Adult day admission \$6</p>	<p>MONDAY Elisabeth Tonnard: The Man of the Crowd •This exhibit centers around an Edgar Allen Poe story. You have the day off of school, but this exhibit will give you the opportunity to still do something educational and intellectual. Your parents will be so proud, and your friends will envy you, even if they call you a nerd. But it's OK, we know you're not a nerd. WHEN: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. WHERE: Landmark Arts at the Texas Tech School of Art COST: Free</p>	<p>TUESDAY Laser Tag and Bumper Cars •Read the event name again. It's laser tag AND bumper cars. It's on campus. It's free. What qualms could you even have about this? The laser tag course is billed as a wrecked space station with fog and strobe lights. Plus, you've been wanting to shoot your roommate all semester. This is legal, and you can do it multiple times. Plus, after you shoot your roommate, you can give them whiplash in a bumper car. WHEN: Noon WHERE: Student Union Building Ballroom COST: Free</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY Charlie Todd: Founder of Improv Everywhere •Todd is the founder of the group which is known for brilliant pranks like sending a group of red-heads to protest Wendy's logo, crowding a bunch of shirtless dudes with normal body types into an Abercrombie and conducting a mass "freeze" in Grand Central Station. Todd has a book out, so if you're not funny and you want to be, Todd should be a teacher. And yes, we hear you muttering that we need to attend. Not cool. WHEN: 8 p.m. WHERE: SUB Allen Theatre COST: Free</p>
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Series of unfortunate events brings CLIQ XT to pocket

Due to karma, a puddle of water and a resultant malfunctioning phone with a penchant for engorging batteries to an alarming size and temperature, I finally left behind my rapidly aging BlackBerry 8320 and list a vacancy in my pocket.



Timothy Poon

Luckily, some other choice events happened to align with my Lemony Snicket series of mishaps, and I finagled a discounted Motorola CLIQ XT on its release day. So three to five business days later, I had a brand new phone.

Although the physical changes from the original CLIQ from November of last year were largely limited to nixing the slide-out keyboard for a more svelte profile, the XT's display still looks remarkably good for being just a 3.1" HVGA screen. It seems exceptionally crisp and manages to maintain its superb display qualities even in direct sunlight.

Its capacitive touchscreen, in combination with Motorola's MOTOBLUR version of Android, also works pretty well.

Under normal usage with just a few apps running at a time, things remain largely pleasant. However, if you leave programs running all willy-nilly, you probably will be unwillingly dropped into a force quit situation.

Having some of the more connected MOTOBLUR features going actually can be blamed for some battery issues as well as dips in performance. Under moderate daily usage involving about 15 minutes of talk, 40 text messages, and light gaming and Web browsing, I only managed to crank two to three days or so of juice out of the 1420 mAh battery.

I had to go through some customizations and a few menus to wrangle

everything back under control, but left unfettered.

Your contacts list seems to be especially connected, as if it were deadly imperative to make sure a person's latest Facebook picture appear next to his or her name.

Aside from the surprisingly good 5MP camera, the input options also stand apart as highlights on the XT. Included are a standard Android keyboard with haptic feedback and the Swype keyboard, which is now my input method of choice.

The best part is that since the XT is an Android phone, if there's anything you don't like, you can change it. If not you personally, there are plenty of apps in the Market that can fix whatever you like including a new media player, Twitter and Facebook apps, alternative browsers, and even different keyboards, although the stock options with the XT are generally excellent anyway.

Pretty much, if you have any software qualms, a fix is out there. Hardware-wise, you'll have to just live with it or wait for a Snapdragon option down the line like the HTC Desire, pending you don't get karma'd out of a working phone like me.

■ Poon is The DT's tech critic.
 >> timothy.poon@ttu.edu

Students pledge to stop using word incorrectly

By ALEXANDRA PEDRINI
 STAFF WRITER

The Best Buddies organization hosted a petition Wednesday outside the Student Union Building asking students to pledge to stop using the term retard in a derogatory way.

Best Buddies is an organization that pairs Texas Tech students with special need adults to essentially become their best buddy, said Gabi Franco, a sophomore exercise and sports sciences major from Round Rock.

Group members took part of the national campaign because they know how much it hurts their buddies when people use the word in a derogatory way, said Leah Clara, Best Buddies activities coordinator and sophomore early childhood education major from Houston.

"It's hurtful. We're not trying to end the word, just the use in a derogatory way," Franco said. "It's in the dictionary, and we get that but it's the way people use it is what this whole pledge is about."

The club wants people to use the term with a scientific meaning rather than using it to refer to something as dumb or stupid, Clara said.

"(People should) use it in a medical sense when you're saying that someone has mental retardation," she said.

The group had a large banner reading "spread the word," which students, faculty and anyone else

passing by was asked to sign as their pledge. The pledge shows Tech students have the self-control to stop using the word in a negative light, said Kayla Hudson, Best Buddies president and senior human development and family studies major from Odessa.

"It's not just the word retardation — lots of words are used to put people down and I think people understand that's not the right thing," Franco said.

After the group stops asking for pledges, they plan on hanging the sign in the Burkhardt Center for Autism Education and Research to show the community what students are trying to accomplish since many of them will appreciate the efforts, she said.

"I think if even only a few people come out of this not saying the word anymore, it's still making a difference," Clara said. "If someone stops saying it then they're going to say to someone else, 'Hey, stop saying that.' And it just keeps going and going."

The program pairs each student up with their buddy to help these people work on basic social skills. They will take them out to do simple things once a week like going to the grocery store or getting gas, which helps build these skills.

"They are some of the most amazing people you will ever meet," Clara said. "They have such an amazing outlook on life. They think of this as something that's probably a lot bigger to themselves."

By the end of their day, the group had more than 200 signatures. Once students realized that

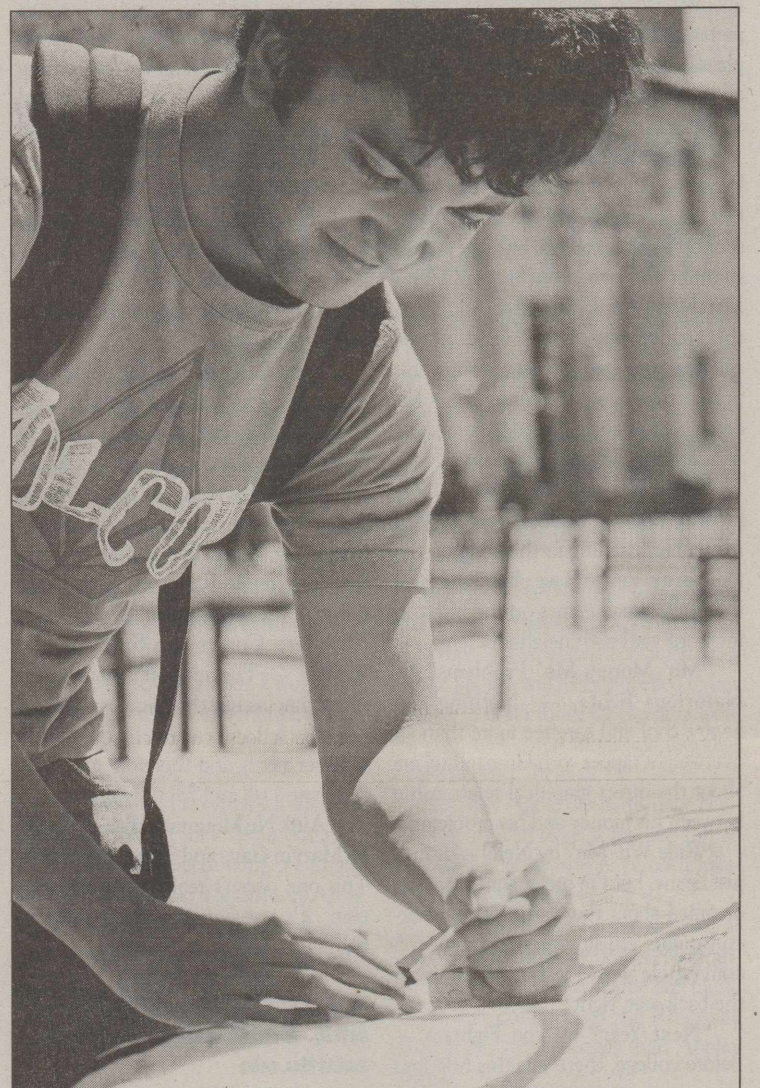


PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Toreador
 JORGE GOMEZ, A sophomore civil engineering major from Dallas, signs a banner Wednesday in the Free Speech Pavilion making a commitment to not use the word retard.

the group wasn't asking for money, they became more supportive of the cause, Hudson said.

"A lot of students understand how it feels even though they don't

have disabilities," she said. "These words can effect your life negatively and students who have been called this by their peers hurt as well."

>> alexandra.pedrini@ttu.edu

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SPORTS

PAGE 8
THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010

SPORTS SHORTS

Sweeney hits go-ahead RBI double in ninth for M's

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Mike Sweeney hit an RBI double off the top of the right-field wall with two outs in the top of the ninth inning and the Seattle Mariners beat the Texas Rangers 7-6 on Wednesday.

Willie Eyre walked Corey Pattern and Sweeney followed with his second double of the game. Sweeney finished 4 for 5 with three RBIs.

Texas Rangers starter Rich Harden

allowed four runs and eight hits over 4 2-3 innings and was pulled after giving up a double to Milton Bradley and RBI single to Sweeney in the top of the fifth.

He finished spring training with a 1-3 record and 9.67 ERA in six starts.

Michael Young hit his first home run and Josh Hamilton and Vladimir Guerrero each doubled for the Rangers.

Henin beats Wozniacki at Key Biscayne

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. (AP) — Justine Henin made another comeback Wednesday.

The former No. 1, playing her fourth tournament since coming out of retirement, rallied to beat No. 2-seeded Caroline Wozniacki 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-4 in the quarterfinals of the Sony Ericsson Open.

Henin lost only two of 22 service points in the final set, closing out the 2-hour, 45-minute match with a love game.

"I didn't play for two years, so it's good to be on the court a little bit longer," she said with a smile.

Henin's play steadied after she committed 31 unforced errors in the opening set. She said she struggled early with Wozniacki's wide variety of shots, including an occasional moon ball.

"She's really smart," Henin said. "She never hits two balls in the row with the same rhythm. She pushed me

to play and work a lot."

Andy Roddick advanced to the men's semifinals when he beat No. 33-seeded Nicolas Almagro 6-3, 6-3. Roddick committed only 10 unforced errors in 110 points, and he has yet to drop a set in four rounds.

"When play a lot of matches and kind of play a high level, it feels like everything kind of slows down a little bit," Roddick said. "Muscle memory takes over a little bit more. I think I'm at that stage right now. Unfortunately with tennis, you have to start over every day."

Roddick, the 2004 champion, will play Friday against the winner of Wednesday night's match between No. 4-seeded Rafael Nadal and No. 8 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga.

The quarterfinals went without No. 1-ranked Roger Federer, who lost to No. 16-seeded Tomas Berdych 6-4, 6-7 (3), 7-6 (6) in a fourth-round match that ended at 12:16 a.m. Wednesday.

Glaus, McCann lead Braves over Astros, 10-5

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Troy Glaus had three hits and three RBIs to lift his spring training batting average to .413, and the Atlanta Braves topped the Houston Astros 10-5 Wednesday in their final spring training game.

Brian McCann also drove in three runs, and rookie Jason Heyward and Martin Prado scored twice for the Braves. Derek Lowe

was charged with three runs and six hits with two walks in four innings. He struck out three.

Houston's Chris Johnson hit a two-run homer and finished with three RBIs, and Michael Bourn and Pedro Feliz both had two hits and a run scored. Wandy Rodriguez gave up nine runs and nine hits in 2 1-3 innings in his final start of the spring as his ERA ballooned to 12.10.

QB Sheffield out for spring

Potts leaves practice after cutting hand

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Steven Sheffield and Taylor Potts hoped this week would be another opportunity to determine Texas Tech's signal caller on Saturdays this fall.

But now, the two seniors are just trying to stay healthy.

The Red Raiders were hit by their first dilemma this spring when Tommy Tuberville announced Sheffield is expected to miss eight to 10 weeks after re-injuring his left foot in practice Monday when he stepped on a teammate's foot. Sheffield underwent surgery Wednesday morning on the same foot he injured against Nebraska in October.

A few hours after Tuberville broke the news about Sheffield, Potts left the field with a cut in between his fingers on his throwing hand. Tuberville said Potts hit his hand on a helmet, causing the cut. The cut requires stitches and could keep him out until the middle of next week.

"I've seen that happen to them," Tuberville said of Sheffield's injury. "They get a string of bad luck and hopefully this is all his. Maybe he's used it all in one year."

Tuberville said the senior had a screw replaced in his foot, and he should be ready by June, right before fall camp.

As far as coaches evaluating Sheffield and Potts, the injuries may come at an inopportune time. Tuberville said he plans on running a 40- to 50-play scrimmage Friday.

There are countless storylines as spring practice continues, but one of the most noteworthy may be the quarterback battle.

Potts and Sheffield virtually took turns at quarterback last year, with both players seeing significant time throughout the season. Potts was named starter at the beginning of the 2009 season, but a concussion in the New Mexico game stalled his season and Sheffield's walk-on-to-starter story took center stage.

But after helping Tech cruise past New Mexico and leading the Red Raiders in routs of Kansas State and Nebraska, Sheffield was sidelined with the injury.

Since the Oklahoma State game last year, the two have gone back and forth



PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH QUARTERBACK Taylor Potts throws a pass to running back Eric Stephens during spring practice. Potts left practice Wednesday after he cut his hand on the helmet of a teammate and Quarterback Steven Sheffield underwent surgery on his left foot Wednesday. Potts should be back some time next week while Sheffield is expected to be out for eight weeks.

View a related video at
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as starter, which has spilled into spring practices.

Coaches insist Sheffield's injury will not impact who wins the starting job. Tuberville said at the beginning of spring practices and on Wednesday that the battle at quarterback will go deep into two-a-days.

It was just Saturday when Sheffield impressed coaches by completing 18-of-25 passes for 222 yards and two touchdowns in Tech's first spring scrimmage. Potts was solid as well, completing 13-of-25 passes for 141 yards and a score.

"It's probably going to put us at a

standstill in terms of not knowing what Steven can do other than what we saw for about five practices," Tuberville said.

Now the spotlight is on redshirt freshman Jacob Karam and sophomore Seth Doege.

Tech offensive coordinator Neal Brown said first Doege, then Karam will take most of the reps in Friday's scrimmage.

Doege might be used to this after last season, when he started against Kansas. Although he didn't finish the game, he completed 14-of-28 passes for 159 yards and a touchdown.

"Doege and Karam are going to both get some reps and to be honest with you, that's a good thing," Tech offensive

coordinator Neal Brown said. "They need it. They need some work. So we'll roll them out there."

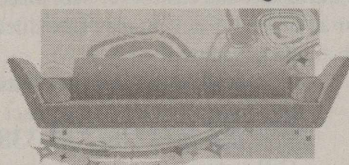
As a former Tech quarterback, inside receivers coach Sonny Cumbie knows what Sheffield is going through.

Cumbie said Sheffield's situation is a tough one, but considering the senior's experiences last season — and in his Tech career — he should come back with no problems.

"It gets you down a little bit," he said. "But he's overcame a lot. He was a walk-on. He was injured last year. He battled back, was able to play in the bowl game. He's tough mentally, and he'll be able to make it back."

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Twins' Span hits mom with foul ball

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Denard Span's mother settled into her box seat, surrounded by 20 family members and friends, to watch her son lead off for the Minnesota Twins.

Uh oh. Look out!
In a shocking split-second, Span hit a hard foul ball that struck his mom in the upper chest Wednesday. She was treated by paramedics and back in the stands minutes later.

"Tell everyone that I'm all right," Wanda Wilson told The Associated Press hours later by telephone. "Everyone was so worried, he was so worried. But I'm all right."

"We had just gotten there. It happened so fast, you couldn't do anything," she said. "I was kind of in awe. But God is good, I'm OK."

Wilson was wearing a Span jersey and sitting a few rows off the field, near the Twins' third-base dugout. In the first inning against the New York Yankees, Span took a late swing on the sixth pitch of the game and sent a line drive that hit his mother near the shoulder.

"As the ball was in the air, I realized that it was going after my mom," Span said after arriving back at Twins' headquarters in Fort Myers. "When I saw her go down, I just couldn't do nothing but go after her."

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