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Alumni Association defends parking garage agreement

Clayton Isom responds to Raider Park claims, "unrelated lawsuit"

By IOANNA MAKRIS, APRIL CUNNINGHAM and CAROLINE COURTNEY
THE DAILY TOREADOR

The Texas Tech Alumni Association criticized *The Daily Toreador's* coverage of its lease of Raider Park parking garage, claiming the story implied a "sweetheart deal" among the alumni association, the Isom family and Phi Delta Theta fraternity alumni.

The Daily Toreador reported Wednesday about how Texas Tech and its alumni association stand to lose as much as \$1.2 million from leasing the Raider Park parking garage in a deal involving a number of prominent alumni of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Clayton Isom, a Phi Delta Theta alumnus, is the only principal of Raider Park Limited Partnership to break his silence Thursday after learn-

ing *The Daily Toreador* was going to report on a recent bankruptcy in San Antonio and lawsuit in Lubbock in which one of his investment groups was involved.

Isom denied any connection between the recent lawsuit and bankruptcy with Raider Park parking garage.

"So, are you going to report that these two projects had nothing to do with each other? Because that is a fact," Isom said. "They were carefully set up in a way they can't have anything to do with each other."

Isom has a business venture in San Antonio, which filed for Chapter 11

bankruptcy in June of 2011. Isom said the venture is a Holiday Inn, which began construction in 2007. He said a couple of months before construction completed, the bank failed and was placed in receivership, and he claimed the receiver did not pay the needed construction money for several months.

Isom said his attorneys in Austin recommended the best option was to file bankruptcy. The current holder of the note has sued Isom individually, as well as his partners, Rhashid Al-Hmoud, a Tech economics professor, and John Sellers.

Bill Dean, a Phi Delta Theta

alumnus who is the executive vice president and CEO of the alumni association as well as an associate professor in the College of Mass Communications, said he was unaware of the bankruptcy and lawsuit.

The lease agreement with Raider Park Limited Partnership and Tech and the alumni association requires the university and the alumni association to pay the partnership \$750,000 a year for 1,000 parking spaces and 18 RV spaces.

In a renegotiated lease, the losses to Tech and the alumni association are limited to \$1.2 million. Isom and his company, Tao Development,

guaranteed they would pay Tech up to \$675,000 for its losses. The alumni association, which stands to lose a maximum of \$525,000, had no such guarantee.

To date, the losses to Tech and the alumni association total approximately \$800,000.

However, according to the statement released by Dean and the alumni association, Clayton Isom's father, Rex Isom, a Phi Delta Theta alumnus, assured Dean last year that "the alumni association would not lose any money on this project."

GARAGE continued on Page 2

Late-night chemical explosion raises questions



PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/*The Daily Toreador*

MEMBERS OF THE Lubbock Fire Department Haz-Mat team prepare to enter the Engineering and Technology Lab on the north side of the Civil and Environmental building after a reported chemical explosion was called in late Thursday. At time of press there were no reported injuries or causes.

Building evacuated, Haz-Mat responds to clean up area

By CAITLAN OSBORN
NEWS EDITOR

A small chemical explosion occurred at Texas Tech's Engineering & Technology Lab building at approximately 7:30 p.m. Thursday. The Lubbock Police Department and the Lubbock Fire Department arrived promptly at the scene.

Police officers, firefighters and university officials all refused to comment on how the accident occurred, which chemicals were involved and what the extent of the damages were.

Professors and students who were inside of the building at the time of the accident also refused to make any comments on their reactions or involvement.

Chris Cook, managing director of communications and marketing for Tech, said the explosion was miniscule.

Cook said a compound of nitric acid and some type of waste product was left unsupervised in a room. A student in a nearby lab heard a popping sound and recognized the smell of the chemicals in the room.

The building was evacuated shortly after. Six people were inside of the

Engineering & Technology Lab at the time of the explosion, Cook said.

Police officers said their primary focus was keeping people out of the building.

The Lubbock Fire Department's Haz-Mat team arrived to clean the area.

It is unknown when the building will be reopened for students, faculty and staff.

Cook said no injuries were reported.

He said the incident does not interfere with Tech's mission to provide a safe environment.

"After the accident, we had (in the Chemistry building) in

"After the accident, we had (in the Chemistry building)... changes were made. We've come a long way since then."

CHRIS COOK
MANAGING DIRECTOR
TTU COMMUNICATIONS

January 2010, changes were made," Cook said. "We've come a long way since then."

Cook also said the university would conduct an investigation concerning the incident.

Further details about the incident were not known at the time of publication. *The Daily Toreador* will provide a follow-up on the story in a later issue.

>>>cosborn@dailytoreador.com

ON A MISSION



PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/*The Daily Toreador*

TEXAS TECH WIDE receiver Alex Torres shakes off a tackle during Tech's 41-34 loss to Kansas State on Oct. 15 at Jones AT&T Stadium. The Red Raiders take on Iowa State on Saturday at 6 p.m. at home in hopes of avenging last season's 52-38 loss in Ames, Iowa.

Tech looks to avenge its loss at Iowa State in 2010

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ
MANAGING EDITOR

Shocking.

That is how Texas Tech wide receiver Alex Torres described the Red Raiders' 52-38 loss to Iowa State in 2010 in Ames, Iowa.

Tech (5-2, 2-2 in Big 12 Conference play) entered the weekend of Oct. 2, 2010, coming off a bye week that had followed a conference-opening loss to Texas in Lubbock on Sept. 18, 2010.

What unfolded in Ames that weekend was something Torres said the team just was taken back by.

"Man, it was just a shock," Torres said Monday. "That's one thing. They came out and just hit us in the mouth right away, and I don't think we handled it as well as we should have."

Now, the No. 20 Red Raiders get their opportunity to avenge the loss when they

host the Cyclones (3-4, 0-4) at 6 p.m. Saturday at Jones AT&T Stadium.

A concern heading into Saturday's bout is the possibility of a hangover for Tech following its upset of No. 9 Oklahoma in Norman, Okla., last Saturday.

Tech coach Tommy Tuberville and players made it clear early in the week that the Oklahoma win was behind them.

One game the Red Raiders did get to dwell a little bit on was the loss to Iowa State last year, considering the amount of film study centering on last year's defeat.

Tech quarterback Seth Doege said it was bizarre to see the flow of the team's loss to the Cyclones in 2010 through film sessions.

"It was weird because we got down so bad early, and then we fought back," Doege said. "It felt like we were coming back and about to win the game, and then things go sour. We still have that taste in the back of our mouths, so it's just one of

those things. We're motivated because we know exactly what they can do to us if we're not really there to play."

On Wednesday, Tuberville said the similarities are striking between the play of both the Cyclones and the Kansas State Wildcats.

The similarities also extend to the ways in which Tech lost to Iowa State in 2010 and to Kansas State earlier this season.

The Red Raiders out-gained both teams in those losses but lost the turnover battle.

Doege's worst game of the season was a loss to the Wildcats on Oct. 15,

a game in which the junior threw three interceptions.

Against the Cyclones last year, Tech turned the ball over three times.

Taking those numbers into account, Doege said the key to success for teams like Iowa State and Kansas State is the basic style of play the two squads incorporate.

"I think (Iowa State is) pretty similar to Kansas State," Doege said. "They're very sound in what they do. They

"They're very sound in what they do. They don't do a whole lot, but what they do they're really good at."

SETH DOEGE
QUARTERBACK
TEXAS TECH

don't do a whole lot, but what they do they're really good at."

>>>jrodriguez@dailytoreador.com

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THE DAILY TOREADOR

Tech experts weigh in on aspects of Halloween

By PAIGE SKINNER
STAFF WRITER

Stores are colored orange and black and spooky tales are being told.

Halloween is Monday and people are preparing for it by shopping, seeing movies and more.

Debbie Laverie, a research specialist in consumer behavior at Texas Tech, said it is estimated that Americans will spend \$6.9 billion on Halloween costumes, candy and decorations this year.

This is an increase from last year, which saw a total of \$5.8 billion in sales.

"You would never think, with the economy and with the way it is, it would increase that much, but it is," Laverie said.

She said the average person spends more than \$70 on Halloween-related merchandise, even though it's not traditionally a gift-giving holiday.

"I think, probably, consumers are often seeking to escape from the bad economic times, and this is an inexpensive way to do it," she said.

Rob Weiner, a film studies librarian, said horror movies have been around for decades.

"I would say probably in the late 50s and early 60s, watching scary movies as a ritual around Halloween

was in full bloom," he said.

He said he believes people enjoy watching scary movies as an escape from everyday life.

"Halloween is the holiday for being spooky, for monsters, ghouls, demons, devils and that kind of thing," Weiner said. "But, it's a fun holiday. Being scared while watching movies is a fun thing to do."

Though there has been a recent fascination with vampires and zombies, Weiner said those kinds of movies have been around for a while.

"As we know, the vampire legends and myths are hundreds of years old," he said. "And there has always been a fascination with vampires. There are literally several hundred Dracula movies alone and thousands upon thousands of vampire movies. Many of them do have the sexy vampire. Many of them have the ugly vampire that is a sex machine."

Weiner said he has heard plenty of haunted myths and stories while growing up in Lubbock.

He said he knows one story about a haunted hospital in town.

"There is a story about a haunted hospital where this doctor was kill-

ing these babies and burying them underneath the hospital," he said.

"The story goes that the spirits of the babies were not pleased by this, and the doctor was met with an ill-fated end. Anytime, after that, that anyone wanted to do harm to any young babies, the spirits of the babies would make sure no harm would come to (the babies). And anyone who had the intention — whether it be a nurse, someone off the street or another doctor — of harming another child, especially a baby, they would come to an ill-fated end."

Weiner said he believes the doctor was probably performing abortions, but he doesn't believe there is any truth to the myth.

Another story he heard growing up in Lubbock was a myth called the "Prison Man's House."

"There is a house in Lubbock that looks like a prison," he said. "It is known as the 'Prison Man's House.' To respect the privacy of the man who lives there, I'm not going to say where it is. I will say it's by Lubbock Christian University. The story goes that there was this man who killed his wife, and he was let out of prison before he felt like he paid enough (of his) contribution. So, he's building a prison around himself. When you look at the house, that's exactly what it looks like. It's in the middle of this sort of quaint, fairly upscale neighborhood. I remember, as a kid, going back there and — sure enough — someone kept building onto it with these red bricks, and that's kind of how the story got started.

"Apparently, he died and his spirit haunts that block."

pskinner@dailytoreador.com

"Halloween is the holiday for being spooky, for monsters, ghouls, demons, devils and that kind of thing."

ROB WEINER
FILM STUDIES
LIBRARIAN

College of Mass Comm celebrates Halloween with classic horror film

By ARIF KHAN
STAFF WRITER

With Halloween almost here, it is the perfect time to watch a classic horror movie.

Well, that's exactly what Texas Tech's College of Mass Communications did when it hosted a screening of George A. Romero's 1968 classic, "Night of the Living Dead."

Rodney Donahue, a professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance, said he thinks it is the perfect time to screen a film like this.

"Zombies have become dominant (cultural) figures in the United States and even here at Texas Tech," Donahue said. "Just look at our campus games of Humans vs. Zombies."

Rob Weiner, librarian for humanities and film studies, said many modern audiences haven't had the chance to experience Romero's classic.

"We felt it was an important film to screen for modern audiences," Weiner said. "Lots of young folks have heard of this film, but most haven't seen it."

He also said that by screening "Night of the Living Dead" on campus, more Tech students have the opportunity to

attend the feature.

But, another important reason for choosing "Night of the Living Dead" is because of the social commentary, said Allison Whitney, an assistant professor of film studies.

"This film is a fine example of how genre films can express social critique," Whitney said.

Whitney said she also recognizes the aesthetic qualities of "Night of the Living Dead."

"The cinematography is beautiful and the sound is very carefully designed and effective," she said.

In comparison, Donahue said he believes many modern horror films lack the quality found in older horror flicks.

"Many newer horror films are built entirely on shock value. There is nothing to gain — only time to lose," Donahue said. "The genre is more than finding different cool ways to die, shock or kill people."

Although, Weiner said he does believe some modern horror films have deeper and more intelligent meanings.

"Modern horror films, like '28 Days Later' and 'Session 9,' have thought-provoking meanings that go beyond the scares," Weiner said. "They try to explore

interesting concepts."

The influence of "Night of the Living Dead" on today's culture is far-reaching, said Robert Peaslee, a professor in the Department of Electronic Media and Communications.

"Generations of filmmakers, writers and game designers have all been influenced by Romero's work," Peaslee said. "He brought to life a story structure that allowed us to explore our deepest fears through the uncanny of creatures."

Whitney said she also believes Romero is responsible for introducing zombies to popular culture.

"Zombies are all around us now," Whitney said. "They're in films, television, graphic novels and even other parts of popular culture such as zombie walks."

Peaslee said he believes there are some valuable lessons he hopes students learned from the screening.

"It shows us that it's possible to make something lasting with limited resources and that it's possible to say something profound with a medium or a genre generally reserved for frivolity," Peaslee said. "It also emphasizes that much of what we see today has a lineage."

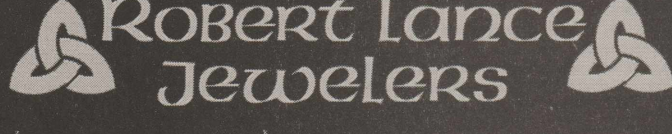
akhan@dailytoreador.com

Experts try to cast doubt in Jackson doctor case

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The battle of scientific experts in the trial of Michael Jackson's doctor took a new turn late Thursday as defense lawyers made an 11th hour disclosure that their scientific expert has devised a new computer simulation shedding light on what killed the pop superstar.


Prosecutors told the judge they were surprised by the new development and need time to study the software program used by Dr. Paul White, a top expert on the anesthetic propofol. The judge agreed.

He said White could conclude his defense testimony Friday but he would give the prosecution the weekend to analyze the computer data before the star witness of Dr. Conrad Murray's defense is cross-examined.



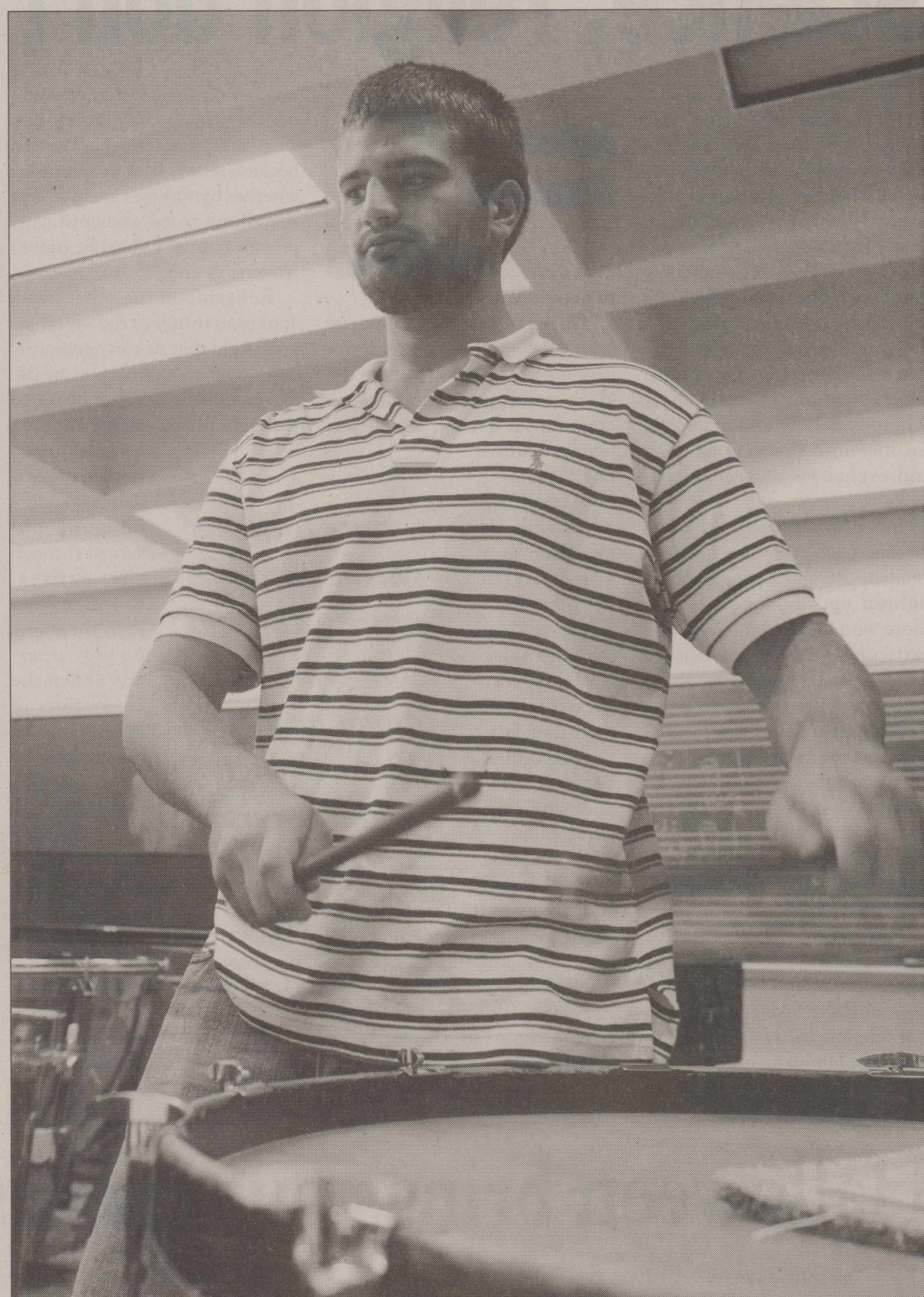
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PERCUSSION PASSION



TREVOR HALL, A sophomore music education major from San Antonio, practices the percussion ensemble "Lift Off" in the Music building Thursday.



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Halloween Candy Hershey's or Mars, 9 to 11.6 oz pkg Select Group		2 for \$5
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SPORTS

PAGE 6
FRIDAY, OCT. 28, 2011

Cyclones look to stop 4-game skid Saturday

By EVAN JANSA
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech proved last week that records and rankings are moot in the Big 12 Conference.

By going to Norman, Okla., and knocking off the then-No. 3 Sooners 41-38, the No. 20 Red Raiders showed how every conference team is vulnerable to an upset.

And, rest assured, Iowa State took notice.

"I watched the whole game," linebacker Jake Knott said. "It was interesting. You saw that lead at halftime and everything, so I had to stay up and watch the game."

Although the Cyclones will visit Jones AT&T Stadium on Saturday night reeling after four straight losses, there's a new sheriff in town. After starting the first seven games and also nursing a foot injury, Steele Jantz was replaced by redshirt freshman Jared Barnett in last week's 33-17 loss to Texas A&M.

"Steele has not played at a level that we would see him continue on as a starter in this game, based on especially what Jared (Barnett) did coming off the bench against Texas A&M and Missouri for that part," head coach Paul Rhoads said. "It's a relatively easy decision for me to see the need for a change and put Jared in that position."

The Garland native stepped in admirably, with 180 yards passing and another 73 on the ground. For Iowa State, the youthful exuberance and blissful unawareness is an asset at times.

"(Considering) the fact that he's so inexperienced and remains so calm, I think it is a little bit surprising to myself as well as to our staff," Rhoads said. "He's probably calmer on the outside than he is on the inside, and I think he admitted to that."

Barnett was the first quarterback recruit signed by Rhoads since he took over the program prior to the 2009 season. Since his arrival in Ames, topping the depth chart has been a priority.

"It's definitely a goal that I've been trying to reach, and now that I've reached it, there are a lot more goals that I have to reach now that I've gotten to this point," Barnett said. Next to the freshman in the backfield is running back James White, who has amassed 497 yards and six touchdowns this season. The Cyclones will utilize the zone read play to maximize the versatility of Barnett, who has already garnered the respect of White.

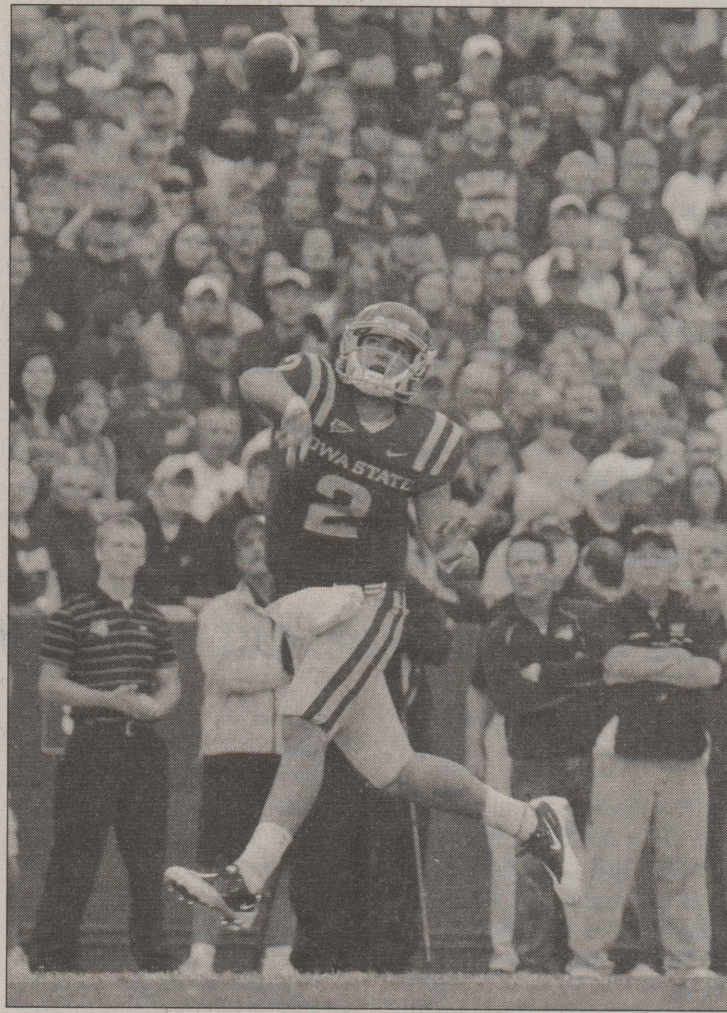
"Barnett came in and he was efficient out there and completed some passes," White said. "I understand why we're passing the ball more. We just have to be a more balanced team with the run and pass."

Making his first career start in Lubbock may not be a cakewalk for Barnett. Rhoads said he's seen the dynamic of the carefree second-string quarterback-turned-starter play out before.

"He's got more time to think about it, he's got more preparation and all that," Rhoads said. "It remains to be seen how well he'll do when he gets that role both leadership-wise and playing-wise."

The signal-caller across the field has not been shabby lately either. Seth Doege threw for 441 yards and four touchdowns in the win against Oklahoma, instantly vaulting him from regional notoriety to national notoriety.

"There are so many great quarterbacks in this league that I think he might have been overshadowed at first," Knott said. "(From) just watching him play and watching him throw and run and do all those things, he's



COURTESY OF REBEKKA BROWN/Iowa State Daily

QUARTERBACK STEELE JANTZ aims his throw to a fellow teammate during the first half of the game against Northern Iowa on Sept. 3 at Jack Trice Stadium. Jantz threw 187 yards to help lead the Cyclones to a 20-19 victory against the Panthers.

one of the best quarterbacks in the conference."

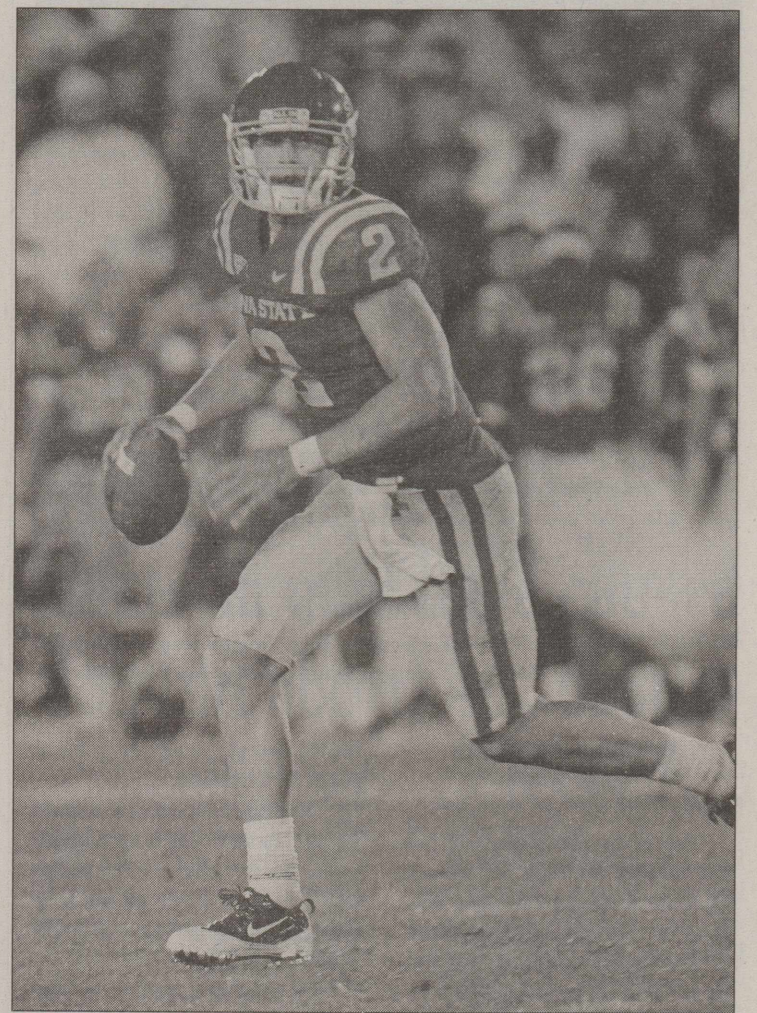
Doege is a semi-finalist for the Davey O'Brien Award, which is given to the nation's top quarterback, and was also named the Walter Camp Offensive National Player of the Week after his performance. Even with the recent accolades, Iowa State was already well aware of the junior's capabilities.

"I think the only reason why

maybe he isn't already is because of the other quarterbacks and offensive stars in the league," Rhoads said. "From a defensive staff standpoint and from our players' standpoints, we've been aware of him and we don't need any introduction to him."

The entire Tech offense could pose problems for the Cyclones, a team that has given up an average of 370 yards and 35 points per game this season.

"They're an extremely athletic team and their offense is also on a



COURTESY OF TIM REUTER/Iowa State Daily

QUARTERBACK STEELE JANTZ scrambles around while looking for a receiver during Saturday's game against Northern Iowa. The Cyclones beat the Panthers in a 20-19 victory Sept. 3.

different level of fast-paced teams," Knott said. "They try to get you out of alignment and make you make mental mistakes. That's the stuff we're going to have to eliminate if we're going to be able to stay in the ball game."

Although Rhoads no longer calls the defense, he has a track record as a defensive coordinator. His last coaching stop was at Auburn, serving as defensive coordinator under Tech head coach Tommy Tuberville.

"He's a great football coach," Rhoads said. "I'm very appreciative of the opportunities he gave me. He

allows his coach to coach — what I think is a fantastic trait in him. It was a very enjoyable experience I had the year under him."

The familiarity of the coaches may not be a factor, but last week's Tech victory was a poignant example for the country and Iowa State for how anything can happen in league play.

"The Big 12 is just absolutely crazy and loaded with talent this year," Knott said. "That's one of those things. Anybody can beat anybody in this conference."

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

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By John Lampkin 10/28/11

DOWN

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2 "All righty ___"
3 Developer's need
4 Star of "61"
5 Ross
6 Buttonhole
7 Retired NPR host
8 It may be lent or bent
9 Grand Banks catch
10 Slide specimen
11 Easy to babysit, say
12 Number no longer used?
13 "Such a shame"
14 Princess with great buns?
15 Got weak in the knees
16 Had
17 K or G
18 Shades
19 Big bikes
20 Stand watch, say
21 Coit 45 holder
22 Layer
23 Teatro ___ Scala:
24 Milan opera house
25 Parlor game

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

BARR ABE LAOTSE
ELIE LAI ETCHED
RETAPING ROTATE
GRADESCHOOL TAN
AG I N T B I L L S
A G I N G L Y E A M S O
R E N U A E S E T S A I L
S I T T I N G I N A T R E E
O C E A N I A T O R T V A
N O R M T A Y R O S E N
T E A S E R S I N
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A&M's Kennedy has early stages of Parkinson's disease

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Texas A&M coach Billy Kennedy said Thursday that he is in the early stages of Parkinson's disease.

Kennedy took a leave of absence from the team earlier this month to undergo testing after experiencing neck and shoulder pain for several months that led to an inability to sleep regularly. The tests revealed that Kennedy was in the early stages of Parkinson's disease, a progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects movement.

"I am heeding the advice of my doctors and addressing the disease and its symptoms," Kennedy said in a statement. "We have begun a long-term treatment plan and recovery. My doctors are encouraged and are telling me I will be able to come back soon."

Associate head coach Glynn Cyprien took over when Kennedy took his leave and will continue to be in charge of the team.

"We have a good prognosis," Kennedy said. "My intention is to return to the court as soon as it is prudent. Until my return, I have great confidence in Coach Cyprien and the staff I have assembled to lead this great group of young men and this basketball program."

The 47-year-old Kennedy was hired from Murray State in May after Mark Turgeon left to become coach at Maryland.

Texas A&M athletic director Bill Byrne said the school's No. 1 concern is for Kennedy's health and that the Aggies will support him as he deals with this disease.

"I fully expect Billy to have a long and illustrious coaching career here ... when he is cleared to return to the court," Byrne said.

Senior guard Dash Harris said he spoke with Kennedy on Thursday and that he "looks well." He added that the team is hoping to have him back soon.

"He left this team in great hands," Harris said. "We have great leadership ... on this team and on this staff, and everyone knows what he expects, so once he comes back it'll be a smooth ride."