

THE DAILY TOREADOR

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2012
VOLUME 86 ■ ISSUE 109

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Controversial SGA Senate bill banning campaign blocking passed

Patton plans to veto bill, Senate may amend it

By CAROLYN HECK
Staff Writer

The new Student Senate bill 47.29 was passed last week, prohibiting candidates who are running for positions in the Texas Tech Student Government Association from using campaign blocking.

The bill, written by College of Arts and Sciences senator Colin Davis, was passed March 20 in the Senate at 61 percent to 39 percent, with 49 senators voting, Stuart Williams said. Williams is a senior history major from Lubbock and serves as an associate justice of the student

judicial Supreme Court.

Campaign blocking refers to when a candidate sponsors another candidate for office, or gathers the support of other campus organizations or coalitions, SGA president Tyler Patton said.

"Essentially, it's a bill that bans all organized campaigning by candidates for office in student government elections," he said.

According to Senate Bill 47.29, "Our current system of electing the leaders in the Student Government Association has become dominated by a coalition culture which bitterly divides our governing

institutions, and...this culture renders the entire Student Government Association helpless to the political dramas between coalitions in the General Election, and... by allowing these coalitions to endorse candidates for the Student Senate, those running for the Student Senate have no need to campaign for the seat they seek, for they rely too heavily on a modern invention called a "block..."

Patton said he used campaign blocking during his campaign and thinks to ban it is in violation of students' rights.

"I made a presentation to the Student Senate because I think it's a really dangerous piece of legislation," he said. "You know, essentially, 47.29 violates

the First and 14th Amendments of the United States Constitution, both of which protect our freedom of speech and our freedom to associate under the law."

The bill is also in violation of the First Amendment of the SGA Constitution, Patton said.

According to the SGA website, the first amendment of its constitution states, "No rule, regulation, or administrative policy shall be promulgated which in any way prohibits or infringes upon the freedoms of speech and expression or upon the rights of peaceful assembly or redress or grievances by petition."

"These basic rights shall not be abridged or denied any student by any

individual, group, or organization of the University community."

"I really hate the fact that we're in the position now that I either face the Student Senate passing a bill that violates the Constitution of the United States," Patton said, "or I veto (the) bill."

From a judicial standpoint, Williams said, the bill is not legal.

"Since I'm on the Supreme Court, I really just have to take a look at the law," he said, "and I don't think that the proposed bill is constitutional as it is currently worded."

The bill violates the student constitution and the U.S. Constitution, he said, and if allowed to stand, it may potentially

become a liability for a suit against the university.

Williams said, as things stand, he believes Patton will veto the bill, but he is unsure of the future.

"The president, Patton, said he would veto it and I spoke with him and he still strongly intends to veto it," he said, "so it will go back to Senate. Whether they will vote on it again to pass it, I don't know."

In comparison to Patton, Zack West, a graduate accounting student from Houston, believes campaign blocking is detrimental to SGA culture and the university as a whole.

BILL continued on Page 2 >>>

Red to Black works to help students with financial difficulties

Financial Education Week provides advice

By NICOLE MOLTER
Staff Writer

Texas Tech's Red to Black counseling program is hosting its seventh annual Financial Education Week, which began Monday, to help students learn to handle their debt in an efficient way.

This year's theme is "Change the Channel, Change Your Life," according to the Department of Personal Financial Planning.

"Basically, what Red to Black is, is we give free presentations, free consultations to the people of Lubbock and the students of Tech — any financial questions they have," said Erin King, a senior personal financial planning major from Sugarland.

Red to Black is an organization for all the personal financial planning students at Tech, making it a students helping students organization, King said.

"Texas Tech is one of the few places in the country that has a student-run financial counseling program," said Scott Garrett, a personal financial planning graduate student from Birmingham, Ala. "We try to be a resource for students; and it helps us because we know what the is-

sues are as people. It's a win-win for, not only the students, but for us because it increases our experience in working with different segments."

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, approximately two-thirds of college students graduate with student loans. Since 1978, the cost of college tuition in the United States has gone up by more than 900 percent and in 2010, the average college graduate has accumulated an estimated \$25,000 in loan debt by graduation day.

To combat these statistics, Red to Black provides free one-on-one counseling to help people gain a better financial position, Garrett said.

"Financial Education Week, the purpose is to get our name across campus so that we can actually work with students," he said. "This is an important week to try to get students that need help on certain things like establishing a budget and improving their credit score, student loan questions. So we have now until the end of the semester to start working with them if they have questions."

FINANCE continued on Page 3 >>>



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

TANMY NGUYEN, A senior international business major from Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, tries to jump over a dollar bill while holding her toes outside the Student Union Building on Monday as part of a Red to Black event for Financial Education Week.

Smock Talk

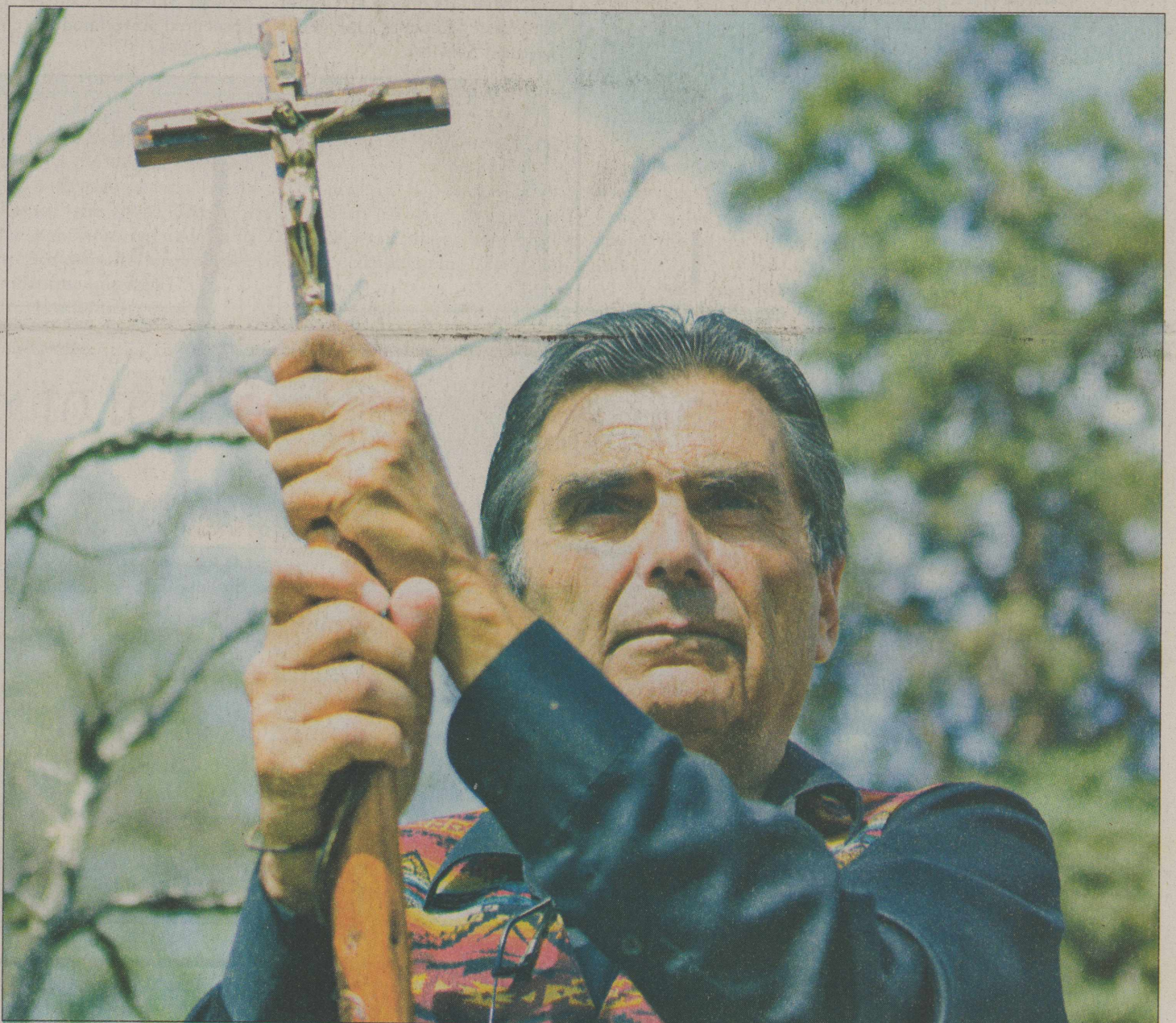


PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

PREACHER JED SMOCK, from Columbia, Mo., listens to some students outside the Student Union Building on Monday.

"Brother Jed" Smock speaks to Tech students at Student Union Building

By HALLIE DAVIS
Staff Writer

"Brother Jed" Smock is back. The leader of The Campus Ministry has returned to Texas Tech as part of his objective, which he said was to be on a college campus somewhere in the country, every class day.

Students quickly gathered around Smock in the

Student Union Building Free Speech Area, drawn by his controversial outcries against other races and religions, and telling many students they were going to hell.

"He's crazy," said sophomore Brittany Long, an advertising major from Frisco. "He thinks he lives for God, but he's talking about masturbation and how he screwed sorority girls."

Interested in the debate, Long said it was a good

way to spend her lunch break, watching him argue with outspoken onlookers.

Some of the most outspoken were members of the Gay Straight Alliance, who happened to be in the Free Speech Area promoting their upcoming drag show. Though the organization does not directly protest Smock, members of the group did so on their own.

BROTHER JED continued on Page 6 >>>

INDEX

- Classifieds.....7
- Crossword.....2
- Opinions.....4
- La Vida.....5
- Sports.....7
- Sudoku.....6

WEATHER

Today Mostly Sunny
86 / 56

Wednesday Isolated T-Storms
83 / 55

Cardone: Judging election reform by merits
OPINIONS, Pg. 4



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Community Calendar

TODAY

Free Movie Matinee

Time: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: Student Union Building, Allen Theatre

So, what is it?

Enjoy Tech Activities Board's presentation of the feature film "Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol."

Texas Tech Basketball vs. New Mexico State

Time: 4 p.m.
Where: Rip Griffin Park

So, what is it?

Support the Red Raiders as they compete against New Mexico State.

Artist's Talk: Sean "StarWars" Stewart

Time: 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Where: School of Art, Room B01

So, what is it?

Stewart, a member of Outlaw Printmakers, will have select works on display in the Folio Gallery through March 27.

Texas Tech Softball vs. Midwestern State

Time: 6 p.m.
Where: Rocky Johnson Field

So, what is it?

Support the Red Raiders as they compete against Midwestern State.

New Music Festival Ensemble Concert

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Where: Hemmle Recital Hall

So, what is it?

Enjoy this ensemble concert of the New Music Festival presented by the School of Music.

WEDNESDAY

Texas Tech Landmark Arts

Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: School of Art

So, what is it?

Enjoy Virginia Saunders' exhibit, "Visions and Dreams," with images based in Saunders' recent travels to Europe and China.

Cookies by Design

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Student Union Building, West Basement

So, what is it?

Come decorate cookies with Tech Activities Board.

Nonprofit Internship Fair

Time: 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Where: University Career Services, 150 Wiggins Complex

So, what is it?

Stop by and network with local nonprofit agencies and hear about available internships.

To make a calendar submission

email dailytoreador@ttu.edu.

Events will be published either the day or the day before they take place. Submissions must be sent in by 4 p.m. on the preceding publication date.

Bill

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

West was a candidate for SGA president this spring and said even though he used blocs himself, it was because he felt he had a lesser chance compared to his competitors — who were also using blocs — if he did not.

"I do feel like blocs need to be eliminated at Texas Tech because it creates a negative culture for our organization," West said, "and it's causing us to be ineffective because we have people who really don't want to be a part of this organization getting elected in because of associated blocs."

Associated blocs involve candidates who recruit students to support their blocs, West said, and promise positions in committees or as chairmen in return.

"There's a lot of people that have

been in student government for two years, three years, who are being bypassed on committee appointments by a first-year senator," he said, "just because of what bloc they supported, when they're actually not the best candidate."

West said he believes blocs are becoming just another way to get a vote and candidates can get the endorsement of student organizations by getting the support of one influential person in that group.

"By gaining that one person's support," he said, "if they have enough voice in that student organization, you somehow gain the respect of the organization before even going to speak to them and address your platform and your changes for Texas Tech."

Patton said he believes student recruiting is a good thing and involves more students in the government.

"I mean, at least to know there are other students actively seeking

other students for office, I feel like it's an empowerment of the student body," he said.

The prohibition of organized campaigning may even be a burden on students wanting to run, Patton said.

"If someone doesn't like the fact that one team, or one coalition, or one association in a student government campaign won, then I certainly encourage them to go out and build their own organization, or association," he said. "Go out and find a group of students that share your passion, or share your vision. I think that's the beauty of elections and campaigns."

However, West said, he feels blocs are causing more friction within the Student Senate and should be eliminated completely.

"It's getting to the point where it's not about actually getting people in the Senate," he said. "It's more 'Who can bring me the most votes? And I

don't care really what I'm doing on their behalf, I just need them as an endorsement, that way if I'm associated with this person, this particular association, I know I have their support for my particular campaign."

Student voters should instead focus on things besides numbers, West said.

"People need to start evaluating candidates for themselves," he said, "and not depending on who's supporting who."

If Patton decides to veto the bill, Williams said, it will most likely be amended before being passed again.

"I believe that maybe, you know, after it comes to light that this is a serious violation of university policy (and) potential violation of the U.S. Constitution," he said, "they might not want to bring the bill back up, but they might want to submit a new amended bill. I don't know, but that's how it currently stands."

» check@dailytoreador.com

POLICE BLOTTER

Undocumented illegal alien handed over to U.S. Border Patrol

Thursday

9:33 a.m. — A Texas Tech officer identified an undocumented illegal alien, following a traffic stop in the 1100 block of Texas Tech Parkway. United States Border Patrol took custody of the subject. The vehicle was impounded by Lubbock Wrecker Service.

10:32 a.m. — A Tech officer documented a medical emergency, which occurred in the Engineering Key. A student fainted and cut his chin. The student was transported to University Medical Center Emergency Room by Emergency Medical Services.

12:57 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a theft at the Robert H. Ewalt Recreation Center. An unsecured iPhone was taken.

2:14 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, without injuries, in the east side of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

2:14 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, without injuries, in the east side of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

2:49 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a theft at the Health Sciences Center. Two unsecured power modules cords were taken.

4:42 p.m. — A Tech officer arrested a non-student for driving with an invalid license following a traffic stop in the 1800 block of Boston Ave. The non-student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail. The vehicle was impounded by Lubbock Wrecker Service.

11:21 p.m. — A Tech officer arrested a non-student for driving with an invalid license and a Lubbock County Sheriff's Office warrant, following traffic stop in the 3600 block of 10th Street. The non-student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail. The vehicle was released to a family member.

Friday

2:24 a.m. — A Tech officer documented information in reference to a student being in possession of another student's student ID card, at the 2500 block of Main Street. The ID card was turned in for safekeeping.

2:57 a.m. — A Tech officer documented damaged property in the 1600 block of University Avenue. A vehicle struck a tree. The Lubbock Police Department investigated the traffic accident.

7:11 p.m. — A Tech officer documented damaged property to a vehicle at the Health Sciences Center in the E-2 parking lot. The vehicle sustained damage to the rear hatch.

7:16 p.m. — A Tech officer documented a medical emergency at Clement Residence Hall, room 423. A student was complaining of chest pains. The student was transported to University Medical Center Emergency Room by the EMS.

7:19 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, without injuries, in the C-11 parking lot.

11:24 p.m. — A Tech officer arrested a non-student for driv-

ing while intoxicated, following a traffic stop in the 100 block of University Avenue. The driver was transported to the Lubbock County Jail. The vehicle was impounded by Lubbock Wrecker Service.

Saturday

2:30 a.m. — A Tech officer documented a medical emergency in Hulene Residence Hall. A student was transported to the University Medical Center Emergency Room by the EMS for possible alcohol poisoning.

10:21 a.m. — A Tech officer documented an off-campus altercation while conducting a foot patrol on the 6th floor of Murdough Residence Hall. A student was involved in an off-campus altercation. The student suffered a possible broken nose and an injured left knee. The Lubbock Police Department was not contacted due to the student not wanting to file a police report. The student was transported to the University Medical Center Emergency Room by the EMS.

Sunday

9:17 a.m. — A Tech officer detained a non-student in the 2800 block of 18th Street following suspicious activity at the bicycle racks on the north side of Wall Residence Hall. The non-student was issued a criminal trespass warning for all Texas Tech property and released.

9:53 p.m. — A Tech officer responded to a medical emergency at Gates Residence Hall. A student accidentally ingested an amount of pills over the prescribed dose of her medication and was transported to University Medical Center by the EMS.

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

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BUT SHE'S NOT

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

ACROSS
1 Tomé and Principe
4 Cap on spending, say
9 Norwegian Sea arm
14 Footed vase
15 Habituate
16 Friend of Fido
17 Apt.'s cut
18 Grouchy Muppet
19 The other side
20 The smile on an email happy face
23 Director Reiner
24 Jazz singer Anita
25 Vatican City is one
27 Split end in a uniform
32 Air-conditioned
33 Tut's cousin?
34 Andrea __; ill-fated vessel
36 88 or 98 automaker
37 Barrier-breaking noise
40 "Pygmalion" playwright
43 Reeves of "Speed"
44 Palindromic Altar
47 Bridge holding such as ac-queen
50 Surprises
52 More decrepit
54 Wuss
55 Topsy's playmate in "Uncle Tom's Cabin"
56 Exalted group leader, facetiously
61 __ cotta
63 Household cleanser
64 Alternate identity letters
65 Encouraging cry, such as the one formed by the ends of 20, 37, and 56-Across
66 Trumpet sound
67 __ canto; singing style
68 Lano and Letterman, e.g.
69 Artist Grant Wood, by birth

DOWN
1 Provide for, as a dependent
2 Teen haunts
3 According to plan
4 Ponce de __
5 R&D site
6 A whole lot
7 Dies __; Latin hymn
8 Short and sweet
9 Mural on wet plaster
10 Comedian Lovitz
11 From one end to the other
12 Took out
13 Ditches where crocks onco were
21 A patch may cover one
22 Co. designation
28 Rise up dramatically
28 Courtroom oath
29 Otto __ Bismarck
30 The Phantom of the Opera
31 Puts through a food press
35 Blind as __

Monday's Puzzle Solved
TACO HAIL CABIN
ASAP ORCA UPONE
THREEPIECESUITS
SEANCE TEXT LOT
EONS POL
FOURCOURSEMEAL
ENT ATRIAL GMEN
TOERR EAT YUOGO
AFRO ASTUTE SAD
FIVESTARHOTELS
EMB NEMO
APE PINT RAMPUP
SIXFIGUREINCOME
SMEAR MISC ALPS
NACRE BOTH TEST

By Gary Steinmehl (1937-2012)
70 Bermuda hrs.

37 Babe Ruth's sultanate?
38 "Im __ roll"
39 Wilder's __
40 Final race leg
41 Bum's rush
42 Supergrant
43 Scorpius
44 Woodcutter who stole from thieves
45 New versions of old films
46 Paving material
48 Perfectos, e.g.
49 Suffix with profit
51 Pair
53 Jewish holy man
57 __ contendere: court plea
58 Shootout shout
59 Lawyer's aide
60 Plow pullers
62 Inactive mil. status

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Finance

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Different activities, workshops, prizes and free food are being offered by Red to Black. An information booth with games and opportunities to speak with financial planning students will be open each day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Free Speech Area of the Student Union Building.

"Rather than just giving people pamphlets, when you get something of an incentive, most people take advantage of the incentive," said Tim Grantham, a freshman chemical engineering major from Artesia.

For example, today Red to Black will have a money wheel activity where students can learn financial trivia. There are also informative sessions throughout the week about money habits and how people can increase their credit score.

"Thursday is our really big event," said Sasha Whitley, a first-year graduate student in personal financial planning from Kansas City, Mo. "We're doing a workshop about 'changing your life by changing the channel.' At the workshop, we're going to talk about budgeting and student loans a little bit."

Paying for school is tough, Grantham said, which is why the program is determined to help Tech students.

"Any chance to earn money or be given money, is wonderful," he said, "especially when it's offered to you through an organization like Red to Black."

Financial checkups will be held at different locations across campus all week, Garrett said.

"We have financial counselors that have to go through training for Red to Black, so those are the ones manning those sites," he said. "They have more knowledge than those just spreading the word. Those at those sites might be some of the counselors that you might work with, since it's a free and confidential service."

These financial counselors will also be working with stu-



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

CODY WILLIAMS, A senior chemistry major from Lubbock, tries to jump over a dollar bill while holding his toes outside of the Student Union Building on Monday as part of a Red to Black event for Financial Education Week.

dents to find the best methods to help them overcome student loan problems.

"Student loans are probably what most students have and most of them don't understand how much to take out, when to take out," King said. "In Red to Black, this is one of the things we do is we talk about credit cards and student loans and help target students and how to manage their student loans when they're out of college."

In 2011, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Tech as one of the top 10 universities with the least student debt in the nation. Ac-

cording to the report, 40 percent of Tech graduates graduate with debt and the average amount of debt for each student is roughly \$11,500. In comparison, 55 percent of students attending New York University graduate with an estimated \$41,000 in student loan debt.

Tech's Red to Black is the number-one financial education program in the nation, King said.

"We actually mentor other colleges," she said. "This is a great opportunity for students to have free consultation from the number-one program."

►nmolter@dailytoreador.com

MAGNET MAKING

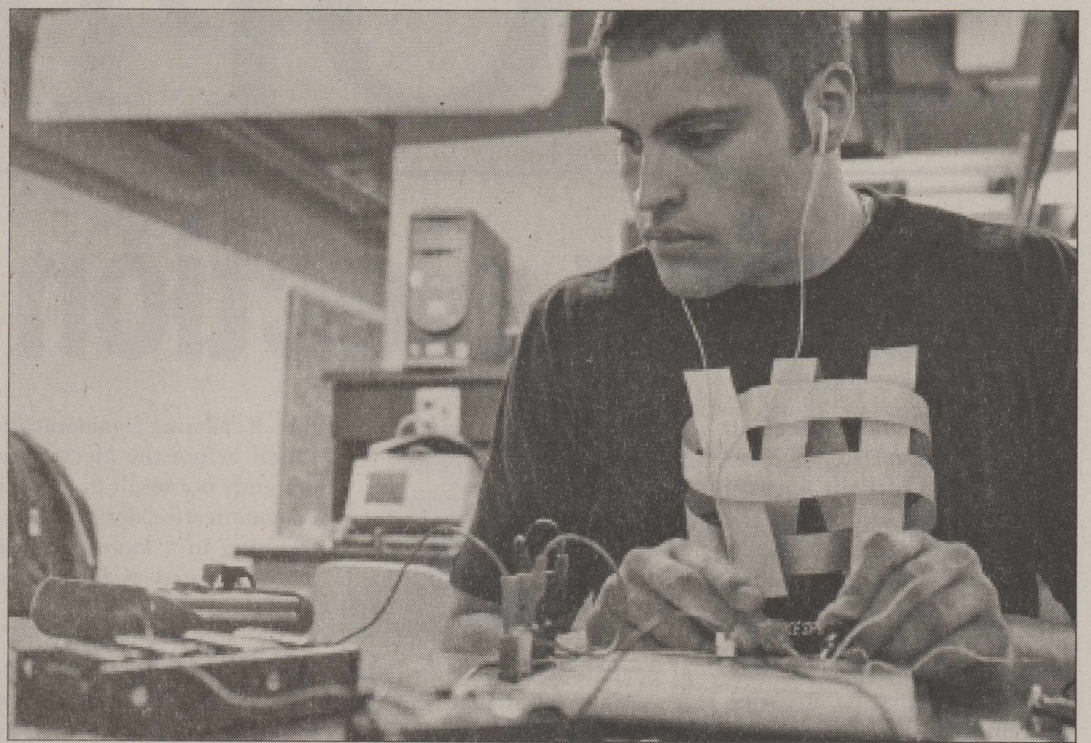


PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

ERIC CORDERO, A junior electrical engineering major from Houston, tests the connection on an electromagnet in the Electrical Engineering building Monday to be used in a tank robot for his Project I class.

'Pink slime' director suspends plant operations after backlash

LUBBOCK (AP) — The maker of "pink slime" suspended operations Monday at all but one plant where the beef ingredient is made, acknowledging recent public uproar over the product has cost the company business.

Craig Letch, director of food quality and assurance for Beef Products Inc., declined to discuss financial details but said business has taken a "substantial" hit since social media exploded with worry over the ammonia-treated filler and an online petition seeking its ouster from schools drew hundreds of thousands of supporters. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has decided school districts may stop using it, and some retail chains have pulled products containing it from their shelves.

Federal regulators say the product, which has been used for

years and is known in the industry as "lean, finely textured beef," meets food safety standards. But critics call the product an unappetizing example of industrialized food production.

Beef Products will suspend operations at plants in Amarillo, Texas; Garden City, Kan.; and Waterloo, Iowa, Letch said. About 200 employees at each of the three plants will get full salary and benefits for 60 days during the suspension. The company's plant at its Dakota Dunes, S.D., headquarters will continue operations. The company, meanwhile, will develop a strategy for rebuilding business and addressing what Letch called misconceptions about the beef the company makes.

"We feel like when people can start to understand the truth and reality then our business will

come back," he said. "It's 100 percent beef."

The company last week took out a full-page ad in the *Wall Street Journal* defending its product. It also launched a new website, <http://beefisbeef.com>, which Letch says will help dispel myths about pink slime — a term coined by a federal microbiologist grossed out by it and now widely used by critics and food activists.

The lower-cost ingredient is made from fatty bits of meat left over from other cuts. The bits are heated and spun to remove most of the fat. The lean mix then is compressed into blocks for use in ground meat. The product is exposed to ammonium hydroxide gas to kill bacteria, such as *E. coli* and salmonella.

The result is a product that is as much as 97 percent lean beef, Letch said.

French gunman's journey to terror

PARIS (AP) — Mohamed Merah grew up in one of the toughest housing projects of Toulouse, with his mother, two brothers and two sisters. At age five, his parents split up — and he took that hard. As a youth he turned to petty crime, landing in prison twice.

How the young man described by one top official as a "little failure" went on to carry out France's biggest terror spree since the mid-1990s is provoking anguished questions in one of the West's most-seasoned terrorism-fighting nations.

Merah's weeklong motorcycle shooting rampage killed three French paratroopers, three Jewish schoolchildren and a rabbi, horrifying France and raising fears that al-Qaida had struck again in Europe. The 23-year-old himself bragged of affiliation to the terror network, but officials say no evidence has turned up of such ties.

In some ways, Merah came across as an ordinary, if troubled, youth.

A one-time auto body shop worker, Merah liked cars and motorcycles — and enjoyed spinning out in vacant-lot "rodeos" with any car that he got his hands on, said a French official close to the investigation. Merah partied and was seen dancing at a nightclub days before his first suspected shooting, on March 11.

Behind the run-of-the-mill image hid "a second personality," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the case.

Bernard Squarinci, the head of the French police counterterrorism agency, told *Le Monde* newspaper that Merah had shown "psychiatric issues" in the past that may have contributed to his rampage.

What tipped the balance, Squarinci said, appeared to be Merah's anger over his feeling of an "unjust" prison sentence — "and he set off on a rebellion against (state) institutions."

While he enjoyed nightlife, the Frenchman of Algerian descent also moved in a crowd of ultraconservative Muslims. During the police standoff that ended Thursday with him being shot dead, Merah said he'd grown more radical in prison, often

reading the Quran alone.

Unlike his fellow Salafis, however, Merah was not considered much of a thinker and displayed few outward signs of religious extremism, officials say.

"He was seen more as a little failure from the projects," Ange Mancini, President Nicolas Sarkozy's top intelligence adviser, told France-24 TV on Friday.

Sarkozy told French radio that Merah went "from the most ordinary criminal delinquency, starting as a minor, to the most brutal terrorism with no warning, with no transition."

In seeking possible accomplices, authorities have focused on Merah's older brother, 30-year-old Abdelkader Merah, who is in custody and was handed preliminary charges for complicity in murder and terrorism Sunday for allegedly helping hatch the plot — claims the brother denies, according to his defense lawyer.

The older Merah reportedly became Mohamed's mentor after their father returned to Algeria and the children went in and out of foster care.

Abdelkader, too, was known to authorities: He was implicated but never charged in an investigation in 2007 of a recruiting network for jihadists to fight in Iraq. In recent years, he traveled often to Egypt — for sometimes months at a time — to attend Quranic schools.

French police have known about Mohamed Merah since at least 2005 — when he was convicted as a minor for receiving stolen property. It the first of what would be a total of 15 convictions: eight while a juvenile, and seven for misdemeanors as an adult, said Elisabeth Allanic, a spokeswoman with the Paris prosecutors office. He was sent to prison for 18 months for aggravated theft in January 2008, she said.

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By PAIGE SKINNER
STAFF WRITER

While the topic and idea may seem controversial, two Texas Tech students created a group to teach students about hacking network, server and web security.

Jordan Wright, the primary founder of RaiderSec, which stands for RaiderSecurity, said last summer he came up with the idea for the group, which meets for bimonthly classes.

"I (wanted) to be able to get a group together to just teach what I know," said the junior computer science major from Perrin, "and to learn more about the field of security."

Because of his job at a security firm, Wright said, he has seen a lack of knowledge among students.

"Around last summer, I decided that there was kind of a lack of students who, when they get into the workforce and become developers, programmers, a lot of times they don't know the security implications of what they're developing," he said. "I work at a security firm here in Lubbock doing network penetration tests for a bank and they hire us to try and break into their networks."

"So, I see firsthand that there's a lack of knowledge in that field, so I wanted to kind of bridge that gap between the theory we learn in the classroom and the practical examples that people can do on their own."

Wright explains how in order to know how to defend network attackers, the person also must know how to attack.

"The main philosophy behind the group is that in order to build a good defensive, you have to know the offense just as well as the attackers do," he said. "And so, that's the primary goal

and that's the reason why it's so important."

Wright and the other founder of RaiderSec, Lance Colton, develop all the examples for people to work through. Wright said people are encouraged to bring their own laptops, but it's not required.

Colton, a freshman computer science major from Austin, said there has been no backlash against the group and even compares what they are teaching to a locksmith's job.

"It's not controversial for a locksmith to have the knowledge about picking locks," Colton said. "There's controversy for someone working in network security to have the information to know how to compromise a server or a computer system."

While Colton is more interested in server defense and Wright is more interested in web security, Colton said, both of them know a lot of information on both topics to teach the group.

In fact, Colton said, he is almost completely self-taught. His first computer science class was last semester, but before that he taught himself by reading forums, articles, websites and watching live demos.

Wright and Colton maintain a blog for RaiderSec, where they write posts on how to do different things related to network and web security.

Since early February, Wright said, raidersec.blogspot.com has received 1,700 views from 47 different countries.

Avesta Hojjati, a sophomore computer science major from Columbus, Ohio, said he has been to both RaiderSec meetings because he came to Tech looking for security research.

He said he has been working

in security since he was 12 years old, but there is always a chance to learn something new.

"In security, you can't say there's nothing new because of all of the stuff," Hojjati said. "If you can't learn anything new, you can share something new with other people."

"When you talk about security, it's not all about how to hack people," he said. "The best defense is knowing the offense."

"If you know how to hack someone, then you know how to stop it to get hacked. RaiderSec is not necessarily to teach people how to hack, which is not the purpose of the course, but when you have the knowledge, you're able to use it in a wrong way, as anything else in this world. If you're able to open any kind of lock, then you're able to open your roommate's lock and stuff like that. It's not necessarily to hack people and get their credit cards, or passwords, or anything like that."

Because of the possibility of someone using the information negatively, Colton said, the students must sign a disclaimer.

"There's always that one person that can ruin everything for the whole group by abusing the information that we're trying to help people understand," he said. "We are going over offensive so that they can understand how to defend against it, because there's no other way to teach the subject. We don't want to be shut down because of one prankster."

Each RaiderSec meeting so far has averaged about 20 students per meeting, he said.

"It seems like everyone is really interested and there's been a lot of interest in coming back so far," Wright said.

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Houston full autopsy report to offer more details

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Whitney Houston's full autopsy report may offer more clues about whether the singer suffered a heart attack before her drowning death, officials said Friday.

The full report, which is expected to be released in a few weeks, may include test results and physical descriptions of the singer's heart that will show whether she suffered a heart

attack, Assistant Chief Coroner Ed Winter said. The report is being compiled and Winter said he did not have access to its findings, which might show whether there were any obvious signs such as discoloration of her heart that would suggest Houston had a heart attack before slipping underwater in a bathtub at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Feb. 11.

Houston's death has been ruled

an accidental drowning, with heart disease and cocaine use listed as contributing factors.

The report also will include detailed toxicology results that will show how much cocaine and its byproducts were in Houston's system when she died. Coroner's officials said Thursday that the results showed the singer used cocaine shortly before her death, and there were indications of chronic use.

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Oldest US natural history museum offers rare peek

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Academy of Natural Sciences has never been one to brag.

Its 225,000 annual visitors may associate the nation's oldest natural history museum solely with dioramas and dinosaurs, but behind the scenes there is groundbreaking research conducted by world-renowned scientists and an enviable collection of some 18 million specimens representing all manner of animal, vegetable and mineral.

In celebration of its bicentennial this year, the museum has finally decided that it's OK to boast a little. For what's believed to be the first time in 200 years, curators will bring the public into the labyrinthine museum's normally off-limits nooks and crannies for daily tours.

"This is a rare opportunity to get a firsthand look at some of the most stunning, and sometimes bizarre, creatures you've ever seen," said Academy president and chief executive officer George Gephart Jr. "We can't wait to open our doors and show off nature's, and the Academy's, wondrous bounty."

The Academy will highlight a different part of its collection starting with minerals in April and ending with fossils in February 2013. Other months will focus on birds, fish, insects, mollusks, amphibians and reptiles, plants and mammals.

"We've done behind-the-scenes tours with school groups, and with donors and members, but not anything like this," said Ned Gilmore, an Academy collections manager.

Depending on the tour, visitors might see drawers filled with exotic colorful birds, cabinets holding polar bear skeletons, jars of preserved snakes, boxes of beautiful shells that when alive can kill a human, a wall of enormous elk skulls, a narwhal tusk and a mounted — and extinct — Caribbean Monk Seal.

An accompanying exhibition, "The Academy at 200: The Nature of Discovery," puts dozens of the academy's show-stopping treasures on public display — many for the first time — and highlights research that museum scientists are conducting worldwide on hot topics of climate change, biodiversity, water quality and invasive species.

The tours, exhibit and other events

in the coming year aim to shift some focus from the museum's storied past to its present and future. As in the natural world, the axiom "adapt or die" applies to the Academy, which like many museums has struggled in the past decade with a shrinking endowment and greater competition for philanthropic dollars.

New initiatives include an affiliation forged last year with Drexel University for collaborative education and research efforts and a popular lecture series on environmental issues and policy. A five-year institutional plan to be completed by June will examine

additional ways to keep the museum relevant entering its third century, said Sara Hertz, vice president for strategic initiatives.

Founded in 1812 by a group of naturalists seeking to advance a scholarly view of the world, the museum is like a library of life on earth with holdings of a mind-boggling size and scope. Thousands of birds, bugs, reptiles, fish, mollusks, fossils and plants are meticulously catalogued and stored in jars, shelves and cabinets. Its many historic collections include Thomas Jefferson's fossils, Lewis and Clark's plants, and bird skins from naturalist John James Audubon.

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Cameron completes journey to the Earth's deepest point

HONOLULU (AP) — Hollywood icon James Cameron has completed his journey to Earth's deepest point.

The director of "Titanic," "Avatar" and other films used a specially designed submarine to dive nearly seven miles. He spent time exploring and filming the Mariana Trench, about 200 miles southwest of the Pacific island of Guam, according to members of the National Geographic expedition.

Cameron returned to the surface of the Pacific Ocean on Monday morning local time, Sunday evening on the U.S. East Coast, according to Stephanie Montgomery of the National Geographic Society.

He reached a depth of 35,756 feet and stayed on the bottom for about three hours before he began his return to the surface, according to information provided by the expedition team. He had planned to spend up to six hours on the sea floor.

"Cameron collected samples for research in marine biology, microbiology, astrobiology, marine geology and geophysics," the Geographic said.

The trip to the deepest point took two hours and 36 minutes. But Cameron's return aboard his 12-ton, lime-green sub called Deepsea Challenger was a "faster-than-expected 70-minute ascent," according to National Geographic. A helicopter spotted the submersible bobbing in the water and it was brought aboard the ship by a crane.

There were no immediate reports regarding Cameron's well-being. A medical team was present when Cameron, 57, emerged from the sub, according to the expedition.

Expedition physician Joe MacInnis told National Geographic News before the journey that recent test dives, including one that went more than five miles deep, had gone well and that he expected Cameron would be fine.

"Jim is going to be a little bit stiff and sore from the cramped position, but he's in really good shape for his age, so I don't expect any problems at all," said MacInnis, a long-time Cameron friend, according to National Geographic.

COLA CHALLENGE

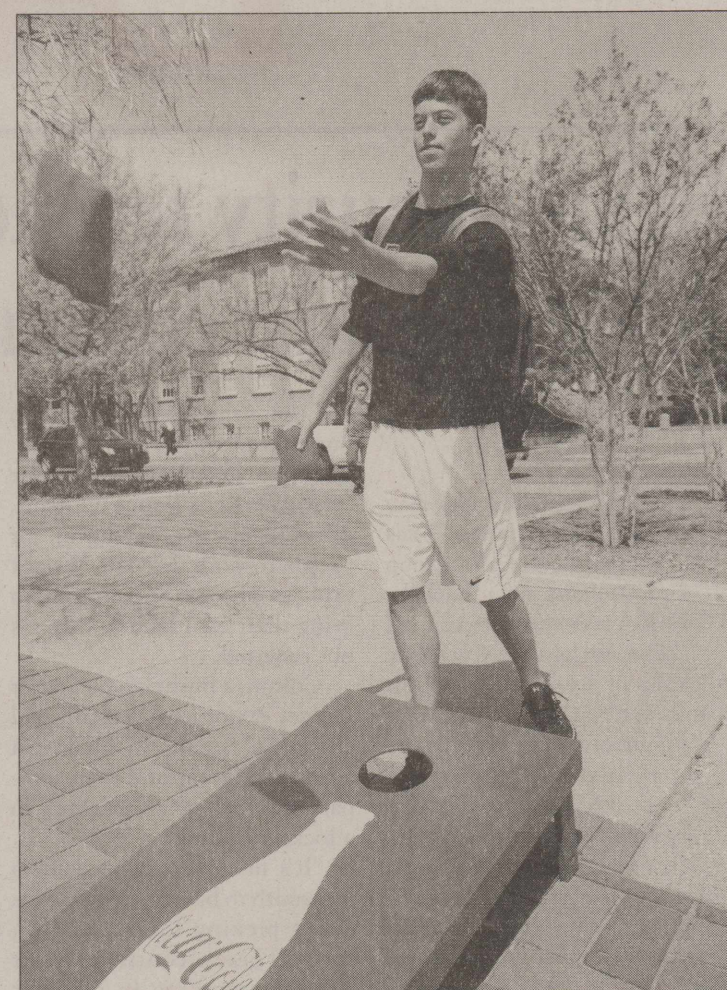


PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

Kory Mauritsen, a freshman mechanical engineering major from Artesia, N.M., tries to toss a bean bag into a hole at Cola-Cola's booth promoting its Build Your Own Happiness Project outside the Student Media Building on Monday.

Today's
su do ku

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

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.

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle
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March 28th is the last day to declare pass/fail intentions and for student initiated drop on MyTech. All drops are the responsibility of the student.

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Brother Jed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Junior Kenneth Galloway and senior Josh Schaeper have been in a relationship for two years and decided to rile Smock even further.

The two began kissing. Smock lectured them, Schaeper said, calling them "homos," and berating them for "homosexualing." Schaeper said the made-up words just made it funnier.

Then Smock explained, fairly explicitly, to the crowd how to check their gender, said Galloway, a junior biochemistry major from Aledo.

"He's kind of vulgar for being



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

D.M. TRYPP, A senior University Studies major from Houston, tries to make a point about religion to preacher Jed Smock, from Colombia, Mo., in front of the Student Union Building on Monday.

what he is," said Schaeper, a senior business major from Dallas. Galloway said Smock believed he was speaking on behalf of God, separate from a real religion, since much of what Smock said did not measure up with Biblical ideals.

"Religion can be a tool to build faith and hope in all people," Galloway said, "but extremists ... use it as a weapon, as a whip to conform people to their ideals."

Others in the crowd shouted questions and accusations at

Smock. Tochukwu Imoh, a freshman economics major from Nigeria asked Smock about his theories of hate. Imoh said he was a Christian and what Smock speaks about does not match with what most Christians believe. He said God love all people.

"This guy is preaching hate," Imoh said, "He's telling a lot of lies."

These lies were upsetting, Imoh said, and he hoped Smock would not give Tech or Christians a bad name.

The dialogue was loud enough to continue drawing people in though, and freshman Ricky Neville, a political science major from San Antonio, said this was the central problem. Since Smock was so loud and controversial, he became the face of Christianity, rather than people who are true Christians living good lives, or even martyrs.

"It's the reason people are atheists," he said, "because of guys like this."

Students chanted at him about sandwiches and played "Brother Jed Bingo" — a quickly printed page with spaces marked for bestiality, hippies and even Chevrolet, to be checked off as Smock spoke about them.

"He's just humiliating himself," Long said.

Still, he had a right to, Neville said, since everyone was offered the Free Speech Area equally. It is a First Amendment right, he said, for Smock to speak and for others to question him.

"It makes the day a little more exciting when these things happen," Long said.

Smock said he would be here all week. The GSA Drag Show is March 30.

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