

## **Red Raider Club, University Parking Services come out on top**

Final 2011 payment made to **RaiderPark Limited Partnership** 

"(The parking garage) was a university decision. It wasn't a choice We were just kind of told to do it ... " **Heather Medley** 

**Parking Services** 

#### **By CAROLINE COURTNEY and IOANNA MAKRIS** THE DAILY TOREADOR

Texas Tech and its alumni association lost about \$400,000 in 2011 from leasing Raider Park parking garage, while two other Tech-related organizations hesitant about the deal made a profit.

Tech's University Parking Services took in the most profit, despite the fact the university did not request more parking spaces, according to an October 2011 interview with Heather Medley, marketing and training coordinator for University Parking Services.

"(The parking garage) was a university decision," Medley said in October 2011. "It wasn't a choice. We were just kind of told to do it. They wanted it for game days and other things.'

According to the April 2011 lease agreement between Raider-Park Limited Partnership and Tech, University Parking Services would receive the first \$50,000 generated from student parking sold in the garage. However, in 2011, student parking revenues only totaled about \$39,000, meaning University Parkparking revenue.

University Parking Services sold 375 out of 1,000 student parking spaces, as of Nov. 29, 2011, and spent less than \$2,000 on marketing expenses, providing them with more than \$37,000 in profit.

The Red Raider Club, the non-profit fundraising arm of Tech athletics, was the other entity which protested involvement in the Raider Park deal, President

Terry Fuller said. The organization was entitled to 10 percent of game day profits for marketing and ing Services received all the student operational costs on game days, according to the lease.

> Ten percent of game day sales amounted to about \$14,000. The Red Raider Club spent \$6,250 on marketing expenses, leaving it with a profit of some \$8,000.

> In the original 2010 lease agreement between Texas Tech Alumni Association and RaiderPark Limited Partnership, the Red Raider Club was not involved. It was only when Tech renegotiated the lease in April

2011 that the Red Raider Club was asked to market and sell game day parking spaces.

On Oct. 10, 2011, Tech and RaiderPark Limited Partnership agreed to amend the renegotiated lease agreement by paying the rent shortfall in two installments instead of one. The rent shortfall equals the \$750,000 annual lease payment less parking revenues. The Daily Toreador has not received an explanation as to why \$750,000 was agreed upon as the annual rent.

RAIDERPARK cont. on Page 2





PHOTOS BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

ABOVE: FROM BEHIND home plate it is easy to notice a difference between the old backstop and the new tension backstop. Left: The new renovations visible from this view feature an overhead awning, 10 luxury boxes, an updated press box, 1,154 chair-back seats and the lowered backstop.

Tech's baseball park undergoes

## renovations, receives new name

### **By BRETT WINEGARNER** MANAGING EDITOR

Texas Tech baseball fans are going to be walking into an unfamiliarlooking ballpark Feb. 17 - opening day for the Red Raiders.

The park, formerly named Dan Law Field, will boast an extensive \$5 million

facelift and a new name: Rip Griffin Park. Tech coach Dan Spencer said the new renovations are not only aesthetically pleasing, but they also will make the park more fan-friendly and will encourage people to come out on a regular basis to watch a game.

"That's going to be the biggest thing really, outside of recruiting,"

to watch a game.

One key addition to making the confines a little more pleasing to fans is the addition of 1,154 red chair-back seats. Previously, there were no actual singular seats, just benches.

However, the slightly larger space it takes for the chair-back seats to take up, along with the subtraction of the bleachers down the right field line, has made the overall capacity of the stadium drop from 4,466 to 3,867.

BASEBALL continued on Page 7

## Competency hearing set for Aldawsari

### **By CAITLAN OSBORN** NEWS EDITOR

U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings announced Monday that terrorist suspect, and former Texas Tech student, Khalid Ali-M Aldawsari would undergo a hearing Feb. 21 to determine if he is mentally competent.

The judge set the date after receiving Aldawsari's mental health evaluation from the Federal Detention Center in Springfield, Mo.

Cummings ordered a psychiatric evaluation for Aldawsari on Nov. 10 after his attorneys stated their intent to use insanity as a defense.

The motion for a psychiatric examination was unopposed by the U.S. government. Cummings also ordered accused's arrest was obtained illegally an exam to determine if Aldawsari was insane at the time of his arrest.

Aldawsari's defense team, which currently consists of Rod Hobson of Lubbock and Dan Cogdell and Paul Doyle of Houston, claims Aldawsari did not understand the nature of his actions and that he also does not understand the charges filed against him.

They said he cannot adequately assist in his own defense because of his current mental state.

Aldawsari's attorneys also said Aldawsari appears to be suffering from severe delusional visions and beliefs.

A suppression hearing was also set in March to determine whether the evidence uncovered leading to the and should not be revealed to the jury during the April 30 trial, or if the evidence is protected under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

A court hearing took place Oct. 29 for Cummings to consider a defense motion challenging the use of certain evidence in the upcoming trial. The motion also asked Cummings to let the defense team see the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act materials, which are classified and sealed.

They claimed the FISA is unconstitutional and the evidence obtained does not fall under the scope of FISA because the purpose of the FBI's search was to carry out a criminal investigation and not to gather foreign intelligence.

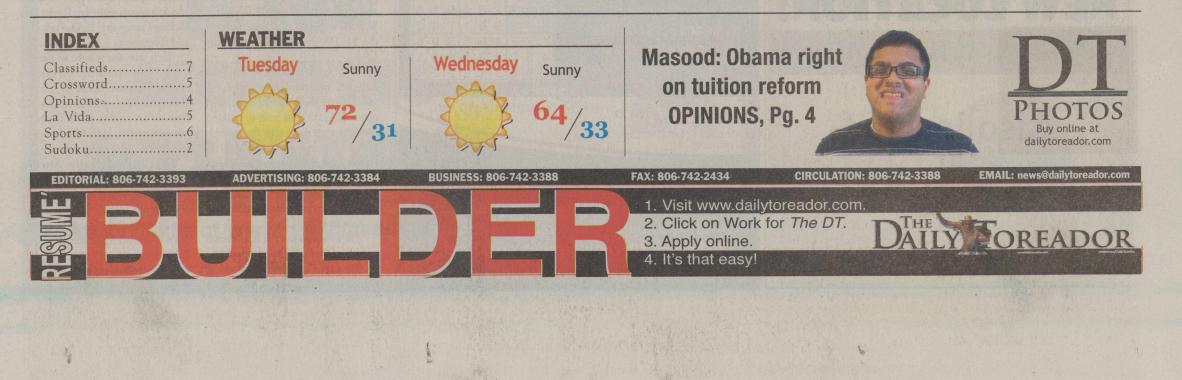
Carolina Biological Supply in Burlington, N.C., first notified FBI agents Feb. 1 of a suspicious purchase of phenol made by Aldawsari. Phenol is defined as a toxic chemical with a variety of uses, including the making of trinitrophenol, an explosive more commonly known as TNP.

The FBI conducted a search of Aldawsari's apartment Feb. 14 with an order under FISA, where they then found a notebook with Arabic writing inside. The police report states the journal confirmed Aldawsari had been planning to commit a terrorist attack in the United States for years.

He was arrested Feb. 23. If convicted, Aldawsari could face life in prison. >>> cosborn@dailytoreador.com



The Red Raiders host the Oklahoma State Cowboys today as they continue the search for their first Big 12 Conference win of the season.



JAN. 31, 2012

**NEWS** 

## Community Calendar

## TODAY

### Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Time: 10 a.m. to Noon Where: McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center So, what is it? Enjoy a presentation by OLLI on "Sculpting with Hot Glass: Wine Stoppers."

### Center for Undergraduate Research

Time: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Where: Student Union Building, Soapsuds Room So, what is it? Join the Center for Undergraduate Research for its spring training session "Utilizing a Lab Notebook" and learn how to create and maintain an effective lab notebook.

Texas Tech Men's Basketball vs. Oklahoma State Time: 7 p.m. Where: United Spirit Arena So, what is it? Support the Red Raiders as they compete against the Cowboys.

### Movie Festival

Time: 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Where: College of Mass Communications, Room 101 So, what is it? Enjoy a presentation for Texas Tech Libraries led by Rob Weiner entitled "Two Mr. Wongs and Non-Asian Portrayals of Major Asian Character in Film."

Winter Chamber Concert Time: 7:30 p.m. Where: The Legacy Event Center So, what is it? Enjoy a night with The Lubbock Symphony Orchestra's string chamber ensemble.

## WEDNESDAY

Daniel Kukla: Captive Landscapes Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Where: Landmark Arts at the Texas Tech School of Art So, what is it? Enjoy Daniel Kukla's photographs of the interior of animal living quarters taken from eight zoos across the U.S. and Europe.

Spring Festival: Year of the Dragon Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Where: Student Union Building So, what is it? Enjoy an event hosted by the Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center to celebrate the 2012 Lunar

New Year "Year of the Dragon." Sorority Spring Recruitment Information Session Time: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Where: Student Union Building, Matador Room

So, what is it? Learn more about Greek Life at Texas Tech and the opportunities to join a sorority. Recruitment events will take place by inviation from participating sororities at the time and location of the sorority's choice. Spring recruitment is more informal and relaxed than fall.

## Texas Tech Women's Basketball vs. Texas A&M Time: 7 p.m. Where: United Spirit Arena So, what is it? Support the Lady Raiders as they compete against the Aggies.

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.

## **US Senate clears way for** vote on insider-trading ban

WASHINGTON (AP) - Congress is rushing to make it absolutely clear to everyone that its members are banned from insider stock trading, hoping to improve their sagging image that has approval ratings at historic lows.

Senators made the first move Monday. Their 93-2 procedural vote cleared the way for Senate passage — possibly later this week — of a bill that would require disclosure of stock transactions within 30 days and explicitly prohibit members of Congress from initiating trades based on nonpublic information they acquired in their official capacity. The legislation, at least partly symbolic in nature, is aimed at answering critics who say lawmakers profit from businesses where they have special knowledge.

U.S. lawmakers already are subject to the same penalties as other investors who use non-public information to enrich themselves, though no member of Congress in recent memory has been charged with insider trading. In 2005, the Securities and Exchange Commission and Justice Department investigated then-Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist's sale of stock in his family's hospital company, but no charges were ever brought against the Tennessee Republican.

Voters may believe lawmakers paid an annual salary of \$174,000 are enriching themselves by making investments based on what they learn in Congress. A recent segment of CBS' "60 Minutes" in November questioned trades by a House committee

chairman, the current speaker and his 11 percent and 13 percent, while predecessor's husband. Speaker John Boehner, former Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Rep. Spencer Bachus, R-Ala., all denied wrongdoing. Bachus chairs the Financial Services Committee.

"Members of Congress are not above the law," Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said before Monday's test vote. "We must play by the same rules every other American plays by." He said the bill "will clear up any perception that it's acceptable for members of Congress to profit from insider trading."

A recent Wall Street Journal/ NBC News poll of registered voters found 56 percent favored replacing the entire 535-member Congress. Other polls this year have given Congress an approval rating between

disapproval percentages have ranged from 79 percent to 86 percent.

Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn. said, "The numbers of people who have a favorable impression of this body are so low that we're down to close relatives and paid staff. And I'm not so sure about the paid staff."

Said Sen. Scott Brown, R-Mass., one of the bill's authors: "Beginning today, the Senate is embarking on a mission to help address the deficit of trust with the American people."

The bill is entitled the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge (STOCK) Act. President Barack Obama endorsed it in his State of the Union speech last week and also raised the issue in his radio and Internet address Saturday.

## Blotter: Student arrested for driving while intoxicated

#### Friday

6:44 a.m. — A Texas Tech officer arrested a non-student for driving with an invalid license in the 2500 block of 4th Street following an observed traffic violation at the intersection of 4th Street and Flint Avenue. The non-student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail. The non-student's vehicle was released to the passenger.

8:35 a.m. — A Tech officer investigated a theft, which occurred at the Barnes & Noble at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center. An employee had been taking money.

12:11 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, without injuries, and duty upon striking an unattended vehicle, which occurred in the C1 parking lot.

3:09 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a theft, which occurred on the 4th floor of the Health Sciences Center. An unsecured bag was taken.

4:34 p.m. — A Tech officer documented information on a medical emergency, which occurred in the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. A student injured his shoulder while lifting weights. The student was transported to the University Medical Center **Emergency Room by Emergency** Medical Service technicians.

#### Saturday

3:42 a.m. — A Tech officer documented information on a medical emergency, which occurred in Sneed Residence Hall. A student was experiencing an allergic reaction to medication. The student was transported to the University Medical Center Emergency Room by Emergency Medical Service technicians.

1:16 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, without injuries, which occurred in the C11 parking lot. 3:00 p.m. — A Texas Tech

Officer investigated a traffic ac-

lor's chief of staff, said this amendment RaiderPark Limited Partnership \$18 Limited Partnership on Dec. 15, 2011. was made at the request of Clayton million to build the garage, according Chris Cook, director of communica-

cident, without injuries, which occurred in the Z4R parking lot. 7:02 p.m. — A Tech officer

arrested a student, which occurred at Sneed Residence Hall for possession of marijuana, and instantiated a Lubbock County citation for possession of drug paraphernalia. The student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

10:55 p.m. — A Tech officer documented damaged property, which occurred at Stangel Residence Hall. An automatic ADA door had fallen down.

#### Sunday

3:27 a.m. — A Tech officer arrested a student for driving while intoxicated, following a traffic stop in the 300 block of Texas Tech Parkway. The student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail. The vehicle was impounded by Lubbock Wrecker Service. 2:50 p.m. — A Tech officer arrested a non-student for

possession of marijuana and an instantiated Lubbock County citation for possession of drug paraphernalia, following a traffic stop in the C2 parking lot. The non-student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail, and the vehicle was impounded by Lubbock Wrecker Service.

#### Monday

12:28 a.m. — A Tech officer investigated criminal mischief, which occurred at Murdough Residence Hall. A water fountain was damaged.

1:37 a.m. — A Tech officer documented a medical emergency, which occurred at Murray Residence Hall. A student had vomited. The student was transported to University Medical Center Emergency Room by Emergency Medical Service technicians.

Information provided by B.J. Watson of the Texas Tech Police Department.

tions and marketing, released three numbers revealing which parties were responsible for the December payment. However, attorneys in Tech's general counsel's office provided incorrect numbers to Cook, who initially claimed the Red Raider Club owed RaiderPark Limited Partnership more than \$35,000. Fuller said this number was "erroneous," and the Red Raider Club never paid RaiderPark Limited Partnership or Tech \$35,000. According to the lease, the Red Raider Club is only responsible for marketing of the garage and operational costs on football game days, which cost them a total of \$6,250. After examining the payment numbers, The Daily Toreador asked to sit down and discuss the payment. Cook said a spreadsheet was being created detailing the numbers and payments. The Daily Toreador requested an explanation from Sheila Kidwell, an attorney in the university's general counsel's office, of the final payment. She said a spreadsheet was compiled explaining the payment. After many phone calls, Kidwell said the original numbers were wrong and that the new spreadsheet would be accurate. Cook sent the spreadsheet to The Daily Toreador the following morning, which has been posted online. The Daily Toreador also posted the return of an open records request filed in September 2011, for all emails and documents related to Raider Park Parking Garage and RaiderPark Limited Partnership. Tech sent the request to the Attorney General to determine whether or not the emails could be released. When the open records request was filed in September 2011, Tech did release some emails, which have also been posted online in a separate file. On Dec. 5, 2011, the Attorney General returned a favorable opinion for The Daily Toreador, releasing most of the emails. However, sections of the emails were withheld due to exemptions provided for under the Texas Public Information Act. » ccourtney@dailytoreador.com >>> imakris@dailytoreador.com

RaiderPark 

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## **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

The Daily Toreador published its first article regarding Raider Park on the first year, because he told his Oct. 26, 2011. The Daily Toreador was not made aware of the October amendment until last week.

Russell Thomasson, the chancel-

Isom, the principal representative for RaiderPark Limited Partnership.

"Clayton wanted two payments bank there would be two, so he asked us to make an exception this year," Thomasson said.

American State Bank loaned

February 3rd is the last day for student-initiated drop on MyTech without penalty. Student-initiated drops made on or after February 4th count against drop limit. SUB Suite 024 East Basement 806•742•SAFE

to Lubbock County deed records, also posted on The Daily Toreador's website. American State Bank was named in the October lease amendment as a joint payee of the October payment from Tech and the alumni association.

Tech and the alumni association paid \$440,000 in rent shortfall in 2010, as previously reported by The Daily Toreador. Thus, Tech and the alumni association's rent shortfall payments to date are about \$427,000 each.

Tech's total rent shortfall payments are capped at \$675,000, according to the lease, in which Isom guaranteed any losses to Tech would be repaid. No such guarantee was given to the alumni association, whose losses are capped at \$525,000.

However, Bill Dean, CEO of the alumni association, said Rex Isom, Clayton Isom's father, said he would make up any losses to the alumni association.

Thomasson said he expects the cap from the stop-loss amount to be met next year, after which Tech and the alumni association would not owe RaiderPark Limited Partnership any rent shortfall. Tech has an eight-year lease, while the alumni association has a four-year lease.

For 2011, Tech made the first payment of approximately \$150,585 to RaiderPark Limited Partnership in October, and the second payment of \$170,207.63 in December.

This \$320,000 total is made up of total game day revenues of about \$143,000, plus one-third of the rent shortfall of about \$207,000, less \$15,000 in operational expenses and the \$14,000 paid to the Red Raider Club.

The alumni association also paid \$207,000, one-third of the rent shortfall. This means Raider Park received about \$527,000 last year in parking receipts and payments from Tech and the alumni association. In 2010, Raider Park received a total of about \$528,000 from the three sources. Clayton Isom has not divulged the annual loan repayment amount owed to American State Bank.

The breakdown of the 2011 costs is posted on The Daily Toreador's website. The Daily Toreador requested the

final amount Tech paid to RaiderPark

#### WWW.DAILYTOREADOR.COM

## Panel discusses safe burning methods

**NEWS** 

#### **By EMILY REYES** STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech students and members of the Lubbock community gathered Saturday morning for a discussion on prescribed fire burns at the Texas Tech National Ranching Heritage Center.

The panel consisted of rangeland fire professionals including Carlton Britton, the former director of the Tech fire ecology department, Attorney Wolf Puckett, Carlos Villalobos, an associate professor at Tech, Charles Taylor, of Texas Agrilife Research, and Sandra Rideout-Hanzak, an associate professor at Texas A&M University in Kingsville.

the historical aspect of ranching but also talk about contemporary issues that ranchers deal with," said Emily Arellano, manager of education programs at the NRHC. "This is a big one this year, so we're just trying to continue with that education."

In consideration of the wildfires Texas has experienced in the last year due to drought, prescribed burning is attracting attention from farmers throughout Texas. The panel members stressed the education of prescribed burning as extremely vital: if done wrong, a wildfire can easily form.

The panel constantly referred to prescribed burning as a natu-"As a ranching museum, we're ral part of ecology and the least palatability nutrition and ac-

also trying to not just talk about expensive method for any farmer cessibility of perennial grasses," wanting to expand or restore their rangeland. They described how controlled burning actually stimulates germination of herbaceous and woody plants for regrowth of new and healthier plants. In return, wildlife will begin to populate that area.

> "From an ecological standpoint, fire is always good," Taylor said.

After burning an area of land, he said, the wildlife count will dramatically decrease in those areas.

Instead, plants such as prickly pear and cedar will be replaced with healthy new grass suitable for any livestock.

Prescribed burning "increases

Rideout-Hanzak said.

Not only are there benefits natural wildfire in the future. Also, controlled burning can be used in other types of lands, such as prairie restoration or forest management.

The benefits of prescribed burning outweigh any other alternative to controlling unwanted plants on a rangeland, the panel said. Prescribed burning is a very effective procedure when done correctly.

Although controlled fires are encouraged, there are plenty of precautions all farmers need to take prior to burning. It was

that planned actions — such management tool." as mapping out an area, asking the county for permission, for livestock, but rangelands assembling a team and providwill not be prone to starting a ing the right equipment — are important.

> Guests at the panel came to the discussion with a handful of questions that were answered at the end, Ranchers, as well as students, were thankful to have the opportunity to speak with professionals about the tactics and principles of controlled burning.

"I'm interested in this because not only does it relate to my major but most importantly, it's not heard of in my country," said graduate student Yanni Chen, a natural resource management major from China. "I haven't involved." stressed by all panel speakers heard of prescribed burning as a

Texas is not the only state that has experienced a wide spread of wildfires, Rideout-Hanzak said. If there was more awareness about the controlled burning methods, there would be less chance for a wildfire to break out.

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Rideout-Hanzak referred to Florida as a state that has the most experience with these procedures. Florida does more prescribed burning than all the other states combined each year, she said.

"We've got to start teaching people about how important it is to put fire on land in a prescribed way," she said, "and it really has to come from everyone

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## Water trucked to Texas town where wells ran dry

AUSTIN (AP) — A Central Texas village that's become the state's first community to run out of water due to a punishing drought will have water trucked in by the Lower Colorado River Authority, officials said Monday.

Agency spokeswoman Clara Tuma said the region's wells are no longer producing enough water to meet Spicewood Beach's needs. The community located on Lake Travis and about 35 miles west of Austin, has about 500 water connections that serve roughly 1,100 people and an elementary school.

The first tanker was expected to arrive Monday afternoon.

"The reading over the weekend showed the levels were stabilizing, but the amount of gallons per minute we were able to draw from the well was going down," Tuma said. "And so it became clear to us that we needed to begin the trucking operation today."

water level drop since October 2010, that capable of carrying between 2,000 when the worst single-year drought in Texas began. Tuma said the authority does not know how long it may have to truck in water, but that a recent storm and conservation efforts had helped slow the decline in the well levels.

"Customers really stepped up to the plate and cut back on water use," Tuma said. "We believe the conservation efforts had a huge impact on extending the life of the well."

The authority placed the community on stage four water restrictions last week that banned all outdoor watering and urged customers to use as little water as possible.

Tuma said the river authority which operates the wells will truck water to Spicewood Beach for as long as necessary, though she did not have an estimate for how much it would cost.

Joe Don Dockery, the Burnet County commissioner responsible for Spicewood Beach has watched the the Spicewood Beach area, said trucks

gallons and 6,000 gallons of already treated water will be used. When the water arrives in Spicewood Beach, it will be treated again and then put into the community's 129,000 gallon holding tank, which has not run completely dry.

The tank holds about four days of water, as long as the community remains under stage four water restrictions.

While other Lake Travis communities have come precariously close to running out of water, this area is unique because their water access is from wells, which take longer to fill even when it rains.

"The hauling of water is just a Band-Aid approach. It's just a shortterm approach," Dockery said.

In the long-term, the LCRA will likely drill new wells or get the community set up on an intake system directly from Lake Travis.

## AL STEEL

PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador

DAKOTA MCDONALD, A senior civil engineering major from Amarillo, makes connections for a steel bridge for the American Society for Civil Engineers on Monday in the Civil and Environmental Engineering building.

Police catch suspect in 75 drug cartel killings

2006.

MONTERREY, Mexico cused of killing in three attacks (AP) — Police in northern Mexico have captured an alleged member of the Zetas drug gang who confessed to killing at least 75 people, including many who were pulled off buses, authorities Domene said. said Monday.

in January and March 2011. Many the victims were originally from the central state of Guanajuato and had arrived in Cerralvo from the border city of Reynosa,

In the border city of Ciudad Juarez, police officers killed three men and detained a fourth Mon-

day after being attacked at a gas

station, authorities said. Elizondo was known "for tor- their patrol cars at a gas station and are allowed to take their guns a few blocks from the Zaragoza border crossing into El Paso, Texas, when they were attacked, a police statement said. The officers returned fire, killing three assailants, and they also seized two assault rifles, two handguns and a hand grenade, it said. Last week, messages signed by the New Juarez drug cartel and left in several parts of the city claimed Police Chief Julian Levzaola is favoring a rival cartel. It said that one officer would be killed daily if their members continue to be arrested. Five police officers have been killed since. Leyzaola was not immediately available to comment on Monday's attack. the weekend, Mayor Hector Murguia said the recent string of attacks on law enforcement officers was a response from criminals affected by Leyzaola's work.

to be sold," he said, referring to a police crackdown in downtown Juarez as part of the city's efforts to combat crime.

As a safety measure, police officers are now required to leave The officers were refueling precincts wearing street clothes

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news and sports

Robert Lance

Enrique Elizondo Flores told investigators 36 of his victims were bus passengers traveling through the town of Cerralvo, near the border with Texas, said Nuevo Leon state security spokesman Jorge Domene.

Elizondo was detained Jan. 20 in the town of Salinas Victoria, but authorities delayed announcing his arrest so they could verify details of his confession, state Attorney General Adrian de la Garza said.

Domene said the 35-year-old suspect told investigators that he had been working in the area at least three years and that he was in charge of killing members of the rival Gulf drug cartel head-General Trevino.

Elizondo and other gunmen last January began pulling passengers off buses as they arrived at Cerralvo's bus station, Domene said. They are among at least 92 bus passengers the Zetas are ac-

turing, maiming and then killing his victims," Domene said.

Last year, authorities in the neighboring state of Tamaulipas unearthed 193 bodies from clandestine graves in the town of San Fernando. Security forces said they were led to the site by members of the Zetas who confessed to kidnapping and killing bus passengers traveling through the area.

The motive for the bus abductions remains unclear. Prosecutors have suggested the gang may be forcefully recruiting people to work for it or trying to kill rivals they suspected were aboard the buses.

Northeastern Mexico has been ing to the towns of Cerralvo and engulfed by a turf battle between the Gulf Cartel and the Zetas since they split in 2010.

More than 47,000 people have been killed nationwide since President Felipe Calderon launched a crackdown against drug traffickers in December

"Go downtown, there are no more brothels where drugs used

home. The city also is considering plans to rent hotels to quarter all the police force.

In 2009, then Police Chief Roberto Orduna quit after several police officers were killed and their bodies dumped along with messages saying more officers would be killed unless he resigned.

Leyzaola is no stranger to threats. Shortly after he was hired in 2011, the body of a tortured man was left in a street with a message to Leyzaola that read, "This is your first gift."

In April 2009, when he was police chief in western border city of Tijuana, drug traffickers took over police radio frequencies to In a public appearance over say that if he didn't quit, many police officers would die.

> A few days after, seven officers were killed in separate but coordinated attacks. Drug traffickers took over the police radio frequencies again to say their threat had been carried out.

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PAGE 4 TUESDAY, JAN. 31, 2012

**Obama right on tuition reform** 

n his State of the Union speech last week, President Obama laid out his plan for higher education reform, namely, controlling the spiraling costs of college education.

While outlining his agenda, Obama reprimanded universities and colleges for skyrocketing tuition rates and sternly warned them, "If you can't stop tuition from going up, the funding you get from taxpayers will go down. Higher education can't be a luxury, it is an economic imperative that every family should be able to afford.'

College tuition rates in the United States have gotten out of control. Some of this is due to reduced government funding. According to the Grapevine report, an annual report on higher education funding published by Illinois State University, 41 states reduced funding for colleges and universities for the 2011-12 fiscal year. Of these, 14 states reduced funding by more than 10 percent. The most extreme was New Hampshire, which reduced public funding by 41 percent.

The increase in tuition costs is not a recent phenomenon and is not entirely due to reduced government funding, however. According to the New York Times, from 1982 to 2007, tuition and fees increased a whopping 439 percent. In this same period, median-family incomes



rose a comparatively paltry 147 percent.

To cover this ever increasing gap, more and more students and their families have had to borrow money not only from public sources such as federal aid but increasingly from private leges and universities as well.

banks. This has had dire consequences.

In the past year, student loan debt topped \$1 trillion and for the first time in history has exceeded credit card debt. Unlike most other types of debt, includ-

ing credit card debt, education loans cannot be ing federal funding for low-interdischarged in bankruptcy court.

This is an incredibly alarming trend. Besides debt, skyrocketing tuition will have other consequences. Many Americans with be extremely beneficial for stularge education debt will put off certain plans such as buying a house, starting a family and other career plans.

drives an economy. A more educated workforce eventually pays dividends in any economic system. In a global, 21st century economy, a highly educated workforce will be necessary in order for this country to compete with rising economic powers such as China and India.

Texas is not immune to this crisis. Unwise and drastic education budget cuts will have consequences not only for K-12 education but for the state's col-

This will be

Many of

especially challenging Education is not for Texas Tech only the engine as it pushes for tier-one stathat drives an tus. economy, but is Obama's proposals will also the backbone be helpful in

Education is the engine that Race to the Top program meant to spur reform in K-12 education, will provide incentives for states to keep the cost of a college education down.

OPINIONS

Obama's proposals are not without fault, however. His proposal to punish schools that increase at too high a rate is misguided blame in some cases where universities and colleges are hampered by drastic budget cuts. It also may punish needy students whose ability to achieve higher education may be hurt.

Regardless of what bills and plans are passed, a return to emphasis on the importance and availability of higher education is of utmost importance. Many leaders in Austin and Washington, including our own Governor Perry, talk at length about the importance of a college education. But if one were to judge these same leaders on their actions instead of their words, then one would be led to believe that higher education is not a priority at all.

Education is not only the engine that drives an economy, but is also the backbone of a society. If we as a state and nation do not take care of that backbone, then this nation will be in a world of pain in the future.

**Masood is a senior history** major from Plano.

>>> hmasood@dailytoreador.com

## Apple should lead way for work standards

#### **By DANIELLE FAIPLER** THE DAILY ATHENAEUM (WEST VIRGINIA U.)

Last May, an Apple factory in Chengdu, China exploded due to unsafe working conditions and hazardous materials. There were two blasts that year; four workers were

killed and 77 were injured.

ment of overseas workers. A human life is not worth a cell phone, no matter how cheap the labor. Companies have obligations to establish fair wages, and inform workers of their rights even if the factory is located a three-bedroom apartment. outside the U.S.

in policy will inhibit the production vironment for workers. In 2005,

Furthermore, an article in USA Today reported that workers must produce 4,000 computers per shift, and company-provided dorms are cramped with 20 workers living in

Apple has started taking the Companies are afraid big changes initiative to create a better enexecutives met to draft the Apple

Apple partnered with Verite and the Fair Labor Association to assess the effectiveness of the training programs. The report found the programs raised workers' understanding and comprehension of their rights.

However, there have still been reports some suppliers are not meeting the requirements. It is essential for Apple to keep

'Liberal media bias' is a harmful fallacy

#### **By JOSEPH MISULONAS** DAILY NORTHWESTERN (NORTHWESTERN U.)

Many media pundits attribute Newt Gingrich's win in the South Carolina primary last Saturday to his attacks on the liberal media during his recent debate performances.

The day before the primary, Gingrich called John King "despicable" for asking a question about his ex-wife alleging in an interview that Gingrich asked her for an open marriage. Based on that question, I think we can infer that Newt Gingrich knows despicable behavior.

But was John King despicable for asking Gingrich about this Nightline interview? Absolutely not.

The amount of debates that have taken place in this primary are making Charlie Sheen's media barrage look restrained. The candidates, more or less, all agree on the same fundamental ideas (Ron Paul excluded), and rarely in these debates do we hear the candidates offer anything new. If we don't ask the candidates questions about their personal lives, CNN might as well just show a re-run of one of the November debates.

Gingrich used this question to unload on one of his favorite talking points — the "biased liberal media" myth.

If you have never watched Fox News, here is what I mean by the "biased liberal media" myth: That all the major news outlets have a bias against conservatism and are actively engaged in trying to make liberals look good and conservatives look bad.

This is simply not true. Journalists are taught to remain objective in their reporting. Objectivity is a point of pride for many professional journalists. While there is no denying that publications such as The New York Times or The Washington Post have liberal leanings, they contain their political statements to the editorial page, just like conservative publications such as The Wall Street Journal do.

won't report on the same stories and issues as Fox News.

Essentially, conservatives want the media to criticize liberals more often. The problem with that is the media has to remain objective. While the economy is in bad shape, the media cannot lop all their criticism at President Obama. It would be unfair.

Gingrich has been particularly focused on attacking the media in recent weeks. Besides the confrontation with King, he got into a heated exchange with Fox News' Juan Williams over comments Gingrich made about blacks demanding paychecks, not food stamps, and earlier this week he criticized NBC's Brian Williams for instructing the audience at Monday's Republican debate to refrain from applauding and cheering.

It is no surprise that Gingrich's recent rise in the polls is coming at the same time as his attacks on the media have increased. Conservative voters are buying into this liberal-bias-in-the-media myth.

The problem isn't that conservative voters are consulting only conservative news outlets. That is entirely their choice. My problem is that this liberal-media bashing is limiting conservative voters' scopes of information.

A recent poll by Fairleigh Dickinson U. showed that Fox News viewers are less informed than people who watch no television news. Fox News viewers are subjected to these attacks on the media, and it's convincing them not to consult other news sources. The New York Times and The Washington Post may be considered liberal newspapers, but that doesn't mean the things they report are false.

The same thing goes for liberals reading the Wall Street Journal. Just because you don't agree with a paper's editorial board doesn't mean you shouldn't read the paper.

People should seek knowledge much as possible. We shouldn't

ameliorating of a society. the current higher education funding crisis. Increasest Perkins loans from \$1 billion to \$8 billion will be beneficial for needy students. Raising the number of work-study jobs will

> dents who choose to work while in school. The creation of a \$1 billion

grant competition, similar to the

Media attention to the Foxconn suicides also heightened concern for supplier factory workers.

In 2010, four Foxconn workers committed suicide and 14 workers attempted suicide. A study in BMC Public Health found strong evidence supporting the idea that the suicides were related to poor factory conditions.

The pressure to develop new technologies and keep costs low has played a major part in the mistreatand innovation of new products, so they cut production costs at the workers expense. Apple has achieved the status as an icon and innovator by producing brilliant technologies other companies try to imitate, and it needs to lead other companies to construct a higher production standard.

Overseas, workers at Taiwanbased company Foxconn revealed in interviews they stand for most of their shift with little or no breaks.

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## DAILY TOREADOR

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brand, and it

Conduct. Since then, the company has audited more than 300 factories, finding violations in almost half of them.

Violations included extended overtime, a six-day workweek, employment of

under-aged workers and falsified records.

Apple stated in its policy all discovered labor violations are attended to immediately. When an audit uncovers a violation, the supplier has 90 days to make changes to meet the code of conduct. If the supplier is unwilling to make these changes, then Apple will end the partnership.

The policy seems to be working. According to the 2011 Apple progress report, employees are trained to understand their rights, the Apple Supplier Code of Conduct and employment laws. Factories are also trained how to manage "third-party recruiters" and to meet environmental standards.

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making these positive chang-Apple is a strong es because the company will influence how other companies treat workers should carry its and will create a higher standard name to labor laws to improve conditions in China. across the ocean. American-based companies in China generate more revenue

> than the agriculture industry, however, they receive less than 2 percent of the profit from producing Apple products - and it is unacceptable.

In an article in The Los Angelas Times, Apple chief executive Tim Cook said the company "will continue to dig deeper, and we will undoubtedly find more issues ... what we will not do, and never have done, is stand still or turn a blind eye to problems in our supply chain. On this you have my word.

Apple needs to keep this promise, and push its big suppliers like Foxconn to make changes and create higher standards for overseas labor.

Apple is a strong brand, and it should carry its name to labor laws across the ocean.

Toreador, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

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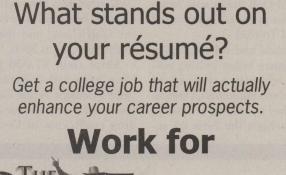
Almost every news organization, whether it be newspaper, magazine or broadcast television, is owned by a media conglomerate run by wealthy, conservative CEOs. If their organizations were too liberally biased, wouldn't they intervene?

Conservatives generally point out that the mainstream media

limit our scope to newspapers and news shows that reinforce our own opinions. We should try to expand our horizons and become more well-rounded and well-informed citizens.

Politicians need citizens to be knowledgeable. If we want our country to start heading in the right direction, we need voters who are well-informed when picking the leaders who will solve our problems.

Politicians and the media don't have to be at war. In fact, they can both be tools in making our country less problematic.



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Have questions? Email us at: editor@dailytoreador.com



PAGE 5 TUESDAY, JAN. 31, 2012

## Tech polo club recruits new members

#### **By MICHAEL DUPONT II** STAFF WRITER

The spring semester means the beginning of a new season for the Texas Tech Polo Club.

Bobby Sumners, a computer science major from Midland, said one of the many things he enjoys about being a member of the polo club is the travel.

"We go to Stillwater to play" OSU," he said. "We go to Austin a lot, Dallas every now and again and we practice in Midland sometimes."

Sumners referred to polo as the sport of kings because it was considered a popular sport among kings centuries ago.

The polo club achieved its highest award in 2006 when it defeated Texas A&M for Tech's first men's national title.

Clyde Waddell, adviser and coach to the polo club, said the membership of the club has grown

since he first began coaching the how far they have come since he team more than two decades ago.

When we first started, we had three horses and three people," he said. "Now we have 43 people and 30 horses."

Waddell said at one time the club had difficulties finding team members.

'We used to have Double T days in the Student Union Building," he said. "Everyone would have a booth and I'd see someone walk by and say, 'You ride?' they'd say 'no' then I'd ask them, 'Do you want to?' and that was how we got our riders."

The club now has more than 40 members and a growing base, after potential members showed up eager to learn about the club at the rush event.

Waddell said he has not lowered his expectations for the club this season.

He said the recent successes of the club has made him proud to see

began coaching the team.

"We started off with nothing," he said. "Then we won the championship and the last two years we've been to regionals and the finals. We've come a long way."

Meagan Florence, a junior exercise sports sciences major from Mansfield, said polo is a new experience for her.

"I've been riding since I was four, but I didn't pick up polo until I came to Tech," she said.

Like Florence, many of the members in the club have riding experience, but never played the sport until they came to Tech.

Florence, vice president of the club, said one of the biggest things she gets out of riding is a clear head.

"When I ride I don't think about anything else," she said. "I don't worry about anything else. It's therapeutic."

>>>mdupont@dailytoreador.com



STUDENTS RIDE HORSES around the polo arena at the Texas Tech Polo Club's spring semester rush party Saturday.

## Tech Red Cross dedicated to helping Lubbock community

#### **By HALLIE DAVIS** STAFF WRITER

From 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., Joseph Peterson, a graduate student of exercise and sports sciences, is often "on call."

During this time, the Lubbock Chapter of the American Red Cross can call him to assist with most emergencies that may happen in the area.

Along with most of Texas Tech's American Red Cross Club, Peterson, an Amarillo native, is trained in Disaster Services and can assist in most cases the Red Cross is called out for.

He said he and others will often hand out food, water or blankets to people displaced in apartment fires or other disasters. They are trained to care for the people's physical needs as well as to be there for them think of when they hear Red Cross. "It's not just CPR," she said. "There's something for everyone."

campus as well, participating in events like SafeTreat and Relay for Life. Though its main goal remains to help the Lubbock chapter in any way possible.

"There's a gap," said junior Paige Nash, a marketing management major from Dallas. "There's a need in the city (for students to) get involved."

Nash said the club could build a bridge between campus and the Lubbock residents the club helps. In this way, students are able to start giving back and hopefully being involved for a long time to come.

"It's good to start helping young," Trewin said, "and to know that the Red Cross is a lifetime of volun- disasters. teering."

The club does just that by volunteering at soup kitchens, holding food drives and raising money for The club stays involved on the Lubbock chapter of the Red Cross.

> The group at Tech and the Red Cross chapter often work with other nonprofits. Nash said this is not the case in most cities, and Lubbock is lucky to have so many organizations willing to partner to help out.

"All of the nonprofits complement each other in Lubbock," she said. "It's really great."

One of the club's next events will be going to local elementary schools to teach a class called Masters of Disaster, about how to react in an emergency or disaster situation g Nash said. The students will learn general safety and how to prepare for tornadoes and other natural

"If we can teach a kid to help someone else and to help themselves, we can prevent a lot of bad things," Nash said.



emotionally.

Sophomore Danyelle Trewin, an electronic media and communications major from Gainesville, said the club's goal has always been to have someone on call. For those who may not be interested in that aspect though, she said there are other options people might not Peterson said.

Peterson, the club's president, also is trained to help with casework and is CPR certified. While not every member of the club has the same credentials, all are dedicated to helping people in need.

"Students are in a unique position to impact the community,"

The American Red Cross Club at Texas Tech will have its first meeting of the semester at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 8 in the Soapsuds Room of the Student Union Building. >>> hdavis@dailytoreador.com

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAIGE NASH

/12

HEEDS

S K I E R

RED CROSS CLUB members Vianna Nguyen, Jasmine Kim, TJ Wiercinski, Danyelle Trewin and Jessica Holligsworth help out at Trick or Treat Tech during the Tech vs. Baylor volleyball game.

## LSO hosts final performance of concert series

#### **By PAIGE SKINNER** STAFF WRITER

The Lubbock Symphony Orchestra will host its final performance of the Chamber Concert series at 7:30 p.m. today at The Legacy Event Center.

The concert will be a piano trio, which will feature a pianist, violinist and cellist.

Annie Jones, marketing coordinator of the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, said a piano trio has an interesting sound.

"If you've never heard piano trios before, it's really interesting because it's a unique sound with a piano and a violin and a cello," she said.

Tomasz Golka will be playing the violin, Jeffrey Zeigler on the cello and Jose Feghali on the piano.

Golka is the music director for the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, and this will be his last performance on the violin in Lubbock.

"He'll conduct twice more, but this is his last performances on the violin," Jones said. "He's leaving. He won't be our music director starting in the 12th, 13th season.'

Jones said the third and final performance of the concert series will have fewer people in attendance than previous concerts by the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra.

"It's really intimate," she said. "Whereas our MasterCenter have as many as 1,300 people over the course of the weekend, this one is probably more like 250 — kind of the size of a small wedding in comparison."

She said the audience might said. get to mingle with the musicians after the concert. The music is also more dissimilar than previous concerts.

"The music itself is really diverse," Jones said. "We've got some traditional, like with Dvorak, a pretty well-known composer. We also have some new music by our composer-inresidence, Jude Vaclavik. He's pretty young."

Golka said people can expect great music from Zeigler and Feghali, who are two internationally renowned musicians.

"I think it's a great opportunity to hear Jose Feghali and Jeffrey Zerigle," Golka said about the concert. "Jose is a gold medalist of the Van Cliburn Competition, probably the biggest piano competition in the world, and Jeff is part of the Kronos Quartet, which is the most famous quartet in the world, so you've got a very rare treat. The music we're playing is magnificent."

While continuing to serve his musical director position at the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, Golka is also the music director of Riverside County Philharmonic in California. He will continue to

works concerts in the Civic serve there after leaving the have music for everyone in the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra

> during concerts, but today he will play instead.

"I love both equally," Golka Golka said the concert will audience.

"It's a program that has He said he usually conducts a little bit of something for everybody, he said including some of the most famous piano trios ever written, the one by Brahms and Dvorak," he said. >>> pskinner@dailytoreador.com



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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

## "Goals are the fuel in the furnace of achievement." ~Brian Tracy

SUB Suite 024 East Basement 806•742•SAFE

PAGE 6 TUESDAY, JAN. 31, 2012

# SPORTS

## Tech hosts OSU, seeks first Big 12 win of season

### **By CHOIS WOODMAN** STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech will face Oklahoma State tonight in Lubbock, as the Red Raiders are still searching for their first win in Big 12 Conference play.

Despite their current losing streak, the Red Raiders are showing improvement on the court, Tech coach Billy Gillispie said.

"I think they're getting better dramatically," he said, "just having a hard time winning against really good competition, but I'm really excited about the direction they're headed."

Tech's latest loss was against the No. 4 Missouri Tigers on Saturday in Columbia, Mo. The loss extended Tech's woes away from home, pushing its record to 1-9 when playing away from United Spirit Arena this season.

The team's struggles on the court come as a result of too many unnecessary mistakes, the first-year coach said.

"We just have too many unforced turnovers," Gillispie said. "That's one thing where we haven't improved like we need to over the course of the season because we just keep on giving the ball away."

The young team has to build chemistry on both the offensive and defensive side of the ball, Gillispie said.

"It takes time to establish that chemistry," he said. "Defense is learning how to talk to each other, learning whose voice is speaking to you, know when you're moving, trying to guard a very, very good player, and that takes time."

Tech is starting to gel on defense and is showing stronger chemistry as a unit, Gillispie said.

"We've gotten much, much, much better," he said. "We've had



TEXAS TECH'S JORDAN Tolbert dunks the ball during the Red Raiders' 69-47 loss against Kansas State in United Spirit Arena on Wednesday.

our moments where we've really rebounded well and that's the last part of defense, and we have to continue to get better if we want to have a chance to win games in the Big 12."

The Red Raiders stymied Missouri to shooting less than 40 percent from the field for just the second time this season.

Tech needs to focus on rebounding the basketball better against the Cowboys on Tuesday, Tech freshman Jordan Tolbert said.

"We gave up a lot of rebounds against them," he said. "We'll try to go to somebody's chest when the ball goes up."

Keiton Page will be a player the Red Raiders lock onto throughout



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S JAYE Crockett jumps to dunk the ball as Kansas State guard Omari Lawrence attempts to block it during the Red Raiders' 69-47 loss against the Wildcats in United Spirit Arena on Wednesday.

the course of the game, Gillispie the game if they play smart, Gilsaid:

"He influences every single offensive possession when they have the ball," he said.

Page, one of two seniors for the Cowboys, leads Oklahoma State in of the season.' scoring with 14.5 points per game. The Red Raiders have a long

way to go, but the team can win

lispie said.

You have to become mentally tough as well as physically tough," he said, "and I think they've done that dramatically over the course

Oklahoma State and Tech are the only two teams in the Big 12 with losing records.

However, Tolbert said the players are confident they will win the game against the Cowboys.

"There is no question that we can win tomorrow," he said. "The focus in practice is getting better, so we can finish on something that we should have finished earlier in the season.'

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## Big 12 race tightens up as teams pass midway mark

(AP) — Kansas coach Bill Self is be a really good record and 15-3 first place heading into a home game back in October, before the season began and long before the Big 12 race started heating up. Four losses will still mean a chance to win the league. Three may be good enough to do it outright.

sticking by the prediction he made would be one that wins it outright." Wednesday against Oklahoma and

The math is certainly skewed in a road game Saturday night at Mis-

## Fan pleads not guilty in Jets game stun gun case

HACKENSACK, N.J. (AP) - A South Carolina man ac- including aggravated assault and cused of using a stun gun on other unlawful possession of a weapon. MetLife Stadium on Sept. fans during a fight at a New York Jets-Dallas Cowboys game last year pleaded not guilty Monday to several criminal charges. A lawyer for Leroy McKelvey of Moncks Corner, S.C., entered the plea in state court in Hackensack. McKelvey, who came to court dressed in a suit and tie and using a cane to walk, didn't speak during the brief proceeding or afterward except to tell reporters that Monday was his 60th birthday.

McKelvey faces eight counts said outside court.

anthem

McKelvey was arrested at

He is scheduled to return to court March 5 for a status conference on the case.

McKelvey's attorney, Raymond Hamlin, said he had turned down a plea offer of three years in prison for his client. The aggravated assault charges are thirddegree crimes and carry prison sentences of five to 10 years upon conviction.

"The plea offer includes jail time, and we don't feel that's appropriate for this case," Hamlin



11. According to reports, he became involved in an altercation with other fans when he remained seated during the singing of the national

Stadium CEO Mark Lamping has said no one was seriously hurt in the incident during the Jets' 27-24 victory.

Security had been beefed up for the game because it was the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The eighth-ranked Jayhawks had a two-game lead heading into last weekend, but a loss at Iowa State on Saturday bunched up the standings.

Fourth-ranked Missouri and No. 6 Baylor were a game back heading into Monday night's slate of games, as the Big 12 reaches the midway mark of a newly expanded 18-game conference schedule.

"I think it's a coin toss, I really do," said Self, whose Jayhawks have won seven straight conference championships. "You can make a case that we're in good shape, but we still have to go to hard places some real hard places.'

In Self's estimation, Missouri may be the front-runner heading into the Tigers' game Monday night against Texas. They've had arguably the toughest road so far.

"To me, even though teams with four losses, whether that be Kansas State or Iowa State or whatever, they can still win the league," Self said during the coaches' Monday teleconference. "I think 14-4 would

the revamped Big 12.

In the past, the dozen teams that comprised the league played each team from its own division twice, and alternated home and road games on a yearly basis with teams from the other division.

The result was 16 games with a bye week thrown in the mix somewhere.

That extra time off has been eliminated, and two more games against rugged conference foes put in its place. Now, teams play home and road games with every other opponent, resulting in the 18-game meat-grinder that should serve to separate pretenders from contenders soon enough.

"There is no easy game," said Baylor coach Scott Drew, whose team lost at Kansas but awaits a return trip from the Jayhawks next week. "Really, it's a matter of who can succeed and thrive on the road and defend the home court. That's where the league will be decided."

Everybody in the league has at least three conference wins except Texas Tech, which remains winless through eight games. That gives a pretty good indication of the Big 12's depth.

Kansas (17-4, 7-1) remains in Oklahoma last Saturday.

souri, the first of two matchups between bitter rivals down the stretch that could have as big an impact as anything on the eventual champion.

"I haven't put a lot of thought into this weekend and Kansas," Missouri coach Frank Haith said, "but I do know when I got the job, they made sure to tell me how important a game it is, and how passionate people are about that game."

While it appears that the Jayhawks, Tigers and Bears have separated themselves from the rest of the Big 12 — at least according to the national polls, which have all three in the top 10 — that isn't necessarily the case.

Iowa State is still in the thick of the race, and is coming off a confidence-building 72-64 win over the Jayhawks on Saturday. The Cyclones (15-6, 5-3) have already played Kansas twice and Missouri once, and could climb into position to challenge for its first Big 12 title since 2001 before a three-game finishing kick against Kansas State, Missouri and Baylor.

The Wildcats (15-5, 4-4) wasted an opportunity to keep pace with the league leaders when they failed to defend their home court against



## Rangers give manager Washington extension through the 2014 season

ARLINGTON (AP) — Texas manager Ron Washington has signed a two-year contract extension after leading the Rangers to the World Series for the second straight season.

The deal Monday puts Washington under contract through the 2014 season.

Washington has a 427-383 record in five seasons with Texas, his first big league managerial job. He is the first manager in major league history to increase his team's win total in four consecutive seasons after his initial year with a club.

"He's become a great manager, and a good personal friend and partner in all that we do," general manager Jon Daniels said. "And obviously a huge part of our success, in my mind, is his ability to set the tone in that clubhouse to continue to teach the game to guys at the big league level and to demand a lot from our players."

Texas won 75 games in Washington's first season, in 2007 after he replaced the fired Buck Showalter. The win total increased each year after that - to 79, 87, 90 and then a franchise-record 96 last season.

The Rangers had never won a playoff series before winning the last two American League pennants.

## Baseball **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

But with the drop in capacity comes added benefits, such as fans being able to sit significantly closer to the field.

The backstop behind home plate has been lowered as new seats have been put in, and fans will be closer to the action than ever before at Rip Griffin Park.

The seats also will include a new shading structure, which will be covered with a red material and will have a red glow at night when lit.

Barrett Barnes, the junior centerfielder who has already garnered such honors as being named a preseason All-American by College Sports Madness and was dubbed the No. 8 outfielder in the nation by Perfect Game, said he enjoys seeing the colors the chairs add to the park and is ready for everyone to be able to witness it for themselves.

"It's looking good, you know. They put in those new red seats the other day so that added a little bit of color, and we got that red top," he said. "So now we're just waiting for it to all get put together and we're just waiting for opening day when everyone gets to see it."

Another major improvement fans will notice from the stands is the elimination of the dense protective netting and the poles holding it up behind home plate.

The addition of new, tensioned backstop netting will not only protect fans, but also give them a much better and unobstructed view of the park.

One of the biggest changes to the park will be the removal of the old luxury and press boxes, which have been replaced with completely new ones.

The 14 luxury suites the stadium had before have been replaced with 10 new suites equipped with a garage-like after we broke ground, and they door in which the people occupying the suite have control of even before it was here. But the whether they want to raise it to energy and obviously what's out feel like they are sitting outside or if they want it closed.

The old press box was replaced with a new press box, radio and broadcast areas and a new club level featuring a lounge

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PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

THE VIEW FROM coach Dan Spencer's new office. The space behind the seats down the right field line was originally planned to be an outdoor picnic area, but the design was changed to incorporate the coaches' offices.

area inside and chair-back seats if they had seen the park before outside.

Incoming freshman outfielder Zach Reding said he was really impressed with the new additions to the park, and the fact that the stadium is expanding factored into his choice to play at Tech.

'Whenever I saw the new buildings coming up, I was like, 'That will be a nice place to play at," he said, "so it made an easier decision for me where to play."

Spencer also noted the impact the renovations will have on future recruits, as he said future recruiting classes have already shown signs of being influenced by the updated park.

"I think we are really seeing the benefits now early in the 2013 and 2014 classes," Spencer said. "It's been really good with the camps and the tournaments that we've had in the summer kind of knew it was coming here now — it's only going to help us a bunch."

Any recruit or fan that comes to the park will certainly notice the completely redesigned entrance to the stadium, especially

SFEDS

the changes.

It will feature two large bricked towers that will have a sign reading "Rip Griffin Park" as fans walk in, and the ground in front of the new entrance will have a landscaped circular seating area centered around a brick inlaid Double T.

There have been very few changes to the plans after ground was broken for the renovations on June 24, 2011. One of the biggest changes was the exclusion of a new picnic area down the right field line. This area, was changed into the new baseball coaches' offices.

Tech had not made any upgrades to the stadium in a few years; however, it has made many significant upgrades in the past 10 years. In 2002, \$1.3 million dollars was used to construct a new clubhouse, complete with locker rooms, coaches' offices, training and equipment rooms and along with batting and pitching cages.

A new outfield fence also was constructed, along with bullpens in left and right fields. The last cosmetic update occurred last year as a brick façade was added above the dugouts and around the front of the stands behind

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home plate.

Then, in 2004, RaiderVision was introduced at the stadium for the first time as a new video board/scoreboard was installed in right-center field.

The most recent update prior to this one was in 2007, when the artificial turf and natural grass outfield was replaced with state-of-the-art FieldTurf, which, at the time, made Tech the only Big 12 Conference school to have FieldTurf on the infield and outfield.

This current update also marks the first time the stands have been updated since 1995, when the seating was expanded to 5,050 and a new press box and 14 luxury suites were added.

While the stadium has changed significantly throughout the past few years and has undergone a drastic change in this recent renovation, some players are just glad to see that the remaining bench seats will have the back part of them repainted.

"It's good to get those pink bleachers out and get some new seats," senior pitcher John Neely said. "Hopefully we will have a big crowd to fill it out."

The renovations are still being completed, but are said to be



PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

A LOOK AT the new luxury and press boxes, awning and chair-back seats and the recently renamed Rip Griffin Park. The \$5 million dollar renovations are not completely finished, but are expected to be completed by opening day Feb. 17, as the Red Raiders start their season against Missouri State.

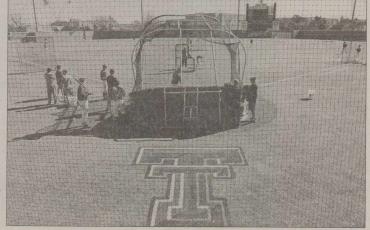


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador THE VIEW FROM behind home plate with the new tensioned backstop netting at the recently renovated Rip Griffin Park. These seats are now chair-back seats instead of bench seating.

on time for completion before first pitch is scheduled for 4 p.m. Tech's first game.

The Red Raiders' first game will be against Missouri State as

Web site to get started!

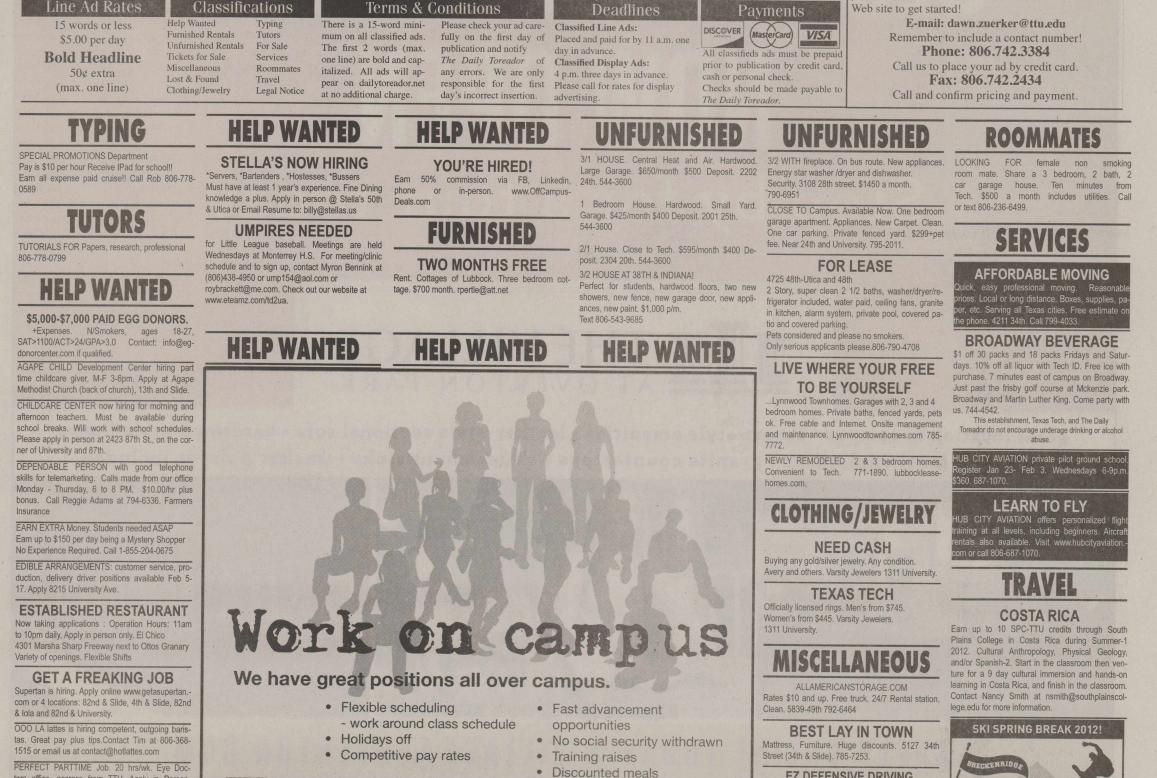
on Feb. 17 at Rip Griffin Park.

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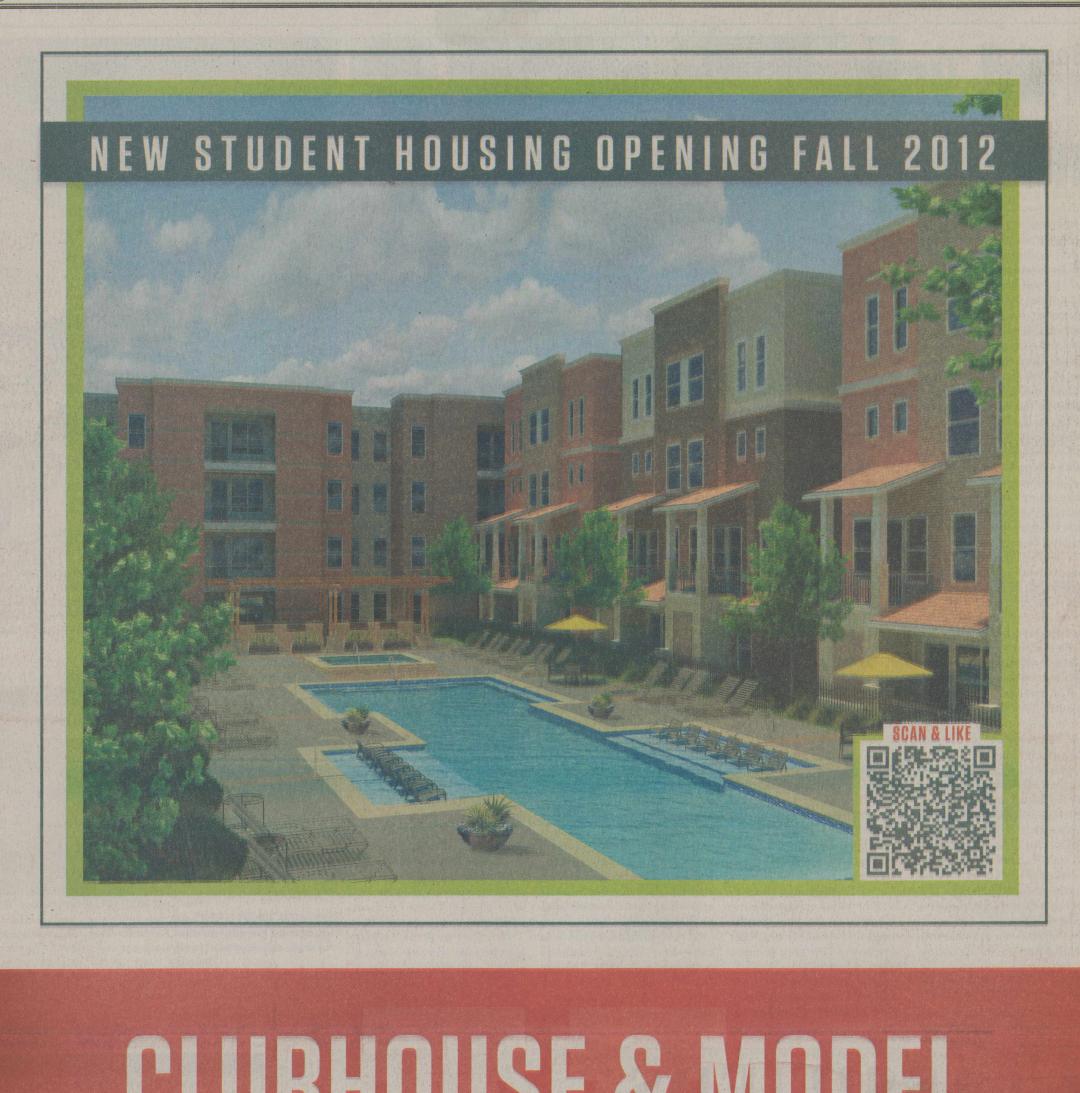
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