

Right: Tech takes 4th in
Rhode Island | Sports, Page 3

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Engineering job fair aims to jumpstart student careers

Over 150 companies present at Tech event



PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador
CHANDLER SPEARS, A senior mechanical engineering major from Burleson, talks to Shari Freelen, a representative of Lockheed Martin, at the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering Job Fair at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center on Wednesday.

By **TERRY MOORE**
STAFF WRITER

Inside the packed Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, more than 2,200 Texas Tech students corralled themselves around 154 employer booths in an effort to springboard their budding careers.

The Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering had its biannual job fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday to help students bolster their experiences in the engineering field.

FAIR continued on Page 2 >>

Greek officers say hazing has decreased on Tech's campus

Prevention Week ends Friday

By **MORGAN CRUMP**
STAFF WRITER

This week is National Hazing Prevention Week, which is dedicated to educating college students about the effects of hazing and how it can be prevented.

According to HazingPrevention.org, hazing is defined as anything causing embarrassment, harassment or ridicule. Hazing poses the risk of emotional and physical harm to those being hazed.

The website said the Zeta Tau Alpha fraternity for women is a sponsor of HazingPrevention.org and National Hazing Prevention Week, or NHPW.

"National Hazing Prevention Week is important to the Gamma Tau chapter because our nationals have taught us how essential it is to spread awareness of the dangers of hazing," said Kara Waggoner, president of the Gamma Tau chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha and a senior public relations major from Austin.

HAZING continued on Page 2 >>

Deep Roots

Instructor splits time between Tech, family farm



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

JOSH RITCHEY, A political science instructor at Texas Tech, stands in front of his tractor on his land west of Loop 289 on Wednesday.

By **PAIGE SKINNER**
STAFF WRITER

As a political science instructor and the son of a farmer, Josh Ritchey learned from his parents as a child and followed in their footsteps.

Ritchey, a Texas Tech instructor of public policy from Colorado City, balances his time between instructing nearly

800 students in public policy and managing his own farm in Lubbock.

He graduated from Tech in 2007 with an undergraduate degree in animal science. He said he chose animal science as his major because he and his family always loved animals.

"We farmed and ranched growing up. I love animals and dealing with different types of animals," he said. "So, I thought, 'I'm 18 years old, (I should) go into something I

really enjoy.' I enjoyed my degree. I loved every second I was getting that degree, but, when I got done, I didn't have a job or anything to do."

Since he watched his mother enjoy her job as a political science instructor in addition to his love for politics, Ritchey decided to teach.

ROOTS continued on Page 3 >>

Sorority spreads idea of positive self-image

Group gives out balloons with messages

By **GLORIA LERMA**
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech's Kappa Delta sorority instilled spirit in young women across campus Tuesday morning outside of the Student Union Building.

More than 20 members of Kappa Delta handed out more than 100 light blue balloons to young women with inspirational messages like, "Dream big" and "You're beautiful," written on them in their efforts to promote the Confidence Coalition.

According to the Confidence Coalition's website, the Kappa Delta Foundation and Kappa Delta sorority founded the group in

2009 in order to bring together organizations and individuals to promote confidence and self-esteem in women.

Corporate sponsors included Vera Bradley Designs, a fashion company, and Mary Kay, a cosmetics company. Nonprofit members such as the Manna Scholarship Fund, Prevent Child Abuse America, Operation Beautiful, Girl Scouts of America and CARE also supported Kappa Delta's mission.

The coalition's "You Make Me Smile" balloon campaign is a part of its celebration of International Women's Friendship Month, which takes place in September.



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

IRIS SOTO, A freshman history major from El Paso, walks near Memorial Circle with a blue balloon that reads, "You're beautiful," tied to her backpack.

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WEATHER

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Holmes: How to not be an awful human
OPINIONS, Pg. 4



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Community Calendar

TODAY

Introduction to the Quality Matters Standards for Online Courses

Time: Noon to 1 p.m.
Where: Teaching, Learning and Technology Center
So, what is it?
Enjoy this session on the Quality Matters rubric for online courses, the peer review process and how to become a peer-reviewer lead by Mary Fehr and Carla Myers.

TAB: To Write Love on Her Arms

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Where: Student Union Building, Allen Theatre
So, what is it?

TAB is presenting Jamie Tworowski, the founder of the nonprofit organization,

"To Write Love on Her Arms," which strives to assist people battling depression, addiction, suicide and self-injury.

Griffin Adams Band
Time: 10 p.m.
Where: Lone Star Oyster Bar
So, what is it?
Enjoy originals from this West Texas Americana electric band.

FRIDAY

Tech Soccer vs. Missouri
Time: 7 p.m.
Where: John Walker Soccer Complex
So, what is it?
Support the Red Raiders as they compete against Missouri.

Masterworks One
Time: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Lubbock Memorial Civic Center
So, what is it?
Enjoy the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra as they perform all five of Beethoven's Piano Concerti featuring pianist Adam Golka.

Kaleidoscope of Choirs
Time: 8 p.m.
Where: Hemmle Recital Hall
So, what is it?
Enjoy this preview of all the Tech choirs.

Panhandle South Plains Fair
Time: 8 p.m.
Where: Panhandle South Plains Fairgrounds
So, what is it?
Enjoy the South Plains Fair and the live music from country music artist Kevin Fowler.

Ray Wylie Hubbard

Time: 9 p.m.
Where: Blue Light Live
So, what is it?
Enjoy original music from this country rock artist.

Mike Bliss and the Incredible Bliss Brothers
Time: 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Where: Student Union Building, Allen Theatre
So, what is it?
Enjoy a performance from one of the top 35 finalists of America's Got Talent.

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.

Fair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Elizabeth Capps, the coordinator for career services at the college, said this is an opportune time for students to build foundations for their future careers.

"All of these students come in for internships and jobs if they're just about to graduate," she said.

The companies did a great job marketing themselves to students, Capps said.

Jarrod Perkins, a Tech alumnus, represented the Whiting-Tuner Contracting Co., a construction firm.

"We find the job fair really useful," he said. "We get quite a bit of people stopping by our booth, generally underclassmen. We're looking for students for our internships and open positions when we have them available."

Relating to his experience as a Tech student, Perkins said these fairs help students gain familiarity with the job world.

"Some students come up with questions," he said. "That's good because there are a lot of kids getting out there talking and getting used to it. When it comes time to graduate, that's your livelihood. It's a good experience to talk to people."

Despite the pressures many young engineering students felt during the fair, Jose Valenzuela Jr., a Tech alumnus representing the engineering consulting firm CP&Y, said he liked keeping his booth as relaxed as possible.

"I remember what it was like to be at one of these. You want to be all stiff," he said. "I try to make it fun. I try to loosen it up. Sometimes, I'll get a dead, stiff handshake, so I'll say, 'Let's start over.' I try to play it easy with them."

Valenzuela said this strategy is not specifically intended to liven the mood, but to show students how CP&Y operates.

"Our firm is a lot smaller than some of the other bigger firms," he said, "and we have a family feel at our firm. So, I try to project that as well."

The importance of this day weighed heavily on engineering students, said Blake McFall, a Tech alumnus who represented Total, a globally integrated oil and gas company.

"It's what the students have been working toward in all of their engineering schooling," he said. "So, it's an important day for the people that come through and talk to as many

people as they can. It's really the only chance students are able to do that, and Tech really does a good job of setting up these times when students can interface with companies."

To prepare for the significant day, McFall said students need to rely on their intuitions.

"Students should try to be organized," he said. "Be confident and do your research to know a thing or two about the company. Obviously, not everybody knows what he or she wants to do, so it helps to just look around. We understand that, but it is good to have knowledge about your broad list of preferred companies."

Students in attendance were excited about the opportunity Tech gave them.

Bill Mischke, a senior electrical engineering major from Flower Mound, said the event helped put him on the right track.

"I've always loved coming (to the job fair)," he said. "You get to talk to all of the recruiters and they're always excited to see students having more interest in their company. It's also a good opportunity for students because they can find jobs and network."

Although it is a foot in the proverbial door, Capps said, the job fair is not the only option for engineering students to make impressions on their future workplaces.

"Each company is recruiting differently," she said. "A lot of the companies have interviews on campus from now until November. They try to meet students at the job fair. Some of the companies from here decide if they want to try to interview students, and then we set up an interview. Some of the companies have already done it through our Job Grid."

The Job Grid software, Capps said, is a system that organizes an engineering student's resume — which is made available to employers — and keeps students informed about the co-ops, internships and full-time jobs available.

The key to meeting companies at the job fair, said Alan Aragon, a senior electrical engineering major from Richardson, is to be yourself.

"If you just talk to the recruiters like you know them in person instead of being nervous about the business style, then you're more likely to interact with them better and you'll feel more confident," he said.

Using this technique has helped Aragon distinguish himself as "not just another face in the crowd," he said.

"If you just churn out business stuff to them," he said, "then you kind of blend in with everyone else. You try to make it a little more personal, which makes you feel more comfortable."

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Hazing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"As an organization, we are encouraged to participate in NHPW and educate our chapter of the issue and how to respond if it is occurring."

Waggoner said she thinks it is unfair to associate hazing with the Greek community alone because it has also happened in non-Greek student organizations. She said she believes hazing should be strongly discouraged among all student organizations at Tech, rather than solely focused on the Greek community.

"Zeta Tau Alpha does not condone any form of hazing on any of its members," Waggoner said. "We hold each member accountable for knowing our policies and have zero tolerance for any hazing events."

Waggoner said ZTA refrains from hazing because it is unnecessary to humiliate or harm any of its members. She said ZTA has created a strong sisterhood and believes members deserve to be treated with respect.

NHPW is extremely important to ZTA nationally, said Kadee McKenzie, a senior retail management major from Mesquite and ZTA second vice president. She said when hazing occurs in any chapter, fraternity or sorority, it creates issues for everyone.

"When hazing occurs within one organization, the entire Greek community suffers," McKenzie said. "Any time we lose a chapter at Tech, we are losing valuable members of our Greek system. If people continue to haze and become suspended or removed, our system won't be as large or strong, and it may discourage incoming students from going Greek."

McKenzie said scaring members is not a way sororities want young women to remember their college sisterhood

experiences.

Camden Steele, a senior personal financial planning major from San Angelo, is a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity and president of the Interfraternity Council, or IFC. He said the IFC oversees all fraternities at Tech and keeps them on track as far as doing the right things and following the bylaws of the Greek system.

"People dub hazing as something that will turn boys into men, but I personally think it's a terrible way to tear someone down," Steele said.

"A constructive way to do this would be helping new members with the transition from high school to college and teaching them skills to better themselves for the future," he said. "Hazing is degrading and a terrible way to attempt to do something constructive."

Steele said he has heard of pledges from other colleges being forced to sit on blocks of dry ice with no clothes on and ripping their skin when they try to remove themselves. He said he also has heard of pledges having to go to the hospital for being forced to drink entire handles of liquor.

"Thanks to national headquarters, the amount of hazing at Tech has been reduced significantly," Steele said. "If something happens and IFC hears about it, we can then turn it over to nationals. If it goes that far, they can take the matter into their own hands and may ask questions or investigate the situation."

Steele said hazing was a bigger problem in the past, specifically between 2002 and 2005, but it has dissipated.

"The amount of hazing at Tech has reduced and it's a really good thing to see and hear," Steele said. "I think we are headed towards a better future, as far as that goes."

►mcrump@dailytoreador.com

Today's

su | do | ku

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

Puzzles by PageFiller

In Sudoku, all the numbers 1 to 9 must be in every row, column and 3 x 3 box. Use logic to define the answers.

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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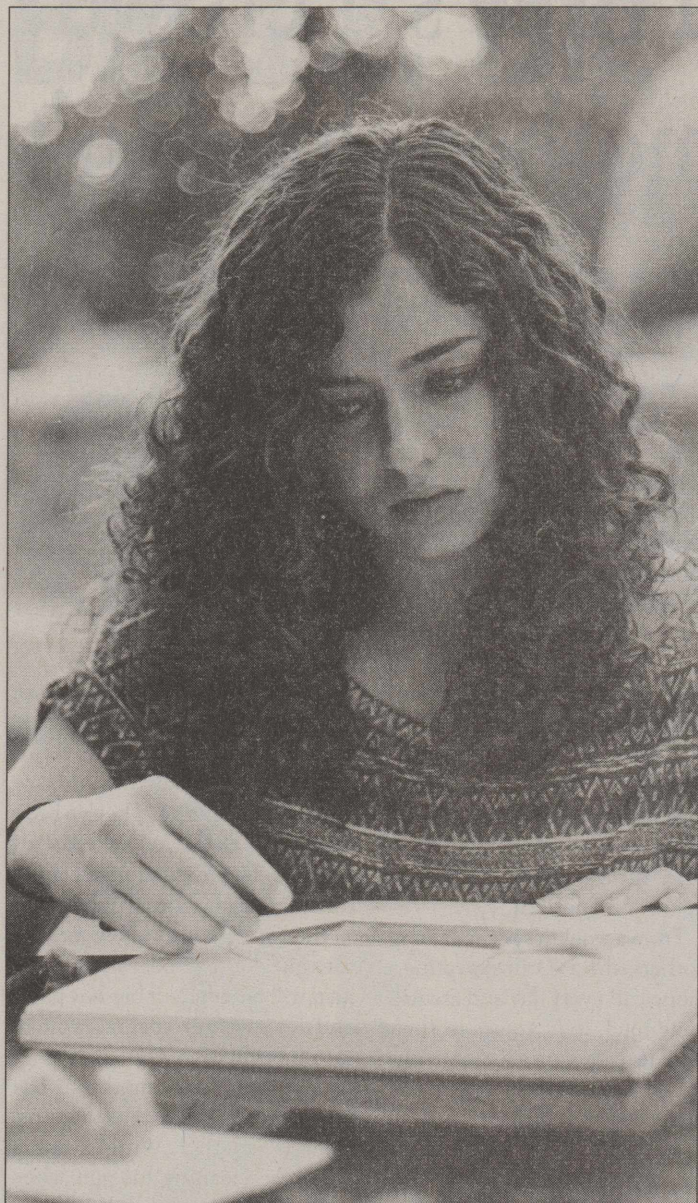


PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

ADRIANNA ROBERTSON, A freshman communication design major from Dumas, sketches some blocks during a drawing class in the English/Philosophy Courtyard on Tuesday.

Image

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kappa Delta sororities across the United States participated by handing out blue balloons to college students, said Becca Jacoby, president of the Kappa Delta chapter at Tech. The purpose is for each woman who reads the special message to smile and gain a little more self-confidence. The balloon also has the coalition logo and contact information.

According to the Confidence Coalition's website, 90 percent of all women want to change at least one aspect of their physical appearances, and only 2 percent of women think they are beautiful. Eighty-one percent of 10-year-old girls are afraid of being fat while one-fourth of college-aged women have an eating disorder, the site also said.

"What we are doing is handing out balloons to women across campus to let them know they are beautiful," Jacoby said. "I love it. It's one of the best ways to remind women they are great."

Tech's chapter of Kappa Delta recently started participating in the coalition, Jacoby said.

"This is our second year doing it, except we have a lot more balloons this time," she said. "Last year, it was a huge success. We even ran out of balloons, so we decided to get many more for this year."

Members of the organization were present outside of the SUB from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m.

"I think what Kappa Delta is doing is just great," Jamie Mathis, a sophomore mass communications major from Austin, said. "I'm Greek too, and when

it comes to philanthropy, I always try to show my support. It's (all about) Greek unity."

Kappa Delta members also spread Greek unity in other ways throughout the week.

"As part of the International Women's Friendship Month, we wrote on sorority houses' sidewalks little messages like, 'You are beautiful,' just to show them that we are all united, and to promote Greek unity," said Micaela Rosinski, a sophomore public relations major from Coppell.

Jacoby said she believes her sorority was able to bring a sense of joy to students across Tech.

"My hope is that any girl that is doubting herself right now can stop at our table, and maybe the message will bring a smile to her face and possibly change her perspective," she said.

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Students' scripts to be considered

By SARAH IVESTER
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech's Department of Theatre and Dance is offering students a chance to get involved with its upcoming production.

Tech students have an opportunity for their original scripts to be considered for production through the department's annual "Raider Red's One-Act Play Spectacular."

Page Petrucka, the production's producer and a doctoral theatre student from Orem, Utah, gave insight on this opportunity for students.

"We are opening this up to everyone who would like to submit a play this year," she said. "They do not have to be in theatre."

Norman Bert, professor and head of playwriting, said any student has a chance.

"It has not been at all uncommon in the past for plays to be chosen that were written by students in the English department, and I think we even had a play one time written by someone in one of the engineering schools," he said.

The production features short plays written, directed, designed and performed by students in the Maedgen Laboratory Theatre from April 2-8, 2012. The submission deadline is Oct. 3.

Dorothy Chansky, associate professor and member of the faculty committee selecting the plays to be produced, said her favorite part of the process is

reading scripts students submit and choosing the ones to be produced.

"At the end, you come out believing in the process and believing in the plays you put together," she said. "Even though they are completely different plays written by different people, the audience will experience one assemblage of plays that work as an evening of entertainment."

Petrucka said the faculty committee does not know who has submitted a script because they use a blind submission process.

She said students submit five copies of their scripts without their names on them and fill out a separate application.

"It is a really fun process," she said. "There may be 15-20 submissions, and the committee will select five or six."

Petrucka said the ideal script length is 15 pages because they can select more people the shorter plays are.

She said the student-run production began in 1998 and has been a fun success for everyone involved.

Bert said audiences enjoy the plays because they are experimental, creative and short, and there are no restrictions on topics or the language used.

"It's been very popular," he said. "It's not at all uncommon for us to sell out the lab theatre."

Entry forms are available on the callboard of the Department of Theatre and Dance and the Maedgen Theatre Building. Five copies of the scripts are to be turned in to Room 125 of the Maedgen Theatre.

►► sivester@dailytoreador.com

Roots

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He then went to Sul Ross State University and got his master's degree in political science.

Afterward, Ritchey then taught state and federal government for a year at Tarleton State University, where he met his future wife, Ashley.

They decided to get married. When she was offered a job in Lubbock, they made the move. That's when Ritchey began teaching at Tech.

In his third year at Tech, Ritchey said he's teaching three sections.

When Ritchey isn't teaching public policy, he focuses on his passion for farming.

"We grew up farming and ranching, and then, at about the eighth grade, my dad got completely out of farming and ranching," he said. "I always enjoyed it. I missed it."

When he returned to Lubbock in 2009 to start teaching, he said he called an old friend from college whom he used to work for on a farm. The friend knew of a farm needing some help, so he set Ritchey up and let him borrow his tractor.

Ritchey then started his farm and began selling crops to United Supermarkets.

"I was so small that I wouldn't have thought that anybody would want to fool with me because there's a lot of paperwork that goes along with it," he said. "But, it was an interesting thing. I called United and said, 'I have a few cantaloupes. I'm just starting out.' Within 30 minutes they brought all their buyers to my field and they said, 'Look, you know, we don't care if you bring us only 10. As long as you have good quality, we want to buy from you.' They've always given me really good

prices and been really fair. I couldn't have started or been where I am without United giving me a chance."

When Ritchey grows his main crops — watermelons and cantaloupes — he has about two part-time seasonal workers helping him.

He's expanding this year to grow pumpkins and now has more workers.

"I'm opening up a pumpkin patch this weekend, and I'm going to have probably eight people working for me," he said. "There's going to be a pumpkin patch, a hayride and the whole bit — cheap date."

On top of teaching three classes, farming and running a pumpkin patch, he and his wife also had a son on July 2.

His wife said Ritchey has been handling everything well.

"He's doing pretty good," Ashley said. "It's been kind of crazy with the pumpkin patch and everything, but he's good."

Even with his busy schedule, Ritchey said fatherhood has changed everything. "I want to get home quicker," he said. "And I want to help her with him and stuff, and sleep has become a great thing when I can get it. It's definitely something to give your time to. It's good. It's been fun."

Ritchey's own father has helped him along the way by motivating him to stay in school.

Ritchey said even though he never got really close to dropping out of college, he can relate to those students who want to.

He said he would call his father and explain how frustrated he was, but his father always told him to never quit.

As well as his giving him advice about life, Ritchey said he talks to his father about farming regularly.

"I call him once a day and ask him what he thinks," he said. "I can't imagine doing it without him, especially with the

watermelons and cantaloupes, because we raised those as a kid. So, there are a lot of things I call about and ask what he thinks.

This year has been so hard. He told me one time, 'This would have been a good year just to skip.' This year was an amazingly dry year and just everything you did didn't work. Stuff that normally helped the crops didn't help the crops. So, it was just a struggle. But, it would definitely be hard to do without his advice."

Ritchey said his mother's interactive classes are the basis of his classes and how he teaches.

He uses his farming experience to help with teaching public policy, he said.

"That's one thing about being an instructor. I can't remove where I am from and what I talk about," he said. "So, at the end of the semester, I always talk about farm policy and what the farm deal means

and how much of it goes to this and that."

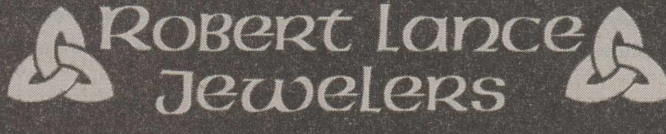
Ritchey said he's able to manage balancing farming and teaching due to a flexible schedule.

Dennis Patterson, department chair of political science, said Ritchey is "terrific" at handling everything.

Patterson said Ritchey balances everything "probably how a chair balances research: You don't sleep."


"Sometimes, it does get pretty tense and there's a lot going on," Ritchey said. "But, for the most part, it works really well because I always have my summers off and that's when it's really busy. At times, it gets really crazy, but I have tons of time off to go take care of it. As opposed to other jobs, I can't complain. Most of the time, I wouldn't say it's a breeze, but it's very manageable."

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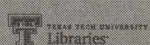


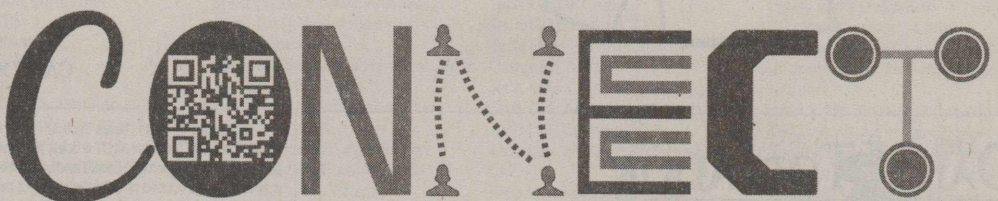
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Fighting Fair: one guide to not being an awful human

I want to know when exactly it became cool to be mean. Was it when "101 Dalmatians" came out and everyone saw what a badass Cruella de Vil was? Was it when Kelly Osbourne called Christina Aguilera a "fat bitch" not too long ago?

I've recently noticed people are acting more like farm animals and mental patients when it comes to resolving conflicts than like actual human beings. From damaging other people's property to actual physical violence, fights are becoming more about winning than resolution, and it makes me wonder, "When did fighting fair go out of style?"

I think a lot of the delusion about fighting comes from common trash TV shows like "Jersey Shore," "The Real Housewives," "Celebrity Rehab" or any other show where people throw things at each other on a daily basis.

I'm not one to blame behavior on the media — that's a little silly — but, when everything we young adolescents see is a bunch of girls ripping each other's weaves out and guys slamming their heads into concrete walls — cough, "The Situation," cough — as our examples for conflict resolution, what else are we supposed to think?

If this is the only illustration we have showing us how to solve argu-

Sydney Holmes



ments, the idea that certain impressionable people would consider it valid isn't entirely too far-fetched.

I would like to offer some friendly tips to remind people how to fight in a fair way.

First of all, don't team up. Teaming up to fight against one person almost always turns out badly. The "victim" usually feels attacked and won't respond in the way you want them to — that is, if you're looking to fix a problem instead of causing a new one. Plus, if said victim ever becomes a terrorist or decides to burn a building down, you and your teammates will be the first to go.

Secondly, don't put stuff on Facebook. For the most part, no

one cares about the fight you're having, so you're just clogging up news feed space. But more than that, doing this on Facebook is cowardly. If you choose to change your status to something about the person you're fighting with, it shows immaturity on your part.

While you're sitting at your desk chair thinking you're being clever, most people are thinking you're just too scared to actually confront the person you're having issues with. Facebook fights are entertaining, but only because people are laughing at you, not laughing with you.

As a side note, if someone posts something about you on a social network, don't "like" it. Leave it alone. If you absolutely have to say something, at least make it a bit cleverer than a "like."

Also, know what it is you're angry about. A lot of the time, people get angry just to be angry. If you can't formulate in words exactly what is bothering you, chances are you shouldn't be starting World

War III over it.

Finally, sit down and have an actual conversation about what is bothering you, preferably at the time it's causing you trouble. Don't wait until you blowup at someone to tell him or her everything that has been bothering you since the second grade. You'll make no sense and sound like a lunatic.

Prioritize logic over volume. Just because you are able to yell louder doesn't make you right. There is a difference between being a strong person and being overbearing. Distinguish them and act accordingly.

I have to add that if you are on the receiving end of any type of illogical hostility, just ride it out. Try and keep your cool. Stay focused on the important things because karma is a nasty, vicious lady when she turns up, and whomever is causing you trouble will eventually get what's coming to them.

Understand what you're strengths are and what your "attackers" weaknesses are, and keep your head high. Maybe it's music or dancing, acting or sports. Or, maybe it's writing.

■ **Holmes is a junior broadcast journalism major from Houston.**
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... people are acting more like farm animals and mental patients when it comes to resolving conflicts ...

Three's a crowd: mother shouldn't run relationship

Any man worth dating is most likely a mama's boy. It's just a known fact. I've heard time and time again, "How he treats his mother is how he'll treat his woman." Cute, kind of.

Treating your mother nicely is awesome. It's commendable, even. Something I, and many other women, look for in a man is how he acts around his mother, how he treats her and the relationship he has with her. However, women, in no way, want a man's mother to control their relationships and have stronger inputs and opinions.

From a woman's point of view, mothers who are still expecting a phone call every day and are still being loud, loud voices in their sons' decisions are a little strange and unattractive. We notice and appreciate strong family values when we see them, and while we admire how you may respect your mom and her opinions, going as far as taking her shopping with you to pick out a pair of blue jeans is not OK. A college-aged man should not still be so dependent on his mother.

It seems I am always attracted to mama's boys. This is totally a good thing unless, of course, they're more attracted to their moms than me. I've been on a date with a boy who called his mother to tell her he thought she would enjoy the movie we were seeing. He then proceeded to have a five-minute conversation with her.

Once, I was enjoying a man's company when he sent a photo of what we were eating to his mother. She was probably disappointed when she found out we bought the food and how I didn't cook it for her "baby."

I've also texted a guy who responded with, "My mom thinks you're cute because of how you text." I'm sorry, but what? Was his mother reading our text mes-

Paige Skinner



sages? That seems a little odd.

Some of our favorite men are self-proclaimed mama's boys, including Justin Bieber, Ryan Seacrest and even my not-so-favorite Kanye West. They've been seen walking the red carpet with their moms on their arms declaring them as the most beautiful women in the world. It's adorable most of the time. I just wonder when these men will put on their big-boy pants and let another special woman into their lives.

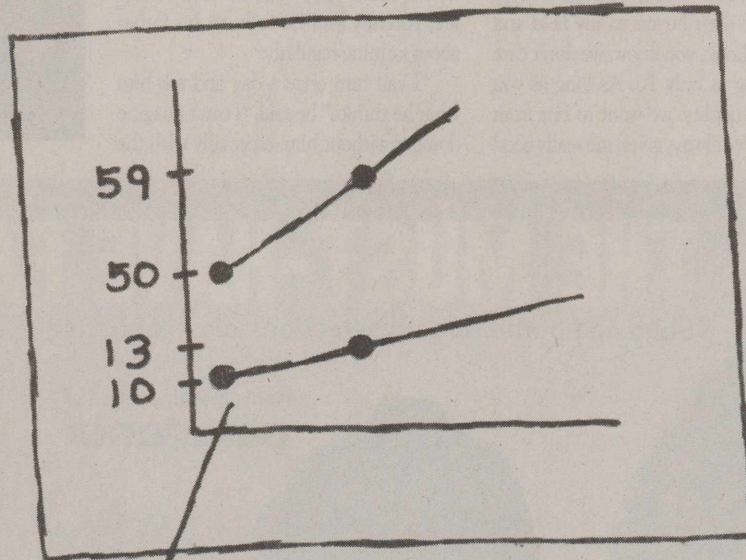
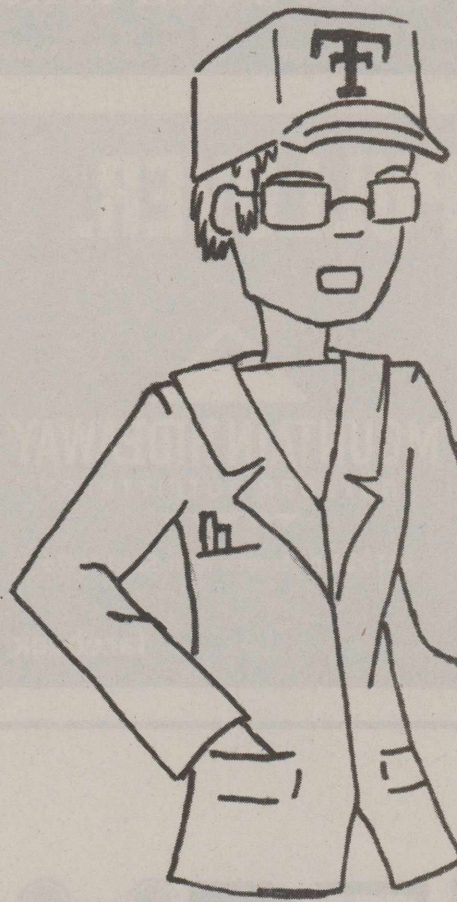
Meeting a boy's mother is just as frightening as a man meeting a woman's father. While a father might be cleaning his gun when meeting his daughter's boyfriend, a mother's protective behavior is more discrete.

Mothers will often sneak questions into conversations with their sons' girlfriends about the last dishes they cooked or what their favorite Bible verses are. If a woman is going to take away her golden son, mothers want the women to be domestic goddesses who care for their sons, but not better than she does, of course.

A mom's point of view should definitely be valued when searching for the woman to spend the rest of your life with. But, in the end, it's the man who has to spend the rest of his life with her, not mama. So please guys, don't be afraid to make your own breakfast and finally fall in love with someone besides the woman who gave birth to you.

■ **Skinner is a junior public relations major from Garland.**
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We will beat A&M 86 to 22.



CARTOON BY NICHOLAS LECLAIR/The Daily Toreador

US should consider VAT

By **DEREK DANIELSON**
IMPRINT MAGAZINE (ITHACA COLLEGE)

America is broken. Regardless of partisanship, something needs to be done in order to fix the grave problems that face this once great country.

The deficit continues to swell, unemployment remains stubbornly high, and the U.S. cannot figure out how to add jobs or revenue to soothe either ailment. President Obama recently proposed a "jobs plan" that entails a mix of tax cuts, tax hikes on corporations and wealthy individuals, and federal spending on education and infrastructure. Given the current situation it would be prudent, if not necessary, to pass such a deal, but the likelihood of that happening is quite slim.

One solution, which I find quite interesting, though very unlikely, is the establishment of a Value Added Tax system. Under a VAT system, a tax is assessed on goods when manufactured, purchased by a store and, finally, when purchased by consumers.

The VAT system is often referred to as a "European style tax" because it was introduced and plays a large role in Europe. It is not, however, uniquely European; more than 150 countries have some form of a VAT.

The U.S. is one of the few industrialized nations in the world that does not have a VAT system. In addition, it is not difficult to institute a VAT system; on the contrary, it is fairly easy to administer and collect, and its structure makes avoiding the tax difficult, as it must be reconciled at every step. Alas, the hurdles that stand in its way are political and ideological.

As expected, there is much opposition, especially from the GOP, to not only the establishment of

a VAT system, but also to any tax increases at all. According to a recent CBS News article, Chris Edwards of the Libertarian Cato Institute said, "I think America has prospered because the general level of taxation has been lower than Europe." He went on to say that Cato "prefers spending cuts to new taxes" and doesn't "think we should go in this direction."

I couldn't agree more: we do need to cut spending, but the last time I checked America hasn't been all that prosperous. The Census Bureau recently reported that the U.S. poverty rate by percentage is the same as it was in 1993, and by number alone is the highest since the government began publishing reports in 1959. Moreover, the bureau also found that we have the lowest median income level since 1996, signaling that Americans have continued to earn less and less each year while prices of everyday goods are relatively higher. Surely, these are not signs of prosperity.

As the U.S. hurtles toward economic calamity, it must decide where and how to make up its shortfalls. The two prevailing solutions—raising taxes on corporations and the rich or cutting federal spending—are not enough to fix our problems. There must be a larger, more drastic change in the fundamental way in which America handles its issues. A VAT system would bolster the government's revenue, giving it some breathing room while it, hopefully, pays some of its debt, addresses poverty and unemployment, and most important of all, examines its own spending habits.

There is no quick and easy way to fix the problems our system has gotten us into. Now is the time to rethink the long-standing system. The road ahead will be tough, but if pursued it will viably ensure the sustainability of America.

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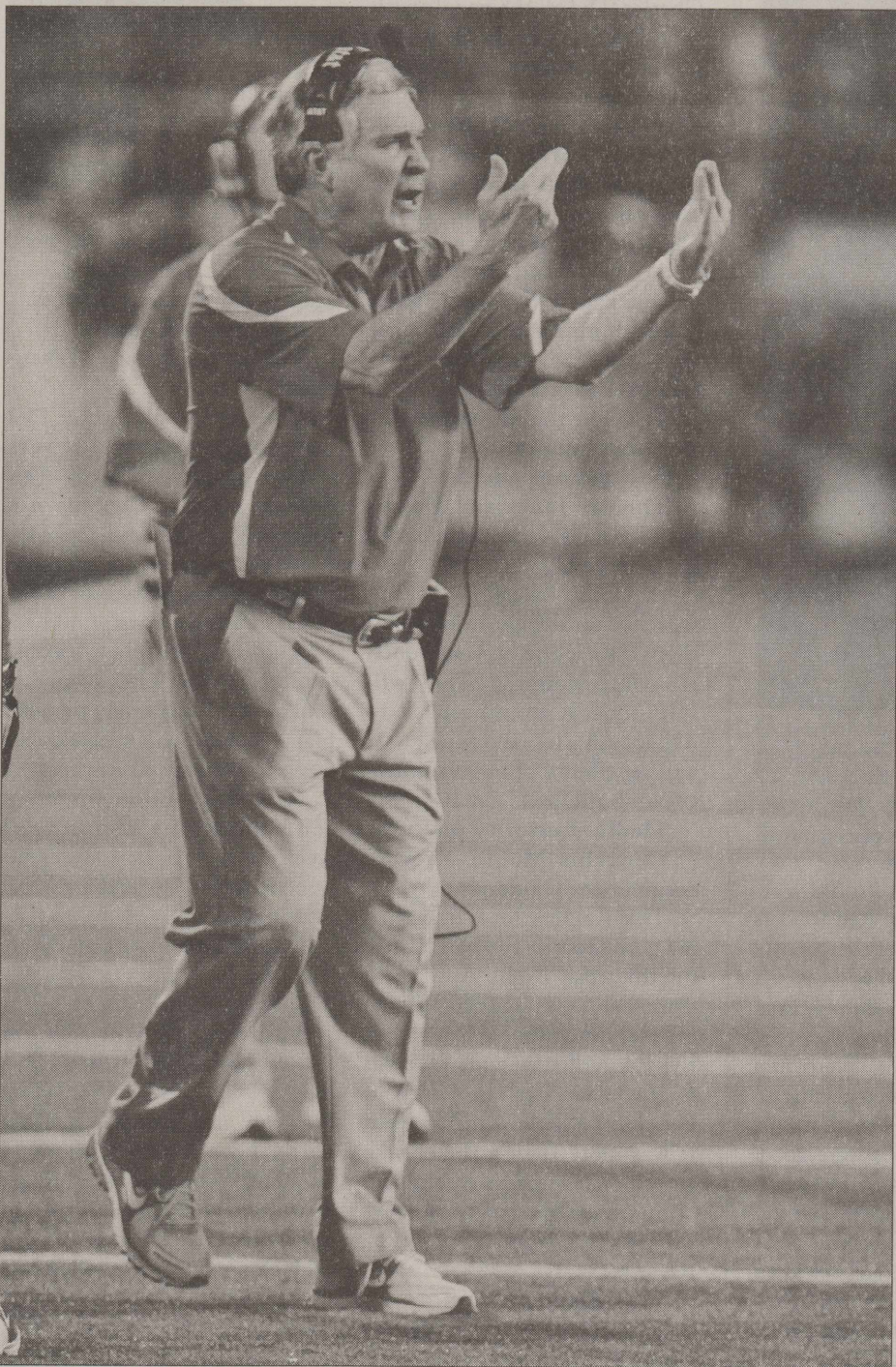
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Big 12, Big East start picking up pieces



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador
MACK BROWN AND the Longhorns are at the center of conference realignment talks. It was announced the Pac-12, which four Big 12 teams were rumored to join, is not expanding.

(AP) — Turned away by the Pac-12, the Big 12's most powerful members are trying to find ways to live together again after weeks of hurtling toward a break up.

Texas President William Powers declared Wednesday that the Longhorns — who receive more media money than other members of the Big 12 — are open to a new revenue-sharing model and have already suggested that top-level television and cable money be shared equally.

What's not on the table is the money from Texas' 20-year, \$300 million deal with ESPN to create the Longhorn Network, which has been blamed in large part for Texas A&M's pending departure from the Big 12.

"That's never been in play, that's not in play," Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds said.

So with that line drawn in the sand, the Big 12 leadership has scheduled a key meeting Thursday, Oklahoma President David Boren said.

"The most important goal for the University of Oklahoma is conference stability," he said. "We intend to support actions that will strengthen and stabilize the conference at the very important meeting of the conference board."

The Pac-12 late Tuesday squashed any hope of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Texas and Texas Tech heading west in what surely would have been a death blow to the Big 12.

But the conference realignment wheels are still turning, especially with the Aggies planning to join the Southeastern Conference as soon as legal threats are out of the way.

"Certainly the position of Oklahoma State and I think most of the schools, if not all, is that we want to add a 10th team," said Oklahoma State president Burns Hargis, a member of the league's expansion committee. He listed TCU, Houston, SMU, BYU, Utah and Air Force among the potential expansion targets before saying "we've talked about a lot of ideas."

The Big East, left with only six football members after Pitt and Syracuse announced plans to join the ACC, must also find a new way forward while the Mountain West and Conference USA are in discussions about a partnership.

The talk of saving the Big 12 centers on sharing television revenue equally — a core principle of the Big Ten and Pac-12. The Big 12 splits the revenue from its \$1.2 billion Fox Sports contract evenly, but only half of the money from its top-tier deal with ABC goes into equal shares. The rest is weighted toward the programs that play on the network more frequently, such as Texas and Oklahoma.

Dodds said Big 12 athletic directors more than a month ago approved Texas' suggestion to equally share to network revenue around the league. He said the plan has not been voted on by league presidents.

Texas Tech president Guy Bailey said he doesn't anticipate much opposition to that idea. "I would be surprised if there weren't a change in that, in some way," he said. Now, how exactly it plays out, I don't know."

Big 12 Commissioner Dan Beebe has not commented on the turmoil surrounding the league and there is speculation about his future. Beebe's contract was extended in November through June 2015, a decision made after Nebraska and Colorado announced they were leaving the Big 12 and before the 13-year deal was reached with Fox Sports in April.

Dodds declined comment, and Bailey and Hargis called Beebe's status a private "personnel" matter.

Besides Thursday's meeting of the Big 12 conference board, a summit also is possible between Texas and Oklahoma officials. Big 12 athletic directors also have a previously scheduled meeting in Dallas next week.

ESPN distanced itself from the conference affiliation uproar, saying the "driving force on realignment lies with the conferences and universities."

Still, the Longhorn Network created uncertainty in the Big 12 and Texas A&M said it was a big reason why the Aggies will leave the Big 12 by July — a decision that stands, the school said Wednesday.

Nebraska athletic director Tom Osborne earlier this month said the Big 12's revenue-sharing plan lends itself to instability. The Huskers is in its first season as a member of the Big Ten, where each school received \$22.6 million this year — about twice as much as Nebraska could have expected if it had stayed in the Big 12.

Texas' Powers said revenue sharing will be subject to discussion in coming days.

"A lot of these issues that you hear (about) whether it's revenue sharing or whatever, we've been working on long before," he said. "We will continue to work on those. I'm not going to prejudge on how those will come out. There are not any preconditions for the conference coming back together."

"We want a stable, workable conference going forward," Powers said.

Once the Aggies leave, the Big 12 will have nine members unless a replacement — or replacements — are found. Only SMU has gone public with its interest in joining the Big 12.

"It's about quality, not quantity," Dodds said. "In my mind, 10 is the perfect conference. You have a clear path to the national championship game without stumbling in a (conference) championship game."

There was still activity around the Big 12 on Wednesday. Oklahoma State's regents gave school Hargis the power to depart the Big 12 if necessary while regents in Kansas reiterated their support for staying in the Big 12. Regents in Missouri are scheduled to meet Thursday.

Hargis said the decision to give him authority over a league change was important even after the Pac-12 was taken off the table as a potential destination because "there are a lot of moving parts here and we may have to make decisions fast." He said his first priority is stabilizing the Big 12.

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Tech takes fourth place in Rhode Island

By CHOIS WOODMAN
STAFF WRITER

Finley Ewing IV finished in a tie for eighth individually as the Texas Tech men's golf team placed fourth at the Adams Cup in Newport, R.I., on Monday and Tuesday.

Though the team did not win, finishing fourth was still a positive outcome, Ewing said.

"We have three freshmen on the team and this is the first real tournament that we've played with a full set of teams, so we didn't really know what to expect from them," he said. "We're proud of our effort. We all tried really hard, and we still came in fourth place out of 19 teams."

Of the 19 teams participating in the tournament, about half of them were solid competition for the Red Raiders, Ewing said.

Central Florida shot 18-under par and won the tournament. Georgia finished second and Yale followed at third.

The tournament was played at Newport National Golf Club and Carnegie Abbey Club.

Ewing said the tournament in

Rhode Island was a good tournament for the younger players to experience college golf.

"We're just really young, and we have a lot of talent on the team," he said. "We're going to be pretty much as good as we let ourselves be. Our new freshmen have a lot of talent, but the quicker they mature and understand how college golf works and how golfing as a team works, the better we will be."

Ewing led the team by shooting an even-par 215 during the 54-hole tournament.

Sophomore Chandler Rusk said he was pleased with the way the team played in the tournament as well.

"Overall, we played well. I don't

think anybody played great, but we definitely didn't play bad," he said. "Knowing that we didn't play our best and still finished fourth shows that we have a pretty special team this year."

The tournament had a total of 95 players and Tech had every player finish in the top-25 spots, Rusk said.

"This was really our first tournament of the year because our first



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TYLER WEWORSKI AND the rest of the Red Raiders placed fourth out of nineteen teams earlier this week in Rhode Island.

match was really just for fun and to kind of see how we were playing," he said. "This was the first five-person team match, and I felt like we handled ourselves well."

Rusk finished the tournament tied for 15th place along with Tech freshman Clement Sordet.

Tech coach Greg Sands said the team played average in the tournament.

"No one played great. No one played bad," he said. "We all played about the same. We just needed a few more under-par rounds."

Sands said the Red Raiders played in a part of the country they do not normally play in and faced competition different from teams they usually see.

"The greens were pretty firm and we haven't been playing on real firm greens like that," he said. "The courses were good, and some of the grasses were different from what we're used to."

Tech returns to the links Oct. 10-11 at the Jack Nicklaus Invitational in Columbus, Ohio.

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Who you should pick up to replace injured players

Watch the Injury Report

This can make or break your season. As we saw this week-end, injuries can seriously hurt your season. How many of you are sitting there having spent a first-round pick on Jamaal Charles? Did all the people with Brandon Lloyd know he wasn't out of action until right before game time?

Injuries are a part of football, and most certainly a part of fantasy football. One injury can send the entire league scrambling for the waiver wire and free agency. It can turn someone on your bench who was merely a handcuff into a star. Remember that Tom Brady guy? He used to be a backup quarterback.

These are the players benefiting from injuries:

Low priority pickup

Thomas Jones and Dexter McCluster — running backs for Kansas City

If these players aren't snatched up already, think about them if someone on your bench is underperforming. They will split time at running back to replace Charles, and McCluster will see plenty of opportunities to catch the ball.

Medium priority pickup

Denarius Moore — wide receiver for Oakland

The Raiders look like they are going to toss the ball a little bit this year. Right now, Jason Campbell looks like a legitimate fantasy option. He isn't, but the Raiders' new wide receiver is. If you can stash him on your bench for a little while to see if it was more than a fluke, take the chance. He showed big-play ability. He's one of those guys labeled medium-risk, high-reward.

Must-have pickup

Eric Decker — wide receiver for Denver

Decker was a surprise to me. I figured the Broncos' running game would keep a few of the lesser-known Denver wide-outs out of action for the first few weeks. The thing is the Broncos' running game is suspect, and Decker seems to be healthy when others are not. He will be a target for whatever player is taking snaps for Denver, even if Tebow sees time. He could be this year's Danny Amendola.

Match-ups I love

Matt Stafford and Calvin Johnson

These two have been electric. That should continue this

Cody Stoots



week as they face a lackluster Minnesota Vikings team. The Vikings aren't good on defense, and Stafford will need to prove he can perform well against divisional opponents.

Fantasy Football WEEKLY

Match-ups I hate

The entire Houston Texans team

The Texans play their first real test of a defense this week as they go up against the New Orleans Saints. Obviously, if you spent first-round picks on Arian Foster or Andre Johnson, then it will be tough to sit them, but if you have Forster and his backup Ben Tate, then I would explore sitting Tate. I am not sold on the Texans, and the only player I think will succeed this week is kicker Neil Rackers.

As always, don't forget to send questions about next week's match-ups to my email at cody.stoots@ttu.edu

Mailbag

You told me to sit Cam Newton and he went crazy again. What gives? -Dillon D

Last week, I said Newton should stay on the bench. This week, I am here to tell Cam Newton and his owners I am sorry. I was totally wrong. I thought Week One was a fluke. It wasn't. Newton is a real option in fantasy football.

He has shown flashes of fantasy excellence, and if you can overlook his few mistakes with interceptions, he is impressive.

This week, he has the Jaguars. He should shred them apart just like he did to the Cardinals and Packers. The following week he has the Bears, which is the last top-level defense he faces this season. Newton is an option if he is on your bench, but look for a good trade if he hits a rough patch against the Bears, as his trade value is through the roof at the moment. The Panthers may not be winning, but Cam is and can help you win.

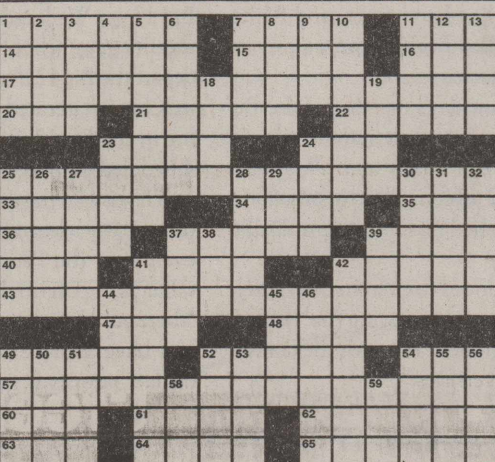
►Stoots is a senior broadcast journalism major from Houston.

►cody.stoots@ttu.edu

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Clips for trailers
 - 7 Frigate incursion
 - 11 Triangular sail
 - 14 Kia mode
 - 15 Dagwood's pesky kid neighbor
 - 16 Japanese salad ingredient
 - 17 Daily trying to hit the pirates
 - 20 Campfire remains
 - 21 It originates from the left ventricle
 - 22 Pope
 - 23 "Garfield" waitress
 - 24 Detective Spade
 - 25 Survey response at the farm?
 - 33 Stows in a hold
 - 34 X, y or z
 - 36 Many a Louis
 - 36 Supplies for Seurat
 - 37 Sends regrets, perhaps
 - 38 Entry in a PDA
 - 40 Mau strings
 - 41 Waterfall sound
 - 42 Not at all good at losing?
 - 43 Tom fooler?
 - 47 Only reason to watch the Super Bowl, some say
 - 48 Like a pretentious museumgoer
 - 49 Plane parking place
 - 52 Mountaintop home
 - 54 Likely result of falling a
 - 55 Breathalyzer test, briefly
 - 57 Looney's cake-making aid?
 - 60 Dedicatee of Lennon's "Woman"
 - 61 Jazz singer Laine
 - 62 Blanche Dubois's sister
 - 63 Place with presses
 - 64 It may be a peck
 - 65 "Musn't do that!"



By Betty Keller

6 Strauss opera based on a Wilde play

7 Flat bread?

8 "M*A*S*H" actor

9 Currency-stabilizing org.

10 Thingsamabobs

11 Hirs of "Numb3rs"

12 Picked from a lineup

13 Shampoo ad buzzword

18 Shah's land, once

19 New owe

23 Brain freeze cause

24 Juanita's half-dozen

25 Leverage

26 17-syllable verse

27 Slugabed

28 Green Bay legend

29 Abbr. on food labels

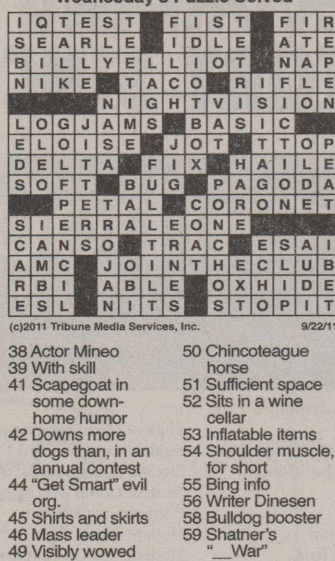
30 Action of cosmetics

31 Small woods

32 Bad-check passer

37 Acuff and Clark

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY Libraries

Escobar looks to shine in senior season

By EVAN JANSA
STAFF WRITER

Gonzalo Escobar knows there is no next year.

The senior has won 68 singles matches in three years, including 13 as the No. 1 player in the spring. As he prepares to embark on the final stanza of his career as a Red Raider, he knows what is at stake.

"This is my last chance," Escobar said. "I better take care of it the best way possible. That's the only thing I care about."

Escobar sits on the precipice of the top 10. Currently, Escobar is No. 11 in the country according to the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, making him the highest ranked player in the Big 12 Conference.

The so-called expectations that come along with his national recognition have not fazed Escobar.

"I don't care anymore about expectations or that I have to please anyone," Escobar said. "I think I can do much better than I've done."

It is something head coach Tim Siegel also endorses. Even with Escobar's impressive record at Texas Tech, there is still a ceiling he has not reached.

"Gonzy's had three really good years and I believe he's got a lot more to prove, both in singles and doubles," Siegel said. "I'd like to see him have even a better year and I think he's already on his way. He's working extremely hard and there's no doubt he's one of the best players in the country."

The opportunity to start strong in the first chapter of his senior season comes Friday when the Red Raiders begin play in the Denver Invitational. This will be the first time they have played in the event, having normally traveled to Waco in the past for the Baylor-HEB Invitational.

The element of altitude will be a test for the Red Raiders, but it should not affect Escobar. When he played as a junior, Escobar was exposed to different elevations in the geographically diverse Ecuador.

"You have a tournament in the coast and then in the mountains,"

Escobar said. "You always have to make adjustments. I've been playing in altitude my entire life."

In Denver, each player will be guaranteed three doubles and three singles matches, giving Siegel ample opportunity to evaluate his team, regardless of the outcome.

"Results in the fall mean very little to me," Siegel said. "What matters is how well you're competing and are you working on things we've worked on in practice. That's all I care about."

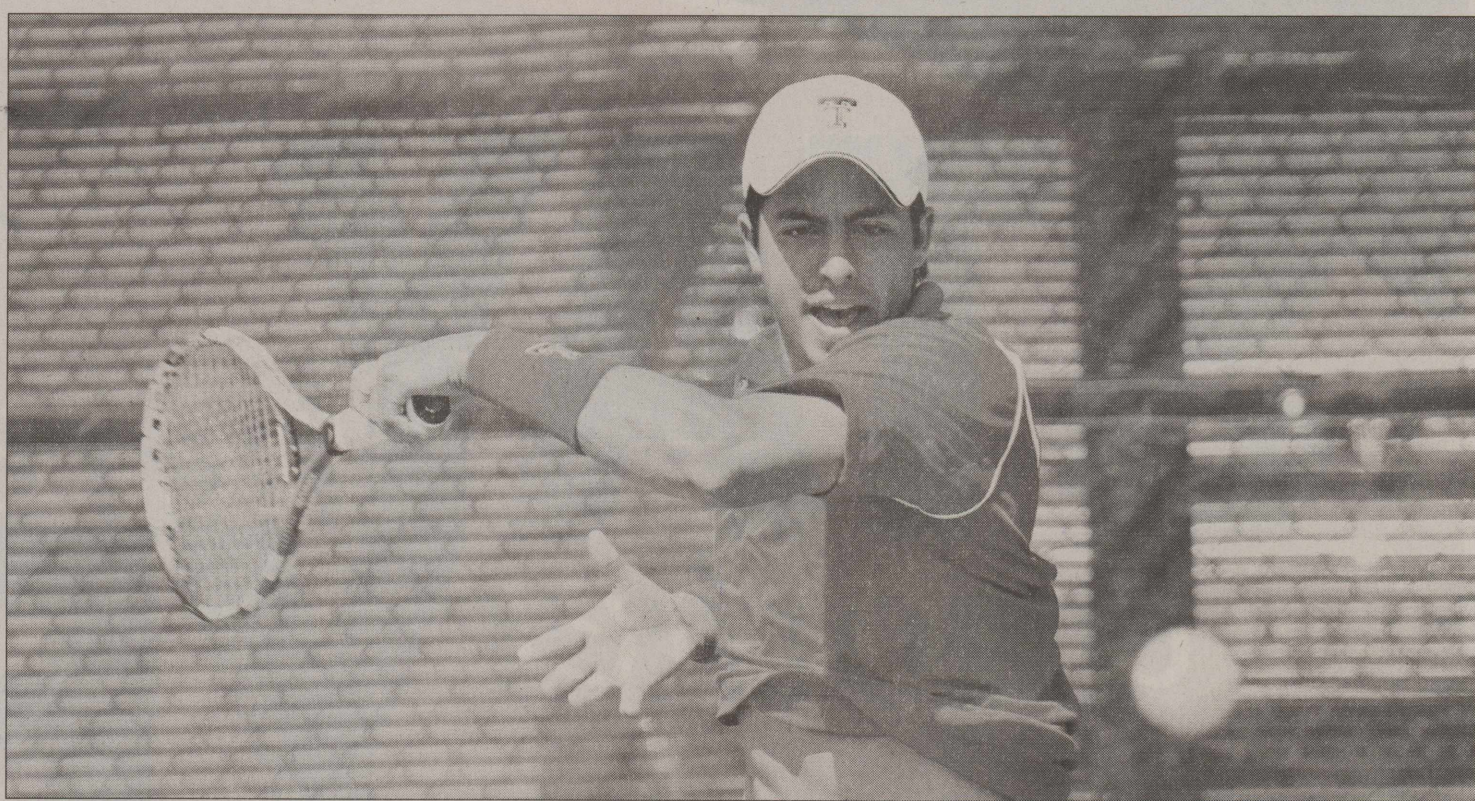
The Lady Raiders will also have a chance to see where they stand this early in the season when they begin play in the Texas Invitational in Austin.

Last weekend, the Lady Raiders began their season at the Racquet Club Collegiate in Midland and the duo of Kenna Kilgo and Samantha Adams won the doubles draw.

Kilgo, a true freshman, was playing in her first collegiate tournament with sophomore Adams. The chemistry between the two on the court is predicated from their relationship off the court that has helped Kilgo with the transition to college tennis.

"I'm also rooming with (Adams) so we've become pretty good friends," Kilgo said. "I played juniors with her too, so we've gotten to know each other really well."

Kilgo also advanced to the semifinals in the singles draw before



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Treador

GONZALO ESCOBAR AND the rest of the Red Raiders will travel to Denver to compete in the Denver Invitational this weekend. The Lady Raiders will also be in action this weekend as they will compete in the Texas Invitational in Austin.

losing to TCU's Simona Parajova. The amount of success had by the freshman in Midland was something she did not see coming.

"Oh no, definitely not," Kilgo said. "I was so nervous first round. I was just hoping not to lose the first match, but all the girls are really good so you can't really expect

anything."

Along with the youngsters, junior Elizabeth Ullathorne will see her first action this weekend. The Bury, U.K., native held down the No. 1 spot last season, winning 16 matches.

Ullathorne has been battling tendonitis, but head coach Todd

Petty said she is healthy enough to compete.

"This weekend there's no expectations on her," Petty said. "She hasn't had a full week since she's been back....I think she's got the game to go out and do great things but my expectations are for her to just get some repetition and get

some matches."

This will be the second weekend in a row where the draw will have other Big 12 teams. Petty said the opportunity to compete against Texas A&M and Texas is more useful for the coaches than the players, but it is a good way to stack up early.

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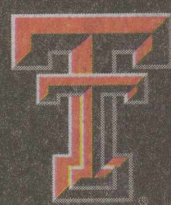
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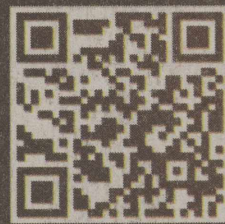
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