

Officials discuss residence hall options

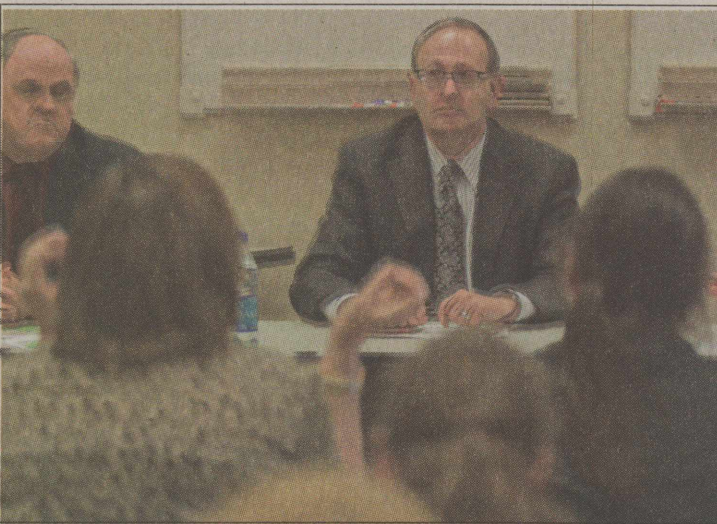


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador
 MICHAEL SHONROCK, SENIOR vice president for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, talks to and gathers ideas from students Thursday in the Leadership Development Center at Carpenter/Wells about possible parking situations around the new residence hall to be built on campus.

Shonrock, Duggan, Bennett meet with RH Association

By KASSIDY KETRON
 STAFF WRITER
 Texas Tech's tier-one status goal brings with it more students and a greater need for more student housing.

On Thursday Michael Shonrock, senior vice president for enrollment and student affairs; Sean Duggan, managing director of university student housing; and Samuel Bennett, assistant vice president for enrollment management and student affairs met with the Residence Hall Association to discuss different options for the new residence hall.

The construction of the building will be similar to Murray Hall, a suite-style residence, Duggan said. Tech also will use many of the same companies that helped build Murray in the same time period.

"We currently have about 6,500 to 6,600 beds," Duggan said. "So this will take us to 7,000. The reason that's a big number is that when we opened this year the staff had roommates, and they usually don't have roommates."

Loran Polson, a junior theater major from Sundown and president of the RHA, said the new residence hall is necessary because the community advisers had to have roommates, which has not previously been a problem.

Polson said she would like to see the new residence hall give students the opportunity to

have a more personal learning space comparable to the "blue room" in Wall/Gates that caters to music and theater majors.

"I think the new housing is great," she said. "I think it's great that the administration has approved it, and I can't wait to see it go up."

During the meeting, RHA members were encouraged to ask questions, provide feedback and bring new ideas to the table for the new residence hall and all that comes with it.

Shonrock said that in the last two years, Tech has grown from about 28,500 students to about 31,500, creating the need not only for more living space, but parking spaces as well.

Shonrock said he hopes to create and maintain convenient parking that also will be cost-efficient for students, faculty and staff.

"I want to get a sense of, 'What's the best strategy for providing on-campus parking for Texas Tech University?'" Shonrock said. "As you enroll more students, you enroll more faculty and staff."

HALLS continued on Page 2 >>>

New bill could reduce minor pot possession to Class C misdemeanor

By TRAVIS BURKETT
 STAFF WRITER

A new bill, H.B. 548, has been brought before the Texas legislature with the goal of reducing penalties for possession of a small amount of marijuana.

According to the act, the penalty for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana would be changed from a Class B misdemeanor to a lesser Class C misdemeanor.

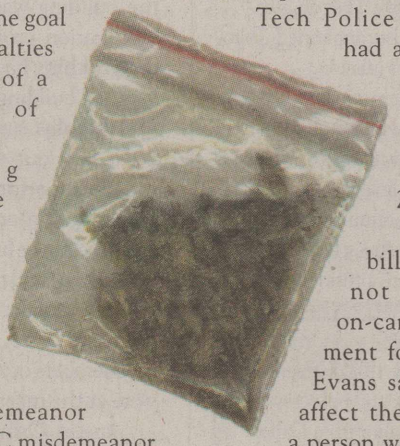
The difference in the two is, unlike Class B, a Class C misdemeanor carries with it no jail

time, usually only a fine of up to \$500.

Kenny Evans, deputy chief of police with the Texas Tech Police Department, said the Texas Tech Police Department had approximately 74 cases of marijuana possession on campus in 2010.

While the bill probably will not change any on-campus punishment for possession, Evans said, it would affect the punishment a person would face in a court of law.

BILL continued on Page 2 >>>



Just Dance, Page 3



PHOTOS BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador



The Annual DanceTech: Artistry in Motion production runs through Sunday and exhibits original work created by Texas Tech students and faculty. Students have the opportunity to gain free entry to the event. LA VIDA, Page 3

Women's advocacy group educates females, males

Goal: Advance equity with education

By ROCIO RODRIGUEZ
 STAFF WRITER

Female empowerment has continued to grow since the women's suffrage movement began and the debates of equality between men and women opened.

Elizabeth Onasanya is the president of the American Association of University Women and a biochemistry major from Colleyville.

"The American Association of

University Women is a group of girls that gather together to celebrate women, celebrate their accomplishments and their triumphs," said the junior. "We advance equity for women through advocacy of young girls and women in education."

Onasanya intends to make women's issues apparent to both men and women on the Texas Tech campus, she said.

GROUP continued on Page 2 >>>

SGA meets with HSC for annual joint congress session

Issues discussed include Scantron vending machines, new program

By STEPHEN GIPSON
 STAFF WRITER

Student Government Associations from Texas Tech and the University Health Sciences Center met Thursday for the annual joint

congress session to discuss campus issues.

Geoffrey Lowe, president of the Health Sciences Center SGA, said the meeting's main goal is to build relationships and learn from each other's administration.

Phillip Gall, vice president of finance for the HSC SGA, said he sees the meeting as a way to connect with the other side of the campus.

"We are kind of divided by the highway. It does separate our campuses physically, but also because our programs are so different there is not a lot of interaction between campuses," Gall said. "This way we bring everybody together, and

it kind of fosters an environment where we can foster programs that not only affect one campus but the whole system."


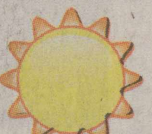
Lowe said the main goal for his administration this semester is expanding the bone marrow registration. This semester HSC will host a bone marrow registry drive.

SGA continued on Page 2 >>>

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WEATHER

Today	Sunny	Saturday	Sunny
	72/31		72/31

The tragedies of missing class ... IN THIS WEEK'S **WASTOIDS** Pg. 4

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THE DAILY TOREADOR

Community Calendar

TODAY

Monster X
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Lubbock Civic Center
So, what is it?
Monster trucks are roaring back into Hub City with a two-day event starting Friday. Prices range from \$19.75 to \$29 for adults.

SATURDAY

Concealed handgun-Licensing Course
Time: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Where: SUB Senate Room
So, what is it?
TECHsans for Concealed Carry on Campus is pleased to be hosting a concealed handgun-licensing course. Students, faculty and staff pay the only \$45. The class includes everything from the training to the gun rental, ammunition, fingerprinting and notary.

Red Raiders vs. Oklahoma State

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.

Time: 3 p.m.
Where: United Spirit Arena
So, what is it?
Watch the Tech men's basketball team play the Cowboys. "Like" the Texas Tech Athletic Department Facebook page and "follow" the department on Twitter for special offers.

SUNDAY

Celtic Ensemble Winter Concert
Time: 7 p.m.
Where: The Legacy
So, what is it?
An Irish country ceili: Mid-winter in the West of Ireland: songs, tunes, dances, and stories.

Wade Bowen
Time: 10 p.m.
Where: Wild West
So, what is it?
Bowen is already a familiar and awarded name in music, performing along the active touring highways of Texas and the Southwest.

SERIOUS STUDIES

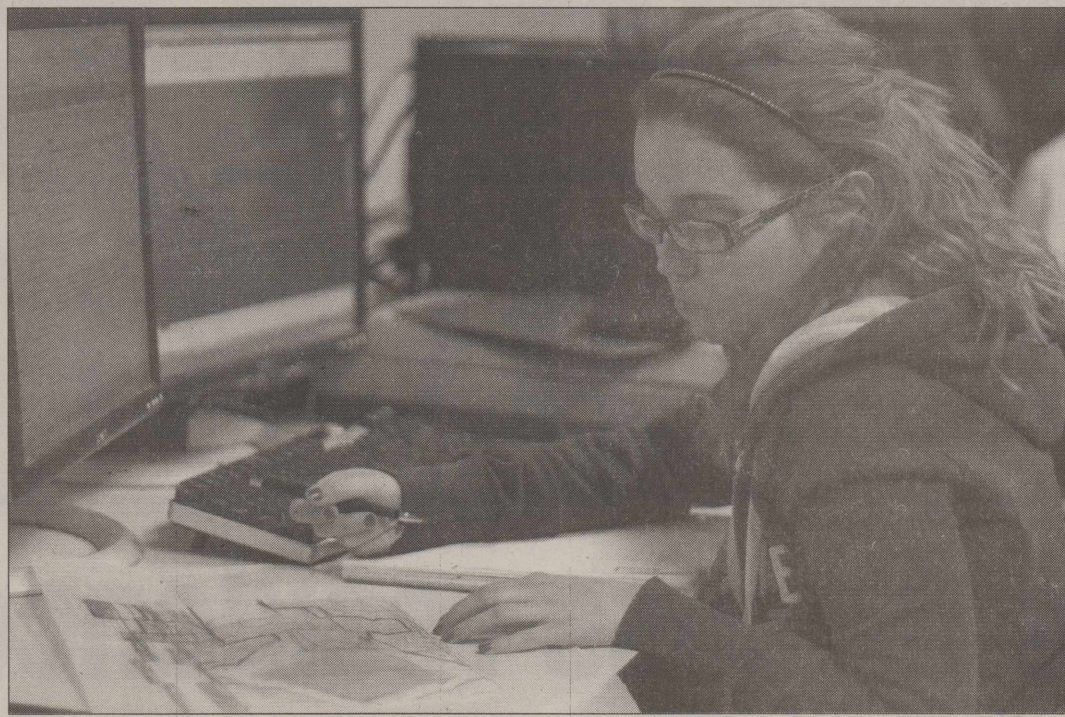


PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

SOFIA SOTO, A junior architecture major from Tyler, works on a study model in the Architecture Building on Thursday.

Bill

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Patrick Metz, director of the Criminal Defense Clinic at Texas Tech, said many students are unaware of the affects a marijuana arrest could have on them, besides the basic judicial punishment.

"A lot of kids don't know that possession of pot could cost them their driver's license, and a lot of kids don't know it would affect their financial aid," he said.

If the bill is passed, the legislature also would need to consider changing the laws dealing with offenders' driver's licenses being revoked, Metz said.

Josh Schimberg, executive director of the Texas branch of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, said college students who smoke marijuana could be greatly effected by the bill.

"The largest segment of the population who is currently using marijuana are college age," he said.

Schimberg also said more than 77,000 arrests for marijuana possession were made in Texas in 2009, many dealing with small amounts.

"I have heard from several lawyers on this subject, and they all say that a substantial majority of the marijuana possession cases they see are for possession of one ounce or less," he said.

This is not the first time an act reducing penalties for marijuana has come before legislature. In 2007, Texas governor Rick Perry signed similar legislation, H.B. 2391, granting police the option to issue a citation instead of an arrest in minor marijuana possession cases.

However, in most cities, police always will make an arrest no matter the amount, Metz said.

He said they have had cases come through that have dealt with possession of incredibly small amounts of marijuana.

One of our cases involves possession of .02 grams of marijuana—two one-hundredths of a gram. Effectively, it's the paper roach left over from being smoked; all the marijuana had been smoked," he said. "The cop arrested him for that, took him to jail and they filed a Class B misdemeanor."

Metz said he believes the bill does not have a very substantial chance of being passed because the overwhelming Republican majority in the House would not be open to passing such a bill.

Schimberg said if the bill does get past committee and approved in a vote, the governor also could be an obstruction in the way of getting the bill passed.

"The biggest hurdle, in my personal opinion, will be getting it past the governor's desk," he said.

Aside from the legal aspects, the bill might also have a social impact on the students using the drug, said George Comiskey, associate director at the Texas Tech Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery.

For someone who has a real addiction, the law as it is now might force him or her to quit their habit to avoid further legal punishment, Comiskey said. The new law might remove barriers for addicts when they get caught. Comiskey said for many who do not incessantly use marijuana, no change might even occur.

"If you're just a recreational user, and just use it on occasion, then it's not even an addiction, most likely," Comiskey said. "I think there are a lot of people that use that never have any real problems with it."

Marijuana is being studied now more than ever, from testing medicinal values to comparing its harmfulness with that of other drugs.

Schimberg said marijuana has been proven to be safer than alcohol, tobacco and other illegal drugs, so it should be treated as such.

"It's really a matter of common sense, reason and rationality that marijuana should be at least as legal as alcohol," he said.

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Correction

In Thursday's edition of *The Daily Toreador*, the article titled "Future location of dance classes unknown" should have stated

the building being demolished in May is the Sports Studies Center.

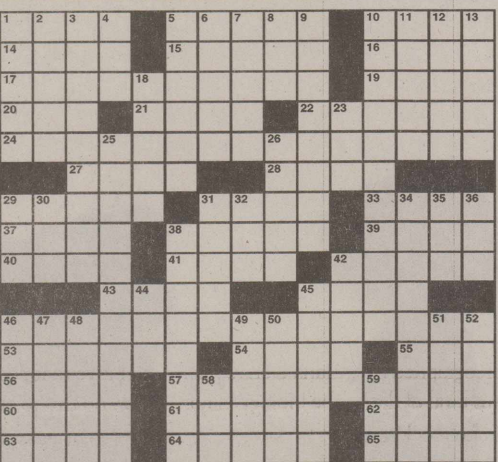
The DT regrets the error.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- Plain type?
- Company whose name is quacked in ads
- Finishing nail
- Work
- Sporty Mazda
- Slick
- Where to sleep off a bender?
- Alt. republic since 1944
- Aurora's counterpart
- Smart guy?
- Pivoting points
- Anxious campus society?
- La Tar Pits
- Yankee nickname
- Worked with horses, in a way
- 2008 Libertarian presidential candidate
- Like some rugs
- Pool shade
- Hair styling
- Cliff the mark
- Abbr. followed by a year
- Part of the dog days of Dijon
- Fund
- Friend of Dalí
- Atterbury Street gallery
- Talented jazzman?
- Dag Hammarskjöld's successor
- Cramming method
- Disturb, as the balance
- Frost, say
- "Airport music so early?"
- Regarding
- Dino's love
- Lhasa
- Headlights starrer
- Mearns's mother, in a '70s-'80s sitcom
- Flunky



By Donagiardo

1/28/11

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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| 2 "I'm just wayfaring stranger": song lyric | 3 More than just into | 4 Indirect route | 5 Earhart of the air | 6 Sole order | 7 Door fastener | 8 Scarfed up | 9 Frequent | 10 Is, when simplified | 11 "Sleepy Hollow" actress | 12 Olds that replaced the Achieva | 13 Singer/songwriter born Robert Zimmerman | 14 Incriminating record, maybe | 15 Foofaraw | 16 Kareem, at UCLA | 17 Competitive missile hurlers | 18 More than ready | 19 German article | 20 Big name in tea | 21 Missile-shooting god | 22 Diner option | 23 Dhab | 24 "Ta-dal" | 25 Town on the Firth of Clyde | 26 Emulate Scrooge | 27 Playground retort | 28 Watch from the trees, say | 29 Feature of a two-lr. monogram | 30 "The Gold-Bug" monogram | 31 Make restitution | 32 "Ta-dal" | 33 Town on the Firth of Clyde | 34 Emulate Scrooge | 35 Playground retort | 36 Watch from the trees, say | 37 Feature of a two-lr. monogram | 38 "The Gold-Bug" monogram |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|

Group

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I'm hoping that we will be able to raise awareness about rape and education and philanthropy, which are our goals for this semester," said Onasanya. "Through this organization, we are trying to change that nature and how people think."

The adviser of the association is Charlotte Dunham, an associate professor in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work.

The AAUW is a national organization that does advocacy work on behalf of women and the community, and there now is a chapter in Lubbock and at Tech, Dunham said.

"We want to provide activities and services for women in the Tech community and Lubbock," Dunham said. "I know they are planning on several activities, and they are going to partner

with the 'Vagina Monologues,' and they are going to participate with Take Back the Night."

The "Vagina Monologues" is a play produced nationwide that covers short performances ranging from love and romance to sexuality and rape, and it's about women's well being, she said.

Dunham has taught gender life classes and once was director of women's studies at Tech.

"I have had a long interest in promoting women's issues," Dunham said. "It's something professionally and personally important to me."

Anita Sommers is a cellular molecular biology major and the historian of the association. She said she was attracted to the group because of their mission.

"The mission statement alone just drew me in: 'AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research,'" said the senior from Austin. "We just

want to have people belong to a community that breaks through educational and economical barriers so all women have a fair chance."

Sommers also explained Take Back the Night's mission.

"It is an international rally getting women, men and children together to raise awareness of violence against women, make the night safe for everyone," Sommers said.

Yvonne Umeh is a biology major and acts as vice president of the AAUW.

The AAUW's mission is to get out the message that women don't have to fall back and be second best, said Umeh, a junior from Dallas.

"(We want people to know) that women can be just as good as men, to not discriminate just because we're women, and we can be as powerful as anyone else can be," she said.

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Halls

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bennett said they also will build a hospitality building that will not be embedded within the residence hall like Murray's. It will be three times larger than Murray's hospitality building and twice as large as Sam's West.

The Sports Science Center will be torn down, and the hospitality building for the new residence hall will be put in its place, Bennett said.

Bennett said the building likely will have two levels, and the hours are still negotiable but will start out with the same hours as Sam's West, which opens at 7 a.m. and closes at 2 a.m.

"I will predict that this will be a year-round facility," Bennett said. "In a nutshell, this is what we're looking at."

Shonrock said they will continue to have meetings with RHA and various leadership programs, including the Student Government Association, to discuss possibilities in parking, the layout and design of the new residence hall, and how to keep everything at a reasonable cost.

"To now get approval and 18 months to build something, we will all have to work very closely together," Shonrock said. "So I'll begin by saying, 'Pardon our dust.'"

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Secular Student Society gives new perspective



PHOTO BY BRENT SORELLE/The Daily Toreador
OFFICERS OF THE Secular Student Society pose outside the Student Union Building on Thursday.

By SYDNEY HOLMES
STAFF WRITER

From campus religious groups for Catholics, Baptists, Muslims and others, to the free-speech area that is consistently flooded with religious prophesies, Texas Tech has many organizations for a population of diverse beliefs — and also one for non-believers and doubters.

The Secular Student Society is made up of students at Tech who choose to separate themselves from religion. Some are atheists, some agnostics and some theists, but they all share a religious-less commonality.

Austin Fielding, a junior mechanical engineering major from Austin, is the Secular Student Society's public relations chair. Fielding explained his interpretation of what secularism means.

"Secular, as I understand it, is separated from deism, from theology. Essentially, secular means not connected to God," Fielding explained. "If I use the 'G' word, it'll be in terms of deities or any sort of god. Not just the Christian faith."

For college students, this is the time for developing their own ideals. They're away from parental influence and are trying to find themselves and what they believe without any daunting expectations.

Fielding said he wasn't sure what he believed in when he got to college. But, as he progressed in the Secular Student Society, Fielding said, he became more comfortable being an open atheist.

Fielding clarified the differences in secular classifications.

"Secular Student Society encompasses usually atheists, meaning no God; agnostics, which is, 'There might be a God, there might not be. I'm not sure'; deists, which is, 'There is a divine creator of the world who then walked away — kind of like a science project he left in his closet,'" Fielding said. "Basically, we have a number of different religions that usually fall between the cracks for some of the major organizations on campus."

Though Fielding was raised in an Episcopalian home, he said church wasn't a big deal.

"My family was pretty close to 'CEO' Christians — Christmas and Easter only," he joked.

Fielding said even though many of the society's members fall under the atheist or agnostic category, Christians are welcome too.

"We had a few well-practiced Christians last year who would come to our meetings regularly because you don't want to just have a bunch of circular logic happening in a meeting," he explained. "You don't want to have everybody just building things up without anybody fact-checking you."

Some of the Christian perspective comes from Stephen Mobley, a sophomore civil engineering major from Houston. Mobley said he wanted to come to the society's meeting to get a more open view on what others believe in.

"I don't question my beliefs. I just want to be able to relate better to others and understand where they're coming from," Mobley stated. "I don't want to be one of those Christians who turn people away from Christianity."

Drew Ayling, a senior electrical

engineering major from Louisville, is the group's president and founded the group in Fall 2009.

"There was no atheist community on campus, so me and a fellow student decided to start it," he said. "Another student was trying to start the same group, so we joined forces."

Ayling's background is similar to Fielding's in that both men were raised religious, a common theme within the society.

"Over the years, as I read the Bible, I began to support other beliefs and ideologies and philosophies," Ayling said. "I'm not a full-blown atheist. I don't claim to know whether or not there is a god, I just doubt."

Students range from atheist to Christian and everything in between. They are aware of the negative connotations that are associated with their name, but they work to dispel their stereotypes, Fielding said.

"We're the group that everyone fears. They think we worship Satan, bathe in blood and burn Bibles," Ayling joked. "We don't do that every day. Just sometimes."

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Dance production draws enthusiasts

By LAUREN FERGUSON
STAFF WRITER

Featuring a variety of styles, DanceTech Artistry in Motion shows Texas Tech dance students doing what they do best. Choreographed by Tech undergraduate and graduate students, dance faculty and guest artists, DanceTech shows at 8 p.m. Jan. 27 through Jan. 29 and 2 p.m. Jan. 30 in the Maedgen Mainstage Theatre.

Abby Bertrand, a sophomore dance major from Round Rock, dances in "Before You Know It," choreographed by Macie Zimmerhanel.

"DanceTech is a performance that basically showcases our seniors. Whenever you are a senior or complete a certain amount of classes, you get the opportunity to choreograph your own dance," Bertrand said.

Bertrand added that some dancers auditioned and were chosen for multiple pieces.

"Texas Tech has a very diverse dance program," she said. "You have your ballerinas, your modern dancers and jazz dancers, and whatever their specialty or expertise is, is what dance they are better at choreographing. So (the style) just kind of depends on your choreographer and what style of dance they want to see showcased on stage."

Emily Hinton, a junior finance major from Midland, attended the sneak peek performance Wednesday to watch a friend perform. Hinton said the first upbeat dance, "Before You Know It," was extremely fun to watch because the dancers looked enthusiastic.

"I just never think about coming to one of these; one of my friends was in it, and it's just really neat to see that there's so much talent, and everyone is very graceful," Hinton said. "It's a good change to come see that this goes on at Tech; you just don't get to see (this talent) very often."

The dancers perform 10 pieces varying in style from modern to hip-hop.

Grayson Bradshaw, a freshman theater major from Midland, is ushering the show for one of his theater classes.

"I am also taking two dance classes, so I am coming out to support my fellow dancers. I am a sucker for movement, so I really enjoyed just how they can kind of do the dances because I have trouble kicking and doing anything dance-wise," he said.



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador
ANN ANDREWS AND Kesslie Gilbert perform "We Are All On Fire," choreographed by Genevieve Durham DeCesaro, during a dress rehearsal for Dance Tech: Artistry In Motion on Tuesday in the Maedgen Theatre.

Bradshaw admired the skills of the dancers.

"Just watching them, like when each of them break off and do their own separate dance then get back in sync, I just think, 'That's hard,'" Bradshaw said. "It looked beautiful to me."

A student who attended the show for her acting class, sophomore Elizabeth Lanham, said she spent time inter-

preting the meaning behind each piece.

"Each dance told a different story, and it was really interesting to try to guess the themes of each dance, and some of them I could and some of them I couldn't. My favorite dance was the family roles ('Family Portrait,' choreographed by Tatiana DeLawyer). It was kind of dark," the biology major from Lubbock said.

Hinton commented that the dancers looked like they were enjoying themselves and made the experience fun for the audience.

"Everyone is doing a great job," Hinton said. "They look very graceful. I appreciate it because I can't do that, so I love that people have that gift and they do this to entertain us."

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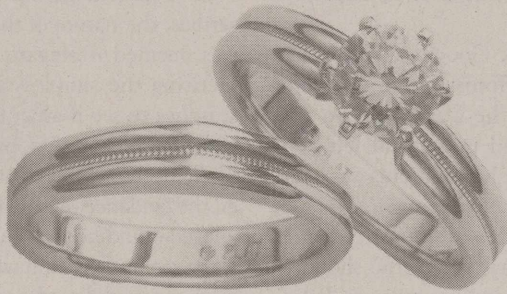
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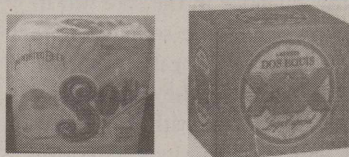
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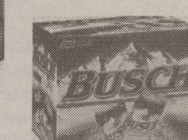
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Obama became CEO for speech

The president took to the podium Tuesday night to orate his second official State of the Union address, and to put it succinctly, Barack Obama was on key.

Indeed, a CBS news poll conducted after the speech said 91 percent of a sampling of viewers approved of the president's proposals.

Obama was decidedly centrist and compromising, putting forward many ideas that pleased and irked both parties. His focus was

on deficit reduction, education, innovation, investment and government reform. And though I typically prefer to err on the side of over-criticality in regards to any politician (or anybody preaching anything, really), the president really hit the nail on the head and said a lot of things that have needed to be said for quite some time.

Obama was able to distill a unifying theme from a variety of problems, touching on China and emerging markets — often a source of national anxiety — and tied this into education and investment at home, as well as a stream-lining government to make it more efficient, simplifying the tax code and cutting the corporate tax rate while closing loopholes embedded in it.

The president was smart to put education and investment front and center in his speech, as these

Chris Leal



are vital to the long-term health of our country. And even as we begin to see the detrimental effects that ignoring these investments can have, there still seems to be a lack of interest at a congressional level.

Tea-partiers and the like attempt to lambast government spending solely on the basis of being “anti-government spending.” To this I ask: Would you go back and decide not to build the national highway system? Would you decide not to build the railroads or the

first electrical grid? Would you decide not to put a man on the moon? Would you decide not to purchase the Louisiana Territory?

These are all examples of this great country investing in itself that were controversial at the time. There were even people heckling Thomas Jefferson, claiming it was unconstitutional for him to engage in the Louisiana Purchase. Good thing these people were politely ignored and forgotten to history.

But I'm sure all these people that are so anti-government spending live in shacks in the mid-

dle of nowhere with no electricity and will burn their Social Security checks when they receive them (though delivery is an enigma without a postal system), as that's the only way to live in a society that doesn't enjoy the benefits of a central government.

As for when these people speak of declining American competitiveness, I guess the only logical answer to this is to invest less in our country and cut taxes for the wealthy. Yes, that's how we'll “beat” China.

Obama really became CEO Obama on Tuesday night, and an analogy to business may be helpful when addressing the problems that ail our nation, as politics are awfully wrought with ideology, and business decisions are inspiring pragmatic. Investments must be made and renewed periodically to account for depreciation and ensure future prosperity for a business; the same is true for a country.

And when a business has financing problems, does it simply address costs without acknowledging revenue? Certainly not. So why would the U.S. be any different? We need to address revenues as well as expenditures, and focus highly on long-term expense obligations, as those will prove to be more burdensome than short-term discretionary spending.

The problems we face are not mystical, and their solutions are not illusive. The only thing that is illusive is the political courage of our lawmakers to enact what needs to be done, and what needs to be done is (roughly) what CEO Obama outlined last night.

Perhaps the most immediate and effective thing we could do to rein in spending would be to create a sort of congressional Face-

book. Have online profiles for all our legislatures and include the committees they serve on, the lobbyists they meet with, their campaign donors, their pet projects — have everything on there. There could be a news feed highlighting what they do and showing the start to end points of where taxpayer dollars go.

The technology is already there and pervading our private lives; why not the lives of the people we elect to spend our money and run our nation?

One of the most important elements of the speech was not contained in any of the words uttered that night. While seemingly nuanced, the technical changes to the procession and new seating arrangement with congressional Republicans and Democrats sitting together instead of divided played a very important psychological role in fostering unity and bipartisanship.

At the end of the day, however, there is no naiveté; nobody expects one seating arrangement at a yearly event to change the beat of our nation instantly. And while the president's speech was dead-on, comprehensive and unifying, it's still only a speech. But the plan outlined was definitely a few large steps in the right direction, and if the president can wrest a wily Congress to share — and act — in this view, then this country has some bright days coming around the corner.

■ **Leal is a junior finance and economics major from Dallas.**
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Let go of previous relationship's pain

Life experiences tend to shape who we are and who we will become. Some people might even say everything happens for a reason. While this is a common thought, imagine for a moment that this concept did not apply to relationships.

After dating someone, you may have learned things about yourself. Perhaps you have also been changed, for life, by the things they did to you or put you through. If you were scarred by your last relationship, you may be carrying around unnecessary baggage. Maybe your last boyfriend cheated on you, so now you can't trust your new boyfriend. Every time his phone rings, you want to know who it is. Just because the last man did it doesn't mean the next one will.

People tend to haul their emotional pain unconsciously. Dragging all of the heartache and wrongdoings of others from the past seems to wear physically and mentally on them. They are typically unaware that they are projecting past experiences onto their current situation. By performing this unintentional behavior, they are pushing away any chance of making the relationship they are currently in work.

Holding onto so many things from the past can hinder the growth of a relationship. I understand that sometimes it is difficult to let go of the past because it may have made such a huge impact on your life, but think of your past as a learning experience as opposed to a burden. Try to become a better you because no one in this world is exempt from pain or disappointment.

Let's pretend this world is perfect. I always use the concept of high school when trying to explain how freely I want to love the person with whom I am in a relationship. The idea of “high school” is the idea that you've never been heartbroken. It's the idea of giving it all you have without expecting anything in return. It's about unconditional love, something we often forget about. Most importantly, it's about loving someone in spite of his or her flaws.

Think back to when you began

Jaira Keys



your first relationship. Hopefully that was in senior high school. You were probably head-over-heels in love. You may have felt the sun rose and set on that person, they could do no wrong and you could not see a future without them. Perhaps when you two finally broke up you felt like you might die.

You may have been willing to go to the ends of the earth for that person. You had never felt this way about anyone else, and that cliché notion was actually true back then.

The love you felt for that person with whom you were in a relationship seemed to be endless and unconditional. I'm not sure why, but that was the best and worst feeling ever.

That feeling you once felt is possible only because you had not yet been tainted by the world. You had not yet experienced the pain that someone

else is capable of inducing. You had never experienced the reality that love sometimes hurts. Perhaps after that time you were never the same. You may even walk around secretly jaded. Your scars may even be a secret to you. But it doesn't have to be that way.

Although you have grown up now, it is still possible to pretend as if you are still that innocent teenager you once were. It is still possible to love someone as if you have never been hurt before. Give of yourself as if it is impossible that anyone could ever hurt you. I am not saying that you won't get hurt, but you'd be surprised by how much you might get back when you put in everything.

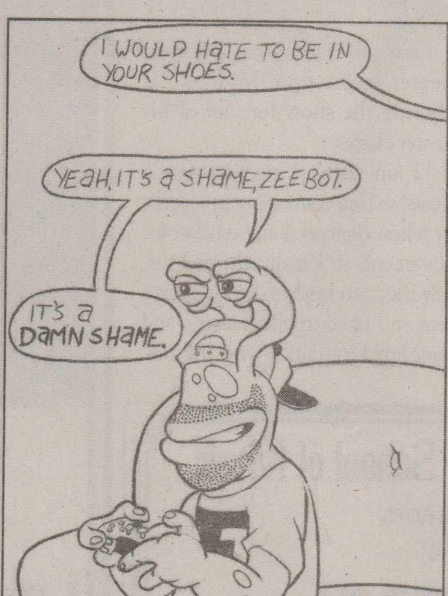
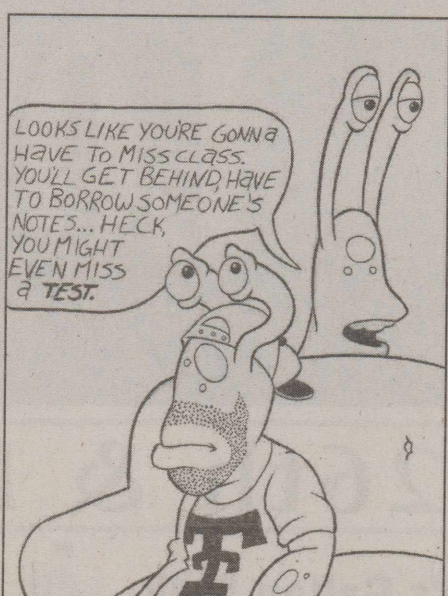
Let's pretend that pain has no place with us and the only emotions we feel are joy, happiness, courage, excitement, understanding and, of course, love. Can we go back to high school?

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“Investments must be made and renewed periodically to account for depreciation and ensure future prosperity for a business; the same is true for a country.”

“Although you have grown up now, it is still possible to pretend as if you are still that innocent teenager you once were.”

WASTOIDS



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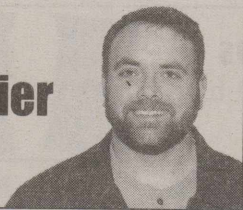
Media coverage of Tucson shooting demonstrates little forward progress

On Jan. 9, for the first time in the memory of our generation, an assassin attempted to take the life of a sitting member of the United States Congress. Within moments of the story breaking, media outlets across the nation began asking who and what was to blame for the unspeakable horror witnessed in Arizona, and within moments they had their answer: Sarah Palin.

To the media, all the evidence they needed to place the blame on the shoulders of their favorite punching bag was a picture from a website with gun sights over the Arizona district where the shooting took place. This is not an isolated incident of media irresponsibility—it almost perfectly mirrors a case from 20 years ago.

During the confirmation hearings of Clarence Thomas, following charges of sexual harassment from former co-worker Anita Hill, those

Jeff Frazier



who sought Thomas's defeat in his Senate confirmation hearings often used the argument that the nature of the evidence in the case was irrelevant, given the serious nature of the charges laid against Thomas.

The media at the time echoed this argument, not with their words, but with their actions; devoting great deals of time to discussing the implications of a Supreme Court justice committing such an offense, and using the accusations as a platform to assail someone they generally despised to begin with.

Twenty years later, the same pattern holds true. A story breaks, the media get a whiff that someone they

despise might possibly be involved in a scandal that could possibly end their career. Journalistic ethics would require an investigation to see if there is a link before openly declaring guilt, but sacrificing the truth and any semblance of ethics is a small price to pay compared with taking down the enemy.

Immediately the story shifted from how a mad man was allowed to get within point blank range of an important official of the U.S. government to how people like Sarah Palin were ultimately responsible for turning up the tone of political rhetoric in the last few months.

Did they have any evidence that the shooter listened to Palin, Fox News or talk radio? None whatsoever. The information they did have on the shooter dealt with his ramblings about his district's problems with proper grammar, hardly a hot political issue of our times.

With the shooter not fitting

the mold they desired, the media dusted off the old playbook from the Thomas hearings. It didn't matter if there was any evidence that this shooting was caused by Palin and Rush Limbaugh; the nature of the charge was serious enough that the evidence was irrelevant.

Reminiscent of the way news outlets prepare “in memoriam” footage for celebrities, just to have them on hand in case someone famous gets in a car wreck, they had the argument ready, waiting for the right time to pull it out and throw it on the air with little to no additional research.

A quick Google search of Gabrielle Giffords turned up a blog post from the Daily KOS (a very popular and influential left-wing blog) about how Giffords was “dead to me” for voting against Nancy Pelosi for House minority leader, just two days before the shooting, along with maps similar to Palin's

with bull's-eyes over congressional districts in Arizona that they were “targeting” for 2012. No one, not even Fox News, ran this as evidence of violent rhetoric coming out of the left wing.

Those in the media must remember how only two years ago there were constant threats to the life of Pres. Bush. Documentaries were made about what would happen after his assassination. How quickly we forget our president being burned and hanged in effigy. Once again, when the media believe the charge was sufficiently serious, the nature of the evidence was deemed irrelevant, not even meriting the simplest of Internet searches to see if any other parties could have been responsible.

With the passing of time, however, the evidence revealed itself. The alleged would-be assassin of Giffords was a reclusive person who rarely, if ever, consumed media of any kind.

He preferred reading books such as “Mein Kampf” and “The Communist Manifesto” to watching television. He did not vote in the November mid-term elections and did not associate with a political party.

Now that the evidence has come out, the case that Palin is responsible for this tragedy has been shelved — not recanted or apologized for, but simply put back on the shelf, awaiting the day they can once again pull it down and use it again.

What a shame they left the sensible comments to comedians like Jon Stewart and Eugene Mirman, who summed up the situation perfectly: “It's not Sarah Palin's fault a violent, undiagnosed schizophrenic shot those people, but I'm super glad I didn't put up a map like that.”

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Track

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Even though they are facing their toughest challenge of the season, Kittley said, his team is as confident as any team in the nation going into this weekend's events.

Tech has student-athletes ranked in the top 10 nationally in 12 events leading up to this week, and Kittley said the performance from all of his athletes adds to the confidence of the team.

"I think it's neat how much confidence the team has right now," Kittley said. "It helps to have so many great performances from our athletes."

One of those nationally ranked athletes is pole vaulter Shade Weygandt, who cleared the highest mark by an American woman under the age of 20 last week. She is currently tied for second in the NCAA in women's pole vault.

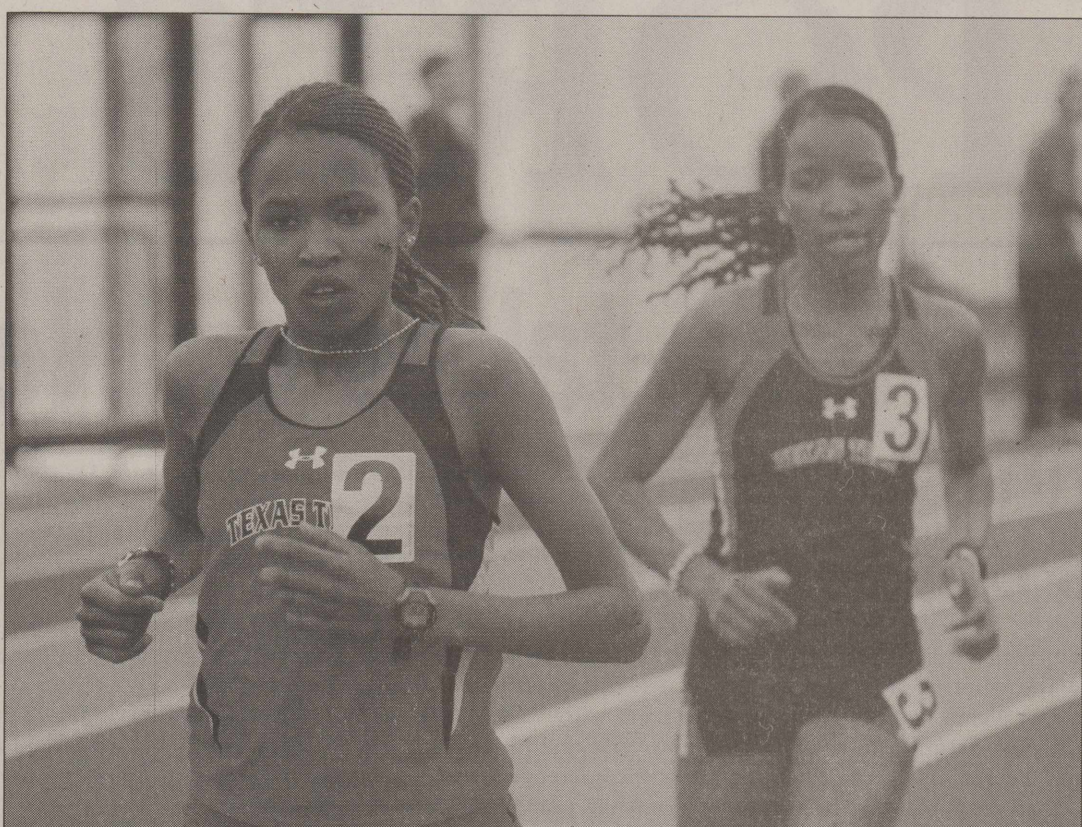
Weygandt said the athletes in her event this weekend aren't as competitive as those from different conferences but the running events lined up for the weekend are stacked.

"I don't believe their vaulters are as competitive," Weygandt said, "but their running is insane."

The meet conveniently is located at the same site as this year's NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships—Weygandt qualified for the championships with her record-setting jump Saturday. She said every opportunity she gets to jump in the building helps her chances of success later on in the year.

"The whole inside is white, so I can kind of get lost in the middle of my jump," Weygandt said. "I jumped well there last year, and I should be fine this time around."

Bryce Lamb, who also qualified last weekend for the NCAA



CAROLINE KARUNDE AND Winrose Karunde, senior distance runners, compete in a race at the Texas Tech Invitational Track Meet in the Athletic Training Center last Saturday.

championships in the long jump, said this meet is going to be the biggest test of the season thus far.

"It's gonna be big," Lamb said. "There are going to be some great jumpers there. The prelims at this meet could be the finals at other meets."

Coach Kittley said he also is happy his team gets to compete on the same field the championships are at this year.

He said the travel experience will be good for his team, and it always helps to become more familiar with the track they run on later in the season.

When asked who would win the meet this week, Kittley said hands down the Big 12 is the better of the two.

"The Big 12 will take it this weekend," Kittley said. "We just have the better, stronger team."

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BRYCE LAMB, A sophomore triple and long jumper, competes in the triple jump competition at the Texas Tech Invitational in Lubbock.

Final

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Scoring, for the most part, has not been the problem lately, but other problems have surfaced. In Tech's recent outing, a 75-67 home loss to Texas, the Lady Raiders were out-rebounded 43-26.

Tech sophomore guard Casey Morris said those problems need to be fixed, which can be done by playing with the same sense of urgency against every team, not just ranked opponents.

"I feel like our energy needs to be higher," she said. "We need to come out every night playing like it's against the top team like Baylor

so we can have success. We can't take nights off, especially in the Big 12, being as competitive as it is."

Tech was in the running to finish the season at the top of the conference standings, but the recent skid has put a damper on those chances.

"We want to go out there and show that we can be No. 1 in the Big 12."

CHRISTINE HYDE
GUARD
TEXAS TECH

Despite the current losing streak, Tech guard Christine Hyde said the team still believes it can belong in the discussion of being a contender with the Big 12's elite.

"We want to go out and win every game," she said Monday. "We want to go out

and prove to teams that we're better than being 10th in the Big 12. We want to go out there and show that we can be No. 1 in the Big 12."

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PHOTOS BY RIANNON ROWLEY/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S CHRISTINE Hyde gets a shot blocked by Tiffany Moore and Ashley Gayle during Tech's 75-67 loss on Wednesday in the United Spirit Arena.

Tennis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

"It gives us confidence, but if you're not ready to go, you're going to find yourself in trouble," Escobar said. "We're just working to not let those things happen and be as ready as we can."

Siegel said he feels good about his top three players, and the bottom

of the lineup will be the key to his team's success this season.

The entire team will be tested this weekend in an early season tournament that will be anything but ordinary.

"These three teams coming here are three of the best in the country," Siegel said. "We'll certainly know where we are right after this weekend."

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Three

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Singletary and company cleaned up the boards against the Cyclones, with the senior forward grabbing 10 rebounds and fellow senior D'Walyn Roberts picking up 11. Both logged double-doubles for the Red Raiders, with Roberts adding 16 points and Singletary

dropping in a season-high 33.

Furthermore, the Red Raiders also dominated the dimes, dishing out a season-high 27 assists on 35 field goals, which Knight said is unheard of. Former Cowboys coach Eddie Sutton even called Knight to express his admiration of Tech's ball movement.

"I think we're just clicking a lot right now," Singletary said. "It kind of sucks that it's taken a

while, but now that we're finding out that we have a lot of people who can score, so sharing the ball shouldn't be a problem for us, and we should all play like that from here on out."

Both Knight and Singletary pointed out the play of senior John Roberson as integral in the team's 27 assists, which makes sense because the point guard had 12 of them, notching his own

double-double with 12 points, as well.

"I think I was just being more patient," Roberson said. "We were running down the shot clock a lot more than we have been in the past, and we were just getting good shots, and we were making them work and we knew it would be tough for them to play 35 seconds of defense every time."

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SPORTS

PAGE 6
FRIDAY, JAN. 28, 2011

Final showdown: Tech takes on Nebraska Matchup against Cornhuskers last before NU leaves Big 12

By JOSHUA KOCH
STAFF WRITER

This weekend marks the final time the Lady Raiders will have to pack their bags to travel to Lincoln, Neb., for a Big 12 Conference game against the Cornhuskers.

The Cornhuskers, along with Colorado, will part ways with the Big 12 this summer as Nebraska joins the Big Ten and Colorado joins the Pac-10.

After recording its third-

straight conference loss on Wednesday, Texas Tech coach Kristy Curry said the Lady Raiders have to keep pushing forward but cannot forget what has happened throughout the season altogether.

"We've talked all year about getting ready for the next one," she said after the Texas loss. "But at the same time I think there needs to be an awareness as far as we don't want to too nonchalantly turn the page and get ready for the next one."

Tech (16-4, 3-3 in Big 12

play) will attempt to get back on the winning side of things against Nebraska (11-8, 1-4) at 7:05 p.m. Saturday in the Devaney Center.

Last year's meeting between the two teams is one the Lady Raiders would like to permanently erase from their minds — Nebraska steamrolled Tech in Lubbock, 89-47.

As with a lot of the teams in the Big 12, a dynamic freshman has been the key to the Cornhuskers' success thus far.

dailytoreador.com
Keyword: Lady Raiders
Check out a video preview of the Lady Raiders' game against Nebraska on Saturday.

against Kansas State and No. 23 Iowa State—and the only win Nebraska has recorded in Big 12 play came against Kansas on Jan. 16 in overtime.

The Lady Raiders, just like the Cornhuskers, are in the middle of their own skid.

Since starting 3-0 in Big 12 play, Tech has lost to No. 13 Oklahoma, No. 1 Baylor and Texas in consecutive games.

Before the slump, the Lady Raiders were in a tie for first place in the Big 12; Tech is now in fifth place.

FINAL continued on Page 5 >>>

JORDAN BARNCASTLE AND the Lady Raiders will head to Nebraska seeking to end their three-game losing streak.

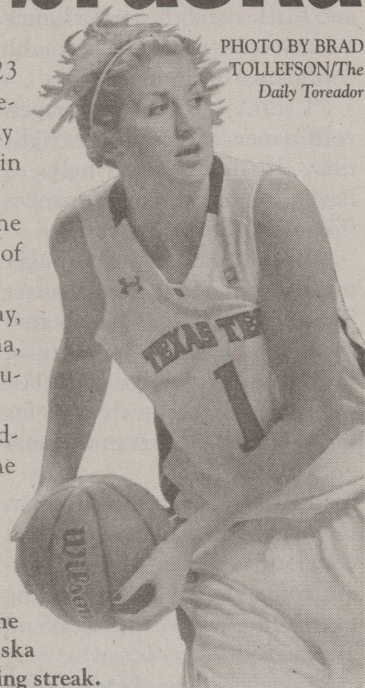


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

Track travels to A&M for Big 12-SEC Challenge

By THORN COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

The No. 4 Red Raider and No. 13 Lady Raider track teams hit the road for the first time this season to face their toughest task so far — the Texas A&M Big 12 versus SEC challenge in College Station, Texas.

The meet, which begins at 6:30 p.m. today, features some of the best track teams from around the country, including the No. 2 University of Florida men's team and the No. 3 Texas A&M men's team.

Tech head coach Wes Kittle said he is interested to see how his team does against some of the best schools in the country.

"The competition this week is tremendous," Kittle said. "The pressure is a bit more on this week than it has been in our first two meets."

The meet is a challenge between some of the best teams in the two conferences, as Tech, A&M, Oklahoma and Kansas State from the Big 12 take on Florida, Georgia, Ole Miss and South Carolina from the SEC.

TRACK continued on Page 5 >>>

Seeking 3

Tech hosts OSU in search of 3rd straight Big 12 win

By TOMMY MAGELSSSEN
NEWS EDITOR

Texas Tech basketball started Big 12 Conference play on a four-game skid. But now that the Red Raiders have won back-to-back conference games, Coach Pat Knight has one specific thing to say about the way his team is playing:

Better late than never.

"I think the guys are kind of getting to a point where, instead of blaming each other, they're holding each other accountable and themselves," Knight said.

The Red Raiders' recent resurgence has catapulted them back into the Big 12 picture after maintaining a spot at the bottom of the Big 12 table since Jan. 8.

Wednesday's road win at Iowa State jumped Tech (10-11, 2-4 in Big 12 play) to a three-way tie for ninth place in the ultra-competitive conference. A win in Tech's next game could put it in a tie for fifth place, once the dust settles from Saturday's arsenal of Big 12 games.

Tech hosts Oklahoma State (14-6, 2-4) at 3 p.m. Saturday in the United

Spirit Arena, with the chance for the first three-game Big 12 winning streak of the Pat Knight era.

"Any time you can get in the middle of the pack starting out, it's a big time confidence move for you," Singletary said, "and we just want to get to that .500 mark halfway through, and after that we'll go from there."

The Red Raiders played against a small lineup at Iowa State and out-rebounded the Cyclones 39-30. However, neither of Tech's centers, Robert Lewandowski and Paul Cooper, notched playing time.

But with the Cowboys, Tech forward Mike Singletary knows the team is going up against a whole different monster.

"With good rebounders like (Marshall) Moses and (Matt) Pilgrim down there," Singletary said, "we're going to have to keep them off the boards, and we're going to have to control the boards pretty much and try to pretty much control the tempo of the game, so that's going to be a big key for us."

THREE continued on Page 5 >>>



JOHN ROBBERSON AND the Red Raiders host Oklahoma State on Saturday, searching for their third straight Big 12 Conference win.

PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

Today's su | do | ku

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

Puzzles by PageFiller

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.

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

Ombuds Office

A safe place for students & staff to bring concerns.

Be nice.

SUB Suite 024 East Basement 806-742-SAFE

Men's tennis hosts ITA Kick-Off tourney

By EVAN JANSA
STAFF WRITER

Saturday's home opener for the No. 15 Texas Tech men's tennis team won't exactly be routine.

The Red Raiders will host the ITA Kick-Off Weekend tournament this weekend with two ranked teams visiting Lubbock. The competition will be strong with No. 19 California, No. 31

Auburn, LSU and Tech all vying for a spot in the ITA National Team Indoor Championships hosted by the University of Washington on Feb. 18.

Head coach Tim Siegel said that these are tougher teams than the Red Raiders have normally played in a home opener. Tech will face LSU in the first dual-match of the tournament at 12 p.m. Saturday at the McLeod

Tennis Center.

"(LSU has) always been good," Siegel said. "They've always been a top 25-type team. Last year, they were a little bit down, but they're better this year."

Cal will play Auburn in the second match at 3 p.m. Saturday. The championship will be played at 2 p.m. Sunday, with a trip to Seattle on the line.

Tech may have vengeance on

their minds if afforded the opportunity to play Cal. Last year, Cal knocked Tech out of the same tournament.

This is the first year the Red Raiders have hosted the event, having traveled to Austin last year for the initial round. Tech was awarded the tournament as a result of finishing in the top 15 at season's end last year.

Siegel said his team must capitalize on the luxury of playing in Lubbock.

"It's great that we're playing at home," Siegel said. "It's home-court advantage. I think that's what our guys have to do. They have to play with that energy and take advantage of the fact that we're hosting."

Vitor Manzini said the Red Raiders' familiarity with the weather and the courts will be a big advantage during the tourney. He also talked about the enormity of being able to advance to nationals.

"It would be amazing because we just started (the season)," Manzini said. "I think it's very important that we win these two matches at home."

He, along with the rest of the team, is coming off a solid performance in Las Vegas last weekend. Tech defeated UNLV, 6-1, last Friday and No. 55 UC Irvine, 5-2, on Saturday.

Gonzalo Escobar was a crucial element for the Red Raiders in both contests as the No. 1 player. He said Tech will benefit from both victories.

TENNIS continued on Page 5 >>>

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