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TTU Holiday Tradition

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

Professor overcomes childhood adversity, succeeds as adult



PHOTOS BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

MEMBERS OF THE Texas Tech Combined Choirs perform Christmas carols during Carol of Lights on Friday.

Red Raiders enjoy 2010 edition of Carol of Lights on Friday night

By DEVIN SANCHEZ
STAFF WRITER

It's one of Texas Tech's oldest and most honored traditions. Every year, students, faculty, alumni, families and the Lubbock community brave the weather to attend. On Friday night, more than 21,000 Christmas lights were turned on to illuminate 15 buildings on campus at the 52nd Annual Carol of Lights.

Staying true to years past, there were appearances by Raider Red, the Masked Rider and Santa Claus. There

was music, caroling and the occasional yelling of "Raider Power" as the crowd waited patiently for the ceremony to begin. The event also took place on a Friday, which was a big hit with the crowd, especially since last year's Wednesday date made attendance more difficult.

Emilie Northrop, a junior public relations major from Keller, said she was very happy the event was changed back to the traditional day of Friday.

CAROL continued on Page 2 >>>

A SADDLE TRAMP carries his light sticks around Memorial Circle during Carol of Lights on Friday. An estimated 20,000 people were in attendance for the annual ceremony.

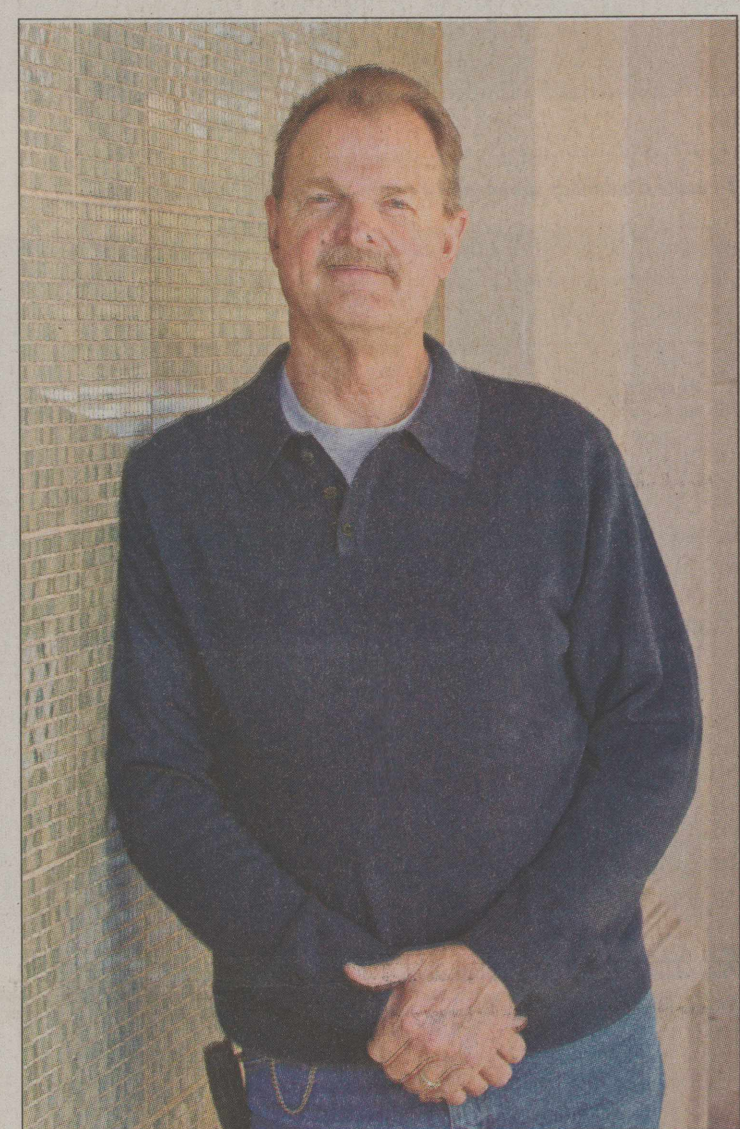
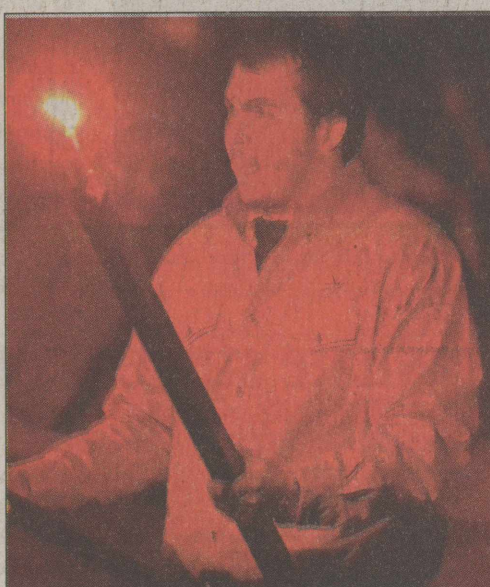


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

LOWELL LAY IS an instructor within the Information Systems and Quantitative Sciences department of Rawls College of Business Administration. He obtained master's and bachelor's degrees without having graduated high school.

Lay dropped out of HS before receiving degree

By CAROLINE COURTNEY
STAFF WRITER

The popular assumption is in order to get accepted to college, a student must make good grades in high school, receive high scores on an entrance exam and then graduate high school.

Lowell Lay proves it wrong.

Now a business instructor in the Rawls College of Business, Lay graduated from the University of Texas with a master's degree in business administration without ever receiving a high school diploma.

SUCCEEDS continued on Page 5 >>>

Tech talks fashion



Students share their winter fashion secrets with *The DT*



LA VIDA, PAGE 2

Tech football accepts invite to TicketCity Bowl

Red Raiders' game against Big Ten opponent slated for Jan. 1

By MIKE GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

After a couple of weeks of speculation regarding where Texas Tech football would play its bowl game, the Red Raiders officially accepted an invite to the inaugural TicketCity Bowl on Sunday and will play Northwestern from the Big Ten Conference.

The TicketCity Bowl game will be played Jan. 1 at the Cotton Bowl stadium in Dallas' Fair Park.

The selection guarantees Tech will play in its 11th consecutive bowl game.

"When you come to play football at Texas Tech, you expect to go to a bowl game, and we are thrilled to accept the invitation from Tom Starr and the Ticket City Bowl selection



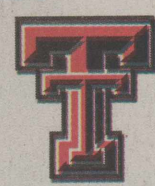
TUBERVILLE

TicketCity Bowl

Northwestern vs. Texas Tech



Matchup: Big Ten vs. Big 12
Date: Jan. 1
Time: 11 a.m.
Place: Cotton Bowl in Dallas
TV: ESPNU



committee," head coach Tommy Tuberville said. "Northwestern is a well-coached football team, and I have a tremendous amount of respect for coach (Pat) Fitzgerald. We are honored to be part of this game and to be able to play in front of our great fans in the

Dallas-Fort Worth area." Tuberville said playing in the TicketCity Bowl will allow the Red Raiders to get great exposure within the Metroplex - Tech's prime recruiting region.

BOWL continued on Page 5 >>>

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WEATHER

Today Mostly Cloudy
54/28

Tuesday Sunny
60/27

Cardone: Recent meeting exposes serious problems in SGA
OPINIONS, Pg. 4



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PHOTOS
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LA VIDA

Community Calendar

TODAY

Madrigal Dinner
Time: 7 p.m.
Where: Student Union Ballroom
So, what is it?
Texas Tech School of Music students will sing madrigal music and food will be served.

TTU Student-Athlete Talent Show
Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Where: Allen Theatre
So, what is it?
This event will showcase acts from most of the athletic department teams and will also feature performances by a group of talented Special Olympics athletes. All proceeds from this event will go to Special Olympics Texas. Price of admission is \$5 with a Tech ID.

TUESDAY

Texas Tech Women's Basketball vs. Northwestern St.
Time: 7 p.m.
Where: United Spirit Arena

Matador Singers Christmas
Time: 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Where: Legacy Great Hall, 14th Street and Avenue O
So, what is it?
The TTU Matador Singers will sing a concert of traditional Christmas music. Admission is free.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble
Time: 8 p.m.
Where: Hemmle Recital Hall
So, what is it?
Come enjoy the tunes of the Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

To make a calendar submission e-mail features@dailytoreador.com.

Events will be published either the day or the day before they take place. Submissions must be sent in by 4 p.m. on the preceding publication date.

Carol

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Last year, I had a chemistry test on Wednesday, and I was so upset," she said. "So I was really excited I was able to make it this year."

More than 20,000 people, students and Lubbock residents alike, were in attendance. And it seemed as if most were happy about the unusually warm weather for the event. Northrop expressed her appreciation for the unlikely temperature.

"It wasn't 15 degrees like every other year I've been here," she said. "It's nice to be able to focus on what's going on, rather than worrying about how cold you are."

The theme for this year's event was "Lighting a New Era," which was explained to the crowd by the Residence Hall Association's president, Loran Polson. Polson said the "New Era" was about the many changes the Tech community will be seeing, including a new sustainability office and an increase in enrollment numbers. As the crowd prepared for the lighting of campus, Polson had this to say to the attendees.

"Get your guns up as we light a new era," she said to a cheering audience.

As the crowd joined the Texas Tech Combined Choirs in singing "Silent Night," the lights were turned on.

Taylor Lynn is a freshman RHA senator from Fort Worth. Lynn, who is

a part of the programming committee that helps put Carol of Lights together, said there was so much time and money put into the event.

"We put a ton of work into this, meeting all the time to get things right," he said. "We also spent around \$7,000 on the event."

Another student who had their first Carol experience was Brittany Rose. Rose, a junior international business major from Lake Jackson, transferred to Tech from UTSA last year and said she was excited to start a new tradition.

"I loved seeing all the buildings light up; they look like gingerbread houses," Rose said. "This is definitely something I will come to after I graduate and have a family."

Casey Turle, a freshman computer engineering major from Houston, said tradition is something that should be upheld.

"It's one of the oldest traditions at Texas Tech, and it is such a big event," he said. "It's a great tradition not only for Texas Tech, but also for the Lubbock community."

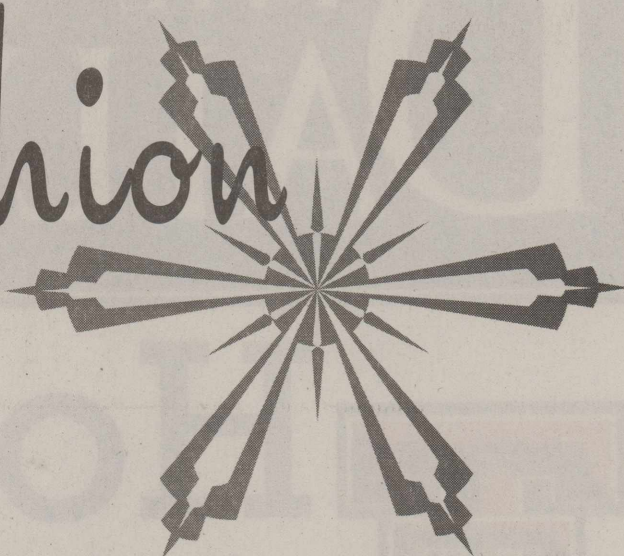
Northrop also sees the importance of Carol of the Lights to the Lubbock community as a whole.

"It's unique to our campus and to Lubbock," she said. "It is a welcoming event that gets everyone in the Christmas spirit."

The lights turn on everyday at 6:30 p.m. and will remain on the buildings until Jan. 3.

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Winter Fashion



Dressing for winter in the South Plains can be quite a challenge with frigid winds in the morning and warmer afternoons. Texas Tech students offer fashion advice on how to layer for the fluctuating West Texas temperatures, their favorite places to shop and things to buy this season.

WORD ON THE STREET



Manae Amaro, junior public relations major from San Antonio

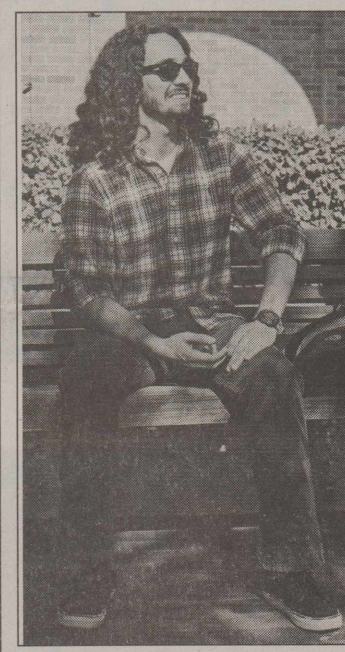
Tip for saving money on fashion:
"Forever 21 is affordable, so I would definitely go there. They always have what's 'in'. I read the magazines and go to Forever 21, and they have it."

On dressing for winter:
"You can always go with Uggs and leggings and always look cute. I'm wearing a T-shirt with them right now and it's still 'in.'"

Paige Paris, sophomore communication studies major from Flower Mound

Favorite place in Lubbock to shop:
"I really like TC Ellis. I feel like it's affordable, and I can always find something really great and fashionable."

Favorite clothing item this season:
"I really like the one shoulder long-sleeved dresses. I feel like you can wear it with boots and stockings."



Sebastian Gomez, junior mechanical engineering major from Katy

Favorite place to shop:
"I get all my clothes at home at Urban Outfitters or thrift stores in Houston."

Favorite clothing item for winter: "I have this brown leather jacket I got in Europe this summer studying mechanical engineering courses. It's the warmest thing I've ever bought."

Brandon Reece-Miller, junior music performance major from Lubbock

Favorite place to shop in Lubbock: "Chrome. They have a bigger variety. They carry up and coming designers."

On dressing for winter: "Layer, especially in Lubbock because the temperature fluctuates so much. That's why I bought this sweater. It's functional; it's light. It kind of looks like a jacket, but it's actually a sweater."

Favorite clothing item this season: "Scarves ... You can use them to create anything, to accent colors. Winter clothes are often drab colors, and you can add to any outfit simply with a scarf."



COMPILED BY BRITTANY HOOVER/The Daily Toreador

Graduate student organization provides support system

By DEVIN SANCHEZ
STAFF WRITER

With a wide variety of student organizations on campus for undergraduates, sometimes graduate students fall through the cracks. A group of Human Development and Family Studies graduate students are working to change this with the HDFS Graduate Student Association.

"There just aren't a whole lot of resources for graduate students," said Katharine Gerst, the organization's secretary and a HDFS graduate student from Michigan. "And it is really common for graduate students to relocate to a different school for grad school, and it can be hard to start all over again."

The organization is reevaluating its purpose and rebuilding this year, hoping to provide a place for graduate students to come together and work toward common goals while meeting others with the

same major.

President Andrea Parker, a HDFS graduate student from Plano, agrees with Gerst on the lack of organizations for graduate students in comparison to undergraduate students and said the HDFS group can be a place of comfort for grad students.

"During undergrad, it is more likely that you go to school with people you know from your hometown or something," Parker said. "So this is just a good opportunity for grad students to get to know each other and get to know the program better."

Currently, the organization has 19 members, including four officers. Parker said about half of the members are in family studies, while the other half are studying human development. She said the number of students on each track determines the type of activities the group pursues.

"There isn't a main conference we all go to," she said. "There is the National Conference on Family Relations and there is the Society for Research and Child Development annual meeting, and about half of us go to each conference."

As with most student organizations, there are certain service projects and social events members are expected to be a part of. The group conducted a garage sale in October as a fundraiser and donated the leftover items to Salvation Army. On Friday, the organization hosted a pre-Carol of Lights get together, which was open to all HDFS graduate students and their families, not just members of the organization, Parker said.

"We have really been trying to provide more opportunities for our members to get involved," she said. "But it is a rebuilding year for us, so it will

probably take a while to get us where I would like us to be."

There are a lot of new ventures both Parker and Gerst want to start up for their organization, including a mentor program and a play group for students with children.

The mentor program would match an incoming graduate student with an older student, Gerst said.

"We did it last year, but this year we really want to get it going," she said. "It will provide someone to answer the new student's questions on anything about the program."

Both officers know the stresses associated with graduate school, which is why they feel their organization is one that is really beneficial to its members.

"It really is just a support system," Gerst said. "We just want to help each other out."

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