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FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2012  
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# THE DAILY TOREADOR

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## Future medical research rests in current HSC students

### Student Research Week hosted by department of biology, biochemistry

By NICOLE MOLTER  
Staff Writer

This week's Student Research Week at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center highlighted the theme of diabetes and gave students an opportunity to present their research from all areas of medical studies.

"Every year, the Student Research Week is organized by different departments of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences," said Huzefa Dugrawala, a fourth-year graduate student in the cell department of biology and biochemistry.

A different department is featured every four years, he said. Besides biology and biochemistry, there are the microbiology, pharmacology and physiology departments.

"Different departments get a chance to organize this event, which is usually three days," Dugrawala said. "In those three days, you have the keynote speeches — most importantly — the judges — the second big thing about it — with the posters and the students presenting their posters to judges, getting evaluated and getting their prizes for them."

This was the first year of an open poster session where students could discuss their projects and have them evaluated, he said.

The HSC welcomed keynote speakers Dr. Gerald I. Shulman, from the Howard Hughes Medical

Institute at Yale University School of Medicine, and Dr. Luis A. Fernandez, an associate professor of the Division of Transplantation at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine.

"We had different things, like cancer, diabetes — different medical conditions — to choose from," Dugrawala said. "We thought that diabetes would be the best applicable since it is one of the majorly occurring conditions amongst the community."

Shulman has spent more than 30 years identifying steps that play a role in diabetes, said Suzanna Cisneros, unit associate director of communications and marketing at the HSC, in a news release. Fernandez focused on islet cell transplantation and beta cell biology.

"I thought both speakers were terrific," said Jaden Evans, a second-year medical student from Salt Lake City. "The first one, Dr. Shulman from Yale, was awesome."

I think that it's a real gift for somebody to take a topic that is complex and kind of mysterious to, maybe, people that don't understand and simplify it in a way that is very understandable. He took a process of diabetes, origin of diabetes, and made it so pretty much everybody in the auditorium could understand and then he got into his research. The whole thing was great."

RESEARCH continued on Page 2 >>>

## Today's college students uninterested in 2012 election

### Some say presidential candidates prove to be misleading, uninspiring

By BETSY EPPLER  
Contributing Writer

Despite the millions of dollars presidential hopefuls spend on advertising and campaigning, young people, including Texas Tech students, are increasingly uninterested and uninformed.

Jackie Kafka, a senior English major from Las Cruces, N.M., said she attributes this aloofness, and the resulting ignorance, to uninspiring candidates.

"We're at the point where we have to pick the best from the worst," she said. "I don't think there are any good candidates. That's half the reason why I'm not following."

According to Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, every avenue of news coverage reflects a general lack of interest in the 2012 campaign. Those younger than 30

who regularly learn about the candidates online, dropped from 42 percent in 2008 to 29 percent in 2012.

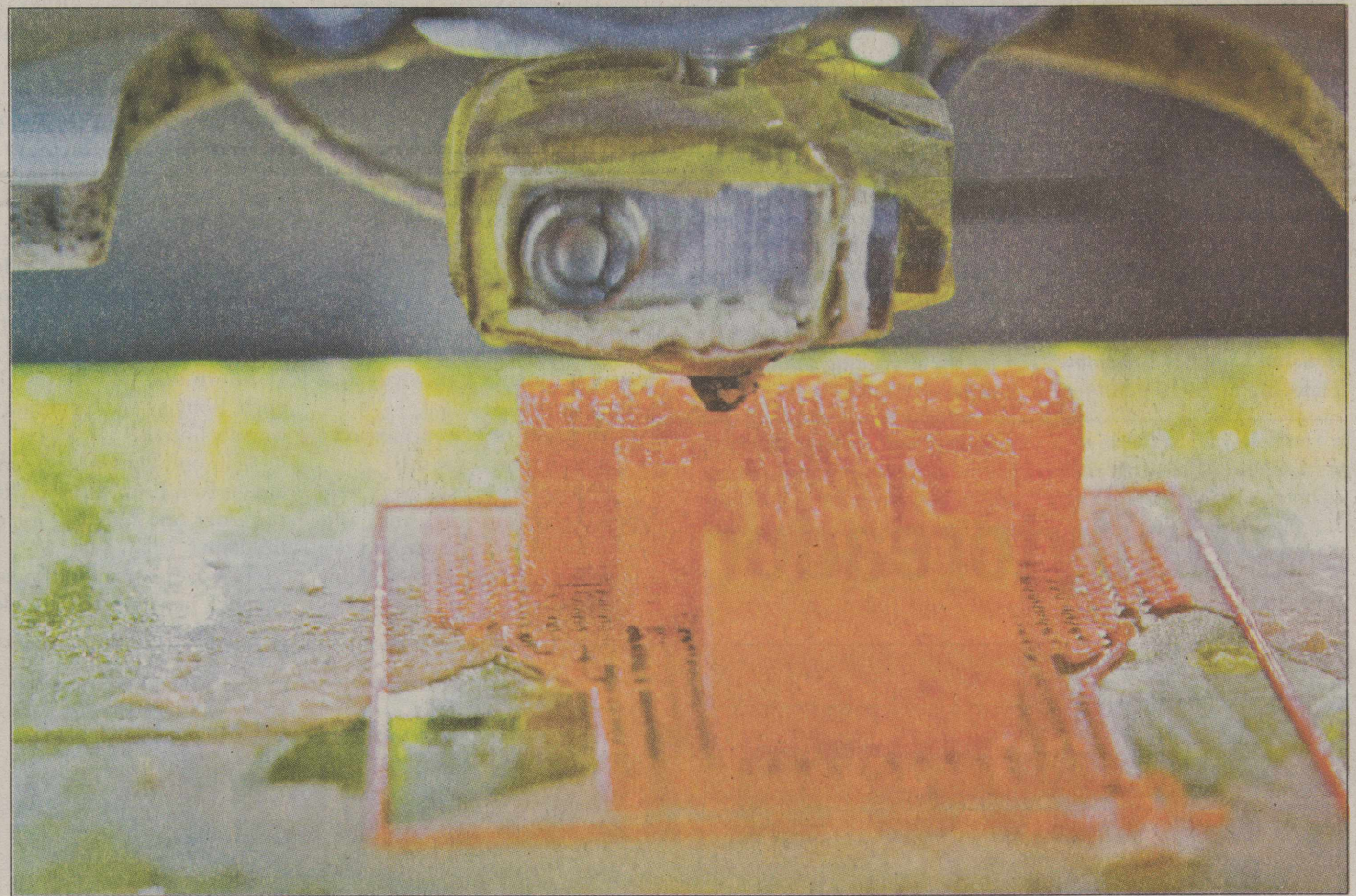
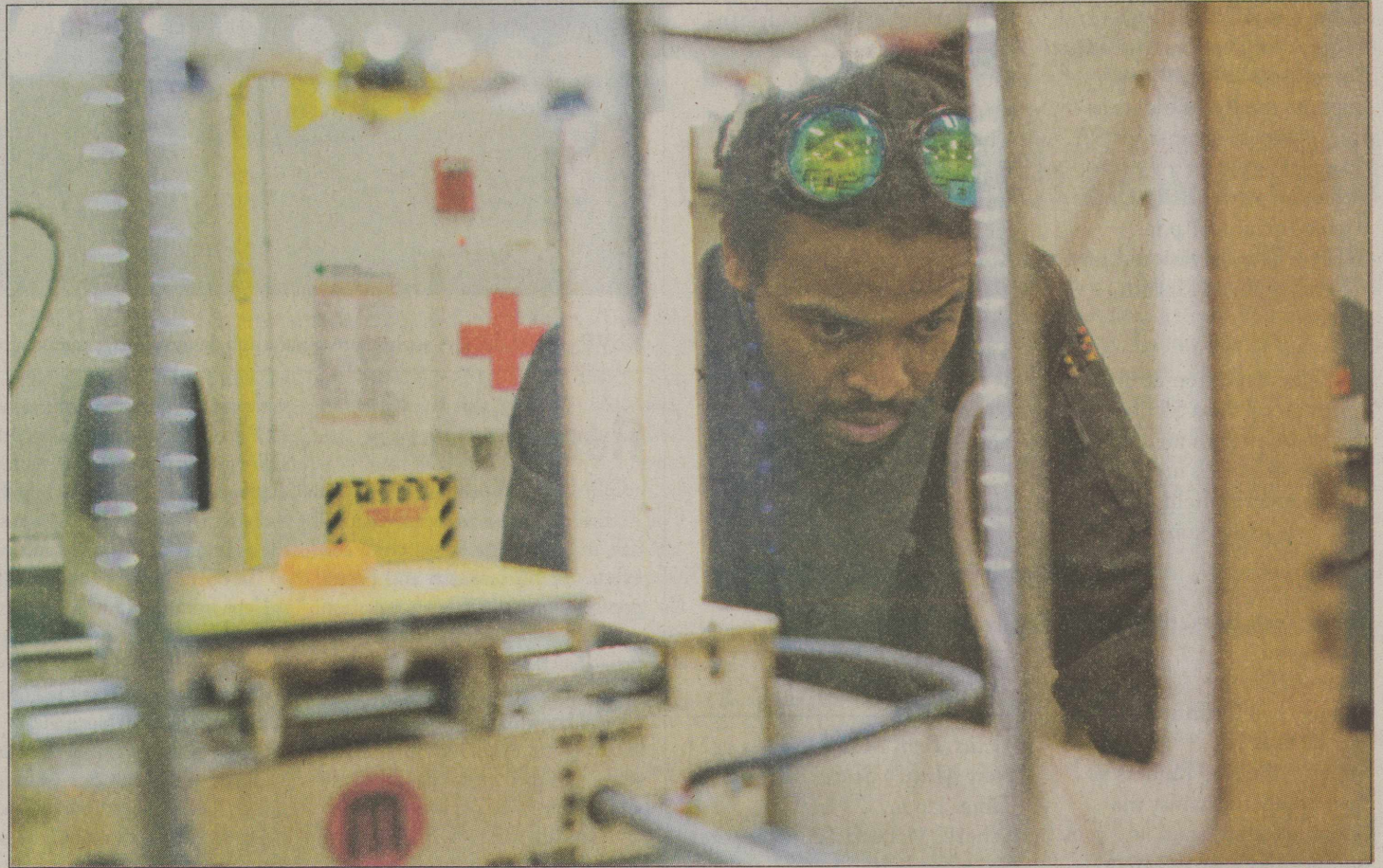
Jacee Carter, a senior exercise and sports science major from Andrews, said she will not pay attention to the presidential race until the Republicans have chosen a nominee. She said she has learned what she knows about the candidates from watching "Saturday Night Live."

According to the same Pew Research Center study, 9 percent of people learn about campaigns from late-night comedy shows like "Saturday Night Live," "Jay Leno" and "The Daily Show."

Carter said she only knows GOP candidate Rick Santorum by his bumbling character on "Saturday Night Live," and said she knows little of Newt Gingrich or Ron Paul.

CAMPAIGNS continued on Pg. 2 >>>

## 3-D Visions



PHOTOS BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

TOP: ROLANDO SHAW, a wood shop technician for the Texas Tech School of Art, sets a 3D printer to print a Double-T on Wednesday in the 3D Art Annex. ABOVE: The 3D printer in the 3D Art Annex prints a Double-T out of acrylonitrile butadiene styrene plastic in the 3D Art Annex.

## School of Art, College of Architecture make use of 3-D printer

By HALLIE DAVIS  
Staff Writer

In the future, Rolando Shaw said, there will be one on every desk, a sort of sci-fi dream.

Rather than going to the store, people will be able to simply produce the things they want and fabricate their own products.

The 3-D printer is on the rise.

The School of Art has three such printers that produce plastic objects up to 4-by-4 inches. Their

models are called "MakerBot Thing-O-Matics" and are an inexpensive version of the new kinds of printers.

Shaw, the woodshop technician for the School of Art, builds and works with these machines, creating three-dimensional figurines in bright or clear plastic. Unlike a printer printing on paper, these use plastic to form objects.

Located in the art school's woodshop, Shaw works with the printer in between other projects. Under the desk, he's got a box of things he's made: Interlocking gears, bracelets, sculptures testing the machine's abili-

ties and even a bust of Stephen Colbert.

"If you have a set of (blueprints) and some time on your hands, you can make anything and you can make it as precise as you want," he said.

One day, Shaw said, he predicts every home will have a 3-D printer, just as most now have paper printers. Instead of going to buy something, like shower curtain rings for example, he said, people will simply pick them out online and then print them from home.

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Keys: Relationship distance both good, bad  
**OPINIONS, Pg. 4**



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## Community Calendar

### TODAY

#### Texas Tech Athletics Garage Sale

**Time:** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
**Where:** Jones AT&T Stadium, Gate 2 atrium  
**So, what is it?**  
 The Texas Tech Athletic Department and the Double T Zone will host a garage sale featuring windsuits, warm-ups, T-shirts, cleats, jerseys and other items from football, men and women's basketball, baseball, men's golf, tennis, track and soccer.

#### Texas Tech Men's Tennis vs. UTSA

**Time:** 1 p.m.  
**Where:** McLeod Tennis Center  
**So, what is it?**  
 Support the Red Raiders as they compete against UTSA.

#### Salvation Army BBQ Dinner

**Time:** 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
**Where:** The Salvation Army, Church gym (1111 16th Street)  
**So, what is it?**  
 Join The Salvation Army's youth group for a \$5 dinner to raise money for a mission trip to New Braunfels and Killen this summer to help expand The Salvation Army in those areas.

#### Texas Tech Basketball vs. Oklahoma

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Rip Griffin Park  
**So, what is it?**  
 Support the Red Raiders as they compete against the Sooners today, again at 5 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m. on Sunday.

#### Così Fan Tutte Opera

**Time:** 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
**Where:** Student Union Building, Allen Theatre  
**So, what is it?**  
 Enjoy a performance of Mozart's comical opera, which deals with the serious issues of love and fidelity.

#### Houston Clarinet Ensemble

**Time:** 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

**Where:** Dance With Me  
**So, what is it?**  
 Enjoy this guest recital presented by the School of Music.

### SATURDAY

#### Texas Tech Volleyball and Football

**Time:** 1 p.m.  
**Where:** United Spirit Arena  
**So, what is it?**  
 Support the Tech Volleyball team during its spring tournament at 1 p.m. in the USA and the Tech Football team during its spring game at 1 p.m. at Jones AT&T Stadium.

#### Holi: Festival of Color

**Time:** 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Where:** Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center, Rec Fields  
**So, what is it?**  
 The Holi Festival of Colors features a live cultural performance, free food and the festival of color.

#### TTU African Student Organization Banquet

**Time:** 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
**Where:** International Cultural Center, Hall of Nations  
**So, what is it?**  
 In collaboration with the United Nations, this program is intended to bring awareness to malaria in Africa by providing mosquito nets to stricken areas.

### SUNDAY

#### Texas Tech Men's Tennis vs. New Mexico State

**Time:** 1 p.m.  
**Where:** McLeod Tennis Center  
**So, what is it?**  
 Support the Red Raiders as they compete against New Mexico State.

**To make a calendar submission email [dailytoreador@ttu.edu](mailto: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.**

## RUNWAY READY

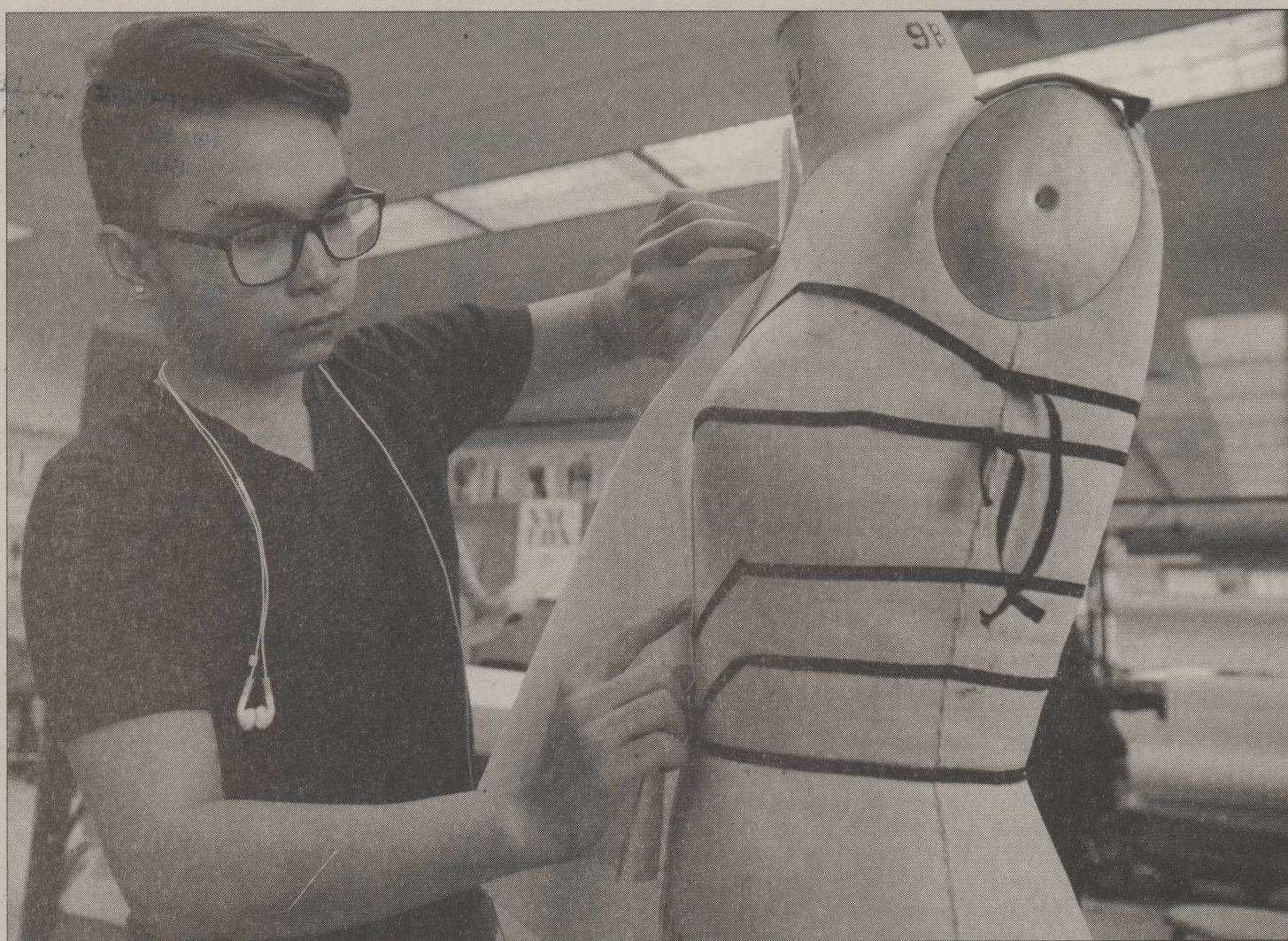


PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador

KEVIN NGUYEN, A sophomore apparel and design management major from Vietnam, drapes cloth for a dress in the Human Sciences building Thursday.

## Research

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Evans received an award Wednesday, at a Student Research Week event, for his research and poster presentation on CT scan radiation exposure and patients presenting soft tissue infections.

He said physicians should use their clinical knowledge to diagnose different infections, instead of relying on CT scans. The method would ultimately save money in the medical field.

"Basically we looked at patients that came in with an abscess, cellulitis, necrotizing fasciitis, or gangrene," he said. "We looked at patients that presented with one of those in 2003 to 2004 and we looked at how much radiation exposure they were getting from CT scans. We compared those with patients that presented with the

same set of soft tissue infections in 2009 and 2010, and we calculated their CT scan radiation exposure. We found that between that five-year gap there is an increase usage in CT scans for the diagnosis of soft tissue infections."

Trey Sertich, a second-year medical student from San Antonio, also received an award. His presentation was over a new Presidential Scholarship Program and promoting teamwork, instead of a medical hierarchy.

"One of the problems recently in medicine and health care is that the various methods of education lead to a certain way of thinking," he said. "Because of that you can sometimes get problems because medicine, until very recently, has been a hierarchy—a very rigid hierarchy—with the physician at the very top. While it certainly had its pros, a lot of people, including our group, believed that the cons outweighed those benefits."

"Our research centers more about putting forth this new Presidential Scholarship Program that is supposed to augment what's going to be required this coming year, and that there's going to be a mandatory curriculum for every school throughout the Health Sciences Center that will institute inter-professional education."

Sertich found the second speaker, Fernandez, helpful in his personal career.

"There was a medical perspective with the first lecture and there was a surgical perspective with the second lecture—which I think is excellent for those, like myself, who are interested in surgery," he said. "You love hearing about the medical aspects, but you want to know something that you can provide personally. Having that second surgical lecture is a great way to see that."

Adrian Mulig, a sophomore biol-

ogy major from Carrollton, is one of the few undergraduate students to participate in research. She also presented at Student Research Week. She said her presentation was over research done on end-of-life care and decision-making for Project Frontier with the HSC Rural and Community Health lab.

"It's a project that looks at rural communities and how they live, and age, and what obstacles they face, different than urban areas. Since I'm applying to nursing school here, I wanted to look at more, not so medical, more of a nursing issue of end-of-life care decisions."

The HSC Student Research Week had a successful number of student participants and attendees this week and is hoping for the 2013 Student Research Week to grow even more, Cisneros said.

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## Campaigns

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Carter recalled one sketch in which Romney's ex-wives were interviewed.

"I know he's been married a couple of times," she said.

According to Romney's website, he and his wife, Ann, were childhood sweethearts and just celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary.

Kevin Brown, a first-year computer science graduate student from Lytle, said he reads infowars.com and The Drudge Report to stay current.

Brown said he believes Gingrich, Romney and Santorum are actually liberals.

"The only conservative candidate is Ron Paul," he said. "He's the only one fighting for our freedoms."

To prove his point, Brown said, Romney implemented President

Obama's health care plan in Massachusetts, but now is working to repeal it.

Romney defended his choices on his website and said he desires to return the power to the states by removing the federal mandate.

Brown said he knows little of Gingrich and Santorum. He said he knows they are both pro-war. Other than that, he said, he knows Santorum hates gay people. When pressed as to where he learned that

information, he paused. "I don't remember," he said, "but I know he doesn't like them, and he's a Christian."

Jackie Kafka said another reason she does not pay much attention to the news is because by the time New Mexico votes in the primaries, the vote will be insignificant.

"What's the point, at this point," she said, "because I'm not going to have that big of an effect."  
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## Insurers speed health care overhaul preparations

The nation's big insurers are spending millions to carry out President Barack Obama's health care overhaul even though there's a chance the wide-reaching law won't survive Supreme Court scrutiny.

It's not that health insurers want to bet big that the court will uphold the Affordable Care Act. It's that they can't afford not to. It will take at least several months and lots of resources for insurers to prepare to implement key elements of the law, which includes a controversial requirement that most Americans have health insurance by 2014.

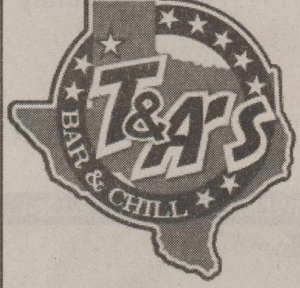
WellPoint Inc., the nation's second-largest health insurer with 34 million members, has said it will spend \$100 million this year on technology upgrades to meet the law's requirements. Aetna Inc., third-largest U.S. health insurer with more than 18 mil-

lion members, says it expects to spend \$50 million this year in part to upgrade software and computers.

Even smaller insurers like Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, a private company with 4 million members, are spending big. This year, the company, which employs 7,000 people, plans to add about 100 employees and spend nearly \$20 million.

The law calls for big changes in the number of people receiving coverage, what must be covered and who pays for it, so insurers that don't prepare until after the court's ruling, expected in late June, will run short on time, said Kirk Roy, vice president of national health reform with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

"Waiting is too big a business risk for any insurer," said Roy, who was promoted to his current job shortly after the overhaul became law in 2010.



### TONIGHT WADE PARKS

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## Museum of TTU, Women's Studies Program to host symposium

By MICHAEL DUPONT II  
STAFF WRITER

Women's History Month is nearing its end and the Women's Studies Program, along with the education division of the Museum of Texas Tech, have joined to host "Binding Equality: A Women's Studies Symposium."

The symposium will begin at 8:45 a.m. today at the Helen DeVitt Jones Auditorium in the museum.

The topic of the symposium will be the exhibition that is currently on display in the museum, titled "Speaking Volumes - Books

and Ideas from 1250-1862." There will be a guest panel giving their perspectives about different pieces of literature from each time period.

Patricia Earl, coordinator of the Women's Studies Program, said the guest panelists for the symposium will consist of two academic professors with backgrounds in literature and bestselling author Jodi Thomas, who is a romance novelist.

"In the morning, you'll get to hear an academic perspective about women writers of the 18th and 19th centuries," Earl said. "Then, we'll end with Mrs.

Thomas talking about her current experiences as a novelist."

The Women's Studies Program partnered with the Museum of Texas Tech to put on the special collections exhibition that has been on display since January, along with the symposium.

Melissa Benner, a heritage management graduate student, said the symposium provided an opportunity for the departments on campus to get involved with the museum.

"It's always great, anytime you have that inner-departmental collaboration," she said. "We typically direct a lot of our events at

the museum towards kids, so this was a good way to incorporate things that we're doing with a different audience."

Earl said the focus of the symposium is to focus on the collection of documents provided by the Remnant Trust and also the history of the women who wrote the documents.

"This symposium is dedicated to bringing attention to women writers and the history of women writers, as well as the exhibition and the collection that the Remnant Trust has," she said.

The "Binding Equality: A Women's Studies Symposium"

title originated from a literal reference to an actual bound book and a figurative reference to the feeling of oppression, Earl said.

"There are two metaphors there," she said. "There's the physical part of the book, and then there's this metaphor of binding and feeling oppressed when it comes to topics of equality. There are people right now who are in oppression and are working through it in order to bring awareness to the equality of women."

Luke Iantorno, a British romanticism, literature and book history graduate student from

California, said he thinks the exhibit will be good for anyone interested in learning more about book history.

The symposium will take an in-depth look at pieces of literature, such as Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein" and Mary Wollstonecraft's "A Vindication of the Rights of Women."

"I think that anyone who has the opportunity to visit the exhibit, should; because it not only tells about the history, but also how books were made from manuscript to book and revolutions in printing," Iantorno said.

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## Houston died from drowning, coroner says

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Whitney Houston was a chronic cocaine user who had the drug in her system when she drowned in a hotel bathtub, coroner's officials said Thursday after releasing autopsy findings that also noted heart disease contributed to her death.

The disclosure ended weeks of speculation about what killed the Grammy-winning singer on Feb. 11 on the eve of the Grammy Awards.

Houston was found submerged in the bathtub of her room at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, and her death was ruled accidental. Several bottles of prescription medications were found in her hotel room, but coroner's officials said there weren't excessive quantities.

"We are saddened to learn of the toxicology results, although we are glad to now have closure," Patricia Houston, the singer's sister-in-law and manager, wrote in a statement to The Associated Press.

Beverly Hills police said in a statement there was no evidence of wrongdoing in connection with Houston's death.

Coroner's Chief of Operations Craig Harvey said cocaine and its byproducts were found in Houston's system, and the drug was listed as a contributing factor in her death. He said the results indicated Houston was a chronic cocaine user.

Toxicology results also showed Houston had marijuana, Xanax, the muscle relaxant Flexeril, and the allergy medication Benadryl in her system. Houston died just hours before she was scheduled to appear at producer Clive Davis' pre-Grammy Awards bash.

The singer also had buildup of plaque in her arteries that can restrict blood flow. Assistant Chief Coroner Ed Winter said the condition is common in drug users, although he said it wasn't clear whether Houston had a heart attack on the day she died.

"It just beats up their heart and they will go to use and they will have a heart attack," he said.

The exact amount of cocaine in Houston's system was not disclosed Thursday but will be contained in a full autopsy report to be released in about two weeks, officials said.

Cocaine use has been known to cause damage to the heart and could have caused Houston's death, said Dr. Michael Fishbein, professor of pathology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He had no role in the investigation.

He said a likely scenario was that

Houston's cocaine use interfered with the normal function of her heart.

"There's no reason to drown in a bathtub unless you're incapacitated," Fishbein said.

Family and friends said after Houston's death that they didn't believe she was still abusing drugs.

"I don't think drugs was an issue for her before her death. I don't know what happened that day," Patricia Houston said in a recent interview with Oprah Winfrey.

Houston, 48, was buried in a New Jersey cemetery next to her father after an emotional four-hour service that was attended by friends, family and superstars such as Oprah Winfrey, Tyler Perry, Alicia Keys, Mariah Carey, Mary J. Blige, Jennifer Hudson and Roberta Flack.

Houston, a sensation from her first, eponymous album in 1985, was one of the world's best-selling artists from the mid-1980s to the late 1990s, turning out such hits as "I Wanna Dance With Somebody," "How Will I Know," "The Greatest Love of All" and "I Will Always Love You." But as she struggled with drugs, her majestic voice became raspy, and she couldn't hit the high notes.

Interest in her music skyrocketed after her death, pushing her songs back on to charts and into heavy rotation on the radio.

She influenced a generation of younger singers, from Christina Aguilera to Mariah Carey, but Houston's drug use derailed her career and took a heavy toll on her once pristine voice.

But by the end of her career, she was a stunning cautionary tale of the toll of drug use. Her album sales plummeted and the hits stopped coming. Her once serene image was shattered by a wild demeanor and bizarre public appearances. She confessed to abusing cocaine, marijuana and pills and was eventually unable to hit the high notes as she had during her prime.

"The biggest devil is me. I'm either my best friend or my worst enemy," Houston told ABC's Diane Sawyer in an infamous 2002 television interview with then-husband Bobby Brown by her side.

She had been attempting a comeback when she died. She had finished filming a remake of the movie "Sparkle" in which Houston sang the gospel hymn "His Eye is on the Sparrow." Producers of the film have said the singer was a complete professional on the set.

## Esperanza invites pop to her realm with new record

NEW YORK (AP) — If you didn't know much about Esperanza Spalding — and many people didn't before her surprise Grammy win last year — you might be inclined to think that her latest album, "Radio Music Society," is the jazz artist's attempt to crossover into the mainstream music world.

There certainly are several elements of the record that could lead to such a conclusion. It's her most accessible album, with R&B friendly grooves and production credits from rapper Q-Tip. It even features a cover of a Michael Jackson groove from "Off

the Wall."

But if you know Esperanza like renowned jazz drummer Jack DeJohnette, a frequent collaborator and a guest on "Radio Music Society," you will know that the bassist, songwriter, singer and producer never strays far from her jazz roots, and is not one to alter her sound so it fits neatly into any format — and certainly doesn't do it for her most high-profile album to date.

"It has jazz in it, but it's beyond that. I think it sends the message, not only in jazz but in pop, that you can do more with it in terms of the level

of music and the artistry and what they might call 'taking risks,'" said DeJohnette. "Hopefully this 'Radio Music Society' CD will inspire musicians, not only in jazz but in other genres, to open up and expand. ... I think we all have that same sensibility, that jazz music can go a lot of places and cover a lot of bases and still hold that."

It's what Spalding had in mind when she crafted the album.

"I actually think the music is served — not just my music but even the music that I consider myself a member of, a community member of jazz music —

(it) can actually be served by all of the — what would you call it? Spotlight," she said in a recent interview.

"Radio Music Society" is Spalding's fourth album and represents another highlight in a career that has reached apex after apex. The Portland, Ore., multi-instrumentalist became the youngest instructor at the celebrated Berklee College when she was just 20 years old; she released her first album in 2006. Soon, she would be singing for the likes of President Barack Obama and playing with artists like Prince.

## 3-D

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Next on Shaw's list of things to make is a model of Yoda from "Star Wars." He says the full sculpture will take the machine about eight hours.

Still, he said, it is more efficient than other options. The School of Architecture currently has a similar machine, but it is much larger and the finished products are more expensive. The school is working on building a printer similar to Shaw's. The cost of a model in their current printer might be around \$40, Shaw said, while it would cost about 50 cents to create the same thing with a Makerbot Thing-O-Matic.

"It's much more cost-effective for students and for the school," Georgia Spolec, a nursing student from Dallas, said.

Having been around since Shaw received the first kit, she said, it has been amazing to watch the progression.

Shaw began last year around this time. At that time, he said the kits

came with no instructions whatsoever. Help could be found online, but it wasn't consolidated or step-by-step. Now, detailed directions can be found online from multiple sources.

The first machine took Shaw about a week to put together. When the jewelry department asked for one, he was able to construct it in two days.

Now, Shaw said, the School of Art has three of the printers and he would like to have more. He said some universities have rooms called "bot farms" with around 20 printers. First though, he said, he is interested in the new, upgraded version of the machine, released about a month ago.

On his own, Shaw has added some upgrades to his own machines. Using the machine, he has created new parts to hold wires in place and otherwise improve functionality of the Makerbot Thing-O-Matic. He said he has also changed the bases to improve heat distribution and added better nozzles.

The idea that parts could be made for the machine, by the machine, was impressive, Spolec said.

"It's amazing," she said. "You could really make parts for anything and you can't do it for anything else."

The entire idea of the machine is based on the principle that anyone can alter the printer, he said. Online, free schematics can be found for how to make the entire thing from scratch.

"It's totally hackable," he said. "The designers wanted it that way."

The entire movement is open source, he said, with people uploading their designs to the online "thingiverse" where they can be downloaded for free.

People can make their own designs and blueprints in programs like CAD or Google SketchUp, he said.

The College of Architecture is working on a similar project, having just recently purchased a 3-D printer kit. Dustin White, a visiting assistant professor, said the two students building it only need a few more pieces and the new printer should be completed soon.

"The machine can create something far more accurately than anything we can create by hand," he said.

The printers work by taking cords of ABS, the kind of plastic Legos and car interiors are made of, melting it slightly and then pressing it through a nozzle. The nozzle lays down the plastic in the specific design and builds up layers until the object is complete. If it sounds like frosting a cake, that's because it is.

The very first prototype of these machines was created for icing, Shaw said, and was called The Cupcake. Now, the MakerBot Thing-O-Matic can print in chocolate, peanut butter and nearly any other substance that can be softened.

After forming the layers up to the design specifications, the object is finished and takes only a few moments to cool, which Shaw compares to baking cookies.

With all of its varied uses, the printer can be used to make everything from chocolate molds to doorstops.

"It's really versatile," Shaw said. "If it's something plastic, you can make it."

► hdavis@dailytoreador.com

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Puzzles by PageFiller

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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## Relationship distance both good, bad

They say, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder," but is that always true?

My dad's thought is that absence makes us forget. It is possible both are accurate. People who are in long-distance relationships often struggle with these two very different ideas. How can you make a long-distance relationship work?

We often manipulate mantras to fit our current situation. If we are going through a break-up, we like to think that time away from our ex will heal our wounds. If we will be without our loved one for a while, we like to believe the time not spent with them will make us love them more.

When it seems that we are in love, we want to believe the best. We want to be our best. But problems come along when the euphoric feeling of a new relationship begins to wear off.

**Jaira Keys**



When we settle back into who we really are.

Is it only true love that survives millions of miles? If you can survive a long-distance relationship, then you know it's real.

Weak relationships will not last in the difficult world of simple phone calls and text messages. Long-distance relationships depend on conversation and friendship. Without friendship, a relationship like this won't have a foundation. Without a good foundation, anything will crumble.

It is impossible to maintain a relationship from afar with someone you are only sexually

attracted to. After all, you can have sex with anyone. That doesn't require a deep mental connection that you can only find with one person.

People also use the phrase "out of sight, out of mind." Don't thoughts like these worry people who can't be with their boyfriend or girlfriend for weeks, or even months, at a time?

Which is it? Does distance build relationships or is distance relationship breaking? I guess it all depends. There are two sides of the coin for this scenario. Perhaps distance simply shows us what's behind the smoke and mirrors.

Being in a long-distance rela-

relationship is difficult. Despite how hard it is, many college students seem to find themselves in one. This shows that, although this type of relationship is laborious, it isn't impossible.

This is the type of relationship that can only last if both parties are completely dedicated. Both people also have to be trusting. There is no sense in being with someone you don't trust and preposterous when you are hours away from them.

Technology has lent a helping hand to these types of situations. We now have cell phones where we can be reached wherever we are, Skype so we can video chat,

text messaging so we can send a cute quick note, email if we want to write something lengthy and there is even FaceTime.

Technology can also be the downfall of a long-distance relationship. With Facebook and Twitter, we leave ourselves open to the world and leave our everyday activity up for interpretation.

Often, we inform the world of our next move and our current location before we tell the ones who actually matter. That doesn't make sense, but many of us are guilty of it.

We can always stay in contact, but that may not be enough. We have to find ways to keep things interesting. Find ways to discuss things other than what we did today. The "what are you doing" conversation becomes boring after a while.

I was in a long-distance relationship once. I almost didn't

realize he wasn't in the same city. We talked every time we got a chance. We would call to talk about the random thing that just happened to us.

Before anything else, we were friends. I longed to talk to him. I needed to hear his voice. We laughed together. We cried together. We also made sure we vacationed together once a month.

I implanted him into my daily routine. If he wasn't a part of my day, something was missing. He was like waking up and brushing my teeth. I do that every morning; it never fails.

The key to a successful long-distance relationship is simple. Your relationship must be a friendship. The commitment will fall in line.

**Keys is a senior sociology major from Houston.**  
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## Reminder: College years not real life

We go to class 15 hours a week, some of us work part-time, we have endless networks all around us, professors, faculty and staff are willing and able to help us at any point and — most of the time — we make poor decisions on the weekends.

With this said, I think it's important we college students remember that college isn't real life.

Right now, you may think your fellow Red Raiders will be the only people you'll know the rest of your life, but that simply cannot be true.

Once we graduate, we'll venture off to the big-girl and big-boy world and encounter people from all over the state, country and world. Soon, the familiarity of throwing a Guns Up symbol will be nearly lost and your boss will ask you to get to work instead of watching last week's recap of the Texas Tech football game.

Your coworkers will not all have the same viewpoint as you. Right now, living in West Texas, it's pretty safe to say we like a beer on Saturday night, church on Sunday morning and country music on the radio.

I'm scared to say I might run into a crazy atheist rocker who doesn't care if I came from the best university in the world or know more about Buddy Holly than I'm proud to say. They might want to make me worldlier. Yikes.

Another more obvious point of college not being real life, is simply that most of our moms and dads are paying for this awesome experience. And sometimes being grateful isn't enough. I think it's important to take into account how much the people around you are helping you. There may be some of that when we graduate, but I'm afraid we'll mostly be on our own.

Also, let's not get crazy with getting down on one knee. I caution anyone who is thinking about

**Paige Skinner**



proposing, or marriage, at this point in our lives. Congratulations if you think you have found your soul mate at Wild West. Just remember your "soul mate" will not always be walking distance to your apartment, will not always have an afternoon of free time to hang out with you and may not always be living in the same town as you.

We're all living in Lubbock right now, having the time of our lives, going to school on the side of having a blast and thinking our college sweetheart is "the one." I just hope couples take into consideration what life outside of college will be like. Screaming Red Raiders at football games will be replaced with a screaming child in the aisle of a grocery store.

And finally, college courses are here to prepare you for challenges and problems you might face in the workplace. However, actually dealing with those problems will be a completely different scenario.

Our classroom lessons help teach us what to do and then test us over it, but there will be no multiple-choice tests in the workplace. We might have to dig deep inside of ourselves and make the right choice, based on ethics and principle, instead of the correct answer on an exam.

This column isn't to scare anyone; it's just a simple reminder that these four, five or six years aren't necessarily foreshadowing the real world. Good luck.

**Skinner is a junior public relations major from Garland.**  
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## Overzealous night watchman out of line

By **CHRISTOPHER SHELTON**  
THE DAILY COUGAR  
(U. HOUSTON)

On Feb. 26 Trayvon Martin, a 17-year-old black high school student, was on his way back to his father's house from the convenience store when George Zimmerman, 28, stole Martin's life with a gunshot.

To say that Martin's life came to a tragic end is an understatement. It just should not have happened. What unfolded is antithetical to what any person should be subjected to.

Zimmerman was an overzealous and self-appointed leader of his neighborhood watch, the quixotic protector for his community. However, he was certainly not the protector Martin and his family needed that fateful night.

According to the Miami Herald, "Zimmerman called police 46 times since Jan. 1, 2011 to report disturbances, break-ins, windows left open and other incidents. Nine of those times, he saw someone or something suspicious."

On the night in question, Zimmerman again dialed 911 before approaching Martin.

"Hey, we've had some break-ins in my neighborhood, and there's a real suspicious guy at Retreat View Circle. This guy looks like he's up to no good," he said.

At this point, the only thing that Zimmerman knew about Martin was his ethnicity. By all accounts, Martin was not causing trouble. His apparent crime was being black and walking down an affluent street at night.

Several citizens called 911 to report the disturbance that followed. The calls were released Friday.

In one of the chilling calls, you can hear a male voice screaming for help in the back-

ground as a female neighbor dictates the situation from her home to the 911 operator. It is followed by a gunshot and stoic silence in the background. Then, the wailing for help was over for good. The silence eats you up inside. You realize

that you have just listened to Martin's last 10 seconds of life. You can almost feel his blood on your shirt. You can almost see the blood on Zimmerman's hands.

Zimmerman stated it was he who was wailing for help and that he acted only in self-defense. Unfortunately, Martin is not here to refute or confirm Zimmerman's account. The police did not conduct a background check on Zimmerman nor did they test him for drugs or alcohol; however, Martin was tested to determine if he was under the influence. Pressing questions still remain. Why did Zimmerman feel Martin, an unarmed minor, was suspicious?

Many have suggested Martin was racially profiled. It certainly seems so, but we were not there and are not in Zimmerman's brain.

Why has Zimmerman not been arrested? The police definitely have probable cause for an arrest.

Many African Americans have long sensed an inherent unfairness in the US justice system. This is a system where Mike Vick can be sentenced to 23 months in prison for the slaying of animals. And current NFL player, Plaxico Burress, can be sentenced to two years in prison for shooting himself at a night club. Mind you, no disturbance was caused, and no one was injured in the incident. But kill a minority child and you get sent home without being arrested and your story of self-defense is taken at face value.

Maybe I am speaking in hyperboles here, but the vast majority of Americans must understand how this looks to the black community.

It was announced Tuesday that the case will soon go to a Florida grand jury and that the justice department will begin investigating the possibility of a hate crime.

This is certainly a step in the right direction but is still too little too late.

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# Tech, OU both look to bounce back after Big 12 openers

By **BRETT WINEGARNER**  
MANAGING EDITOR

After getting swept in their Big 12 Conference opener in Baylor, the Red Raiders hope their conference home opener goes a little better.

Texas Tech begins its weekend series against Oklahoma tonight, as it will mark the first time a Big 12 foe has visited the redesigned Rip Griffin Park.

Tech coach Dan Spencer said the team is ready to bounce back from the tough series last weekend.

"We're looking forward to playing, and looking forward to the challenge," he said. "We need to start winning, and start winning during the weekend and start moving forward."

Much like Tech (14-8, 0-3 in Big 12 play), the Sooners are coming off a tough opening weekend in conference play.

Although Oklahoma (13-9, 0-3) was playing at home against a Longhorn team that was supposed to experience a down season, the Sooners lost all three games to Texas.

However, both teams bounced back during their midweek series, as Tech took both games from Florida Gulf Coast and Oklahoma swept Air Force in a two-game series.

Despite these wins, Tech junior outfielder Barrett Barnes said, they do not mean much because the level of play between the teams from each series is so different.

"I don't really think you can carry your midweeks into your weekends, just because your competition varies so

much," he said.

In his third year at Tech, Barnes continues to lead the team offensively with 24 RBIs—second in the Big 12—to go along with a .351 batting average which puts him at ninth in the conference.

Barnes said the series against Oklahoma is big for both teams and they will both be ready to play.

"(It's) definitely a big series," he said. "We have Oklahoma coming to town, which is a good ball club and they came off of a rough weekend as well, so you know they are fired up and ready to go just like we are. So I think tomorrow night is going to be a real intense game, and be played real fast, real well, and hopefully we come out with the win."

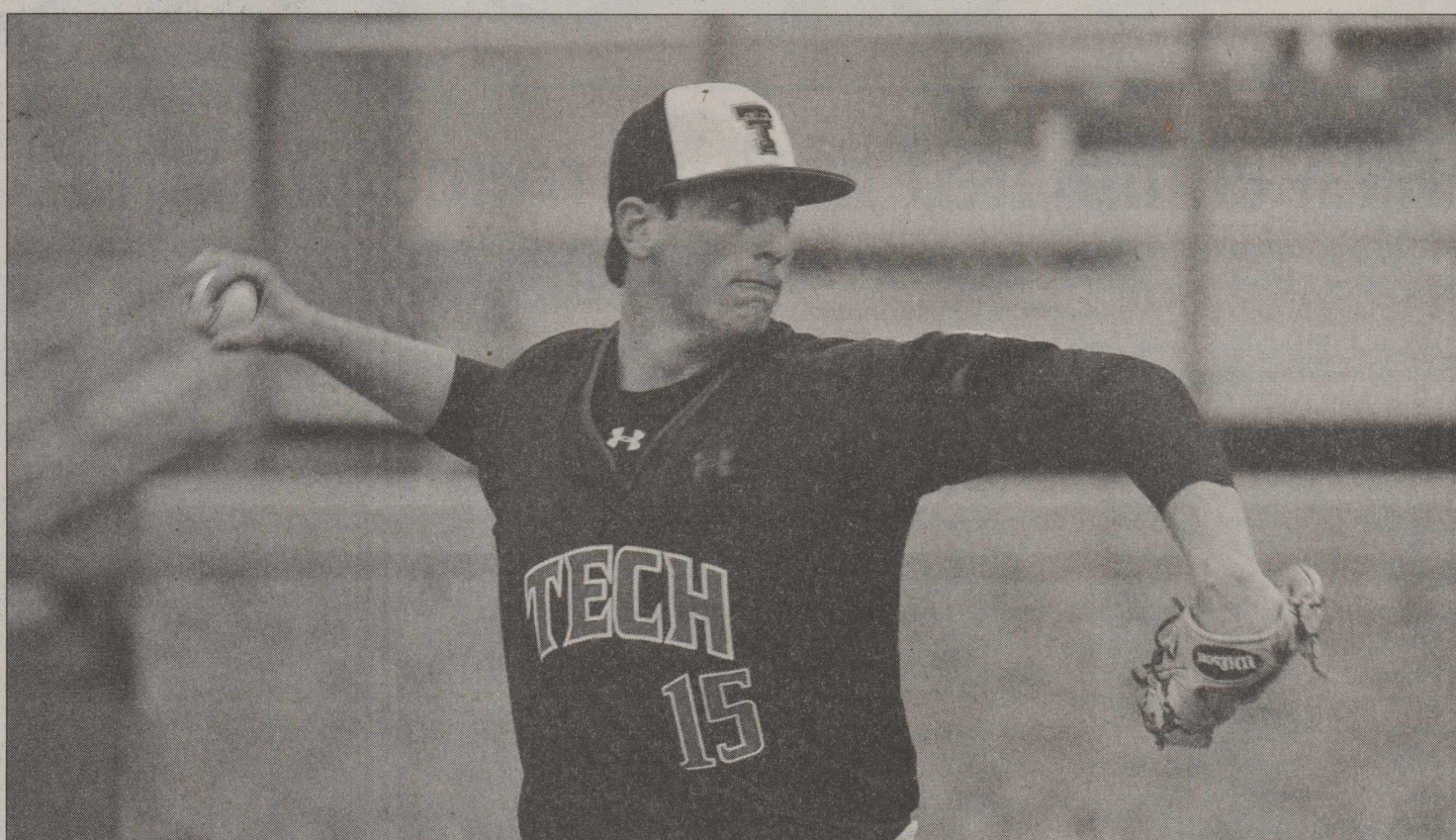
The first game of the weekend match-up at 6:30 p.m. today features Tech's Duke von Schamann going up against Oklahoma's Jordan John. von Schamann has been Tech's Friday starter throughout the season, but the Sooners are mixing it up a little bit by sending John to the mound to start.

So far this season, John has made all 11 of his appearances out of the bullpen, making this his first start of the season. However, John started seven games last year and even owned a 4-0 record when he started games last season.

With John starting, the Sooners will lose consistency out of the bullpen, as John owns a team-leading 2.76 ERA to go along with a 3-3 record and three saves.

Tech is also facing bullpen and pitching issues of its own at the moment.

Despite owning the third best team ERA in the Big 12, the Red Raiders are



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH PITCHER Duke von Schamann throws the ball toward home plate during Tech's 4-1 victory against Missouri State on Feb. 17 at Rip Griffin Park.

not entirely happy with how the pitching staff has performed during the past few games.

Tech reliever Trey Masek said he does not think the pitchers have a consistency issue, they are just focused on making every pitch a good one.

"We're concerned because we want to

make every pitch we can," he said, "but we know baseball is a tough game, or else everyone would do it. So we are just going to go out and try and execute our pitches and have a good weekend."

Spencer said he expects both teams to be ready to play, and this series is big for each ball club because they both

want to bounce back from their difficult first weekend.

"I think the intensity is going to be fine," he said. "I think anytime you get into conference series—regardless of who you're playing, or records—because I think those things go out the door on Friday night when the lights turn on.

But I do think it's important, because both of us had tough weekends to open. So, someone is going to get off on the right foot."

The teams will finish the series with game two at 5 p.m. Saturday and then the finale at 1 p.m. Sunday.

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## Tebow's presence gives Jets' offense options

NEW YORK (AP) — Each time Tim Tebow steps on the field for the New York Jets, defenses will know what to expect.

Well, the unexpected, of course.

The versatile and elusive quarterback with the flair for dramatic victories was acquired Wednesday from the Denver Broncos and will give the Jets' offense a boost — for at least a few snaps a game.

"Instead of a team just preparing for our base offense, they will have to prepare for what we do and what we

may do," coach Rex Ryan said at LSU's pro day Thursday in Baton Rouge, La.

Tebow, who arrived at the Jets' facility in Florham Park, N.J., for the first time Thursday afternoon, won't start as he did in Denver, not with New York committed to Mark Sanchez.

But Tebow gives the Jets the option to run offensive coordinator Tony Sparano's wildcat offense — the one that confused teams while in Miami with the Dolphins — and provides an intriguing presence when games are on the line.

"Tim is an outstanding football player, and we can use him," Ryan said. "He'll fit our wildcat package. As a defensive coach, I know how hard it is to defend the wildcat. We can take it to another level with Tim. We will have things for Tebow each week."

Consider that fair warning.

"What we've seen from him, you've got to watch every time he's in there," Jets defensive end Mike DeVito said. "He has the ability to throw the ball and a great ability to run the ball, so any role we put him

in, it'll keep defenses on their toes."

DeVito and the rest of the Jets know that from experience. Tebow led a 95-yard winning touchdown drive against New York last November, scoring on a 20-yard scramble with less than a minute remaining. That set off a string of stirring comebacks as the Broncos rode Tebow's incredible late-game play — despite his ugly mechanics and passing stats — all the way to the playoffs, including an overtime win over the Pittsburgh Steelers in the opening round.

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