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THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012
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Foreign Service Journal's editor-in-chief visits Tech

Honley said war in Iraq was costly, both financially, strategically

By **CAITLAN OSBORN**
NEWS EDITOR

Steve Honley, editor-in-chief of the *Foreign Service Journal*, the American Foreign Service Association's monthly magazine, spoke at the McKenzie-Merkel Alumni Center on Wednesday about why he believes the United States' war in Iraq was unnecessary.

Honley shared his thoughts with a room of local journalists, members of the Department of International Affairs and mass communications students and professors, as part of the

Texas Tech College of Mass Communications William S. Morris III Distinguished Lecture Series.

Tibor Nagy, former ambassador and vice provost of international affairs, said he has known Honley for years and admires his work with the *Foreign Service Journal*.

"It's a wonderful magazine," he said. "The really neat thing about this is the articles are written by very prestigious people, and not just people who study about these events, but people who participate in them."

The publication covers a variety of controversial topics, Nagy said.

"If (Honley) doesn't get a basketful of critical letters after an edition, I know that it bothers him somewhat," he said, with a smile.

Honley discussed whether going to war with Iraq was necessary.

"In a single word, no," he said. "As we mark the ninth anniversary of Operation Iraqi Freedom, I believe it's vital to reflect on our experiences there. Nine years ago this week, on March 19, 2003, the United States launched Operation Iraqi Freedom by bombing a building where Saddam Hussein was thought to be hiding. The dictator's regime crumbled almost instantly, though it took (years) to capture him."

In order to assess whether the war was a just cause, Honley said,

people need to tally the cost — both in human and fiscal terms. He said American casualties in Iraq currently total 4,486 with an additional 179 British troops and 139 soldiers from other nations. Precise numbers for Iraqi deaths in the war are hard to pin down, Honley said, but some sources put the total at 665,000 — if not higher.

"Now that U.S. troops are gone from Iraq," he said, "I suspect most Americans either want to forget we were ever there, if they have not already done so. The United States still remains heavily involved in Iraq, whether we talk about it or not."

Honley said, as of this month, U.S. expenses in Iraq cost \$815 billion — more than \$2,300 a second

since the war began.

"Throw on disability claims and treating Iraq War veterans, replacing military equipment and other services, and the eventual tab is deducted to be between \$4 trillion and \$6 trillion — more than the U.S. spent to wage the war," he said.

However, the war in Iraq was not without its advantages, he said. For one, it led to the demise of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. But, not everything involving his removal was black and white.

"The world is certainly a better place without Saddam Hussein in it," Honley said. "But before we pat ourselves on the back too vigorously for that, we need to acknowledge the uncomfortable facts. Through

the 1980s, when Saddam was committing some of the same crimes against humanity which we would later cite as grounds for overthrowing him, the United States and Iraq were allies."

He said the government, under former President Ronald Reagan, sold Hussein millions of dollars-worth of arms, including chemical weapons the United States would later cite as weapons of mass destruction. Honley said the administration was operating on the theory that "the enemy of my enemy is my friend," not out of fondness for the dictator, but in hopes he would use the weapons to wage a war against Iran.

HONLEY continued on Page 2 >>>

Panelists host open discussion on Arab Spring Movement

Foreign policy professionals argue best way for reform

By **EMILY REYES**
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech hosted the fourth annual forum on peace and security Wednesday at the International Cultural Center, during which panelists discussed foreign issues relating to the Arab Spring movement.

Members of Tech's Sigma Delta Pi, a national collegiate Hispanic honor society, coordinated the event.

The discussion panel consisted of three foreign policy professionals, Steven Honley, editor-in-chief of the *Foreign Service Journal*, Mohammad Maqusi, a professor in the Honors College and former ambassador Tibor

Nagy, vice provost for international affairs.

Maqusi said the Arab Spring movement started December 18, 2010, in Tunisia. The Arab Spring movement was caused by numerous factors, including unemployment, inflation, political issues, human rights and poverty.

"There is a saying in Arabic that whatever takes place in Egypt reverberates throughout the whole Arabic and Eastern region," he said.

He mentioned a few of the goals were to establish political stability, raise employment and ascertain a higher standard of living.

"What is needed in the Middle East is a political reform," he said.

Honley spoke of the role the U.S. plays in regards to the Arab Spring. He expressed his opinions on what strategy to use and when to take action.

He said the area is of high interest to Americans because of its large oil supply. However, he said the U.S. is reluctant to assist with the Arab Spring movement because of the potential of straining relations further in the region.

"I would be the first to admit that Washington (D.C.) has not always gauged things correctly," Honley said, "but there's a (team) leading from behind. The U.S. doesn't have as much scope for maneuver as it did a decade ago."

ARAB SPRING cont. on Pg. 3 >>>

Tech hopes to extend WNIT run, hosts San Diego Lady Raiders look to advance to Elite Eight

By **CHOIS WOODMAN**
STAFF WRITER

The Lady Raider basketball team will try to extend its season by winning its Women's National Invitation Tournament third round matchup against San Diego tonight in United Spirit Arena.

The team is happy to still be playing games in late March, Texas Tech coach Kristy Curry said.

"We're just excited to be able to continue to play," she said. "We've got a chance to go to an Elite Eight. There's another Elite Eight about to happen and when you look across this tournament, there are very

worthy NCAA Tournament teams, so, again, it's just trying to turn it into the most positive experience we can. That's what life's about."

The game will be the second time the two teams have met this season, as then-ranked No. 13 Tech narrowly escaped with a 58-57 victory against the tournament host of the Surf N' Slam Classic in San Diego.

The Lady Raiders hope to use the home crowd advantage against the Toreros, Curry said.

"We're excited to be at home and defend our home floor the way they defended their home floor there," she said, "and we know that they're going to be fired up because of that. I know

we were both better for having played each other. That was a great experience for us."

The Lady Raiders have experienced changes since their last meeting against San Diego, Tech sophomore Kelsi Baker said.

"The starting lineup is different and we love that certain people can start and certain people can come off the bench, and we've just grown," she said. "Back then we didn't really have any obstacles, I guess you want to say, because we were 12-0. Now we're just pushing, we're fighting, so I think it's more of a sense of urgency at this point."

WNIT continued on Page 7 >>>

GRACIOUS GIVING

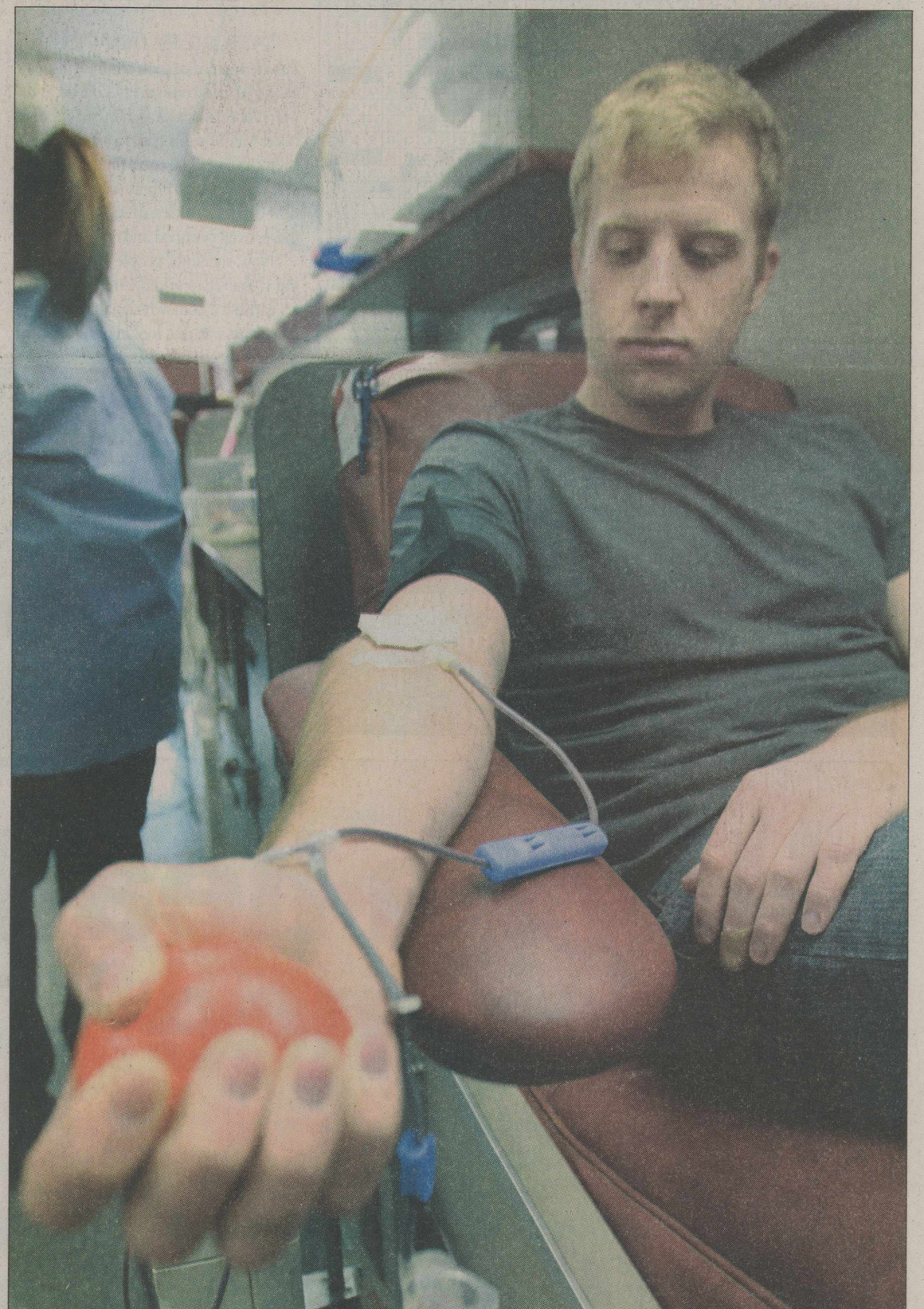


PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

TIM ALTMAN, A junior science major from Keller, squeezes a stress ball while giving blood in the United Blood Services' donation van outside the Student Union Building on Wednesday. This was Altman's first time giving blood.

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WEATHER

Today	Partly Cloudy	Friday	Sunny
	68 / 40		78 / 47

Gleinser: Santorum bad for Republican Party
OPINIONS, Pg. 4



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POLICE BLOTTER

Driver has seizure, crashes

Tuesday
 9:03 a.m. — A Texas Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, with possible injuries, in the C-2 parking lot. A female non-student suffered a seizure while driving, causing her to lose control of the vehicle.
 10:46 a.m. — A Tech officer responded to a medical emergency at the Administration building. A staff member was feeling ill and was transported to University Medical Center Emergency Room for further evaluation by Lubbock Emergency Medical Services.
 11:19 a.m. — A Tech officer re-

sponded to a medical emergency at the Health Sciences Center. A visitor had an automatic door slam into his wheelchair, causing minor injuries. The male visitor refused medical treatment.
 12:58 p.m. — A Tech officer documented information in reference to suspicious behavior exhibited by a student at the Psychology building.
 10:22 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated theft at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. A set of keys and an iPhone were taken.
Information provided by B.J. Watson of the Texas Tech Police Department.

Correction

In Wednesday's issue of *The Daily Toreador*, in the article "Tech Habitat for Humanity prepares for its next project" Phillip Morello's name was misspelled. The DT regrets this error.

Honley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Instead Hussein used the arms against his own people.
 After the 9/11 attacks, Honley said, the administration of former president George W. Bush issued reports that Hussein was working with al-Qaida to plot against the United States and used the effects of the attacks to inspire fear.
 "That approach created the perfect feedback group," Honley said. "The more fearful Americans became, the more willing they were to believe even the most outlandish claims in support of the expansion of the so-called, 'war on terror.' To reinforce that message, the White House pointed to the possibility of further attacks to keep our homeland safe.

"But there was no evidence to support claims that Saddam Hussein had any dealings with al-Qaida or any other terrorist organizations. In fact, Saddam was deeply suspicious of Osama bin Laden and his associates, precisely because he did not share their ideology or their objectives. Nor did he have any objectives of attacking the United States or individual Americans."
 America needs to be realistic about democratization in Iraq, Honley said. The U.S. needs to be patient, especially since many Iraqis resent the nation's occupation of their homeland.
 "Baghdad will make decisions



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/*The Daily Toreador*
STEVE HONLEY, THE editor-in-chief of the *Foreign Service Journal*, talks about why he thinks the Iraq war was not worth fighting to guests at the William S. Morris III Distinguished Lecturer Series at the McKenzie Merket Alumni Center on Wednesday.

the U.S. doesn't like, but if we are wise we will not see it as a mistake, but applaud the country's independence," he said. "It's also hard to establish democracy in a divided country with no history of power sharing."
 Overall, Honley said, there are lessons Americans can learn from Iraq and Afghanistan, particularly the differences in U.S. intervention in both of the countries.
 "The U.S. mission in Iraq is dedicated to supporting a sovereign, stable and self-reliant

Iraq that offers a voice of moderation and democracy in the Middle East," he said. "Iraq does remain critical to our national security and our presence there is centered on that reality. That being said ... we of the world would have been better off if we never intervened in Iraq. I do believe that."
 "And we're already seeing a similar consensus about our role in Afghanistan; I don't share that. What's unfortunate about that is our efforts in Afghanistan have been far more competently

run and I think has served a much nobler purpose than the Iraq war. Above all, our involvement in Afghanistan is a war of necessity, not a war of choice."
 Shelby Chapman, a senior broadcast journalism major from Austin, said she went to the presentation not knowing what to expect — but is glad she did.
 "It was really interesting," she said. "I didn't know, going into it, exactly what he was going to talk about, but I definitely think that's a hot topic right now."
 >>> cosborn@dailytoreador.com

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
 Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS
 1 Altar vestments
 5 Not back down
 11 Screw up
 14 Boor
 15 Shortening name
 16 Paulo
 17 A falsehood in every respect
 19 Basinger of "Batman"
 20 Congo River beast
 21 Arson-investigating org.
 22 Three-time WNBA MVP
 23 Beast of burden
 24 Chuck Connors title role
 28 Condemn
 29 Passable
 30 Common crossword clue ending
 33 Piper's followers
 36 D.C. hearings broadcaster
 39 Risky activity, and what certain four-letter sequences in 17-, 24-, 49- and 61-Across are doing?
 42 Badly cooked
 43 Reasonable
 44 Pilot's prefix
 45 Summoning gesture
 47 Plenty
 49 "Scream" or "Halloween"
 53 Sis, say
 56 They're mostly fours
 57 Tijuana relative
 58 "Three inches is such a wretched height to be" speaker
 60 Si, in Paris
 61 Actor's liability
 64 pro nobis; pray for us
 65 Mid-size Nissan
 66 Latin 101 verb
 67 Athlete's supporter
 68 Have it in mind
 69 Ad amount

DOWN
 1 Top dog
 2 Joe the boxer
 3 Baby's achievements?
 4 Baby book first Here, on the Seine
 6 Atomic energy org.
 7 Solo instrument in "Norwegian Wood"
 8 Last Supper question
 9 Jeers (at)
 10 Heavy weight
 11 Ice cream treat since the 1920s
 12 Mrs. Gorbachev
 13 numeral
 18 Snapshot, commercially
 22 Heart-healthy food claim
 25 Rhino feature
 26 Webzines
 27 Scott's sailing site
 28 Wine quality
 30 LAPD alert
 31 Primary colore
 32 Neanderthal type
 34 Former carrier with a JFK hub

By Ed Sessa
 3/22/12

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

CELTIS ISAAC AMIS
 EMERY BUENO POT
 DIVINEMISSM NRA
 ERIC ASTO IDEAL
 KOS SPECIALK
 PROTEAMNSA
 CHART SEXY MOOT
 LECTOR MADONNA
 EWER ATRA INCUR
 EIN ENCODES
 VITAMING ARM
 AMATI GEOL IRAN
 NAH GRANDFINALE
 EGO HAITI DETOX
 SEE THOSE ASSET

35 Historic peninsula
 37 JFK posting
 38 "The Matrix" hero
 40 Reason to scratch
 41 Archer of note
 46 Boiling point?
 48 Bridge master
 49 Parody
 50 Dr. with advice
 51 Cowboy's rope

52 "Oliver Twist" villain
 53 S, as in Socrates
 54 Mac messaging program
 55 Actress Davis
 59 One to whom you might say, "I doubt that!"
 61 Wanted poster uncle?
 62 CPR expert
 63 Schwarz

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Was Fla. shooter vigilante or good neighbor?

SANFORD, Fla. (AP) — George Zimmerman once took criminal justice classes at the community college and was practically a one-man neighborhood watch in his gated part of town, calling police close to 50 times over the past eight years to report such things as slow-driving vehicles, strangers loitering in the neighborhood and open garages.
 Now, suddenly, people are wondering if the 28-year-old Zimmerman is an earnest if somewhat zealous young man who was just looking out for his neighborhood, or a wannabe cop who tried to take justice into his own hands.
 He has been at the center of a growing furor over vigilantism, self-defense and racial profiling since he shot and killed an unarmed black teenager who was walking through his neighborhood Feb. 26 carrying only a bag of Skittles

and an iced tea.
 Zimmerman, a light-skinned Hispanic, has claimed self-defense in the slaying of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin and has not been charged, but many black leaders are demanding his arrest, and state and federal authorities are investigating. Florida's Stand Your Ground law on self-defense gives people wide latitude to use deadly force.
 Attorneys for Martin's parents say Zimmerman is a "loose cannon."
 "He's a wannabe police officer," lawyer Benjamin Crump said. "Why did he have a gun?"
 But some neighbors welcomed his vigilance, at least before the shooting.
 Samantha Leigh Hamilton, an auto-dealership employee who has lived on Zimmerman's street for about a year, said that she once left her garage door

up and Zimmerman noticed it while out walking his dog. He notified another neighbor, who let Hamilton know.
 "The only impression I have of George Zimmerman is a good one," Hamilton said Wednesday.
 Hamilton said another neighbor, a black woman, would regularly inform Zimmerman when she was out of town so that he could keep an eye on her place. Hamilton said that when she moved into the middle-class, racially mixed community of about 250 identical townhouses, the black neighbor told her, "Hey, if you need anything, you picked a really good area, since George is part of our neighborhood watch."
 Zimmerman, who was captain of the neighborhood watch and licensed to carry a gun, made 46 calls to police since 2004, according to department records.

A police spokesman in Sanford, a city of 53,000 people outside Orlando that is 57 percent white and 30 percent black, did not return calls for comment about Zimmerman's repeated reports.
 Hamilton said there had been several break-ins in the past year, including one three doors away in which burglars took a TV and laptops.
 "When I hear about him calling the police constantly, it kind of makes sense to me because we had so many break-ins recently," she said.
 The homeowners association's February newsletter said that Sanford police had beefed up patrols in the neighborhood and that officers on bicycles were making random checks of front yards and backyards. It was not clear how big the neighborhood watch was, but Zimmerman was the dominant force.

2011 drought costs Texas \$8B in agriculture losses

HOUSTON (AP) — The driest year in Texas history caused a record \$7.62 billion in agriculture losses, bil-

ions more than previously estimated, the Texas AgriLife Extension Service said Wednesday.

The new total for 2011, provided to The Associated Press before its public release, is about \$2.42 billion more than an August estimate that had already topped the 2006 record of \$4.1 billion in drought-related losses.
 Texas is the nation's No. 3 producer of agricultural products behind California and Iowa, so when crops and cattle fail in the Lone Star State, prices can be expected to rise nationally, said David Anderson, an agricultural economist at Texas A&M University.
 The state also has a long history with drought, which has cost it more than \$14 billion in agriculture losses since 1998.
 The latest drought has been accompanied by historic triple-digit heat and unprecedented winds that further parched the land and destroyed crops. Many ranchers sold off or slaughtered cattle after rangeland dried up and the price of hay skyrocketed. The state has its smallest herd since the 1950s after losing about 660,000 head during the drought.
 Cattle account for about half of Texas agricultural production, which makes up 9 percent of its economy, Anderson said. It remains the nation's leading beef producer, but the estimated loss to the livestock industry from drought is \$3.23 billion, up from the \$2.06 billion estimated in August.

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Arab Spring

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Honley said the U.S. is slow to take action because of the consideration of ally countries. He mentioned the U.S. would

be lucky to have half the success in the Middle East as the Bush administration did in Russia. Nagy said the U.S. influence in the Middle East will decline, which displeases him.

He said the Islamic parties are going to grow tremendously, which will spark a competition between the Turkish model, the Iranian model and the Saudi model.

"Would it be better for the U.S. to support authoritarian regimes if they're not quite as bad as they appear to be," Nagy asked. An attendee asked the panel a

Progress includes order, but order does not include progress.

TIBOR NAGY
VICE PROVOST
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

question regarding the spread of the movement via social media. He said movements like the Arab Spring would not have been as effective or globally recognized without the use of social media. He argued that the key to influencing the public lies within the hands of technology.

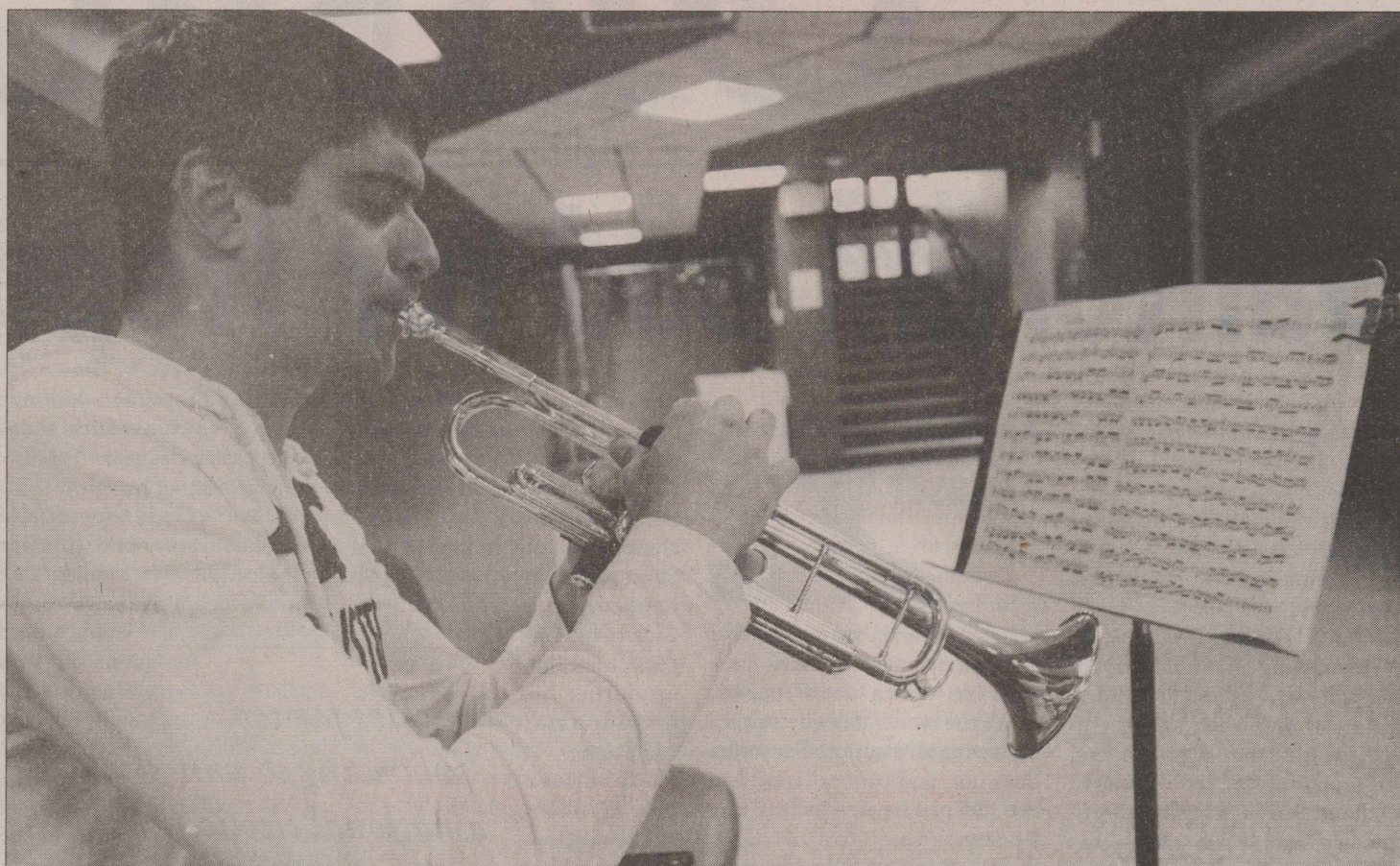
"I think the invention of a cell phone with the social media attached to it, I think it is responsible for all the changes we have seen," the attendee said.

Nagy spoke of the movement from an internationalist perspective, explaining his 'What's going to happen next' approach. He said he believes in the strength of globalization through communication.

"Progress includes order, but order does not include progress," Nagy said.

►►reyes@dailytoreador.com

TRUMPET TRAINING



TANNER SCARLATO, A sophomore music education major and music composition major from Houston, practices "The Carnival of Venice" inside the Music building on Tuesday.

PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador

GOP race now lining up for Mitt Romney

@dailytoreador

WASHINGTON (AP) — It hasn't been pretty, but the Republican establishment, the delegate math, the money and more are increasingly lining up in Mitt Romney's favor in the long and grinding race for the party's presidential nomination.

The race will go on. Romney's most dogged rival, Rick Santorum, is all but certain to claim more victories before the primary season ends.

And an astonishing admission Wednesday by one of Romney's top aides — that primary-season policy positions may be no more lasting than squiggles on a child's Etch A Sketch drawing toy — will hardly reassure skeptical conservative Republicans. "Everything changes" for the fall campaign, said Eric Fehrnstrom.

Still, Romney's Illinois primary victory provided fresh evidence of electoral strength, produced a big

delegate haul and paid an overnight dividend in the form of an endorsement from Jeb Bush.

"Now is the time for Republicans to unite behind Governor Romney and take our message of fiscal conservatism and job creation to all voters this fall," said the former Florida governor, the man most often mentioned as a last-minute savior for the party, who could swoop into a deadlocked convention and emerge with the nomination.

Former Sen. Bob Dole, a Romney supporter, summarized Santorum's position from the point of view of a man who lost his first try for the nomination before winning on the second.

"In every race, Romney is going to pick up delegates. Looking back at my race in 1988 ... I should have gotten out, but I just kept going out there," Dole said. "When you're out of money

and you don't have the organization to buy TV, you have to take a hard look at it. As much as you don't want to do that, sometimes you have to face reality."

Much has changed since Dole last ran for the White House in 1996, including the emergence of super PACs that are allowed to raise money in unlimited amounts. That, too, is working to Romney's advantage.

So far, he has benefitted from more than \$32 million in television ads from Restore Our Future, the entity that played the major role in wiping out Newt Gingrich with attack ads in the days before the Iowa caucuses and again in the Florida primary. More recently it has turned its attention to Santorum.

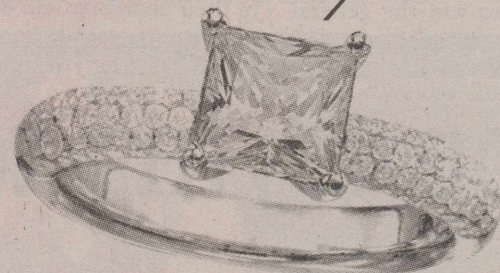
For comparison purposes, the \$32 million is more money than Santorum, Gingrich and Ron Paul plus super

PACs supporting them have spent combined on television, and may be the reason Romney has been able to avoid dipping into his own personal fortune so far in the campaign.

Additionally, campaign finance reports released Tuesday showed that big donors to a GOP organization founded by political strategist Karl Rove have boosted their financial support for the Romney-aligned super PAC in recent months.

It's taken months, far longer than anticipated, for Romney to begin to take charge of a race that he began with overwhelming financial and organizational advantages. His record as a Massachusetts governor, particularly his embrace of a requirement for state residents to purchase health insurance, has made it hard for him to win over doubting conservatives in the South and elsewhere.

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Santorum bad for Republican party

A Rick Santorum nomination would be just as dangerous as a Barack Obama presidency.

That's right, a registered Republican just wrote those words. And in case you're wondering, no one is holding a gun to my head, figuratively or literally.

I am living proof that some of the more vocal and radical liberals are wrong when they try to sell the idea that Santorum and his supporters are representative of the entire Republican constituency. It's simply not true.

There are those of us who have some common sense. There are those of us who realize Santorum is not presidential material. He's far too polarizing to win a national election. Think of Sarah Palin on steroids.

This is exactly the reason why Santorum is dangerous. If he were to win the Republican nomination, he would have roughly the same chance of defeating Obama as I do.

In order to win the general

Andrew Gleinser



election, a candidate must appeal to the independent voters. Each party has its own base of support, so it's the moderates who can really swing an election. Santorum does not, and cannot, appeal to the independents, which is why he cannot win.

His strong socially conservative platform alienates everyone except the far-right evangelical voters. Moderates and libertarians will cringe at the thought of voting for him.

There are two parts of Santorum's political beliefs that bother me the most. The first is he disagrees with the idea of an individual's right to privacy. He basically wants to tell everyone what they can and cannot do in their bedrooms and who they

can and cannot do it with. In my opinion, it's none of his damn business.

The other part is that he does not believe in the separation of church and state. In spite of what Santorum may tell you, John F. Kennedy said it best when the issue of his Catholicism came up during his presidential campaign:

"I believe in a President whose religious views are his own private affair, neither imposed by him upon the nation nor imposed by the nation upon him as a condition to holding that office."

Santorum, however, seems to want to impose the views of his Catholic faith upon the entire country. Whether those views are right or wrong is irrelevant. No president, whether he be

Catholic, Protestant, Mormon, Jewish or any other faith, should make policy decisions based on the teachings of his faith.

This is exactly why social issues should stay out of presidential elections. No candidate can win on such a platform, because

people's opinions on these issues are generally related to their religious beliefs. Stick to political issues so we can keep religion out of it, lest we start identifying candidates by their religious affiliation instead of party affiliation.

By not following this advice, Santorum is giving the ultra-liberals a great deal of ammunition to use against Republicans and conservatives in general. Santorum is seen by most everyone, outside his base of support, as

"He's far too polarizing to win a national election. Think of Sarah Palin on steroids."

vote. Santorum simply can't.

I hate to break it to all of you Santorum supporters out there, but you're wasting your vote. A vote for Santorum equals a vote for Obama.

Think about it logically. Independents generally want someone who is more moderate. Santorum is the antithesis of a moderate. So on Election Day, those voters will either vote for Obama or simply stay home.

Many moderate Republicans could do the same. I know if my choice is between Obama and Santorum, I'll be looking for a third party candidate.

So do the country a favor and abstain from voting for Santorum. He's nothing but trouble for those of us looking for an alternative to another four years of Barack Obama.

Gleinser is a junior political science and history major from Kingwood.
» agleinser@dailytoreador.com

Stop trying to 'one-up' people

One-upmanship is a downer. Let me paint this picture for you:

Yesterday, I was at the Rec Center, running on the treadmill and watching trashy E! News, when the anchor said she had the world premiere of Madonna's new music video, "Good Girl Gone Bad."

"This should be good," I thought to myself.

Cut to the video, and there is a close-up of two guys eating the same apple in a very sensual and uncomfortable way, with lots of tongue action and innuendo.

The video then jumps to Madonna practically humping a wall and letting about 700 different guys fondle her all at the same time.

This goes on for a very excruciating four or five minutes.

As you can imagine, I was beyond horrified. Not only is Madonna not even remotely close to being a girl anymore — that line was blurred when she had children and turned 53 — but nothing grosses me out more than old people trying to be sexy. Let's just say, from one to 10 on a scale of looking old, Madonna is the crypt keeper.

It came to the point where

Sydney Holmes



I thought I might have to stop the treadmill and go vomit in a trashcan.

Which brings me to my point: I'm kind of over the shock value.

From Lady Gaga, to Madonna, to Rihanna and everyone else in between, I've decided I'm over everyone trying to one-up each other just for the sake of a gasp.

Maybe I'm being overly sensitive, but I like to keep the shock factor to a minimum in my life.

For example, if I give someone my number at a party, I pray to God they stick to the three-day rule. That is, you don't call or text before three days.

If I hear anything back before three days, it throws me for a loop. Anything after three days, or not at all, is also surprising and rude. Why ask for the number if you're not going to use it?

Bottom line: I have never been a fan of surprises.

When Nicki Minaj performed

at the Grammys and did that all-too-offensive lap dance on a prayer alter, my mind was blown.

She was being shocking just for the sake of being shocking. Meanwhile, Lady Gaga was in the audience with a basketball net over her face, plotting her next music video to put Nicki in her place, since, apparently, getting in a hot tub with Jesus and Judas wasn't enough.

At what point does enough become enough?

This doesn't just apply to the celebrity world either. This one-upping is constant in my life.

For me, I'm conceited enough to think I am the coolest person on campus, while still having a weird inferiority complex. Don't ask me how it works — it just does.

However, one day I was talking to my friend — I use the term "friend" very loosely — who happens to be an engineering major.

We were talking about our semesters and I mentioned how I had done really well last semester.

He then responded with, "Man, I wish I had an easy major."

Excuse me, what? I mean, yeah, journalism probably is not as hard of a major as engineering, but you don't have to tell me that.

I mean, I wasn't trying to turn it into a contest, but when it comes down to whose column I'd rather read or whose voice I'd rather hear on the radio in the morning, I win pretty much every time.

Or, if you tell a story about getting your wisdom teeth pulled, don't even bother if you only had to get two of them out.

There will always be someone right behind you who had four wisdom teeth taken out, waiting to swoop in and steal your thunder.

I digress. My point is, stop trying to one-up those around you. We've all done it, but instead of looking like you've accomplished any more than the person who you're trying to undermine; you just look like a jack wagon.

Holmes is a junior broadcast journalism major from Houston.
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Obamacare needs to protect further

By ANDREW SHOCKEY
THE DAILY REVEILLE
(LOUISIANA STATE U.)

One simple promise has proven undeniably effective at garnering support from conservatives in the last dozen or so Republican debates.

"I will repeal Obamacare."

Few words carry as many negative connotations as the president's health care plan, but in the face of vocal and often delusional critics, it's no surprise Obamacare has turned into a dirty word.

The president's health care plan has been criticized as everything from a socialist plot to destroy private enterprise to a conspiracy to cut costs through death panels and forced contraception.

In reality, Obamacare is a relatively benign piece of legislation that seeks to provide consumer's protection from health insurance companies. The law helps the uninsured afford health insurance, prevents claim denials by insurers and fights discrimination based on preexisting conditions.

In fact, Obamacare is so benign that many universal health care proponents, including myself, feel while the law may be a step in the right direction, it ultimately falls far short of the universal health care system Americans need and deserve.

American citizens have a right to basic health care to better protect their inalienable right to life.

Obviously, there is no section in the Constitution or Bill of Rights that directly establishes this right, but the Founders recognized their own fallibility in the Ninth Amendment, essentially saying the rights of the people are not limited to those in our founding documents.

Citizens who require medical treatment to protect their lives from unforeseeable illness or injury de-

serve assistance from the state because they did nothing to put their lives in jeopardy.

A universal health care system is morally defensible under these rights, but it still faces some practical concerns.

Critics argue universal health care would hamper patient-doctor interactions and take away patients' right to choose their doctors. In reality, a single-payer system would have minimal effects on patient-doctor interactions since a significant number of doctors are already paid through a single-payer system — Medicare.

Arguments over doctor choice also rest on the fanciful premise that patients currently enjoy the freedom to choose any doctor they want. Health insurers routinely determine the hospitals and doctors their customers can visit.

Many citizens are concerned a universal health care system would be economically unsustainable and point to the struggling Medicare system as proof. While Medicare is a single-payer system, it exclusively pays for the care of the elderly who generally have much higher health care costs than the rest of the population.

If the costs of their care were spread out over the rest of the population, costs would become much more manageable as younger citizens provide less drain on health care funds while contributing more.

"Death panels" was the Republican buzzword of the Obamacare debate, but anyone afraid of a shadowy council of accountants deciding who lives and who dies should look no further than the health insurance industry.

In 2007, 17-year-old Natalie Sarkisyan died of complications to leukemia after Cigna, her health insurance provider, refused to cover the cost of a liver transplant her doctors estimated would give her a 65 percent chance of survival.

Obamacare and universal health care will not create death panels. They might in fact help shut down a few.

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Students can swap places with Guy Bailey for day

By **ASHLYN TUBBS**
STAFF WRITER

A Texas Tech student will soon exchange the classroom for an office setting and take on a huge responsibility.

Dressed in business attire and attending meetings instead of classes, this currently unknown student will experience a day in Texas Tech president Guy Bailey's shoes on April 10, as part of a fundraiser for the Tech Mortar Board.

While this student will experience what it is like to run a university, Bailey will attend one of the student's classes and be a student for a day, depending on the schedule.

"It's a pretty simple fundraiser that we think students would like to get involved with," said Mortar Board President Eric Odom. "Everybody on campus needs to participate because it will be a fun chance for everyone and something interesting to raffle for."

The board, which is a national honor society for 50 college seniors who have excelled in scholarship, leadership and service, has hosted the President for a Day on-and-off for three years.

Raffle tickets will be on sale during mid-afternoons next Monday through April 4, at a booth in-between the Student Union Building and the library. Tickets cost \$2 each or three for \$5. The

drawing will be on April 4 and the winner's day to be president will be April 10. All proceeds from raffle tickets will benefit Literacy Lubbock.

"Our national philanthropy is Reading is Leading, so we figured Literacy Lubbock would be an excellent option for us to do a little bit of fundraising for, and of course those take funding," Odom said, "so we thought this would be the best way to get the student body at Tech involved in that process."

In previous years, the students chosen to be President for a Day have attended meetings, luncheons and guided tours, which have revealed the benefits and challenges Bailey faces on

a day-to-day basis.

Brandon Reeves, chairman of President for a Day, said this year's winner will face a similar schedule, depending on the types of meetings available that day. This student will get to park in Bailey's parking spot, attend a luncheon with members of the president's cabinet and have access to the President's Office Conference Room.

"We will do our best to get the student as involved as possible," Reeves said.

LaTreshia Hamilton, vice president of membership for the board, said the raffle winner will gain an understanding of what administration actually does,

which is something many students are clueless about.

"It's nice to allow the student body a chance to interact with administration," she said. "Sometimes, as a student, you don't know what's going on behind those walls of the Administration building, so it's nice for someone on the outside to go in and see what they actually do."

Odom, who has worked in the Chancellor's Office for the past three years, said he has seen first-hand how different life as an administrator is from that of a student. He said students are oblivious to the type of life administrators live.

"Student have no clue what their

background is, with the decisions they have to make and the kind of life they live," he said. "Being able to sit there and experience that would be a real world experience and maybe a game changer for some people."

Reeves encourages student to support the Mortar Board philanthropy by participating in the fundraiser.

"We're really fortunate the President's Office is working with us," he said. "We're looking forward to it. It's a unique opportunity to meet some of the administration of the university and experience what it's like to be in their shoes."

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Titanic is attraction for kids, creates fine line for educators, parents

NEW YORK (AP) — Eleven-year-old John Payne has been a student of the Titanic since kindergarten.

He has scrupulously researched the ship, built a model out of Lego freehand and successfully lobbied his fifth-grade teacher in suburban Chicago to let him mark the disaster's centennial with a multimedia presentation for his class.

What's not to like? There's mystery, high technology and heroes. Sunken treasure, conspiracy theories and jarring tales of rich vs. poor.

But there's also death, lots of it, and that has some parents, teachers and writers of children's books balancing potentially scary details with more palatable, inspirational fare focused on survivors, animals on board or the mechanics of shipbuilding.

John "doesn't ask questions about the dead and other darker aspects" of what went on that moonless night in the North Atlantic, said his mother, Virginia Tobin Payne.

"He's a sensitive kid. We try to temper all of it so it doesn't become an obsession," she said. "After the anniversary passes, I hope we can sort of close the book on him looking for more information about it."

Barry Denenberg struggled with how to depict the horror in his new book "Titanic Sinks!" The sepia-tone hardcover, written as a mock magazine, was released ahead of the April 14 anniversary and has already made it into schools. The book, from Viking, is intended for kids 9 and older and doesn't hold back much as it blends fact and fiction for a meticulous, realistic feel that draws on the official record.

"There's only one little line in the book about how most of the people froze to death. They did not drown," Denenberg said. "Hypothermia is a much longer death. I had to make a decision about what's accurate and what's ghoulish."

Debbie Shoulders teaches eighth-grade English in Clarksville, Tenn., but her new "T is for Titanic" alphabet book from Sleeping Bear Press is intended for far younger children.

"The word 'died' doesn't appear often in the book," she said. "We softened it with 'perished' or 'did not live.' The goal was to remember what the people on board contributed, not so much what happened to them."

Tracey Friedlander in Bethesda, Md., has a Titanic-obsessed 9-year-old, but she doesn't shy away from the

rough stuff. She thinks the story offers teachers and parents perfect real-life lessons on perseverance, loyalty, the dangers of arrogance and the shortcomings of technology as kids learn to sort out the complexities of their own lives.

"Kids like Kade have grown up in the shadows of 9/11, the wars in

Afghanistan and Iraq, and a red, yellow, green terrorist alert color code system," Friedlander said. "Like most of us, he's trying to make sense of the world around him and the accompanying human tragedies. The Titanic happens to present an incredible learning opportunity for curious minds."

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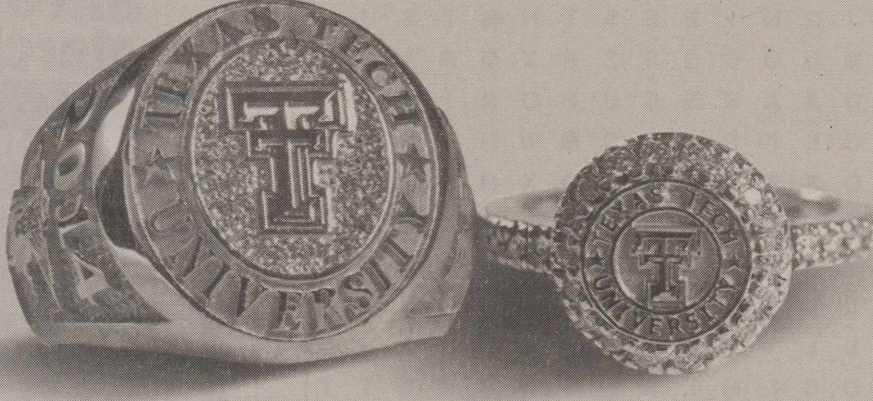
 

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SPORTS

PAGE 6
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012

Tech sweeps midweek series, Spencer wins 100th

By **BRETT WINEGARNER**
MANAGING EDITOR

If there are two things the Texas Tech and Florida Gulf Coast baseball teams have in common, it is that they would much rather be playing at home.

On the road this season, the Red Raiders are a combined 2-7 away from Rip Griffin Park while FGCU remains winless on the road after getting swept in Lubbock during a midweek series.

The Red Raiders wrapped up a two-game sweep of the Eagles on Wednesday night with another offensive outburst, winning 14-8. The win improved Tech's home record to 12-1 on the season.

Tech coach Dan Spencer was not completely pleased with the overall game the Red Raiders played in their win Tuesday, but said he thought the team played much better Wednesday.

"I felt a lot better about tonight's game as far as just the energy and what we had in the dugout and what we had to overcome early," he said.

However, the Red Raiders had to come from behind a couple of times to secure the victory.

Shane Broyles came in to relieve starting pitcher Brannon Easterling — who made his first start and appearance in a Tech uniform — after Easterling allowed the Eagles to tie the score at 1-1. Broyles didn't fare well though, as he gave up a two-run bomb to the first batter he faced to give FGCU a 3-1 lead.

The Red Raiders managed to tie it back up in the bottom of the third with two bases-loaded walks, but Broyles walked the bases loaded in the top of the fourth without recording an out.

Rusty Shellhorn came in to try and limit the damage for Tech, and did just that by only allowing two of those runs to score pushing FGCU's lead to two.

But from that point on it was all Tech — especially at the plate. The Red Raiders hit double after double, registering seven doubles between the fourth and six innings.

Tech outfielder Jordan Lopez said it was nice to see the offense pick the pitching up and carry the team.

"Our pitching wasn't there in the beginning, but we came through with the bats and our pitching kind of settled down for us," he said, "so

we put them together at the end of the game and took it from there."

The flurry of extra base hits also led to Tech lighting up the scoreboard. During the three innings, the Red Raiders plated 11 runs to give themselves a commanding 14-5 lead. The offensive outburst also led to Tech scoring more than 10 runs in four straight midweek games for the first time since 2005.

The Eagles made a little noise in the final two innings by plating two runs off of another FGCU two-run shot in the eighth and a one run double in the ninth, but the Tech lead was too large to overcome.

The key to Tech's win was just the ability to eliminate bad plays they made in game one, second baseman Jamodrick McGruder said.

"Coach (Spencer) talked to us about the bonehead mistakes we made yesterday, and today we just cleaned up those mistakes and played a much better game," he said.

Leading the Red Raiders on the night once again was first baseman Scott LeJeune, who went two for two with two walks and knocked in three RBIs for the second straight game. Each member of Tech's start-

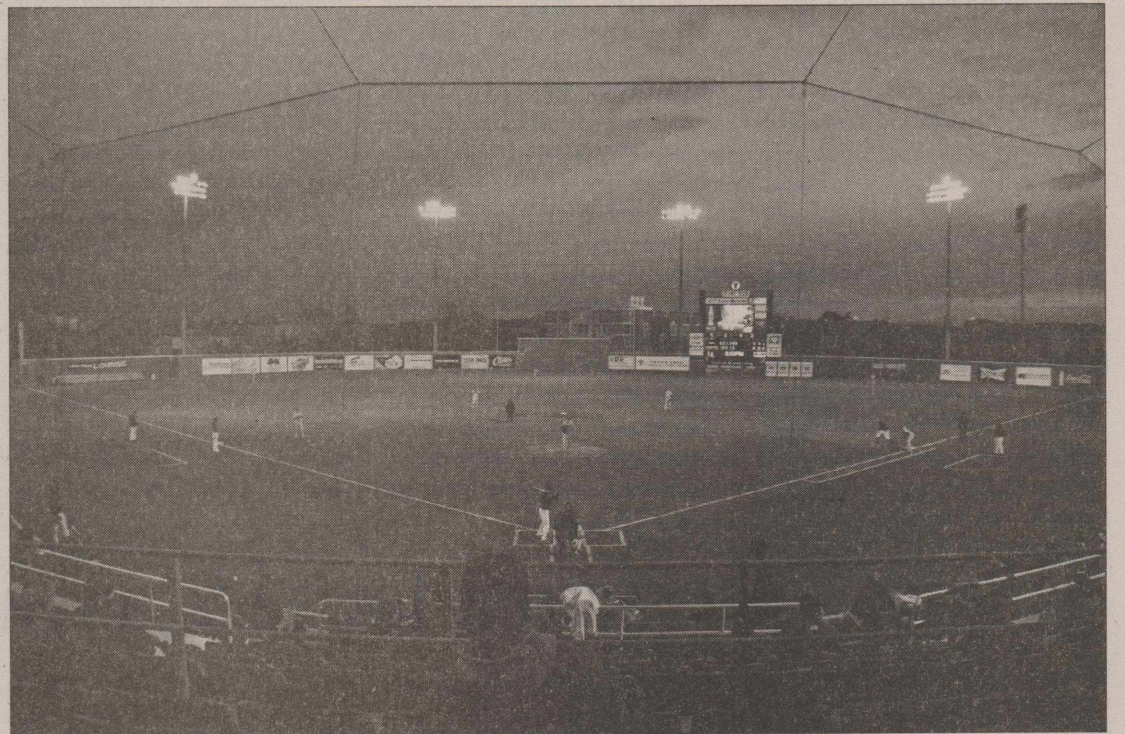


PHOTO BY ISAAC VILLALOBOS/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH DEFEATED Florida Gulf Coast 14-8 Wednesday at Rip Griffin Park. This marked the Red Raiders' ninth straight home victory.

ing lineup scored at least one run during the game.

The win marked the 100th career win for Spencer, and he said he's content with just winning the

one game, but that he hopes the gap between the next 100 doesn't take the same amount of time.

I feel a lot better about this win, this one win tonight," he said. "You

know, it's fortunate that you get that 100th win. It means that you've won a few, and hopefully next time it won't take as long."

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Saints coach suspended for season over 'crush-for-cash' bounties

(AP) — Meting out unprecedented punishment for a crush-for-cash bounty system that targeted key opposing players, the NFL suspended New Orleans Saints head coach Sean

Payton without pay for next season and indefinitely banned the team's former defensive coordinator, Gregg Williams.

Payton is the first head coach

suspended by the league for any reason, accused of trying to cover up a system of extra cash payouts that NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell on Wednesday called "particularly unusual and egregious" and "totally unacceptable."

Sending a message by taking a harsh stand, Goodell also banned Saints general manager Mickey Loomis for the first eight regular-season games next season — believed to be the first time a GM was suspended by the NFL — and assistant coach Joe Vitt for the first six games.

In addition, Goodell fined the Saints \$500,000 and took away their second-round draft picks this year and next.

"We are all accountable and responsible for player health and safety and the integrity of the game. We will not tolerate conduct or a culture that undermines those priorities," said Goodell, whose league faces more than 20 concussion-related lawsuits brought by hundreds of former players. "No one is above the game or the rules that govern it."

Payton, whose salary this season was to be at least \$6 million, ignored instructions from the NFL and Saints ownership to make sure bounties weren't being paid. The league also chastised him for choosing to "falsely deny that the program existed," and for trying to "encourage the false denials by instructing assistants to 'make

sure our ducks are in a row."

All in all, Goodell's ruling is a real blow to the Saints, a franchise that Payton and quarterback Drew Brees revived and led to the 2010 Super Bowl title after decades of such futility that fans wore paper bags over their heads at home games.

Brees reacted quickly to the news on Twitter, writing: "I am speechless. Sean Payton is a great man, coach, and mentor. ... I need to hear an explanation for this punishment."

The Saints now must decide who will coach the team in Payton's place — his suspension takes effect April 1 — and who will make roster moves while Loomis is out. There was no immediate word from the Saints, but

two candidates to take over coaching duties are defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo and offensive coordinator Pete Carmichael Jr. Spagnuolo has NFL head coaching experience; Carmichael does not, but has been with the club since 2006.

When the NFL first made its investigation public on March 2, Williams admitted to — and apologized for — running the program while in charge of the Saints' defense. He was hired in January by the St. Louis Rams; head coach Jeff Fisher said Wednesday he'll probably use a committee of coaches to replace Williams in 2012.

Goodell will review Williams' status after the upcoming season and decide whether he can return.

"I accept full responsibility for my actions," Williams said in a statement issued by the Rams. "I will continue to cooperate fully with the league and its investigation and ... I will do everything possible to re-earn the respect of my colleagues, the NFL and its players in hopes of returning to coaching in the future."

While some players who played for Williams elsewhere said he oversaw bounty systems there, too, the league said its interviews didn't find evidence that "programs at other clubs involved targeting opposing players or rewarding players for injuring an opponent." But Goodell could re-open the case if new information emerges.

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WNIT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Lady Raiders have been able to play complete games in the first two rounds of the WNIT, Baker said.

"There was several Big 12 games that we didn't close out," she said, "and I feel like these first two WNIT games, we've stayed poised and we've worked on closing them out and we've closed them out efficiently."

The team is using the postseason as motivation for the underclassmen for next season and everyone has to play with more maturity, Curry said.

"It's a springboard," she said. "It's a great opportunity to jumpstart our season next year and build from this and grow from this."

Both teams will be hungry to

extend their seasons, so Tech will have to come out fired up, Tech junior guard Casey Morris said.

"The competition is just going to get better and better as we get further in the tournament," she said. "We know that San Diego is a good team, and we know some of their tendencies, so it's good to be able to play against a team that we're familiar with."

At this point in the season, mental toughness is a large key to success, Morris said.

"In the postseason it's more mental than physical," she said. "Every team is going to be drained at this point. The teams that come out on top are the ones that are able to put together physical and mental play and be able to execute on the court and fight through all of the tiredness and want to win."

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PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador
TEXAS TECH GUARD Monique Smalls looks past Tulane's Jamie Kaplan during the Lady Raiders' 69-55 victory against the Green Wave on Sunday in the United Spirit Arena.

Next Texas women's coach will face daunting task

AUSTIN (AP) — Wanted: A Texas women's basketball coach with the resume, vigor and skill to return a proud program to national title contender.

In other words, everything the Longhorns thought they were getting five years ago in Gail Goetsenkos, who resigned Monday citing fatigue and a desire to get away from basketball.

Texas women's athletic director Chris Plonsky said she's got a short list of potential candidates—she won't say who, but promises "We are going to find a leader for our players. We love them and they are the heart of the future of our program."

Plonsky tried to persuade Goetsenkos to stay, but the coach walked

away from the \$2.5 million left in her seven-year contract after five years of winning seasons but only one victory in the NCAA tournament.

"There's no qualifiers," Plonsky said of the search for a new coach before listing a few broad requirements for the Texas job.

"You have to be accomplished, you have to be a good person, you've got to have integrity, we're not going to get anybody in here that's cut corners or has a reputation of cutting corners, (and) you've got to be able to recruit and relate to this generation of athletes, Plonsky said. "And you have to be somebody who has the fire in the belly."

Heisman winner Griffin has impressive Pro Day

WACO (AP) — Heisman Trophy winner Robert Griffin III was smiling, slapping hands with his receivers and making precise throws.

Just what Griffin had planned for his pro day, when he finally threw Wednesday for NFL personnel. That included owner Dan Snyder and coach Mike Shanahan from the Washington Redskins, who traded three first-round picks and a second-rounder for the No. 2 overall pick in next month's draft, presumably to get the dual-threat quarterback from Baylor.

Griffin was sharp throwing a scripted 51 passes he had been working on with quarterback consultant Terry Shea. Only a few balls even hit the ground.

"I always said I didn't have anything

to prove at pro day. That's why it's so easy," Griffin said. "It's really not stressful. ... The game tape speaks for itself. Really not proving, just show everybody I have been working."

Throughout his 30-minute session, with music playing that he selected, Griffin was at ease while making the kind of throws expected in the NFL. He threw from different drops and on the run.

Griffin finished with a play not listed on the playsheet, but one reflective of the good time he was having. The final play was a throwback when he caught a deep pass from teammate Kendall Wright, another potential first-round pick. It was how they liked to end their throwing sessions at Baylor, and a play they pulled

off in a couple of games.

New Indianapolis coach Chuck Pagano was among a group from the Colts at Baylor's pro day. Now without Peyton Manning, they are expected to take Heisman runner-up Andrew Luck from Stanford first overall.

Luck's pro day is scheduled Thursday, which had been the original date of Baylor's pro day before Griffin opted several weeks ago to move his up a day to avoid a conflict.

Neither Griffin nor Luck threw at the NFL combine last month in Indianapolis.

Snyder and Shanahan met with Griffin and his parents Tuesday night. They spoke to him briefly after he came onto the field before the throwing ses-

sion Wednesday that was part of a pro day that included about a dozen other players.

"They gave up a lot of picks to be able to move up to that spot to pick a player," Griffin said. "And if it happens to be me, they showed me that I can definitely get along with them."

Griffin grew up watching Shanahan coach the Denver Broncos and Hall of Fame quarterback John Elway.

"Since Elway, he hasn't had that guy you would associate him with," Griffin said. "Hopefully, I can be that guy, if I'm available at that spot, and I'll be excited to be that guy. It would be pretty cool to be that guy he can nurture and build up when he gets in the league."

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

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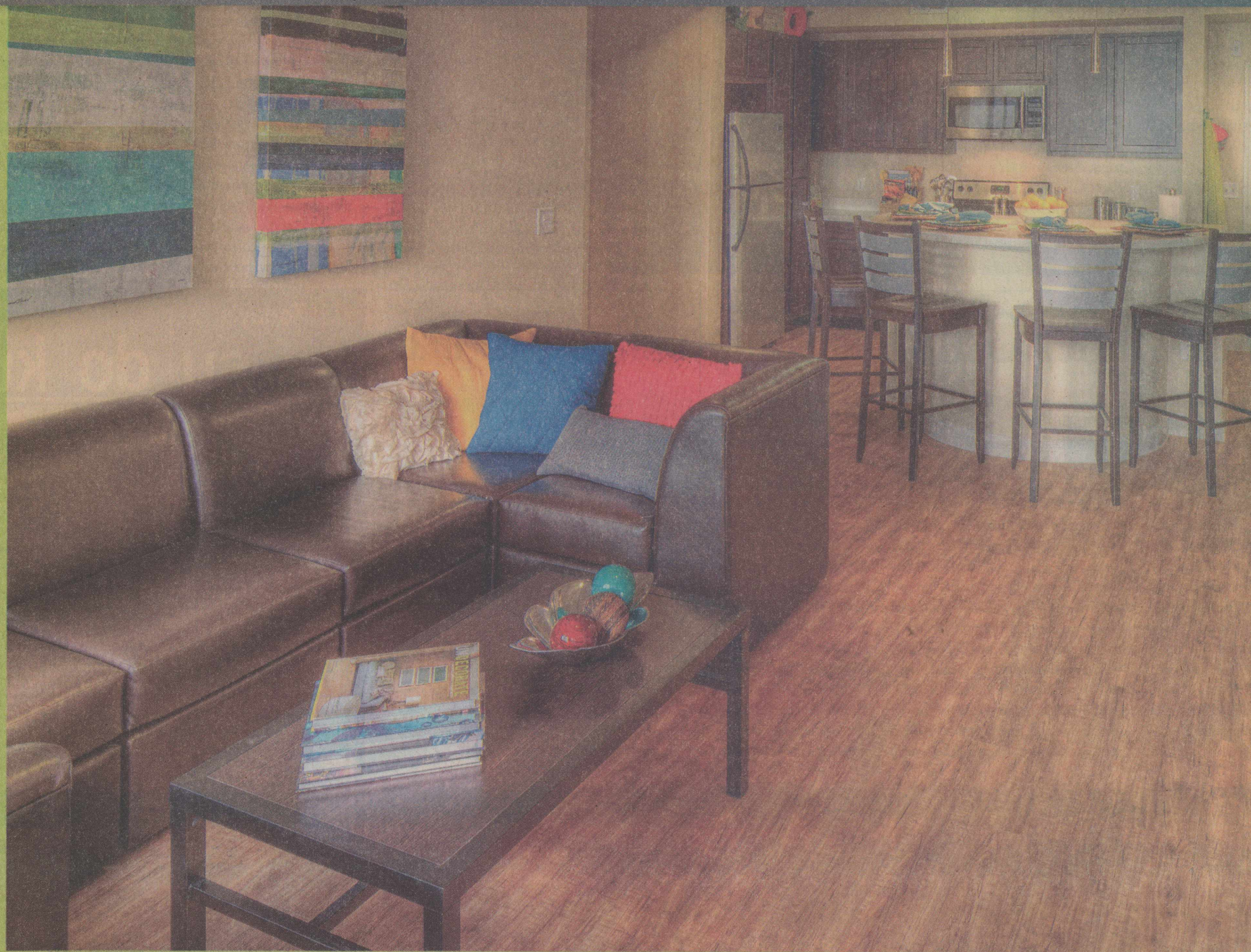
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