

MAIN CONTENT INSIDE

THE DAILY TOREADOR

KNIGHT OUT, PAGE 8

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

Good Knight & good luck

Pat Knight fired; follows iconic father
out three years after taking over program



ILLUSTRATION BY KEVIN CULLEN/The Daily Toreador

Day one and you're in the know

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Community Calendar

TODAY

Mardi Gras Comes to Tech
Time: 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Where: Foreign language building, second floor
So, what is it?
 This tradition spans many cultures, yet each has its own unique way of celebrating, whether it is a masquerade extravaganza, a pancake week or a three-day music festival. The foreign language department is hosting an afternoon of free food from different cultures that celebrate Mardi Gras, music, cultural performances and beads and masks for all who attend. Come in costume to compete for a prize.

Study Abroad Photo Exhibit Reception
Time: 5 p.m.
Where: International Cultural Center
So, what is it?
 Opening reception for "Adventures in Study Abroad," the International Cultural Center's annual juried exhibition of photographs taken by Tech students while studying abroad.

Free HIV and STD Testing
Time: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Where: Horn-Knapp Residence Hall
So, what is it?
 Teen Straight Talk and the Region 1 State Health Department are hosting free testing and informational events. For more information, call Linda Brice at 241-3652.

Landscape as Knowledge: Liz Wells
Time: 7 p.m.
Where: English/Philosophy, Room 001
So, what is it?
 Tech's Landscape as Knowledge series hosts Liz Wells, professor in photographic culture, faculty of arts at University of Plymouth, UK, and director of Land/Water

and the Visual Arts. Wells writes and lectures on photographic practices.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble: SWE Goes to the Opera
Time: 8 p.m.
Where: Hemmle Recital Hall
So, what is it?
 The Wind Ensemble presents popular works by Mozart, Hagen, Wagner, Puckett and Bernstein.

WEDNESDAY

"Brilliant at the Basics"
Time: Noon to 1 p.m.
Where: Health Sciences Center, Academic Classroom Building, Room 150
So, what is it?
 Red to Black and the Texas Tech Federal Credit Union present a discussion about the basics of personal finance. Free lunch for the first 25 attendants.

Texas Tech Softball
Time: 1 p.m.
Where: Rocky Johnson Field
So, what is it?
 Watch the Red Raiders take on the New Mexico Lobos


Just Over Broke
Time: 7 p.m.
Where: Pub 50
So, what is it?
 Enjoy classic rock and blues music at this small North Overton bar.

Cody Beebe and the Crooks
Time: 9 p.m.
Where: Bash Riprock's
So, what is it?
 Check out this seven-piece roots rock and Americana band from Seattle that blends rock, blues and country.

Honeybrowne
Time: 10 p.m.
Where: Blue Light
So, what is it?
 Enjoy live Texas country music at this Depot District venue.

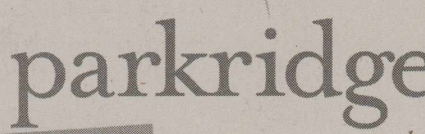
To make a calendar submission e-mail dailytoreador@ttu.edu.

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.



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Aldawsari waives detention hearing

Khalid Aldawsari, the former Texas Tech student accused of attempt to use a weapon of mass destruction, waived his right to a detention hearing, according to court documents filed Monday.

The hearing previously was scheduled for Friday.

The document, which Aldawsari signed Saturday, states he currently will not seek release on bail.

"I understand and agree the Detention Order will find there

is clear and convincing evidence to detain me without setting a bond," he said in the statement.

Aldawsari reserved the right to request a hearing in which the judge would reconsider whether he is a flight risk or a danger to the public, but



ALDAWASARI

only if new evidence emerges, according to the document.

"I acknowledge before a hearing will be held and a release ordered, I must satisfy the conditions for release in 18 U.S.C. 3142(f), Par. 2," the statement reads. "The Reconsideration Hearing may only be held before trial and release considered if I have pled and offered evidence of the existence of information not known when I waived a Detention Hearing and the

information appears to have a material bearing on the release conditions."

The statement was submitted Monday by Aldawsari's lawyer, Rod Hobson. Hobson's office said there would be no further comment released Monday.

Aldawsari, a Saudi citizen, was charged Feb. 23 and appeared before Judge Nancy Koenig on Feb. 25 for his initial appearance.

► jarnold@dailytoreador.com

Texas Tech Police investigate sexual assault report

By BRITTANY HOOVER
 LA VIDA EDITOR

A Texas Tech police officer was dispatched to Knapp Residence Hall at about 11 a.m. Saturday to document a sexual assault complaint of a female student that occurred early that morning, according to a campus crime alert notification posted on TechAnnounce on Monday.

Texas Tech Police declined to comment because of the ongoing investigation.

According to the crime alert notification, shortly after the officer's arrival the student was transported to University Medical Center for evaluation by a sexual-assault nurse examiner.

During investigation, the

student told detectives she attended a party in Chitwood Residence Hall on Saturday at about 12:30 a.m. She reported she had become intoxicated and left the party with a male friend, who escorted her to Coleman Residence Hall around 1:30 a.m.

The student then remembered she left personal belongings at the party, and her male friend asked her to wait for him in the Coleman lobby while he retrieved her property. She reported she was then approached by two black males, who spoke to her and, after discovering she was intoxicated, took her to the seventh floor study lounge in Coleman and sexually assaulted her. Authorities believe the as-

sault occurred between 1:30 a.m. and 2 a.m.

Sean Duggan, director of University Student Housing, said residence halls have cameras on entrances and in public spaces like lobbies. He said he is unsure if video footage or a community adviser on duty at the time could confirm the encounter.

Duggan said a resident's Tech ID card is required to gain access upstairs to the study lounge in Coleman, unless another resident lets the person into the area.

He said student housing is cooperating with Tech Police and called the situation "very tragic."

Col. Kenny Evans with Tech Police said the investigation is ongoing and investigators are conducting interviews and seeking leads in an effort to identify suspects.

The first suspect was described as a tall, college-age black male with a muscular build and short dreadlocks wearing a red shirt or jacket. The second suspect was described as a tall, college-age black male with a shaved haircut wearing a white shirt and blue jacket.

If you have any information about the offense, can identify suspects or witnessed suspicious activity, contact an investigator with Tech Police at 806-742-
 ► bhooover@dailytoreador.com

Potential GOP presidential candidates visit Iowa

WAUKEE, Iowa (AP) — Several Republicans mulling 2012 presidential bids descended on Iowa Monday to test their strength among social conservatives who hold the key to the state's lead-off caucuses.

Whether any of them manages to stand out from the crowd hints at how a scattered and as-yet undeclared GOP field will eventually shake out. Five of the potential candidates took the stage for a forum at a church in the Des Moines suburb of Waukee, hoping to set themselves apart.

"I do believe we have an extraordinarily fundamental choice to make in this election," said former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, one of those who participated. "We are at a crossroads that we cannot hide from: What kind of country do we want to leave to our children and grandchildren?"

The forum hosted by The Iowa Faith and Freedom Coalition also included former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty, businessman Herman Cain, former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum and former Louisiana Gov. Buddy Roemer.

They made their case to hundreds of activists starting to look at potential contenders for the 2012 election cycle. All five argued that they can be best trusted to follow the conservative path, and they went out of their way to talk about religion in a state where social and religious conservatives play a heavy role in GOP politics.

"The American dream is under attack, that's the bad news," Cain said. "The good news is we are on the attack. We have got to lead this nation from an entitlement society to an empowerment society. We must defend those principles this nation was founded on."

Cain said he had no plans to run for president, but "was compelled" because the nation was on the wrong track.

Meanwhile, Gingrich said he's "in the process of exploring" a presidential bid. "We're all going to have to be on the same team after this is over," he said.

Steve Scheffler, head of the Faith and Freedom Coalition, said the event was just the beginning of the 2012 caucus campaign and few would be making commitments on

candidates quickly.

"No one is going to make up their mind after tonight," Scheffler said. "Most of them are coming from pretty similar positions."

Activists likely are looking for a candidate who they think will actually carry out campaign promises after elected, he said.

"We're looking for somebody with some backbone, who has a little iron in his spine," Scheffler said.

Earlier Monday, Texas Rep. Ron Paul, who sought the GOP nomination in 2008, spoke at three events scattered throughout Iowa and sponsored by The Family Leader.

"The role of government is to protect liberty," Paul said. "Put the responsibility at the local level, not in the king in Washington who has gone astray."

The Family Leader is a high-profile social conservative group that is inviting potential Republican presidential candidates to address family issues. In coming weeks, the group will host Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachman and former Sen. Rick Santorum in coming weeks.

"We have accepted the reality that government will provide for us," Paul said. "Today we are at a point where the family has been under pressure."

Also Monday, a top aide to billionaire real estate developer Donald Trump landed in Iowa for a series of meetings, as Trump mulls a presidential bid. Trump aide Michael Cohen met with key Republicans like state chairman Matt Strawn and his business partner Jeff Lamberti. Cohen also met with high-profile GOP lawyer Doug Gross.

Trump last week said he was "very seriously" considering a run for president and was dispatching key aides to view the landscape in Iowa, where precinct caucuses traditionally launch the presidential nominating season.

Cohen said his testing of the waters was "really fantastic" after his meeting with key activists.

"People in Iowa really want to see Donald Trump run for president," he said. "When the time comes to caucus, my hope is Mr. Trump will have a substantial head start."

Lawmakers call for eliminating driver surcharges

AUSTIN (AP) — Lawmakers are considering eliminating a program that requires those charged with offenses including driving while intoxicated and failure to have insurance to pay state surcharges.

Nearly 60 percent of those with the surcharges — about 1.2 million drivers — are unwilling or unable to pay and owe the state more than \$1.1 billion.

The surcharges are part of the Texas Driver Responsibility Program.

The Senate Criminal Justice Committee recently called for the program to be eliminated, calling the increasing number of drivers who are unlicensed and uninsured because of it "unacceptable." Drivers who refuse to pay lose their licenses.

The Texas Department of Public Safety, under orders from the Legislature, began offering an amnesty program in January that allows delinquent drivers to settle up and get their licenses back by paying 10 percent of the amount they owed.

The Texas Driver Responsibility Program was approved by the Legislature in 2003 to raise money for highways and trauma care, but no money from the program has ever gone to highways be-

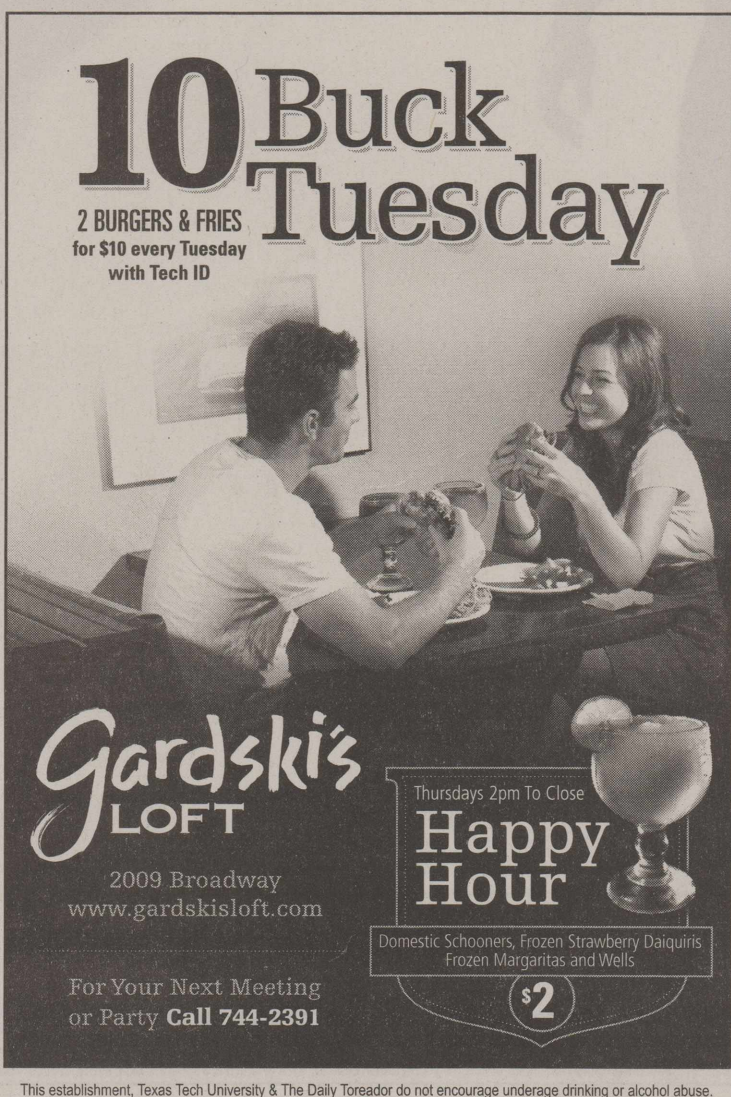
cause of a lack of payments, and trauma centers have received only a fraction of what was intended.

DWI offenses carry the biggest surcharges — \$1,000 a year for three years on the first conviction and \$2,000 a year if the blood alcohol content is twice the legal limit. No car insurance and an invalid license draw a \$250-a-year surcharge for three years. Surcharges must be paid in addition to regular fines assessed for those violations.

"These surcharges are not changing behavior, not being collected and are creating a new class of criminals each day by adding to the 1.2 million unlicensed and uninsured drivers in the state," the Senate committee said in a report to the Legislature.

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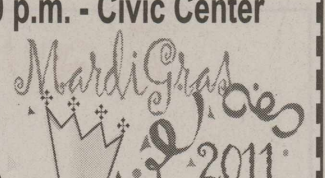
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Tech SGA candidates prepared for runoff

By **STEPHEN GIPSON**
STAFF WRITER

Despite troubles some students had with voting in the Texas Tech Student Government Association elections, Tech's IT department is confident students will not have any problems voting in the runoff elections today.

Katherine Austin, the assistant vice president of the IT department, said the problems last week had nothing to do with Tech's IT department. The election service that hosts the SGA elections, Votenet, updated its servers, which caused the problems, Austin said. The IT department was unaware Votenet would be updating its servers that day.

"The few little problems that we encountered, Michael Gunn (election commissioner) elected to handle, and there were so few that resetting the election was not necessary," Austin said.

Jenny Mayants, a presidential candidate who received 32 percent of the votes in the general election, said she received phone calls Wednesday from supporters and friends explain-

ing how some students could not vote.

John Milligan, chairman of the election commission, said the voting website was down from about 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday. To remedy the situation, voting was extended until 10 p.m. to give those who had not voted a chance to do so.

"Still, that's three hours where students couldn't vote, and having them get back on later just isn't realistic," Mayants said. "That could've either been students that couldn't vote right then and tried



MAYANTS

"That could've either been students that couldn't vote right then and tried it later or students that decided, 'I tried and it didn't work.'"

JENNY MAYANTS
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

it later or students that decided, 'I tried and it didn't work.'"

The only problem that was reported to the IT help desk staff, Austin said, involved some students enrolled as both undergraduate and law students at Tech. Those students were able to vote in the law school elections but not the undergraduate SGA elections.

Milligan said every student effected was given the option to e-mail the election commission with their votes. The election commission then checked to ensure all votes received by e-mail were sent by students dual-enrolled in the law school and an undergraduate program. Austin said everything has been corrected and

she does not foresee any problems with today's runoff elections.

Tyler Patton, a presidential candidate who received 41 percent of the votes in the general election, said he was a part of an SGA campaign that had a runoff for internal vice president in 2009.

Mayants and Patton both reminded students this week about the runoff elections and how important it is to continue to vote.

"Statistics show that runoff participation is a lot lower than general election participation," Patton said. "So we want to make sure that students don't forget and that there is just as much interest and just as much motivation and involvement for this runoff election as there was for the general election."

Students can vote in the runoff elections today and tomorrow at sga.ttu.edu.

sgipson@dailytoreador.com



PATTON

Impact of Middle East conflicts felt in oil prices

By **CAITLAN OSBORN**
STAFF WRITER

As gas prices quickly climb toward \$4 a gallon, many more people are shifting their attention to the Middle East, wondering if the current tensions will change the nation's dependence on oil.

"We're kind of like a drug addict on oil," said Gary Elbow, a human-geography professor. "We're hooked, and that's our downfall."

Elbow said external pressure from other countries is one of the reasons why the economy is at a standstill. For the economy to improve, he said, the U.S. needs to decrease its dependence on the Middle East for oil.

"If you want to know the real cause of our financial problems, it's the amount of oil we're having to import and the cost of that oil," Elbow said. "That's a very serious problem, and the government is not doing very much to try to address that issue."

Saja Khweis, a junior international business major from Lubbock, said students need to be aware of what is going on in the Middle East and understand the reason for such high gas prices.

"We need to realize that we are not the only country in the world," she said. "When something happens in one part of the world, it affects another. The rising gas prices here in the states are a result of the conflict going on in other parts of the world."

Bobby Allen, a junior wildlife management major from Sandy Creek, N.Y., said the only way the U.S. can solve the problem of gas prices is by using its own supply of oil.

"I think it's outrageous," he said. "We have tons of oil that we could drill for in the Alaskan tundra that we could put in our reserves. Rather than use our own oil, we choose to import it, which ups the prices."

Allen said he believes it is un-

realistic to assume the U.S. can continue to import the valuable resource without any consequences.

"America is not just going to stop driving," Allen said. "I think that it's a lose-lose situation. You either drill and lose certain natural habitats and wildlife, or you don't drill and lose a resource that we need in this country."

What truly affects rising gas costs is the belief by price regulators the U.S. may soon be cut off from its supply with the worsening conflicts, Elbow said.

"The oil industry is very jumpy," he said. "What they see is that Libya has been disrupted and that Nigeria is very unstable, which is an issue because these two African countries that are probably among the top 10 oil producers in the world. That's what the people who are controlling the prices of oil are looking at. The price goes up in response to this perceived insecurity."

Khweis said the U.S. automatically becomes a part of the conflict because of its stance on oil. The more dependent the nation is on the Middle East, she said, the harder it is to keep away from disputes.

"If the U.S. does not want to get involved in all these conflicts, it should be best for them to import less so they won't be tied down to any particular country," Khweis said. "If something happens in a country that we are dependent on for any resource, we're in trouble."

No matter what happens in the future, Allen said, the U.S. has backed itself into a corner with its never-ending need for oil.

I think it could mean the possibility that we could be cut off in the future if the conflict continues to worsen," he said. "Then we would have no choice but to use our reserves or find other sources. As far as this nation's need of oil, it will never diminish, which is definitely going to create some problems."

cosborn@dailytoreador.com

BLOTTER

Illegal drugs trigger medical emergency on rec fields

By **TRAVIS BURKETT**
STAFF WRITER

February 28

9:48 a.m. - A Texas Tech police officer responded to a medical emergency in the 1400 block of Akron Avenue. A student was having an allergic reaction and was transported to the University Medical Center Emergency Room.

March 1

12:05 a.m. - A Tech officer responded to a medical emergency at a blue phone on the recreational field. A non-student stated he had taken illegal drugs and was having a bad reaction to them. He

was transported to the Covenant Hospital Emergency Room.

9:39 a.m. - A Tech officer investigated a theft in the R31 parking lot. Five bicycles impounded by Tech University Traffic and Parking were stolen.

4:17 p.m. - A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, with minor injuries, which occurred in the R25 parking lot.

Thursday

9:57 a.m. - A Tech officer detained a student at Weymouth Residence Hall. The student was issued a citation for possession of drug paraphernalia and then released.

4:25 p.m. - A Tech officer doc-

umented a medical emergency at the Physical Plant. An employee with Grounds Maintenance was having trouble breathing and was transported to the University Medical Center Emergency Room.

Friday

9:59 a.m. - A Tech officer responded to a medical emergency at the Student Wellness Center. A student was having chest pains and was transported to the Lubbock Heart Hospital.

Saturday

2:21 a.m. - A Tech officer detained a student at Chitwood Residence Hall who was issued a citation for consumption of

alcohol by a minor and then released.

11:27 a.m. - A Tech officer investigated a sexual assault at Coleman Residence Hall.

Sunday

3:29 a.m. - A Tech officer documented a possible intoxicated person at Weymouth Hall. The student was released to a responsible party and no charges were filed.

4:47 p.m. - A Tech officer documented information regarding damaged property in the C17 parking lot. A vehicle's rear window was shattered.

tburkett@dailytoreador.com

Wis. gov. rebuffs Democrats' request for meeting

MADISON, Wis. (AP) - Wisconsin Democrats who fled the state nearly three weeks ago asked Monday for a meeting with Gov. Scott Walker to talk about changes to his plan to eliminate most public workers' union rights, a request the governor dismissed as "ridiculous."

Walker said he and his administration have been in communication with at least a couple of the AWOL Senate Democrats about a deal that could bring them back, but the lawmaker who asked for the meeting, Senate Minority Leader Mark Miller, "is firmly standing in the way."

That accusation led to a flurry of angry responses from Democrats who said Walker was misrepresenting the talks. The sometimes-angry exchange suggested that any resolution to the stalemate was farther away than ever.

"Right now, I'm so damn mad at his misrepresentation of the truth and the public should be as well," said Sen. Bob Jauch, one of two Democrats who had talked last week with the Senate Republican leader about possible compromises. "Trust is completely broken down now. I don't believe anything he says."

The standoff has drawn national attention and placed Wisconsin at the center a vigorous debate over the future of union rights. Walker's proposal to bal-

ance the state budget remains in limbo because, without the 14 Democrats,

the state Senate does not have enough members present for a quorum.

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

ACROSS

- Part
- Top grade, in slang
- Trees along tropical beaches
- Apily named cooler brand
- Small island
- Perpendicular to the keel
- Neck-humorous humerus spot
- Tri-plus bi-
- Drink from leaves
- Hockey legend Bobby et al.
- Sea north of Poland
- Exam taker's dread
- Grubs and maggots
- Manhattan sch.
- "Garfield" pooch
- Fan mag
- Annual parade celeb
- Daydreams
- Joe Cocker's "You Beautiful"
- Formal coiffure
- Ain of "The Aviator"
- Slangy "No reason"
- "Amen to that"
- Devoid of niceties, as some politics
- Disinclined
- Works a tough row?
- "The Amazing Race" ailer
- Prove apt for
- Racer's edge, or the ends of 17-, 23-, 39- and 49-
- Across, unflatteringly
- Mountain ridge
- www address
- Otherworldly
- Hot condiment
- 1/30 of abril
- Seed anew

DOWN

- Sort through, as for clues
- Fit of fever
- It's near the 17-Across
- Put one over on
- Celulist with 16 Grammys
- Item in a fall stash
- Art able to
- Tropical cyclone center
- 91st president, affectionately
- Clear as
- Slowly, in music
- "It slices! It dices!" gadget
- Veg-O-
- Wallop
- Zephyr
- Journalist Nellie
- What all good things come to
- Crazy, in a Ricky Martin song
- Month after
- Shevat
- Increase
- November honoree
- Liar Joe in old TV car ads
- Hip flask quickie
- Greenish blue
- Sidekicks
- Verdi opera
- Projector's slide holder
- Rigidly inflexible process
- Worked ardously
- Arles article
- Like the muncher
- Rum-soaked cakes
- Lincoln Center's Fisher Hall
- Allude (to)
- Verdi aria that means "It was you"
- Strasbourg sweetheart
- Eucalyptus
- Jaguar and Impala
- Verve
- Hearty entrée
- 1963 Paul Newman film
- Casual top

By Robert Fisher 3/8/11

Monday's Puzzle Solved

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

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Seneca quotes
(Roman philosopher, mid-1st century AD)

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Unions fight for rights

If you have watched, read or listened to the news recently, you have undoubtedly heard about the ongoing battle in Wisconsin, Ohio and other states between unions and the GOP.

This conflict has been portrayed in the media as a debate over public workers' pay, benefits and workplace bargaining rights. However, I think very few people seem to realize that what is at stake in this debate is not just the income of union workers, but also their influence in the American workplace and on Capitol Hill.

What puzzles me about union labor in the United States is why they have received so much negative light from the American public. Detractors of unions have painted them as exclusive clubs for which the American taxpayer has to pay the dues. Scott Walker, the Republican

Jakob Reynolds



neutralizer to Wall Street and corporate forces in Congress and the courts.

This is why I believe the detractors of unions and their workers are using the current budget crises in the states to more or less wipe out what little political clout organized labor has left.

Organized labor has always been one of the most influential civil rights groups in the United States. They have been the main force behind countless laws and regulations on how employers are allowed to treat their workers.

“Organized labor has always been one of the most influential civil rights groups in the United States.”

These include the Fair Labor and Standards Act, passed in 1938, which created a federal framework for a shorter workweek and banned child labor on the federal level for the first time, and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which banned discrimination in the workplace.

In fact, former Democratic congressman Richard Bolling said, “We would never have passed the Civil Rights Act without labor. They had the muscle; the other civil rights groups did not.”

Unfortunately, though, unions have experienced a major decline in the United States since the 1970s. This is due to a variety of factors, including

anti-union legislation and court rulings, the general shift of American industry to the service industry (where unions have traditionally been weaker), and the increased reluctance of employers to agree to union's demands, especially in light of foreign competition.

Moreover, in the early 1970s, corporate America mobilized on the largest scale ever seen to reshape policy. They forged important bonds with conservatives and corporate-friendly politicians on Capitol Hill to promote business-friendly ideas, which later led to the eventual deregulation of the housing market.

The result was a Washington that tilted fiscal policies away from unions and the middle class and toward the wealthy and affluent.

In 2008, when the recession really hit hard, it was unionists on the front lines calling for reform. Now, with Republicans demanding cuts in spending that will result in the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs, it would seem ironic that unions are frowned upon.

However, once you take into account that it would be much easier for the GOP to reduce government power and lower taxes on corporations and the well-off without unions calling them out on it, it only makes sense that unions are under attack.

Unions are not the root of state's financial problems, and neither are pensions for public workers. If Republican state governments want to cut anything to make up for their budget deficits, they should start with tax cuts for the wealthy. Increasing unemployment by laying off workers will not get us anywhere in the long run.

► **Reynolds is a freshman history major from Lubbock.**
► jakob.reynolds@ttu.edu

Spending spring break on budget tough, not impossible

Spring break starts next week. Going to the gym for a few last-minute workouts will not help anybody look significantly better.

Achieving a spring break-ready body should have been started in January, but this can be a starting point for achieving a summer-ready body. This time can also be a source of motivation if the image in the mirror is not pleasing.

Regardless of your body's shape, booking a last-minute flight out of Lubbock for spring break may be difficult at this point, to say the least.

Since flying will be very expensive at this point, finding a deal on an upgraded hotel or entertainment at your destination may be a more fiscally responsible option. One of the better websites for travel deals is travelzoo.com. There is a section there with spring break deals, from skiing to beaches to Vegas. These include hotels, resorts and entertainment events.

Another great website for deals is tripadvisor.com. There are many helpful postings and even a page dedicated to Texas vacation packages and hotel deals.

Driving may end up as the most economical last-minute option. Fortunately, there are many great destinations surprisingly close to Lubbock. Assuming gas hits \$3.50 a gallon and a fuel efficiency of 25 mpg, \$100 will fuel a car for a roundtrip of 350

Adam Martin



miles and drive time between five and six hours.

This distance encompasses Dallas, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Carlsbad Caverns, the McDonald Observatory near Ft. Davis, White Sands National Monument and the Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Any of these destinations could make for a great spring break.

Many people are familiar with Dallas, Santa Fe and Albuquerque. The national parks and national monuments are great destinations as well. Carlsbad Caverns and the Guadalupe Mountains are only 35 miles apart and would make a nice combination destination. White Sands is not too much further away. There are frequent ranger talks as well as hiking, camping, stargazing and birding at all the national parks.

Probably the least well-known destination is the McDonald Observatory near Fort Davis. This place is great and is one of the darkest areas in the entire nation. The original observatory was built in 1936 and has been in operation ever since.

Over spring break, they offer Star Parties several different nights, but passes should be purchased online to ensure availability because this is their busiest week.

Edward Abbey wrote, “Wilder-

ness is not a luxury, but a necessity of the human spirit.” A major concept behind spring break is recharging the human spirit, which should include getting away from the urban, suburban or even farm life for a while.

Feeling the power of nature and allowing a river of quiet and solitude to wash away concern and stress is excellent for human health. Rest is also an essential part of fitness, giving the body time to grow and rejuvenate.

If getting away to the wilderness is not on the itinerary, there are several great authors and books that can help mental transport to other places. Bill Bryson is one of the best travel writers, with books about travelling from the Appalachian Trail to England to Australia. His writing is captivatingly hilarious and makes time fly.

Another great travel book is “Blue Latitudes” by Tony Horwitz, following Capt. James Cook on his explorations of the South Pacific. Staying in that area of the world is “Shark God” by Charles Montgomery, as he follows his grandfather's travel journal. Also, “Lunatic Express” by Carl Hoffman is a true story about travelling in the most dangerous places in the world on the least-safe transportation methods.

Wherever travel plans lead or whatever books are read, take some time for emotional, mental and physical fitness.

► **Martin is a hospitality management graduate student from Austin.**
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SGA candidate pros and cons

In response to the Student Government Association elections, I have decided to voice my opinion before the runoff for executive officers.

One candidate in the race for president, Mr. Tyler Patton, is currently the external vice president of SGA. Last year, Mr. Patton ran on a promise to overhaul the bussing system.

Mr. Patton did fulfill his promise, but the consequences were negative. In fact, this caused more confusion than solution. Mr. Mike Uryasz, candidate for external vice president, hopes to “finish the work we started” regarding the bussing system. If this were to continue, it would further hurt students.

Mr. Patton also plans to implement a student-run “Campus Kitchen” program to help the homeless in Lubbock. While I believe we should help our fellow citizens, I do not believe this program would be feasible. If we cannot get students to attend SGA meetings, how are we supposed to get students to implement and participate in a program such as this one?

Ms. Alex Moore, who is running

for the position of internal vice president, wants to “provide any student two minutes apiece to speak before the senate prior to meetings.” There are approximately 450 registered student organizations at Texas Tech. To provide each of them two minutes to speak adds up to 15 hours, causing senate meetings to run an additional two hours and 15 minutes per meeting, which is not feasible.

The Student Organization Representative Council was created to form open lines of communication between organizations and the senators who represent their interests. To use Ms. Moore's plan would be less efficient.

Additionally, part of Mr. Patton's platform is to create different agencies. However, many of these agencies already have a committee within SGA. What is the purpose of a “Multicultural Affairs Agency” when a “Diversity Committee” already exists? This plan will create more oversight when there doesn't need to be any.

Ms. Moore states that she will advise the student senate to never raise fees. However, over the past legislative session, I have personally witnessed Ms. Moore voting to raise student fees every single

time they were up for a vote. Based on past precedent, how are we supposed to trust her promise?

While I have been critical of her leadership in the past, Ms. Jenny Mayants seems to have the best plan of action. Based on conversations I have had with her, as well as the debate, I believe her plans are the most realistic for SGA.

Ms. Mayants wishes to send out a monthly e-mail regarding the happenings of SGA. She also wants to create a “Traditions Team” to “celebrate many of Tech's traditions that have fallen by the wayside.

Additionally, Ms. Mayants wants to unify prospective students to the university through an initiative called “Leaders to Leaders.” While I was initially apprehensive, Ms. Mayants has discussed her program with admissions, who will implement it in an experimental fashion next year.

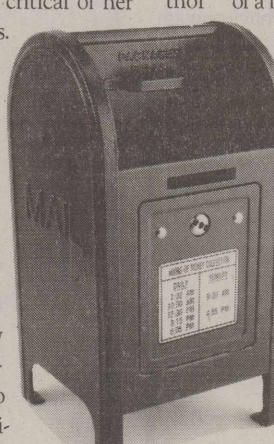
Mr. Brian Roberts, candidate for

external vice president, wants to conduct a study to make bussing more efficient. Mr. Roberts was the lead author of a bill passed in the student senate that would dismiss one parking citation per academic year in exchange for three hours of community service. This would strengthen the relationship between students and the community as a whole.

Moreover, Mr. Roberts plans to implement a GPS tracking system on buses that students can utilize on Web-accessible phones. Research shows this could be done with no additional cost and would be helpful for maintaining a positive relationship as we strive for 40,000 students by 2020.

Please take these issues under advisement as you vote today at sga.ttu.edu.

► **Amber E. Hastings is a junior political science major from Amarillo.**



GOP's war to enrich big business

By **NYLES KENDALL**
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT (U. ARIZONA)

Republican lawmakers, under the guise of “budget cutting,” have declared war on America's unionized workers.

At the National Tea Party convention held in Phoenix last week, Tim Pawlenty, the former governor of Minnesota, railed against the country's labor unions in front of a cheering crowd of tea-baggers. The mention of Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's name led to standing ovation.

In an attempt to repair a \$137 million budget shortfall, Walker has introduced a budget plan that would prevent labor unions from collectively bargaining. Unionized public workers would be stripped of the right to negotiate with their employers over benefits, hours, working conditions and rules of the workplace.

Employers would also be prohibited from collecting union dues, which are used to fund many of the activities unions engage in on behalf of their members.

The labor unions that supported the governor's election bid last fall, the Milwaukee Police Association and the Wisconsin Troopers Association, to name a few, would be exempt from these changes.

In terms of budgetary policy, there is no rhyme or reason to Walker's proposed cutbacks. Public workers aren't responsible for the state's budget disaster, and the \$300 million that would supposedly be saved over two years by stripping them of their collective bargaining rights would amount to a mere 1/12 of the state's projected \$3.6 billion 2011-13 budget deficit.

And newly elected Republicans aren't at the root of the state's budget crisis either, as those on the left have suggested. Former Gov. Jim Doyle and the Democrats that controlled the Legislature,

prior to their shellacking last fall, created much of Wisconsin's current problems.

Walker and his comrades in the Wisconsin Assembly claim their “budget repair bill” would save the state from a fiscal meltdown, but its true objective is purely political.

The Republican Party has always been intolerant of organized labor and beholden to big business. Last fall, the Koch brothers, billionaire energy tycoons and owners of the largest privately owned company in America, donated \$1 million to the Republican Governors Association, money that was then funneled into Republican gubernatorial campaigns around the country. Walker and other newly elected Republican governors are returning the favor by threatening to bust the labor unions, the Democratic Party's primary fundraising arm.

Depriving unionized workers of their collective bargaining rights and preventing employers from collecting union dues would stem the flow of contributions made by labor unions to Democratic candidates, which would give Republicans a huge advantage in future elections. This would make for more pro-business politicians like Walker who seem more concerned with pleasing corporate bigwigs than doing what's best for their constituencies.

Walker has threatened to lay off 6,000 public employees if his budget plan isn't approved, but has signed-off on \$120 million in corporate tax cuts.

This anti-union craze has even spread to Ohio, Tennessee and Indiana, where the Republican governors in each state have also threatened strip union members of their right to collectively bargain.

The GOP's war with organized labor is clearly an effort to consolidate political power and enrich big business. The party's ideal world, one where corporations rule and politicians live to serve them, will be built on the backs of America's union workers.

Teachers overworked, underpaid, deserve support from state government

STAFF EDITORIAL
OREGON DAILY EMERALD (U. OREGON)

Like many states in the union, Wisconsin is facing budget issues as a result of the economic recession. To mitigate the budget crisis within his state, Gov. Scott Walker is attempting to pass a budget bill that would effectively remove the collective-bargaining rights of public employees.

It should be noted that before the bill's proposal, Wisconsin teachers agreed to take pay cuts in light of the state's poor economy as long as they were able to negotiate the cuts as a group.

Public school teachers play a crucial role in American society. Performing

noble work for mediocre compensation, they help shape the future.

Despite curriculum requirements and a lack of public resources, they still manage to empower and enrich the minds of students. They educate those who cannot afford a private education, and they pave the road for students toward new opportunities to better themselves and their communities.

Some of teachers work in dangerous inner-city neighborhoods, and others deal with special needs students who require a large amount of time and effort. They preserve democracy and prevent our country from becoming a plutocracy. To deny their importance would be unpatriotic in every sense of the word.

Since the bill's proposal, 14 Democratic senators have left the state in an effort to protest and keep the bill from being passed in the state legislature.

Walker said he would not talk to anyone from the press, but the editor of the online Buffalo Beast made a prank this week that led to new developments in the story.

Pretending to be David Koch and making up a phony story about losing his phone, the editor was granted access to Walker. During the conversation, Walker said he was threatening the 14 senators with direct deposit halts, arrest warrants and worker layoffs.

If the protestors' demands are ignored and the 14 missing senators are black-

mailed into returning to the state, the bill will likely pass within the Wisconsin Senate, given the Republican majority. This could cause a domino effect of similar legislation throughout the country.

Public schools have faced continuous budget cuts since the turn of the millennium — from elementary schools to universities. If Walker's bill is passed, it will not only hurt Wisconsin teachers, but it will also discourage working for public schools nationwide.

While places like India are investing in education, Wisconsin is demonstrating that America has other priorities. For the well being of the public sector, all measures should be taken to prevent Walker's bill from being passed.

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Women's studies event to include screening

By **KASSIDY KETRON**
STAFF WRITER

The Women's Studies program and the Office of International Affairs will host an event in celebration of the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day at 5 p.m. today in the International Cultural Center's Hall of Nations.

The event will consist of a viewing of the film "A Powerful Noise: The Impact of One Voice, The Power of Many" and a discussion.

Patricia Earl, coordinator of the Women's Studies Program said she hopes those in attendance are inspired by the women who are working to change the way women are viewed as leaders in their community, specifically on a global level.

"Some of the same struggles that are represented in this film are very evident of how our current climate here in the U.S. is either discussed or handled," Earl said, "as well as the production or the growth of ideologies that you may see in another parts of the world."

What happens in other countries impacts our own climate, Earl said. Viewing the struggles of others hits home as to what women in the U.S. are trying to accomplish.

Earl said she believes it's important to have a day and a month, like March, which is Women's History Month, to recognize not only the struggles of women, but their accomplishments as well.

"I think today I don't necessarily see a struggle," she said. "I see more of a collaboration. I think that anyone who might want to say that

there's a struggle isn't really looking at the big picture of where we are today."

Earl said the movement toward greater equality among men and women has been achieved by bringing more voices to the table from each.

Although the effort has been made toward equality, there is still a struggle in the social, political and economic aspects, Earl said.

"There's a recognition on both the side of men and women who see the need for diversity to be at the table to discuss those economic social and political topics," she said.

Michael Borshuk, an associate professor of African American literature and a Women's Studies affiliated faculty member, said he believes any kind of inequality or oppression takes time to work through.

When someone holds a position of power, Borshuk said, it's hard to convince that group that they have benefitted from inequality.

"I think that a lot of men still don't want to admit that the privileges that men have enjoyed for a long time has depended on some

pretty distinct inequalities," he said.

Borshuk said historically men have received more recognition in their achievements in comparison to those of women.

This has been going on for many generations, he said, because men have been predominantly teaching and writing history, and controlling the information presented it has been from a male's perspective.

"I think it's just a matter of who was writing that history that we study and obviously it's going to show their perspective," he said.

Laura Beard, professor and interim chair of the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures said she doesn't believe the equality or inequality among men and women has necessarily changed.

Instead, Beard said she believes how couples negotiate their relationships has changed. It also depends on the role of the individuals' societies and whether or not they favor one gender over the other.

She said she believes the U.S., for example, still discriminates against women when it comes to types of jobs and equal pay.

Students, Beard said, need to consider what rights and values are important to them, how they would like to be treated and what rights they would be willing to fight for.

"I think it's helpful for students to have somewhat a sense of history and what have been the struggles in the past," she said.

» kketron@dailytoreador.com

Convoy ambush kills 7 Mexican police, 1 prisoner

CULIACAN, Mexico (AP) — Gunmen swarmed a convoy transporting two prisoners in northern Mexico, shredding three police vehicles with bullets and killing seven officers and one inmate, prosecutors said Monday. Six officers and the second inmate were wounded.

Attackers traveling in about 20 vehicles caught the police convoy in a crossfire Sunday near the city of Guasave, Sinaloa state Attorney General Marco Antonio Higuera said.

"The patrol vehicles were destroyed. It was practically a massacre," Higuera said. "Initial reports indicate there were 1,200 shell casings at the scene."

The three state police patrol vehicles were traveling to the state capital of Culiacan when they came under fire from attackers who apparently lay in wait on a highway. Higuera said the officers fought off a first attack but were later caught in concentrated fire from a larger number of vehicles. Federal police, meanwhile, said a

newly captured leader of the Zetas drug cartel revealed it has a non-aggression pact with three other gangs — the Juarez, Beltran Leyva and Arellano Felix organizations. While the four gangs are not known recently to have been fighting major turf wars with each other, it was the first mention of a formal truce between them.

The alleged Zetas leader, Marcos Carmona Hernandez, was arrested Monday in the southern state of Oaxaca, said Ramon Pequeno, the federal police anti-narcotics chief.

Hernandez, 29, allegedly took over command of Zetas operations in Oaxaca after the Jan. 17 arrest of his reputed predecessor, Flavio Mendez Santiago. Pequeno said Hernandez is suspected of several kidnappings and murders and allegedly had the collaboration of corrupt state and municipal police.

Pequeno said Hernandez revealed the non-aggression pact to police, the latest insight into Mexico's drug underworld of shifting alliances.

"I think that a lot of men still don't want to admit that the privileges that men have depended on some pretty distinct inequalities."

MICHAEL BORSHUK
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

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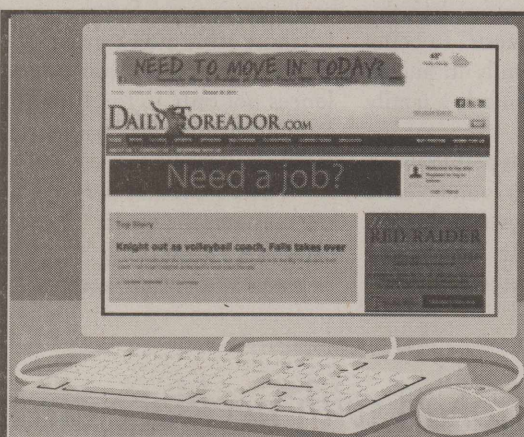
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The persons responsible for this project are Dr. Weiwu Zhang and Sherice Gearhart in the College of Mass Communications. Contact Sherice.Gearhart@ttu.edu if you have any questions.

This study has been approved by the Protection of Human Subjects Committee at Texas Tech University. If you have any questions or concerns you may contact TTU Institutional Review Board (IRB) office, (806) 742-3905 phone, (806) 742-3947 fax, or www.vpr.ttu.edu.

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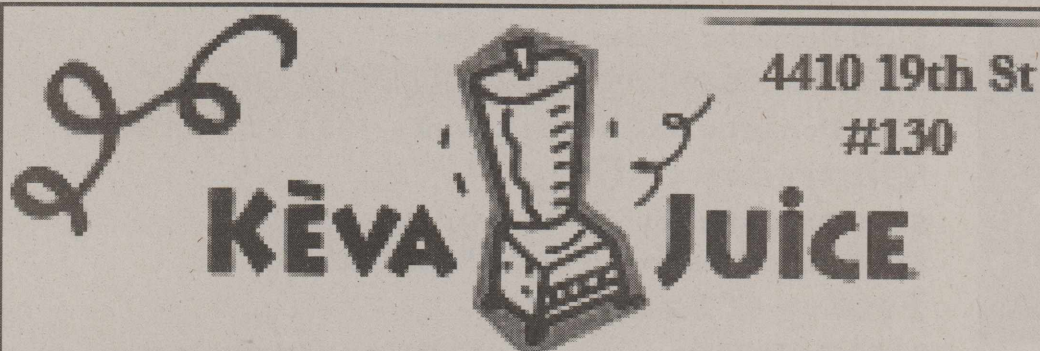


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Austin wedding photographer exhibits art, encourages students



PHOTO BY BRENT SORELLE/The Daily Toreador

BILL MCCULLOUGH, A visiting photographer known for his wedding photography, points out techniques in his work on Monday in the Art building.

By **LAUREN FERGUSON**
STAFF WRITER

Wedding albums usually contain the standard shots: the bride and groom kiss, the bride throws her bouquet, the flower girls dance and the couple cuts the cake. Bill McCullough, a wedding photographer out of Austin, turns wedding photography into an art form.

McCullough's series "Technicolor Life: American Wedding" is exhibited through April 10 in the SRO Photo Gallery in the Texas Tech Art building sub-basement.

While visiting campus, McCullough spoke to a photography class.

"(McCullough) is very engaging," Kira Miles, a senior photography major from Odessa, said. "He actually walked us through the (exhibit) and showed us the different techniques he used for each image."

McCullough gained an interest in photography as a teenager watching the show "James At Fifteen," about a high school yearbook photographer. Later, his interest was solidified when his best friend's father introduced him to a darkroom.

He admits to not calling himself an artist, choosing to believe certain images may mean more than simply a wedding to people outside of the event but each image may not constitute pure art.

"I can take a really obvious moment or catch them off guard," McCullough said. "There are an infinite number of moments in time to click the shutter. I may click once here because I don't know what will happen next."

Jan Grizzle, a senior photography major from Lubbock, has been shooting weddings for 20 years. She enjoyed the authenticity of the photographs because McCullough

tends to capture the 'real' characteristics of each person.

"I love the fact that he does not desaturate his color," Grizzle said. "That is one of things we are taught, to desaturate, and I disagree."

After shooting a wedding, McCullough uses Photoshop to edit the image for print. He emphasizes he only uses Photoshop for simple tasks such as contrast adjustments and color temperature changes.

"The way I define (the image) is more what happens in front of the lens," he said. "The computer is just a way to get it from the file to the paper."

Grizzle agrees with McCullough's desire to provide the couple with the candid moments happening when the party is not posing.

McCullough uses the word "freedom" to describe his job.

"The clients that come to me allow me the freedom to see interesting things and then take the photograph," he said. "I do

take pictures of people cutting cake, and I do take pictures of the grandmother with the bride, but I try to do it in a way that's interesting."

Miles was especially intrigued because wedding photography is her potential career path.

"This really applied to me because not only is he a wedding photographer, but he is showing his (photos) artistically," Miles said. "That is what I'm struggling with, is how I am going to manage both."

McCullough hosts a website, billmcculloughphotography.com, where photography enthusiasts can view his work and learn more. He has published two books and has won 78 international awards.

"(Some photos) have a life of their own," he said. "They start out with one purpose, which is I am there to document the wedding, but there are certain images that change to something else. I try to get as many of those images as I can."

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Celtic music ensembles honor deceased student

By **SYDNEY HOLMES**
STAFF WRITER

The Celtic Ensemble and The World Music Ensemble at Texas Tech teamed up Sunday to perform "Gypsies, Tinkers and Travelers: Songs of the Wandering Tribes" in remembrance of Austin Robinson, a bassoon player within the Tech School of Music who recently died.

The concert was filled with the music of different nomadic cultures as well as various international dances.

During the concert, there was a short speech given by one of Robinson's friends in memoriam of him. She said Robinson's humor was his best quality and he would often joke that he played bassoon because "it sounded like a dying moose."

Lamar Peeples, a sophomore music education major from McKinney, worked with Robinson on past projects and concerts.

"He would always say some really funny stuff, especially in really tense moments. When we couldn't get something within the music, he would say something and things would click," Peeples said. "We really miss him, and the whole music school really misses him, and we hope everything that we did here tonight was in his honor."

Erin Roberts, a junior vocal performance major from Austin, is a member of the Celtic Ensemble.

Roberts said although she did not personally know Robinson, she still felt a loss concerning him. "I've heard a lot of amazing stories about him. Everyone had the most wonderful things to say about him," she said. "He loved music; he loved life; he's one of our own. It's kind of a family. Most musicians come from families who don't understand music, so being a musician is a family in and of itself, and he's definitely a family member."

Most of what was performed in Robinson's honor was an eclectic mix of Celtic songs and dances, as well as nomadic music from countries like Egypt and the Bal-

kan area.

Roberts said Celtic music is a stress reliever from her busy schedule, as well as a glimpse into past cultures.

"My emphasis is on opera, so I needed something that was more fun with a less rigid structure," Roberts said. "I wanted something that people have been doing centuries and that anyone could really do and get involved in. I needed something that could relieve my schedule a little bit, so that is what Celtic Ensemble has been for me."

Though Roberts primarily performs Celtic music, typically from Scotland, Ireland and Wales, she said she also enjoys the types of music The World Music Ensemble performs.

"This is a different type of show because there was gypsy music. (The World Music Ensemble) brought in a lot of Hungarian and Baltic music," she said. "We call them 'crooked tunes' because the rhythms are really different from what (the Celtic Ensemble is) used to."

Daisy Dominguez, a senior natural history and humanities major from Odessa, said the "crooked tunes" are some of her favorites, especially the tambourine-rich gypsy music.

"I just really love gypsy music and tinker music. It's beautiful," she said. "Any type of music that has a lot of tambourine noise, I'm attracted to it."

Dominguez also said although the types of music performed by the ensembles are sometimes forgotten, they are culturally significant.

"(The music) is so culturally rich," Dominguez said. "It tells a lot of stories, and it shows you a whole lot about musical history."

Robinson was remembered and appreciated Sunday, even by those who didn't know him. Roberts expressed her condolences not only to the Robinson family, but to their own musical family as well.

"There's one less person playing music in the world," she said, "and that's a sad thing."

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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.

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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Video of Lohan with necklace aired

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Lindsay Lohan is shown in surveillance video broadcast Monday texting and trying on multiple pieces of jewelry in front of a clerk in a Southern California store that has accused her of stealing a \$2,500 necklace.

Snippets of the footage taken by four cameras in the Venice store of Kamofie & Co. were aired by "Entertainment Tonight" along with analysis by

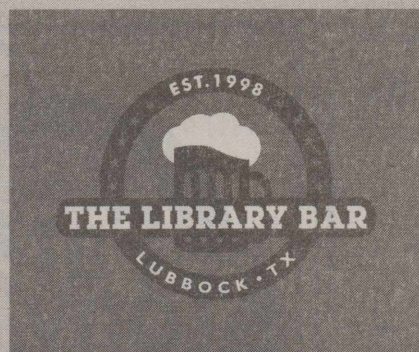
attorneys not handling the case.

Lohan returns to court on Thursday, when her attorney will tell a judge whether the "Mean Girls" actress will accept a plea deal in the felony grand theft case that guarantees a jail sentence.

The video was sold by a representative of Kamofie to a commercial images unit of The Associated Press, which then licensed it to "Entertainment Tonight."

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Knight

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

"It's not like I'm goin' into this blind, you know, I've said you can't feel sorry for coaches."

No players were available during the team's normal media availability before practice Monday afternoon.

Several players walking into the arena for practice declined to comment since they were unsure whether they were allowed to speak with members of the media.

The change comes after the Red Raiders logged a fourth consecutive Big 12 losing season, third under the full-time tutelage of Knight. The Indiana graduate took the reins of the program midway through the 2007-2008 season for his father, hall of fame coach Bob Knight.

Pat Knight was named the head coach designate before the 2005-2006 season, after serving as a Tech assistant since 2001.

Former Tech player Alan Voskuil, who played for the Red Raiders from Fall 2005 to Spring 2009, said he was shocked when he found out, but he understands why the decision was made.

"I know basketball is a business, so if you don't perform well there's going to be repercussions to your performances," Voskuil said via Skype.

Voskuil, who is now playing professionally in Denmark, said Pat Knight will find another coaching job, perhaps one he can fit into bet-

ter than the job at Tech. "I just think he kind of came into a sketchy little situation ... trying to take the players that his father coached and turn them into the players that he wants," he said. "So, when I first started, I learned for two-and-a-half years what his father wanted and then had to switch it for a year-and-a-half when Pat took over."

Pat Knight ran the motion offense and man-to-man defense — just like his father. Voskuil said each coach's style was different, but Pat Knight ran his practice like any other Division I coach would.

"He coached me pretty well, made me understand a different side of the game rather than just his fathers side," Voskuil said.

Now that Pat Knight's time is officially numbered at Tech, Pat Knight said he firmly plans to stay in the coaching game and not take any time off. Knight said he already has been contacted by a program gauging interest.

"When I come back I plan to be busy just trying to interview with some places and see where I go from there," Knight said. "You know, hopefully there's a good gig, you just can't take anything, but I'm not one of those guys who wants to take a year off. So hopefully there's a good fit out there, and if I like it I'm gonna take it."

-Managing Editor Jon Arnold contributed to this report

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Timing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

The timing of the coach's firing, though, raised more than a few eyebrows.

The story goes that Knight wanted to meet with president Guy Bailey on Monday, before the conference tournament, so he would know where he and his staff stood.

Good on both parties for stepping up and making their positions clear. Knight wanted to see if his guys would have jobs and Bailey, instead of stalling and trying to find a better time, fired Knight.

The firing just two days before the conference tournament creates an odd situation for the Red Raiders. Knight will still lead the team when it plays in Kansas City, Mo., in the Big 12 Conference tournament.

The awkwardness of a lame duck coach probably won't last too long, though, since it would take a small miracle for the Red Raiders to play further on into the postseason.

Still, one has to wonder how hard both the players and the coaching staff will be playing. I'm not one to question anyone's heart — especially not a guy like Pat Knight — but I know when I put in my two week notice at my retail job it was hard not to slack off from time to time.

Either way, the Knight (perhaps Knights is a better term) era is over.

Now, Tech and new athletic director Kirby Hocutt can turn their attention to the future. At the

moment, there aren't too many top tier college basketball coaches collecting unemployment. Of course, former Texas A&M coach Billy Gillispie is in the region and hoping to get on a sideline soon, but, other than Gillispie, there haven't been too many names thrown around.

Luckily for Red Raider fans Knight is the first major conference coach to be fired. That puts Tech in a good position to have first crack at any coach the Red Raiders want. This includes Gillispie and anybody fired at another school the administration believes will do better here.

Tech also could try to lure a successful mid-major coach to the ranks of big time college basketball. According to a statement released by Bailey's office a national search is already underway. The last time Tech hired a coach it ended up with Tommy Tuberville, a guy who had undefeated seasons in the SEC. It just lured away Hocutt from a top-tier athletic department.

Tech could use a coach whose name fans recognize. The basketball program could use a splashy hire.

The timing makes any of these plausible options for Tech. The Red Raiders more or less have first dibs.

The timing makes for awkward situations now, but in the end it's the timing of the firing that helps Hocutt, Bailey and company get a leg up on the competition.

It is, as they say, everything.

▶▶arnold is *The DT's* managing editor.

▶▶jarnold@dailytoreador.com

Brown named Sixth Man of the Year, Tech begins Big 12 Conference tourney

By JOSHUA KOCH
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech women's basketball team is being looked at differently going into this year's Big 12 Conference Championships — as a viable threat.

It has been five years since the Lady Raiders notched a victory in the tournament.

Tech guard Casey Morris said the key to ending that drought is sticking to the style of play they have used all season.

"Everyone playing together

and staying focused," she said. "I think when we've had success, it's because we've followed the scouting report, and we were not only playing and using our skill, but taking advantage of the other team mentally and using our brains."

Before the conference tournament begins Tuesday, the Big 12 handed out its accolades for the regular season.

On Monday, Tech guard Chynna Brown was named the Big 12 Sixth Man of the Year. She shares the honor with Texas A&M guard Maryann Baker.

The sophomore averaged 8.8 points per game in Big 12 play and was highly efficient from the charity stripe. Brown was an 86 percent free-throw shooter in Big 12 play, a team best.

Tech's leading scorer, forward Kierra Mallard, was named to the All-Big 12 second team, and guard Monique Smalls got

the nod for the All-Defensive team. Morris and senior Teena Wickett received honorable mentions as well.

The success this team has experienced on and off the court this season is a new feeling for the players and coaching staff.

Considering all the adversity this team went through last year and this year, Tech coach Kristy Curry said it makes this season's success that much more special.

"It is, to know these kids have done everything that we've asked them to do, and

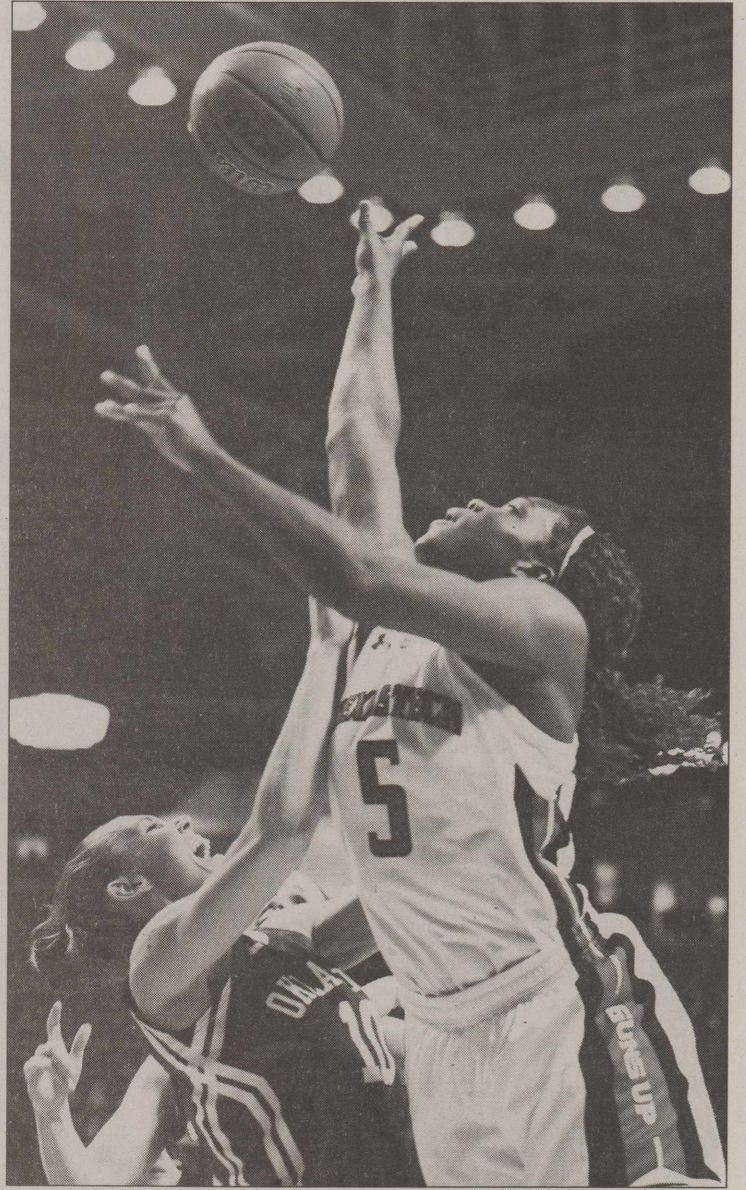
had been," Curry said. "Sometimes this game involves a little bit of luck, hard work, and I'm just happy for the kids."

With five Lady Raiders being recognized individually, the players look to accomplish some big things this postseason as a team.

The first goal for Tech is to get a win in the tournament. The Lady Raiders get their chance against a well-known opponent — Oklahoma State.

"I like it because we just got done playing with (Oklahoma State), so it's not like a team we had played at the beginning of the season," Smalls said. "They're still fresh on our minds; we still can just continue and work on more plays to execute."

The Cowgirls (16-13, 4-12) are the No. 11 seed in the tournament and face the Lady Raiders at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Mo.



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH GUARD Christine Hyde shoots the ball during the women's basketball game against Oklahoma on Saturday in the United Spirit Arena.

We're real excited going into this tournament, and right now we really want to get far and prove ourselves and get better each game.

MONIQUE SMALLS
GUARD
TEXAS TECH

Follow

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Shelby Ondrus, a junior architecture major from Houston, said Pat Knight lacked the drive and motivation that clearly was evident in his father's coaching.

"Pat Knight definitely didn't have the charisma, and from what I can tell, the drive to push his team to success

through practice," he said. "In my opinion, a tough coach, a coach who runs a tight practice should, in theory, produce a team that is also tough."

Ondrus said recruiting has been lackluster for men's basketball during the past few years, but it is only one measure of the team's poor performance.

"We need to rebuild a winning team in order to get the recruiting that we need to make a better team," he said. "No one

wants to join a losing team." Stephanie Hartwig, a senior fashion design major from Houston, agreed hard practice is the key to building a strong basketball program and a winning team.

"I'm not the most informed, but I do believe performance has gone down a bit," she said. "I'm assuming it was a change in the way he runs practices, maybe he should have been harder on them."

To be more successful in the future, Hartwig said Tech needs to hire a coach with more experience and better understands how to deal with players.

"I think they should hire someone who is more experienced and is hard on them but still knows how to handle his attitude on the court," she said. "We need someone that is more experienced and uses more discipline, on and off the court."

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PAT KNIGHT OUT AFTER 3 1/2 YEARS

Knight fired

Will remain team's coach through Big 12 Tourney



"I know how this business works. Of course I would love to stay another year and prove myself, but it's just not going to happen ... but that's coaching."
Pat Knight
Head Coach

By **TOMMY MAGELSSSEN**
NEWS EDITOR

After a Feb. 23 loss to Colorado, Texas Tech coach Pat Knight said he had proved he could coach, and he would either coach in Lubbock or coach somewhere else.

Odds are he will coach somewhere else next season.

On Monday morning, Texas Tech announced it was relieving the 40-year-old men's basketball coach of his position effective at the end of the season.

The university released a statement Monday morning from Tech President Guy Bailey in which he said it was time to make a switch.

"I felt like it was time to make a change within our men's basketball program," Bailey said in the release. "I appreciate everything Pat has done for our university, not only as a head coach, but also throughout his career as an assistant. I wish him success and the best moving forward."

Bailey did not immediately return messages left with both his office and cell phone.

Tech athletic director Gerald Myers said Knight will coach the Red Raiders through the Big 12 Conference Championships and any additional postseason play.

The Red Raiders finished the regular season with an overall record of 13-18 and a 5-11 Big 12 record.

"Well, you know, when you're having a losing year and attendance is down, it's just a tough situation, and a decision was made to make a change," Myers said.

PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER,
DESIGN BY KEVIN CULLEN/The Daily Toreador

Knight said he met with Bailey this morning to get the issue out in the open. The two met at around 9 a.m. on a visit scheduled by Myers.

"The issue's been hanging over the program for the last couple weeks, especially from the national media standpoint, and I didn't want that anymore," Knight told *The Daily Toreador* following his weekly radio show. "You know, if a decision's been made let's get it out there. The players can relax, my assistants can relax, I can relax, it's pretty simple, you know? And I just think it's best for the program overall."

Knight said his firing was a "business decision," and he completely understands it. He said he realizes a big part of the decision for the university to part ways with him is the performance of this year's team, especially considering how high the hopes were for the team after last year's NIT-quarterfinal finish.

"I know how this business works," he said. "Of course I would love to stay another year and prove myself, but it's just not going to happen ... but that's coaching. Sometimes it just doesn't work out, but, you know, again that's what we're paid for, and that's what we expect."

KNIGHT continued on Page 7 >>

BY THE NUMBERS

0 NCAA Tournament appearances

Career wins **50**

60 Career losses

NIT Appearance (quarterfinalists) **1**

0 All-Big 12 1st-, 2nd- or 3rd teamers

Big 12 road wins (2 this season) **4**

KNIGHT'S CAREER

1991-1995: Plays at Indiana

1998: Named to 1st head coaching position with Wisconsin Blast (IBA)

1999: Becomes assistant coach for father at Indiana

Sept. 10, 2000: Bob Knight is removed of duties at Indiana

2001: Follows his father to Texas Tech as assistant

2005: Named head coach designate at Tech

Feb. 4, 2008: Bob Knight steps down; Pat Knight takes over as coach

Feb. 2008: Win over No. 22 K-State marks first ranked win

March 2008: 109-51 road loss marks worst loss under Pat Knight

March 2008: Mike Singletary scores 29 consecutive points in a Big 12 Tournament game against A&M, leading a 21-point comeback victory

December 2009: Win over No. 10 Washington propels Tech to first Top 25 ranking in Pat Knight's tenure

March 2010: Red Raiders reach NIT Quarterfinals

2009-2010: Season marks most points allowed in a season by a Tech team

January 2011: 83-52 loss to Texas is worst loss in United Spirit Arena history

March 7, 2011: Knight is fired as head coach of the Texas Tech basketball team

Odd timing of firing may work in Tech's favor

There are very few people truly surprised at the firing of Texas Tech basketball coach Pat Knight.

Jon Arnold



Ever since Knight declared before the season this would be a make the tournament or get fired year, people have been watching to see which of the two options would come to pass.

It's pretty obvious Tech won't be in the Big Dance so out the door Knight goes. He's been expecting this for a while, as have the majority of Tech fans.

TIMING continued on Page 7 >>

Students: Father was too much to follow

By **BRIAN HOWARD**
STAFF WRITER

As Pat Knight's Texas Tech career came to a close at the end of Big 12 Conference play this season, attendance numbers fell.

Some students, whether they witnessed Knight's final few games in Lubbock or chose to stay home, said Monday that Knight's lack of on-court success, coupled with the legacy of his last name, proved to be too much for a first-time collegiate head coach.

Elizabeth Gonzales, a senior exercise and sport sciences major from San Antonio, said the men's basketball program wasn't faring much better when Pat Knight originally replaced his father, Bob Knight, who is the all-time winningest Division I men's basketball coach with 902 career wins.

"Bobby Knight was a legend," she said. "I thought he could

maybe keep his father's good name, but when Bobby Knight left his record was losing too; I'm not sure it is so much the coaches but the recruiting."

Pat Knight took over the program in the middle of the 2007-2008 season after his father stepped down.

Being in the shadow of his father's hall-of-fame career as a college basketball coach, Gonzales said, makes it difficult to measure how good of a job Knight did in his three-and-a-half years as Tech's head coach.

"He was expected to live up to his father's name, but no one can do that; when people are held to such high standards most of the time they fail," she said. "Maybe if his father was more involved in the program we could have had better recruiting."

FOLLOW continued on Page 7 >>



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador
STUDENTS REACTED TO Pat Knight's firing Monday by drawing comparisons between him and his father, legendary coach Bob Knight.