

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2011
VOLUME 85 ■ ISSUE 131

THE DAILY TOREADOR

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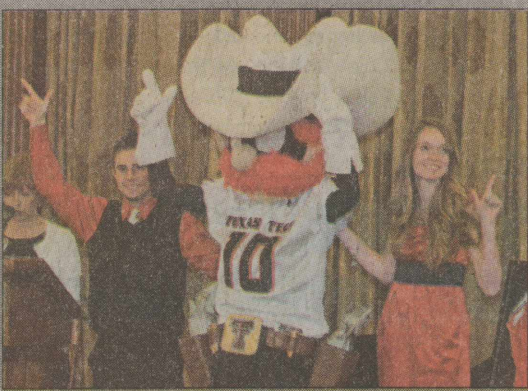
New students wield Raider Red's guns

By DYLAN RUTTER
STAFF WRITER

After completing their service to Texas Tech, the students who took on the role of mascot Raider Red were unveiled Friday in the Merket Alumni Center.

GUNS continued on Page 2

CODY CREA, A senior mechanical engineering major from San Antonio, left, and Karina Perry, a senior restaurant, hotel and institutional management major from San Antonio, pose for pictures after they passed their guns to the new Raider Red during the Passing of the Guns ceremony Friday in the Merket Alumni Center.



PHOTOS BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

TRADITION CHANGES



By LAUREN FERGUSON
STAFF WRITER

The black quarter horse, bolero hat, black mask and scarlet cape embroidered with the famous Double-T form the costume of the long-standing Texas Tech tradition of the Masked Rider.

RIDER continued on Page 2

CHRISTI CHADWELL, THE 2010-2011 Masked Rider, clips the scarlet and black cape onto Bradley Skinner, a senior animal sciences major from Arvada, Colo., the new masked rider for 2011-2012, during the Passing of the Reins ceremony Friday in the Merket Alumni Center. Skinner was named as the 50th Masked Rider during the ceremony.

Reins passed on to 50th Masked Rider

Red Raider

Ride

Tour de Tech Terrace draws students, Lubbock residents for day of fun



PHOTO BY LESLEY LASTUFKA/The Daily Toreador

TOUR DE TECH Terrace participants enjoy one of the eight stops along the ride's route on Saturday.

By SYDNEY HOLMES
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech students, alumni and Lubbock residents pedaled through an eight-mile course on Saturday during the 14th annual Tour de Tech Terrace.

Instead of an entrance fee, participants were asked to bring canned goods, which are donated to the South Plains Food Bank. Between the wipeouts, pass-outs and all around bacchanalia of the event, participants were

reminded of the cause they supported. "It's a charitable thing, which is great," said Austin Keith, an architecture graduate student from Plano. "I think last year the food bank was entirely out of canned goods, and we showed up and completely re-stocked their pantry. It's a great cause. It's a positive spin on the whole event."

Keith was in charge of organizing the event, which he said was no easy feat.

"It's stressful planning it. Finding sponsorships, making sure everything is taken care of

as far as logistics, planning the route," he said. "I'm also in the Homeowners Association, so I'm always talking to them about what they like and what they want changed. It's a couple months of hard work, but it's well worth it."

Although the event is charitable and supports a good cause, it is somewhat notorious for getting out of control. In years past, several arrests were made and at least one student was Tasered by police.

TOUR continued on Page 6

Law students host fundraising event for CASA

Crawfish boil raises more than \$1,000

By ROCIO RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Texas Aggie Bar Association hosted an all-you-can eat "Crawfish for CASA" fundraising event Friday at Conference Café.

"This is our major event that we do," said Frank Barat, president of the association composed of Tech School of Law students who went to Texas A&M or are fans of A&M, Barat said.

CASA continued on Page 3

ANDREW WIPKE, A first-year law student from Corpus Christi, serves Hayley John, a third year law student from Huntsville, Mo., during the Texas Aggies Bar Association crawfish boil. This joint fundraiser with the Texas Tech School of Law will benefit the Court Appointed Special Advocates program that provides mentors for abused and neglected children.



PHOTO BY LESLEY LASTUFKA/The Daily Toreador

INDEX

- Classifieds.....7
- Crossword.....6
- Opinions.....4
- La Vida.....3
- Sports.....8
- Sudoku.....2

WEATHER

Today Sunny
93/58

Tuesday Partly Cloudy
90/52

Cardone: Social programs too important to cut OPINIONS, Pg. 4



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THE DAILY TOREADOR

Community Calendar

TODAY

Lori Hepner: "Status Symbols: A Study in Tweets"

Time: All-day event
Where: School of Art, SRO Photo Gallery

So, what is it?
A series of virtual portraits that are studies of identity in a digital age, showcasing the identity created that differs from physical looks. Abstract portraits are created with spinning LEDs that translate words into flashing bursts of light. The exhibit will be displayed through May 8.

Llano Estacado: An Island in the Sky

Time: All-day event
Where: School of Art, Landmark Gallery
So, where is it?
Landmark Arts exhibits selections of photographs from the Llano Project, which was organized by Bill Tydeman and Steve Bogener in 2004-05 for the Southwest Collection/Special

Collections Library with a special grant from The CH Foundation. Six photographers were commissioned to photograph the Llano Estacado as artists rather than as surveyors. The exhibit is on display through June 24.

David Collins Exhibit

Time: All-day event
Where: School of Art, Studio Gallery
So, what is it?
This MFA exhibit featuring paintings is on display through Saturday.

"Heavy Metal Celts: Ceol agus Brass"

Time: 7 p.m.
Where: Legacy Events Center, Talkington Great Hall
So, what is it?
TTU Celtic Ensemble presents a night of dances, songs and instrumentals featuring singers, players, dancers and the Village Brass horn section. Music from Brittany, Ireland, Scotland, Romania, England and the United States will be performed. The Caprock Border Morris dance team will be a featured guest.

South Plains College at the Cactus

Time: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Cactus Theater
So, what is it?
The Creative Arts Department has bands performing this week. All shows start at 7:30 p.m., and admission is free. Monday is "Funky Groove Night," and Tuesday is "AlternaTV Rock Night."

John Sprott

Time: 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Where: Triple J Chophouse & Brew Co.

So, what is it?
Kick back and enjoy barbecue, burgers or steak along with the acoustic sounds of classic favorites.

Manny Rodriguez

Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Where: Stella's

So, what is it?
Indulge in the tastes of New York style Italian cuisine while listening to the smooth sounds of jazz at this upscale locally-owned restaurant.

To make a calendar submission e-mail dailytreador@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.

TUESDAY

Cruise Duke and the County Road Ends

Time: 10 p.m.
Where: The Blue Light
So, what is it?
Enjoy a night filled with Texas country music at this Depot District venue.

Open Jam

Time: 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Where: Skooner's Grill & Bar
So, what is it?
From electric banjo to jazz sax to classic rock-n-roll, all styles welcome at this open jam.

Storms leave 43 dead in destruction's wake

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—A devastating storm system spawned dozens of tornadoes as it barreled from Oklahoma to North Carolina, decimating communities in six states and leaving at least 43 people dead in its wake.

Emergency crews searched for victims Sunday in hard-hit swaths of North Carolina, where 62 tornadoes were reported the night before from the worst spring storm in two decades to hit the state. Eleven people were confirmed dead in Bertie County, county manager Zee Lamb said.

Another four were confirmed dead in Bladen County, bringing the state's death toll to at least 21.

In the capital city of Raleigh, three family members died in a mobile home park, said Wake County spokeswoman Sarah Williamson-Baker. At that trailer park, residents lined up outside Sunday and asked police guarding the area when they might get back in.

Peggy Mosley, 54, who has lived in the park for 25 years, said she was prepared when the storm bore down on the trailer park. She gathered small pillows and other material and hunkered down in her small bathroom.

"I went and got into my small bathroom and just sat in there and cried and prayed until it was over," Mosley said.

Farther up the street, Angelina McCaizie was also among those hoping to get back to their homes. She said she had been cooking when she saw the winds and rain pick up. She grabbed her children, nephew and brother and brought them into the kitchen, where everyone ducked until the storm passed.

When the storm was over, McCaizie, her husband and her brother went outside to check on neighbors. She said she saw several people bleeding and others with broken bones. McCaizie also said one resident ran up to her shouting, "Please help me! Please help me! I need 911."

"It was horrible," McCaizie said.

Gov. Beverly Perdue said Sunday that state emergency management officials told her more than 20 were killed by the storms in North Carolina. However, the far-flung damage made it difficult to confirm the total number of deaths. The emergency management agency said it had reports of 22 fatalities, and media outlets and government agency tallies did not all match. The National Weather Service said 23 died in the state, including one in Johnston County, but an emergency management chief there told The Associated Press nobody died in that area.

The storm claimed its first lives Thursday night in Oklahoma, then roared through Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Authorities have said seven died in Arkansas; seven in Alabama; two in Oklahoma; and one in Mississippi. At least five died in Virginia.

In North Carolina, the governor declared a state of emergency and said the 62 tornadoes reported were the most since March 1984, when a storm system spawned 22 twisters in the Carolinas that killed 57 people — 42 in North Carolina — and injured hundreds.

Daybreak brought news of a horrific death toll in Bertie County, a place of about 21,000 people about 130 miles east of Raleigh. The tornado moved through about 7 p.m. Saturday, sweeping homes from their foundations, demolishing others, and flipping cars on tiny rural roads between Askewville and Colerian, Lamb said. At least three of those who died were from the same family, he said.

One of the volunteers who scoured the rubble was an Iraq war veteran who told Lamb he was stunned by what he saw.

"He did two tours of duty in Iraq and the scene was worse than he ever saw in Iraq — that's pretty devastating," Lamb said.

FAA gives tired controllers an extra hour to rest

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government said Sunday it is giving air traffic controllers an extra hour off between shifts so they don't doze off at work, a problem that stretches back decades. But officials rejected the remedy that sleep experts say would make a real difference: on-the-job napping.

"On my watch, controllers will not be paid to take naps. We're not going to allow that," Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said.

That's exactly the opposite of what scientists and the Federal Aviation Administration's own fatigue working group say is needed after five cases disclosed since late March

of sleeping controllers. The latest one occurred just before 5 a.m. Saturday at a busy regional radar facility that handles high altitude air traffic for much of Florida, portions of the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.

Several other countries, including Germany and Japan, permit controllers to take sleeping breaks and they provide quiet rooms with cots for that purpose.

"Given the body of scientific evidence, that decision clearly demonstrates that politics remain more important than public safety," said Bill Voss, president of the Flight Safety Foundation of Alexandria, Va. "People are concerned about a

political backlash if they allow controllers to have rest periods in their work shifts the same way firefighters and trauma physicians do."

It has been an open secret in the FAA dating to at least the early 1990s that controllers sometimes sleep on the job. Toughest are the midnight shifts, which usually begin about 10 p.m. and end about 6 a.m.

Scientists say it would be surprising if controllers didn't doze sometimes because they are trying to stay awake during the time of day when the body naturally craves sleep.

Today's
su do ku

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

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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-Abraham Lincoln

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Guns

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

During the five-year-old tradition of the passing of the guns ceremony, Cody Crea and Karina Perry passed off the responsibility to new anonymous Raider Reds.

Karina Perry, a senior restaurant hotel institution management major from San Antonio, served as Raider Red for two years and said the tradition originated when Tech was banned from having a living mascot.

Perry said her favorite Raider Red moment was running out onto the field during the Tech vs. Baylor football game at the

new Cowboys Stadium in Arlington.

The role of Raider Red is all about upholding tradition, Perry said. She said it was an honor to serve the university and spread school spirit.

"I just want to thank my parents for not thinking I'm crazy for wanting to put on a mustache," Perry said.

Cody Crea, a senior mechanical engineering major from San Antonio, served as Raider Red for three years.

"I have had around 490 hours in costume as Raider Red over the past three years. That is about 30 days in costume over the years, which might explain the grades," he joked. "Now that

I don't have to do Raider Red, grades might move up the list to maybe number nine — behind intramural softball."

Crea said the ceremony is an awesome event for the university because it recognizes the student organizations and people involved to make Tech traditions possible.

Crea said his favorite moment suited up was standing on the field during the Tech versus Texas football game in 2008 when former Tech wide receiver Michael Crabtree made the game-winning catch.

"It has been such an amazing, awesome experience and easily some of the best times of my life," Crea said. "It really is an

honor to be able to serve your school on the biggest stage possible, and essentially be the face of an entire university."

Stephanie Rhode is the supervisor for the Raider Red Program, a collective partnership between the Saddle Tramp organization, the High Riders organization and Campus Life. She said the Raider Reds had 130 appearances this year, so the position takes serious commitment.

"Raider Red is one of the most recognizable and beloved symbols of Texas Tech," Rhode said. "He embodies the pride that alumni, incoming students and our current students have for our university."

>>> drutter@dailytreador.com

Rider

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Friday at the Merket Alumni Center, the reins were passed to the 50th Masked Rider, Bradley Skinner, a senior animal sciences major from Arvada, Colo.

"The second I started here I felt like a part of Texas Tech. I was included; everybody liked me," Skinner said. "I felt it going here, and I really want to spread that to other kids."

The reins were passed to Skinner from the 2010-2011

Masked Rider, Christi Chadwell, a senior agricultural communications major from Garland.

Skinner transferred to Tech after attending Colorado State University. During the event, he quoted the saying, "I wasn't born in Texas, but I got here as soon as I could."

Sam Jackson, associate professor of animal science, oversees the daily dealings of the Masked Rider with the horse, Midnight Matador.

"(Chadwell) has just been a very much pin-to-business rider. You didn't have to wonder if she

was going to show up on time or do what she was supposed to do," Jackson said. "All of the things we expect a successful rider to do she has fulfilled that role."

Along with being a student, the Masked Rider does the daily cleaning and feeding of the horse.

"(The Masked Rider) has to be good with the horse; they have to be safe with the horse and understand the limitations of a horse, and that comes from being a horseman," Jackson said.

Skinner said he has been riding and showing horses since the

age of 5. He said he is excited for football games where he will get to lead the team onto the field, a tradition he remembers seeing on TV since he was a child.

Serving as the Saddle Tramps representative on the Masked Rider Advisory Committee, Sean Ollre, a junior management information systems major from Kemah, said he looks forward to working with the new Masked Rider.

"He is a good leader, and he has a good head on his shoulders," Ollre said. "We have a good Masked Rider. (Saddle Tramps) is growing every year; all the spirit organizations play a big part now — so all the football games should be pretty exciting."

In addition to attending athletic events, the Masked Rider travels year-round across Texas to promote the spirit and pride of the university. The rider is selected for good horsemanship but also for having communication skills.

"He's a sharp kid and a very good horseman. He should do all the things that we need a rider to do in terms of safety. He's also a good communicator, and he will interact well with alumni and kids," Jackson said.

Skinner's duty as the Masked Rider began as soon as the reins were passed. He will attend events and promote Tech during the summer.

"I feel more at home here than anywhere else," Skinner said. "I really want to get more involved in bigger programs at this school and really get to know students and faculty on a more personal level."

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Shwayze, Spring Fling highlight weekend

By HALLIE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

The Tech Activities Board hosted Shwayze, The Crisis and Benton Leachman as part of Rock the Plaza on Friday night, and the Residence Halls Association put on its annual Spring Fling on Saturday.

Friday began with free food, T-shirts and a performance by the TAB singer/songwriter competition winner. Next up was The Crisis, a cover band from Houston.

Rock the Plaza was completely different from past years, said TAB president Aspen Teague, a senior restaurant, hotel and institutional management major from Keller.

"We wanted to mix it up," Teague said. "We knew we would have to take a risk, but it was worth the reward."

The risk was Shwayze, an "alternative rap" duo consisting of two men: Shwayze and Cisco Adler. However, because of a chain of events involving flights and weather conditions, Adler did not make it to Tech. Students still enjoyed Shwayze's solo act, Teague said.

"The crowd really got into it," Teague said. "He gave a great performance."

However, part of his great performance — and part of the risk — involved marijuana. During the show, Shwayze took "smoke breaks," asked how high the crowd was and accepted a joint on stage from a student.

"There's only so much we can do to control students," Teague said. "They know the laws."

The next day, RHA's Spring Fling began at 2 p.m. Students signed waivers, and were then

"We wanted to mix it up. We knew we would have to take a risk, but it was worth the reward."

ASPEN TEAGUE
TAB PRESIDENT
SENIOR

able to get free T-shirts and food, including a unique kind of ice cream sandwich.

RHA President Lorran Polson said the ice cream sandwiches were completely homemade by Coolhaus, an ice cream company in Austin that

traveled to Lubbock. Each student got to choose the kind of cookie and the kind of ice cream they wanted, and it was then placed in a completely edible wrapper.

"Something homemade is always nice," Polson said.

There were also inflatable games, like a bungee race or obstacle course, a mechanical bull, sumo suits, a photo booth, caricatures and a DJ.

After last year's event featuring magician Mike Super, Polson said this year's had a much



PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON /The Daily Toreador

CHELSEA GREGORY, A Lubbock Christian University student, left, and Lindsey Scherschligt, a higher education master's student from Hill City, Kan., race against each other to stick their Velcro pads farther up the track as a part of Spring Fling on Saturday at the recreation fields.

more down to earth feeling. She said she believed Spring Fling was relaxing and provided new experiences not offered on campus before.

Sophomore Paige Nash, a business marketing major from Dallas, said she liked getting to ride the mechanical bull,

something she had seen done, but never had the opportunity to do until Spring Fling.

"It's just a great way to relax before exams," Nash said. "We get to play, we get to eat."

With finals and the end of the year coming up, Polson said this was the perfect time for the

event. "It's a way to provide free entertainment and food when everyone is running low on dining bucks and money in general," she said.

Originally, the Spring Fling committee had planned to have a local shelter bring dogs for

students to play with, Polson said, but in the end, they did not make it.

Polson said there was still plenty to do, and she said she thought the committee had done a great job; more than 650 people attended.

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Film fans head for 'Rio,' shrug over new 'Scream'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Movie fans are going to "Rio" in big numbers, but they're not quite screaming over the latest installment of a horror-comedy franchise.

The 20th Century Fox animated family flick "Rio," featuring the voices of Anne Hathaway and Jesse Eisenberg, led the weekend box office with a healthy \$40 million debut, according to studio estimates Sunday.

It was the best debut so far this year, topping another animated comedy, "Rango," by about \$2 million.

The slasher comedy "Scream 4," released by the Weinstein Co. banner Dimension Films, opened at No. 2 with just \$19.3 million. That's a fraction of the business for the previous two sequels, which both debuted at over \$30 million more than a decade ago.

Business finally climbed for Hollywood, which has been in a prolonged slide. Revenues rose for only the second time since last November, coming in at \$134 million, up 12 percent compared to the same weekend last year, when "Kick-Ass" led with \$19.8 million.

"I'm going to be so bold as to say this may be the beginning of the turnaround," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "Summer's almost here and it's the most important movie-going season. It couldn't be coming at a better time."

After two weekends in the No. 1 spot, Russell Brand's Easter bunny tale "Hop" slipped to third-place with \$11.2 million. Released by Universal, "Hop" raised its total to \$82.6 million.

The weekend's other new wider release, director Robert Redford's Lincoln-assassination drama "The Conspirator," premiered at No. 9 with \$3.9 million. The movie stars Robin Wright and James McAvoy in a courtroom tale of a woman accused

of aiding Lincoln assassin John Wilkes Booth.

Released by Roadside Attractions, "The Conspirator" played in narrower release of 707 theaters, roughly one-fifth the cinema count for the weekend's top three movies.

"Rio" opened well above Fox studio expectations. A tale of romance and smuggling involving rare birds, "Rio" opened overseas a week earlier and has climbed to a \$168 million total worldwide.

"It's working in every country on the planet," said Fox distribution executive Bert Livingston. "It's G-rated, which means it's for everybody."

With many children out of school over the next week leading into Easter, "Rio" has solid playing time ahead of it, Livingston said.

Receipts for "Scream 4" came in a bit under industry expecta-

tions and well below the \$30-million-plus openings for "Scream 2" and "Scream 3."

"Would we have liked to have done more? Yeah, absolutely, but I don't think anyone was expecting \$30 million," said Erik Lomis, head of distribution for the Weinstein Co. "But I think it's a solid opening, particularly given how the films have been performing lately in the marketplace. R-rated films have been having a tougher time."

"Scream 4" reunites the stars of the original three movies — Neve Campbell, Courtney Cox and David Arquette — and adds new young cast members including Emma Roberts, Hayden Panettiere and Rory Culkin.

The movie hurls the cast into a fresh blood fest as bodies pile up in a manner mimicking events of the first movie.

CASA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This is the third year of the fundraising event, which began as a small crawfish boil at members' houses, said the law student from Richardson. It then was turned into a fundraising event to benefit Court Appointed Special Advocates of the South Plains.

"(CASA) does a good job of really advocating for children here," Barat said. "They're a nationwide organization, but they provide for children who are in need, children who don't have families — type of representation that many of us in law school are looking to get into with our career."

The student association shipped in 375 pounds of

crawfish from Louisiana as well as 90 pounds of potatoes and 350 ears of corn, Barat said. All the proceeds went to CASA.

According to CASA's website, the child advocacy program is a network of programs recruiting volunteers to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in judicial courts. Volunteers are appointed by judges to ensure the safety of abused and neglected children from group or foster homes to permanent homes.

Nathan White, social chair of the association, said they had been planning the event since August, and it has been a success so far.

White estimated the event raised more than \$1,000.

"This is the third annual crawfish boil, and all the proceeds go to CASA," said the law student

from Friendswood. "I know a lot of other organizations do things for CASA, but it's basically just a group of attorneys who donate money and donate services and their time to help abused or neglected children."

Lisa Danley, a law student from Lake Havasu, Ariz., said Crawfish for CASA is a good way for the students to become involved with and give back to Lubbock and the community families and children.

"I think Crawfish for CASA is a really important event," Danley said. "CASA's really excellent."

"It serves the community—it's very important for a lot of families and children here in Lubbock, and I think it's important that the law students come out here and support them."

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Social programs too important to cut down

In the last 13 days, the leaders in Washington have done an abnormally large amount of governmental business. Or, as the rest of America calls it, working.

Four hours from a government shutdown the House and Senate, working well past their bedtime, came together and passed a second continuing resolution. This would eventually lead to the passage of the 2011 budget.

Worried Congress' recent bipartisan might leave FOX News and MSNBC without hysterics to cover? Fear not, there is another budget battle brewing for fiscal year 2012, which begins in a few months.

Republicans want to cut programs, cut taxes and cut pretty much everything except their own jobs. Democrats, meanwhile, prefer to increase taxes to pay for current services, in addition to cutting some programs.

Wisconsin Republican Representative Paul Ryan's bill essentially cuts everything. It cuts Medicare down to an implausible private provider scheme. It cuts the Obama health care reforms to zero, adding \$230 billion to the deficit, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

There are plenty of proposed cuts in the Republican plan which Democrats can go along with. The size and scope of the cuts to social services, however, cannot be accepted.

"You want to repeal health care? Go at it," President Obama challenged on Friday.

I'm with the president. It's time for the Democrats to stand together and fight. Not fight simply to be the opposition, but fighting for what's right.

The Democrats should not allow the Republican Party to destroy America by shoving aside the people in favor of the corporations.

Tony Cardone



I'm no economic genius with an MBA or theoretical degree in economics, but I'm pretty sure the economy in the last few years has been in the dumpster. Many factors played a part in it, but tax cuts for the wealthy certainly didn't help as promised by the previous administration.

It, for certain, put enormous strain on the federal budget, and it certainly didn't help the vast majority of Americans. The cuts may have helped the people at the top of the GE pay chain, but not the middle and lower class Americans who actually needed the help. Ryan's plan cuts taxes on the wealthy by an additional ten percent, according to The Atlantic.

The few services that remain to benefit those middle and lower class citizens are in danger of being cut. Planned Parenthood, which provides vital health services for both men and women, is constantly under threat of cuts, despite its miniscule budget.

Public funding for education is being slashed at the state level at an alarming rate. Ryan proposes an additional massive cut to Pell Grants. This program benefits low and middle income students in college by providing them with tuition money.

The maximum Pell Grant award per student is currently \$5,550, which is far less than the cost of attendance. According to Education Week, the President's proposed budget would help 9.2 million Americans go to school this year through the program.

These are but a few of Ryan's reckless proposals that sacrifice

the middle class.

Ever since Reagan won the Cold War by outspending the Soviets, conservative economic theory of cutting taxes in order to raise tax revenue has reigned supreme. Since then, when the time has come to make difficult budgetary choices, it's always been on programs that most benefit the middle class.

In addition to those, scientific agencies, like the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation are suddenly under attack. Unfortunately for us, these agencies don't produce tangible money for private citizens, which is why the Republicans want to cut them.

All of these programs benefit the American people, in a different way, be it from protecting the air to finding a cure for cancer.

This is why it's time for the Democrats to fight. The overarching purpose of government, once it establishes a fair and just society, is to provide for its populace. Cutting these programs thus drastically do the exact opposite.

The American people agree. According to a January poll by Gallup, 67 percent of Americans oppose cutting education. A majority, 52 percent, also opposes cutting funding for the arts and sciences.

No doubt it is important to resolve the massive budget gap. Despite the rhetoric coming from those who claim China is about to take over America, the Democrats do care about the shortfall.

The Republicans have decided cutting services is the answer. A sensible balance between tax increases and budget cuts won't be the strongest platform to run on, but it's the reasonable way to solve our budget woes. It's vital the Democrats hold the line and stand up for the people, because it's clear the Republicans won't.

Cardone is a sophomore computer engineering major from San Antonio.
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Today's youth essential in shaping tomorrow's future

It started in Tunisia and is now sweeping Egypt, Bahrain and Libya, among others. Inspiring speeches of triumph over oppression and statements that things will never be the same are all over the Web and the news.

These are the stories of victory and hope of freedom where decades of tyranny and living in fear may very well be ending. Even the South Sudanese will have their own state by the beginning of July this year.

Things are changing all over the world through revolutionary means. These changes are not necessarily stable or peaceful, but are unquestionably inspiring. For the first time in a relatively long span of world history, the will of people to be free is causing the odds to be thrown out, much like our own

Zach Morrison



apart, especially for the young and full-of-potential.

Our voices need to be heard, as are the voices of those our age in countries like those I have mentioned. The issues are different, and admittedly quite a bit more forward in the scale of first world civilization, but the problem remains the same.

That problem is the silence of those who have the ability to change their circumstances, and the ignorance that allows us to drift blissfully toward a future that has some very avoidable problems in it.

It is our voices that matter in the long run, our voices that are being depended on to fix this world.

Primarily, this country is continuing its habit of taking care of the elderly and others who no longer possess the capacity to contribute to society, at the expense of the young and intelligent.

That is not to say everyone's grandparents aren't wonderful people, but rather the point is this: The modern world is being built by us, the intelligent, peace-desiring, tolerant student body of generation Y and all the while, the federal government, whether it be Democratic or Republican ideas, continually pushes tuition bills and the costs that are forced on the young to keep up social security, consistently higher.

We do have the ability to change our future circumstances, and to remember that all we must do is think hard about the values on which this and other free countries were founded. It is our voices that matter in the

long run, our voices that are being depended on to fix this world.

So it must be our voices that ensure we have the advantages we need to become a generation with the attitude and the tools to do so. There are few that realize this, but those that do are not enough without the support of the young masses.

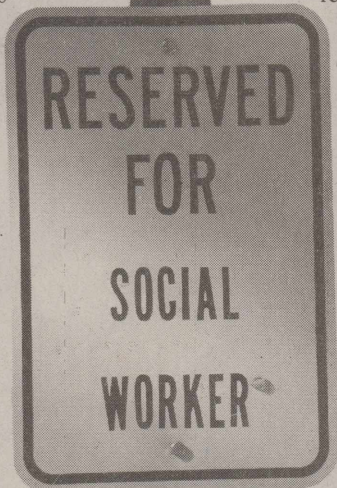
A professor of mine once told my class she would gladly excuse our absence if we were in Washington protesting social security increases and the like. We need to remind people that it is our generation that is broke off the costs of paying for the generation behind us and living in our parents basements and cheap apartments. We will not only become a financial detriment to the nation, but also an inexcusable waste of potential, not being used in professions that need our brain power.

We hear the news and see the evidence of things like global warming, starvation, economic crisis and the like and put on a solemn face. However we do very little in the long run to put ourselves in a position to actually do something about it. My advice is to get politically active and use the issues we are educated on every day to change things for our children and us.

The past is gone and the future that sits in front of us quite possibly holds the most potential sway in history between negative and positive. If we don't remember what it means to be free and able to use our collective voices to better the world, we won't have the power to fix all the things that we hear about in lectures every day.

Issues like economic crisis, a damaged planet and potential worldly starvation aren't just going to go away, as the young and free of the world seem to assume all too often.

Morrison is a sophomore geography major from The Woodlands.
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Quran burning response unacceptable

By **CHRIS SEEMAN**
THE DAILY REVEILLE (LOUISIANA STATE U.)

Pastor Terry Jones is a misguided bigot.

The part-time preacher and part-time used furniture salesman has done his damndest to earn that title, using his role as the leader of the Dove World Outreach Center in Gainesville, Fla., to create more controversy than any poorly funded, 50-member hate group—that's the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation, not mine—deserves.

The trouble began last year, when Jones and his followers planned to burn copies of the Quran on the ninth anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Jones' intentions were widely publicized and sparked international outrage, which eventually led to the cancellation of the event dubbed "International Burn a Quran Day" by Jones.

Jones apparently could not help himself, however, and decided to preside over a "trial" on March 20 in which the Quran was convicted and executed — by burning, of course.

This time, the outrage was real as well. Protests erupted in Afghanistan and Pakistan, resulting in the deaths of at least 20 people.

American politicians and religious leaders scrambled to repudiate the actions of both Jones and the violent protestors, and some went so far as to place the blame for the deaths on Jones himself.

Jones' credentials as a poorly informed polemicist were well-

established prior to his Quran burning. He first came to nationwide prominence by placing a sign on the church's lawn that read "Islam is the Devil." To top it off, Dove World Outreach participated in a joint protest last year with the ultimate provocateurs at the Westboro Baptist Church, who are known for their inflammatory signs and staging of protests at U.S. soldiers' funerals.

That being said, Jones is not a murderer. Shifting the responsibility for these deaths to anyone other than those who committed the murders is irresponsible because it disallows us from examining this issue in its entirety.

It's an inescapable fact that the violence in Afghanistan and Pakistan was perpetrated by radical Muslims. Unfortunately, the assurance this type of response would result probably empowered Jones, who uses the violence committed by Muslims as a justification for his hateful proselytizing.

Violent reprisals following perceived slights are not a new phenomenon for radical Muslims, and it would be unwise to write off these actions as the expected response to any affront. So then, who is to blame?

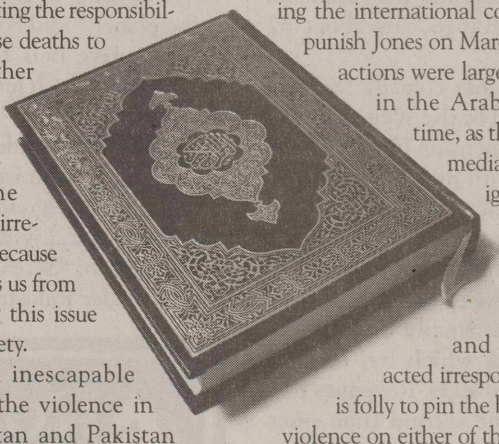
Appropriately enough, the LSU Muslim Student Association held a seminar Wednesday entitled "Islam: Should We Be Afraid?" The featured

lecturer was Omar Suleiman, an Islamic religious leader in New Orleans.

Suleiman spent a large portion of his time dispelling negative stereotypes of Muslim Americans and emphasizing their integration and positive influence on American society, but also addressed the Quran burning controversy. He echoed the criticism of Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who has been skewered for stoking the flames of violent protest for imploring the international community to punish Jones on March 24. Jones' actions were largely unknown in the Arab world this time, as the American media had largely ignored him to prevent violence from occurring.

Karzai and Jones both acted irresponsibly, but it is folly to pin the blame for the violence on either of them. Though radicals no doubt represent a small portion of Muslims throughout the world, they are unequivocally responsible for these violent protests, with many using the uninformed bigotry of Jones to exercise some violent bigotry of their own.

Unfortunately, the responsibility for marginalizing these voices of violence and extremism falls upon moderate American Muslims like Suleiman. The only real option American Muslims have is to lead by example and heed Suleiman's advice when the next Terry Jones comes prodding: ignore him.



Taunting makes its way from playground to Congress

By **PAULA I PENARIU**
HARVARD CRIMSON (HARVARD U.)

Relegated primarily to elementary school playgrounds, taunting, name-calling, and insult-lobbing have made their way into the houses of Congress, according to a study released by Stanford and Harvard professors.

Assistant Professor Justin R. Grimmer of Stanford and University Professor Gary King of Harvard found that 27 percent of congressional press releases that their team analyzed consisted of "partisan taunts."

In fact, while on the job, not only do members of Congress insult each other, but they sometimes make it their primary goal, King said.

The methodology used could eventually reveal who in Congress are the biggest taunters.

This finding was couched in an eight-page paper published by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in February.

The research focused on finding a way to have computers classify data in order to discover "insightful conceptualizations."

"We are really lame at zooming out and making sense of the whole corpus of information, at the same time," King said.

The study started by analyzing press releases from Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg, a Democrat from New Jersey who famously called Republicans "chicken hawks" in a floor speech in the Senate.

The study took these releases for an initial test of the methodology, which involves creating clusters of similar data.

After also analyzing a State of the

Union address from President Bush and a series of Reuters articles, the team took 64,033 press releases from 2005 to 2007 to estimate the presence of taunting.

From those releases, Grimmer and King found not only that 27 percent of releases are taunts, but that taunting increases when a senator faces less competition in his or her state.

The study began more than three years ago, when it was initiated by King and a group of graduate students. The goal of the study was to develop a way to understand large quantities of information.

Now, King hopes to be able to determine whether Democrats or Republicans are responsible for the majority of political put-downs and whether taunts tend to be employed by particular congressmen over others.

Still, King didn't hold congressmen solely responsible for the taunting, saying that they seem to be responding to incentives and doing the exact things that get them reelected.

"The whole point of democracy is to represent, and if they want to do so by taunting each other, they will keep doing just that," King said.

In fact, while on the job, not only do members of Congress insult each other, but they sometimes make it their primary goal ...

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•Publishing information
Periodical Postage paid by The Daily Treador, Student Media Building, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, 79409. Publication number: 766480. The DT is a student newspaper published Monday through Friday, September through May; Tuesdays and Fridays June through August, except during university examination and vacation periods. The DT is funded primarily through advertising revenues generated by the student sales staff with free campus distribution resulting from student service fees.

•Subscriptions
Call: 806-742-3388
Subscription Rates: \$150 annually; single issues: \$1.
Postmaster: send address changes to The Daily Treador, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

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Tech robotics school program reaches out to community

By DYLAN RUTTER
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of middle school and elementary school students came together Saturday in the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center for the Gear Robotics event, Transfarmers: Rise of the Farmbots.

Senior Noah Berlow, a mechanical engineering major from Amarillo, was a referee for the event, and supervised the students during competition.

"The kids built pre-programmed robots that collect different vegetables, take manure and make it into bio-fuel, deliver goods to the market and other activities," Berlow said. "Obviously it's only wooden blocks and such, but it's to simulate the real activity, which is relatively close when it comes down to it."

The program was supervised by Tanja Karp, associate professor for the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and featured Texas Tech engineering students in an intro to engineering course mentoring younger children in the competition.

"We have been doing this event since 2006, and it has constantly been growing," Karp said. "We have 75 elementary-school teams and 75 middle-school teams that come in from

all around Texas, as well as local Lubbock schools."

The theme this year is farming, Karp said, which includes harvesting corn and carrots, cleaning a barn, and delivering cotton to the market.

The students have worked on the robots for eight weeks, Karp said, and they first came to campus during Engineering Week, when they initially were told about this year's competition.

"There are many different awards for the competition," Karp said.

What I like about it, the event, the most is upper level problem solving. The event forces them to think at higher levels in order to problem solve.

ANN DURAN
LAMESA TEACHER

"There is a first through fourth place, but we also have special awards like the best themed team, most elegant robot, best programming award, creative use of materials, and there is also a young engineer's award where they had to write an essay. So, all the kids have many opportunities, and it is at no cost to the schools."

Ann Duran, a Lamesa teacher in the accelerated curriculum for excellence program, brought nine teams consisting of 39 students to the GEAR event for their third year as the defending champions.

"What I like about it, the event, the most is upper level problem solving," Duran said. "The event forces them to think at higher levels in order to problem solve. 'Why this didn't work?' or, 'If I do this, what do I



PHOTO BY ANNIE OSTERLUND/The Daily Toreador
RHETTA BENTON, HOLTON HALL, and CURTIS CAMPBELL, fourth graders from Murfee Elementary school, listen to the judges at the GEAR robotics competition Saturday in the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

think will happen?" The second best thing about it is the collaboration. Maybe someone is better at building or someone is better at programming.

"It makes all the kids work together to utilize their own individual strengths in a group setting."

The event gives a lot of opportunities to the Tech students as well, Karp said.

The Tech students learn communication skills, professionalism and leadership from mentoring the teams, Karp said, all essential real-world skills usually

not learned in the classroom.

"What I hope to get for the Texas Tech students is identification with their major," Karp said. "When they come in as freshman many of them don't know what engineering is. They are not sure if they want to pursue it. They don't find many jobs with those freshman-level skills that apply to their majors in Lubbock, so getting involved here can give them that confirmation of 'This is what I want to study.'"

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'Gemini Rue' brings retro game experience

If you're like me, you'll be hit with a lot of nostalgic memories when I mention old adventure games like "Indiana Jones and the Fate of Atlantis," "The Secret of Monkey Island" or "Beneath a Steel Sky."

These point-and-click adventures were, in some ways, the pinnacle of storytelling and puzzle-solving for their day. As time went on, however, the genre started to die out. It's seen a bit of resurgence lately, with the success of episodic games from Telltale, but those games feel pretty modern. If you really want a throwback to the good old days of adventures, you want "Gemini Rue."

"Gemini Rue" is a sci-fi, indie PC game from a small development team. The second you look at it, you'll likely be reminded of those old adventure games, from the graphics to the gameplay mechanics to the dialogue.

But nostalgia shouldn't be enough to sell you a game. There are plenty of crappy "retro" games out there if you don't care about quality. So is "Gemini Rue" a quality experience?

Adventure games live or die by two things, primarily: Story/dialogue and puzzles. If the story sucks, you have no reason to push it forward. If the puzzles are too easy or too hard, gamers will quickly get either bored or frustrated.

The story of "Gemini Rue" is pretty good and well-written. It's a nice mix of science fiction and noir, spending most of its time giving you control of two characters: Azriel, a gruff cop searching a run-down city for answers to a personal mystery, and Delta-Six, a prisoner of a secretive facility where his memory has been wiped at least once before.

The puzzles are also pretty good and well-balanced. Hardcore fans of old adventure games may find them too easy and limited (you won't be making bizarre and un-

Britton
Peele



natural item combinations like rubber chickens and pulleys, for example), but overall it's probably a good thing that players should be able to figure out puzzles by simple logic alone.

Everything about the experience screams "old-school," with the possible exception of voice acting. The very inclusion of voice surprised me a little (it wasn't standard in most old adventure games), but I was more surprised to find that the acting wasn't half bad.

So there's a lot going for "Gemini Rue," but it's not perfect.

For one thing, there are a very limited number of environments. Granted, it was produced by a small development team and is available at a budget price of \$15, but you spend most of your time in the same (or same looking) locations. It kills a little bit of the sense of discovery you might want from an adventure.

The story is also very linear, where you are pointed pretty clearly in one direction from beginning to end. The game tries to remedy this a little at one point by letting you switch back and forth between the two characters at will, but I'm not sure it was enough.

Thankfully, these issues don't wholly detract from the fun journey the game provides. As far as adventures from small developers go, "Gemini Rue" gets most things right, and should be applauded for that accomplishment.

"Gemini Rue" can be purchased on the Wadjet Eye Games website.

■ Peele is *The DT's* opinions editor.
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Fans head for 'Rio,' shrug over 'Scream'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Movie fans are going to "Rio" in big numbers, but they're not quite screaming over the latest installment of a horror-comedy franchise.

The 20th Century Fox animated family flick "Rio," featuring the voices of Anne Hathaway and Jesse Eisenberg, led the weekend box office with a healthy \$40 million debut, according to studio estimates Sunday.

It was the best debut so far this year, topping another animated comedy, "Rango," by about \$2 million.

The slasher comedy "Scream 4," released by the Weinstein Co. banner Dimension Films, opened at No. 2 with just \$19.3 million. That's a fraction of the business for the previous two sequels, which both debuted at over \$30 million more than a decade ago.

Business finally climbed for Hollywood, which has been in a prolonged slide. Revenues rose for only the second time since last November, coming in at \$1.34 billion, up 12 percent compared to the same weekend last year, when "Kick-Ass" led with

\$19.8 million.

"I'm going to be so bold as to say this may be the beginning of the turnaround," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "Summer's almost here and it's the most important movie-going season. It couldn't be coming at a better time."

After two weekends in the No. 1 spot, Russell Brand's Easter bunny tale "Hop" slipped to third-place with \$11.2 million. Released by Universal, "Hop" raised its total to \$82.6 million.

The weekend's other new wider release, director Robert Redford's Lincoln-assassination drama "The Conspirator," premiered at No. 9 with \$3.9 million. The movie stars Robin Wright and James McAvoy in a courtroom tale of a woman accused of aiding Lincoln assassin John Wilkes Booth.

Released by Roadside Attractions, "The Conspirator" played in narrower release of 707 theaters, roughly one-fifth the cinema count for the weekend's top three movies.

"Rio" opened well above Fox studio expectations. A tale of romance and smuggling involving rare birds, "Rio" opened overseas a week earlier and has climbed to a \$168 million total worldwide.

"It's working in every country on the planet," said Fox distribution executive Bert Livingston. "It's G-rated, which means it's for everybody."

With many children out of school over the next week leading into Easter, "Rio" has solid playing time ahead of it, Livingston said.

Receipts for "Scream 4" came in a bit under industry expectations and well below the \$30-million-plus openings for "Scream 2" and "Scream 3."

"Would we have liked to have done more? Yeah, absolutely, but I don't think anyone was expecting \$30 million," said Erik Lomis, head of distribution for the Weinstein Co. "But I think it's a solid opening, particularly given how the films have been performing lately in the marketplace. R-rated films have been having a tougher time."

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PHOTOS BY LESLEY LASTUFKA/The Daily Treador

A TOUR PARTICIPANT on in-line skates is pulled by her bike riding-friend Saturday during Tour de Tech Terrace.

Tour ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Cpl. Tim Stann of the Lubbock Police Department explained what the LPD did at Tour de Tech Terrace in order to combat any unruly behavior.

"Honestly, just being here (helps). For the most part, the people that are or-

ganizing it are the ones keeping it calm," Stann said. "People seeing us here, and what's happened in the past is a big deal, but the people that are organizing it have done a real good job of keeping people in order. It's turned into a pretty good deal."

Stann said the LPD is aware of the reputation Tour de Tech Terrace has when it comes to alcohol consumption. He said the primary goal is keeping the students safe and out of the way of traffic.

"Don't try to go car versus bike. You'll lose every time," he said. "This is a notorious event for bikes and alcohol, which is fine. It's become a charity event, so as

long as it's for a good cause, we support what they do."

The police department as well as the administration involved with Tour de Tech Terrace were successful in keeping participants out of trouble. Aside from an occasional bicycle collision, participants were kept safe and secure.

Jamie Ferguson, a Tech alumna, was a returning participant who said the social aspect was especially enjoyable.

"(I) just like that it's something different. You just get out, you meet a lot of cool people — a lot of Tech students — around town and it's just a lot of fun," she said. "I mean, it's just around the neighborhood, so you get to see a little bit of Tech Terrace, too."

Although she heard about the sometimes unmanageable crowds, Ferguson said she did not see any misbehavior.

"I see a lot of excited people, but nothing too crazy. It's just a fun Saturday activity, really," she said. "Just ride around on your bike, and maybe drink a beer — a refreshment — as well."

sholmes@dailytreador.com

"It's become a charity event, so as long as it's for a good cause, we support what they do."

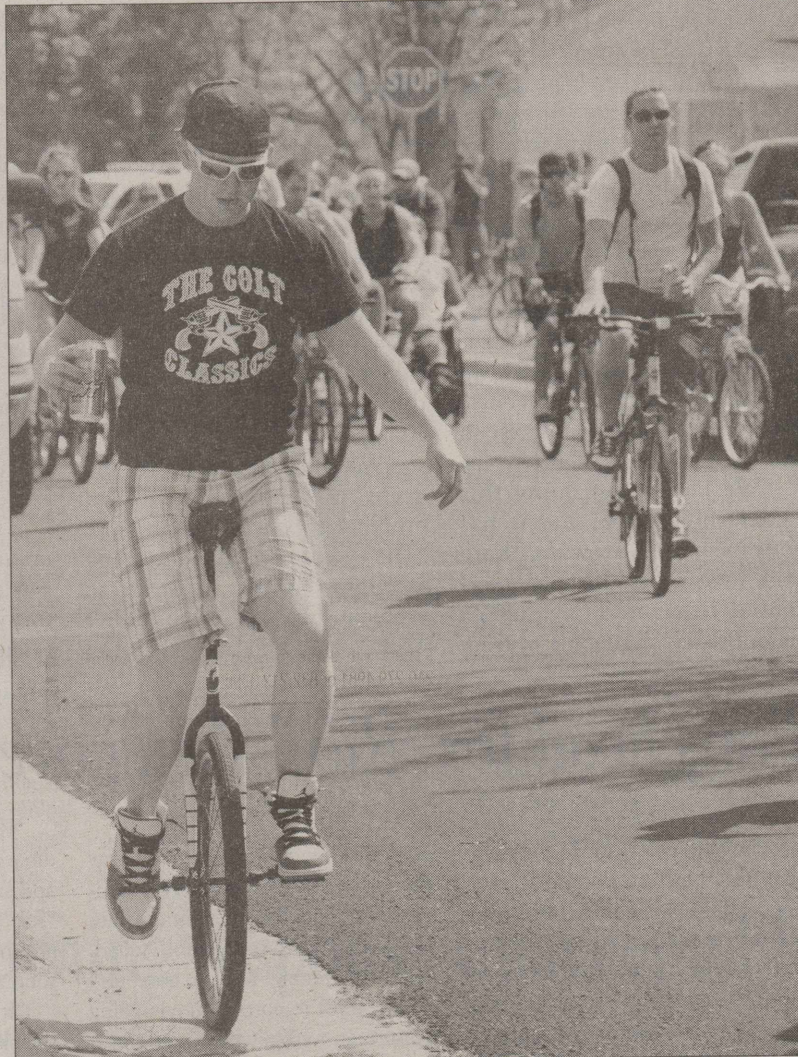
CPL. TIM STANN
LUBBOCK POLICE DEPARTMENT



LUBBOCK POLICE OFFICERS followed the tour and were stationed at the eight stops.



TEXAS TECH STUDENTS ride bicycles, unicycles, skateboards and rollerblades during Saturday's Tour de Tech Terrace. The event collected entry fees in the form of canned goods that will benefit organizations like the Salvation Army.



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

ACROSS

- Key in
- The thing over there
- Stalactite site
- Sticky
- Get a new mortgage for, briefly
- Opinion piece, for short
- Matt's product
- Tear up, as a check
- Moines
- Transvaal settler
- With all one's heart
- What darsdevils seem to lack
- Place to fish from
- Wore an upside-down frown
- Rail chemical carriers
- Burgundy, for one
- Pitched shelter
- Dickens's Uriah
- Latin ballroom dance
- Mythological ship
- Hop out of bed
- Whizzes
- Monastery member
- Fix
- University officer
- Greenhouse containers
- Constructed
- It starts after the overture
- Newspaper unit
- Captain's "I need help ASAP!"
- Extinguish, with "out"
- Gust of wind, e.g.
- Hamster's home
- Drop anchor
- Counters with beads
- Train for a bout
- Japanese wrestling
- Water bottle capacity

DOWN

- Antiquated exclamation
- "Don't think so"
- Does better than
- Sinuuous swimmer
- Microbrewery offering
- More loyal
- Estate beneficiary
- Org. with Raiders and Steelers
- Was linked with
- Nightclub minimum
- Each
- Bridal accessory
- Rapids
- "The Grapes of Wrath" family name
- "A spider!"
- '60s-'70s passive resistance slogan
- Dietler's feelings of distress
- Marks for life
- Studio production
- Gambler's words of lament
- Church belief
- High-altitude nest
- Cordelia's sister
- Golf or tennis
- RPM gauges
- Wrestling duos
- Part of FBI
- Physics particle
- Old World Style pasta sauce brand
- Computer user's shortcut
- Elmer lessons
- Applaud
- Old Roman wrap
- Seniors often take limos to it
- Bench, for one
- It's often enough
- Insigate, with "up"
- Debtor's letters
- Hitter's stat

Friday's Puzzle Solved

C	S	I	L	E	W	I	S	R	A	S	T	A	S		
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Show follows evolution of exurbanites' farm

SHARON SPRINGS, N.Y. (AP) — It sounds like the breathless plot of a zany sitcom: Manhattan adman who moonlights as a drag queen trades high heels for barn boots to raise goats and purple tomatoes with his life partner, a doctor who moved from geriatric practice to "The Martha Stewart Show" before chucking the city life for a new career on the farm.

The story of Josh Kilmer-Purcell and Brent Ridge is chronicled in a cable TV show, "The Fabulous Beekman Boys," on Planet Green. But it's a reality show rather than a gay "Green Acres." The men also share their exurbanite adventures in a blog and in Kilmer-Purcell's hilarious book, "The Bucolic Plague," a follow-up to his memoir about his nightclub career

as Aqua, a drag queen who used live goldfish in the glass-globe breasts of her costumes.

The cast of characters includes other residents of tiny Sharon Springs, a former spa in farm country 43 miles west of Albany. There's Doug Plummer, described by Kilmer-Purcell as "Paul Bunyan in a kilt," proprietor of the restored American Hotel along with his partner Garth. And Farmer John, who raises goats with some help from his partner, Jason, who builds nursery pens for the kids and wooden milking stands for the dairy. And there are the local weaver, soapmaker, blacksmith and woodworker whose wares are sold by the company launched by the fledgling farmers.

It all started in October 2006 when

Ridge and Kilmer-Purcell, together since 2000, rented a car in New York City and drove off for their annual apple-picking weekend. They ended up in Sharon Springs, 195 miles north of the city, and were charmed.

"We thought this was the greatest place, this ghost town that refuses to die," said Kilmer-Purcell, 41.

Outside the village, they happened upon a white Georgian-Federal style mansion with Palladian windows, a wraparound porch and a state historical marker saying it had been built in 1802 by William Beekman, a judge and businessman. They thought it was a museum, so they pulled in the gravel drive. There were a red barn, overgrown gardens, towering oak trees — and a "for sale" sign.

Thus began Beekman 1802, the farm and lifestyle business launched by the partners after they scraped together \$950,000 to buy the mansion, which had been restored to its original grandeur in a multimillion-dollar makeover by the last owners in the mid-1990s. The business includes a website designed by Kilmer-Purcell, where the men blog about life on the 60-acre farm, communicate with fans and sell soap, cheese and caramel sauce made from the farm's goat milk and fine handicrafts made by local artisans.

The farm was originally intended to be a weekend getaway, but that changed after Wall Street tanked.

"Like a lot of people, we both lost our jobs in 2008," said the trim, bearded and bespectacled Kilmer-Purcell, leaning on the massive brick hearth in the farm's kitchen. "We made a pact: Whoever found a new job first would take it, and the other would move to the farm and try to make it into a profitable business." He was hired by a Manhattan ad agency, Ridge moved north, and the two have spent weekends together at the farm ever since.

Sharon Springs, population about 550, was a fashionable spa in the 19th century where the Vanderbilts and other high-society folks came to "take the waters" at mineral springs and Oscar Wilde gave porch-side readings at the American Hotel.

The village, nestled in gently rolling countryside that inspired James Fenimore Cooper's novels, faded as a spa but enjoyed a rebirth as a vacation spot for Jewish families during the heyday of the nearby Catskills Borscht Belt. Its latest resurgence is fueled by affluent second-homers and Manhattanites who left the city after the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

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TEXAS TECH TENNIS player Raony Carvalho returns a volley during the Red Raiders' final home match against the Oklahoma Sooners on Sunday at McLeod Tennis Center. PHOTO BY SAM GRENIER/The Daily Toreador

Win ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Finally, with the advantage in Tech's favor, Siributwong's return went into the net sealing the vic-

tory for the Red Raiders (15-8, 2-3). "My stomach is in knots, I don't know how much longer I can take out of this," Siegel said after the match. "But bottom line is, we got through it. I'm so proud of the guys and really thankful for so many

people that stayed around for nearly a five hour match."

Other Red Raiders came through as well, including Gabriel Wanderley and Vitor Manzini.

Wanderley won his match in straight sets at the No. 5 slot, and

Manzini got his first conference victory of the season at the No. 4 spot. Manzini said the rough patch they went through last weekend made this win bittersweet.

"It was amazing, we played great. Everyone was really nervous

especially with the last match, and I think it was great for us," he said. "Because last weekend we lost two tough games, so it as very important for us (to get) this win, and especially the way it was."

jkoch@dailytoreador.com

Softball ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Hays said his team's extra-inning loss Saturday was a great game, despite the final result. He said the pitching from both sides was phenomenal, and the wind made it difficult for pitches to reach the plate.

He said it was a tough loss, but his team fought through adversity and was close to pulling out at least one win.

"I think the biggest problem we had this weekend was their pitching," Hays said. "We had a great battle on Saturday, and we just never got it going against their Australian girl Sunday."

The Red Raiders get a full week of practice to prepare for visiting Texas on Friday, a first for the players since conference play began on March 26.

Hays said the extra time in practice gives his girls some needed rest.

"We're going to watch the tape, watch our bats and make sure we're ready for the Longhorns," Hays said. "They are a solid team, and we need to pull a win out of their visit."

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Tiebreakers

Red Raiders end stalemate with late singles win

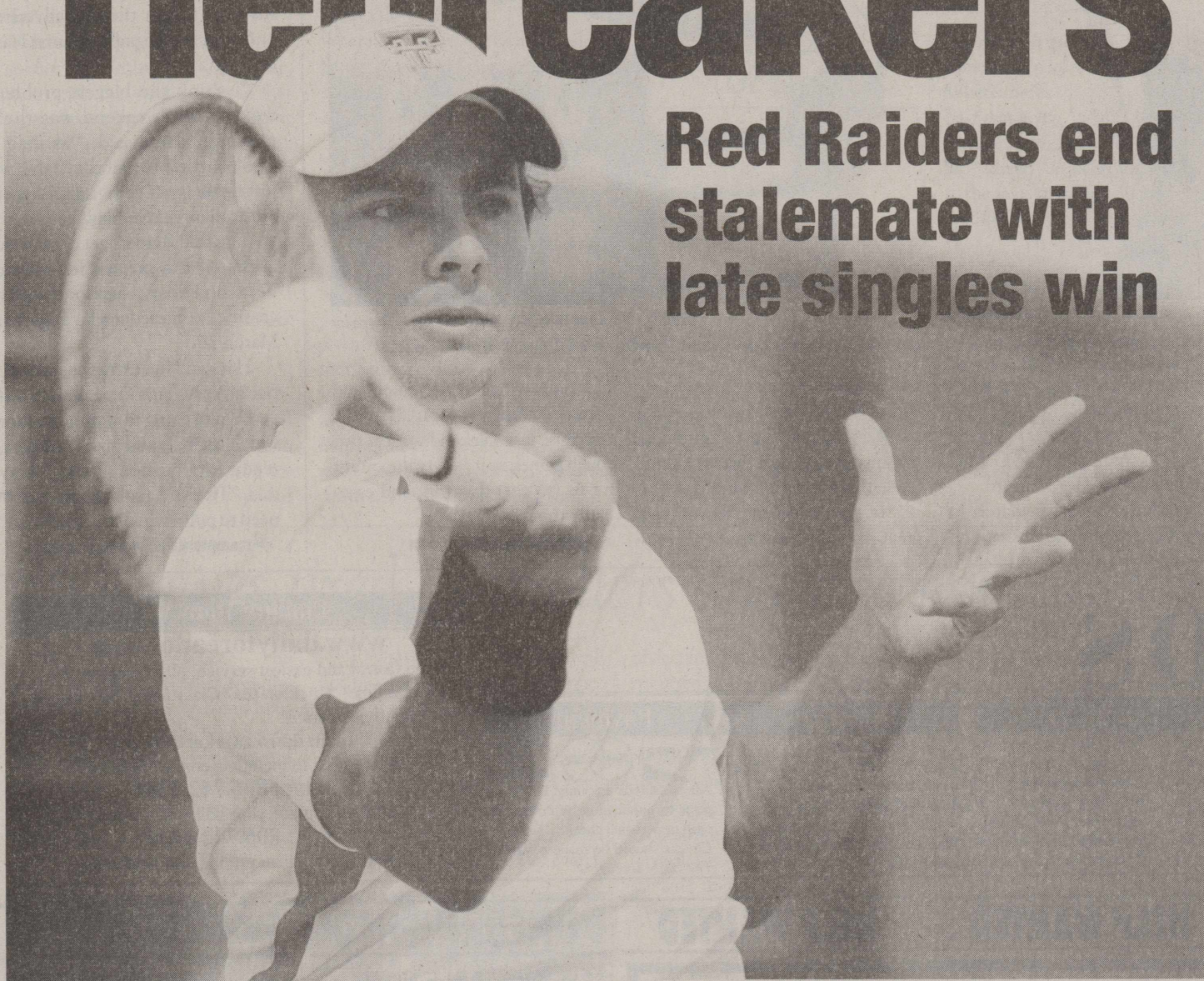


PHOTO BY SAM GRENIER/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH TENNIS player Raony Carvalho returns a volley during the Red Raiders' final home match against the Oklahoma Sooners on Sunday at the McLeod Tennis Center.

By **JOSHUA KOCH**
STAFF WRITER

Rafael Garcia could do nothing but throw his racket in the air and collapse on the court in exhaustion and joy after clinching the 4-3 victory for the Red Raiders on Sunday.

"I'm just really, really happy I could win and clinch for these guys," Garcia said. "Because, I mean, I love these guys, it's just awesome to clinch for them."

The No. 22 Red Raiders found themselves in the midst of a toe-to-toe battle with the No. 26 Sooners (13-6, 2-3 Big 12 Conference play) in their final match of the season at the McLeod Tennis Center.

Texas Tech started the match off in the right

way, winning two doubles matches to clinch the pivotal doubles point.

As Tech took the court for singles, there was a noticeable difference in Tech coach Tim Siegel's lineup — Raony Carvalho and Gonzalo Escobar had switched roles.

This switch did not fair well for either player. Escobar had been struggling at the No. 1 spot this season but had no answer for No. 74 Costin Paval, falling in straight sets, 7-5 6-4, in the No. 2 spot. This drew the Sooners within one point of tying the match at three apiece.

On court one, Carvalho, who had not played in the No. 1 spot since last season, lost in straight sets, 6-1 7-5, to No. 34 Ionut Beleleu.

The loss snapped Carvalho's 23-match winning streak he had going into the match.

Siegel said Carvalho was not feeling well before the match and was complaining of some dizziness among other things.

With that victory, the Sooners completed the comeback, coming back from down 3-0 to tie the match.

The match came down to court three where Garcia and Oklahoma's Peerakit Siributwong were going back and forth.

Garcia took the first set, 6-3, before dropping the second set, 6-4, pushing the duel to the match-deciding third set.

The junior took a 3-1 lead, but Siributwong fought his way back into contention, tying it at three.

WIN continued on Page 7

Tech softball suffers sweep at Oklahoma State

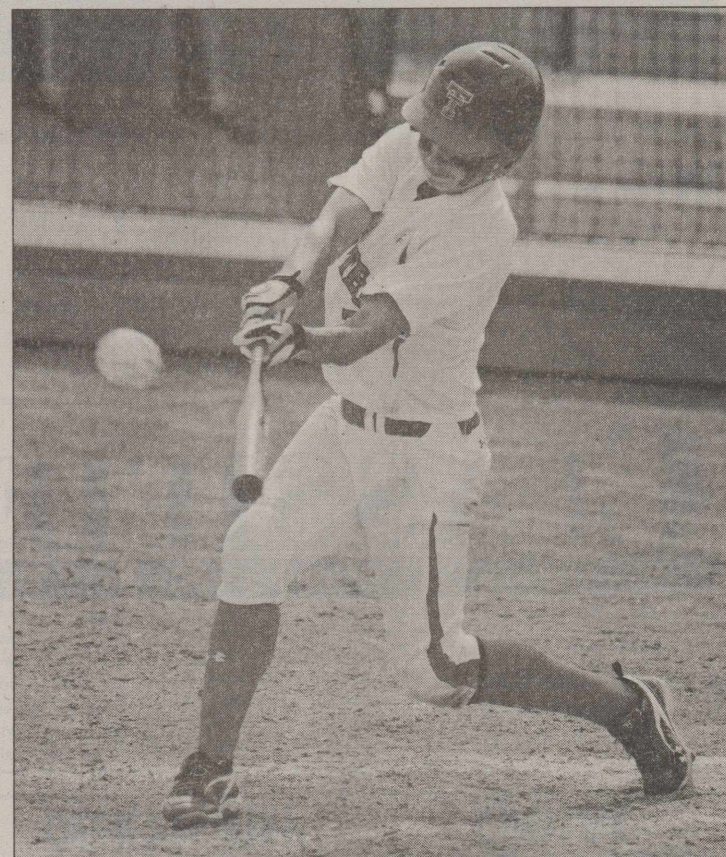


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH SECOND baseman Logan Hall hits the ball during Tech's 9-5 loss against the Jayhawks on Wednesday at Rocky Johnson Field.

By **THORN COMPTON**
STAFF WRITER

After their last road trip ended in a series sweep of Iowa State, the No. 25 Red Raiders were confident heading into their road series at No. 19 Oklahoma State.

The series ended in another sweep, but this time it was the Red Raiders who came out of Stillwater, Okla., with two losses, losing in extra innings Saturday night 2-1 and Sunday afternoon 7-1.

Tech coach Shanon Hays said the weekend was a disappointment, and he expected to leave with at least a win against the Cowgirls.

"We came in knowing we needed at least one win," Hays said after Sunday's

game. "It's disappointing leaving without a win, we had a great game Saturday, and their pitching just held us down (Sunday)."

The Red Raiders (39-9, 4-8 in Big 12 Conference play) will have to wait for their next series to try and reach the 40-win mark. Hays said the number of wins he believes his team needs to reach in conference play is seven, but with series against Texas, Nebraska, and Texas A&M, that will not be a simple task.

"I'd like to say it gets easier from here, but it really doesn't," Hays said. "The good thing is with all those teams being in the top 25, even pulling one win against them will make us look great."

SOFTBALL continued on Page 7

Nadal wins 7th straight Monte Carlo Masters title

MONACO (AP)—Rafael Nadal won his seventh straight Monte Carlo Masters title Sunday by beating David Ferrer 6-4, 7-5 in an all-Spanish final. This was his first tournament victory since October, ending a run of three consecutive defeats in title matches.

The top-ranked Nadal won for the 37th straight time at this clay-court event, where he has not lost since 2003. It was his 44th career title — but first since the Japan Open — and 19th at a

Masters event.

"To start the clay season like this is fantastic, but it's more fantastic to win Monte Carlo another time," Nadal said. "This is the Masters tournament where I feel more emotion when I'm playing, because here in 2003 everything starts. I played qualifiers here, won two matches, and was for the very first time in my career top 100."

Nadal won when Ferrer, seeded fourth, sent the ball into the net following a brief exchange.

"Always special emotion for this tournament. I won seven in a row," Nadal said. "Win seven times in a row (for) anyone is almost impossible. I was more tired than usual today."

Nadal has lost two consecutive Masters finals this year to second-ranked Novak Djokovic, at the Sony Ericsson and BNP Paribas Open. He was also beaten by Roger Federer at the season-ending final of the ATP World Tour Finals in November.

"It was hard to lose, especially the

Miami one, so I was a little bit more defensive today," Nadal said. "To lose three in a row is tough. So I was a little bit nervous when I had a chance to win."

Guillermo Coria of Argentina is the last player to beat Nadal at Monte Carlo, in the third round in 2003. Nadal missed the 2004 tournament because of injury.

"Well, Rafa is incredible on clay. I mean, he's everywhere at the same time," Ferrer said through a translator. "He's the best player on clay in history."

Nadal also extended his Open era record for consecutive titles at a single tournament, having set the mark when he won for the sixth time last year.

He did not drop a set last year, but Andy Murray took one off him in Saturday's semifinal that lasted nearly three hours. The win against Ferrer went 2 hours, 17 minutes.

"These kind of matches like yesterday, like today improves your condition, physical and mental," Nadal said.

Nadal also beat Ferrer in last year's Rome Masters final. Ferrer missed a key point in the 10th game when he fluffed a routine overhead smash that would have put Nadal 15-30 down on his own serve, and then was long on a forehand on the following point.

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EXTENDED HOURS
MONDAY - 8AM - 5PM
TUESDAY - 8AM - 6PM
WEDNESDAY - 8AM - 6PM
THURSDAY - 8AM - 6PM
FRIDAY - 8AM - 5PM
SATURDAY - 8AM - 2PM
SUNDAY - CLOSED

WALK-INS WELCOME
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THIS WEEK IN RED RAIDER SPORTS

Texas Tech Track Invitational
Friday, 04/22
All Day event
Terry Fuller Track

Texas Tech Softball vs Texas
Friday and Saturday
04/22 & 04/23
Rocky Johnson Field

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