Charitable campaign seeks to change lives

State employee program enables simple donation

What I would say about Texas Tech employees and HSC employees in general is that they really have a heart for giving locally." **Nicole Ashley** United Way

By TYLER MYATT STAFF WRITER

The State Employee Charitable Campaign continues after its initial kickoff Thursday, beginning what its members and the charities involved hope to be a big year for donations.

The state legislature created the SECC in 1993, according to its website, to provide an easy way for Texas employees to give to their favorite charities through an annual workplace giving program, which features the benefit of payroll deduc-

tion. Texas Tech employees have been a part of the campaign since 1994 and have raised more than \$8.2 million since then.

SECC continued on Page 2

Making Music

Carah Harris, a senior Imusic performance major from Houston, practices "Banda Jel" on the marimba for her graduate audition Tuesday in the Music building. Marimba is one of multiple African names used for xylophone.



Golf, Page 7



behind strong freshmen play. SPORTS, Page 7

Texting while driving a hazard on college campuses

Study shows practice is common among students at universities

By MORGAN CRUMP STAFF WRITER

While 38 states have bans on using cell phones while driving, Texas has no such law.

Lt. Stephen Hinkle of the Texas Tech Police Department said a bill prohibiting texting while driving was passed by the Texas Legislature in April, but was vetoed by Gov. Rick Perry. If passed, the law would have taken effect Thursday.

The bill originally stated any form of text-based communication would become illegal while a motor vehicle

Instead, the revised version stated

texting and driving is only illegal for drivers under 18, school bus drivers and those with a driver's permit,

Hinkle said. "The only thing that pertains to people 18 and older is that you can't text or talk in a school zone," Hinkle said. "These school zones only apply to high schools and elementary schools, so we really can't enforce anything with college students because they aren't breaking a law."

However, according to a study conducted by Fresno State University earlier this year, half of all college students text or check email while

Austin Sims, a graduate student for AT&T, said he believes cell phones



FILE PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/The Daily Torea

TEXAS GOV. RICK Perry vetoed a bill passed by the state legislature in April that would have banned texting while driving.

and part-time instructor in the College should not be used while driving. of Mass Communications who worked

TEXT continued on Page 5

INDEX

Classifieds	.9
Crossword	.9
Opinions	.4
La Vida	.5
Sports	.6
Sudoku	.5

WEATHER

Today

Partly Cloudy



Thursday



Mostly Sunny

backs down on ozone rule OPINIONS, Pg. 4

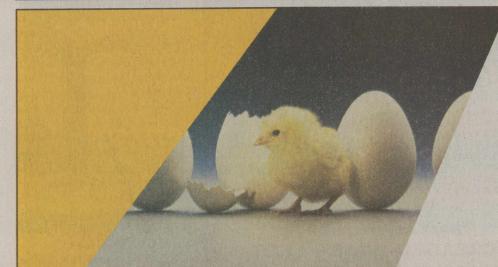
Reynolds: Obama



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Community Calendar

TODAY

Buddy's 75th Birthday Bash Time: 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Where: Buddy Holly Center So, what is it? The Buddy Holly Center hosts an all day event in celebration of Holly's 75th birthday.

Life at Tech: Advice for New Faculty Members series Time: 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Where: Teaching, Learning and Technology Center So, what is it? At this workshop Dominick Casadonte will discuss issues and expectations in teaching during

a new faculty member's first year

at Tech.

tory lecture.

Art History Lecture: "Greuze and the Image of Incest" Time: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Where: School of Art Building, Room B01 So, what is it? Kevin Chua will lead this art his-

TAB Presents a Feature Film: "The Hangover: Part II" Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Where: Student Union Building, Allen Theatre So, what is it? Enjoy this TAB event.

West of Baltimore Time: 10 p.m. Where: Skooner's Grill and Bar

So, what is it? Enjoy this female vocal duo as they perform acoustic alternatives.

THURSDAY

National Cowboy Symposium Time: 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Where: Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

So, what is it? Enjoy cook-offs and music in celebration of the 23rd anniversary of the National Cowboy Symposium.

Communicating Your Expectations with Rubrics Time: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Where: Teaching, Learning and Technology Center So, what is it? Mary Fehr discusses the importance of making academic expec-

tations clear to students.

Movie Matinee: "The Hangover: Part II" Time: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Where: Student Union Building, Escondido Theatre So, what is it? Enjoy this matinee presented by

Grady Spencer and the Griswuld's Time: 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Where: La Diosa Cellars So, what is it? Enjoy live music from this local band.

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

Events will be published either the day or the day before they take place. Submissions must be sent in by 4 p.m. on the preceding publication date.

Corrections Policy

The Daily Toreador's reporters and editors strive for accuracy in the newsgathering process. However, mistakes are inevitable.

It is The DT's policy to correct mis-

takes in this spot as soon as possible. If you feel there is an error in a story, please call Editor-in-Chief Kevin Cullen at 806-742-3395 or e-

mail editor@dailytoreador.com.

SECC -

Twenty-five different agencies: All state employees must

were present in the West Club be made aware of the SECC Level of Jones AT&T Stadium campaign, Abercia said, which from 3 to 5 p.m. to interact with Tech employees.

The SECC runs through Oct. 31 of this year, according to its website, and has a goal of raising at least \$455,000.

According to the campaign website, they raised more than \$458,000 last year.

The coordinators of the SECC at Tech wanted to emphasize the SECC is not a charity itself, but rather a means of helping Tech's employees find a charity.

"We just really try to give them the opportunity to give to their favorite charity," David Ab-

ercia, coordinator for the SECC at Tech, said. "We just basically CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 facilitate between the employee and the charity."

includes Tech employees as well as employees of the Tech Health Sciences Center.

A majority of the donations made are to local charities, Nicole Ashley, the combined campaigns director for United Way, said, which says a lot about Lubbock's state employees.

"In our area, about 64 percent of what's donated is donated locally," Ashley said, "which is a really big percentage.'

United Way facilitates donations by processing pledge forms from employees and handling money distribution, Ashley said.

It is this tendency toward donating locally that excites those representing the charities at an event like this, Shyenne McAnally, marketing recruitment director for the Boys & Girls Club of Lubbock, said.

"That's the best thing: getting a chance to talk to (the employees)," McAnally said. "It gives us a great opportunity to meet contacts and spread the word."

The SECC raised about \$15,000 for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals last year and sent children to special camps, Kathy Reasoner, development director for Children's Miracle Network UMC Foundation,

"It's great. We love it," Reasoner said. "One-hundred percent of it goes to the kids."

Most of the local charities em-

ployees donate to typically have one thing in common, Darcy Pollock, HSC coordinator for the SECC, said.

"Almost all the local charities that are in our booklet are health-related of some sort," Pollock said, "or provide some sort of health care to the patrons that they serve."

It is great Tech and HSC employees are willing to show a lot of support for their community, Ashley said.

"What I would say about Texas Tech employees and HSC employees in general is that they really have a heart for giving locally," Ashley said. "On a campaign level, we just encourage everyone to have the opportunity, and it's 100 percent their choice who they want to give to."

>>> tmyatt@dailytoreador.com

Texas fires kill 4, destroy more than 1,000 homes

most devastating wildfire outbreaks in Texas history left more than 1.000 homes in ruins Tuesday and stretched the state's firefighting ranks to the limit, confronting Gov. Rick Perry with a major disaster at home just as the GOP presidential contest heats up.

More than 180 fires have erupted in the past week across the rainstarved Lone Star State, and nearly 600 of the homes destroyed since then were lost in one catastrophic blaze in and around Bastrop, near Austin, that raged out of control Tuesday for a third day.

Whipped into an inferno by Tropical Storm Lee's winds over the weekend, the blaze burned more than 45 square miles, forced the evacuation of thousands and killed at least two people, bringing the overall death toll from the outbreak to at least four.

"We lost everything," said Willie Clements, whose two-story colonial home in a housing development near Bastrop was reduced to a heap of metal roofing and ash. A picket fence was melted. Some goats and turkeys survived, but about 20 chickens and ducks were burned to death in a coop that went up in flames.

On Tuesday, Clements and his family took a picture of themselves in front of a windmill adorned with a

WELLS

FARGO

BASTROP (AP) — One of the charred red, white and blue sign that care who the asset belongs to. If it's proclaimed, "United We Stand."

> "This is the beginning of our new family album," the 51-year-old Cle-Perry cut short a presidential cam-

paign trip to South Carolina to deal with the crisis. On Tuesday, he toured a blackened area near Bastrop, which is about 25 miles from Austin.

"Pretty powerful visuals of individuals who lost everything," he said. "The magnitude of these losses are pretty stunning.'

The governor would not say whether he would take part in Wednesday evening's Republican presidential debate in California, explaining that he was "substantially more concerned about making sure Texans are being taken care of." But campaign spokesman Mark Miner said in an email later in the day that Perry planned to be there.

Perry, a tea-party favorite who has made a career out of railing against government spending, said he expects federal assistance with the wildfires, and he complained that red tape was keeping bulldozers and other heavy equipment at the Army's Fort Hood, 75 miles from Bastrop, from being putting to use. Fort Hood was battling its own fire, a 3,700-acre blaze.

"It's more difficult than it should be to get those types of assets freed up by the federal government," Perry said. "When you've got people hurting, when you've got lives that are in danger in particular, I really don't a blaze that destroyed 168 homes in

sitting in some vard somewhere and not helping be part of the solution, that's a problem.'

White House spokesman Jay Carney said the Obama administration has approved seven federal grants to Texas to help with the latest outbreak, and "we will continue to work closely with the state and local emergency management officials as their efforts to contain these fires.'

About 1,200 firefighters battled the blazes, including members of local departments from around the state and crews from such places as Utah, California, Arizona and Oregon, many of them arriving after Texas put out a call for help. More firefighters will join the battle once they have been registered and sent where they are needed.

Five heavy tanker planes, some from the federal government, and three aircraft capable of scooping 1,500 gallons of water at a time from lakes also took part in the fight.

"We're getting incredible support from all over the country, federal and state agencies," said Mark Stanford, operations director for the Texas For-

The disaster is blamed largely on Texas' yearlong drought, one of the most severe dry spells the state has

The fire in Bastrop County is easily the single most devastating wildfire in Texas in more than a decade, eclipsing

North Texas in April. Texas Forest Service spokeswoman April Saginor said state wildfire records go back only to the late 1990s.

At least 11 other fires exceeded 1,000 acres Tuesday, including an 8,000-acre blaze in Caldwell County, next to Bastrop County. At least six homes were lost in a fire 40 percent contained. In far Northeast Texas' Cass County, a 7,000-acre fire burned in heavy timberland. And in Grimes County, about 40 miles northwest of Houston, a 3,000-acre fire destroyed nearly two dozen homes and threatened hundreds more.

Many of the buildings destroyed in the Bastrop fire were modest, singlestory homes in housing developments. Others were expensive ranch homes, set off by themselves.

In at least one neighborhood in Bastrop, flames hop-scotched a street where houses were tucked among oaks, pines and cedar trees. Some homes survived; others were gone.

The Postal Service delivered mail to homes that had burned to the ground; only the mailboxes were

Residents were surprised by how quickly the blaze engulfed their neighborhoods.

"We were watching TV and my brother-in-law said to come and see this," said Dave Wilhelm, who lives just east of Bastrop. "All I saw was a fireball and some smoke. All of a sudden: Boom! We looked up and left."

Wilhelm returned on Tuesday to

Space station crew

not prepping for

shutdown - yet

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)

— The astronauts aboard the International Space Station said Tuesday that ground controllers are figuring out how best to leave the vast

complex running — what lights to leave on, which vents to keep open — in case it needs to be temporarily

A Russian rocket carrying space station supplies failed during liftoff two weeks ago and crashed into Siberia. It's the same type of rocket

used to launch people to the station. Until Russian engineers can figure out what went wrong, all Soyuz

Six men are living aboard the

space station. Three of them will

leave late next week, a week late to keep the outpost fully staffed

as long as possible. A new crew of three was supposed to blast off

this month. But the flight has been

delayed until at least the beginning of November, just two weeks before the three remaining residents would

Given that the investigation is still ongoing, "there are a lot of things that have to stack up" to allow for an early November launch, said U.S. astronaut Michael Fossum. Fossum said he and his two crewmates will leave the space station in the best possible condition if it must

"The teams in Houston are in the preliminary stages of deciding everything, from what ventilation

we're going to leave running, what

lights we're going to leave on, what

condition each particular experi-

ment will be on, every tank, every valve, every hatch," Fossum said at a news conference from space.

He added: "It's too early for us to get too worried about that frankly.

It will take us a few weeks to finish

that up, but we have another nine

or so weeks here, my crew of three.

So we've got plenty of time for those

kinds of things."

launches are on hold.

have to leave.

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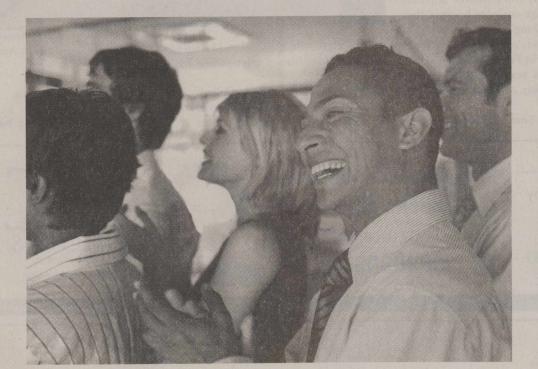
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SEPT. 7, 2011

Pentagon chief: threat of another 9/11 is real

NEW YORK (AP) — After a det the former South Tower. cade of war with al-Qaida the potential for another devastating terrorist assault "remains very real," Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said Tuesday following a somber visit to ground zero of the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

The Pentagon chief walked through the National September 11 Memorial park and museum with Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and afterward told reporters that Americans must remain vigilant against the threat of another successful al-Qaida attack.

"The potential for that kind of attack remains very real," he said from the 10th floor of 7 World Trade Center, the first completed office tower at the site where hijacked commercial airliners were flown into the Twin Towers, killing more than 2,700

Bad weather forced Panetta to scratch plans to visit Shanksville, Pa., where hijackers flew United Flight 93 into the ground, killing all 40 passengers and crew shortly after the coordinated terrorist attack began in New York.

Noting that many of al-Qaida's top leaders, including Osama bin Laden, have been captured or killed in recent months, Panetta said the nature of the terrorist threat has evolved to the point where al-Qaida "nodes" outside of Afghanistan and Pakistan are now the most dangerous.

"Yemen has risen to the top of the list," he said.

Panetta's New York visit gave him an early glimpse at the memorial, with its majestic 30-foot manmade walls of water that hug the sides of oneacre reflecting pools that encompass the ground where the Twin Towers stood. The water is meant to signify falling tears.

Panetta also took a peek inside the entrance to the museum, which is still under construction. And he was shown the "Survivor Tree," a non-fruit bearing pear tree that was rescued from the World Trade Center grounds after the terrorist attacks. It stands amid the white oaks, near the reflecting pool at

Dozens of workers scrambled Tuesday morning to put the finishing touches on the memorial, planting ivy as ground cover around the 225 white oak trees that surround the reflecting pools.

The Sept. 11 attacks killed nearly 3,000 people, including 184 at the Pentagon. The names of every person who died in the attacks, including those at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, are inscribed in bronze panels that edge the reflecting pools at the Twin Towers site.

Panetta's spokesman, Doug Wilson, said the Pentagon chief wanted to visit Shanksville and New York to highlight the role the military has played over the past decade in preventing further attacks on the homeland. Accompanying him on his trip Tuesday were five service members — one each from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard.

The visit also recalled the most memorable event of Panetta's tenure as CIA director: the May killing of bin Laden.

Panetta will attend 9/11 memorial events at the Pentagon on Sunday.

He was a private citizen on 9/11 but happened to be on Capitol Hill at the time of the attacks, according to his press secretary, George Little.

Shanksville remains the least pub-

licized of the three 9/11 attack sites. In its final report, the official 9/11 Commission that investigated the terrorist plot wrote a gripping account of what happened aboard Flight 93.

The commission determined that the plane, overtaken by four hijackers, slammed into the ground at 11 seconds past 10:03 EDT, on a path over Pennsylvania toward its intended target in Washington — either the Capitol or the White House.

It departed from Newark, N.J., bound for San Francisco, at 8:42 a.m. The hijackers took over the cockpit 46 minutes later. At 9:57 a.m., a passenger revolt began. The cockpit voice recorder captured sounds of the passenger assault.

POLITICIAN PERSPECTIVES



PHOTO BY ANNIE OSTERLUND/The Daily Toreador

U.S. AMBASSADOR TIBOR Nagy, from left, former CIA Senior Executive Richard Eric Pound and former U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales speak at the International Cultural Center during, "9/11 Ten Years Later: Three Distinct Perspectives" on Tuesday.

Medical schools teaching little about gay health

doctors aren't learning much about the unique health needs of gays and lesbians, a survey of medical school deans suggests.

On average, the schools devoted to teaching content related to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender patients, according to the survey results appearing in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association. A third of the schools had none during the years students work with patients.

More than a quarter of the medical school deans said their school's coverage of 16 related topics was "poor" or "very poor." The topics

CHICAGO (AP) — Future included sex change surgery, mental women do. But some doctors assume health issues and HIV-AIDS.

While nearly all medical schools taught students to ask patients if they "have sex with men, women or both" while obtaining a sexual history, the five hours in the entire curriculum overall curriculum lacked deeper instruction to help "students carry that conversation as far as it needs to go," said lead author Dr. Juno Obedin-Maliver of the University of California, San Francisco.

> Without such education, doctors are left guessing and can make faulty assumptions, Obedin-Maliver said. For instance, lesbians need Pap tests, which screens for the sexually spread virus that causes most cervical cancer, as often as heterosexual

they don't need them.

"I'm an ob-gyn and I have had lesbian patients come to me and say I haven't had a Pap test in 20 years because my doctors said I didn't need one," Obedin-Maliver said.

Earlier this year, the Institute of Medicine reported that there's little research to guide doctors in the treatment of lesbians and gays. But some things are known: There are increased risks of depression, suicide attempts, homelessness and being victims of violence for lesbians, gay men and bisexuals. Lesbians and bisexual women may get less preventive care to stay healthy, and have higher rates of obesity and

The Association of American Medical Colleges recommends that medical schools ensure students master "the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to provide excellent comprehensive care" for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender patients.

The new findings are based on a Web-based survey that drew responses from 85 percent of U.S. and Canadian medical schools.

That's a remarkably high response rate, which shows the deans believe it's an important issue, said Dr. Raymond Curry, vice dean for education at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago.



Obama backs down on ozone protection

The Obama administration succeeded yet again in disappointing a large group of their supporters — particularly environmentalists — Friday when they abandoned a new rule regarding air pollution.

The new rule proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency would lower the "ozone standard" from its current 75 parts per billion, or ppb, set at the end of the Bush administration, to a stricter 60-70 ppb. Ozone, when combined with chemicals such as nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds and sulfur dioxide to form smog, is known to cause a plethora of health problems such as lung damage, asthma and heart issues.

Had the rule been passed, hundreds of counties across the United States would be out of compliance with the Clean Air Act, thus requiring a massive enforcement effort by state and

Jakob Reynolds

municipal governments along with other new industrial emission controls across the country.

Businesses and Republicans, who notoriously regard environmental regulations as job-killers and economic burdens, complained meeting the new standards would cost billions of dollars and thousands of jobs, then impeding economic recovery.

Though the Obama administration has promised for the past three years to take action on ozone pollution standards, they ultimately caved to Republican pressures and issued a statement citing that since the standards were due to be reviewed in 2013

anyway, they would opt to push for more job creation presently.

Keep in mind, though, while it is good the current ozone pollution standards are scheduled to be reviewed eventually, there is certainly no guarantee they will actually be lowered, especially considering the

Republican and therefore pro-business administration holding office in 2013.

possibility of a

and relieved to say for those of us fortunately living in Texas of emissions sources from motor

Barack Obama's apparent lack of other hand, the CSAPR primardesire to stand his ground against industries and their conservative

in Congress ... (the) rule will will not affect another envibring billions of ronmental law from the EPA, dollars in health namely the Cross-State Air benefits and is Pollution Rule, or CSAPR, expected to scheduled to be implementprevent up to ed in January 1,700 premature deaths yearly ...

2012. In an interview with The Texas Tribune, David Adelman, a profes-

counterparts

sor at the University of Texas However, I am both surprised School of Law, said the ozone rule would apply to a broad range and 26 other states, President vehicles to dry cleaners. On the

ily targets nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxides emitted by power plants.

According to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the cross-state rule will require Texas power plants to reduce sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions by 46 and 7 percent, respectively, from 2009 levels.

"Power plants are big sources (of pollutants) and their emissions cross state lines quite readily. So, in one jurisdiction you could have ozone problems where a significant source of the nitrogen oxides would be out of state," Adelman said.

Although Obama's pandering to Republicans' short-sighted money-worshipping never ceases to disappoint me, I'm relieved to know someone in Washington is still thinking about the social benefits of environmentallyconscious business regulations.

According to the EPA, the crossstate rule will bring billions of dollars in health benefits and is expected to prevent up to 1,700 premature deaths yearly starting

A friend of mine once said, "President Obama strikes me as the type of character in fiction who has made compromises to get to where he is now, but stays up all night wondering if he's compromised too much of his integrity."

I, for one, am seriously hoping that if President Obama is re-elected, he will stop caving to the agendas of big businesses and Republicans and work for what is right instead, especially when it concerns the wellbeing of his constituents, the environment and the world.

■ Reynolds is a sophopmore history major from Lubbock. » jakob.reynolds@ttu.edu

Elizabeth Warren's Harvard problem

While he doesn't

mention it on the

campaign trail,

Romney holds

business and law

degrees from

Harvard.

By CAROLINE M. MCKAY HARVARD CRIMSON (HARVARD U.)

Conservative columnist William J. Buckley Jr. famously said he would rather be governed by the first 2,000 names in the Boston telephone book than by the faculty of Harvard University. And Buckley's quote captures a larger anti-Harvard sentiment in American politics—a sentiment that has often haunted graduates as they seek public office, forcing them to address an often-exploited assumption that they answer to the Northeast liberal elite.

Now, Elizabeth Warren faces the same "Harvard problem." Warrenwho has been a member of Harvard Law School's faculty for nearly two decades—is preparing to launch a campaign to unseat Republican Senator Scott P. Brown.

But even before her official announcement Republicans have questioned whether as a Harvard professor, Warren "best represents" the views and values of Massachusetts voters.

Although she has been upfront about her ties to Harvard, Warren's message thus far-replete with stories from her small-town childhood in Oklahoma—seems designed to counteract any reputation she may have earned as an out-of-touch Harvard elitist.

word in professional politics?

The grudge against Harvard can be traced back to the Vietnam War, when Harvard famously banned the Reserve Officers' Training Corps program, according to Massachusetts Democratic strategist Mary Ann Marsh. She says that even in the '60s, Harvard seemed like a place where

"people don't spend time with the everyday people," and "where people are far more interested in theory than interacting with people."

Democratic strategist Scott Ferson echoed that Harvard is now often a neg ative buzz word in politics—synonymous with

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the idea of an out-of-touch class of Northeastern elites that is unpopular with most of the electorate.

Ferson added that the University is commonly associated with progressive ideals like greater equality for women and gay rights.

Fundamentally, Harvard invokes a class tension that Ferson says Brown

When did Harvard become a bad would exploit in a general election by trying to convince voters that there is no way a Harvard professor could understand their problems.

> Ferson added that the current political climate will make Warren's status as Harvard faculty member an especially big hurdle for her

"At a time when 'Tea Party,

no experience, never put an economic equation together' sells, I think it is going to be particularly difficult for her." Warren's Har-

vard problem is not unique or opponent's connection to the University with hope that the

school's reputation would make the candidate appear out-of-touch, extreme, and even effeminate.

Defending a more aggressive foreign policy strategy this week, Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney used President Obama's connection to Harvard to paint him as weak on defense.

"That may be what they think in that Harvard faculty lounge, but it's not what they know on the battlefield!" Romney said. While he doesn't mention it on the campaign trail, Romney holds business and law degrees from Harvard.

It is a stretch to say that the Harvard name has been a detractor for all candidates with ties to the University. There are currently 31 members of Congress with Harvard degrees.

But using Harvard as a code word for an allegedly dangerous brand of liberalism isn't a new trick, either.

In his first presidential campaign against then-Governor Michael S. Dukakis '60, President George H. W. Bush used Dukakis' connection to Harvard to portray him as weak and

"Gov. Dukakis, his foreign policy views born in Harvard Yard's bou-

tique, would cut the muscle of our defense," Bush said.

When asked why he mentioned Harvard specifically, Bush explained that he believed Harvard to be a "kind of a philosophical enclave," and "a philosophical cult normally identified with extremely liberal

Warren isn't shy about her connection to Harvard.

"There's nothing to handle," Warren told The Boston Globe upon being asked about her association the University. "It is what it is. I'm also 5 foot 8.'

Though Warren may be content embracing her Harvard position, her message—which has begun to emerge during an ongoing listening new. Numerous tour through the state—seems to politicians have aim at putting Warren's roots front highlighted their and center. Her talks to activists and constituents take on a decidedly folksy flair, attempting to expunge any reputation for liberal elitism.

> In other words, Warren hopes to show that Harvard isn't her only

> "Yeah, I'm a Harvard professor," Warren told The Globe. "But I wasn't born at Harvard. I came up scrappy. I came up the hard way."

Warren did not respond to an interview request for this article.

At gatherings of activists and voters in August, Warren shared stories from her childhood in a small town, growing up on what she calls the "ragged edge of the middle class in Oklahoma."

"My brother David is the best storyteller God has put on this earth," Warren said at one event. "There's nothing I'd rather do than sit on the back porch and listen to him tell the story of the time they put the pig on the motorcycle and ran it down the main hall of Norman High."

In addition to emphasizing her Oklahoma roots, Warren has said she would take her "scrappy" style to the floor of the U.S. Senate.

"It's about being willing to take a good idea and fight for it," Warren told The Globe. "It's being willing to throw your body in front of a bus to block bad ideas."

Toreador, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock,

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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

> The Daily Toreador accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification

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US education system in desparate need of update

By MARCUS SMITH THE DAILY COUGAR (U. HOUSTON)

Education in America is in a state of decay. With damaging policies like No Child Left Behind, (NCLB) we continue to fall lower in the global rankings of math, science and reasoning. America continues to voice its concerns, and promises continue to be delivered. However, the budget for education continues to be cut.

Dropout and delinquency rates are reaching an all-time high. There is a plague of apathy infecting students on a national scale. This is not because our generation is getting less intelligent. The problem is the American educa-

The over-regulated system we ave in place teaches memorization instead of a more flexible curriculum that advocates problem solving skills, the promotion of student life-goals and allows students to reach their own conclusions about the subject matter they are studying.

Current textbooks tend to give mediocre information due to trivialization, omission and the manipulation of facts. This is coupled with the repetition of basic subject matter because of an oversensitivity to political cor-

Furthermore, our method of educating students is often flavored with a strong American exceptionalism. There is a general refusal to change and become more open-minded toward information and policies even though the times deem it necessary.

Who is to blame for the state of America's education system? Is it the teachers, unions, state and federal governments, students or the parents? The truth is, there is enough blame to go around. Teacher labor unions are often criticized for opposing meaningful reforms that could increase competition

and for protecting lousy teachers while failing to reward the good.

And, true parental involvement often ends at kindergarten when it should be present through the duration of a young person's schooling. However, parents are not the only ones who share a part of the blame.

Sometimes individual students need to be held accountable for their poor performance. It doesn't matter how good the school or teacher is if the student doesn't do the work and the parents do nothing to stop him or her. This attitude is only reinforced by the increasing amount of laws that lower standards and encourage a lack of student accountability and responsibility. School systems are subsequently deprived of the power and support to

handle such problem students. Universities are also not exempt from criticism. Every year students hang their heads at the reality of textbook price gouging, rising tuition fees, decreases in financial aid and frequently cut academic programs due to a great lack of government funding to public universities. This leaves students distraught at the idea of stumbling headlong into a future of unimaginable debt - if it's not too expensive for them to attend college altogether.

Even though the issue is starting to gain more attention from a majority of America, the sense of urgency required from lawmakers is nonexistent. Education should always be the top priority and investment of our country. The payoff has a direct impact on the crime rate, the economy and the overall stability and progress of our nation. No civilization was ever toppled because its citizens were too educated and its educational system too effective.

Part of our American ideology has always been America is best. But it is a depressing thought, indeed, if we are currently the best we can be.

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Family, friends remember Tech fan

By DANIELLE KING STAFF WRITER

For the past 15 years, Robert "Bubba," or "Bob," Curtis has been a staple at almost every Texas Tech University women's and men's basketball and football

On Aug. 29th, at the age of 62, Curtis passed away from cancer.

One of his last wishes was to be featured in The Daily Toreador after his death, Armen Williams, a Tech alumnus, said.

Williams said Curtis wanted students to know how much joy Tech brought him, and how much the students meant to him.

He was a giving person who only wanted to put smiles on faces, Williams said.

Curtis owned Bob's Woodworks located in Lubbock, Williams said, and over the years he donated two conference tables to Tech: one shaped like a basketball and the other shaped like a

"He was really good with woodworking," Bubba Jennings, Tech assistant basketball coach, said.

Chad Greenfield, a Tech alumnus, said Curtis was well known at Tech for the entertainment he provided students at basketball

"Bubba was a true entertainer," Williams said. "His 'Bubba' persona was well-liked by all fans. He would dance with the cheerleaders, wear his overalls and floppy hat and hand out T-shirts with his picture on them.

"His highlight of the game (was) to dance to 'Wabash Cannonball," Williams said.

"(Curtis was) very much about being (a) proactive fan," Greenfield said.

He did not want students bashing their opponents, Greenfield said. Instead, he wanted them to support their team.

Greenfield also said some alumni might also know Curtis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAAREN HUFFAKER

FROM LEFT, ROBIN Gates, Robert "Bubba" Curtis' daughter, Loretta Curtis, Curtis' wife and Curtis at the Alamo Bowl in 2010.

before games.

Corkey Oglesby, a close friend of Curtis, said.

Curtis would smoke meat for days and then set up a huge buffet for students to eat at as they walked into games, Williams

"He wanted people to know (they) were appreciated," Greenfield said.

Curtis, born in Dexter, N.M., graduated from

attended Tech. "He adopted Tech as his own

from the barbecue he served school," Oglesby said. "He was a fan, a local businessman (who) be-

> was Curtis active at He would dance Tech, but he was acwith cheerleaders, tive in the wear his overalls Lubbock community and floppy hat and as well. hand out T-shirts

ARMEN WILLIAMS

them.

"(He was a) great barbecuer," came interested in the program." Not only

with his picture on

TECH ALLUMNUS

According to Williams and Oglesby,

Curtis would drive to a farm and hand out barbecued food.

The farmers

Roswell High School and never always thought he was trying to sell it, but Curtis never wanted

The two most important things Williams said Curtis taught him to, "Always put God first, and always give back to other people.'

Greenfield said Curtis would also set up Bible study for students and take them under his

One time in particular, Williams said, Curtis hosted a Super Bowl party for students. Cheerleaders, football players and Saddle Tramps all came.

"By far, a very unique individual, in a good way," Greenfield said.

Curtis' funeral will be at 10 a.m. on Thursday at Victory Life Baptist Church.

The Saddle Tramps will be in attendance in accordance with one of Curtis' last wishes and the Texas Tech Fight Song will be the final song that plays. » dking@dailytoreador.com

Eddie Murphy to host Academy Awards solo

tradition of Bob Hope and Johnny Carson, and later Billy Crystal, Steve Martin and Whoopi Goldberg, Oscar is going back to its comedic roots with Eddie Murphy as host.

The actor and comedian will host the 84th annual Academy Awards, producers Brett Ratner and Don Mischer said Tuesday — and even they were surprised the reclusive star agreed to the gig.

The last comic to host the show alone was Ion Stewart in 2008. A singing, dancing Hugh Jackman took over in 2009, and in recent years, pairs of actors have helmed the show.

This is Murphy's first time hosting the Academy Awards. He said in a statement that he's "enormously honored" to join the ranks of the aforementioned Oscar hosts.

Ratner and Murphy worked together on their latest film, "Tower Heist," and the director casually floated the notion of hosting the Oscars by the star. "And Eddie said, 'Wow, that would

be a brilliant idea for you and me to do the Oscars together," Ratner recalled.

"I was like, 'Are you serious?" Ratner said in an interview. He called Mischer, his co-producer, who immediately warned him not to get his hopes up.

"I said, 'Not a chance," the veteran TV director and producer said. "Everybody wants Eddie Murphy. He's a comedic genius, he's a brilliant impersonator. He's just the kind of guy who would make any television show wonderful. So many times through the years I've tried to get Eddie Murphy to agree to come be on a show, and generally he kind of stays to himself and has not been interested in it.'

Murphy made a rare TV appearance in April on the inaugural Comedy Awards, which Mischer produced, when the 50-year-old entertainer accepted the Comedy Icon award.

By contrast, when Murphy was nominated for an Oscar for 2006's "Dreamgirls," he did very few interviews projects, including the Oscar show.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In the and reportedly left the ceremony as soon as his category was announced. (Alan Arkin won for "Little Miss Sunshine.")

> "I think that Eddie probably gave this serious consideration because of the experience he did have with Brett (on "Tower Heist)," Mischer said. "When we did decide to ask him, I think Eddie felt secure with Brett.'

Ratner called Murphy "one of the greatest and most influential live performers ever" and cited him as an inspiration for his filmmaking career.

"Rush Hour' exists because of Eddie Murphy," Ratner said. "Chris Tucker was to 12-year-old kids when I was doing 'Rush Hour' what Eddie Murphy was to me when I was 12. I have such love and idolize the guy."

Murphy's stint as Oscar host marks a return to the single-host format the show has employed most often over the past two decades. Pairs of actors hosted the two most recent Oscar shows: Anne Hathaway and James Franco helmed the 2011 telecast, and Steve Martin and Alec Baldwin hosted last year.

Mischer said having just one host will help streamline the show, which typically stretches over more than three

He and Ratner were "trying to really keep the show moving briskly and keep pacing up," he said, "and you can really focus on that when you have one host. You don't have dialog with two hosts or more hosts.'

The producers said Murphy will likely select a writing team and contribute his own jokes and material to the Oscar show, set for Feb. 26, 2012, at the Kodak Theatre.

Both "Eddie Murphy" and "Academy Awards" were trending topics on Twitter after the announcement was made, and Ratner posted his own tweet saying, "So excited to have Eddie Murphy for the (hash)oscars." But the producer said Murphy doesn't follow social media when it comes to his own

"Texting and driving on campus is fairly dangerous because of the amount of foot traffic to and from classes," he said. "I think students should be educated about driving safety in general and our main focus shouldn't just be texting. There are plenty of other things that can also be distracting for someone while driving."

Implementing a law declaring texting and driving illegal would not be as effective as educating people on how to drive safely, Sims said.

"These laws may prevent some students from texting and driving, but (they) won't eliminate it completely," he said. "There are seat belt laws, but not everyone wears them, and there are laws against drinking and driving, but people still do it. Rather than aim to outlaw only one form of distraction, we should focus more on all issues that are distracters."

He agrees texting is a major distraction, Sims said, but argues it is really no more of a problem than dancing to music in the car, changing the radio station or putting on makeup.

"I think everyone is always trying to determine what is causing wrecks and distractions," he said. "When I was in high school and college, it was changing the radio (station). Now, it is texting."

Josh Petrawski, an economics and information systems major from Plano, said he does not personally text and drive on campus, but realizes it is an issue.

"I can see why people think it should be illegal. However, it is hard to catch someone texting and driving specifically," he said. "How would an officer know if they were texting and driving or just looking at a GPS device or making a phone call?"

He thinks a law prohibiting texting and driving will reduce the number of people doing so because of potentially hefty fines, Petrawski said. Even if people disagree with the law, they will most likely stop texting and driving so they will not have to pay fines.

"Unfortunately, it seems as though people do not take this issue seriously until a tragedy happens," he said. "Hopefully, it will not come to that and people will put more effort into being focused and aware of their surroundings while at the wheel."

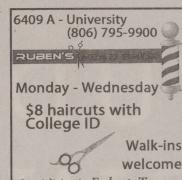
Lt. Hinkle said although there are campuses, there are still possible consequences resulting from texting while

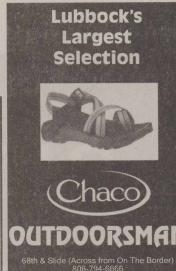
"If I am on patrol, and I see a student texting and they cross the center lane, I can pull them over and issue them a ticket for failure to maintain a single lane," he said. "Because it isn't a violation of the law, we cannot punish someone for texting and driving, but we can issue a Class C misdemeanor, which

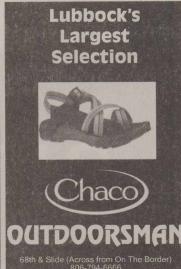
Hinkle said he personally thinks there should be a law prohibiting texting while driving because it is a safety hazard.

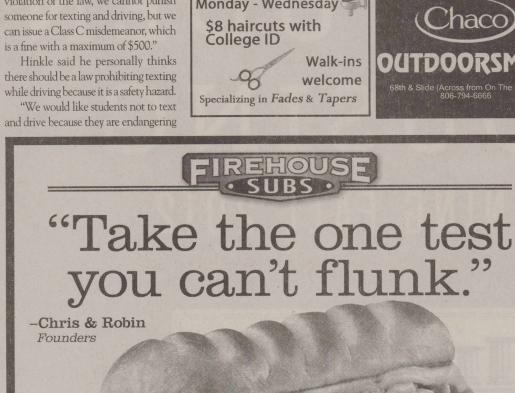
and drive because they are endangering

themselves and others," he said. "We no laws prohibiting texting on college will not hesitate to pull students over for inattention to the road and their surroundings. mcrump@dailytoreador.com









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DE Mackey potentially out for season



PHOTOS BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreadon TEXAS TECH QUARTERBACK Seth Doege hands the ball off to running back Aaron Crawford during the 50-10 victory over the Bobcats on Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ MANAGING EDITOR

A hulk-like 6-foot-5, 256-pound frame makes junior Leon Mackey a prototypical fit to be the Texas Tech's "first guy off the bus," a spot typically reserved for an intimidating presence.

Now, a deflated lung has put that role and much more at risk for the junior transfer from Raymond, Miss., according to Tech coach Tommy Tuberville.

"It could be season (ending)," Tuberville said of Mackey's injury after Tuesday's practice. "It's one of those deals... we just do the best we can and try and get him going again because he wasn't in great shape, he was getting to that point."

50-10 win against Texas State on Saturday. The injury was initially ruled a chest bruise.

Mackey was the starting right-side defensive end for a defense that only starts two players with at least one year of playing experience.

Redshirt freshman Jackson Richards was listed as Mackey's backup entering last week, meaning he could be thrown into a starting role for the Red Raiders' game against New Mexico on Sept. 17 in Albuquerque, N.M.

The defense, inexperienced to begin with, will likely see some fresh faces in action in coming weeks, Tuberville said.

Among those already being relied on is freshman linebacker Blake Dees.

Dees, the first freshman linebacker to start on opening day for Tech since 2003, accounted for seven total tackles against the Bobcats, six of them unassisted.

Tuberville said Dees made a solid Mackey was taken out during Tech's debut, but needs to get out of the habit of doing too much by himself.

> "He was up and down," Tuberville said. "Blake is real smart and sometimes he tries to do other people jobs better than his and he over-pursues. That happens,



TEXAS TECH SAFETY Cody Davis tries to tackle Texas State running back Marcus Curry during the 50-10 victory over the Bobcats on Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

he's just got to learn to settle down and play and play within himself, not try to

do too much.' Dees said he felt he had a good first game despite it being his very first as a collegiate athlete.

But, Dees said his coaches have not been quiet about pointing out possible areas of improvement in his game.

"I definitely need to work on, you know, shedding blocks more," Dees said, "and I guess, fill my gap a little more instead of waiting on a blocker to come get me. But, that's about it."

adjustments is starting center Terry

McDaniel, who took over for Justin Keown during fall camp after Keown suffered a knee injury, said he had not played the center position since high school.

"After watching the game film, it's obvious I really got to improve on my zone steps," McDaniel said. "Sometimes, they weren't, like, flat enough and I was just kind of skipping along."

Tuberville, however, said McDaniel excelled Saturday in the area that mat-

Among others still making playing ters most for centers: getting the ball to

"The main thing, though, it's what he did—we didn't have one bad snap," Tuberville said. "That's just from him persevering and only being at it for two weeks."

Keown suffered the injury Aug. 15, and was set to miss 3-to-5 five weeks from that point afterward.

Those who are on the injury list get the extra time to rest up while the Red Raiders enjoy a bye week before next week's trip to New Mexico.

Tuberville, as was the case last year,

said he would prefer his team have a bye week later in the season to avoid going anywhere from 10-to-11 straight weeks without resting.

But, he said his players will just have to make do with what they have got.

"I'd rather have it a little later on, probably played, but we're going to take and make the most out of it," Tuberville said. "We'll be better next time we play, just because this open date gave us a chance to look at some of the things we weren't very strong at, try to make them better." >>> jrodriguez@dailytoreador.com

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Freshmen lead Tech to Carmel **Cup success at Pebble Beach**

By CHOIS WOODMAN STAFF WRITER

On a team that is already young enough, it was a freshman leading the way to victory over Vanderbilt in the inaugural Carmel Cup at Pebble Beach Golf Club on Saturday and Sunday.

Tech Head Coach Greg Sands said freshman Clement Sordet helped the No. 18 Red Raiders by blowing away the competition in his win by 10 strokes.

Sordet shot even-par 72 in the course the first round at Spyglass Hill Golf Course and posted rounds of 2-under 70 and 5-under 67 during the final two rounds at Pebble Beach to help seal the victory for Tech.

"It was a little bit surprising when Clement played the way he did as a true freshman. He played really, really solid," Sands said. "To go into the last round holding the lead and then shoot the lowest round as a freshman in his first tournament was quite impressive."

Sands said the 19-13 tournament victory was in the medalnot the typical two-team match with the performance of the

Each team had players face each other, where the winners received a point for their work to do," he said. "We've

team, Sands

used to in

said, but the It's kind of a players went head-to-head in stroke play relief knowing that so a tournament chamwe have freshmen pion could be named. that can put up Sands said

good scores. conditions were com-**CHANDLER RUSK** pletely different from what SOPHOMORE TEXAS TECH the team was

Lubbock. "They played at sea level where there was a lot of moisture in the air, and the conditions on the greens were really soft where the ball didn't roll, and that was completely opposite of Lubbock, where it's dry and firm," he said. "I was pleased with the way they adjusted their irons and their game accordingly."

Sands said he was satisfied

team, but the team still has room to grow.

"I feel like we've got some

got some conhow some of these guys handle adversity, but that's nothing abnormal with so many of these young guys."

Fresh-

men Matias Dominguez Todd contributed to the team with three points each in the Carmel

Todd, a Fort Worth native,

said Pebble Beach was a course he had always wanted to play.

'We went to a fabulous place where all golfers dream of playing," Todd said. "It was just pretty special for me and the other freshmen to play our first tournament at Pebble Beach."

Todd said his first college golf experience had a different atmosphere than what he was used to.

"It's a lot more competitive and a lot stronger than high school," he said. "The all-around atmosphere is just

Todd finished the 54-hole round with a total score of 232.

Sophomore Chandler Rusk said he did not perform as well as he wanted, but he is optimistic about future tournaments.

"I didn't play very good this weekend and it showed me a lot about my game and where I need to go with it," Rusk said. "A lot of it is the mental side of it, and I just need to work on my mental game more."

He said he had trouble focusing in his first round at Pebble Beach because of the history of the course and its beauty.

Even though he did not play his best, Rusk said, it was great to have strong play from the freshmen to carry the team.

"It's kind of a relief knowing that we have freshmen that can put up good scores," he said. >>> cwoodman@dailytoreador.com



tarcebook

FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

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Top Things to Do at the Rec This Week: - Register your team for Flag Football

- Ride to the Applebutter Festival with OPC

- Cheer on your Red Raider Club Teams - Enjoy the weather at the Leisure Pool

- Register for Sunday's Triathlon

- Play in Net Fest on Friday - Get a job tonight officiating

- Hone your drop shot for IM Tennis

Heartbeats

A quick look at what is going on in the Rec Sports world

SPORT CLUBS HIGHLIGHTS Men's Water Polo finished in 2nd place at the University of New Mexico Invitational with wins over University of New Mexico, University of Utah, and Albuquerque Masters before losing the Championship to the University of Utah.

Men's Soccer 0 - Baylor 3

OPEN BOULDERING

New for 2011! You will now be able to boulder on the Rock Wall whenever the Rec Center is open. The one requirements for Open Bouldering is that you must complete a \$5 bouldering orientation at the Climbing Wall before you begin. Orientations will be available Monday - Thursday between 4:00pm and 8:00pm. If you have any questions, please contact the OPC at 806.742.2949.

OPC OPERATING HOURS New hours are in effect at the OPC for the fall. Hours for the fall: Monday - Noon - 6:00pm Tuesday - 1:00pm - 6:00pm Wednesday - 1:00pm - 6:00pm Thursday - 1:00pm - 6:00pm Friday - Noon - 6:00pm Saturday & Sunday - Closed

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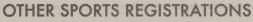
Sign-ups for Intramural Flag Football will be today and tomorrow in Rm. 203 of the Rec Center. Get your team signed up for Tech's biggest fall sport and have some fun on the gridiron! Don't forget that we have Men's, Women's and Co-Rec teams. There is also a \$50 forfeit fee (cash or check only) for every team due when signing up.

DON'T HAVE A TEAM TO CALL HOME?

Come to the Free Agent Meeting on TONIGHT at 7:00pm in Rm. 206 of the Rec Center. Find teammates and extra players at the meeting.

REGISTER FOR NET FEST

Sign up by TODAY for this fun and free 3on3 basketball tournament and skill contests. Register in Rm. 203 of the Rec Center in the Intramurals Office.



Register for the Tennis Singles and Doubles Tournament that will begin play on Monday, September 19. Registration is from today through Thursday, September 15.

Register for 4 on 4 Sand Volleyball that will begin play on Friday, September 16. Registration is from Today through Wednesday, September 14.

Fit/Well



RAIDER X2 CLASSES HAVE STARTED!

All Raider X2 classes have started, but there are some spots left open! We always have great classes like Spin, Yoga and Pilates, but did you know we have Belly Dancing, Intro to Triathlon and Self Defense and more? Register in the Fit/Well to claim your spot today!

WELLNESS BLOOD SCREENINGS - SEPT. 15

Make a commitment to better health. Begin by learning your current blood levels and continue with exercise, better nutrition and stress management. All tests are administered by Covenant Corporate Services. Once blood is drawn, a number of tests can be run. Register by Wednesday, September 14 at noon by calling 806.742.3828. For more information on screenings and pricing, go to: www.recsports.ttu.edu/fitwell/wellnessprograms.php.

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COMPETITIVE

400 meter swim 12 mile bike 2.5 mile run

Tech Individual \$28 Community Individual

COST Community Team Sept. 3rd - 11-Noon: Swim the Lazy River

RECREATIONAL

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ENTRY DEADLINE:

Wednesday, September 7 [\$5.00 late fee for entries received after Sep. th] Register in Fit/Well or on Active.com

Outdoor Pursuits

APPLEBUTTER BIKE RIDE

Trip Date: September 10 Registration Deadline: TODAY-\$20.00

This Saturday bike ride is a great introduction into long distance bike riding. We will ride 20 miles at a moderate pace to the Idalou Applebutter Festival where we will pick apples and eat a catered barbecue lunch.

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Trip Dates: September 16 - 18 Registration Deadline: TODAY - \$105.00

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PALO DURO MOUNTAIN BIKING

Trip Date: September 25

Early Registration Deadline: September 14 - \$35.00 Let's Ride! The trails are moderate in difficulty and the views are spectacular in the second largest canyon in the US.

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LIFEGUARD CHALLENGE - SEPTEMBER 18 Register by: Wednesday, September 14 Are you currently certified and about to expire? Are you certified by another agency other than American Red Cross? We have a challenge system especially for you! Update your certification by taking this Red Cross challenge course. The cost is \$75 (\$40 for CPR only).



EVENT CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 7-13, 2011



TODAY, 9.7.11

VOLUNTEER FAIR Student Union Ballroom

The Volunteer Fair is an excellent opportunity to: · recruit new members to your organization:

- connect with other individuals who share similar interests: form partnerships with other student
- organizations and community agencies: become involved in service events and
- activities make a lasting impact in your community

FREE MOVIE The Hangover Part II **Student Union** Allen Theatre 7pm

THURSDAY, 9.8.11

FREE MOVIE MATINEE The Hangover Part II **Student Union Escondido Theatre**

9/11 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE with special guest Michelle E. Holliday Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army 6pm **Memorial Circle**

Film: In Memoriam: New York City 9/11/01 7pm **Student Union Escondido Theatre**

FRIDAY, 9.9.11

Film: In Memoriam: New York City 9/11/01 3pm Student Union **Escondido Theatre**

SATURDAY, 9.10.11

SUNDAY, 9.11.11



Student Union Building Regular Hours Monday-Friday 7am-11pm Saturday 8am-11pm Sunday 12pm-11pm

MONDAY, 9.12.11

TUESDAY, 9.13.11 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

STUDENT UNION WEST PLAZA 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM HELP OUR TROOPS CALL HOME

Student Union Courtyard

Open Mic Night Texas Tech Cafe at Barnes & Noble

Sign-up ahead of time in

Student Union 020.

COMING UP:

Mr. Gatti's Night

9.20.11 **SustainU Presentation**

> 9.21.11-9.23.11 **Goodwill Clothing** Drive

9.21.11-9.22.11 Feature Movie: **Horrible Bosses**

9.22.11 To Write Love on Her

Student Union Office 806.742.3636 | www.sub.ttu.edu



Student Activities Office 806.742.4708 | www.tab.ttu.edu

There goes the Big 12 neighborhood

The Texas A&M Aggies have really outdone themselves. They have ruined the nice, little home we had all built on Big 12 Way. Yes, we were upset when those nice Nebraska and Colorado people left, but we were managing. All of us were in our quaint little houses — excluding the Sooners and Longhorns in their mansions — just living our football.

Then, the Aggies said they were moving because of something the Longhorns did. Everyone laughed when the Longhorns finally made their network happen and the Aggies got all hot under their collars even though they said they were staying on Big 12 Way. They are leaving, and we all might move.



We might be headed for Super Conference Drive.

Now, the rumors are starting. The things you will hear whispered in the next few months will be outrageous. There will be a lot of smoke and mirrors and a lot of legal mumbo-jumbo before we all know anything, but here is what is going around.

The Aggies are packing up and leaving for the Southeastern Conference. This seems to be an almost done deal. I don't think There goes the neighborhood. they are making the best decision,

ing another team. If the wheels move quickly, they might add three more.

The big rumor floating around seems to involve adding four teams to the Pac-12 to make the first super conference in college football. It would seem to involve the Longhorns and Sooners spearheading a movement west with the Oklahoma State Cowboys and our loveable Red Raiders hitched on for the ride,

This is not what the University of Texas wants one bit. In the current system, they and the Sooners get the biggest shares of the Big 12 pie. They get to keep their silly little network if they can find an Aggie replacement and play in a watered-down automatic qualifier conference. This is the Long-

but the SEC will think about add- horns' idealistic future — one where their silly little network thrives and the quality of football is downgraded.

The reality is the Longhorns have two options: make concessions to the Pac-12 ruling body about their network, or try the independent route. I say the Longhorns have two options because the Sooners seem to understand tradition and know staying with the Longhorns is smart for everyone.

Texas Tech football needs to strive for an eventual invite to one of the inevitable 16-team super conferences. It doesn't matter how it happens. It just needs to happen in some way, shape or form.

If the Pac-12 is the intended destination for the Big 12 elite, then problem solved. We will be seeing some new faces and a few less familiar ones at the Jones AT&T Stadium on Saturdays. Being in the super conference will be new and exciting. It will present new revenue opportunities and will make the Red Raiders a part of the inevitable future of large conferences. This is the best-case

If the Longhorns decide on independence, the other option is a move to a lesser conference. The most likely destination would be the Mountain West Conference. The MWC will lose TCU and could continue with an odd number, or try to add another smaller school to accompany Tech.

This would be a "big fish in a little pond" scenario, not a permanent move. Tech would certainly be a challenger for dominance

joint 11 Attempt 14 Part of a

in the MWC. The conference boasts automatic qualifying rules which could work in Tech's favor. While Conference USA is a less attractive option, Tech could still achieve what it needs most there.

The future is there will be a club of 64 exclusive football programs in four large conferences playing for the national championship. It doesn't sound like the best future, but - and I know this will sound Longhorn-ish — it eliminates the deadweight.

It is clear Tech is one of the best 64 programs in the nation, but the road to their eventual inclusion into the elite club of those teams is smoky.

■ Stoots is a senior broadcast journalism major from Houston. >>> cody.stoots@ttu.edu

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Could realignment end Oklahoma-Texas rivalry?

Dallas D-coord Rob Ryan keeps up family tradition

Oklahoma-Nebraska rivalry has already gone by the wayside because of conference realignment. Could the Sooners' Red River Rivalry game with Texas be next?

If the Sooners and Longhorns end up in different conferences, Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops doesn't see the annual October showdown as a must moving forward.

"I don't think it's necessary. No one wants to hear that, but life changes," Stoops said Tuesday. "If it changes, you've got to change with it to whatever degree. If it works, great. I love the game. But if it doesn't, it doesn't. Sometimes that's the way it goes.'

Oklahoma and Texas have been playing since well before they were

pected to be an NFL head coach by now,

just like his twin brother Rex and their

not complaining. He figures the teams

that haven't picked him have made a mistake, and that the Dallas Cowboys

are lucky to have him as their defensive

Of course he thinks that. He's a

Big, loud and proud like Buddy

and Rex, Rob also keeps up the family

tradition with a variety of innovative,

attacking defenses. Another common

trait is being his usual, boisterous self

when talking to reporters — especially

this week, with his first game in charge

It didn't work out that way, but Rob's

father Buddy before them.

coordinator.

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — The conference rivals. They first met in 1900 and have been playing every year at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas since 1929. Last year's game was the 105th meeting between the teams.

But if Oklahoma heads to the Pac-12 or SEC and Texas doesn't come with, all that tradition could be washed away.

"Now that I'm 50, that's how I see it. A lot of things change," Stoops said. "All of a sudden, we weren't playing Nebraska every year. And now they're gone and we're still here.

"Life goes on. People find other rivalries. You find other fun places to go and enjoy the game, enjoy the experience. I think it's obvious we'll always have a great product that's exciting to follow. We always have great TV audiences. Whatever hap-

Rex and the Jets in prime time on

the year in pro football and in college

football, so apparently I'm pretty good,"

Rob said. "No one else believes it, but

Rob is only 48 and going into his

25th season as a coach, meaning he's spent more than half his life working on

the sideline. And the majority of that

time has come in the NFL, this being

1994 as assistant coaches on their dad's

staff in Arizona. They were all swept out

following the '95 season, and Rob had to

work his way back up to the NFL. After

He and Rex broke into the NFL in

they all will after this game."

"I've been an assistant coach of

pens, we'll adjust to it."

University president David Boren said last week that Oklahoma had been in contact with multiple conferences and expected to decide within three weeks whether to stay in the

Stoops said he thinks Oklahoma's recruiting would only be hurt "a little bit" if the Sooners weren't playing games regularly against Texas teams and that he is "not lobbying" for any particular endgame in conference realignment talks.

He said he wouldn't want to face his brother, Arizona coach Mike Stoops, every year as division rivals in an expanded Pac-12 but he wouldn't expect the university to make decisions based on his family's

three more at Oklahoma State, he was

hired by Bill Belichick in New England.

He was the linebackers coach on two

Oklahoma's rivalry with Nebraska was once among the most prominent in college football. It was a Thanksgiving weekend staple in the days of the Big Eight, then got fractured when the teams ended up in different divisions of the Big 12. The split meant the teams only were required to play twice every four years, and they're not scheduled to play in the foreseeable future with the Cornhuskers in the Big Ten starting this season.

A potential game around 2020 has been discussed but not finalized.

With Nebraska gone and Colorado now in the Pac-12, the future of the Big 12 was thrown into more doubt in the past few weeks after Texas A&M announced it will leave by July 2012 if it finds a suitable new league, presumably the SEC.

coordinating the defense in Cleveland

under Belichick disciple Eric Mangini.

The Raiders and Browns made big

11 Attempt 14 Part of a squirrel's stash 15 Abundant 16 Little hopper 17 Bills and catalogues? 19 "The Simpsons" character who graduated first in his class of seven million at the Calcutta Institute of Technology 20 Advanced deg. 21 Quick look 23 Remnant in a tray 26 Bygone 28 Tentative assent 29 Monk's unusual appendage? 30 Canaanite deity 34 Source of light meat 55 Nev. neighbor 38 Ohio hormetown of LeBron James 40 It ended Nov 11 DOWN

1 Large container 2 Dangerous, as a winter road 3 Bribe 4 You might do it over your own feet James 40 It ended Nov. 11

feet
5 News show VIP
6 Oriole great
Ripken
7 BBs, for example
8 Cross
9 Brings out
10 Convention
representative

40 It ended Nov. 11, 1918
11 The blahs
43 Vietnamese holiday
44 Sci-fi invaders
47 Iowa State home
48 Where a kid's shovel may be found?
51 Take in 53 Yanks' rival
54 Binghamton-to-Utica dir.
55 Show-off's shout 58 Lyon king
60 "Disgusting!"
61 Traditional December spin around the harbor?
66 Top pitcher

66 Top pitcher
67 Bert's pal
68 Michelob __: light
beer brand
69 Anderson
Cooper, to Gloria
Vanderbilt

representative 11 1961 Ricky Nelson chart-Nelson charttopper
12 Boxing ring
borders
13 Letter sign-off
18 Go off-script
22 French
affirmative
23 Plate appearance
24 Tremble

arrive 37 Bridal path 39 Pessimist 42 Brief sleep 45 Fundraising 24 Tremble
25 Like one just jilted
27 "On the Origin of
Species" author
30 Rapper __ Rida
31 Walked down the

Canarias
62 Some MIT grads
63 World's busiest
airport: Abbr.
64 Nest egg letters
65 Youngster

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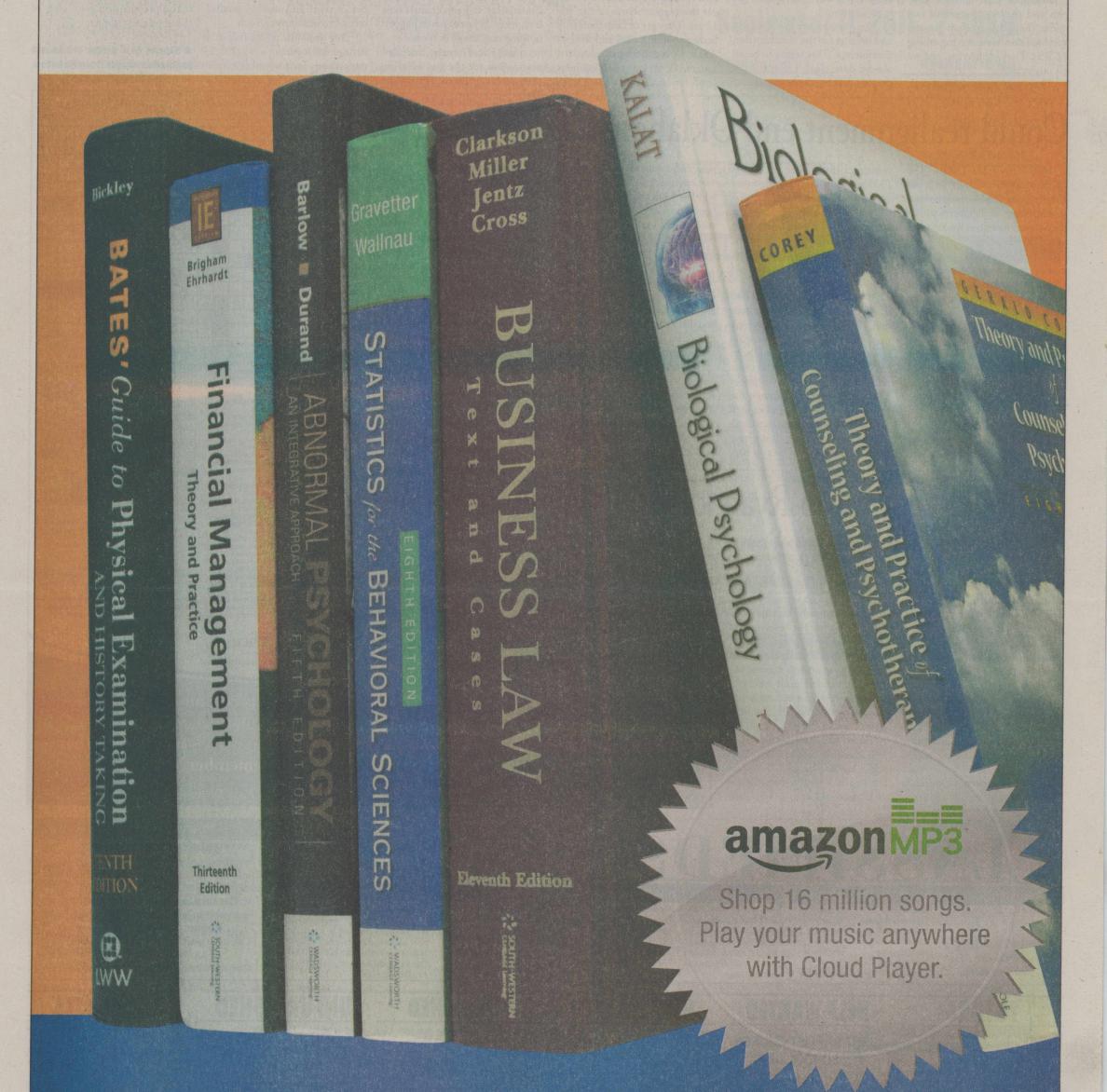
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