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## Gutter Fire



PHOTOS BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreado



THE LUBBOCK FIRE Department was called when a was fire was reported in a gutter on the roof of Stangel/Murdough Residence Complex on Monday. No injuries or damages were reported.

## Sweep, Page 7



The Red Raiders were swept in their final home series of the season. SPORTS, Page 7

## Impacting a Students raise money,

Students raise mone awareness for Japan earthquake victims



The event, hosted at the Business Administration Rotunda on Thursday, will benefit Civic Force, a Japanese earthquake relief effort.

#### By LAUREN FERGUSON STAFF WRITER

Since the March 11 earthquake of an 8.9 magnitude struck Japan, followed by a 30-foot tsunami, Tech students have banded together to raise money for the Civil Force

Thursday night, students celebrated Japanese Awareness Day in the Rawls College of Business building rotunda with food, dancing and games and collected donations for the organization created to offer help after national disasters.

RELIEF continued on Page 3

#### A DIZZY MEMBER

of Texas Tech Japan Earthquake Relief attempts to grab an oatmeal cookie in a game commonly played at Japanese school sports' days. Students could enjoy food, games and other activities during Japanese Awareness Day on Thursday in the Business Administration Rotunda.



## Tech gospel choir leaves lasting influence

### Group works to bring genre closer to Tech community

By SYDNEY HOLMES STAFF WRITER

Within the realm of Christian music lies the often forgotten genre of gospel.

The members of the Texas Tech University Visions of Light Gospel Choir work to bring this classic form of music to Tech's student body, as well as to the Lubbock community.

Ryan Allen, a junior advertis-

ing major from Houston, is the president of Visions of Light. She said the choir has historical and cultural significance for those on Tech's campus.

"I think it's important (that Tech students know about us) because gospel music has been around for centuries," she said. "A lot of music stems from gospel music.

GOSPEL continued on Page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHARLES LUCKEY

THE TEXAS TECH University Visions of Light Gospel Choir was established in 1993.

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#### **WEATHER**

Partly Cloudy



Sunny

Peele: Is judgment day really coming? OPINIONS, Pg. 4





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### Community Calendar

#### TODAY

MFA Exhibit: Grant Billingsley Time: All-day event Where: School of Art, Studio Gal-

So, what is it? This exhibit of paintings is on display through Saturday.

Texas Tech Baseball Time: 6 p.m. Where: Dan Law Field So, what is it? Root for the Red Raiders as they challenge the New Mexico Lobos.

Free Webinar: The Ever-Present Online Interview Time: 6 p.m.

Where: Mass Communications, Room 223 So, what is it?

Learn the do's and don'ts for online interviews. Join speakers Lisa Low and Kirk Baumann to find out how online participation can hinder or benefit your professional future. Learn social media etiquette, how to transition social media use from socializing to professional networking and how to brand through social networking to position oneself as a

Men's Coalition Meet and Greet Time: 6 p.m. Where: SUB, Canyon Room

professional candidate.

So, what is it? The Men's Coalition will include upstanding men with the common goal of bettering the lives of men, women, children and the community at large. In this meeting, the members will begin exploring how men's involvement in various activities can create a positive impact in the Lubbock community. Hosted by the Student Counseling Center and Women's Protective Services.

Seether and My Darkest Days Time: 7 p.m. Where: The Pavillion So, what is it?

Enjoy a night of rock music by Seether and Canadian-based My Darkest Days.

#### WEDNESDAY

12th Annual Denim Day Time: All-day Event Where: Campus wide So, what is it?

Denim Day has been internationally celebrated since 1999 in protest of an Italian High Court ruling that overturned a rape conviction because the victim was wearing jeans. Enraged by the verdict, women of the Italian Legislature protested the decision by wearing jeans to work. On Wednesday, universities, colleges, junior high and high schools, businesses, organizations and individuals will participate in Denim Day events.

Texas Tech Baseball Time: 3 p.m. Where: Dan Law Field So, what is it? Cheer for the Red Raiders as they take on the New Mexico Lobos.

Feminist Leadership Meeting Time: 5:30 p.m. Where: Holden Hall, Room 38 So, what is it?

Texas Tech Women's Studies hosts a meeting/gathering with student organizers to discuss past, present and future student leadership development within the feminist movement. "A View of Full Frontal Feminism: Organizing within a Movement" is an informal planning meeting to discuss the ongoing needs of the feminist community on campus.

Salsa Night Time: 10 p.m. Where: Melt Lounge So, what is it?

Enjoy a night of music and dancing with DJ Mario.

To make a calendar submission email 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.

The ONLY Official

### **ENERGETIC EASTER**



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADIER/The Daily Toreador

KENNY PAUL HARRIS and Tori Vasquez of the band Estelline perform at the 25th annual Easter Bash on Sunday at the Motherland Amphitheater

#### **BLOTTER**

## Student alters prescription at Student Wellness Center

'April 18

7:16 a.m. – A Texas Tech police officer documented damaged property at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center. A wooden railroad tie caught fire, and there was no damage to any other property.

8:17 a.m. - A Tech officer investigated graffiti at the Texas Tech Museum. A symbol had been spraypainted on the building.

April 19

10:59 a.m. - A Tech officer documented information about a student using cocaine in Hulen Residence Hall.

1:06 p.m. - A Tech officer responded to a medical emergency in the Electrical Engineering building. A student had a seizure, passed out and hit his head while falling. The student was transported to the University Medical Center emergency room.

8:47 a.m. - A Tech officer investigated breach of computer security at the Marsha Sharp Center. A staff member's eRaider account had been breached.

8:00 p.m. - A Tech officer documented information regarding an offensive letter in Wall Residence Hall. The letter was taped to the door of one of the residents. Thursday

4:18 p.m. – A Tech officer arrested a student for theft of an iPhone, possession of marijuana and possession of a fake license in the Tech library. The student then was transported to jail.

Friday

2:32 a.m. – A Tech officer arrested a student for driving while intoxicated on the passenger.

to a medical emergency in Wall Hall. A student had a seizure and was transported to the emergency room.

1:39 p.m. - A Tech officer investigated forgery in the Student Wellness Cen-

4:30 a.m. - A Tech officer

3:17 p.m. - A Tech officer indriver's side tires had been slashed,

4:41 p.m. - A Tech officer investigated the burglary of a vehicle

6:24 p.m. - A Tech officer investigated a theft at Jones AT&T >>> tburkett@dailytoreador.com

15th Street. The student was transported to jail, and the vehicle was released to 8:44 a.m. - A Tech officer responded

4:13 p.m. - A Tech officer investigated a verbal disagreement on Indiana Avenue. Two juveniles were detained and issued citations for consumption of alcohol by a minor.

documented a verbal altercation between several males at the Z-4 parking lot. An unknown male displayed a handgun during the altercation.

vestigated criminal mischief at the Z-1 parking lot. The front and back and a window had been shattered.

at the Z-1 parking lot. The driver's side window was shattered, and a GPS system was taken.

Stadium. A computer hard drive was taken from a secured office.

#### Texas Tech Class Ring ter. A student had altered a prescription. "Strive for Honor The Texas Tech Alumni Association wishes to congratulate our spring class of Official Class Ring recipients for their commitment toward receiving a degree from Texas Tech University.

We wish you the best of success as you, "Bear our Banners Far and Wide. Official Ring Ceremonies for spring recipients will be April 26 & 27, 2011, at the Merket Alumni Center.

Tuesday April 26, 2011

Alfredo Agredano Katherine Albus Jordyn Anders Travis Arnold Nicole Austin Kevin Bailey Joseph Barron Carol Bell Lance Benavide: Tanya Bizri

Joshua Blankenship William Bolton Hillary Bourland Madison Brockway Alyssa Burney

Emily Bussee Stephen Callaha Erika Casarez Erica Castillo Alejandra Ceja Jorge Chavez Michaela Coffe Ashley Cortez Elizabeth Cruz Karen De Leon

Monique De Pau Natalie Debusk Audrey Deleon Dallas Dodd Gabriella Domingue Kalen Dozier Jennifer Duboi: Wesley Duggin Kyle Dungan Shelbie Durham

Mathew Engelbaum Abel Esquivel Ashley Exparza Alfredo Falcon Lauren Freeman Kyle Gannor Jesse Garcia Victor Garcia

> Jo Avis Green Brittany Guest Ashlie Haas

Coyt Hagelsteir Matthew Haile

Christyne Hamilton

Kenneth Henry Shelby Hilliard Erin Hoffman Michelle Holcoml Colton Holmes Ashly Jacobs William Jenning Kayla Johnson Grayson Jones Angela Keebaugh Mark Kenned Shawna Kilborn Jerrin Klein Michael Koontz Kirsten Leuck Dustin Ludden Ioanna Makris Lauren Malloy Elise Manley n Marche Nadia Marquez Spencer Mastin Jared Mataska Nelson Matzen

Brandi Harris

**Emily Hart** 

Siera Hart

Laura Haynes

Mason Heber

Ronald McCraw Terry McDaniel Andrew McDaniel Spenser McLand Lauren Merriman Stephen Morrison Stephany Navarre Reed Nieman Morgan Nix Gillian North Blake Norwood Bryan Ogden Amanda Owens Karina Perry Amy Prause Chase Reeves Jennifer Riedel

Jacoba Riege Kristen Roberts Gilbert Roberts Kathryn Rocha Kathleen Rodrigue: Jasmine Sanchez Monica Sanchez Guadalupe Sandova Tori Santos Vanessa Santos Ashley Schonema Jessica Scott Veronica Serna Meghan Sheehar

Rachel Soria

Erika Stall Jamie Stewart David Strayborn Kyle Struzyk Justine Sustaita Nicholas Sweet Zachary Thompso

Jeffrey Tinnell Eloralee Todd Megan Torres Gabriel Vanegas Debbie Vasquez Eddie Vega Kristen Wade Sade Wardlaw

Claire White Benjamin William Jon Williams Jordan Wright

Wednesday April 27, 2011

Amjad Abdelrahman Timothy Addison Christopher Hixsor Bradley Allen Zane Andersor Marco Antelo Russel Artho Amanda Atcheso Valentin Baca Chelsea Baker Ryan Barcena Donathan Barket Andrew Barrios Michael Bassila Kelsey Bechtold Jack Benedetti Ryan Berry

Matthew Berman Alec Blume Tyson Boatler Katherine Boldu Robert Bott Shane Bright Anna Bruce Shelton Burnett Blake Campbell Christian Ching Kassidy Clanton Berry Clinton Brian Connor Matthew Cook Nicholas Cooke

Michael Crowel

James Davidson Weston Davis Preston Munson K'Lann Niehues Kirk Duncan Fungai Njunga Brandon Nutting Noble Nwaozur Cameron Oliver Hiron Fernando Stewart O'Neal Lance Pavelka James Fitzgerald Joshua Pavlik Robert Paynte Zoriel Flores Anne Freema Bradley Peel Hunter Frey Jason Gafford Ryan Person

Nina Garcia

Greg Garner

Lydia Goebel

Amanda Greening

Gabriela Gutierre:

Leslee Hackett

Ashley Hawkins

Joel Hawkins

Andrea Heidt

Kerry Hillis

Wando Holt

Azizul Hoque

Reed Johnson

Tanner Kieschnick

Clay Knippa John Kountz

Trent Lawrence

Sarah Lebus

Laura Leyva

Justin Louder

Tyler Lucas

Jackie Marlar

Marcy Martinez

Jessica Masters

Daniel Mauch

Joshua McDanie

Marcus McIlwair Mollie McKnight

Michael Middleton

Robert Morgan Kevin Morton

meron Lehrman Hilda Leon

Hadden Phillips Zachary Powell Jennifer Purdom Sarah Raber Chelsea Rauch John Reddin Kevin Redwine Kyle Reuter Grant Richey Zane Riggs Braden Riha Torie Robinson Beatrice Rodriguez Lindsey Rogers Alexander Ruchte

Blake Rupard Jacob Russell Phillipe Salanova Ryan Schmitz Kristopher Sheets Kelly Sherley Matthew Shields Brendan Smith Corey Smith Justin Smith Loryn Springer Julianne Stephens Tyler Strawmyer Caitlyn Talarico Cole Taylor **Dustin Teague** Tyler Thomas Jess Thomison Jeffrey Tillman

Mathew Tovar Willis Tran Heather Tysor Tony Uduh John Vacek Andrew Virdell Matthew Wakie Alexandra Ward Jessica Webster Isaac Whitley Matthew Willey Justin Williford Alex Wilson Sarah Wilson Steven Wolf Miguel Yanez Samuel Young Benjamn Zotti

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#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I just think it's good for -Texas Tech being the diverse campus that it is — a lot of people to know about different types of music, gospel being one of them."

Allen said one of her favorite elements of the choir is it is open to anyone, which helps to create a diverse group of members.

"We're not just open to any particular race or any type of particular denomination," she said. "Gospel music is just music; it's open to anybody. We like to give people the option if they can't join the university choir, they also have the option to join the gospel choir. We're open, and we're diverse."

Since its establishment in 1993, the choir has been a student-run organization with members ranging from freshmen to graduate

Since there is no audition, more students are able to join the choir, which, Allen said, not only expands the choir's influence, but also strengthens the bond between members.

"For me, the choir is my family. A lot of Greek organizations, that's like their family," she said. "They have their sisters and their brothers in their sorority or fraternity. The gospel choir is like our family; we're very close. We pray for each other when we need it, we sit down with each other like best friends. To me, it's just like having sisters and brothers."

Anissa Parson, a senior social work major from Lubbock, is the choir's secretary and will succeed Allen as president next year.

Parson has practiced singing since she was young and said the choir has given her friendships as well as a musical outlet during her college years.

"For me, Visions of Light is a time for students our age that are dealing with different things to come together and just sing the gospel," she said. "It's not only an organization, but it's also a ministry. I've gained many friendships and relationships being in the choir."

Cory Powell, a Tech alumnus, is the organization's founding director as well as the academic adviser. The Mentor Tech program director said he helped establish the choir in 1993 and has been involved

"It's an honor to have been a part of the choir for the last 18 years, to watch it grow from an idea to what it is now," he said. "We see thousands of students come through the choir and watch them grow spiritually and further develop their leadership skills."

Powell said the choir's performances tend to win new students to the choir as well as to Tech's student body.

"In addition to spreading the gospel of Christ, the choir is a wonderful recruitment tool that allows us to bring people to Tech who would otherwise never consider Tech," he said. "For me, that's the greatest benefit. Working with those students and watch them as they develop and see the progress that we've made not only here on campus, but in Lubbock as well."

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### APRIL 26, 2011

## 'Rio' speaks louder than 'Madea,' repeats at No. 1

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Anne com analyst Paul Dergarabedian. Hathaway and Jesse Eisenberg's talking birds have edged out Tyler Perry's sass-talking grandma at the weekend box office.

Hathaway and Eisenberg's animated family adventure "Rio" took in \$26.8 million to remain the No. 1 movie for the second-straight weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

'Tyler Perry's Madea's Big Happy Family" debuted a close second with \$25.8 million, another solid opening for writer-director Perry, who also stars as boisterous, opinionated grandma

Reese Witherspoon and Robert Pattinson's circus romance "Water for Elephants" premiered in third-place with \$17.5 million.

"It's nice to have two movies in the top-three," said Bert Livingston, distribution executive for 20th Century Fox, which released both "Rio" and "Water for Elephants."

The weekend's other new wide release, Disney's nature documentary "African Cats," opened at No. 6 with \$6.4 million.

Morgan Spurlock's product-placement documentary "POM Wonderful Presents: The Greatest Movie Ever Sold" opened with fair but unremarkable business in limited release.

The latest from the maker of the hit documentary "Super Size Me" took in \$135,139 in 18 theaters, averaging \$7,508 a cinema. That compares to an \$11,254 average in 2,288 theaters for "Madea's Big Happy Family," which had by far the best cinema average among the top-10 movies.

Hollywood scored its secondstraight weekend of rising revenues, good news for studios that have been in a box-office slide since last fall.

Receipts totaled \$138 million, up 39 percent from the same weekend last year, when "How to Train Your Dragon" was No. 1 with \$15.4 million, according to box-office tracker Hollywood.com.

The upward trend likely will continue next weekend with "Fast Five," the latest movie in "The Fast and the Furious" action franchise, expected to have a huge opening, said Hollywood.

"I think we're going to have three up weekends in a row, and for us, that's a roll. We've been down for so long," Dergarabedian said. "It really points out how cyclical this business is."

A love-bird story centered on rare parrots, "Rio" raised its domestic total to \$81.3 million. The movie has taken in \$204.7 million more overseas, for a worldwide haul of \$286 million.

"Rio" held on well to its audience, revenues dropping a scant 32 percent in the second weekend, while "Water for Elephants" came in a bit above industry

Adapted from the best-selling novel, "Water for Elephants" features Witherspoon as the star of a Depression-era circus, with Pattinson co-starring as a veterinarian who falls for her despite her jealous, tyrannical

"It felt like old-time filmmaking for me and I think for the audience," Livingston said. "I think it's going to play for a long time. People are going to talk about it."

While Perry's latest "Madea" flick was unable to knock "Rio" off its perch, the filmmaker has been a prolific and consistent box-office earner, averaging two movies a year for distributor Lionsgate over the last four years.

#### Website CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Steiner emphasizes the site has nothing to do with looks or creating relationships. The site is about linking people of common interests and developing better friendships because of it.

The Pref Ref offers an option to send in requests for questions or comment on how the site is running, since the team designed the site with a learn-as-you-go attitude, Hoffmann said.

To sign up, a person must have an email address and give his or her name, birthday and gender.

"I think social media helps

Pref Ref, it will help you develop more lasting friendships."

The team worked for three months to put the site together, and all three members are ready for the launch at www.theprefref.

generate personal social contact,"

Deleon said. "With a site like The

"We wanted a site that helped

you figure out, 'Wow, I never knew that.' It helps you form deeper questions and find out stuff you wouldn't unless someone had asked the question," Deleon said. "It's far from the typical social media. It's a site of gathering ideas and developing better relationships."

» Iferguson@dailytoreador.com

### Relief

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

"We have lots of students from Japan here to study at Texas Tech," said Dennis Patterson, associate professor of political science. "In a tragedy like this, I'm sure our Japanese students feel this. They have family and friends who have been affected by this."

Patterson is one of the professors who encouraged students to gather money for the relief fund, said Jess Brown, a senior international business major from Fort Worth.

Brown visited Japan and wanted to help the people he met while traveling. The students who have gathered outside of the Student Union Building since the earthquake have raised more than \$9,000.

"I hope many students understand the Japanese (culture)," said Takafumi Oki, a Tech alumnus from Japan. "So

many Americans help people during the earthquake and tsunami, and we thank them very

The students printed shirts in "Samurai blue" to encourage the fighting spirit of the Japanese, said Yvonne Lopez, a freshman general studies major from El Paso.

The shirts are recognizable by their Japanese characters, translated to English to say "Donations to the unfortunate" and "Hope," Oki said.

"I feel a lot very personally for all of the people in Japan," Lopez said. "We can directly get response from students and really help people that are suffering now.'

The students decided to perform a traditional Japanese fisherman's dance, from the northernmost prefecture of Japan, showing the teamwork of the group and bringing culture to the supporters, Brown said. The group opened up the event to the public, selling \$5 tickets.

The students also have traveled around Lubbock performing the routine.

"It gives you insight into a different culture and what some of us are trying to do here to help," he said. "It's good to go and see different culture, food and be informed about stuff that is going to be affecting us."

Lopez said she believes her Japanese language professor's passion for the cause led her to become involved in the campaign to raise money.

"It's important for us to stand together because Japan and (other Asian countries) really are great allies," Patterson said. "It's important at a person-toperson level, student-to studentlevel, to stand together and say, 'These are our friends. These are our allies, and we stand with you because when you have a problem, we have a problem too."

Oki emphasized the importance of building relationships between American students and Japanese students who have chosen to study in the United

'We live in the most global period ever; we are so connected with social media, the Internet and music. I think it's important for us to share these kinds of things," Patterson said. "That way we can be better world citizens and interact with our allies and friends better and have more fruitful relationships, both personally, like on a student level, and country to country."

>>> Iferguson@dailytoreador.com

#### **OPEN AUDITIONS**

Wed., April 27 6 pm - 9 pm

4920 S. Loop 289, Suite 206 (next to Rudy's)

Original Play about Anne Frank to be Performed at the Helen Devitt Jones Auditorium on First Friday - June 3rd with Matinees on June 4th thru 5th (taped for Public Radio). Being presented in tandem with the "Deadly Medicine" exhibit at the Museum of Texas Tech University.

Parts: Anne Frank- Teenager or early 20's; Margo Frank- Teenager or early 20's; Peter Van Pel-Teenager or early 20's; Edith Frank-30's on up; Otto Frank-30's on up; Miep Gies-30's on up; Narrator- M/F 20's on up; Ensemble Parts- 20's thru 80's plus; Singers- Bring a short song!

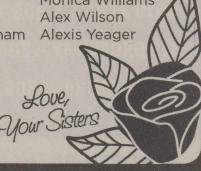
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PAGE 4 TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2011

# JPINIONS.



#### dailytoreador.com Keyword: Seeing Red

Check out the weekly "Seeing Red" Podcast from

columnists and editors at The DT Online.



## Are we living in the end times?

uys and girls, we're T living in the last days of humanity. And I'm not talking about some crazy Mayan calendar voodoo that claims we're all out of here at the end of 2012. We don't even have that long, I'm afraid.

See, according to a bunch of billboards you may have seen while traveling during the long weekend, Judgment Day is May 21, 2011. In other words, less than a month from now.

The prediction comes from Harold Camping, leader of Family Radio Worldwide, which is it's too late.



a Christian organization that apparently has a lot of influence over certain radio waves. Camping's followers have taken his word as gospel, preaching the message that the end is nigh and we should all repent now before

Some followers, like Allison Warden, go the extra mile. As an MSNBC story reports, Warden has helped organize a campaign that has invested quite a bit of money on things like billboards and postcards in an effort to spread the word. Despite most Christians and

Bible scholars easily agreeing no man can know the hour of Christ's return (signaling the end of Earth), Camping and co. believe they CAN know, and say as much with their website, www. WeCanKnow.com.

Camping has used a lot of socalled evidence he just recently discovered in the Bible in order to predict Christ's return on May

21, followed by a five-month period of pain and suffering for the nonbelievers left behind. And on Oct. 21, our world will be done for good.

Now, there are quite a few problems with all this that many of you could probably point out, but I don't think Camping or his

followers necessarily have their does end next month. hearts in the wrong place. They really do believe what they're saying, and they just want to save as many souls as possible before it happens.

But one pretty major problem? Camping has predicted the end of the world before. And he's been wrong. He originally predicted Jesus would come back Sept. 6, 1994. He says now that he hadn't studied the Bible all that well before, but this time he's done his research properly.

Another problem is Camping's website claims these dates are "100 percent accurate without dispute." Another May 21 prediction website claims, "I am not even including May 21, 2011, in the category of prediction, but in the realm of absolute fact," citing "so much evidence and proof" as the reason.

And Camping is, of course, not the first person to try (and fail) to predict the end of the world. The infamous "Great Disappointment" of early American history (Oct. 22, 1844) was an incident very much like this one might be.

The sad thing is, the people who have fully bought into

In some ways,

the idea of

"living like Christ

is returning

tomorrow" might

be a good thing

from a religious

point of view.

Camping's logic feel like they're only going to be here on Earth for a short time longer. So many have quit their jobs and left their homes, mostly to spread the word of the coming apocalypse, but also because money and jobs just won't matter if the world really

As a Christian, I do think their cause is noble, if extremely distorted. But think of all the good that money could have done in better hands. Rather than buy billboards that will almost certainly prove to be worthless, why not donate the money to people who really need it? There's no shortage of such people right now.

With the world seemingly falling apart today, particularly after tragedies like the recent earthquakes in Japan, it's understandable to want to think there's a reason for it all. It's comforting, in some strange way, to be able to think, "Yes, everything is going to hell, but that's just because God is about to bring heaven here."

In some ways, the idea of "living like Christ is returning tomorrow" might be a good thing from a religious point of view. It's like the mantra to "live like you're dying," only hopefully with more emphasis on helping others as opposed to crossing things off your personal bucket

It makes me wonder how many of these people might lose. faith in the Bible after this end time's prediction doesn't come

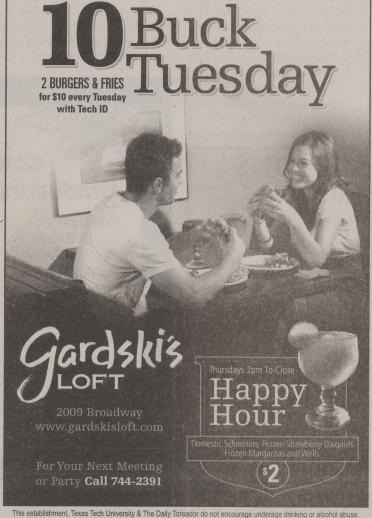
Some, like the aforementioned Warden, say, "If May 21 passes and I'm still here, that means I wasn't saved. Does that mean God's word is inaccurate or untrue? Not at all." That's sad, to me. I wonder if, when nobody disappears on May 21, such believers will decide no human on the planet was actually saved. What a bleak outlook on God

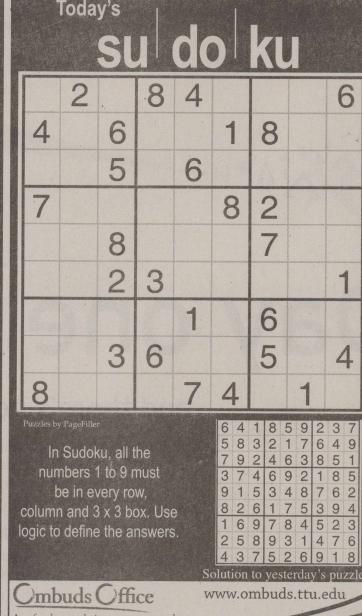
and the future. Hopefully, believers in May 21 will be let down easy when the date passes. I'm personally praying we don't see any suicides or anything from people who believe they simply weren't spared from the mass destruction that's on its way.

As for the rest of us, it's probably a bad thing for me to be so anxious to see how believers respond to the disappointment that's on its way, but I just can't help it. I don't expect fire from heaven, but I expect to see some kind of car wreck.

■ Peele is *The DT's* opinions editor. >>> opinions@dailytoreador.com

all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than





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•Breaking News

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must be no longer than 300 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number, Social Security number and a description of university affiliation. Students should include year in school, major and hometown. We reserve the right to edit letters. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. All letters will be verified before they are published. Letters can be emailed to dailytoreador@ ttu.edu or brought to 211 Student Media. Letters should be sent in before 3 p.m. to ensure the editors have enough

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## Beckham, Elton on guest list to royal wedding

LONDON (AP) — David Beckham, Elton John and Mr. Bean actor Rowan Atkinson will mingle with dozens of royal guests at Prince William and Kate Middleton's wedding, according to an official guest list released Saturday that includes one uncomfortable presence — the Bahraini crown prince accused of a brutal crackdown on protesters.

St. James's Palace also released the seating plan at Westminster Abbey, which showed that relatives of William's mother Princess Diana are sitting across the aisle from the royal family, joining the Middletons in an exception to the traditional division of a church into a bride's side and groom's side.

There was no explanation of the seating arrangement, but the Spencers have not had a good relationship with the royal family, especially after Diana's brother Charles Spencer attacked the royals during a speech at her 1997 funeral.

More than 46 foreign royals are seated behind the British royals. They include Bahrain's Crown Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, an invitation that could prove awkward in light of his government's rough treatment of mainly Shiite pro-democracy protesters.

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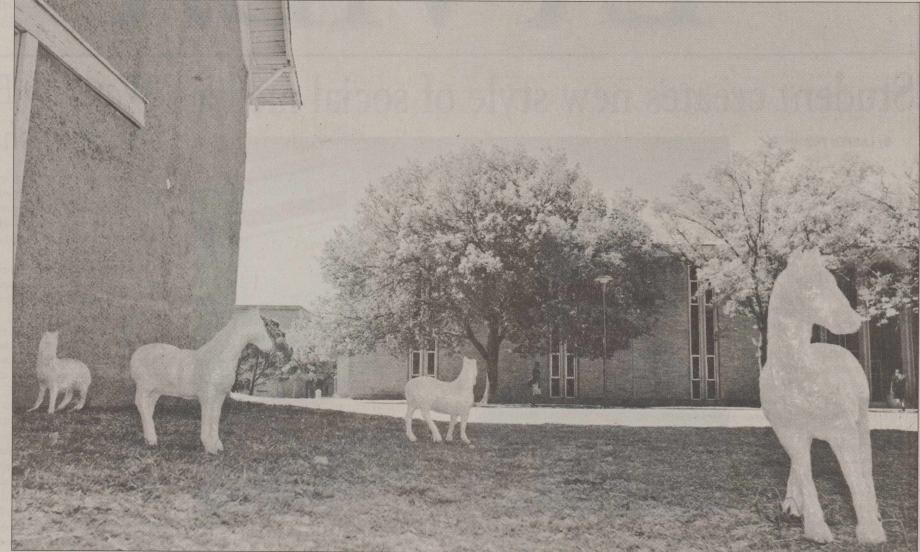
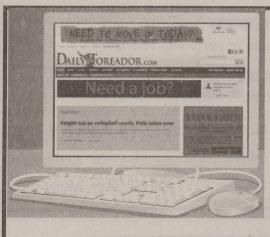


PHOTO BY PAUL HAILES/The Daily Toreador

MINIATURE HORSE SCULPTURES made of clear plastic wrap adorn the area outside the Texas Tech Dairy Barn and Silo and the Foreign Language Building on Friday morning.

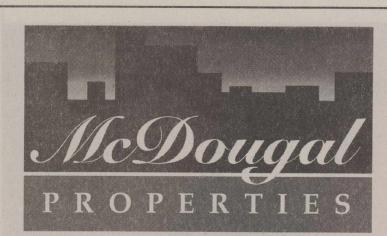




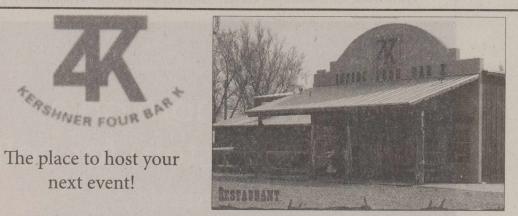


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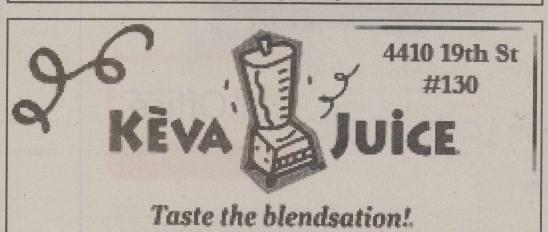


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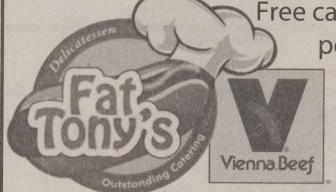


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TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2011

## Student creates new style of social media

By LAUREN FERGUSON STAFF WRITER

Wanting to combine aspects of popular social media websites, Texas Tech graduate student Phil Hoffmann decided to launch his own website: The Pref Ref.

Hoffmann will launch today the first version of The Pref Ref, a new social media site that combines into one site what he believes are positive components of all social media sites.

"The real thing about the website for me is it's kind of a new way of approaching social networking," said Jon Deleon, hometown friend of Hoffmann and consultant for the website. "It's nice to have one site that you can look through and find out what your friends are all about."

The Pref Ref opens with a homepage of poll questions allowing a client to pick a choice and then view the poll data. The questions are listed starting with the most recent posted or by category.

The most recent question the team created is, "Which cartoon

show do you think is the funniest?" "(The Pref Ref) is a kind of cut-the-crap social network," Kyle Steiner, Hoffmann's friend and cofounder of The Pref Ref, said. "I feel like students would like to go to a site like this



PHOTO BY BRENT SORELLE/The Daily Toreadon

PHIL HOFFMANN, AN architecture graduate student from Fort Collins, Colo., helped design a new social media website called "The Prefref," which can be found at www.theprefref.com.

ity factor. Depending on their personality, they more or less will like it because they will be curious to see what other people think about their topics.'

During winter break, Hoffmann presented the idea to Steiner and Deleon to gauge their reaction. Both were ex-

because it has a large curios- cited about the prospect of a new terested in to businesses getting social media site.

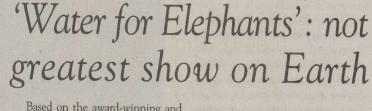
Hoffmann said the team is not looking to become rich off the site, they are just providing a network that is simple and "glitch-free."

Deleon said the site can serve many purposes, from finding a friend to see a movie both are in-

feedback from their customers about products.

"I just want students to go visit; they have nothing to lose; it's free, and it will always be free for them," Hoffmann, a Fort Collins, Colo., native, said.

WEBSITE continued on Page 3



Based on the award-winning and best-selling novel by Sara Gruen, "Water for Elephants" creates an authentic circus environment but lacks the emotional substance needed to buy into the narrative.

In the prologue, an elderly man stands in the rain outside of a circus and recalls witnessing the greatest circus collapse ever.

The story begins in Depression-era 1931, and Jacob's (Robert Pattinson) life is hit with tragedy when he finds out his parents were killed in a car accident.

Bereaved and penniless, Jacob jumps aboard the Benzini Bros. Circus train. The sociopathic, often sadistic ringmaster, August (Christoph Waltz), hires Jacob to care for the animals, particularly those of his star performer and wife, Marlena (Reese Witherspoon).

Although Jacob is supposed to be the ringleader of the cast, he is nothing but a bore. The story of a boy who runs away and joins the circus is the least engaging part of the film because of Pattinson's poor performance, which almost mimics his role as Edward in the "Twilight" series.

The film focuses on the relationship between Marlena and Jacob. However, "Water for Elephants" does not create any substantive connection between the two characters. The viewer never witnesses any element or narrative that allows the individuals to have a realistic love connection.

Jacob and Marlena's relationship lacks chemistry because they are both thin characters, thus hurting the film because success depends on the viewer

Tyler

rooting for the romance to succeed. The elephant, Rosie, and Jacob have a more realistic relationship than do Marlena and Jacob. Rosie becomes a successful supporting character by displaying emotion, humor and charisma. It is impressive that the film brings a personal but realistic approach to the audience connecting with an animal.

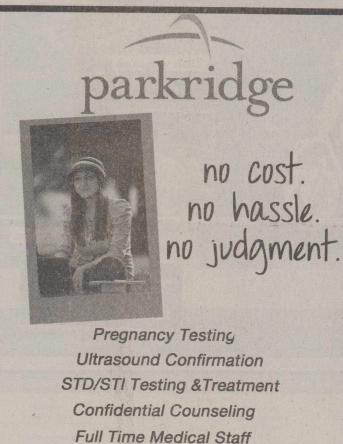
Although it is almost becoming a cliché to say Waltz saves the film, he does in this one. His performance overshadows the other actors, and August is the only character that creates any dramatic intrigue.

"Water for Elephants" is certainly a beautiful film. Director Frances Lawrence creates an authentic-looking circus setting. It takes the viewer back not only to the time period but also classic Hollywood cinematography.

Overall, the film is extremely average. Because of Waltz's performance and the strong visuals, the film is tolerable but nothing to recommend.

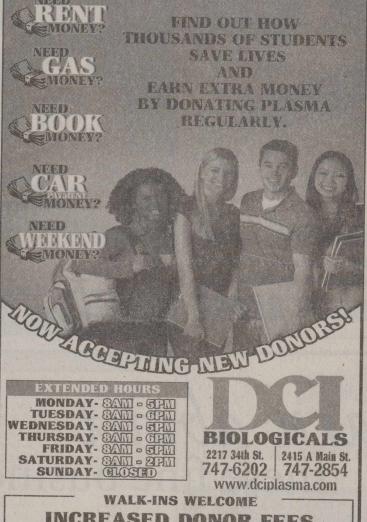


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# SPORIS

PAGE 7 TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2011

## Tech swept, aims to bounce back against New Mexico



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

REID REDMAN SLIDES into second base during the second inning of the game against A&M at Dan Law Field on Sunday.

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ SPORTS EDITOR

A series victory was the top priority for Texas Tech baseball against Kansas State this past weekend, but it did not come to fruition — the Red Raiders were swept in three games.

The next objective probably was to get the offense out of its recent slump, which also did not go as Tech may have hoped.

The Red Raiders combined to score five runs in the series against the Wildcats and have not scored more than three runs in a single Big 12 Conference game since scoring eight on April 10 against Texas A&M at Dan Mexico (12-28) at 6 p.m. today in Lubbock. Law Field, a 14-8 defeat.

"I think it's just a combination of mechan-

ics and just our confidence," said Tech third baseman Reid Redman. "We haven't swung the bats real well the last couple of weeks, and I think that's part of the reason, and hopefully we can get a few things straightened out in the midweek this week and then we'll get our confidence going for this weekend."

The Red Raiders' (24-18, 6-12 in Big 12 play) highest offensive output was a threerun effort in the second game of the series, a 4-3 loss.

Tech's road trip to Manhattan, Kan., also was the end of a nine-game road stretch, as the Red Raiders begin a two-game set against New

The series is the second of two regularseason meetings between the Red Raiders and Lobos this year. New Mexico hosted Tech for a two-game series April 12 and April 13 at Isotopes Park in Albuquerque, N.M.

The Red Raiders won both games at New Mexico by a combined score of 11-7.

New Mexico, however, will get a different look on the mound from Tech as Duke von Schamann is set to start the opener, whereas Jamen Parten started the first of two games Tech won at New Mexico.

Parten is expected to start the second game against the Lobos this week.

In his first stint against New Mexico, Parten lasted four innings and gave up one earned run in the process.

**UNM** continued on Page 9

## Longhorns sweep Red Raiders in last home series



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

SHORTSTOP RAVEN RICHARDSON and the Red Raiders were swept by the Longhorns in Tech's home finale.

By THORN COMPTON STAFF WRITER

Despite an early four-run lead in the game Saturday, the Red Raider softball team was unable to give the No. 5 Texas Longhorns their first Big 12 conference loss.

The Red Raiders couldn't bounce back Saturday after getting run ruled in the fifth inning Friday and losing by a score of 15-2. Texas' momentum carried them over to Saturday as they scored six runs in the last four innings to defeat Tech 9-5.

Tech coach Shanon Hays said though his team did not come out with a win this weekend, they at least showed they can hang with some of the top teams in the league.

"Texas is just a great hitting team," Hays said. "I felt good at the beginning of the game, and we had a chance to go up 7-1 in the third. We just weren't good enough this weekend."

Thanks to a strong second inning where the Red Raiders (39-11, 4-10 in Big 12 play) had four runs and five hits, the team jumped out to an early 5-1 lead. However, the Longhorns (41-5, 11-0 in Big 12 play) slowly chipped away at the Tech lead until a two-run homerun by Nadia Taylor put the Longhorns up 5-6 in the fourth inning. Texas slowly added runs to increase the lead to 9-5 by the end of the game.

Hays said the homerun by Taylor. was what put the nail in the coffin for the Red Raiders, though the team had started to lose its momentum after the second inning.

TEXAS continued on Page 8



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1001 University Drive ◊ Lubbock (877)691-7561 ◊ www.ULoftsApartments.com By JOSHUA KOCH STAFF WRITER

Omo Osaghae set his spikes into the starting blocks, awaited the starting gun to fire and prepared himself to run in front of a home crowd for the final time.

The senior, a Monterey High School product, did not disappoint Friday at the Texas Tech Invitational at the Terry and Linda Fuller Track Complex, improving on his personalbest mark in the 110-meter hurdles.

"It felt great; I know I just wanted to get out here," Osaghae said. "Because so many emotions just coming around, you never really expect it to hit you until the morning you wake up that this is the last one you're going to have. I just really wanted to get up and make sure my mind was in a good position for me to perform good like I did, and it turned pretty well."

In the 110 hurdles, Osaghae ran a personal-best of 13.18 seconds to take first place in his heat but, because of the wind, did not qualify for a new facility record.

The wind registered at 3.8 meters during the race, which is above the allowable 2.0 meters the wind can be for the time to be eligible for a facility record.

Sharing the spotlight with Osaghae in the hurdles was Lady Raider Katie Grimes.

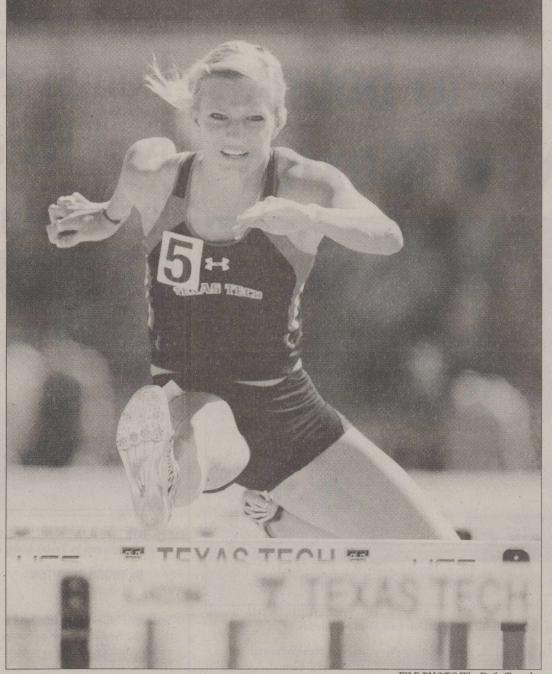
13.21, breaking the school record previously held by Kelsey Lloyd.

Grimes completed the event in

The time placed Grimes among the top 20 in the NCAA this season.

The sophomore also set the new facility record, surpassing the previous mark of 13.22, which was set on May 17, 2009, by Texas A&M's Gabby Mayo.

"I knew it felt fast, I didn't think it was that fast," Grimes said. "I mean, the hurdles were coming up so fast, and I just thought I might be out of control and maybe it wasn't as fast as I was thinking. Crossed the line, I didn't even see the board and the time until Jamie (Simanek) said 13.2, and I was pretty happy."



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador TEXAS TECH SOPHOMORE Katie Grimes runs in the hurdles during a meet earlier this year. Grimes set

a new personal best in the 110-meter hurdles iduring the Texas Tech Invitational on Friday.

bests were not limited to just the

For the second-consecutive meet, Gil Roberts won the 400. Roberts finished with a time of 45.81

Bryce Lamb was another athlete

this weekend, doing so in the long jump. Lamb leaped 26 feet and 1/4 of an inch to take the title.

On the throwing fields, Ifeatu Okafor threw a personal best in the discus at 55-5, and then in the shot put threw 176-5, moving her into the top 15 and top 10 in the country in the two events, respectively.

Tech coach Wes Kittley said these performances are exactly what

The quality times and personal to take his second-consecutive title they are looking for at this point and time in the season heading into the Penn Relays.

> "Well, I thought we had another good meet," he said. "I think we won 12 events; we had, of course, some outstanding performances again ... I just felt like it was another good consistent meet, and that's what we're looking for right now."

>>> ikoch@dailytoreador.com

## to hide NCAA violations

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — In a sharply worded rebuke of Ohio State's Jim Tressel, the NCAA on Monday accused the 10-year coach of withholding information and lying to keep Buckeyes players on the field who had accepted improper benefits from the owner of a tattoo parlor.

In a "notice of allegations" sent to the school, the NCAA said Monday that the violations relating to the coach are considered "potential major violations."

Ohio State was not cited for the most serious of institutional breaches since Tressel hid information from his superiors for more than nine months. The university has 90 days to respond to the ruling body of college sports' request for information before a scheduled date before the NCAA's committee on infractions on Aug. 12 in Indianapolis.

In a 13-page indictment of Tressel's behavior, the NCAA alleged that Tressel had "permitted football student-athletes to participate in intercollegiate athletics while ineligible." It also said he "failed to deport himself ... (with) honesty and integrity" and said he was lying when he filled out a compliance form in September which said he had no knowledge of any NCAA violations by any of his players.

Tressel appeared at an awards banquet outside Cleveland on Monday night, ducking out of the rain to shake hands with Cleveland Browns president Mike Holmgren before slipping into a side room. Tressel ignored reporters' questions about the NCAA allegations on his way to the hall before accepting a coaching award named for his late father, Lee Tressel.

Athletic director Gene Smith said he would have "no comments until the case is resolved." The university issued a statement that the allegations were consistent with what it had already self-reported to the NCAA on March 8.

Tressel's troubles began with an April 2, 2010, email from Columbus lawyer Christopher Cicero. Cicero, a former Ohio State walk-on player, informed Tressel that a federal agency had raided the house of tattoo-shop owner Eddie Rife and discovered a multitude of autographed Ohio State jerseys, cleats, pants and helmets, Big Ten championship rings and the "gold pants" trinkets given to Buckeyes players for beating archrival Michigan.

Tressel responded, "I will get on it ASAP.

Yet he did not notify Smith or Ohio State President E. Gordon Gee, anyone else in the athletic department, the NCAA compliance department, or anyone in the university's legal department. Instead, he forwarded the email to Jeannette, Pa., businessman Ted Sarniak, a friend and mentor to star quarterback Terrelle Pryor, who was subsequently discovered to be one of the players involved

The Columbus Dispatch reported Monday that Tressel went on to exchange at least 12 emails with Cicero, and also had numerous lengthy telephone conversations with Sarniak over the weeks and months ahead. Tressel still did not tell any of his superiors, anyone at the NCAA or his own compliance or legal departments.

In September 2010, Tressel even signed a mandatory and rather routine Ohio State compliance form which clearly and simply asks if he the coach has knowledge of any NCAA violations. By signing and dating it, he said that he

The U.S. Attorney contacted Ohio State in December to notify the university that it had come across the memorabilia. That prompted a cursory investigation - Smith conceded to The Associated Press last week that the effort was rushed — that did not turn up the telltale emails between Cicero and Tressel but did uncover the players' involvement with Rife. After consulting with the NCAA and the Big Ten, Pryor and four other top players were handed five-game suspensions curiously not including the next game, the Sugar Bowl, but beginning with the first five games of the 2011 season.

Tressel was asked at a news conference if the players knew they were doing something wrong.

"I suppose that would be something rattling around inside the head of each of them individually," he said. "We all have a little sensor within us, 'Well, I'm not sure if I should be doing this."

At the same time he said that, Tressel later admitted he was covering up his own knowledge of the players' violations.



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#### Texas 🛑 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

"The Taylor homerun killed us," Hays said, "but they had started to chip away before that. We just didn't get the offensive production later in the game."

Tech catcher Randi Tongate said the team came out with a good game plan and was executing it well, but eventually couldn't keep the Longhorns from taking back the lead.

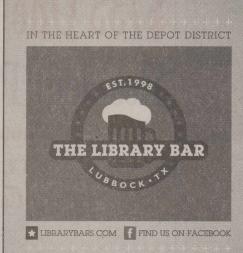
"The mentality in our dugout changed when we went up 5-1," Tongate said. "We didn't keep that mentality, though, and we just let them come

Tongate said the team played well in the game, even if they did not come away with a win. She said they need to go and pull a win out against Nebraska and Texas A&M to be considered for the postseason.

Tech pitcher Brittany Talley had a good first half of the game, striking out three batters before Texas began its rally.

"I felt good pitching at the beginning," Talley said. "We were in it the whole game; we kept it close, just not close enough. I think we proved we can play with anyone out there today."

The Red Raiders take to the road next weekend with a series against Nebraska in Lincoln starting Saturday. >>> tcompton@dailytoreador.com



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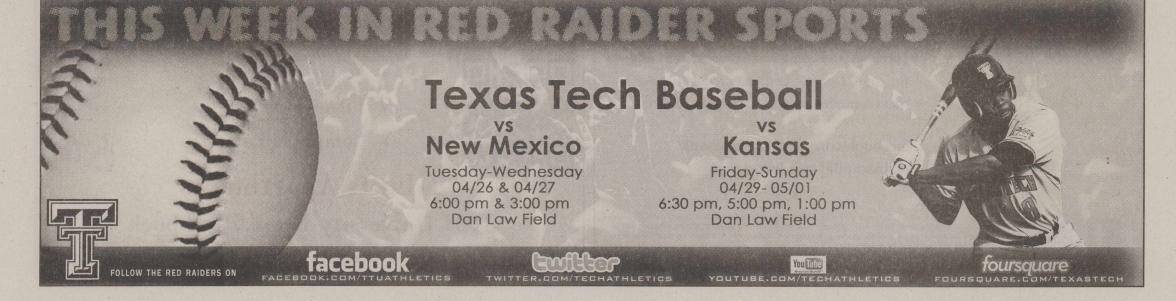
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#### UNM + **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7**

Von Schamann pitched three innings of relief work, struck out three batters and allowed one run en route to his second victory of the season in the second game of that series.

Tech coach Dan Spencer said the preparation his team underwent for the Lobos this week was not anything different from the days going into the series in Albuquerque.

"Not so much (yesterday) in practice, our preparation won't change," Spencer said his players are said, "but (today) we'll have a better idea running low on about them, and they'll have a better idea about us, so I think that's a draw.'

A midweek game may be exactly what Tech needs to find its stride again, considering the team's success in midweek games this season.

A win against Texas State on April 18—the Red Raiders' last midweek game — gave Tech its seventh consecutive midweek victory, good for the program's longest such streak since 1999.

Additionally, the Red Raiders have outscored midweek opponents 45-26 since the beginning of conference play

Spencer said

his lineup doesn't

necessarily need

to explode for a

large amount of

runs to snap out of

its current slump;

rather, they need

to just piece to-

gether some hits.

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back in order.

But Spencer

I'm confident that if we can string a couple of hits together that we'll get out of it ... time's running out — we gotta do

something now. **DAN SPENCER** HEAD COACH

TEXAS TECH

the other side, time's running out — we >>> jrodriguez@dailytoreador.com

feel better about ourselves offensively," Spencer said. "On we just gotta win all the games we can."

gotta do something now."

While Tech's struggles concentrate just on conference play to this point in

the season, Redman and David Paiz said the team should not focus less on midweek affairs.

Paiz said every game will matter when it comes to selections for the NCAA tournament, giving the team no reason to look past an opponent like New Mexico.

"We treat

them all the in St. Louis. same," Paiz said. "They're all wins at the end of the year, they all count as tallies, so

### Judge orders end to NFL lockout MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Six a strong showing that allowing no salary cap in 2010, meaning

weeks into the NFL lockout, players have an early triumph over the owners in court.

U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson ordered an immediate end to the lockout Monday, siding with the players in their fight with the owners over how to divide the \$9 billion

The NFL immediately said it would ask Nelson to put her order on hold so the league can pursue an expedited appeal to the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals

Nelson granted a request for a preliminary injunction to lift the lockout, saying she was swayed by the players' argument that the NFL's first work stoppage since 1987 is hurting their careers.

The plaintiffs "have made

the League to continue their 'lockout' is presently inflicting, and will continue to inflict, irreparable harm upon them, particularly when weighed against the lack of any real injury that would be imposed on the NFL by issuing the preliminary injunction," Nelson wrote.

If the injunction is upheld, the NFL must resume business, although under what guidelines is uncertain.

It could invoke the 2010 rules for free agency, meaning players would need six seasons of service before becoming unrestricted free agents when their contracts expire; previously, it was four years. The requirement for unrestricted free agents would be four years rather than the three years before 2010. There also was teams could spend as much — or as little — as they wanted.

Also, the NFL would need to determine what or if offseason workouts can be held while the appeal is being heard.

Clearly, it's complicated. Jim Quinn, an attorney for the

players said time is of the essence. 'They better act quickly, because as of right now there's no stay and, presumably, players could sign with teams," he said. "There are no guidelines as of right now, so they have to put

something in place quickly.' Owners imposed the lockout after talks broke down March 11 and the players disbanded their union. A group of players filed the injunction request along with a class-action antitrust lawsuit against the league.

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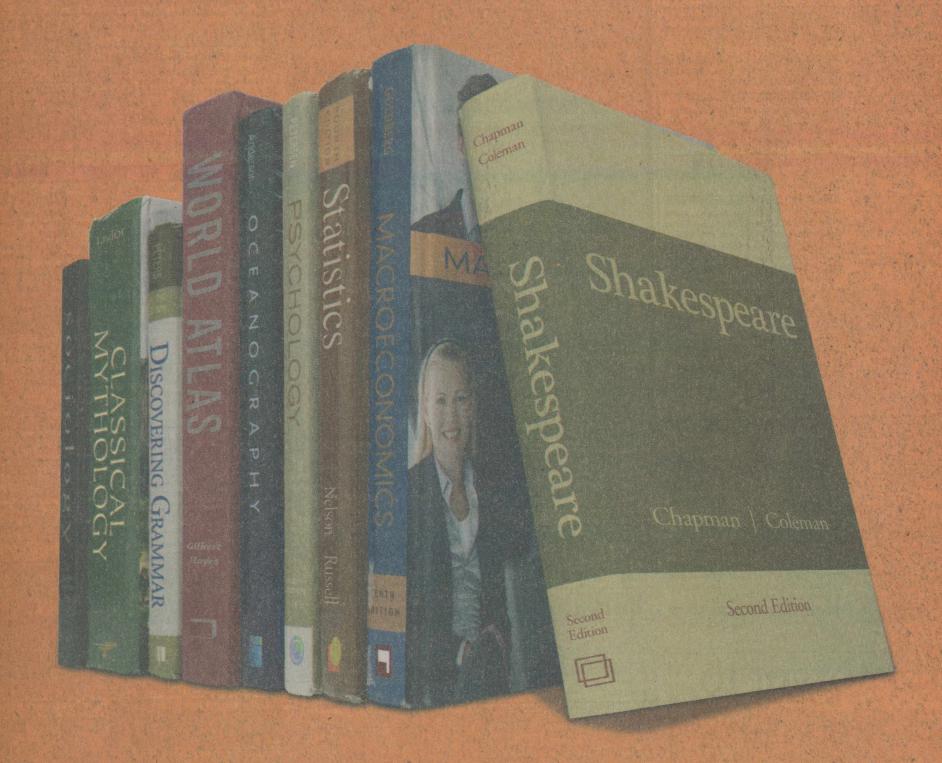
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