

PHOTOS BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

MEGAN MIKESELL, A sophomore biology major from Highland Village, trudges through a deep puddle near the Student Union Building on Monday.

Tech deals with rainy day

By CAITLAN OSBORN **NEWS EDITOR**

Lubbock residents and members of the Texas Tech community received a small reprieve from the ongoing drought Monday, and experts predict further drops in temperature after some warmth during

the Thanksgiving holiday.

According to the National Weather Service, a cold front moved in from south Texas and made its way north to the South Plains. Temperatures dropped to the low 40s, causing chilly winds and rainfall.

RAIN continued on Page 2



STUDENTS WITH AND without umbrellas wait for buses in the rain in front of the Student Union Building on Monday.

Orgs. offer volunteer chances

Various holiday events to give opportunities for Tech students

By ASHLYN TUBBS STAFF WRITER

Thanksgiving is a celebration of gratitude, thankfulness, fellowship and, of course, a highly anticipated home-cooked meal usually comprised of turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie.

Not everyone is fortunate enough to have these experiences, though. In fact, there are many who will go without food on Thanksgiving.

This is why the Salvation Army of Lubbock will host a meal in order to feed those less fortunate than others on Thanksgiving Day.

"I think it is really important to give back over the holidays," said Rachel Flores, an adult volunteer coordinator with the Volunteer Center of Lubbock. "There are a lot more opportunities for families to volunteer and give back to the community, which doesn't really happen a lot of the time."

Volunteers are needed Nov. 22 and 23 in order to prepare for the Thanksgiving Day feast.

Last year, the Salvation Army of Lubbock served 252 individuals, and about 300 are expected this year.

"The majority of individuals who might be without a support system usually have a place to go on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, so our number for total individuals served actually goes down," said Melody Paton, community relations director for the Salvation Army of Lubbock.

VOLUNTEER continued on Page 2

Bus to shuttle students home for Thanksgiving

Flat fee of \$100 needed to register

By DESTINY BEZRUTCZYK STAFF WRITER

For students not interested in a nine-and-a-half-hour car ride or a \$300 plane ticket, the Texas Tech Parents Association offers the opportunity for students to get home for a flat fee of \$100.

This \$100 will pay for a round trip on a chartered bus for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Parents and students may register and pay through the association's website at http://www.parent.ttu.edu.

Leaving Lubbock at 8:30 a.m., students will arrive home as soon as 3 p.m. without ever having to make gas stops, go through the Transportation Security Administration's procedures or nervously check their smartphones for directions.

TechBriefly

Tech livestock judging team wins national championship

The Texas Tech livestock judging team won first place at the 2011 North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky.

The team won by a 31-point margin and ended with an overall score of 4,677 points. They placed first in the reasons and swine categories, second in the cattle category and third in the sheep category. Ryan Rathmann, coach of the livestock judging team and an assistant professor of animal and food sciences at Tech, said he is grateful for the win.

"I'm proud of their achievements, but I'm more excited to see the difference this experience will make in their lives," he said in a news release.

Texas Tech also won livestock national championships in 1934, 1953, 1985, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

SACNAS earns **Role Model Chapter Award**

Texas Tech's chapter of the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science received a Role Model Chapter Award for outstanding sustainability out of more than 60 chapters at a national conference in San Jose, Calif. SACNAS is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of Americans in scientific fields.

"I was truly impressed by the encouraging and inspirational environment of the SACNAS national conference," said Ximena Bernal, the Texas Tech SACNAS co-faculty adviser, in a statement. "It is a pleasure to collaborate with a group of dedicated and hardworking students, and I am happy to see the Texas Tech chapter and Texas Tech recognized for their efforts."

Tech jumps to No. 149 on philanthropy list

Texas Tech was listed as No. 149 in The Chronicle of Philanthropy's list of 400 universities. Last year Tech was ranked No. 246.

Tech's rankings were improved due to \$184 million in donations and \$100 million in fundraising efforts. In 2010, university officials announced a \$1 billion capital campaign to support student scholarships, faculty endowments, research efforts and facility expansions system-wide. As of this month, more than \$823 million of the goal has been raised.

"Advancing in these rankings is a direct result of Texas Tech's continued fundraising success," said Chancellor Kent Hance in a statement. >>> news@dailytoreador.com

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Sunny



Sunny

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Community Calendar

TODAY

West Texas Polar Express Train

Time: 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Where: 6602 Marsha Sharp Fwy

So, what is it?

Read along with the story as the train makes its round-trip journey to the North Pole. Meet Santa Claus, enjoy caroling, hot cocoa, a treat and special gift for each child.

Ballroom Dance Social at Dance With Me Time: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Where: Dance With Me So, what is it? Enjoy ballroom dancing lessons from 7 to 8 p.m. and

then show off your new skills

from 8 to 11 p.m.

Susan Grisanti Time: 7:30 p.m. Where: Orlando's So, what is it? Enjoy a performance by Susan Grisanti as she plays romantic guitar music.

Run Home Jack Time: 10 p.m. Where: Blue Light Live So, what is it? Enjoy this band as they perform original, alternative country music.

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.

Super failure: Deficitcutting panel gives up

gress' supercommittee conceded ignominious defeat Monday in its quest to conquer a government debt that stands at a staggering \$15 trillion, unable to overcome deep and enduring political divisions over taxes and spending.

Stock prices plummeted at home and across debt-scarred Europe as the panel ended its brief, secretive existence without an agreement. Republicans and Democrats alike pointed fingers of blame, maneuvering for political advantage in advance of 2012 elections less than a year away.

The impasse underscored grave doubts about Washington's political will to make tough decisions and left a cloud of uncertainty over the U.S. economy at the same time that Greece, Italy, Spain and other European countries are reeling from a spreading debt crisis and recession worries.

Lawmakers of both parties agreed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Con- action in Congress was still required, somehow, and soon.

> "Despite our inability to bridge the committee's significant differences, we end this process united in our belief that the nation's fiscal crisis must be addressed and that we cannot leave it for the next generation to solve," the panel's two co-chairs, Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., and Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-Tex., said in a somber statement.

> They added it was not possible to present "any bipartisan agreement" — omitting any reference to the goal of \$1.2 trillion in cuts over a decade that had been viewed as a minimum

> President Barack Obama — criticized by Republicans for keeping the committee at arm's length — said refusal by the GOP to raise taxes on the wealthy as part of a deal that also cut social programs was the main stumbling block.

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your resumé?

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• Reporters (paid)



PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

A STUDENT WALKS to class in the rain outside of the Mass Communications building on Monday.

Rain ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Matt Ziedell of the Lubbock National Weather Service said the air above Lubbock was very unstable, leading to thunderstorms and occasional reports of hail accompanying the cold temperatures and rain.

"On the surface, it was very cold, but underneath, it is really dry," Ziedell said. "You don't see this very often."

However, Ziedell said students can look forward to a warm Thanksgiving

Day with temperatures in the mid-70s before receding back into colder winter weather, which includes more chances of rain for Friday and Saturday.

Melissa Orosco of the Lubbock Police Department said there were about 24 traffic accidents throughout the city since the rainfall began Monday morning. While eight of the collisions resulted in injuries, she said there were no deaths and no one was in critical

However, Orosco said students need to be mindful of weather conditions when they travel long distances.

"You should always slow down when it rains or snows," she said, "and it's always a good idea to check the weather conditions of each place you're travelling to so you know what to expect."

Additional National Weather Service reports predict patchy fog and slight rainfall today with temperatures as low as 30 degrees.

Andre Grant, a freshman mechanical engineering major, said he loves how Lubbock is finally moving into winter

"I'm from Houston, and it's really humid there, so to me this is perfect,"

he said. "I definitely like this better." Elizabeth Espino, a junior restaurant, hotel and institutional management major, said she is not worried about getting

into an accident during the Thanksgiving holiday because she is from Plainview, which is only 45 minutes away. However, Grant said he advises students who have to travel longer

distances to be watchful on the road because some drivers can be reckless. "It's always something to take into consideration," he said, "especially dur-

ing bad weather.'

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POLICE BLOTTER

Police investigate possible suicide attempt, theft across campus

8:04 a.m. - A Texas Tech police officer detained a non-student for driving with an invalid license following a traffic stop in the R18 parking lot. The non-student was released pending the filing of charges. The non-student was also issued a Lubbock County citation for having an invalid inspection certificate and no liability insurance.

9:22 a.m. - A Tech police officer documented a medical emergency that occurred at the Exercise Sciences Center. A student fainted during a class. Emergency Medical Services transported the student to the emergency room at University Medical Center.

12:56 p.m. – A Tech police officer investigated a theft that occurred at the Clement Residence Hall. A secured Gary Fisher men's bike and lock were taken from the bike racks.

1:10 p.m. – A Tech police officer investigated a theft that occurred at the Student Union Building. An iPhone was taken.

4:28 p.m. – A Tech police officer released a student pending the filing of charges for possession of a fictitious driver's license following a traffic stop in the S2 parking lot.

5:03 p.m. – A Tech police officer documented a medical emergency that occurred at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. A student fell and hit his head. Emergency Medical Services transported the student to the emergency room at University Medical Center.

6:06 p.m. - A Tech police officer investigated a theft that occurred at the Weymouth Residence Hall. A wallet was taken.

Saturday

1:56 a.m. - A Tech police officer detained a non-student in the hallway on the sixth floor of the Gates Residence Hall following a dispatched call about a possibly suicidal subject. The non-student was taken into custody on emergency detention. The non-student was transported to the emergency room at Covenant Medical Center.

2:14 a.m. – A Tech police officer documented a medical emergency that occurred at the Chitwood Residence Hall. A female student was disoriented. The female student was transported to the emergency room at University Medical Center.

4:50 a.m. - A Tech police officer investigated criminal mischief that occurred at the Weymouth Residence Hall. Ceiling tiles were damaged.

8:04 a.m. - A Tech police officer arrested a non-student for driving with an invalid license following a traffic stop at the 3800 block of Fourth Street. The non-student was transported to Lubbock County Jail.

3:29 p.m. - A Tech police officer investigated criminal mischief that occurred in the Z1B parking lot. A vehicle's driver side was dented and both of the back tires were slashed.

5:00 p.m. – A Tech police officer documented a medical emergency that occurred on the first floor of the Knapp Residence Hall. A student fainted while standing in her dorm room. The student was transported to the emergency room at University Medical Center.

5:53 p.m. – A Tech police officer documented a medical emergency that occurred in the basement of the Murdough Residence Hall. A student fell down some stairs and hurt his back. The student was transported to the emergency room at University Medical Center.

Sunday

2:49 a.m. - A Tech police officer investigated criminal mischief that occurred on the third floor of the Murdough Residence Hall. One ceiling tile and one exit sign were damaged.

3:22 a.m. - A Tech police officer arrested a student on the south side of the Agricultural Pavilion for evading arrest or detention and for the consumption of alcohol by a minor. The student was transported to Lubbock County Jail.

11:17 a.m. - A Tech police officer documented damage to an interior door located on the south side of the Academic Classroom Building of the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center. The doorknob was damaged.

Monday

2:06 a.m. - A Tech police officer responded to Carpenter Wells Housing Complex in reference to a need for medical assistance. A student was complaining of dizziness and an irregular heartbeat. The student was transported to the emergency room at Covenant Medical Center.

5:02 a.m. - A Tech police officer arrested a non-student at the 3100 block of 23rd Street for driving while intoxicated following an observed traffic violation at the 2900 block of 19th Street. The non-student was transported to Lubbock County Jail.

Provided by BJ Watson of the Texas Tech Police Department.

Volunteer 4

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Paton said it is a traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner of green bean casserole, mashed potatoes, turkey, sweet potatoes, stuffing, rolls, pies and other foods, complete with decora-

"We try to make this as homey and as special for them as possible," Paton said. "We're needing more cooks in the kitchen to help make all of this happen. All of the food is homemade. We make it in our shelter, and we've been working on it for a week or so already.

"We want everyone to feel like they are celebrating the holiday as if they were with their

Those willing to serve on Thanksgiving Day can do so during the following shifts: 7-10 a.m., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 1-4 p.m.

"The more volunteers we have, the more people we can serve in a smooth and efficient manner," Paton said. "We are looking for as many volunteers as are available."

Those interested in volunteering are encouraged to contact the Salvation Army of Lubbock at 806-765-9434 and ask for the kitchen.

From there, potential volunteers are asked to state which shift(s) they are interested in and how many volunteers will attend. The Salvation Army of Lub-

bock is located in downtown Lubbock at the intersection of Avenue I and 17th Street. "Thanksgiving is a time of the

year when you can reflect on your life and see what all you have been given," Flores said. "To give back over the holidays is a great thing to do."

Another volunteering opportunity available over the Thanksgiving break includes singing Christmas carols at the Ronald McDonald House. Those interested in this opportunity can call 806-744-8877 for more information.

A way to volunteer without leaving home over Thanksgiving break is to make Christmas cards for the Red Cross to send to soldiers. The deadline to submit Christmas cards is Dec. 5 at the drop-off location at 2201 19th St. No glitter is allowed on the

Flores said she encourages people to not only volunteer over the holidays, but also to volunteer year-round. "A lot of the time, volunteers

get discouraged at this time of the year because they don't get to do very much since there are a lot of volunteers," she said. "Start volunteering in January and get involved throughout the year so when Thanksgiving comes around, you have more experience."

» atubbs@dailytoreador.com

STEPHENHAMILTON

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THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS

I'm going to India in December, so I would like to shop for my littles back in India.'

Kiran Lokhande Management and informational systems graduate student from Pune, India

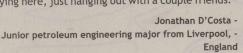




'Seeing my family because I've been missing them so much and all my friends.

Freshman mass communications major from Amarillo

Sleep, because we don't have Thanksgiving (in England), so it is pretty much like a holiday with me, like, nothing to do. Like, 'Hell yeah! A holiday.' Staying here, just hanging out with a couple friends."







"I'm just looking forward to a holiday because I haven't gotten a lot of sleep, so I'm just going to catch up on some sleep. I'm staying here because I don't know where to go because my family is in Jakarta, so I'm

Teddy Triantara Junior petroleum engineering major from Jakarta,

We will have a dinner with some friends. I'm from Cuba, and we don't have this custom in Cuba. I will try to follow the tradition here.

staying in Lubbock

Luis Grave de Peralta -Professor of physics



Compiled by Paige Skinner/The Daily Toreador

Judge denies Jackson doc's bid for new testing

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A judge denied a request Monday by lawyers for the doctor convicted of have an independent laboratory test the contents of a key vial of

sentencing of Dr. Conrad Murray, no legal basis for the testing and Superior Court Judge Michael Pastor said defense attorneys could have sought the testing months ago or even during the doctor's six-week trial but chose not to.

"You're not involved in fishing, you're involved in foraging," Pastor said.

Murray's attorneys wanted a lab to test a small amount of liquid found in a vial of the anesthetic propofol that authorities contend was used to help Jackson sleep on the day he died.

Defense lawyer J. Michael Flanagan argued the results would reveal the accuracy of a theory by a prosecution expert who testified that Murray left Jackson's bedside while the singer was on an IV drip of propofol and the painkiller.

Murray had been giving Jackson nightly doses of propofol causing Michael Jackson's death to to help the singer sleep as he prepared for a series of comeback

Deputy District Attorney Da-Just days before the scheduled vid Walgren contended there was said Murray received a fair trial.

Pastor examined the propofol vial, which was found in the closet of Jackson's bedroom, before issuing his ruling.

Flanagan said it didn't occur to him that the contents of the vial should be tested until after the conclusion of Murray's trial, which ended Nov. 7 with the conviction of the cardiologist on an involuntary manslaughter charge.

Flanagan said if prosecution expert Dr. Steven Shafer's theory is correct, the small amount of liquid that remained in the vial should contain lidocaine. In that case, "that's the ballgame" and would prove Murray did leave the singer alone on an IV drip, Flanagan said.

Bus 🚽

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Parents Association began offering these bus rides in 2008 as an inexpensive and safe way for students to go home for the holidays.

"A lot of our students don't have cars or don't feel comfortable driving all the way to Houston or even Dallas for that short of a holiday," said Christine Self, unit coordinator for the Office of Parent and Family Relations at Tech.

Students have the option of riding to locations in Houston, Arlington, Austin, San Antonio and El Paso. Students are allowed to stow two bags in the cargo area as well as bring two small carry-on bags.

According to Self, the program has become a popular Thanksgiving holiday event, often selling out quickly.

This Thanksgiving trip was announced at the beginning of September

and sold out within a month. Self estimates approximately 375 students are participating this year.

The Parents Association also offers bus rides home for spring break, but these trips have been found to be less popular.

The buses travel the same route, according to Self, but no money is being made from the trips and the Thanksgiving leftover funds pay for the spring deficit.

Enna Post, a member of the Parents Association and a third-time chaperone, first became aware of the program when her daughter needed a ride home to the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

"You don't have to drive to Lubbock and drive back," Post said. "People from all over the metroplex go pick up their kids and go home without having to drive all the way to Lubbock."

Post is one of many chaperones who come to Lubbock to help the students check into their buses, ride to their cities and depart to go home

Post cites the heavy holiday traffic and anxiety of young drivers as a good reason for students to take the bus in lieu of driving.

The buses provide a bathroom and stop once for lunch or dinner, depending on the route. Students are encouraged to bring their favorite DVDs, where they then vote with their peers on which ones will be watched during the trip home.

Victoria Esson, a junior science major from New Zealand, said she has seen the advertisements, but she already had a plan to get to a friend's house for the holidays.

"It's four of us going back, so we're just carpooling," Esson said. "If I didn't have a ride, I'd catch the bus."

Jazmine Johnson, a communication studies major from Tyler, said she hadn't heard of the shuttles and that she prefers to drive home to East Texas alone.

"As a parent, knowing someone else is riding with (my daughter) just in case something happens makes me feel very comfortable," Post said.

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RADIO REFORM



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreadon

ANGELO TRAYLOR, A senior electrical engineering major from Houston, and Brandon Brewster, a senior electrical engineering major from Van Horn, adjust a radio frequency generator while working on a radio transmitter and receiver for their project lab three in the Electrical Engineering building Monday.

Taylor Swift wins 3 trophies at AMAs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Taylor Swift was crowned artist of the year at the American Music Awards for a second time.

"This is so crazy!" the country superstar said after beat such contenders as Adele, Lady Gaga and Katy Perry to capture all three awards that she was nominated for at Sunday's ceremony, including artist of the year, the show's highest accolade that she previously claimed in 2009.

"I ended up writing the record by myself, so the fact that you would honor it this way, you have no idea what this means to me," said Swift after winning the trophy for favorite country album for "Speak Now." She was also awarded the prize for favorite country female artist.

Nicki Minaj, the pink-loving hip-hop diva, won two awards Sunday. She kicked off the 39th annual fan-favorite ceremony by sporting a pair of speakers on her much-talked about posterior and was later honored as favorite rap/ hip-hop artist, besting a group

and won favorite rap/hip-hop album for "Pink Friday."

"There's so much love in this room," beamed the pink-haired

Adele had been the night's leading nominee with four nods, but didn't have much of a presence at the show: She was absent from the ceremony because she is recovering from recent throat surgery. Adele tied Swift with three awards: favorite pop/rock female artist, adult contemporary artist and pop/rock album

Other winners included Maroon 5 as favorite pop-rock band/duo/group, Blake Shelton as favorite country male artist, Lady Antebellum as favorite country band/duo/group, Bevonce as favorite soul/R&B female artist, Rihanna for favorite soul/R&B album for "Loud" and Hot Chelle Rae as new artist of

The ceremony inside the Nokia Theatre in an unusually

that included mentor Lil Wayne, rainy Los Angeles was drenched with 17 musical performances.

Justin Bieber got in the holi-

day spirit among a forest of neon lights with "Under the Mistletoe," and Kelly Clarkson, wearing a glittery red gown with her

hair swept to the side, delivered a swinging rendition of her hit "Mr. Know It All" as back-up dancers dressed as 1930s-era photographers snapped the firstever "American Idol" champion.

Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony shared custody of rapper Pitbull, who joined the former couple in a pair of separate performances. Lopez performed essentially a live version of a car commercial starring the "Idol" judge set to "Papi" - with the car onstage — before launching into her hit "On the Floor." Pitbull later returned to the stage and joined Anthony for "Rain

Over Me." Lopez expressed surprise when she won the favorite Latin

music artist award. "It's been up and down and

just exciting and overwhelming and so many things," Lopez said of the last year.

Several artists delivered stripped-down performances: The Band Perry crooned an emotional "If I Die Young," a pink-haired Perry accompanied herself on guitar for "The One That Got Away" and a platinumblonde Chris Brown simply sang "All Back" before being joined by a troop of helmet-clad backup dancers for a flashy interpretation of "Say It With Me."

There were collaborations, too. Lopez joined a glowingin-the-dark will.i.am for his new single "Hard." Christina Aguilera dueted with Maroon 5 on their "Moves Like Jagger," and then Maroon 5 lead singer Adam Levine teamed with Gym Class Heroes for their hit "Stereo Hearts." Bieber joined LMFAO in animal-print pants for the show's finale, which ended with everyone on stage — including David Hasselhoff — stripping down to smiley-face underwear.

International Emmys to honor 'Idol' producer Nigel Lythgoe

NEW YORK (AP) — "American Idol" executive producer Nigel Lythgoe might have to print some new business cards after he receives a special honor at the 39th Annual International Emmy Awards Ceremony.

"I've been nominated (six times) for an Emmy for 'American Idol' ... and haven't won any of them," Lythgoe said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I've even got printed on my business card 'multi-Emmy loser' so it's going to be wonderful to actually accept one."

Lythgoe, 62, who returned as "Idol's" executive producer last season, will be presented the honorary International Emmy Founders Award on Monday night at the Hilton New York Hotel in recognition of his work as "a major reality show innovator" as

Tell her

something words

Robert Lance Jewelers

cannot.

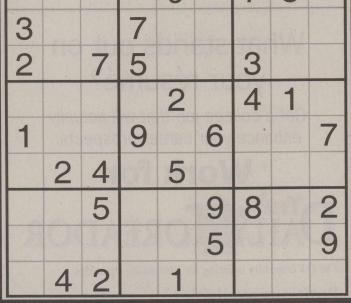
well as for "his amazingly deep commitment to dance around the world," said Bruce L. Paisner, president and CEO of the International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

Lythgoe produced the British TV phenomenon, "Pop Idol," and then was tasked with creating its American version in 2002. He attributes "American Idol's" eventual success to Rupert Murdoch's decision to leave its British production team alone and not try to Americanize the show.

"I think Americans sugarcoated all the critiques that they would do on shows like this," said Lythgoe, who earned the nickname Nasty Nigel for his caustic remarks as a judge on the British show "Popstars." "With bringing Simon Cowell out here we knew we wanted this new honesty.

Tel: (806) 794-2938

Today's 8



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.

1 5 2 3 6 8 7 9 4 3 8 4 7 5 9 1 2 6 679214835 961875342 5 4 8 6 3 2 9 1 7 2 3 7 9 4 1 5 6 8 7 2 5 1 9 6 4 8 3 8 9 3 4 2 7 6 5 1 4 1 6 5 8 3 2 7 9 Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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Pay attention in all classes

... focus on the

potential

application they

have to your

future. Think of

these classes as a

foundation for

becoming a more

worldly person.

lic speaking class a few days ago and honestly felt nothing but boredom. Then, it occurred to me how it had been a long time since I actually made an effort to apply myself and spark an interest in the material at hand.

certain subjects duller than others, but things only get worse when we continually write them off, cram for tests and forget everything the minute we hand in our exams. We are not actually learning at all using this method.

real potential to develop us in are space-fillers.

different ways, and perhaps prepare us for a few of life's curveballs. For example, my public speaking class is something I struggle in, and it occurred to me this by itself is a good reason to pay attention to it.

Life in the professional world, especially at the starting line, is all about "pitching" one-

self, and given my chosen career like the use of public speaking path, it could be very necessary skills in your career, classes not to develop a few skills in this really pertaining directly to our

We all have classes like this, them later down the road. but we approach them with the wrong attitudes. Yes, due to a lack of interest, it's always nice on some level to just get it over with, but the best parts about finishing a class well are gaining satisfaction and an increased sense of self-confidence.

On this note, let's be honest. We all love sounding smart and demonstrating our knowledge, especially when it was difficult to attain. I would love to be a professional at public speaking and be able to fly my hand all over the chalkboard with complex statistical analyses, but, in the end, these classes are stuck in the "get it over with" category.



I would encourage you to Some of us naturally find change this attitude, especially in areas that affirmatively answer the question, "Could this be useful later?" We all try harder in classes pertaining to our majors, assuming they still hold our interests for the long haul. And yes, it is probably more beneficial We are surviving classes and in the long run to have a more getting the grades necessary to detailed and long-lasting memory pass (the majority of the time), of that curriculum than of the but we aren't actually taking core requirements. However, this in a lot of knowledge with the doesn't mean the other classes

> Don't just be interested in them because they hold your attention or because the professor is cool, but instead focus on the potential application they have to your future. Think of these classes as a foundation for becoming a more worldly

yond the obvious benefits, paths may not be so distant from

person.

Even be-

Some jobs require a very particular set of skills, and there may be other jobs requiring additional skills as well. The purpose of taking classes in all the different departments is to fill those gaps.

These types of situations are the main reasons we endure the university's core curriculum. I encourage you to review the information provided by these courses with just a little more thought toward the future. Your

Morrison junior geography major from The Woodlands.

>>> zmorrison@dailytoreador.com

Wake up from European lifestyle dream

were married to

their first cousin.

that was the Thanksgiving that little Porkins began to hate his cousin Geoffrey.

By ANDREW JOHNSON MINNESOTA DAILY (U. MINNESOTA)

CARTOON BY TAYLOR SHOFNER/The Daily Toreador — taylor.shofner@ttu.edu

"Why can't we be more like Europe? It's such a pleasant way of life," students returning from abroad often grumble.

Anything typically American, they sneer, is lowbrow. But using only personal experience as a gauge for Europe's pre-eminence can result in being badly informed, especially amid current political, cultural and economic woes.

Apparently, understanding the centuries old, if not millennia old, culture of European countries is attainable in just a semester in Montpellier, Bologna, Toledo or Freiburg.

Old World sophistication has become a souvenir you can bring back with you just as easily as your Oktoberfest mug or actual Dijon mustard. Throw in a suddenly undying allegiance to the local soccer team and your worldliness is unquestionable. It seems like only a few months ago you were inhaling Jell-O shots to "Party in the U.S.A.," and now you're a wine connoisseur who insists Sweden was cheated in the last Eurovision.

Smugly acting as if you're now a cultured emissary, fully equipped to teach deprived Yankee Doodles that our lives aren't quite so dandy compared to a café-lounging, siestaenjoying one, ignores a reality for the sake of a Bavarian or Gaelic castle in the sky. The whole fortified castle mentality for Europe is fitting, its aim to keep some people out.

Even though the United States is nearly 40 percent nonwhite, Eurofans still argue it is relatively intolerant. Meanwhile, despite most of its countries hovering at only 10 to 15 percent nonwhite, Europe is considered tolerant when it comes to race.

It's easy to be color blind to race when you rarely see other races. In France, North African black immigrants are hardly mingling with the idealized image of le français. Instead, they're residing in low-income according to a recent survey, has a apartments in the Parisian outskirts, where unemployment is near 50 percent among Muslim youths, and crime is prevalent because of the lack of social mobility; the latest assault and murder rates are actually higher in France than in Algeria, where

many of these immigrants come from. This lack of opportunity is hard to see from the comfortable and distant vantage point enjoyed by the "traditional" French. Conveniently, the country's constitution doesn't

permit data collection based on race, so they're never directly confronted with hard evidence

Even across the Channel, this front of multicultural harmony shows

itself. In 2010, officials estimated that 57 percent of British Pakistanis were married to their first cousin. Forget the dating pool, what about the gene one? This sort of trend only comes about through cultural isolation.

I'm not sure who is doing the isolating — the Brits or the Pakistanis - and it doesn't really matter; the point is that it exists in a country regarded for its openness. Correction: a continent regarded for its openness. The Netherlands, Spain and Italy have each experienced their share of race riots over the past couple years

Ah, but even amid these socioeconomic issues, nouveau Europeans insist that the lifestyle is so pleasing, with their quaint bakeries and picturesque plazas. As Johnny Depp once said of Europeans, "Most important thing, though, is that people there know how to live!"

But do they? Fourteen of the top-20 countries with the highest suicide rates are in Europe, with an additional 10 countries ahead of the United States, which is 40th. Norway, dubbed "the happiest country"

higher suicide rate than India, China and Venezuela. What's causing these Europeans to take their own supposedly idyllic life?

Welp, that's the last of the gravy!

Just glance at the European Union's economic troubles and you'll understand the source of their misery. One in five Greeks, Montenegrins and Spaniards is unemployed, and it's even worse for our age group. Stateside, we get nervous if unemployment is above 8 percent.

Debts continue to build up and there is popular resistance to ... 57 percent of doing anything to fix the prob-British Pakistanis lem. Turmoil has forced prime

ministers to step

down, replaced

with appointed

stand-ins who are

entrusted with acting in the best interest of the people even though

they were never elected. But the dangers go beyond who will decide whether or not Greek government employees will continue getting their 13 monthly checks per

year or Denmark can continue paying

students to go to their universities. As feisty youths, we unwisely her-

ald the latest unrests in London, Paris, Madrid and Athens as inspirational, looking past the injuries, destruction and deaths caused by the demonstrators. If we're lucky, though, we won't have to worry about hearing these menacing tales much longer.

Since the start of the anti-austerity protests in 2008, Reporters Without Borders has dropped Greece 39 spots on its press freedom index, from 31st to 70th, during which a journalist was killed at his home because of his coverage. Apparently, enlightened activists think an environment of free flowing information is an unimportant casualty.

None of this is to discourage travel or studying abroad; my passport is decorated with stamps from across the globe and each stop has been personally enriching. Rather, bear in mind that these experiences are definitively distant from reality, adventures that you embarked on to escape it for a while.

Coming back to your reality will always pale in comparison to a romanticized aura of Europe, but choosing to remain in that fantasy isn't cultured, it is convenient simplification.

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Reeling Red Raiders need 1

Texas Tech's 41-38 win against Okla-

What Tech coach Tommy Tuberville

Griffin III's heroics were on full display during a game-winning touchdown pass with eight seconds remaining in the

"He did it himself," Tuberville said of Griffin's effort in a 45-38 Baylor victory in Waco. "I mean, he absolutely beat one of the better teams in the country by himself, up and down the field, taking advantage and running the ball. I'm sure (the Sooners) kind of grimaced when he threw that ball right there at the end 50 yards down the field on the corner on a perfect strike."

Griffin III, who has accounted for 4,122 yards of total offense and 38 touchdowns for the Bears this season, 12 Conference play) to one of the most

said Baylor will not sneak up on anybody because it is no longer one of the hunters — it has a target on its back now.

Tech (5-6, 2-6) is set to take on Baylor Stadium in Arlington.

We're going to have to bring everything we've got."

Also in the realm of familiarity for Doege and the Red Raiders is the opportunity to play Baylor on the turf at Cowboys Stadium.

In 2009, Tech defeated Baylor in Arlington 20-13 behind the play of former quarterback Taylor Potts.

Doege, then a freshman, said he remembers looking up at the stadium's 600-ton Jumbo Tron instead of watching the game because of the screen's sheer size.

"It's just one of those things that, as a kid, you look forward to - playing in stadiums like that," Doege said. "I think the entire team is excited about doing it."

Doege acknowledged the professional feel of the site, considering how it is home to the NFL's Dallas Cowboys. Griffin III may provide Tech's defense with a glimpse as to what a legitimate future professional football player may look like.

In leading Baylor to a program-first win against Oklahoma, Griffin III vaulted himself into the heat of Heisman Trophy debates, and he did so in front of many NFL scouts who were watching closely.

Griffin III, a 6-foot-2, 220-pound specimen with a sprinter's speed, had to overcome a lot to be in the position

In 2009, Baylor was without the services of Griffin III because he, then a true sophomore, had suffered an "isolated tear" in the ACL of his right knee.

Griffin III was redshirted that season, allowing him to retain three more years of eligibility.

Blake Szymanski, then a senior at Baylor, threw for 238 yards and zero passing touchdowns. Szymanski did, however, log a rushing touchdown in the 20-13 loss to the Red Raiders.

In 2010, Griffin III threw for 384 yards and two scores against the Red Raiders at the Cotton Bowl, where Tech prevailed 45-38.

In a two-year span, the two teams have seemingly swapped places as far

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"We know they're a great football team. as the state of each program goes in the

Baylor, having already secured itself a spot in a bowl game after the regular season, is in fourth place in conference

Tech, as has been the case since beating Oklahoma in Norman, Okla., remains just one win from becoming bowl-eligible.

In 2009, during Griffin III's injuryshortened season, the Red Raiders finished with nine wins while Baylor finished with just four victories.

A win Saturday does not guarantee Tech a bowl game because of the amount of teams the Big 12 could send to bowl

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25 Parisian summers 26 Achieves

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Tech had four players — wide receiver

Alex Torres, running backs DeAndre Washington and Aaron Crawford and offensive lineman Lonnie Edwards — who were hurt during a 31-27 loss to Missouri in Columbia, Mo., this past Saturday. All were listed as questionable Sunday for the Baylor game.

Doege said he remains confident in the team's ability, even if the 2011 season has not unfolded the way he believed it would.

"The season didn't turn out as what I expected it to be ... I knew we had a chance every time we stepped on the field to compete and beat anyone," Doege said. "But, I also knew we could be - if we didn't show up to play — beaten by anyone, too."

>>> jrodriguez@dailytoreador.com

more win for bowl eligibility

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ MANAGING EDITOR

homa on Oct. 22 was looked on by most spectators as a well-played game for the Red Raiders in every respect.

saw this past Saturday was Robert Griffin III, Baylor's junior quarterback, beating the same Oklahoma team singlehandedly.

final quarter of play. ---- 4:00 ----

has led No. 18 Baylor (7-3, 4-3 in Big

successful seasons in the school's history.

Taking the Bears' success into consideration, Tech quarterback Seth Doege

SUPERTAN

for the Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Shootout at 6 p.m. Saturday in Cowboys

"We know what we're in for," Doege said during Monday's media luncheon.

wonder 5 Trade punches 9 Shire of "Rocky play 16 Shi'ite leaders 17 Is well-versed in 20 Salon service 21 Samoa's capital 22 Makes an offer 32 Hung. neighbor 33 "Who, me?" By Kurt Mengel and Jan-Michele Gianette 34 __ rain 35 More than bad 37 Skier's transport 38 Uno follower

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

62 Acceptability on the street, in slang

9 Most minuscule

10 Surrounded by 11 Vientiane's land

13 The "A" in many

"__ expert, but _ "

39 One of those things
40 Prepare
(oneself), as for
a jolt
41 Obviously enjoys DOWN Torah holders 2 Dwindle 3 Traveler to an environmentally protected area
4 Morning glistene
5 "No more!"

a meal 45 Essence 46 Out of order 6 Discipline 7 Vicinity 8 MDs' co-workers 47 Early birthday

50 Work subtitled "A Life": Abbr. 51 Pale or brown

54 Assuming an attitude of importance, and a hint to what ends 17-, 26-and 41-Across

57 Pop singer John 58 Herbal balm 59 Roman robe 60 Like hash in diners 61 Atlantic, to Brits

org. names 18 Cheeky 19 Dense 24 Ever so slightly 25 Avian Aussies 26 Hershey's drink 27 Worm's milieu 28 Diplomatic

Monday's Puzzle Solved

30 Desperate 31 Lose brightness 35 Bleach 36 Promise 37 Baseball Hall of Famer Speaker 43 Spoil, as a

squawker 49 Caesar's disbelieving words 50 Western tie 52 Theater box 53 "Yipes"
55 Trendy clothing

parade 44 Hammed it up giant 56 And more: Abbr. www.ombuds.ttu.edu

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The DT Staff College Football Pick 'Em

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of the Week	Overall Record 36-24	Overall Record 43-17	Overall Record 36-24	Overall Record 42-18	Overall Record 42-18	Overall Record 35-25	Overall Record 33-27	Overall Record 35-25	Overall Record 33-27
Texas Tech ys. No. 18 Baylor Game in Arlington No. 19 Penn St.	Baylor 49-28	Baylor 43-31	Texas Tech 77-0	Baylor 47-15	Baylor 45-38	Baylor 42-38	Texas Tech 66-6	Baylor 49-46	Baylor 69-62
@ No. 16 Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Penn St.	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Penn St.	Penn St.	Wisconsin
No. 2 Alabama @ No. 24 Auburn	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Auburn	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Auburn
lowa State @ No. 9 Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahomo	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
No. 13 Georgia No. 23 Ga. Tech	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia Tech
No. 25 Texas @ Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas	Texas	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M
No. 22 Notre Dame @ No. 6 Stanford	Stanford	Notre Dame	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford
No. 17 Clemson @ No. 12 S. Carolina	S. Carolina	S. Carolina	S. Carolina	Clemson	Clemson	S. Carolina	S. Carolina	Clemson	S. Carolina
No. 5 Va. Tech @ Virginia	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia
No. 3 Arkansas	LSU	LSU	LSU	Arkansas	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU

indicates "Game to Watch"

The man behind Texas A&M's '100-year decision'

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — In a cordial but firm tone, Texas A&M University President R. Bowen Loftin reiterates that he did not cause this

True, he sensed a crumbling marriage, noted broken vows, found A&M a new soul mate and gladly filed for this divorce. But no, he did not cause it.

The decree reads that the Aggies are leaving the Big 12, not the University of Texas, but bruised feelings have turned Thanksgiving night's UT-A&M game at Kyle Field into a tense, awkward, nationally televised double-annulment.

It will be the Southeastern Conference-bound Aggies' final Big 12

Of greater shock to generations of Texans, Thursday's 118th Aggies-Longhorns clash will be the last for the foreseeable future.

Loftin says. "I can't help but be. It's after four years of overseeing A&M's something I look forward to every year. When we won that game, it was a big deal to us. When they won that game, it was a big deal to them."

If they aren't already, multitudes of Texans might wonder about this Loftin fellow while observing this way-of-life Thanksgiving football tradition for perhaps the last time.

Who is this 5-foot-8, bespectacled, bowtie-wearing physicist who has been Texas A&M's president for a mere 21 months? And who does he think he is?

What compelled this professorial 62-year-old to set A&M on this bold athletic path that he called a "100-year decision" for the university? And is he truly saddened by the A&M-UT fallout?

Loftin arrived on June 15, 2009,

"I'm a little saddened by that," as a little-known interim president 2,000-student, marine-oriented Galveston branch. But he's an Aggie to his core, Class of '71. He grew up just 20 miles southeast of College Station, in Navasota.

He says he was "a very bad thirdstring right guard" in Navasota, but his Aggies football passion is profound. As an 18-year-old freshman, he got sunburned while sitting on the top row of Kyle Field's new upper deck as A&M lost its 1967 season opener

He glumly watched A&M lose that season's first four games under coach Gene Stallings. But the Aggies won their final six, including a 10-7 upset of Texas at Kyle Field.

"I lost my voice that particular game," Loftin recalls. "Many other Aggies did, too."

