



### The Straight Six Band

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### O-line battles shape up

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THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010

VOLUME 84 ■ ISSUE 123

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION  
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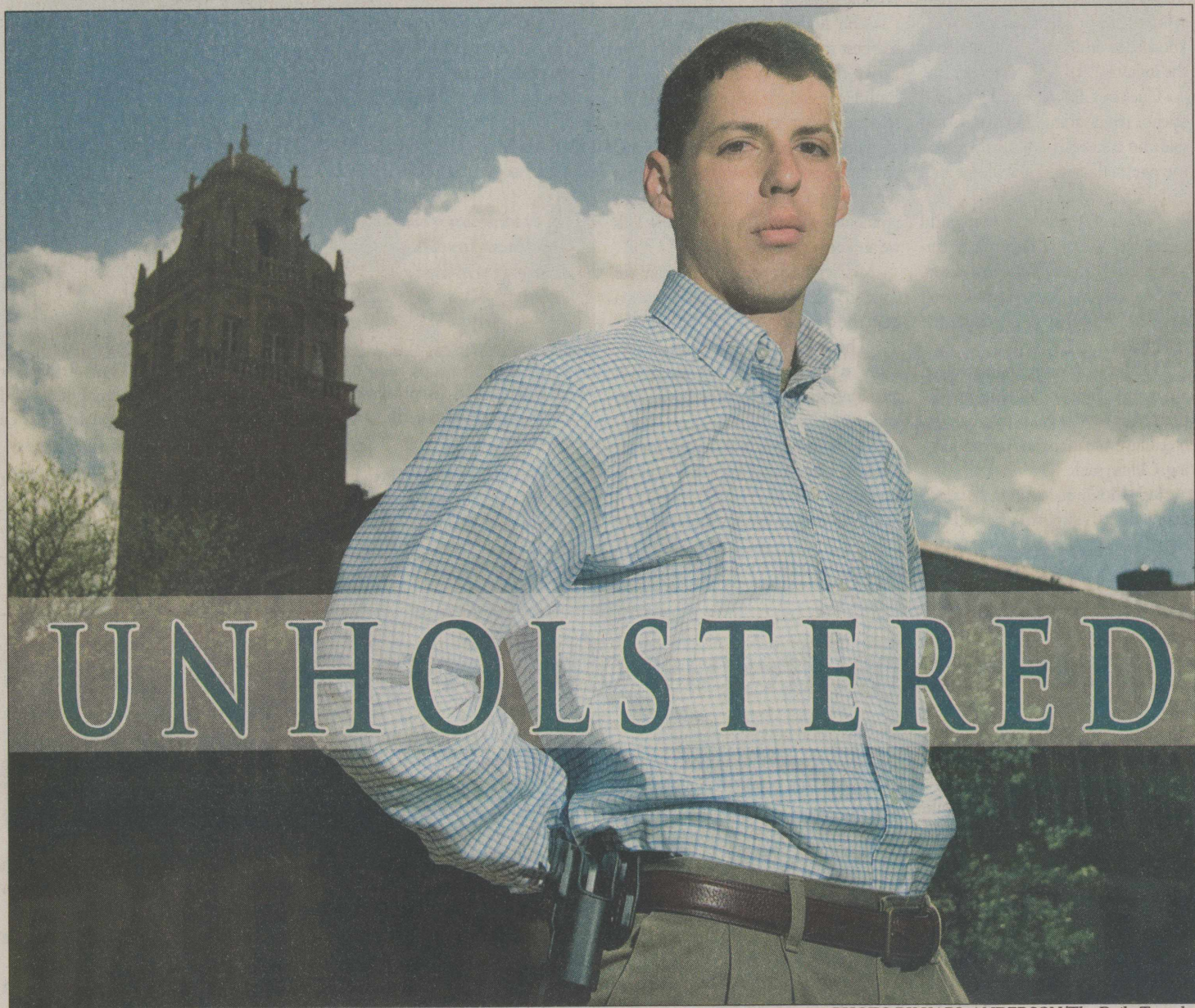


PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

PETER FARR, A graduate student in architecture from Big Sandy and a participant in the empty holster protest, poses in front of the Administration building with an empty holster.

## GSA turns Free Speech Area into living room

By ALEXANDRA PEDRINI  
STAFF WRITER

Trying to bring more awareness to Texas Tech students, the Gay-Straight Alliance hosted its Homosexual Acts Performed Here protest Wednesday outside of the Student Union Building to show people how gays and lesbians are no different than anyone else.

"(We're) just trying to break down the different stereotypes," said Ashley Rampy, a sophomore animal science major from Lubbock. "People think that gays and lesbians are very promiscuous and are a very different species. We're not; we're just like everybody else."

The group set up a living room scene in the Free Speech Area outside of the SUB where members performed everyday actions. They played on Facebook, did their homework, talked with friends and did everything except talk to the audience, said Nonnie Ouch, a sophomore sociology major from Arlington.

"(We're) catching people's interests without being too intimidating because it's not," said Sonia Jimenez, a freshman psychology and Spanish major from Lubbock. "It's our set up is what we do to catch people's attention."

Unlike its last protest, to which several students had a negative reaction, she said, there was only one major incident with a student who didn't appreciate their efforts. The student asked one of the members if the group didn't care that he is straight and why he should care the group's members are gay.

"The fact that (he) felt that (he) had to come over and react that way, and the hostility that (he) had, shows the reason why

we're here," Jimenez said.

The group chose to create this scene rather than do a typical protest because students have better reactions to unique and peaceful events, Ouch said.

"We're not trying to force anything on anyone. We're not trying to tell anyone to be gay or anything like that," she said. "We're trying to say we're here and we're just like you, and all we're asking for is a little acceptance."

She said the group did not do anything to "get in peoples' faces" and did nothing too different than any of the other organizations who also had booths in the Free Speech Area. Although the setup of the protest was different, members of the group handed out flyers and explained the event.

The group used this protest not only to attempt to broaden students' views about homosexuality, but to let people know there is a group on campus for people interested.

"It's nice to get out here in the Free Speech Area and if someone's passing through and having trouble and it's one of those days — this is perfect, we actually have an organization like this here," Jimenez said. "We can give them contact and information and a support group that (they) didn't have or didn't know was here."

Wednesday's protest is only part of the way the group is trying to make a difference in how people think about gays and lesbians. This process is like introducing a fish into new water, she said, slow and patient.

"You're here to get an education, and I think knowledge increases tolerances levels and because you're here to get that education, open your mind to everything else," Jimenez said.

alexandra.pedrini@ttu.edu



PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Toreador

THE GAY-STRAIGHT Alliance set up a scene Wednesday in the Free Speech Area to show that homosexual people are no different in everyday life than anyone else.

## Students protest concealed handgun policy

By RALSTON ROLLO  
STAFF WRITER

Members of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, a national organization devoted to the reform of concealed handgun policies on university campuses, is hosting a silent protest this week at Texas Tech.

Peter Farr, a first-year graduate student in architecture from Big Sandy and leader of the Tech chapter of SCCC, said the protest — called the Empty Holster Protest — began Monday and will continue through Friday.

In hosting the protest, he said, SCCC hopes to increase the public's awareness of the "emotionally-charged" issue of concealed carrying of handguns on campuses nationwide.

"We understand that there will always be opposition to (our cause), and we like to keep discussion based on facts and not emotions," he said. "I don't feel that those emotions, when brought to the table, can

help discussion."

Farr said if Tech allowed the licensed carrying of handguns inside buildings on campus, the risk for violent crime on campus would be reduced.

"God forbid we have something like the Virginia Tech shooting happen here, but those kind of things do happen," he said.

He said by allowing licensed individuals to carry concealed handguns on campus, Tech could deter violent crime.

Col. Gordon Hoffman, deputy chief of the Tech Police Department, said campus policy allows licensed carriers to exercise their right outside of campus buildings and on campus roads.

He said it is in no way illegal for an individual to carry an empty handgun holster anywhere on Tech's campus.

Farr said Tech's policy on concealed handguns defeats the purpose of carrying a handgun because he can only carry outdoors.

Since the state of Texas first enacted

concealed handgun laws in 1995, Farr said, three licensed carriers have been convicted of handgun-related crimes.

Of the nine universities and colleges that allow the carrying of concealed handguns on their campuses, Farr said, none have reported incidents of licensed individuals being convicted of handgun-related crimes.

Aside from the Empty Holster Protest, Farr said Tech's chapter of SCCC has two major goals involving concealed handgun policies: the reform of university policies and of state policies.

"(Owning and carrying a handgun) is something I enjoy doing," he said. "I want to be able to carry and exercise my right on campus."

Alexis Markwell, a freshman psychology major from Lubbock, said it would be unnecessary for Tech or any other university to allow licensed individuals to carry concealed handguns inside of buildings on campus.

HANDGUN continued on Page 3

## Tech Undergraduate Research Conference suffers from low attendance

By JOEANN BON-JORNO  
STAFF WRITER

Despite the Texas Tech Undergraduate Research Conference being expanded to almost a week-long event and having a number of new sessions added, student participation at the event last week ranged from none to five students per session.

Jeannie Diaz, director of the Center for Undergraduate Research, said more than 100 students presented research in poster or paper presentation formats representing multiple disciplines. The conference also included a variety of sessions for students and faculty to attend that focused on engaging undergraduates in research and guiding them through the research process.

Tech President Guy Bailey said it is a relatively new program and people need to be made aware of it. He

said undergraduate research is a launching pad toward graduate or medical school.

The Center of Undergraduate Research was formed in December 2009 under the Office of the Provost to engage the university community in undergraduate research initiatives.

"We need to get more undergraduate students involved and as more students participate it will increase the visibility," Bailey said.

Undergraduate research is an important part of the move to Tier One status, he said, and can be used as a tool for retention as well as recruiting purposes.

"The long-term goal is to have as many students participating in research as possible," Bailey said.

Peter Summers, an assistant professor of economics and geography, said he was supposed to teach the session on quantitative undergraduate research, but no students came to the session.

"I don't know why no one showed up," he said. "I hope it's not that no one is interested in quantitative research."

There was more publicity for the conference this year than last year, he said, but awareness still needs to be raised that these opportunities exist.

Arlene Paschel, an assistant librarian, said only one student attended the EndNote Web session she and other librarians hosted from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday in Library Room 150. The session was about a program that helps students create works cited pages correctly, and is offered on all public computers free of charge at Tech.

"There's such a fear of plagiarism these days, so I think this program is a great way for students to make sure to cite sources correctly," Paschel said.

She said she believes the low turnout is a result of students not knowing what EndNote Web is and how

it can help or even that it has been available to Tech students for two years.

"Every time I show someone how the program helps cite, they always seem really excited about it," Paschel said.

Stacey Jocoy, an assistant professor of musicology, said she taught two sessions, but still not many students showed up to either.

"We probably need to be more clear that attending conferences and workshops are just as important as going to your classes," Jocoy said.

Perhaps providing students with a school excuse to attend the event in the future will help to increase attendance levels, she said.

To learn more about the Center for Undergraduate Research, visit undergraduate.research.ttu.edu or Administration building Room 341.

joeann.bon-jorno@ttu.edu

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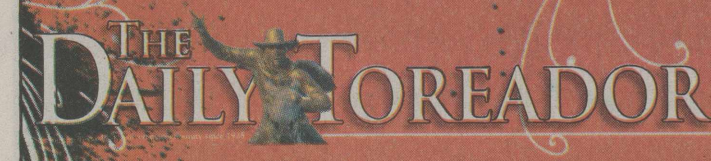
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**IN BRIEF**

**STATE**

**Feds announce arrest in east Texas explosives case**

DALLAS (AP) — A man was arrested Wednesday in connection with a series of explosives dropped in east Texas mailboxes during the past month, the same day two more suspicious devices were found, federal authorities said.

U.S. Attorney John M. Bales said an east Texas man was arrested without incident in Tyler, where another federal official said the latest suspected explosives were found. The makeup

of the latest devices wasn't immediately clear, said spokesman Tom Crowley of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Before Wednesday, authorities said they had found at least 14 explosive devices, including five pipe bombs. None of the devices has detonated and no injuries have been reported. Authorities have maintained there was no immediate threat to the public.

**NATION**

**Nearly half of US households escape fed income tax**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tax Day is a dreaded deadline for millions, but for nearly half of U.S. households it's simply somebody else's problem.

About 47 percent will pay no federal income taxes at all for 2009. Either their incomes were too low, or they qualified for enough credits, deductions and exemptions to eliminate their liability. That's according to projections by the Tax Policy Center, a Washington research organization.

Most people still are required to file returns by the April 15 deadline.

The penalty for skipping it is limited to the amount of taxes owed, but it's still almost always better to file: That's the only way to get a refund of all the income taxes withheld by employers.

In recent years, credits for low- and middle-income families have grown so much that a family of four making as much as \$50,000 will owe no federal income tax for 2009, as long as there are two children younger than 17, according to a separate analysis by the consulting firm Deloitte Tax.

**WORLD**

**Opposition says it leads Kyrgyzstan after uprising**

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan (AP) — Opposition leaders declared they had seized power in Kyrgyzstan, taking control of security headquarters, a state TV channel and other government buildings after clashes between police and protesters killed dozens in this Central Asian nation that houses a key U.S. air base.

President Kurmanbek Bakiyev, who came to power in a similar popular uprising five years ago, was said to have

fled to the southern city of Osh, and it was difficult to gauge how much of the impoverished, mountainous country the opposition controlled Wednesday.

"The security service and the Interior Ministry ... all of them are already under the management of new people," Rosa Otunbayeva, a former foreign minister who the opposition leaders said would head the interim government, told the Russian-language Mir TV channel.

**Correction**

In Wednesday's issue of *The Daily Toreador*, the article "Police debunk supposed internship hoax," should have stated that callers from Southwestern Company arranging information sessions about

internships to be hosted in Mass Communications building Room 282, represent a Tennessee-based business that recruits interns from Tech every year. *The DT* regrets the error.

**Meat Animal Evaluation team wins fourth title**

By **KATHERINE ROWE**  
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Meat Animal Evaluation team won its fourth consecutive National Meat Animal Evaluation Contest on March 26 in Stillwater, Okla.

Ryan Rathmann, the team coach, said Tech had not won the National Meat Animal Evaluation Contest until 2007. Since then, the team has won for the last four years.

"It's a two-day contest," Rathmann said. "The idea behind it is to try to get the students in the animal science-related field to demonstrate their knowledge on the live carcass side of the industry."

Chelsea Clifton, a junior animal science major from Kingfisher, Okla., said the contest is a fun way to test the team's skills and knowledge in a realistic setting.

"The contest is very real-world indicative," she said. "They use the current price for cattle, swine and sheep. In the end, you have to use common sense to know that you're doing the right thing."

The two-day competition involved a communications division, predictions of live cattle value post-harvest, breeding evaluations and carcass judging, Clifton said.

Josh McCann, an animal science major from Newport, Va., said the

combination of meat and livestock judging with industry-related classes make up the competition.

"All of the kids on our team have either been on a livestock judging team, a meats judging team or both," McCann said. "You take all of those skills and practice making live-animal evaluations where you predict carcass traits on a live animal and then they measure that to how close you are to getting those correct."

Rathmann said the success of the Tech team brings verification to the Department of Animal and Food Sciences and is a tool of promoting the school to possible recruits.

"Our student programs are some of the best in the country in terms of our agriculture undergraduate programs," Rathmann said. "It helps verify that our students are better trained than any other students in the other agricultural related programs across the country. I think that the judging contest serves as an excellent promotion point that you can show kids we are the best in those fields."

McCann said the reason the team has done so well is because of the dedication from the coaches.

"The reason we have been so successful is that our judges do a good job of preparing us for the contest," McCann said.

In addition to looking up to her coaches, Clifton said the team is like a big family.

"Everybody is really close," Clifton



FILE PHOTO/*The Daily Toreador*  
**MARK MILLER**, A professor with the department of Animal and Food Sciences, inspects a lamb carcass in the Gordon W. Davis Meat Science Laboratory.

said. "We support each other. I really admire the work ethic of the team and our coaches because that is something you're going to use later on down the road, not just in this contest."  
» katherine.rowe@ttu.edu

**POLICE BLOTTER**

**Repeat criminal trespass offender spotted on campus**

**March 31**

8:48 p.m., medical call from Coleman Residence Hall.

9:08 p.m., theft of automobile keys in the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

**April 1**

8:20 a.m., theft of a stereo from an automobile in the Z1-B parking lot.

10:00 a.m., theft of a cell phone in the Petroleum Engineering computer laboratory.

3:40 p.m., accident without injuries in the Tech Plaza parking lot.

5:32 p.m., accident without injuries in the C-1 parking lot.

6:16 p.m., disorderly conduct at

the Education building.

7:20 p.m., investigation of criminal trespassing that occurred March 31 in Holden Hall.

9:45 p.m., criminal mischief in Hulen Residence Hall.

11:27 p.m., possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia in Sneed Residence Hall.

**April 2**

9:30 a.m., criminal mischief in Murdough Residence Hall.

12:00 p.m., theft of a USB cable at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

2:45 p.m., documentation of damaged property in the Mechanical Engineering parking lot.

4:43 p.m., criminal mischief in Murdough Residence Hall.

**April 3**

4:06 a.m., sexual assault in Weymouth Residence Hall.

3:48 p.m., criminal trespassing in the B-2 parking lot at the HSC.

7:11 p.m., accident without injuries in the 1800 block of Indiana Avenue.

9:15 p.m., criminal mischief in Weymouth Residence Hall.

**April 4**

2:51 a.m., criminal mischief in Weymouth Residence Hall.

**April 5**

2:18 a.m., possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia in Hulen Residence Hall.

**April 6**

8:34 a.m., medical call from Knapp Residence Hall.

2:53 p.m., accident without injuries in the C-11 parking lot.

2:54 p.m., fictitious registration sticker and driving without a license in the 2400 block of 19th Street.

3:38 p.m., theft of a bicycle from the bicycle racks at Gordon Residence Hall.

8:00 p.m., criminal mischief to a vehicle in the Z5-A parking lot.

8:57 p.m., theft of an iPhone at the rec center.

**April 7**

1:02 a.m., odor of burned marijuana in Weymouth Residence Hall.

» ralston.rollo@ttu.edu

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## Four Tech students take stage at Bash's

The Straight Six Band is a band made up of three Texas Tech students and one alumnus. Kash Kothmann, an alumnus, plays guitar and does the vocals; Jess Thomison, a senior engineering major from Hutto, plays lead guitar; Terry Moore, a junior with no declared major from Garland, plays drums; and Ryan Mcfall, a junior mechanical engineering major from Garland, plays bass. Before the band's performance at 10 p.m. tonight at Bash Riprock's on 2419 Main St., *The DT* was given a history lesson.

### Tell me about The Straight Six Band.

Kash: We are The Straight Six Band. We just got together and started playing. Jess and I have known each other since middle school, and we've just been playing said, "Why not start a band? We enjoy doing this, and why not let other people enjoy it as well?" Then we picked up Terry — well I guess he kind of picked us up.

Terry: I put a marketplace ad on Facebook, drummer seeking band, and they were one of the first people, well Kash was, to contact me.

Kash: And then we tried to find a needle in a haystack. Trying to find a bass player. We went through a couple of guys and then Ryan, you kind of fell out of the sky, more or less.

Ryan: Yeah, I remember, I was living with Terry and I was doing homework and he bust into my room, "Hey we got a gig tomorrow, you want to play?" and I said, "Absolutely."

What got you making music together? I know you two knew each other, but what inspired you to start making music?

Jess: One day Kash just came up to me and I had been playing guitar for forever, and he just was like, "Hey man, I got some songs I wrote and I want you to put some lead behind them." So, I did. As far as Kash, I mean, what got you started?

Kash: You did really. Jess left a guitar at my house we had a camp out one time, a long time ago, it had to be freshman year in high school, or eight grade, something like that. We had a camp out and were playing songs here and there and he left it. I was like "Hey you left your guitar" and

## Q&A

he said "Ah keep it, I'll get it next time." I get to planking around on it and learned a few chords and I learned a couple of songs and started writing, I guess by the time I got to college, and it took off from there. We tinkered around and it just clicked. We kind of tried to create our own sound and ran with it.

### How would you describe your music to people who haven't heard you play?

Kash: I would say a healthy mix of rock, blues, country and whatever else we feel like playing. We haven't really picked a genre. I guess mostly Texas country; it got a heavy southern influence sound to it.

Jess: A rocked out, bluesy, Texas country.

Terry: Not overly produced with 18 singers singing behind you.

### Do you write your own songs?

Jess: Both.  
Kash: Yeah, we do both. It's about 60 to 70 percent covers and then 30 to 40 percent original.

Terry: You can't really make it big in Lubbock without doing covers because people have to know the song.

Kash: Nobody wants to hear your stuff unless your famous. That's just the way it is.

### What are the songs that you do write generally about?

Ryan: Beer.  
Kash: Alcohol.

Jess: Alcohol, heartbreak and ...  
Ryan: ... and women.

Kash: No, but we write about a bunch of different stuff. Like, women have a lot to do with it and beer has a lot to do with it. But all of them come from the heart, more or less.

Jess: Guns.

Kash: You wrote a song about guns, didn't we? We wrote a song about guns, didn't we?

### Who does most of the writing?



PHOTO BY MATT MOFFATT/*The Daily Toreador*

(FROM LEFT) RYAN Mcfall, a junior mechanical engineering major from Garland; Kash Kothmann, an alumnus from Hutto; Jess Thomison, a senior engineering major from Hutto; and Terry Moore, a junior with no declared major from Garland, comprise The Straight Six band, which will perform at 10 p.m. Thursday at Bash Riprock's by campus.

Kash: Both of us. We want to get (Terry and Ryan), but we haven't sat down and collaborated yet.

### Do you plan to or have you played outside of Lubbock?

Jess: Yep, I'm working to get some connections in College Station. I got some stuff set up down there with me playing acoustic for now. If I can set up more gigs than I have currently, then I can get the whole band down there.

Kash: Yeah, and he's got connections in the Austin area, doing shows there. And I'm starting to do acoustic shows around and open for so-and-so, you know, and then hopefully you get a headliner one night and on from there.

### Where did the name Straight Six come from?

Kash: This was your idea.

Jess: Yeah, me and Kash were just kind of talking about it. Straight Six was

kind of cool and at the time we had just written that song "Smokin' Gun" but, yeah. Straight Six is actually just a crappy motor.

Kash: And also, you said six straight strings on a guitar. We were Old Whiskey Road, but it had to many syllables so we had to shorten it down.

To listen to The Straight Six Band, go to [myspace.com/thestraightsixband](http://myspace.com/thestraightsixband) or type in The Straight Six Band in YouTube for videos of past shows.

Compiled by Sarah Scroggins  
» [sarah.scroggins@ttu.edu](mailto:sarah.scroggins@ttu.edu)

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## Handgun

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The only people that should carry handguns on campus are police officers," she said. "It's their job, and it's what they're trained to do."

Lance Covington, a sophomore exercise and sport sciences major from Henrietta, said he would be uncomfortable if Tech were to allow the licensed carrying of handguns

inside of buildings on campus. "Tech has its own security measures, so it isn't necessary," he said.

Chris Taylor, a sophomore nutri-

tional sciences major from O'Brien, said he was neutral about the issue but is concerned because not every licensed concealed handgun carrier is necessarily trustworthy.

The SCCC has a total of 30 chapters at various universities and colleges — including Tech — in Texas, according to its Web site.

"(All chapters of SCCC) are shooting in the same direction," Farr said. "No pun intended."

While Tech's chapter of SCCC is not yet an official student organization, Farr said he plans to file paperwork by May 2 and the chapter should be official in the fall.

» [ralston.rollo@ttu.edu](mailto:ralston.rollo@ttu.edu)

*"Tech has its own security measures, so it isn't necessary."*

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# OPINIONS

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THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010

## Obama's Russia treaty big step

Throughout the campaign trail President Barack Obama promised hope and change for a country that badly needed it. To date, unfortunately, he has not done much.

After going into office with a flurry of executive orders to create the change, including closing Guantanamo Bay and ending the global gag rule, he has not done much to enforce these changes and has succumbed to much pressure.

He has not gotten out of Iraq, he surged into Afghanistan, failed to get a public option, and continues to deny equality to gays and lesbians by not overturning the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy that bans gays and lesbians from serving openly in the greatest military in the world.

These failures seemed to be spilling over into the international arena as well. He was starting to lose the trust of the Israeli government, the Afghan president (while obviously not serious about it) threatened to join the Taliban, and many nations fail to see a difference between Obama and former President George W. Bush when it comes to foreign policy (mainly because there has not been any).

Until now.

Obama has struck a monumental nuclear deal with Russia to reduce the nuclear arsenals of the former cold war rivals. But what is more important is the effects this deal

**Paul Williamson**



will have on future dealings with Iran and Israel than it is with the actual treaty itself.

And for those of you who think this deal makes the United States weak, be quiet. The treaty still allows the United States to have 1,550 nukes, according to *The Washington Post*. If you think the nation needs more nukes to protect itself, you need a head examination.

Oh, from Iran? Yes, because they can reach the United States (that is sarcasm, FYI) and even if they do, they launch 10. We still can launch 500 and still have 1,000 left over for North Korea (and China).

But the true power of this deal

is that it sends a signal to Iran they no longer have as strong of an alliance with Russia. If the United States and Russia are able to gain strategic common ground, we can use this as leverage to get meaningful sanctions against Iran and gain momentum to deny Iranian proliferation.

Iran has used its relationship with Russia as a means to get away

from international pressure, but with summits coming up on the issue of nuclear arms control, this new deal will send a strong signal that Iran will not be able to develop without feeling the ramifications from the international community.

Obama pledged throughout his campaign to be a leader toward

global nuclear disarmament. Although this treaty does not get anywhere near that lofty and unrealistic goal, it gives the administration the international momentum it needs to create a rallying point

against not only Iran but North Korea and other nations threatening to develop nuclear weapons.

This deal also opens up doors for trust with the Israelis. By gaining this strategic alliance with Russia, Iran now feels more pressure to weaken their aggressive posture in the region, which Israel will welcome with open arms. You know, seeing how as Iran wants to wipe Israel off the map and what not.

Hey, I'd be scared of them, too.

There is no harm that comes from this treaty. The United States does not give up anything significant in terms of military posture or military prowess and we gain the ability to contain global threats.

It is that simple.

Now the treaty must go to the Senate for ratification where Republicans will use it for political posturing. I call on our senators to realize the strategic importance this treaty is for the United States in our future dealings with our allies. It is imperative we contain the Iranian threat.

Although change still seems unlikely, this treaty shows the Obama administration still has some tricks up its sleeve.

**Williamson is a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Crosby.**  
►► [paul.w.williamson@ttu.edu](mailto:paul.w.williamson@ttu.edu)

## Concept of marriage is distorted

By **JOSIE HO**  
UNIVERSITY DAILY KANSAN (U. KANSAS)

In China, it would seem way too early for someone of my age to talk about marriage. However, I'm in America, a country that is accustomed to early marriage.

Recently, people in my hometown were shocked to learn that several purported affairs between famous Hong Kong artists were true. The artists admitted during press conferences that they had secretly married. One couple disclosed they are now in the process of ending their four-year marriage.

Part of the controversy surrounding these recent revelations was just how out of place seemingly compulsive marriages are in China. To me, it was no surprise that in America, where quick Las Vegas-style weddings are not only heard of, but often glamorized, divorce is so common. It stands to reason that reckless marriages should die out as quickly as they first emerge.

According to the Americans for Divorce Reform estimation, 40 to 50 percent of marriages in the U.S. will end in divorce. By comparison, the 33.8 percent divorce rate in Hong Kong is relatively optimistic. And, even then, Hong Kong's rate is at an all-time high, as people are more open to western ideas.

Experts explain that a main reason of the high break-up rate in the U.S. is the individual freedom Americans so love to pursue. If love and family cannot bring people happiness and safety, some may reason that divorce is their

only choice. It seems to me that children and family members are not often taken into consideration in this self-centered objective.

On the contrary, China is a nation that stresses family ties and family responsibility. To many of us, the belief that "marriage is a matter of only two people" doesn't always apply. Instead, we realize that more people are influenced and affected by the success or failure of a relationship than the two.

Despite the cultural differences, the ever-changing social climate and the concept of relationships play a role in the maintenance of a marriage.

Generations of our past have frowned on divorce, but this generation seems to embrace it. This comes at seems to be merely paper.

However, the developments are not only for the worst. Could it be that people aren't losing faith in love, but rather we are just becoming more open-minded toward gender relations?

To some, divorce doesn't mean a loss of faith in love. Instead it just gives them a new hope for marriages of higher quality.

To me, marriage is a solemn decision for two people to enter another critical life stage together. Along with the ring, responsibilities are also slipped onto the hand. Although the mutual ties will be gone after the signature on the divorce agreement, a permanent scar will never be washed away.

So, think precisely before making any life-changing promises to your beloved; otherwise, a what may now seems to be a rosy romance could turn out to be a heart-breaker.

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The Daily Toreador welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be no longer than 300 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number, Social Security number and a description of university affiliation. Students should include year in school, major and hometown. We reserve the right to edit letters. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. All letters will be verified before they are published. Letters can be e-mailed to [dailytoreador@ttu.edu](mailto:dailytoreador@ttu.edu) or brought to 211 Student Media. Letters should be sent in before 3 p.m. to ensure the editors have enough time to verify and edit the submission.

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The Daily Toreador accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of

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La Ventana

# THE 7-DAY WEEKEND...

## ... because how often does Elton John come to Lubbock?

<p><b>TODAY</b> Wrap Your Campus in Purple</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take part in Wrap Your Campus in Purple week and support Relay for Life and cancer research. The Saddle Tramps will be decorating the campus — and the famed Will Rogers Statue — with purple crepe paper to commemorate the occasion.</li> </ul> <p><b>WHEN:</b> 6 p.m. <b>WHERE:</b> Will Rogers Statue <b>COST:</b> Free</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b> Rocket Man — the Greatest Hits Live</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't let Elton John burn out of fuel out there alone; support your favorite flamboyant musician with a style all his own and jewel-encrusted glasses as he performs in Lubbock for the first time.</li> </ul> <p><b>WHEN:</b> 8 p.m. <b>WHERE:</b> United Spirit Arena <b>COST:</b> Starting at \$47.50</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY</b> Retro Gaming Console Party</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This pixel-packed night of your favorite gaming systems including Segas, Super Nintendos and Ataris. Tournaments featuring games such as "Mario Kart 64," "Twisted Metal," "Super Smash Bros." and "GoldenEye 007" will have theme-related prizes for winners.</li> </ul> <p><b>WHEN:</b> 7 p.m. <b>WHERE:</b> Education Building Room 001 <b>COST:</b> Free</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY</b> Raider Red's Awesome Dance Spectacular</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check out the final showing of original pieces choreographed and performed by students. If the performances are anything like the ones in Raider Red's One-Act Play Spectacular, you aren't going to want to miss this.</li> </ul> <p><b>WHEN:</b> 2 p.m. <b>WHERE:</b> Charles E. Magedgen, Jr. Lab Theatre <b>COST:</b> \$5 with student ID</p>	<p><b>MONDAY</b> Zach Nichols</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What could be better than original musical stylings from an up-and-coming performer? Nichols will perform his set — including "Real World Brooklyn" — featured song "Dust in June" — in the open air and hopefully away from West Texas wind.</li> </ul> <p><b>WHEN:</b> Noon <b>WHERE:</b> Student Union Building Courtyard <b>COST:</b> Free</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY</b> "A Memory, a Monologue, a Rant &amp; a Prayer"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take part in Sexual Assault Awareness Month by attending the performance, sponsored by Lubbock's V-Day Coalition. Members of Lubbock and Texas Tech's community will perform pieces to show the influence of violence against women.</li> </ul> <p><b>WHEN:</b> 7 p.m. <b>WHERE:</b> Student Union Building Escondido Theatre <b>COST:</b> \$5</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> Alternative Fuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Let's be honest, how many times have you been to an improv performance? Tech's only improv troupe takes Bash's stage every Wednesday. Enjoy a cold one — or worse — as their fast-paced and free-thinking comedy keeps you in stitches all night.</li> </ul> <p><b>WHEN:</b> 8 p.m. <b>WHERE:</b> Bash Riprock's, 2419 Main St. <b>COST:</b> Free</p>
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# Adventures in Spain: Holy Week in Seville

Where to begin. I always have problems with this. It's been a few weeks since I have written a column, and so much has happened.

Last week was Holy Week as some of y'all may know, and it's a pretty big deal here in Seville. In my temporary home, Semana Santa means the entire city shuts down for a week while parades of floats supporting larger-than-life statues of Christ and Mary are carried down the streets on the shoulders of a group of men. It's a little difficult to explain and understand unless you have been here to witness it, but the few days I was here I loved it. The pasos are beautiful and decorated with gold, flowers and thick candles.

My words do not do the famous week justice, but I try. For the majority of the week, I was in Italy with Julianna and my friends Julie Hartsfield and Logan Bennett. We had a blast, and I cannot wait to get back to that gorgeous country.

Sometimes I cannot believe how incredibly blessed I am, when my vacations consist of traveling to ancient cities and seeing the pope, while I return to my home in Spain. It's unreal.

Because we did so incredibly much in Italy and I know you have better things to do than to sit and read about my life, I'll cut straight to the highlights.

My favorite part of the trip was getting the chance to see the pope and stand no more than two feet away from him, twice. We received passes for both viewings from the Pontifical North American College — the people there were so incredibly kind and helpful — and were able to make it to the audience Wednesday morning and the Christ Mass on Thursday in St. Peter's Basilica. The mass was two hours and said in Italian with Latin chants. Julianna and I sat next to our new friend Brother Michael who translated the pope's homily for me. This was after telling us he did not speak Italian fluently. Yeah, right. He hasn't heard my Spanish.

One thing I learned in Italy was that as a citizen of the United States who was not forced to take a foreign language continually in grade school, I am considerably less cultured than most of the people in that country. Most of the Italians whom we met spoke English and Spanish and Lord only knows what else. We even met a 9-year-old who spoke three languages.

We met him while touring Vatican City on Monday, right before entering the Sistine Chapel. What a breath-taking building. Even though the large crowd and



**Carrie Thornton**

loud collective mumbles from everyone was distracting, looking straight up at Michelangelo's incredible masterpiece was like nothing I had ever experienced before. I even nabbed a few pictures before being yelled at by a guard.

My favorite spot in Rome was the Trevi Fountain and the near and surrounding areas. Such amazing restaurants and gelaterias were scattered around the corners, and the fountain is simply gorgeous.

One day we took a day trip to Florence on the cheapest train we could find, which happened to be the old regional unit we affectionately nicknamed "the rege." Our relationship was primarily one-side, for the rege had bright florescent lights that never turned off, uncomfortable seats and took an hour longer to reach the city. But no worries, it was completely worth it. Florence is so beautiful.

I had some of the best gelato there and saw 17-foot-tall David. He is so huge, I seriously had no idea. The detail in the veins in his hands to his knees are remarkable, I cannot fathom how that is humanly possible.

Both cities housed two beautiful rivers, and the weather in Rome was perfect. We had a great visit, and even gained a few pounds from consuming large amounts of pizza, gelato and one meal of rich pasta. And I'm fine with that.

I also decided my favorite Italian word is "scusi," mostly because I didn't realize that was a real word, but something people just said as a joke in the states. My bad, Italians.

**Thornton is a DT reporter.**  
[carrie.thornton@ttu.edu](mailto:carrie.thornton@ttu.edu)

# Panel debates morality of abortion

By **BROOKE BELLOMY**  
STAFF WRITER

About 160 people gathered at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center on Wednesday to listen to two Lubbock community leaders debate the various issues surrounding abortion.

Joseph Bales, the president of the club that sponsored the debate, HSC for Life, said the debate was a good way to fulfill the club's mission, which is to support and promote life from conception until natural death. The second-year medical student said he was impressed by the audience turnout and hoped the people in attendance would continue to discuss what they heard and learned at the debate.

"I hope this will spark conversation and debate and get people to talk about when life begins," he said.

The two debaters were Deacon Leroy Behnke, anti-abortion proponent and director of communications for the Catholic Diocese of Lubbock, and Tony Thornton, abortion-rights supporter and president and CEO of Planned Parenthood Association of Lubbock.

The panel was first asked when abortions are considered morally appropriate or inappropriate.

Behnke said there are four types of

abortions: spontaneous and double-effect abortions, which are morally appropriate, and elective and therapeutic abortions, which are morally inappropriate. He said he defines spontaneous abortion as a natural and unintentional response to a pathological condition, such as a miscarriage. He defines a double-effect abortion as the consequential and undesired outcome of an otherwise well-intentioned act, such as a life-saving procedure on woman that, despite all efforts, results in the death of the child.

Behnke said he defines elective abortion as the intentional termination of a pregnancy for convenience, in response to trauma or to preserve an aspect of maternal health.

"Morality deals with whether actions are good or bad and right or wrong," he said. "Because they are never calculated to kill unborn babies, spontaneous and double-effect abortions are morally appropriate and intentional abortions are inappropriate."

Thornton said he agrees there are occasions in which an abortion is morally appropriate and occasions when it is morally inappropriate. He said when a woman vigilantly has considered all other options, her choice to have an abortion is morally appropriate.

Thornton said forcing or coercing a woman into having an abortion would be a morally inappropriate abortion. He also said it is not acceptable to use

abortion as a means of or substitute for birth control.

"(Planned Parenthood) would much rather prevent the need for abortion through education of birth control, contraceptives and reproductive health," Thornton said.

The panel also discussed its differing beliefs of at which point a conceptus — a fertilized egg, embryo or fetus — should obtain legal rights.

Thornton said he believes an individual should be granted legal rights when viability is established outside the uterus.

Behnke said he believed a conceptus should be granted governmental protections at the moment of conception.

"I believe the legal right to life comes with life itself," he said. "It's that simple."

Members of the audience said they appreciated both schools of thought being represented at the debate.

Wes Lane, a second-year medical student from Lubbock, said hearing both sides of the debate was important.

"Everyone has an opinion on the matter," he said. "It's important to hear both sides of any issue because it helps solidify your views and it encourages mutual respect."

Chase Cawyer, a second-year medical student from Lubbock, said his beliefs before the debate did not change after listening to the debate.

"I know what I believe," he said, "and although this debate did not sway my opinion one way or another, it is good to hear what others believe."

Thornton said Planned Parenthood is a greatly misunderstood organization.

"We aren't the evil baby killers that some people think we are," he said. "We are here to help the community and we would much rather prevent the need for abortion."

Behnke said he has a passion for sharing his beliefs about abortion to the public.

"I believe society needs to embrace sacrificial love, true justice and non-violent solutions," Behnke said.

[brooke.bellomy@ttu.edu](mailto:brooke.bellomy@ttu.edu)

*"We aren't the evil baby killers that some people think we are. We are here to help the community and we would much rather prevent the need for abortion."*

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**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**  
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

**ACROSS**

- Mus
- "Iron Chef America" chef
- Cat
- Trails
- Dickens's mysterious Mr. Dood
- Fidel's successor
- "Named Sue"
- Israeli ambassador
- Moshe
- Like some profs.
- Web links
- Uneasy about a farm team member?
- Michael Phelps sponsor
- "Dies"
- Humble
- Play footsie, say
- It may be up
- Plus
- Shoe part for Astaire
- Uneasy about a long shot?
- Maps
- Fair-hiring abbr.
- Hi or lo follower
- Flowers for Algernon" author
- Daniel
- "Analyze That" star
- Top-shelf
- Where Caligula reputedly tried to seat his 67-
- Across
- Uneasy about an aquarium fish?
- CBS part: Abbr.
- Roaming types
- Casual top
- Stock phrase
- Exploit
- Etonic competitor
- Peachy
- Wood shaper
- Appear dramatically
- Word to add to 20-, 37- and 54-
- Across to make sense of the answers
- 33 "hollers, ..."
- 34 matter
- 36 Believer
- 38 First three numbers, in some directories
- 39 "Not a problem!"
- 40 Cargo unit
- 45 Again, to Gaius
- 48 Talk out again
- 31 190 in Mass. et al.
- 32 Magic harp thief
- 51 According to
- 52 Dabbling ducks
- 53 Bogart's "High Sierra" role
- 54 Musical ending
- 55 Follow
- 56 Don Juan's mother
- 57 Random collection
- 58 Fire suppressant

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

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

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**He is risen!**

- Mark 16:6

Suggested Daily Prayers  
4:15 - Pr. 6:5, 6 + 4:16 - Pr. 6:16-8  
4:17 - Pr. 6:8-10 + 4:18 - Pr. 6:16 + 4:19 - Pr. 9:1, 14  
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# SPORTS

PAGE 6  
THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010

## Front and center: Seniors battle for position



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

SENIOR CENTER JUSTIN Keown works on blocking during an open spring practice Wednesday at Jones AT&T Stadium. He is expected to compete with Chris Olson for the center spot on the offensive line.



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

SENIOR CENTER CHRIS Olson works on blocking during an open spring practice Wednesday at Jones AT&T Stadium. After playing numerous positions on the offensive line last season, he is competing with Justin Keown for the starting spot at center this season.

### Olson, Keown fight to anchor offensive line

By MIKE GRAHAM  
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech offensive lineman Chris Olson could be one of the most valuable players on offense this upcoming season.

The 6-foot-5, 296-pound senior has experience at all five of the offensive line positions after spending spring practice sessions working at the center position — the only position he has not conquered.

Olson spent two years as a left tackle and spent a full season working at right guard and right tackle, but believes trying center is in the best interest of the team based on his game experience.

"I like having the leadership role on the offensive line," Olson said. "I like having to know what's going on with every play. Now I have to know everything and tell everyone else (on the offensive line) what to do and I kind of like that."

Olson practiced at center last season when other offensive linemen were injured or had class conflicts with practice, but he has little game experience with it, having only played some snaps at center in last season's win against Kansas State.

But with Olson having already played the other positions, and knowing the calls, he seems like a strong replacement for Shawn

Byrnes, who ran out of eligibility at the end of last season.

However, Olson is not going to inherit the position without competition.

Justin Keown, a 6-foot-4, 306-pound senior splits time with Olson in reps with the first team offense.

If Olson loses out to Keown for the starting center position, offensive line coach Matt Moore knows Olson is a capable role player for any other slot on the O-line.

"He's a real unselfish player," Moore said. "Right now I could put him at all five different positions. He's doing a good job at center, he and Keown are

battling it out at center. He's a team guy and wants to do what's best for the team, and he wants to win ball games. It helps to be a pretty smart guy, too."

As the starting left tackle last season, Olson was part of a group that allowed just 31 sacks in 669 passing attempts.

The move from left tackle to center by the coaching staff does not hurt Olson's feelings.

"As an O-lineman, or any player, you try to get on the field at any position you can," offensive lineman Lonnie Edwards

said. "(Olson is) intelligent at every position, so I don't think he's too hurt about that."

Olson and the rest of the offensive line have had to adjust to new schemes with the new coaching staff although Moore was retained from former head coach Mike Leach's staff.

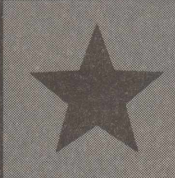
Olson said the offense, and the rest of his teammates, are handling the challenges well and so far, everyone has had a good spring.

And despite believing he has

had a productive spring thus far, Olson knows there is a lot of work left to be done if he wants to see the field this upcoming season.

"Nobody on the team has any starting spot locked down right now," Olson said. "We have all these new coaches coming in and they've really put it across us that they don't care what anybody did last year. I remember I wasn't told I was the starting left tackle until the day before the (first) game last season."

—michael.graham@ttu.edu



## THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

# COLLEGE TOUR

## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

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### TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010

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**KEYNOTE**  
**T. BOONE PICKENS** IN CONVERSATION WITH **EVAN SMITH**  
 9:30 - 11 A.M.  
 THE ALLEN THEATRE

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**THE TEXAS TRIBUNE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FAIR**  
 MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM NATIONAL, STATEWIDE, AND STUDENT COMMUNITY GROUPS;  
 REGISTER TO VOTE.  
 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.  
 THE CROSLIN ROOM IN THE TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

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**DIALOGUE**  
 TEXAS LAND COMMISSIONER **JERRY PATTERSON** AND  
 HIS DEMOCRATIC OPPONENT, FORMER STATE SENATOR **HECTOR URIBE**  
 2 - 3 P.M.  
 THE ALLEN THEATRE

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**DISCUSSION**  
 THE FUTURE OF JOURNALISM  
 WITH REPORTERS **REEVE HAMILTON, ELISE HU, AND MATT STILES**  
 3:30 - 5 P.M.  
 THE MASS COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING, ROOM 101

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# Wild West

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# Tech women's golf making strides under Robertson

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ  
STAFF WRITER

JoJo Robertson has had a successful career, considering her accomplishments as a player and her current run in the coaching ranks.

But looking at her family's background may reveal that, perhaps, she was born to succeed in the game of golf.

"I was lucky to come from a golfing family — a coaching family, really. Both of my parents are coaches and my brother is an assistant at Purdue," Robertson said. "Golf is pretty much our family life. Ever since I was eight, I was traveling around, playing in tournaments in the summer. My tournament experience is what helped me to win some of the tournaments because I was playing at such a young age."

Her brother Greg Robertson is the assistant head coach at Purdue, where JoJo spent five years as coach before being hired by Texas Tech in June. In her five years as the head coach of the Boilermakers, JoJo helped lead the program to four-straight top 10 finishes in the NCAA Championships including back-to-back runner-up finishes in 2007 and 2008.

In just her second year at Purdue, she led the program to a record-breaking season where the Boiler-

makers won six tournaments and made an appearance in the NCAA Championships.

Prior to her stint as the head coach at Purdue, JoJo served as an assistant professional at Purdue's Birk Boilermaker Golf Complex. Robertson spent the fall of 2004 as the coach of the West Lafayette High School girl's golf team in Indiana.

Because of the amount of experience JoJo brings to Tech, junior Alex Gibson said she wants to learn as much as she can and believes it won't be too long before JoJo lives up to her winning ways.

"I kind of wish I was here earlier so she could coach me a little bit more," she said. "I think she has good philosophies. She brings a lot to the table with her career. She was a good player herself, so she knows what we're going through. Maybe it's not going to happen right off the bat, but over time she's going to achieve a lot."

But a big part of JoJo's success as a coach may have to do with the fact that she used to be a player herself.

JoJo played her collegiate golf at Oklahoma State along with Greg. She earned Big 12 first-team honors during her senior year and helped OSU earn a team conference title.

Shortly after her college days ended, she began piling up honors



PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Treador

TEXAS TECH'S BEVERLY Mendoza attempts to get out of the bunker during practice Wednesday at The Rawls Golf Course.

as an amateur, including a ranking of No. 11 on *Golfweek* magazine's Female Amateur List in 1997 as well as being named one of the top 10 amateurs by *Golf Digest*.

The high points in her career probably took place in 1998, when JoJo made the Women's US Open cut and was a member on the United States Curtis Cup team.

With the numerous accolades, it's easier to see why JoJo has seen some success early on in her coaching career.

"She's a person I think all of us look up to," freshman Gabby Dominguez said. "We see that she's worked so hard to get where she's at now and we want to do the same

thing. Even though she's our coach, we still want to listen to her — all that stuff, because we know she can take us there."

Another reason JoJo came to Tech was to have the chance to be closer to her family.

Being in Lubbock has allowed the Roswell, N.M., native to work in a more familiar environment as opposed to living in West Lafayette, where the opportunity to see family was scarce.

But Robertson said she's felt right at home at Tech.

"I can't believe it's already been eight months into it," she said. "I've loved it, and I look forward to being here for quite a while. I can't imagine anything being any better than this.

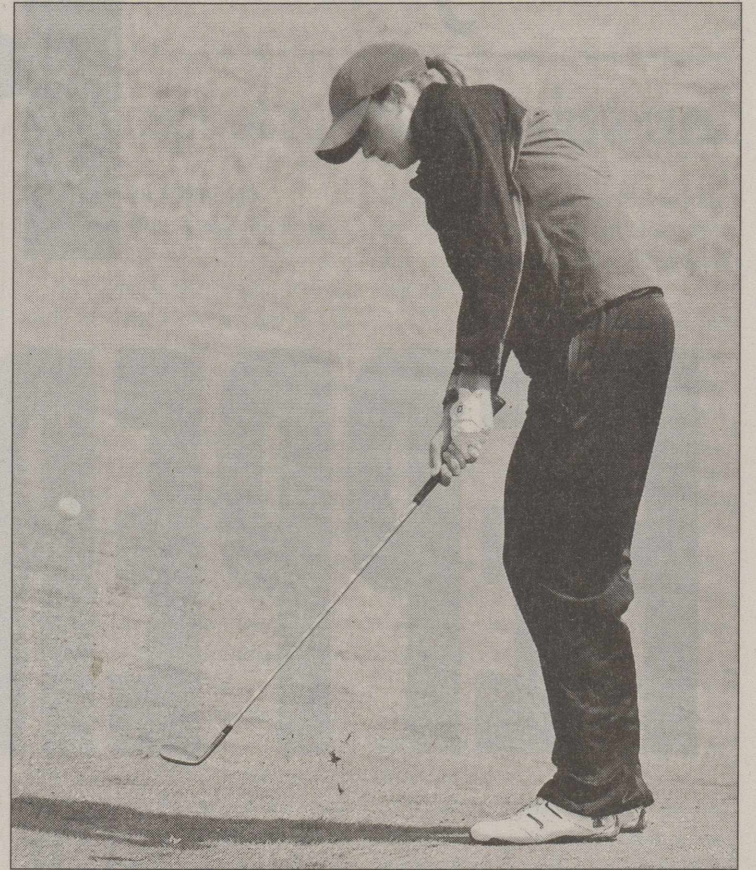


PHOTO BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Treador

KIM KAUFMAN practices Wednesday at The Rawls Golf Course. The Texas Tech women's golf team is preparing for the Baylor Invitational.

The athletic department has been great to me and it's so nice to have other coaches come in the office and check to see where we're going next and how we

finished at the last tournament. "It means so much to have support like that and the team's been great."

»» jose.l.rodriguez@ttu.edu

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## Giants sweep Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — With their pitching, the San Francisco Giants figure if they can get about three runs a game they should win on most days.

On Wednesday, they blew right past that mark, beating the Houston Astros 10-4 to complete a season-opening three-game sweep.

Edgar Renteria tied a career high with five hits to help the Giants to a 3-0 record for the first time since 2003, when they began with a sweep at San Diego and won seven straight. Houston last started 0-3 in 2007.

"When you come to the ballpark every day and feel like you've got a really good opportunity to win some games because of the guy who's on the hill, that's a good feeling," said Aaron Rowand, who had four of the Giants' 19 hits. "That's a confidence-builder in itself."

## Tech men's golf wants strong finish as Big 12 Championships approach

Texas Tech men's golf has just one more tune up before perhaps the biggest tournament of the year: the Big 12 Conference Championships.

Greg Sands and his Red Raiders might have the launching pad needed to finish strong after his team's fourth-place finish in the Morris Williams Intercollegiate earlier this week.

Despite finishing just six shots behind tourney winner No. 20 Georgia, five behind host No. 7 Texas and one shot behind No. 5 Texas A&M, Sands believes his team still has a lot to be proud of.

"With the way Texas played in the last day, we could've

played better — we could've won the tournament," Sands said. "But at the same time, we have so many positives that I don't want to dwell on what we didn't get done."

Of the many positives for No. 20 Tech, Nils Floren and Chris Ward's finishes may stand out the most.

Floren, who is ranked No. 8 in the country individually, shot his second even par round of the tourney with a 71 to match his showing Monday. Ward followed closely behind, finishing in sole possession of fourth place.

But the team has moved on and is beginning its preparation for the Aggie Invitational.

Sands said he wants his players to place a strong focus on two areas: Taking things one shot at a time and executing in the short game despite any weather conditions.

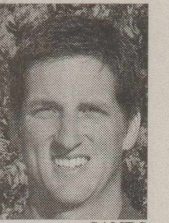
"What we've got to do is do

a good job of staying in the present — not remembering the shots we hit," he said. "Not thinking about the shots in the future, but really doing a good job with the shot at hand. We'll continue to work on that and also just work on short game. The great thing about Lubbock is we're able to work on a lot of wind shots."

The 2010 Aggie Invitational could serve as the perfect tune up before conference championships on April 23. Besides Tech and host Texas A&M, Texas, Baylor, Oklahoma State and Colorado have been invited to the tourney.

That tourney begins April 17 and ends April 18 in Bryan.

»» jose.l.rodriguez@ttu.edu



SANDS

Today's  
su | do | ku

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

Puzzles by PageFiller

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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.

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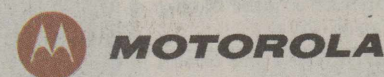


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