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LEFT PHOTO BY PAUL HAILES; RIGHT BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

Cold weather causes burst pipe in Gordon Hall

Door left open contributes; incident sets off fire alarms

By CAITLAN OSBORN
STAFF WRITER

A pipe beneath Gordon Hall burst around 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, setting off the fire alarms and confusing many of the students living in the dorm.

Mark McVay, associate director of housing facilities, said the main reason the alarms went off was because someone had opened the door that led to the sprinkler utilities room, which is located underneath the north side of Gordon Hall.

McVay said no damage was reported.

There are four doors leading to the Gordon and Bledsoe water lines, two on the north side and two on the south. A fire sprinkler line containing a leak froze because

of the door connecting to Gordon Hall was left open.

Whenever a fire sprinkler line has flow in it, there is a sprinkler head going off somewhere in the residence hall, McVay said. The sprinkler heads are set off either by heat of more than 140 degrees or if the sprinkler head is broken, causing flow in the underground pipes. He said flow in the pipes reports to the main panel that something is wrong and sets the building into alarm.

"It doesn't know why the sprinkler head is flowing," McVay said, "it just knows that it's flowing and that's bad because it could mean there's a fire. Luckily, there wasn't a fire, but the system did exactly what it was supposed to do."

GORDON continued on Page 2

Chilled



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador
ABOVE, EMILY OOSTVEEN, A senior biochemistry major from San Angelo, throws snow at Cortney Gambrell, a freshman dance major from Rowlett, Wednesday at the intramural football fields.

LEFT, A BLANKET of snow covers much of the grounds of Texas Tech on Wednesday. The National Weather Service estimated .03 inches of snowfall Wednesday after Lubbock received about 1 inch Tuesday.



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

Tough Test, Page 8



Aggies are off to their best start under coach Gary Blair. The Lady Raiders host Texas A&M at 2 p.m. Saturday in United Spirit Arena. SPORTS, Page 8

Winter storm continues to impact Lubbock; NWS predicts more cold weather on its way

By BRIAN HOWARD
STAFF WRITER

The winter storm that struck Lubbock late Monday night and early Tuesday morning greatly impacted the city as several busi-

ness and schools were closed, along with cancellations of early morning

classes at Texas Tech.

Students, employees and local Lubbock residents have been urged to use necessary precautions to ensure their safety while dealing with the harsh winter weather.

Gary Skwiva, meteorologist

with the National Weather Service, said snowy and icy roadway conditions and below-freezing temperatures will continue throughout Thursday.

CHILLED continued on Page 2

Tech reels in highest-ranked class in school history

Scout.com ranks Tech class at 18th, Rivals.com places Red Raiders 19th

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ
SPORTS EDITOR

Texas Tech football reeled in its highest-rated recruiting class ever on National Signing Day, receiving signed letters of intent from 27

recruits on Tuesday.

Head coach Tommy Tuberville may be the reason most will believe the feat was possible, but Tuberville said it has been a yearlong process spearheaded by his recruiting and coaching staffs.

"It's been a very good day for Texas Tech and the football team," Tuberville said. "We're very excited about quite what's happened, not just today, but what's happened



TUBERVILLE

over the last year ... I've got a good bunch of guys that do a great job of selling a great product that we have here at Texas Tech."

Tech's 2011 class finished with final national rankings of No. 18 by Scout.com and No. 19 by Rivals.com. Of the 27 signees, six currently are enrolled as students at Tech.

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WEATHER

Today Partly Cloudy
26/6

Thursday Sunny
50/20

Fuller: Texas education system in major decline
OPINIONS, Pg. 4



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THE DAILY TOREADOR

Community Calendar

TODAY

Opening Night for Patricia Nix: a Retrospective

Time: All day event
Where: Underwood Center for the Arts

So, what is it?
This world-class artist who began her career on the South Plains. The exhibition will open in the Christine DeVitt Exhibition Hall and run through April 30. Twenty-one original works are featured most of which have never been seen in West Texas.

The Education of Shelby Knox Panel Discussion

Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Where: Firehouse Theatre, 511 Ave. K

So, what is it?
An official selection of the Sundance Film Festival in 2005, "The Education of Shelby Knox" is an exceptionally timely and intimate look at cultural wars from the perspective of a young woman's life.

The Buddy Holly Center presents: Remembering the 'Day the Music Died'

Time: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Where: The Buddy Holly Center

So, what is it?
The 52nd Anniversary of the tragic plane crash that claimed the lives of Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. Richardson. "The Real Buddy Holly Story," produced and hosted by former Beatle, Paul McCartney, will be shown in the theater at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. A light reception will be held at 4:30 p.m. and cookies and cider will be available all day. Gary Moore, author of the new book "Hey Buddy," will host a talk at 5:30pm followed by a book signing. The Buddy Holly Center will have four exhibitions on display.

FRIDAY

Annual All-University Women's Studies Conference
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Where: SUB

So, what is it?
This conference occurs each spring on the Tech campus. A local, state and national call for papers is sent out each year to help promote academic research.

Vietnam Center Celebrates Tet, the Lunar New Year

Time: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: International Cultural Center, Hall of Nations

So, what is it?
This is a free event open to the public. Traditional Vietnamese food will be served. A special presentation will be given by the Vietnamese Student Association at Texas Tech. Join and learn more about the rich heritage and culture that makes Vietnam so remarkable.

Forth Wave: (Active)ism in (Her) story

Time: 5:30 p.m.
Where: SUB, Matador Room

So, what is it?
The Women's Studies Program presents a keynote panel with itinerant feminist organizer Shelby Knox and Women's Studies Affiliated faculty member Sara Peso White.

First Friday Art Trail

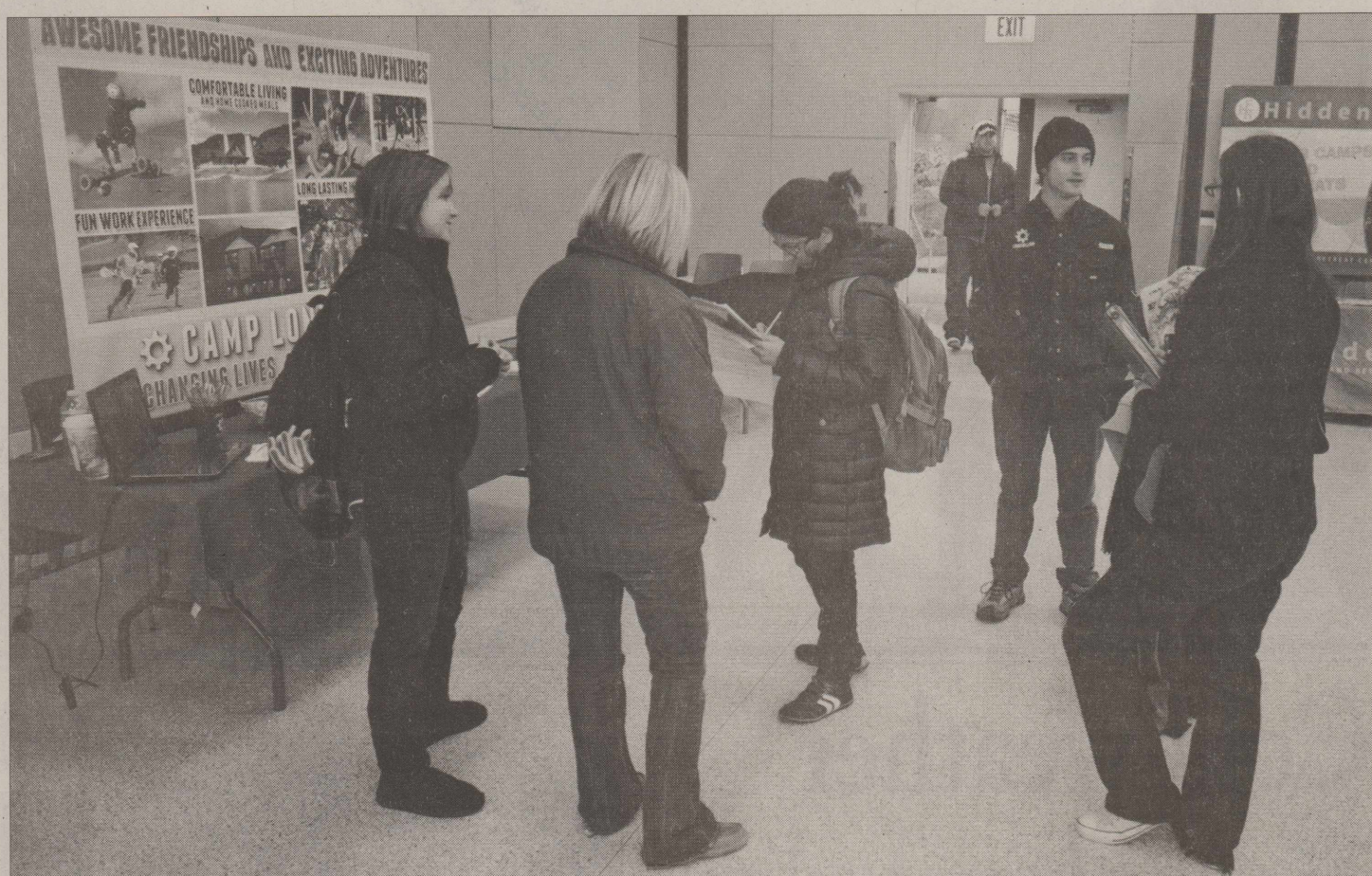
Time: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Where: Art venues in Downtown Lubbock and other locations

So, what is it?
Lubbock's longest-running and most successful art event. Galleries, restaurants and businesses open their doors with an abundance of local and regional visual and performing art. Check out ffat.org to find all this month's venues including LHUCA, the Buddy Holly Center, The Legacy, McPherson Cellars and more.

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.

SUMMER SCENARIOS



STUDENTS LOOK AT the Camp Longhollow booth while attending the Summer Camp Job Fair on Wednesday in the Student Union Building. PHOTO BY PAUL HAILLES/The Daily Toreador

Chilled

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"People have to be aware of the dangerous road conditions and be on the lookout for slick spots," he said. "Construction zones, overpasses and areas where there is wind blowing snow will be the most difficult to navigate."

If traveling, Skwiva said it is important to be prepared for any situation.

"Generally, if you are going to be traveling, it's necessary to have plenty of warm clothing in the event that you have car problems and may be stuck outside in the cold for quite some time," he said. "You don't want to be caught in a situation in which you are unprepared."

Skwiva said the cold weather can cause pipes to freeze and possibly burst, which was recently witnessed by students living in Tech's Gordon Hall late Tuesday night.

"You have to be aware of the

possibility," he said. "It's important to have good insulation to keep certain areas warm."

Thursday could see even colder temperatures in the morning, Skwiva said, but temperatures should be warmer throughout the weekend.

"We could see temperatures of negative-1 degree early tomorrow morning," he said, "but throughout the day there will be a slow warming trend, with highs near 20 degrees on Thursday, and highs reaching 30 to 40 degrees

on Friday."

Although temperatures are predicted to increase during the weekend, Skwiva said more snow may be on the way early next week.

"There's a chance we could see snow by the end of next Sunday, as another front is set to hit early next week," he said. "It may not be as extreme as the winter storm seen this week, but currently we are predicting highs around 30 degrees—more cold weather is on the way."

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Gordon

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

McVay said each door is checked every day, especially during cold weather. He said there is only speculation as to who left the door open. He assures that the door couldn't have unlocked by itself because the door is made of

steel and is difficult to get open. Despite this, he said the door should be replaced as a preventative measure.

All residents were moved outside of Gordon Hall for their safety. Eventually, the students were transferred to either the Fresh Plate dining hall in Bledsoe or to the Sneed Hall lobby, where they waited away from the cold.

Roommates James Atwood and Michael Sees were upstairs in their dorm, playing "Halo,"

when the alarms went off. Sees said they were slow to move at first because they did not believe the situation was too serious.

"Everyone kind of discounted it as something being burned in the second-floor kitchen again," Sees, a sophomore chemistry and chemical engineering major from San Antonio, said, "but while we were downstairs, we were told it wasn't a fire, so we were just waiting to hear what actually happened. They

eventually sent a guy out from Hospitality Services to let us know that a pipe had burst on the floor."

Atwood, a sophomore civil engineering major, said it took about two hours for the maintenance crew to get the fire alarms to turn off, during which time the water in Gordon Hall was shut off.

"They turned off the water when they first started cleaning it up, but once they isolated which pipes burst, they built up pressure in the rest of the system to compensate it," he said.

Lacy Pruitt, a freshman early childhood education major from Mineral Wells, said it was difficult for the repairmen to get the fire alarms to shut down from the pipe being continually ruptured because the water in the fire lines would not stop running, causing the sensors to go off.

"I think they were trying, were doing their best," she said. "They would try to turn it off, and it would go off for a minute, but then it would come back on. It was really random."

Atwood said two rooms had been covered in a couple of inches of water, but other than that, everyone was fine.

"It was an unfortunate accident for a couple of people and standing out in the cold for everybody else," he said.

McVay said the problem was an unusual occurrence, caused by two uncommon elements

"Normally we don't have temperatures this cold, and normally that door stays closed," he said.

► cosborn@dailytoreador.com

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Student Government Association

Group raises funds for March mission



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX LOONEY
MEMBERS OF RAIDERS Helping Others painted the Lubbock Regional MHMR Center for "Make a Difference Day" in October.

By HALLIE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

While Disney World might be a fairly common destination for college students during spring break, one group of Texas Tech students is going for a reason other than vacation.

Raiders Helping Others, a new organization, is a Residence Halls Association group that began last semester to serve the Lubbock community.

"I think we, as the university, do a lot of great things as far as one-time service," said Craig Keuhnert, manager of student leadership development. "I was hoping to create a group that would sustain that goal and continue to volunteer."

He said RHO has been working in the local community since the beginning of the year. Their biggest commitment is to the Lubbock Children's Home, where the students spend time with the children and help with homework.

"Just to see the smiles on their faces is enough to want to come back and to keep helping," said Dave Gregorio, a junior pre-med student from Boise, Idaho.

The group goes to the home about once a month. Member Cynthia Sacco, a freshman nutrition major from Fort Worth, said she loved getting to see the same children every month.

RHO also does other things for the Lubbock community, Keuhnert said, like helping at the Humane Society.

The group's biggest event will be during spring break when they will go to work with Give Kids the World, a nonprofit that allows children diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses to spend a week at Disney World. Keuhnert said the college students will serve the

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Tech alum runs local faith-based ranch

By LAUREN FERGUSON
STAFF WRITER

Daring rope courses, horseback riding and beautiful scenery is what David Miller, a Texas Tech alumnus, experiences at his job every day. He runs the Spirit Ranch, located just north of Lubbock.

A graduate of Monterey High School, Miller has lived in Lubbock since the age of 10. He went to the business school at Tech and pledged Phi Delta Theta.

Miller has served Lubbock in many different capacities, most recently as mayor and a chairman of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce. He also has emceed the Distinguished Alumni Awards Banquet.

"The most emotional one I ever got to emcee was Rick Husband, the astronaut who graduated from Amarillo High School and graduated from Tech. He went down with the Challenger. His wife and kids were there."

Miller's wife, Jayne Ann Miller, is a supportive partner for David Miller at the Spirit Ranch. She also serves as the adviser for Chi Omega sorority at Tech. They met in their late years of college and were still dating when he joined the Miller family business.

After working for his family, he had the opportunity to bring The Med Group, from Chicago, to the Lubbock area. The Med Group was a buying cooperative that combined buying power of different types of medical companies.

"We started with 27 locations in 1986, but when we sold it in April of 2006, we had over 800 locations," David Miller said. "About five years before I left there and started Spirit Ranch, I started having this wrestling match, either with myself or with God, one of the two; I was supposed to leave. I was supposed to do something different. I didn't know what; I knew it was more. I knew it was challenging, but I loved what I did, and I didn't want to leave."

David Miller's dream was to combine his powers of speaking, building teams and strategic planning to spread God's word.

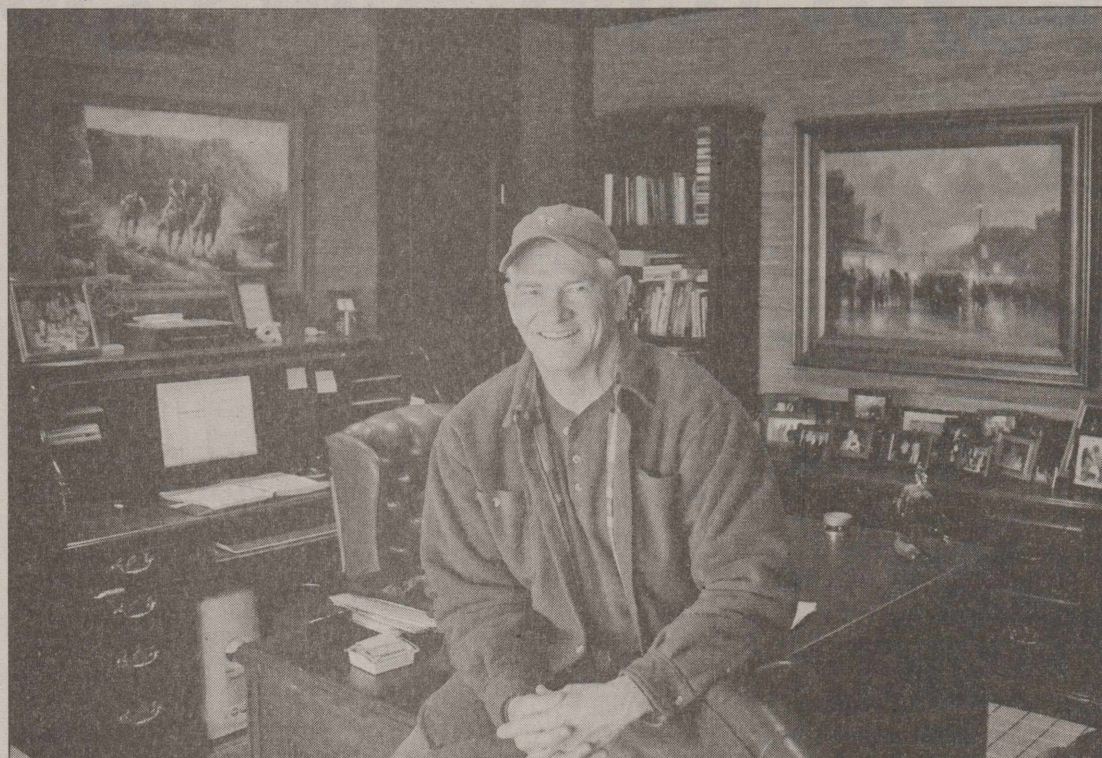


PHOTO BY BRENT SORELLE/The Daily Toreador
DAVID MILLER, A Texas Tech Alum, runs Spirit Ranch which helps Tech students learn about leadership.

"Spirit Ranch was truly a dream of five or six years ago of David. His heart is really for the corporate world, and his idea was to do a leadership development organization that would really help the corporate world. His idea was to try to work with companies, to make employees work together and succeed as an organization and in turn help their profits," Jayne Ann Miller said.

David Miller said the ranch is based on Christian principles but is not "churchy." The important part was teaching other people the principles of teamwork and service to improve relationships in the workplace.

"I read a book called 'Wild At Heart,' by John Eldridge; it's about how all of us, either as little boys and girls growing up or as young adults or sometime in life, we get wounded," David Miller said. "This man was talking about how he finally learned to ask the question, not what the world needs, but what makes me fully alive, because frankly, what the world

needs is people that are fully alive."

David Miller decided the best way to accomplish his new goal was to find a location so people could get out of their comfort zones and realize the depth and truth of the creator.

"Well, if you hadn't noticed, Lubbock doesn't have the Rocky Mountains, the seashore of Corpus Christi or the piney woods of East Texas; we've got Cowboyism," he said. "So I said 'OK, I think we need a ranch that will attract people. Wherever that place is, we will have retreats and seminars and speakers and events that will really drive people closer to their creator.'"

That place ended up being Spirit Ranch. The first guest visited in January five years ago, and since then over 7,000 people have gone through the team-leadership program. The ranch is supported by grants and donations, events like the 51 weddings that took place there in 2010, and consulting.

Mark Persall, COO of Spirit Ranch,

first began working for the ranch as an outside consultant before developing a partnership agreement in May 2010. He emphasized the importance of the ranch's vision of drawing people closer to Christ.

"We think to do that, not only exposing them to the beauty of the property, but also by giving each guest excellent service, and our commitment is, whether in word or deed, that as we are serving our guest, we are rendering service under God," Persall said.

Persall said that his relationship with David Miller is one of "iron sharpening iron," and as a team, their disagreements force them both to think more creatively.

"David genuinely believes that all people can come alive if they are just given the opportunity to do so, and David believes in people, and he wants people to believe in themselves," Persall said.

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Egypt represents global change in society

Egypt, with its social unrest and political upheaval, has been on the forefront of global media news publications and attention spans for the past week.

Tens of thousands of Egyptian citizens have been rioting in the streets, demanding political abdication from their current rulers. The government has responded instead by implementing curfews, disabling Internet connections and using police force. Pres. Mubarak, a loyal 30-year U.S. ally, has effectively replaced the entire government—everyone except for himself.

However, the current uprising in Egypt is only a representation of a much larger trend in the region.

Tunisia has had recent social upheaval against its government, while Sudan is in the midst of voting to split the country into two separate nations.

Meanwhile, the king of Jordan has just announced he is going to replace a majority of the government (perhaps hoping to preempt similar unrest), and political experts and media pundits are waiting for a contagion-like domino effect to spread to vulnerable countries such as Yemen.

Chris Leal



So, why is this seemingly unstoppable permeation of democratic ideals choosing to express itself now? People just woke up one day and found democracy irresistible? Well, yes and no.

Political tensions have existed for quite some time in these countries, decades in some instances. But the social mobilizing we see has come about from two primary factors: the economy and technology.

While political institutions in these countries may have been

strained for years, high unemployment and high inflation caused by the economic downturn, as well as accompanying monetary policies, have dramatically exacerbated the situation, pushing these countries to the brink.

Egypt's current example is really a beautiful microcosm of a confluence of factors changing the

social, political and economic dynamics that govern our lives.

Simply put, the politics of these countries are outdated.

Foreign non-democratic nations can't resist the allure of capitalism and the robust economies it can produce. However, as this capitalism and economic growth empower individuals and improve stan-

dards of living, democratic values naturally arise, and governments

aren't always ready for this.

What's been seen now are countries that have embraced capitalism and scientific management of economic growth reaching a critical mass of friction between outdated autocratic governments and the increasingly democratic values of society arising from the adoption of capitalism and technology.

Although people have noted the interconnectedness of capitalism and economic growth with democracy for some time, with one often begetting the other, what's really amazing in the example showcased by Egypt's current situation is the role technology plays in this process.

Seeing the impact that companies like Facebook, Twitter, Google and WikiLeaks have had on this situation has been incredible.

In the United States, we've spent time creating all this "disruptive" innovative technology, and we see how this can create new businesses, make stock prices go up and give us fun things to do while online. But America is highly democratic and socially liberalized, so we don't fully recognize that this "disruptive" technology has the ability to turn not only business models upside

down, but can also turn societies and governments upside down.

Technologies are altering the dynamics of interactions in all realms of society, shifting the balance of power and leveling playing fields. We see artists have more bargaining leverage in the music industry, entrepreneurs and innovators have a more level playing field in business, and societies will increasingly have a more level playing field (through organizational mobility and dissemination of ideas) with repressive governments.

The roles WikiLeaks, Facebook and Twitter (each to different extents) play here is all about bargaining and leverage. These companies and their technology are all about eroding informational asymmetries: empowering and organizing society, thus giving them more leverage when interacting with governments and corporations that are typically much more organized (and informed) than they.

The U.S. is pretty healthy in regards to the balance of power between the government and society, so the changes here are mild. But in countries with governments that are much more repressive, we're seeing

changing social dynamics to a much larger extent.

You can tell these repressive governments attempt to preserve the imbalance of information and organization by how quickly Egypt disabled Internet access throughout the country once the riots broke out. (Iran did the same thing after its disastrous elections a few years ago.) However, Google and Twitter were quick to try and remedy this, creating free phone lines for Egyptians to call that convert voicemails into Tweets; this shows the inevitable perseverance of this technology to prevail.

While our hearts go out to the citizens of these countries with political turmoil and social upheaval, it's sort of amazing the power technology has, not only to keep us leisurely occupied with Facebook and Twitter, but also to enable entire societies to challenge and overcome oppressive governments and usher in the democratic ideals that we've enjoyed here in the United States for more than 200 years.

Leal is a junior finance and economics major from Dallas.
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Technologies are altering the dynamics of interactions in all realms of society, shifting the balance of power and leveling playing fields.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

GOP not slipping on abortion, evolution

In response to "GOP slip-ups encourage distrust of right," there was lots of terrible fact checking in this article, and it was poorly put together.

If this young man had even tried to research the number of abortions in relation to rape, he'd find that rape abortions (and ones for similar causes) barely account for 1 percent of total abortions.

He claims this doesn't represent women with options (or true representation), but as a taxpayer, I refuse to pay for a woman who refused the many choices she had to prevent pregnancy. (I guess only this American is represented.)

If rape and incest account for 1 percent of abortions, according to *The New York Times*, the rest of abortions are products of women who refused abstinence, condoms, birth control pills, morning-after pills and adoption.

The abortion "choice" is a burden on taxpayers like me, and I do not want them to waste my money on some woman's personal decisions.

Lastly, though the scientific evidence of evolution is undeniable, as a Christian, I believe this wonderful planet was set in motion by something greater than chance. However, the author attacks Rep. Jack Kingston of Georgia for his statement of evolution from "monkeys." The author states, and I quote, "Silly Kingston, monkeys are on Earth now. Evolving from a current animal is impossible."

Now, oh so bright young man, if evolution from a current animal is impossible now, why couldn't the same be true when the Great Apes were "current animals"?

Brett Nelius is a senior agricultural communications major from Bellville.

Texas education system in major decline

Bayley Fuller



aren't able to retire because they are still paying off bills.

The solution should have been simple enough and common sense to those in power: Don't spend what you don't have. If legislature had taken a hint from personal economics, wouldn't be in this situation. However, what is done is done, so how do schools move on from here?

How will districts compensate with such restricted budgets? Austin school districts are intending to cut "arts education, teacher incentive pay and money for schools to administer steroid testing," according to *The Associated Press*, as well as face the monstrous task of consolidating classrooms by increasing student-to-teacher ratios.

What will happen to the abandoned buildings? They will be knocked down and the land sold for profit or turned into nursing homes and charter schools

for rent. Some districts are even opening up to the public and asking for cost-saving ideas that might help with budget restrictions.

Here is a suggestion: Don't cut some of the most important funding. The arts encourage students to expand their ways of thinking and use other parts of the brain. Students gain important life skills that extend beyond book smarts like creativity and the ability to be well rounded.

As for teacher incentives, let's not punish what I consider to be some of the most valuable and influential employees in the United States. Incentive programs encourage teachers to constantly improve their techniques and to work in challenging districts. Incentive funding rewards employees for innovation, results, and loyalty to their jobs and improving techniques. Taking this away from employees could have drastic effects.

Why are we backtracking in areas where public schools have shown positive changes? One of my biggest issues with many schools' approach is the willingness to consolidate classes. That means even more students per class. A large amount of Texas schools already show ratios of 22-1, according to *beaumontenterprise.com*.

Students and teachers alike suffer from forcing large classes, especially in early education.

There are large learning gaps between children. Frustration occurs when students who understand materials are forced to lower their education standards to accommodate for slower students and vice versa, as students who have trouble learning are forced to suck it up and move too fast, thus missing vital information and skills that build upon each other. The more students, the harder it is to address this gap and meet the education needs for each child.

Districts are suffering all across Texas, and school councils are racking their brains for the best solutions. Unfortunately, we are starting to see the effects of overspending and national debt. The hope is that the education system can withstand the hard times to come and that our nation's children will come out unscathed. Current education majors and public school employees are not so sure, however, and neither am I.

For now, all we can do is push through and wait for local and national reforms to provide an answer to how to preserve our global standing in education and promote efficient spending and teaching.

Fuller is a freshman animal science major from Flower Mound.
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Stress is inevitable, whining is not

By KRISTINA BUI

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT (U. ARIZONA)

My parents taught me how to do my own laundry when I was 12. I can't cook anything fancy, but I know how to avoid starvation if dinner's not already prepared. And hey, I can also tie my own shoes and am fully potty-trained, just like a big kid.

According to a study at UCLA of 200,000 freshmen at 300 colleges, freshmen are reporting record stress levels. The study, which spans over the course of 25 years, found more students than ever rank their own mental health as "below average." Researchers weren't able to pinpoint exact reasons for why freshmen stress levels are on the rise, but say it's likely related to the economy and a pressure to succeed.

That's fair. Money is tight. The study found paternal unemployment was also at its highest since the study began measuring, and more of its participants took out loans. The economy sucks, and all of us are feeling it. The pressure to succeed is fair, too. Students have their futures in mind.

The problem is that, despite apparently being so conscientious about money and accomplishment, freshmen do not come to college prepared for real life. They have their extra-long sheets and their microwaves, their bulletin boards and shiny new MacBook Pros. But they don't know what to do when the window won't open, or the toilet won't flush or their roommate is a jerk. They've never

had to solve their own problems.

Too many teens arrive at school without any idea of how to take care of themselves. Suddenly, dinner's not just on the table and clothes aren't magically hung in the closet. There's reading to do, an essay to write and a new episode of "Glee" on TV. The next thing you know, the book's not open and the essay's still a blank Word document. But you did finish watching "Glee."

Desperation sets in. You call Mom, who sends you some money for food, talks your resident assistant into teaching you how to separate the whites from the darks and asks your professor for an extension. And it's all crap, because all you learned from the experience were the words to an '80s hit song by Journey.

Stress isn't a bad thing if you learn how to cope with it. Parents who coddle their children up until the first day of the semester are just sentencing their kids to a rude awakening in which their children rank their own mental health as "below average" because life just got hard. Sometimes you only learn how to deal with stress if you dye your socks pink first, or you fail an exam or write a bad paper. You will make mistakes, and these mistakes will feel awful. But they are not the end of the world, as record stress levels would suggest.

Shit happens. Stress happens. But you keep your big kid pants on, and you try to take care of yourself before you go running to your parents. Don't stop believing, kiddo.

The current recession has put a strain on the majority of our pocket books, but it is about to take a chunk out of Texas education as well. If the new Texas House proposal passes, then be prepared.

With the country and state stuck with enormous debt, our generation and those after us are starting to pay the price. Budget cuts in the billions are beginning to gain popularity in the Legislative Budget Board.

According to the *Texas Tribune*, "Public education spending would drop a total of \$7 billion from current levels." I understand the need for cuts, but the numbers have me a little worried. Seven billion is no small chunk of change, and while the cut covers some 1,100 districts to break the fall, what about those who have no money to spare? Poorer Texas border cities such as El Paso already face "under-qualified teachers," according to the *El Paso Times*. With budget cuts in play, certain issues are bound to be even worse.

I give props to state legislatures finally taking charge of their outrageous spending, but this is not the right place to cut back. Americans have always been fond of spending on credit and using money they don't have. Take a look at people around you. College kids are graduating with debilitating credit card debt, and adults

Scientists agree — caffeine, aspirin are college students' best friends

By BRITTANY BELLA GRAHAM
DAILY FORTY-NINER
(CALIFORNIA STATE U.-LONG BEACH)

We've all experienced it before. That queasy, gut-wrenching moment when your legs suddenly turn into jello and the wavy elation you've been merrily going along swiftly disappears. Your heart begins to pitter-patter as you struggle to maintain your dignity and quickly make your way to the nearest restroom. Or exit. Whichever one is closest.

Yes, you're drunk and miserable on top of that. However, what's worse than almost losing your dinner in front of all your friends and the cutie from biology class — whom you've been crushing on for weeks — is what will inevitably occur whenever you awake from your alcohol-induced coma the next morning. Hopefully, you won't open your eyes and discover

that you've fallen asleep next to the toilet; undoubtedly, you'll awake with a heavy, pulsating head that feels as if it's been hit by a baseball bat.

Okay, I'll admit the drunken scenario I'm describing may be a tad bit dramatic but the dreaded, next-day hangover is something not too many college students — or professors for that matter — can deny having experienced. This case especially when someone gives you a pretty pink bottle of Nuvo liqueur for your birthday and you guzzle it down like champagne because of the sparkling bubbles and fruity flavor, only to later discover that the alcohol proof is 15 percent. But enough about me.

Lucky for you and me, Michael Oshinsky, a research scientist and assistant professor of Neurology at Thomas Jefferson U. in Philadelphia has proven that a simple dose of caffeine and a painkiller may be all it takes to soothe a throbbing head and ringing ears.

According to Dr. Oshinsky, ethanol — also known as pure alcohol — contains the active chemical acetate, or the culprit responsible for those nagging headaches.

By injecting rats with small doses of ethanol — about the equivalent of one drink in humans — Dr. Oshinsky and Christina Maxwell, a student in the Neuroscience program, were able to induce headaches, which they later cured by giving the rats caffeine and anti-inflammatory ingredients found in aspirin to block the acetate; thus relieving the rats' "hangovers."

However, what was particularly interesting was the discovery that the rats used in Dr. Oshinsky's study were not dehydrated after their alcohol injections. This suggests that contrary to popular belief, the amount of water consumed the night before doesn't necessarily result in better hydration.

"Dehydration is not necessary to induce the headaches," Oshinsky said. "I'm not saying that dehydration is

not a cause [of headaches], I'm just saying that in alcohol it is not the only issue."

Dr. Oshinsky, whose findings have since been published in the "New Scientist Journal," says the best time to take your dose of caffeine and aspirin is around four hours after drinking, when the acetate levels begin to reach their peak.

So the next time you wake up on the wrong side of the bed — or the toilet — with a halting headache due to one too many Jager Bombs the night before, march straight into the kitchen, brew yourself a strong cup of coffee and sing, "a spoon full of coffee makes the aspirin go down" in your best Mary Poppins voice and — I assure you — you'll feel as good as new. In fact — just a brief warning — you may even feel "new" enough to repeat the previous night's events. That's your risk to take, but remember, there's no test that proves it works two days in a row.

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New 'Golden Sun' lives up to series' pedigree

When the original "Golden Sun" games were released on the GameBoy Advance, they helped solidify the system as a great machine for RPGs. They were graphically impressive, had a lot of charm and did some interesting things with their puzzles and characters.

It took awhile, but the series is finally back with "Golden Sun: Dark Dawn" on the Nintendo DS. The question is, is it as golden as its predecessors, or does it fall short of expectations?

For the most part, "Dark Dawn" is just as solid as fans wanted it to be. The gameplay, while occasionally on the easy side, retains the same great balance of depth and approachability that the first two games had. At its core, battles play out like typical, old-school RPGs. The player selects actions and attacks for his cast of characters, and then those characters and the enemies take turns duking it out.

Where "Golden Sun" changes things up most is with Djinn — small, legendary creatures that give their user power over their specific element of magic, be it Venus (Earth), Mars (Fire), Jupiter (Air) or Mercury (Water). Depending on what Djinn you have equipped to each character, you might get new and exciting spells to take into battle, and your characters' stats may be affected (both positively and negatively). Managing Djinn is a key component of battle strategy.

But just as exciting is that magical abilities, the area of "Dark Dawn" that isn't as exciting is the story. While it's mostly fine, it probably won't manage to grab hold of you as easily as the original games did. Maybe the excitement of learning about Djinn and psynergy (magic) is merely gone after that first experience, but the characters and settings just don't seem as interesting this time around.

Unfortunately, the area of "Dark Dawn" that isn't as exciting is the story. While it's mostly fine, it probably won't manage to grab hold of you as easily as the original games did. Maybe the excitement of learning about Djinn and psynergy (magic) is merely gone after that first experience, but the characters and settings just don't seem as interesting this time around.

Britton Peele



The game takes place 30 years after the first two games, and you play as the children of the original "Golden Sun" heroes. In a lot of ways, the children are carbon copies of their parents, wielding very similar abilities and possessing very similar personalities. This itself isn't much of a problem, except that much of the game's story boils down to, "That thing that threatened the world in the first game is threatening the world again," and that's pretty disappointing. It's not the least original plot out there, and in fact tends to serve its purpose just fine, but it still feels a lot like familiar ground.

On the upside, they can take the plot in more interesting directions with the next installment, which ends up being hinted at as this one ends.

But even though the story won't blow you away, the rest of the game is really solid. It plays great and looks really good. The DS isn't lacking in good RPGs, but this one still manages to stand tall among the competition. It's worth checking out if you want a good fantasy adventure in your pocket.

■ **Peele is The DT's opinions editor. E-mail him at britton.peele@ttu.edu.**

Giant map of South America comes to campus

By LAUREN FERGUSON
STAFF WRITER

As an elementary school student, did you ever think you could take a map off the wall, take your shoes off and experience the geography for yourself?

In the basement of the education building, Room ED001, students can experience a giant map of South America. Rented from National Geographic, the map will travel across the Texas Panhandle and eastern New Mexico to rural elementary schools.

"The map is an interactive map to teach geography. The kids are actually on the map to do hands-on kinesthetic activities," said Penny Pollart, an education graduate student from Canyon.

The map comes with many different lesson plans that different age groups can participate. Associate professor of education Reese Todd demonstrated the idea of rainwater moving through the tributaries out to the ocean, an optional lesson plan that works with the giant map.

"For example, there are Legos, and the kids are assigned a card with a major city, and on the card it would say, 'Go to San Paolo, and San Paolo has a population of 18 million.' They are told that each Lego represents 1 million, and so then they stack 18 legos," Pollart said. "(The students) then can look at everyone else's, and they get a visual representation of the populations of the major cities." There are many visual representations on the map, including cones showing mountainous regions, blue chains showing the rivers and cards indicating country capitals. One of the lessons includes animals so the students can learn about the sea turtles in the island area and the toucans in the rainforest.

"Students kind of feel like they have been there once they step on that place on the map."

PENNY POLLART
EDUCATION GRAD STUDENT
FROM CANYON



PHOTO BY KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador
A GIANT MAP of South America, measuring 25 by 36 feet is on display in the education basement room ED001 through Thursday.

National Geographic also has giant maps of North America and Africa, and this year they will be coming out with a map of the Pacific Ocean, highlighting Australia and the Coral Reef.

"You think back to when you were doing geography in school and you colored maps and labeled everything," Pollart said. "Students kind of feel like they have been there once they step on that place on the map." Many Texas Tech professors

have built lesson plans so their students can interact with the map. Tech education students can learn a lot about interactive lessons and getting creative in the classroom, Pollart said.

Tech students have visited the map not just for education classes, but also for language classes. Some archaeology students visited because they will travel to Ecuador, Todd said.

Novella Landau, a freshman mechanical engineering major from Houston, visited the map because of her family's connection to South America.

"My mom is from Columbia, and my dad was a geologist, so he went all over the world," Landau said. "He was in Columbia and Venezuela all the time."

Landau learned exactly where Angel Falls is as she learned about the different geographic areas of South America. Students from the elementary schools will get a chance to do the same in the upcoming weeks.

The map will be on display until the end of the day Thursday. More information is available at www.travelingmap.webs.com.

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Farrah Fawcett's red swimsuit goes to Smithsonian

WASHINGTON (AP) — The red swimsuit that helped make "Charlie's Angels" actress Farrah Fawcett a 1970s icon became part of the Smithsonian's collection Wednesday on what would have been her 64th birthday.

Fawcett's longtime companion Ryan O'Neal presented the swimsuit and other items to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington. O'Neal said Fawcett, who died in 2009 after battling anal cancer for several years, always intended to give the suit to the museum.

"They asked her years ago for the bathing suit," he said. "So it was always in her plan."

Fawcett wore the bathing suit for a photo shoot shortly before her debut on Charlie's Angels in 1976. The resulting poster sold millions of copies and became the best selling poster of all time, according to Smithsonian curator Dwight Bowers. Bowers compared the poster to World War II pinups of Betty Grable and Rita Hayworth, saying it became a symbol of the 1970s era.

Though fans know the bathing suit as red, it is actually a burnt orange color, possibly due to fading. Before it was donated to the museum, Fawcett framed it herself, and it was stored at a Los Angeles warehouse, O'Neal said.

Nels Van Patten, Fawcett's friend and tennis coach who was with her during the bathing suit shoot, said Wednesday she did her own hair and makeup for the pictures and didn't have a mirror. She also squeezed a lemon in her hair to get natural highlights, he said.

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Class ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The recruiting haul, however, had the potential to finish with an even stronger rating.

Marcus Roberson, a corner from Saint Thomas Aquinas High School in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., initially committed to Tech before Auburn and Florida emerged as frontrunners for his services in the days leading up to National Signing Day.

Roberson, the second-ranked corner in the country by both Scout.com and Rivals.com, signed with the Gators on Tuesday. But as the recruiting game goes, Tech still had its chance to land some surprise and last-second recruits of its own.

Enter Cooper Washington—originally an Oklahoma commit.

“Obviously, Cooper Washington from Muleshoe (Texas),” Tuberville said when asked if he was surprised by any of the Tuesday signees. “He’s a guy that’s close to home, and he had some family ties at the University of Oklahoma ... But in the last few days, he had a change of heart ... So we do appreciate the confidence he has in us, and we’re excited about him deciding to jump on board with us.”

Tuberville said being close to home was a key factor in capturing Washington’s signature. Muleshoe lies 68.9 miles from Lubbock, making for a drive of close to an hour and a half.

West Texas played the deciding factor in Washington’s decision but is not something that has drawn in prized recruits in the past. Tech’s highest-ranked recruiting prior to the 2011 class was the 2006 group, ranked 25th.

Tuberville sees it differently and said the toughest selling point

during the recruiting process was the fact that he and his current staff have been in Lubbock for just one season.

Tuberville said a draw for some of the signees was the progress Tech has made and continues to make, which is shown with recruiting battles the Red Raiders were engaged in with opposition from leagues like the Southeastern Conference.

“We had no problem selling Lubbock and the community and West Texas and the Big 12 (Conference) ... The thing you run into—and we went to other conferences, and we competed against the so-called ‘big boys’ in this country in college football. We beat them some; they beat us some. But what makes me feel good is they had to take off the soft gloves and put on the hard ones because they knew we were in town.”

As a result of Tuberville’s recruiting in various regions, the Red Raiders successfully signed players from states such as Alabama, Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin.

All of Tuberville’s targets, however, were not the typical five-star, blue-chippers most powerhouse programs set their eyes on.

Tuberville said there is no such thing as players who can fit into every single program, but each one has his right fit. So Tuberville and his staff went after the type of athlete that is going to keep Tech going in the direction they have envisioned.

“The thing we were looking for after character, work ethic and academic integrity—what we wanted to look at quickness and speed,” Tuberville said. “Really not worried about size. A lot of them are going to grow anyway.”

As far as undersized, some

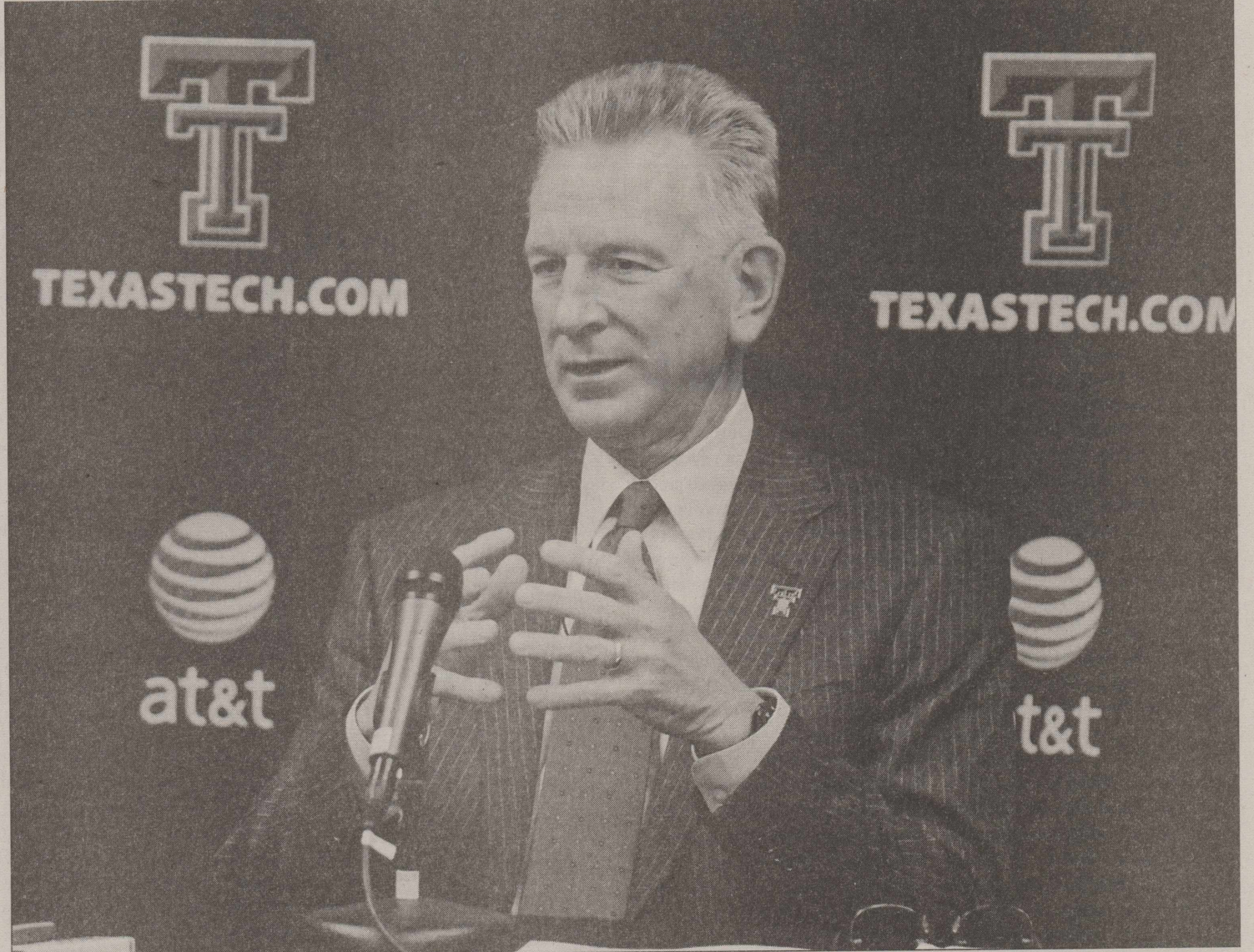


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH COACH Tommy Tuberville speaks at the Red Raiders’ National Signing Day press conference. Tech’s class is ranked 18th by Scout.com and 19th by Rivals.com.

mentioned names were Kindred Evans, a 6-foot-6, 215-pound defensive end from Grand Prairie, and LeRaven Clark, a 6-foot-6, 275-pound offensive tackle from Rockdale.

Some notable names from the 2011 class are running backs Kenny Williams from Pflugerville, Bradley Marquez from Odessa and Ronnie Daniels from Albu-

querque, N.M., along with Jace Amaro, the nation’s third-ranked tight end by Rivals.com.

Amaro also was named to USA Today’s First-Team All-American squad.

Williams, Marquez and Daniels, accompanied by DeAndre Washington, give Tech the No. 1 overall group of signed running backs by Scout.com.

Considering the praise Tuberville’s recruiting class has attracted, some would treat this National Signing Day as a celebration—not Tuberville.

Tuberville said Tuesday served more as a regular season finale to his first year as coach of the Red Raiders.

“We’ll go through spring, off-season, summer workouts, spring

recruiting, fall, fall recruiting, fall season, into the evaluation period, through the signing period and through the holidays,” Tuberville said. “Hopefully play in a bowl (game), and then into signing day again and then signing day will end it up.”

“This is basically our last game of the year.”

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Cautious ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

The first thing to remember is the vast majority of the players signed won’t see the field this year. Many will redshirt, others will back up more experienced players, and still others won’t even make it to campus, enrolling at junior colleges. Obviously, if Tuberville sticks around and signs a class this good or better the next three years then we’ll see this crop on the field as leaders.

Secondly, it’s important to remember that just because your team has an amazing recruiting class, you still have to put it all together on the field. Not only does a No. 1 ranking mean you won’t be in a championship, it doesn’t even guarantee that you’ll have a winning record. Ex-

hibit A: Texas. The Longhorns, who despite years and years of top-five classes missed a bowl game this past season.

Additionally, there are always those players who slip through the cracks or excel under a certain coaching situation or position change. You never know when a two-star or three-star guy is going to come in, figure things out and set the world on fire.

The class is reason for optimism, but that optimism should be a cautious one.

Tuberville and his staff still need time before they can craft Tech into a perennial power. This class is a step in the right direction, but only one of many needed to become an elite football school.

■ **Arnold is The DT’s managing editor.**
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Soccer ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Stone called new signee Hinkle one of the best left backs in the country. Hinkle started at left back for the U.S. U17 team.

“A natural lefty, Jae’s selection to the U17 and U20 National Teams is a testament to the high standard of her play,” Stone said in a press release. “The first time Jae picks up the ball and comes flying out of the back, our fans will be on their feet.”

Hinkle, from Denver, was a 2010 Parade All-American and was invited to the 2011 U20 National Team Camp.

The other player with Youth National team experience is Inman, an Austin native. Stone said the pair could have played for any college in the nation.

Stone said Texas has some of the best youth soccer in the nation, consistently producing top players.

“We don’t have to wander far,” he said. “The best players in the country are right here in the Texas and north Texas, specifically.”

The class also includes Lubbock native Narvaiz, a Monterey High School product.

Stone said it is hard to tell how good a class is until a couple of years have passed, but this year’s class has the potential to be amongst Stone’s top classes because of how high he and his coaches have set the bar.

“This certainly has the potential to be a very special class,” Stone said in a press release. “We have addressed some specific needs that will help us continue on our path of successful development of the program.”

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Aggies pick up 6 LBs in class

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Texas A&M addressed its biggest need on signing day, picking up six linebackers after losing Butkus Award winner Von Miller to graduation.

Leading the group was late addition Brandon Alexander, a 6-6, 240-pounder from Brenham who played defensive end in high school.

The Aggies were also involved in some signing day drama. They got a late addition to their class in sought after cornerback Floyd Raven. Raven was initially part of Mississippi’s recruiting class, but coach Houston Nutt announced that his mother signed his letter of intent and he wouldn’t attend the school.

Hours later, Texas A&M con-

firmed that he had signed with the Aggies.

Alexander has only played football for a short time and just moved to Brenham this season when his guardian took a coaching job at Blinn Junior College. He had 59 tackles, five sacks and one fumble recovery last season.

“After his first ball game, we were pretty sold that he was the type of linebacker that we think could fit into our system and excel,” coach Mike Sherman said. “He’s a tremendous pass rusher and he has great length and size. We have very high expectations for him.”

Along with Miller, the Aggies also lost fellow senior linebacker Michael Hodges who led the team 115 tackles and had 4 1/2 sacks. Miller had 68 tackles including 17 1/2 for losses.

Today's **su | do | ku**

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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.

2	7	1	4	8	9	3	5	6
9	5	4	7	3	6	2	1	8
3	8	6	2	5	1	7	9	4
7	4	5	9	6	8	1	3	2
6	3	8	1	2	5	4	7	9
1	9	2	3	4	7	6	8	5
8	1	7	6	9	4	5	2	3
5	6	3	8	1	2	9	4	7
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Patriots' Belichick wins 3rd Coach of Year honor

DALLAS (AP) — Bill Belichick is closing in on Don Shula.

The New England coach Bill Belichick won The Associated Press' 2010 NFL Coach of the Year award on Wednesday, the third time Belichick has earned the honor. Belichick, who also won in 2003 and 2007, now trails only Don Shula, a four-time winner of the award.

For leading the Patriots to a 14-2 record, the best in the league, Belichick received 30 votes from a nationwide panel of 50 media members who regularly cover the NFL. That easily beat Raheem Morris, who led a turnaround in Tampa Bay and got 11½ votes.

Belichick has overseen a transition in New England to a younger

team, particularly on defense. Of course, he still has Offensive Player of the Year Tom Brady at quarterback.

"I will say the foundation of the Patriots organization, which starts with Mr. Kraft and Coach Belichick, has not changed since the day I arrived," Brady said. "They have and will always do what is in the best interest of the team, and they will continue to find selfless players that love to work hard, compete and strive to be the best they can possibly be."

Then Belichick makes them even better.

"He really stays on top of us," wide receiver Wes Welker said. "He makes sure that we're not getting overconfident or believing in the

noise outside the locker room and understand that every game's tough in the NFL."

Belichick's record with the Patriots is 126-50, plus a 14-5 mark in the postseason, with losses in the last three tries with teams that went a collective 40-8. His career winning percentage of .716 ranks eighth, tied with Hall of Famer Paul Brown, and no other coach has four 14-victory regular seasons.

This might have been Belichick's most impressive work as the Patriots retooled much of the roster, yet had a dominant regular season in which they won their final eight games.

"When you have so many things that go into a team, so many things that go into what's happened over

the last decade, which ones do you point to?" he said. "You can make an argument for a lot of different things. In the end, it's each individual team and that collection of players that particular year and that particular time during the season or whatever it is, that was able to go out there and be successful."

Belichick basically rebuilt the defense, particularly the secondary, where rookie Devin McCourty made the Pro Bowl.

He showed confidence in BenJarvus Green-Ellis as his main running back, and Green-Ellis rushed for 1,008 yards. Belichick claimed Danny Woodhead when the Jets cut him, and Woodhead was a dynamic piece of the offense and special teams.

A&M

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Danielle Adams has been a star for the Aggies since arriving in 2009. At the end of her first year in maroon and white, she filled her mantle with multiple post-season awards.

Adams was named the Big 12 Conference Newcomer of the Year, State Farm All-American Team Finalist and Associated Press All-American Honorable Mention.

She finished the season averaging 16.3 and 5.8 rebounds points per game.

That success has carried over to this year, as Adams is leading the team in scoring, averaging 22.4 points per game and 8.6 boards per game.

"I wouldn't say you can really can slow her down," Texas Tech sophomore guard Chynna Brown said about Adams. "You know she can shoot the three, she's a great rebounder. She's a great player herself."

Adams also has been named Big 12 Player of the Week three times this season, with the most recent being Jan. 24.

Adams said this season is not about the records or the awards,

but rather about seeing how far they can push themselves.

"We're not trying to make history, we're just trying to play the game and just to have a good season," she said. "I think this is probably one of (Blair's) best teams that he's ever coached. We're living up to our expectations and just trying to make it deep into the NCAA tournament."

The first blemish to the Aggies' record was to then-No. 5 Duke on Dec. 6 when A&M lost 61-58.

Since then, A&M has steamrolled a lot of teams but also had some close calls and stumbles.

Last week, the Aggies came close to suffering back-to-back losses for the first time this season. It was a close call in Norman, Okla., as Texas A&M squeaked out an 80-78 victory. The next game, the Aggies did not have such luck, losing to No. 1 Baylor on Saturday in College Station, 63-60.

Even with the two losses, the team has played strong all season, and senior guard Maryann Baker

said the success has been nice, but the squad is not yet satisfied and has not reached its full potential yet.

"We're a hungry team, and we're a team that knows how much potential we have," she said. "But I still don't think we're playing at our highest level. I think the future can be bright for us as we continue to work hard."

The Lady Raiders host A&M at 2 p.m. Saturday in United Spirit Arena.

jkoch@dailytoreador.com

Mavericks beat Knicks for sixth consecutive win

NEW YORK (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki had 29 points and 11 rebounds, and the Dallas Mavericks seized control in the third quarter before beating the New York Knicks 113-97 on Wednesday night for their sixth straight victory.

Jose Barea added 22 points and Tyson Chandler had 15 points and 11 boards for the Mavericks, who outscored the Knicks 26-6 to open the second half and went on to their fifth consecutive win in New York.

This one wasn't as dominant as the Mavs' 128-78 rout on Jan. 24, 2010, their most lopsided win ever and the Knicks' worst loss on their home floor. But Dallas was just as impressive in the first 7½ minutes of the third quarter en route to its 16th win in the past 18 meetings overall.

Danilo Gallinari scored 27 points and Amare Stoudemire finished with 21, but missed all five shots in the second half before leaving for good as the Knicks went deep into their bench.

Playing without starting forward Wilson Chandler for the third straight game because of a sore left calf, the Knicks missed 26-of-36 shots over a

nearly 20-minute span bridging the second and third quarters. Toney Douglas had 22 points off the bench, but starting guards Raymond Felton and Landry Fields were a combined 6 of 25.

Leading by four at halftime, Dallas opened the third with a 15-4 burst, with Nowitzki's 3-pointer making it 71-56 not long after Stoudemire botched a dunk. A basket by Shawne Williams briefly halted the Mavs' momentum, but Jason Kidd made a 3-pointer, Barea converted a three-point play, Tyson Chandler dunked and DeShawn Stevenson nailed a 3-pointer to make it 82-58 with 4:27 left.

The Knicks, who missed 11 of 14 to start the period, suddenly stormed back when Gallinari led a 13-0 burst that cut it to 82-71 on Douglas' layup with 1:14 remaining. Dallas led by 13 going to the fourth.

Nowitzki and Jason Terry hit the first two baskets of the final period and the Knicks never got within single digits, with the Mavs using another burst midway through the period to put it away.

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SPORTS

PAGE 8
THURSDAY, FEB. 3, 2011

Tech soccer inks six on national signing day

By **TOMMY MAGELSEN**
NEWS EDITOR

Texas Tech soccer announced the signing of six players Wednesday to be a part of the Red Raider team next fall.

One additional player enrolled early in January to get a head start on school and practice with the team.

In years past, Tech coach Tom Stone said, Tech recruited players based on overall talent, but

this year was a little bit different.

"It's the first time that we've ever really been able to say that we're specifically going to address our needs," Stone said.

The class is heavy on defenders and midfielders, including two with U.S. Youth National



STONE

Team experience.

The new faces on next year's roster include defenders Jaelene Hinkle, Cheyenne Diggs and Bridgett Jenkins; defender/midfielder Jackie Strug; midfielder Erin Inman; and midfielders/forwards Paige Strahan and Taylor Narvaiz.

Coming off a seventh-place finish in the Big 12 Conference, Tech lost only three players from last year's squad: goalkeeper Colleen Pitts, forward Leanne Mihelich and attacking defender

Whitney Sharpe.

Stone said the coaching staff targeted dynamic, technical players who can help attack from the back line.

Last season, Red Raider fans were given a taste of the kind of offensive production the Red Raider backline could be capable of with Sharpe and freshman Malory Yacullo from the wingback positions.

SOCCER continued on Page 6

THE SIX

Jaelene Hinkle

- Defender from Denver
- 2010 member of U.S. U17 National Team
- 2010 Parade All-American

Erin Inman

- Defender from Austin
- 2010 U.S. U18 National Camp attendee
- Ranked No. 12 in state by Top Drawer Soccer

Cheyenne Diggs

- Defender from Durant, Okla.
- Early Enrollee
- Traveled to Europe for the Youth World Cup finals with Texas Football Club

Jackie Strug

- Defender/Midfielder from Plano

- Club team named North Texas State Cup Champions in 2007
- Three-year varsity player at Plano Senior HS

Bridgett Jenkins

- Defender from Keller
- Keller High School soccer captain
- Also runs track

Taylor Narvaiz

- Midfielder/Forward from Lubbock
- Attends Monterey High School
- Ranked No. 8 in state by Top Drawer Soccer

Paige Strahan

- Midfielder/Forward from Odessa
- Attends Odessa Permian High School
- 2011 nominee for Permian HS Hall of Fame

Tough schedule key in A&M's best start during Blair's tenure

By **JOSHUA KOCH**
STAFF WRITER

In the eight years Gary Blair has been at the helm of the women's basketball program at Texas A&M, no season has gone like this one.

The No. 6 Aggies are 18-2 overall and 6-1 in Big 12 Conference play, which is the best start in the Blair era.

Blair said the team has done well but it has not come easy because he put together a tough schedule to see what this team was made of.

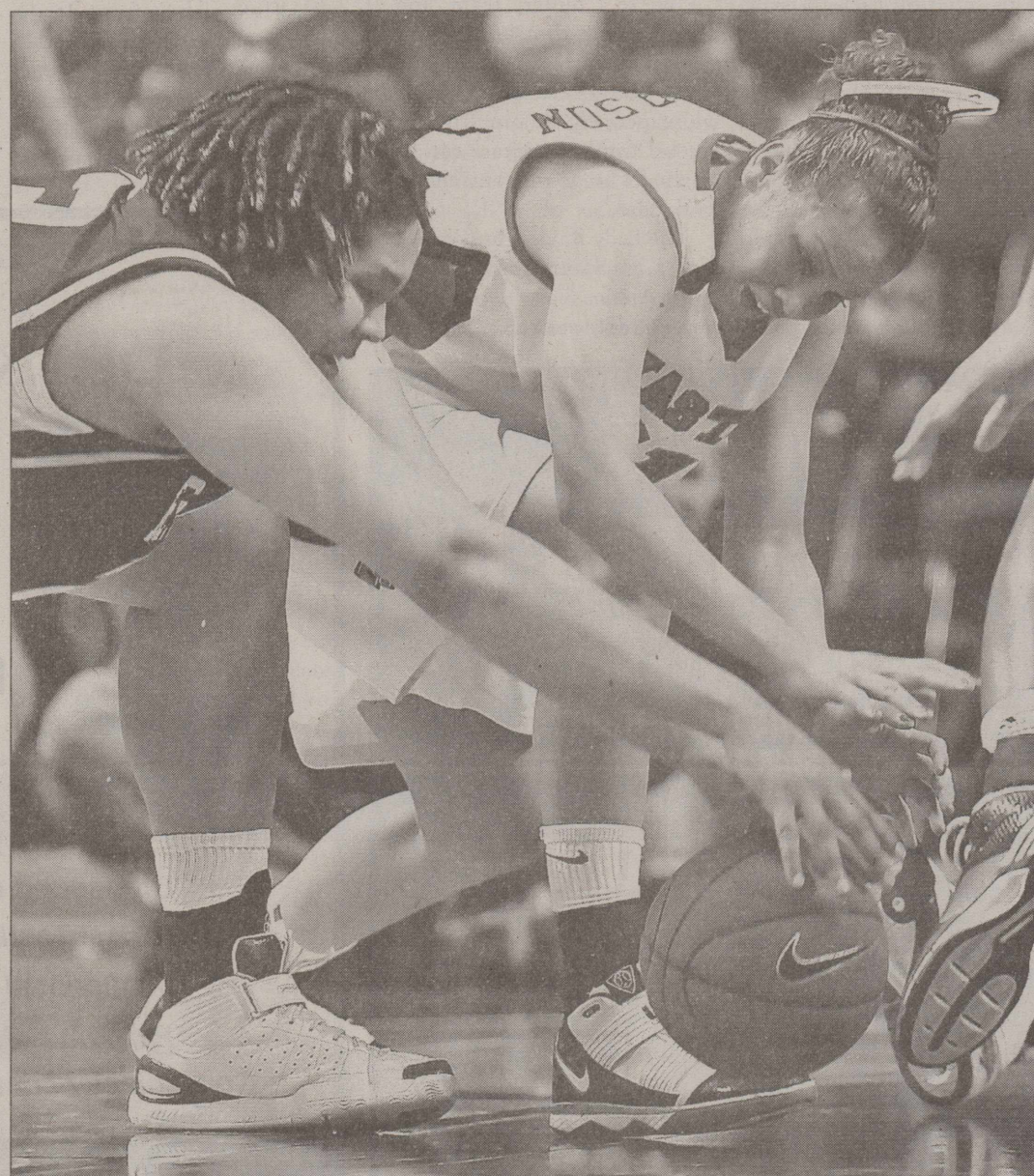
"We want our team to be able to get better by playing this type of schedule," he said, "and that's what it's all about. When you have a better team, the harder the schedule you can play is going to make you play longer in March."

The past two seasons, the Aggies have gone into March, but not as deep as they probably wanted to go, as both ended in early NCAA tournament exits.

The deepest the Aggies have gone in the tournament under Blair was in the 2007-08 season. Texas A&M made it to the Elite 8 before falling to eventual national champion Tennessee.

This season is looking like the 2007-08 season, but better. The players from that team now are juniors and seniors and have a lot more experience under their belts.

A&M continued on Page 7



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreado

TEXAS TECH'S ASHLEE Roberson, right, and Texas A&M's Danielle Adams struggle for the ball during the game against Texas A&M last season. The Aggies are off to their best start ever under coach Gary Blair, and a tough schedule has A&M's confidence riding high.

Approach best football class with cautious optimism

In signing the best recruiting class in Texas Tech football history, Tommy Tuberville and his coaching staff took a huge step toward their stated goal of bringing championships to the South Plains.

The class, ranked 18th in the country by Scout.com and 19th by Rivals.com, is full of players with an immense amount of potential. Nearly every position where Tech had gaps was filled by a highly rated prospect.

Of course, Tuberville was able to target more players to fit his system, which had to help immensely. While Tech still landed a star quarterback and a slew of great wide receivers, there's also one of the country's best tight end prospects and a batch of great running backs.

With this class, the coach is beginning to live up to his reputation as a top-notch recruiter.

Not only did Tuberville land

Jon Arnold



a great class, he did so despite the departure of his defensive coordinator James Willie and defensive backs coach Travaris Robinson. He wrestled prospects away from Big 12 South rivals like Texas A&M and Oklahoma.

All of this is great news for Red Raider fans, but don't pop that bubbly just yet.

Recruiting is paramount to building a football team; however, a great recruiting class doesn't necessarily translate to championships — especially not immediately.

CAUTIOUS continued on Page 6

Texas' Brown holds yet another top class together

AUSTIN (AP) — After signing so many top recruiting classes, Texas coach Mack Brown faced a new challenge: holding one together after the first losing season in 13 years and an offseason of turmoil.

Brown said Wednesday he was astonished Texas would hold on to and sign 22 recruits in a class rated

— once again — among the best in the country.

No day was tougher than Dec. 11 when Texas was hosting 14 recruits and their families. Defensive coordinator and coach-in-waiting Will Muschamp talked to them at breakfast. Just before dinner, the news broke that Muschamp was leaving to be the head coach at Florida.

Muschamp was one of six assistant coaches to leave in the offseason.

Brown's message to the stunned recruits: "Trust me. I'll hire people you like."

If they didn't like the new coaches and wanted to sign somewhere else, Brown said he'd personally call other schools on their behalf.

"It was a little uncertain," Brown said. "Some of them looked at me like I was crazy."

In the end, Texas signed all but one of the 23 players who made official visits to campus.

"It shows you their love for this university and commitment to us," Brown said.

Today's su | do | ku

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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.

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

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