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## Campus aesthetics affected by water restrictions, drought

All but two fountains turned off to comply with Stage 2 regulations

By CAROLYN HECK  
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center is left looking a little less beautiful as the Stage 2 water restrictions continue to be enforced across the city.

The Alumni Center was told to turn its fountain off for the first time in at least 13 years to comply with restrictions, said Chris Snead, the associate vice president of the Alumni Association.

The Stage 2 drought plan was implemented by the city on April 1, lasting through September, and aims to limit the use of city water on irrigation and lawn watering, said Aubrey Spear, the director of water resources and environmental management for the City of Lubbock.

According to the City of Lubbock Water Department website, under the Stage 2 restrictions, no fountains are allowed to be run for aesthetic purposes, unless they support aquatic life.

As a banquet facility, Snead said,

the empty fountain has posed some issues for the center.

"We had to plant flowers in the fountain, for now," he said. "We can't just have a big, empty, waterless feature right there in the middle of our courtyard."

The center is booked for different occasions, especially during the summer, including weddings, receptions and meetings. Having an empty fountain, however, may put strain on bookings, Snead said, which in turn puts financial stress on the center.

Bookings can be made, he said, but they can also be changed, which could affect the bottom line.

Organizers for the Alumni Center might not be the only ones upset by the change, though, he said.

"It presents a little bit of a problem for us because we have weddings every weekend this summer," Snead said, "and most brides, when they booked their wedding a year ago, expected there to be a fountain."

STAGE 2 continued on Page 2 >>>

## Goin' with Hill



PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

DUANE HILL WAS recently named the new Texas Tech associate director of bands and director of the Goin' Band from Raiderland, the Tech marching band. Hill was a drum major for the Goin' Band while an undergraduate at Tech.

### Tech grad brings old, new as Goin' Band's next director

By PAIGE SKINNER  
STAFF WRITER

As a freshman saxophone player in Texas Tech's Goin' Band, Duane Hill dreamed of one day being the band's director.

Now, after several years, he is living out his dream job. Hill, the associate director of bands and the director of athletic bands, graduated from Tech with a degree in music education in 2005.

"I had no idea on how that was all going to work out or how that was going to happen, but I knew my long-term goal was to be Goin' Band director at that moment," he said. "And so, things just kind of happened that way."

After graduating from Tech, he moved to Austin for a few years and taught in public schools. After gaining experience and building connections, Hill said, he decided to return to Tech to earn his master's degree.

He said that even though in the music field it is frowned upon to get an undergraduate degree and a master's degree from the same university, he had a conversation with Sarah McKoin, the director of bands, and it helped him make the decision to attend Tech again.

"She was just great," he said. "She knew exactly what I needed at the time, the things I needed to learn, the things I could grow from, so I decided to take the jump and come back and it was great."

HILL continued on Page 6 >>>

### TechBriefly

#### Lubbock County extends burn ban

Commissioners for Lubbock County decided this week to extend the burn ban for an additional 90 days, due to the continuation of the statewide drought.

According to an order issued by the city council, outdoor burning is prohibited in all incorporated areas of Lubbock County.

According to the Jan. 1 ban on outdoor burning, "A person violates this order if he/she burns any combustible material outside of an enclosure which serves to contain all flames and/or sparks ... (and) if he/she engages in any activity outdoors which would allow flames or sparks that could result in a fire unless done in an enclosure designed to protect the spread of fire ..."

The order does not apply to outdoor burning activities related to firefighter training, public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations and the planting or harvesting of agricultural crops.

A violation of the ban is a Class C misdemeanor and punishable of a fine up to \$500.

#### Researchers for Tech receive \$1.1 million grant

The Texas Tech Llano Estacado River Field Station in Junction was awarded a \$1.1 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to develop a watershed protection plan.

According to a news release, the Clean Water Act 319(h) grant will be used by the Field Station, the South Llano River Watershed Alliance, the Tech Water Resource Center and the Texas Water Resources Institute will develop a stakeholder process for the plan.

The grant money will be used by the organizations to determine water quality and biological conditions of the area, which includes the North and South Llano Rivers that merge into the Junction Llano River.

The funds will also be used to study sound environments for groundwater, rivers and lakes, and to establish programs and workshops to natural resource education.

>>> news@dailytoreador.com

## Texas Tech rodeo team aims for two more wins

Group headed to College National Finals Rodeo in June

By KRISTA LUCAS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After taking Easter weekend off, Texas Tech's rodeo team is looking to resume their successful season at the last two rodeos of the school year.

According to the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association, Tech competes in the Southwest Region where the top teams and individuals in nine events will qualify for the College National Finals Rodeo, which will be held in Casper, Wyo. in June.

In the college standings, the women's team is leading the Southwest Region to qualify for nationals. The men and women's team will compete in Big Spring and Stephenville the next two

weekends, April 15-17 and April 22-24.

The Howard College rodeo in Big Spring and the Tarleton State University rodeo in Stephenville will be the last two regular season rodeos for Tech.

Taylor Langdon, a junior radiology major from Aubrey, said she is looking forward to continuing her winning streak in barrel racing.

She said she made nationals last year and has qualified for the short go at every rodeo this semester.

"I won Odessa and was third at Snyder, so I'm really not going to change anything," Langdon said, "but I'm just keeping my head clear and not going into it like I already have it."

RODEO continued on Page 2 >>>

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### WEATHER

<p>Today</p>  <p>86 / 59</p>	<p>Mostly Sunny</p>	<p>Saturday</p>  <p>85 / 49</p>	<p>Partly Cloudy</p>
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Keys: Graduation tests your mettle, dreams  
OPINIONS, Pg. 4



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## Community Calendar

### FRIDAY

**50th Semi-Annual John Aure Bueseler Distinguished Lecture Series**

Time: 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Where: Overton Hotel

So, what is it?

Stephen O'Connor will speak at the series for its 25th anniversary.

**Retirement Reception**

Time: 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Rawls College of Business building, First Floor Atrium

So, what is it?

Dean of the Rawls College of Business, Allen T. McInnes is inviting the Tech community to attend a retirement reception in honor of Cindy Barnes, the director of graduate services center, for her years of service.

**RaiderFest**

Time: 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Where: Urbanovsky Park

So, what is it?

Enjoy an evening of free food, T-shirts and entertainment hosted by the Tech Activities Board, the Residence Halls Association and Student Union and Activities.

**Texas Tech Baseball vs. Houston**

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Where: Rip Griffin Park

So, what is it?

Support the Red Raiders as they compete against Houston.

**Matador Singers Concert**

Time: 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Where: Hemmle Recital Hall

So, what is it?

Enjoy this concert presented by the School of Music.

### SATURDAY

**Texas Tech Track and Field**

Time: All day

Where: Terry and Linda Fuller Track and Field Complex

So, what is it?  
Support the Red Raiders at the Texas Tech Invitational.

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month: Self-Defense Class**

Time: 11 a.m. to noon

Where: Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center, Room 116

So, what is it?

Enjoy this combination lecture and instructional class on self-defense.

**MentorTech Student Organization Black and Hispanic Knowledge Bowl**

Time: Noon to 3 p.m.

Where: Student Union Building

So, what is it?

Sign up for the knowledge bowl with four participants and one alternate to compete for cash prizes.

**Texas Tech Baseball vs. Houston**

Time: 5 p.m.

Where: Rip Griffin Park

So, what is it?

Support the Red Raiders as they compete against Houston.

### SUNDAY

**Texas Tech Baseball vs. Houston**

Time: 1 p.m.

Where: Rip Griffin Park

So, what is it?

Support the Red Raiders as they compete against Houston.

**Celtic Ensemble Spring Concert**

Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Where: School of Music, M01

So, what is it?

Enjoy a performance by the Tech Celtic Ensemble presented by the School of Music.

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.

## Stage 2

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The brides-to-be who booked their weddings a year ago may be in for a surprise, he said.

"And walking in and having them see that the fountain that they saw a year ago running beautifully and they pictured their wedding around that thing," he said, "and it's not there — in fact it's empty and has no water in it — well, that can change the way a bride is on game day."

The McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center isn't the only facility on campus that has had to change due to restrictions. As part of the Stage 2 water restrictions, all fountains on campus were shut off except for two — the Pfluger Fountain in Memorial Circle and the fountain at the Broadway entrance of campus, said Chris Cook, managing director of communications and marketing.

Those two fountains are allowed to run because they operate on water from wells on Tech campus, he said.

Well water use is not restricted by the drought contingency plan, said Aubrey Spear, director of water resources and environmental management for the City of Lubbock.

"The city of Lubbock's water supply is the only thing that is restricted," he said, "because the goal is for us to cut down on the peak water usage on any one day so we don't have a problem supplying water to people."

Mechanized irrigation, such as sprinkler systems, Spear said, is prohibited from being used more than once a week.

Hand watering with hand-held hoses, soaker hoses, or drip irrigation is allowed at all times though, Snead said, which is why the Alumni Center has put its maintenance staff and auxiliary staff to work hand watering the plant life at the facility.

"It just makes things more difficult," he said. "We have to have a person assigned to hand-water our flowers, and we've got a lot of vegetation in and around this building that obviously will die if we don't have the sprinklers going and they can only be watered once a week."

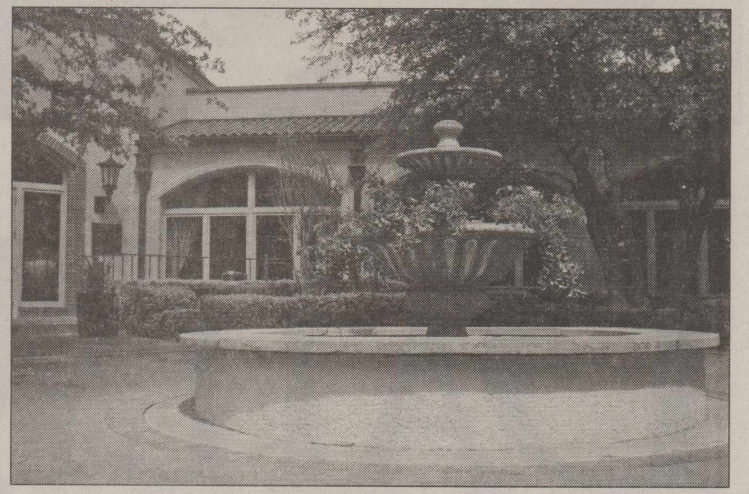


PHOTO BY ASHLEY RATCLIFFE/The Daily Toreador

THE MCKENZIE-MERKET Alumni Center have to turn off its fountain in order to preserve water during the drought.

As things are, Snead said, it does not look like the restrictions are going to change.

"Unless we get just an immense amount of rain between now and the beginning of summer," he said, "we're looking at a lot of brown grass around here. The ground is so dry; it's just so dry. Even after a good soaking rain, you can dig down and, you know, you can't get more than about an

inch deep in the dirt before you get to dry dirt."

Snead said he understands the change, though, and supports it.

"While I'm not a big fan of the water restrictions, I understand why we're doing it," he said. "We're being good citizens. We'll do our part over here. It's not ideal for us, but we'll make it work."

»»check@dailytoreador.com

## Cancer hasn't dimmed Hugo Chavez's electoral hopes

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — With less than six months left until Election Day, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has hardly hit the campaign trail. Instead, he has been consumed with his fight against cancer, repeatedly traveling to Cuba for treatment and publicly vowing to defeat his illness.

While cancer would end the presidential ambitions of many politicians, Chavez's struggle against the disease has in fact become his main rallying cry. Cancer could serve as a political asset if his health holds through the October vote, and that's the big "if" hanging over Venezuelan politics.

Last week, Chavez offered his starkest outlook yet as he wept while holding hands with his parents at a Mass and then pleaded to Jesus Christ to give him more life.

"Give me your crown, Christ," Chavez said in live footage broadcast nationwide. "Give me your cross, 100 crosses. I'll carry it, but give me life because there are still things left for me to do for these people and for this homeland. Don't take me away yet."

Chavez said later that he has faith in a "miracle" as he undergoes radiation therapy in Cuba following two surgeries that removed tumors from his pelvic area.

So far, what appears to be a serious life-or-death crisis hasn't dented his political support. To the contrary, one recent poll showed Chavez with a lead of 14 percentage points over rival Gov. Henrique Capriles. The poll by the firm Datanalisis had a margin of error of 2.5 percentage points.

Chavez has managed to hold on to support even while his main image has been that of an ailing president climbing or descending airplane stairs on his frequent flights to and from Cuba for treatment. On top of that, many Venezuelans are supporting him despite 25-percent inflation and one of the worst homicide rates in the world.

Information Minister Andres Izarra, one of Chavez's key aides, said on Monday that the president won't be out campaigning door-to-door like his rival because "he doesn't need to." Izarra also said Chavez's spirits are being lifted by his supporters.

"That love of the people, it's arisen like a balsam, like part of his medicine, like part of his treatment to completely recover," Izarra said during a televised speech.

On Friday, Chavez is expected to rally his supporters on the 10th anniversary of his return to power after a short-lived 2002 coup, and he has drawn a parallel between his cancer fight and his survival during that coup, when he was restored to the presidency amid large pro-Chavez street protests.

"At that time, the love of the people rescued Chavez from the edge of death," Izarra said. "This time the love of the people is also rescuing Chavez from a particular health situation, in which if it weren't for that love, I'm sure his ailments would perhaps be greater."

Eduardo Gamarra, a Latin American studies professor at Florida International University in Miami, said compassion elicited by Chavez's illness "has naturally played to his advantage in the electoral process."

"Not only President Chavez but

certainly his supporters and certainly the people handling his political campaign are taking full advantage of it. And I think it would be crazy for them not to do so," Gamarra said.

Chavez's illness also presents a challenge for the opposition, Gamarra said, because it might appear "cold and callous" to attack a seriously ill leader.

For both sides in Venezuela's divided political landscape, Chavez's illness has the potential to be a game-changer. The subject of what would happen if Chavez were to die is taboo among his political allies, as leaders of his United Socialist Party of Venezuela insist that Chavez will be their candidate and that there is no backup plan.

In the meantime, Chavez is adeptly using the uncertainty to once again cast himself as the protagonist in a larger narrative, at times evoking his own tragic hero, 19th century independence leader Simon Bolivar, who survived an assassination attempt and then resigned the presidency amid failing health. Bolivar was 47 when he died, and historians have generally cited tuberculosis as the cause.

# READER'S CHOICE AWARDS

## 2012

# OTE

## For your campus favorites

(Restaurants, organization, places, sport, professor, tradition, etc.)

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**Last day to vote is Sunday April, 15th**

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**Rodeo** ←

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Langdon said she was hospitalized for five days earlier in the semester, but the setback has not changed the way she has prepared for the upcoming rodeos. She said she hopes to keep her points to hold her place in the region.

“The top three barrel racers make Nationals,” Langdon said. “The top three are all Tech girls.”

Cecily Crouch, a junior pre-nursing student from Midland, has 160 points in barrel racing

going into the final two rodeos, and said it has been an honor to rodeo for Tech.

“I hope I can win one of the last two rodeos,” Crouch said. “Hopefully, the one in Stephenville because my horse, Ski, loves that pen, and he likes smaller pens rather than big open ones.”

Kelsey Shumaker, a senior agricultural leadership major from Manor, said she competes in the barrel racing and breakaway roping. She said she practices every day to keep her horses in shape and ready to go.

“We have two more left and this will probably be my last year to rodeo,” Shumaker said, “and I just want to try to make some money, since I’m not making the finals.”

She said the college rodeos have been a great way to meet people and she has made a lot of close friends in the past two years.

While the women compete in barrel racing, breakaway roping and goat tying, members of the men’s team will be competing in bareback riding, bull riding, calf roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling and team roping. The men’s team sits 11th in the South-west Region, as of April 11.

Reports from Tech’s rodeo coach, Chris Guay, can be found on the Texas Tech Rodeo Association website and national standings at <http://www.collegerodeo.com>.

➤ [krista.lucas@ttu.edu](mailto:krista.lucas@ttu.edu)

*“The top three barrel racers make Nationals. The top three are all Tech girls.”*

**TAYLOR LANGDON**  
JUNIOR  
RADIOLOGY MAJOR

**HEART ART**



PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador  
KATIE NELSON, A senior communication design major from Boerne, uses acrylic paint to create a multi-colored heart for a mixed media project that involves incorporating several different elements Thursday in the Art building. Nelson plans to use spray paint as a second element.

# Texas hopes to learn lessons from searing drought

AUSTIN (AP) — When Susan Combs was growing up on her family’s West Texas ranch, conserving water was part of everyday life: If the windmill wasn’t turning and the storage tank at least half full, the household plumbing was turned off — even the toilets.

In her political career, Combs has been urging Texans to save water for years, first as a lawmaker, then as agriculture commissioner and now as state comptroller. After the worst one-year drought in state history, people finally seem to be listening.

Combs and other officials have reason to hope that lessons from the drought could change the state’s attitudes about water usage. And from Dallas to far-flung ranches and rice farms, they are trying to capitalize on the heightened awareness by adopting conservation plans that will ease the next crisis.

“From a water-supply perspective, we are just not prepared,” Combs said. “If each town and city doesn’t come up with a successful water plan, the state will be worse off for it.”

The drought that began more than a year ago is finally break-

ing in parts of Texas. Spring rains have turned the grass green, quenched thirsty trees and started to fill reservoirs. But state and local officials aren’t content to watch the parched landscape change color. They want to analyze the dry spell and assess what worked, what failed and what needs improvement. A few examples:

— The mayors of Dallas and Fort Worth and suburban Arlington and Irving are asking their city councils to consider making permanent the twice-a-week maximum watering restrictions that have been in place for several months. “Conservation has to be a very, very big part of our long-range water preparations,” explained Yvonne Dupre, drought response coordinator for Dallas.

— Nearly every legislative committee in the state House and Senate has been asked to review some aspect of the drought. At last month’s first meeting of the House Natural Resources Committee, Chairman Allan Ritter pleaded with participants: “Please do not forget how dry that it can get.”

— San Antonio, which spent nearly \$300,000 promoting

water restrictions during the drought, concluded that the effort was so successful that the city now has a campaign reminding people of the risks of another potentially hot, dry summer.

— The Lower Colorado River Authority, which manages two of the largest lakes that provide water to Austin and the surrounding area, has already submitted a proposed long-term plan that would significantly alter how it manages and distributes water.

— The Texas Water Development Board is reviewing ways to create a set of guidelines that would help communities determine when to restrict water usage.

One obstacle looms over many of these efforts: The state can make elaborate plans for water needs, but it has no

authority or tools to ensure the plans are actually implemented.

Fifteen years ago, in the mid-1990s, Texas suffered a drought that plunged farmers and ranchers into bankruptcy and highlighted how unprepared cities were to deal with severe water shortages. As a result, the Legislature ordered the

Water Development Board to plan regionally for the state’s water needs, slicing up Texas into several areas that would work together to prepare for the future.

Since then, regional agencies have spent millions of dollars on three new water plans — one every five years — designed to address growing population, scarce water resources and future needs.

“So now, we had another drought, and we had cities running out of water and that’s largely because the plan wasn’t implemented,” said Dan Har-

din, director of the water resources planning division.

Hardin worries that the state’s fiscal problems will prevent lawmakers from making meaningful improvements.

In addition, the state’s utilities did not impose restrictions consistently. In some areas, one city restricted water usage, while a neighboring town did not. Houston, for example, had mandatory restrictions in place for months, while neighboring Sugar Land never implemented its drought-contingency plan.

“You don’t see people reacting uniformly to an issue that hit Texas pretty uniformly,” said Laura Huffman, director of the Nature Conservancy in Texas.

Farmers and ranchers are taking steps of their own. Many are drilling wells, realizing that in the next drought they will not be able to rely on surface water alone.

In fact, so many farmers are drilling wells, conservation districts say they will have to stop permitting them at some point. At least one rice farmer, Ronald Gertson, is supplementing his income by selling well pipes because he’s not getting water from Austin-area reservoirs for

his crops.

Combs’ office issued a report in February that also looked at strategies employed in other cities.

In arid New Mexico, Santa Fe diversified its water supply and now draws water from two lakes and two aquifers. The city has also taken steps to prevent water evaporation and wildfires, including forest thinning and controlled burning. Those projects could also be useful in Texas, where evaporation during triple-digit heat helped deplete reservoirs and wildfires destroyed more than 1,600 homes and charred 33,000 acres near Austin.

Combs also believes Texas should invest in desalinization, an expensive but quicker alternative to building new reservoirs. Cities, she said, must create more consistent plans for dealing with drought and offer financial incentives to help farmers.

What is certain, she said, is that if steps aren’t taken, Texas’ future will be shaky.

The lack of water, Combs said, “is the single most devastating thing that can happen to the economy.”

## Skittles joins food brands at center of tragedy

NEW YORK (AP) — It could’ve been Starbursts, Twizzlers or Sour Patch Kids. But when Trayvon Martin was fatally shot, he happened to be carrying a bag of Skittles.

The 17-year-old’s death at the hands of a neighborhood watchman in February ignited nationwide protests and heated debate about racial profiling and “Stand Your Ground” laws.

For Mars Inc., the privately held company that owns Skittles, the tragedy presents another, more surreal dimension. Protestors carried bags of

the chewy fruit-flavored candy while marching for the arrest of shooter George Zimmerman. Mourners pinned the bright red wrappers to their hooded sweatshirts at memorial services.

On eBay, vendors sell \$10 T-shirts with the words “Justice for Trayvon Martin” printed over a cartoon-like rainbow of pouring Skittles.

Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company — the unit of Mars that owns Skittles — issued only a brief statement offering condolences to Martin’s friends and family, adding that it would be inappropriate

to comment further “as we would never wish for our actions to be perceived as an attempt of commercial gain.”

Skittles isn’t the first popular food brand to find itself at the center of a major controversy. The terms “the Twinkie defense” and “don’t drink the Kool-Aid” became part of the vernacular decades ago in the wake of tragic events. More recently, Doritos made headlines when it was reported that the corn chips were Saddam Hussein’s favorite snack.

The cases show how millions of

advertising and marketing dollars can be rendered powerless when a company’s product is swept into a big news story. Hostess Brands Inc., which owns Twinkies, says it does not have any archival information on how it handled the popularization of the term “the Twinkie defense.” The phrase was used derisively by the media during the trial of Dan White, who fatally shot San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and city supervisor Harvey Milk in 1978. White’s lawyers cited his poor eating habits as a sign of his depressed state.

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## Graduation tests your mettle, dreams

Graduation season is slowly approaching. As I prepare to venture into the real world, I find emotions of excitement and fear mixed together. This ambivalence is rather common.

Many struggle with the desire to grow up and become a wealthy professional or entrepreneur, versus partying and living almost carefree in college. If going to college could be a career, I'd probably choose it.

As both juniors and seniors begin to prepare for their next step in life, they sometimes find life doesn't always happen the way they plan it. Has the joyous occasion of graduation been replaced with anxiety?

We often fear what we don't know. Let's face it, none of us know exactly where our lives will end up. We can only pre-

**Jaira Keys**



pare for greatness and strive for it every day. Perhaps it worries us that we may not live up to our potential.

As children, we dream of being astronauts, firemen and princesses. As we grow older, we get the chance to put these things in motion. We now have the opportunity to turn our dreams into reality. What if we don't get there?

Not to be negative, but, honestly, everyone can't be Warren Buffett, the late Steve Jobs or Barack Obama. Everyone can't attain the same things. Part of

the fear of graduation may come from the fact that we all want so badly to succeed.

We must ask ourselves what success mean to us. The American dream may not be your dream. We all have different values. To me, success is waking up every day and being able to do whatever I want.

While my idea of success is freedom, others may feel they've accomplished their goals when they reach celebrity status or when they have a certain amount of money

in the bank.

Some of our aspirations may seem harder to reach than others. Some of us have decided to be doctors, lawyers, architects or engineers. There are others who dream of being famous musicians, writers, actors and artists. All of these occupations should get their proper respect.

Although there is a work ethic that comes along with attaining any of these goals, more artistic work is often not valued as much as typical professional

jobs.

Imagine what this world would be like without any art, music or literature. It would be boring. But we also couldn't live in a world of only fun either. Things would get out of control.

Whatever you aspire to be, go out and be it by any means necessary. Don't get discouraged because you haven't gotten there yet. You don't become the best at what you do without putting any work toward it.

Being great requires us to think outside of the box and get out of our comfort zone. Get uncomfortable. We never do anything different or courageous when we are comfortable. We don't know what we are made of if we never face adversity.

you want to achieve is too far-fetched. Don't listen to them.

When they die, your life won't flash before their eyes; you can't live the life anyone else wants you to live. Live your life with no regrets. You must go after your dreams, relentlessly.

As I, and anyone else preparing to graduate, prepare to embark on the journey of life — what many call the real world — we must go fearlessly and boldly.

Don't settle for less because you are afraid you can't get more. You don't have to be an absolute genius to succeed, you must only be consistent.

**Keys is a senior sociology major from Houston.**  
» jaira.keys@ttu.edu

*“Don't settle for less ... You don't have to be an absolute genius to succeed, you must only be consistent.”*

## Decoding what women want

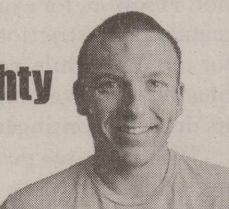
Over the years, I have accumulated a lot of friends that are girls — brunette, blonde, ginger, skinny, thick, loud, quiet, smart and even ditz. They come in all different shapes and sizes, but one thing they all have in common is uncertainty.

Men will never figure out what a woman wants because, secretly buried beneath the fake eyelashes, pounds of make up and Spanx, is a person who doesn't really know what she wants.

It all starts with Disney and its creation of the princess. She is young, independent, doe-eyed and, of course, beautiful. The princesses always seem to manage to find their way into a castle, whether it is under the sea or in a tall tower. No matter what, their princes will rescue them and — you better believe — he will make fighting dragons in a pair of tights look easy.

After watching “Cinderella,” the little girl goes and plays house, where she sets up a pretend family and nurtures and disciplines all of the members of the clan. For years, the idea of Prince Charming, a wedding, a castle and a family lay dormant in the back of her mind until the inevitable happens. That inevitable includes a decent guy, a ring from Kay Jeweler's and a bachelor pad. Then all the sudden the dream becomes reality

**Andy Doughty**



minus the Disney sparkle.

However, opportunities for women to do more than care for children and their husbands are more sizeable than ever before. In many companies, women are occupying more of the top spots, such as CEO, vice president, CFO and director. Women have made names for themselves in all fields, including medicine, arts, fashion, entrepreneurship and sports. Not to mention fashion and entertainment are highly dominated by women.

So where does this leave the new woman? I'd say, confused. I am not pretending to be an expert on girls, considering I am not one myself, but I have listened and conversed with many of them so I feel confident in saying that.

Ninety-nine percent of my friends who are women want a family, but also want their power careers too. So, during college I feel like they take time to struggle with those inner thoughts and try to figure out how they can juggle everything at once.

This can leave guys standing on the outside of the window scratching their heads. No one taught guys how to deal with new age women. Girls have all these magazines and TV shows that help them wrangle a man, be their sexiest and decode guys.

But, if you tried to fully decode women in a publication, it would be longer than “In Lost Time” by Marcel Proust — which is the longest book ever written, with more than 3 million words.

Women are complex creatures and demand a delicacy and finesse most guys don't really know how to give.

*“Women are complex creatures and demand a delicacy and finesse most guys don't really know how to give.”*

But, this isn't a guy's fault. Times have changed. No one group rules anymore and there is no longer a dominant gender. I feel like guys just want a girl who is confident in what she wants and goes after those things.

The problem is society has women in so many different roles that it is hard for them to choose. I know when I talk to most of my friends, they say they want to be settled in a career first and then start a family. Meanwhile, their magazines are telling them their eggs become inoperable at age 35.

It is confusing, compared to the stereotype society places on the guy: get a job, make money for the family and be Mr. Fix It on the weekend. This isn't exactly men's entire role in today's world, but it is still the persona that is projected.

So, my proposal is for guys to stop trying to figure out what their girl wants and just let her be. But no matter what she wants to do, support her.

This will probably lead to a lot less fights from both parties and you can thank me later.

**Doughty is a junior English major from Nederland.**  
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## Obamacare: don't count out just yet

**By SAMIR JUNEJO  
DAILY EVERGREEN  
(WASHINGTON STATE U.)**

Traditionally, Supreme Court justices have been mostly sheltered from the brutal political world, but if they decide to strike down the Affordable Care Act — also known as Obamacare — then those justices better prepare to face some arrows.

Based on the known ideologies of those on the court and their oral arguments on the subject, it is very possible and maybe even likely that the individual mandate portion of Obamacare will be struck down. This individual mandate holds most of Obamacare together. Without the added revenue supplied by previously uninsured healthy people mandated to buy coverage, insurers would be forced to raise costs to make up for the other portions of the law.

Now consider the fact that Obamacare is one of the crowning achievements of President Barack Obama's first term. If the court strikes the mandate down — a decision is expected in June — then I highly doubt Obama will come out with a statement that the court was correct, Obamacare is done, and we can call get on to debating other issues.

When you are in a presidential campaign, any and every statement you make can be used against you. So without a doubt, Mitt Romney and the rest of the Republican machine will be all over the Supreme Court's rejection of one of the few legislative achievements of Obama's presidency.

For a campaign, rejection of Obamacare could be construed as an attack on the campaign, and every attack must be responded to. However, attacking the Supreme court is not very common, due to the long-held viewpoint by the public that the Supreme Court is impartial and never gets into politics. The Supreme Court has historically been the most trusted branch of government, so not many campaigns have gone there.

Obama did make a few comments not long ago that may preview his strategy. On April 2, Obama said, “I'm con-

fident that the Supreme Court will not take what would be an unprecedented, extraordinary step of overturning a law that was passed by a strong majority of a democratically elected Congress.” Even if Obama was not once a lecturer on constitutional law, this seems to be a pretty naive statement.

But historical accuracy aside, statement gives us a possible premonition of a campaign strategy taking the form of a populist argument, in which the Supreme Court is attacked for ignoring the will of the majority and for being undemocratic.

This is a strategy that may work on the many progressive small “d” democrats who are already on Obama's side, but Romney's campaign will likely respond by supporting the Supreme Court as an institution that defends the constitution against the abuse of power by the other branches. In this scenario, Romney would have most of history and the facts on his side.

What Obama should do instead is look toward the future. If the Supreme Court knocks out Obamacare, the debate on healthcare reform begins once again, and Republicans will not be able to come up with a realistic plan. Obama should come out and make healthcare a campaign issue once again, and ask Republicans to come up with a better plan than Obamacare.

I suspect they will not be able to, because truth be told, Obamacare was the most Republican-friendly healthcare reform plan that has been up for debate in recent memory. All other possible plans increase the size and power of government much more than Obamacare does. Obamacare was a compromise with Republicans, and if it is no longer an option then the only alternatives lie even more to the left.

Healthcare is a major problem in this country. If Obamacare is rejected, we will soon hear a lot more about it. Fortunately for Obama, the Republicans will have no way to solve the problem. If Obama can get this message across then he will be able to avoid the risky strategy of politicizing the Supreme Court. But more importantly, he will reinvigorate his base and catch the Republicans with their mouths wide open and an arrow in the head.

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## Student organizations come together to plan Raiderfest

By MICHAEL DUPONT II  
STAFF WRITER

As the spring semester approaches its end, two student organizations have joined together to give Tech students an opportunity to unwind and relax before finals week.

The Tech Activities Board and the Residence Halls Association have joined together this year, combining their end of the year events for Raiderfest, which will begin at 5 p.m. today at Urbanovsky Park.

Heather Banning, a senior

communication studies major from Rowlett, said both student organizations wanted to provide a bigger event for the campus and have wanted to work together for some time now.

"Tech Activities Board used to host a concert every spring called Rock the Plaza and student housing used to do Spring Fling," she said. "This semester we decided to combine Rock the Plaza and RHA's Spring Fling, to bring an even bigger event."

TAB's role in the planning process was to coordinate all aspects of the concert, Banning

said.

"We put out a survey for the student body to vote for who they wanted to see perform," she said. "We received quite a bit of feedback on our Facebook page. We knew the people who would take the survey were going to be the people that were going to come out."

Some of the acts that were included in the survey for students included Graham Colton, Parachute and Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights. Tyler & the Northern Lights were the winners of the survey and

will be performing at 8 p.m. at Urbanovsky Park.

Erin Evans, a sophomore honors arts and letters major from Dallas, said Raiderfest took a lot of serious planning from both organizations.

"We've been planning (Raiderfest) this entire semester basically," she said. "Personally, I have been working on it for about a year now, ever since it was listed."

RHA will be providing carnival games and plenty of food and fun, Evans said.

"It's going to be a really fun

event, catered to students both on and off campus. You can come out and play carnival games, have dinner, win free T-shirts and also hear some great, live music."

If there is any inclement weather, the rainout location will be in the Student Union Building, Evans said.

Paulina Macias, a junior restaurant, hotel and institutional management major from El Paso, said there were originally supposed to be three organizations involved with the event before one of the groups decided to back out.

"We almost put RHA, TAB and (Student Government Association) together," she said. "But we just decided to leave it how it was because SGA still wanted to keep the luau that they usually host."

Macias said she has high expectations for student turnout, primarily because it is a free event and also because of the location.

"It's supposed to be a nice day outside," she said. "Hopefully it will be bigger than Spring Fling or Rock the Plaza ever was."

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## NBC series puts parental maxims to test

NEW YORK (AP) — Correspondent Natalie Morales ended up in tears when she put herself and her 8-year-old son through the same parenting test that "Dateline NBC" is subjecting others to for a series that starts Sunday.

Using hidden cameras and actors, the network set up scenarios to see if kids really follow their parents' instructions to avoid strangers, don't get into a car with a drunk driver or don't cheat.

The results will probably depress you.

Time and again, children gave their names and addresses to a "stranger" who had taken their picture and talked about putting them on TV. Promised free ice cream, they climbed into a van driven by an actor who could easily close the door on them and speed away. Parents watched it all on monitors nearby.

"I would have lost my money if I put a bet on it," one crying parent said after watching a youngster climb into a car with an actor

pretending to be drunk behind the wheel.

For four consecutive Sunday nights, "Dateline NBC" will show the scenarios, which also test whether kids would cheat or discriminate if given the opportunity. NBC hopes parents and children watch the programs together and discuss them, said Liz Cole, executive producer of "Dateline."

Four mothers who work at "Dateline" came up with the idea, an outgrowth of a show on bullying that aired last year. Not "news" in the strict sense, these types of shows tend to do well for newsmagazines: ABC's "What Would You Do?" series on "Primetime," which sets up various social experiments, is particularly popular among younger viewers, which news shows have trouble reaching.

"It's reality TV at its best," Morales said, "because these are truly teachable moments."

During the special on driving, several teenagers swear to their

parents that they never text or talk on their cellphones when behind the wheel. Their cars were equipped with cameras for a few months, and even though they knew they were being watched, most youngsters exhibited the behavior they said they would never do.

The teens were also set up with actors who pretended to be drunk or high on drugs. Despite the doubt on many faces, most let the actor grab the keys and get behind the wheel. It's the power of peer pressure; too many youngsters go along with the crowd unless someone is strong enough to take a stand. In the "Dateline" episode, a girl whose uncle was killed in a drunk driving accident was the strong one.

Parents need to be persistent and specific with their instructions, the "Dateline" experts said, and be mindful of their own behavior. If you don't want your children to text and drive, don't do it yourself.

"We've all had that moment when kids are throwing back what

you should or shouldn't do to your face," Morales said.

Aside from not getting into vans or giving out personal information to strangers, one tip "Dateline" offers regarding strangers is for children to stand up and look straight into the person's eyes. Confidence could scare away someone looking to prey on a vulnerable person.

Watching their children via the hidden cameras is frequently nerve-racking and emotional. "Dateline" dials up the drama, with Morales saying it "could be their worst parenting nightmare or their proudest moment."


She doesn't shy away from the experience herself, setting up her son Josh in the experiment with the actor driving the ice cream truck. "It's hard for me to watch," she said, before the tears flowed.

Did she cry because her son had learned his lessons well or forgot them?

That's a "Dateline NBC" mystery to be revealed Sunday.

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## 'Idol' judges save finalist from elimination

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The "American Idol" judges didn't stutter: Jessica Sanchez "ain't going home."

The 16-year-old high school student from San Diego who powered through the Jazmine Sullivan ballad "Stuttering" on Wednesday, was revealed to have received the fewest viewer votes on Thursday, but the "Idol" judges unanimously decided to save Sanchez before she could even finish her last-chance performance of Deborah Cox's "Nobody's Supposed to Be Here."

"Give me that mic," interrupted Jennifer Lopez. "This is crazy! Yes, we're using the save. You ain't going home."

Sanchez, sometimes known as her sassy alter ego "Bebe Chee," had been deemed one of this season's front-runners, consistently impressing the panel with savvy-beyond-her-years takes on such tunes as Whitney Houston's version of "I Will Always Love You" and Beyonce's "Sweet Dreams."

Elise Testone, the rockin' 28-year-old teacher from Charleston, S.C., who sizzled with Lady Gaga's "You and I," and 20-year-old student Joshua Ledet, of Westlake, La., who earned a standing ovation from the panel for Bruno Mars' "Runaway Baby," joined Sanchez as the bottom three vote-getters. It was the first time at the bottom for Sanchez.

"This is a ridiculous bottom three, America," said Randy Jackson.

Thursday's results surprised even longtime "Idol" host Ryan Seacrest and executive producer Nigel Lythgoe. Earlier in the day, Seacrest tweeted: "There is a result tonight on 'American Idol' that some would say is very shocking." Lythgoe later reiterated the sentiment, posting on Twitter: "I am truly shocked by tonight's 'American Idol' result! I don't understand!"

Three seasons ago, "Idol" producers introduced the ability for the show's judges to overturn viewers' votes one time before the top five finalists are selected. Rescuing the technically impressive singer this week means two contestants will be booted next

week.

"I want people to know I've been working hard my whole life," said Sanchez after her bailout.

Before the results were revealed, the top seven finalists performed Pink's "Raise Your Glass," 10th season finalist James Durbin delivered his original tune "Higher Than Heaven" and third season finalist Jennifer Hudson sang with

Ne-Yo on "Think Like a Man."

The other singers remaining in the competition are Hollie Cavanagh, 18, of McKinney, Texas; Colton Dixon, 20, of Murfreesboro, Tenn.; Skylar Laine, 18, of Brandon, Miss.; and Phillip Phillips, 21 of Leesboro, Ga.

The seven finalists will return to the stage Wednesday and face elimination again Thursday.

### Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

**ACROSS**

- In tears, say
- NPR's Tolenberg
- Pasta grain
- Greenish shade
- Hemoglobin mineral
- Like healthy soil
- Pie nut
- Casual-wear brand since 1873
- Work on film
- Belwit
- Familia member
- Enters a witness protection program, say
- Maine — cat
- Unstable service
- Morlock prey
- Sister of Rachel
- More than serious
- Pressing times
- Skin-care brand with a "For Men" line
- Compromised choice
- Take off the Tivo
- Encrust, in a way
- Goddess of discord
- Ob-Wan portrayer
- On the road
- "Imagine that"
- Wyoming city near Yellowstone
- Wedding shop array
- Distortion, perhaps
- Little songbird
- City on the Azores
- Song that first topped the charts on 4/13/1957 ... or how its singer's name appears in the answers to starred clues
- Blink of an eye
- Bench clearer
- Pickup shlick
- "L'chaim" is one
- Seafood serving
- Author Blyton
- Eis of the PGA

**DOWN**

- Unruly do
- Cry after Real Madrid scores
- With the order switched
- Beasts of burden
- Sargasso Sea denizen
- Trumpet effect
- Toothbrush choice
- The Aragón is a tributary of it
- Southern language
- Hollywood's Mimieux
- Holding device
- Refueling ship
- Street of many mysteries
- Finalize, as a cartoon
- Program problem
- Timely question
- Patch, say
- Prefix with com
- "Xing" one
- Popular CBS procedural
- Parisian season

By Gareth Bain

4/13/12

### Thursday's Puzzle Solved

ABHOR PROBE UKE  
RAISE AEROS NUS  
NIGHTS SCHOOL DDT  
OOH OCEANS PUZO  
CARR BOTTLEUP  
CROSTIC SIE  
AOUT PUCE STRAP  
PURE TRADE HERO  
EXTRA LPGA OHIO  
EIS R ETERNAL  
ICESHOWS IRAQ  
DANK CHURNS UAL  
ONE SKYMAGAZINE  
LAM HEMAN TESTS  
SLY ERECT ZETAS

41 Beasts of burden  
43 Sargasso Sea denizen  
44 Trumpet effect  
45 Toothbrush choice  
50 The Aragón is a tributary of it  
51 Southern language  
53 Hollywood's Mimieux  
55 Holding device  
56 Refueling ship  
57 Street of many mysteries  
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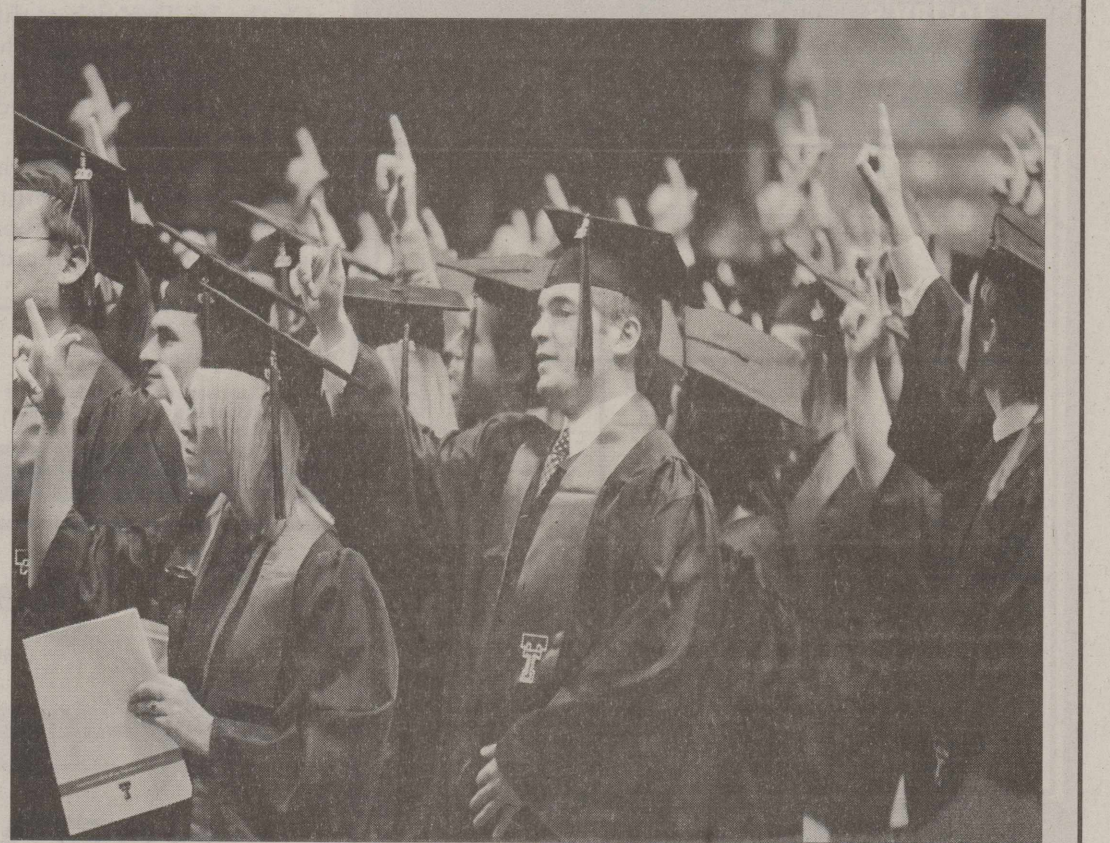
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Hill

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While working toward his master's degree, Hill assisted Christopher Anderson, who was the Goin' Band director at the time.

Hill applied, along with several other applicants, and got the job.

After a semester of being the Goin' Band's director, Hill said, things are basically the same as when he was a saxophone player.

"Since I've been in this role, we've already implemented some things that were done back in the day that some of our older fans would appreciate and really enjoy," he said, "like some of the old drills and some of the old music."

Hill explained how Goin' Band is diverse because of the wide genre of music they perform.

"We are able to do a traditional

show one week that older fans would appreciate, but at the same time flip it around the next week and do something very popular, classic rock, that our younger fans and students would really be excited about," he said.

Zach Heflin, an assistant drum major of Goin' Band, said he has loved having Hill as the director.

"He's exactly the right fit for this job," said the sophomore energy commerce major from Carrollton.

Hill said he is excited for some particular things for the Goin' Band next year, including community outreach, the halftime shows and a new poll.

Next year, Tech students and fans will be able to vote for the show they would like to see the Goin' Band perform during a football game. Hill said it would be a

good chance for fans and students to feel involved in the process of putting on a show.

Hill said with any decisions the Goin' Band, or he, makes — their main mission is to entertain, inspire and be excellent.

Hill said his inspiration for the Goin' Band comes from a variety of different music genres and artists.

He said the music on his iPod ranges from Drake to Carrie Underwood to Adele to Beyoncé — his personal favorite — and even classical and jazz.

"As most musicians, I think if you ask them what's on their iPod, it's pretty diverse, as it should be because that's all of the things we draw upon as we're creating show ideas," he said. "We draw upon movie soundtracks, we draw upon popular music, we draw upon classic rock and we draw upon all of those things to provide some entertainment for the fans."

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RIBBON WRAP



PHOTO BY ISSAC VILLALOBOS/The Daily Toreador

JEFFREY PAYNE, A freshman undeclared freshman and member of the Saddle Tramps from Escondido, Calif., wraps the Will Rogers statue in red ribbon Thursday evening.

Joshua Ledet earns standing 'Idol' ovation

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Joshua Ledet ran ahead of the competition on "American Idol."

The booming 20-year-old singer from Westlake, La., had the Fox singing competition's judges on their feet Wednesday for his lively rendition of Bruno Mars' up-tempo tune "Runaway Baby."

"You can sell a song like a work of art," beamed Steven Tyler.

Other singers who pleased the panel during the evening of tunes from 2010 to the present included 18-year-old country rocker Skylar Laine of Brandon, Miss., accompanying herself on guitar with Kellie Pickler's "Didn't You Know How Much I Loved You," and 16-year-old vocalist Jessica Sanchez of San Diego with Jazmine Sullivan's passionate "Stuttering."

"Jessica, every time I hear you sing, I forget where I am," Tyler said.

"Idol" mentor Jimmy Iovine laid down a gauntlet between 20-year-old rocker Colton Dixon, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., and 21-year-old pawn shop worker Phillip Phillips of Lees-

burg, Ga. Dixon delivered an emotional take on Skylar Grey's version of the Eminem and Rihanna hit "Love the Way You Lie," while Phillips failed to flourish with Maroon 5's "Give a Little More."

"It was just a little bit underwhelming for the Phillip Phillips I love," said Jennifer Lopez.

After landing in the bottom three last week, 28-year-old teacher Elise Testone, of Charleston, S.C., bounced back by closing the show with Lady Gaga's "You and I," and perfection continued to evade demure 18-year-old singer Hollie Cavanagh of McKinney, Texas. The show's judges weren't wowed by Cavanagh's rendition of Pink's "Perfect."

"It wasn't perfect, but it's a lot better than where you were last week," said Jackson.

Between the individual performances, the seven finalists paired up for two duets and a trio: Phillips and Testone got together for "Somebody That I Used to Know" by Gotye; Laine and Dixon crooned "Don't You Wanna Stay" by Jason Aldean and Kelly Clarkson; and Cavanagh, Ledet and Sanchez took on "Stronger" by first-season "Idol" champion Kelly Clarkson.

The finalist with the fewest viewer votes will face elimination Thursday.

How to run a megachurch? With lots of help

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — On just about any Sunday, as many as 10,000 people may fill the pews of The Potter's House, Bishop T.D. Jakes' Dallas-area megachurch. Believers say he has an uncanny way of connecting with his audience anyway.

"It doesn't matter about the size," says Faith Johnson, a 13-year member. "It's almost like nobody else is in that church, but me."

It takes some help for leaders of the largest megachurches and national ministries to make believers reject the idea that a smaller church is more intimate and personable. A big staff of associate pastors and elders is indispensable.

Steve Doubet is an elder at Jakes' church. He says Jakes and his wife, Serita, are down-to-earth people who create a friendly, intimate atmosphere that "rolls down through their associate pastors and right on into the pews."

"I love this place because it feels intimate and it feels small," Doubet said. "Week ... to week, whoever you're sitting next to, they're open. You can attend churches that are tiny, and are so uptight, you don't want to go back."

Jakes is undoubtedly busy. Besides ministering at Potter's House and satellites nationwide, he speaks abroad, is a bestselling author, and also produces movies. His film "Woman Thou Art Loosed: On the 7th Day" debuts this month, and "Sparkle," the last movie featuring the late Whitney Houston, is scheduled for release in August.

Jakes and other megapastors credit their ability to stay in touch with their members to strong church

leadership. For instance, Jakes has 12 associate pastors and numerous elders. Doubet said the congregation still receives a strong message on the rare occasion that Jakes can't preach.

"It's important for him to have heavy hitters to be able to come in after him," Doubet said. "Because after you've attended the church there for a while, you have an expectation that you're going to get really well fed. His associate pastors all can hit it over the fence."

Despite his hectic schedule, Jakes says he takes time to personally oversee funerals — and even makes hospital visits.

"I enjoy being there for the family in times of crisis to try to stir them and encourage them in a personal one-on-one way," he said. "I take very seriously my responsibility to feed the flock. We ... provide every service that we did when we were still small churches."

Pastor and gospel singer Marvin Winans has a congregation of about 4,500 at Perfecting Church in Detroit. Winans, who gave Whitney Houston's eulogy in February and preached at a megachurch in Nashville last month, said part of having an effective ministry is having dependable disciples.

"It cannot be a one-man show in order for it to properly work," he said. "The first thing Jesus did was get some disciples ... for the work of the ministry to carry on."

Pastor Matthew Cork knew he'd have to rely more on his leadership when his nearly 6,000-member Friends Church in Yorba Linda, Calif., committed to building 200 schools in India over the next 10 years for dalit children, who are part

of the country's lowest caste. He's also promoting a book and movie about the number of dalits who end up being trafficked as sex slaves.

"We have a teaching team, so I'm not teaching every week, which gives me freedom to do some of the other things that I do," said Cork, who speaks about twice a month at his church. "It's worked great for me and my schedule."

James Hudnut-Beumler, dean of Vanderbilt University Divinity School in Nashville, said a church's pastoral staff is one factor considered by people deciding whether to attend a megachurch or a much smaller congregation.

"Do they want a great spiritual leader who is a charismatic preacher who can move lots of people, or do they want someone they can talk to about the fact they've lost a job, or a relative?" he said.

Another issue, he said, is the amount of involvement. A person who wants to just observe the service may not be able to blend in unnoticed at a small church like they would at one with hundreds of people.

"They're going to notice you and ask you to lead Sunday school, or usher," Hudnut-Beumler said. "There is virtually no dropping in and just sort of observing church. With a megachurch, you can stand on the periphery and have great service."

Nevertheless, Angela Bingham says she enjoys the intimate atmosphere at Walnut Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Murfreesboro, Tenn., which has a membership of about 230.

"You're not just a number,"

said the 49-year-old school teacher, who has attended the church most of her life. "They know you by name, by face."

In Chesapeake, Va., Martez Layton acknowledges it's possible to "feel like a number" at the 7,500-member Mount Lebanon Baptist Church that he and his wife, Woodrina, attend. But he said they don't because they're both active. The couple, who have been married for over 20 years, heads a marriage counseling ministry.

"It's being involved in the activities in the church is where you begin to build your relationship," he said. "It's not like ... we can have a dinner after church and everybody get to know each other."

Like many megachurches, Layton said he enjoys having abundant resources. For instance, he said the church fed 400 families for Thanksgiving.

"I know at a small church there's no way you can feed 400 families," he said.

But others say just because a church doesn't have "mega" in front of it, doesn't mean it's ineffective.

Richard W. Sibert is pastor of Walnut Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Despite the size of the church, he said it's about the business of caring for its members, and the community.

"Smaller churches are utilizing their talents and abilities on a smaller scale," he said. "Some of them are actually more together than the megachurches."

At St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Laurel, Md., where Robbie Morganfield is pastor, only about 150 people regularly attend the service. But Morganfield still has a vision to build a community center adjacent to the church and believes it can be done if his members commit themselves.

"I think you can be a small church and have a megaministry," he said. "It's about vision. A hundred people ... can do a lot of stuff if they're really committed."

Sudoku puzzle grid with today's numbers: 9, 1, 8, 1, 7, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 3, 6, 2, 8, 3, 9, 1, 6, 7, 3, 4, 5, 9, 4, 3.

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.

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Police say no crime occurred in Whitney Houston's death. BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Police have closed their investigation into Whitney Houston's death without finding any evidence to suggest it was anything than an accidental drowning, investigators announced Wednesday.



# SPORTS

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## Tech hosts weekend series against Houston

By JOSE RODRIGUEZ  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Houston may not be a Big 12 Conference opponent to Texas Tech, but that does not mean the Red Raiders lack a sense of familiarity when it comes to the Cougars.

After all, the two teams last met March 4 in Houston as a part of the Houston College Classic — a 10-4 Tech win.

Since the tournament, Houston (12-18-1) has gone 6-13-1 after starting 6-4 before that loss to Tech (19-15).

The Red Raiders will get their chance to start a winning streak when the first of three games against the Cougars starts at 6:30 p.m. today at Rip Griffin Park.

"We need to make sure we're not looking that hard into their record and our record, and take one game at a time and play them straight up," Tech coach Dan Spencer said after his team's 7-1 win against Dallas Baptist on Wednesday. "We know we feel

confident we can win against everybody we play, but we have seen the opportunities that if we don't take care of business we can be a victim to anybody."

The Red Raiders, like the Cougars, have not exactly been on fire lately.

Since beating Houston in March, Tech has gone 10-12 overall — losing all four of its Big 12 Conference series along the way.

Tech's next conference series will play in Stillwater, Okla., when the Red Raiders take on the Cowboys for a three-game series.

Three of Tech's four remaining Big 12 opponents — Oklahoma State, Missouri and Kansas State — have records below .500 and all are above Tech in the Big 12 standings.

Because of the team's recent slide, Tech pitcher Duke von Schamann said, the approach to playing Houston will be similar to that of a conference foe.

"Every weekend has the same feel to it," von Schamann said.

"We'll go into the weekend and try to win the series and I think we're going to do well. Hopefully, we can come out and get two or three wins this weekend and ride that going into Oklahoma State."

Because of the absence of a conference opponent, Tech could drop to last place or improve its position in the Big 12 standings by the end of the weekend.

But, Tech outfielder Brennan Moore said having a weekend without a Big 12 opponent could help decrease any pressure the team would normally feel when facing a rival.

"Maybe this weekend will be a good weekend for us," Moore said. "It could take some of the pressure off of us playing Houston. We're going to compete and loosen up and play more as a team and get this thing rolling again."

The Red Raiders follow up today's game with a 5 p.m. contest Saturday and the series finale at 1 p.m. Sunday.

►►jrodriguez@dailytoreador.com

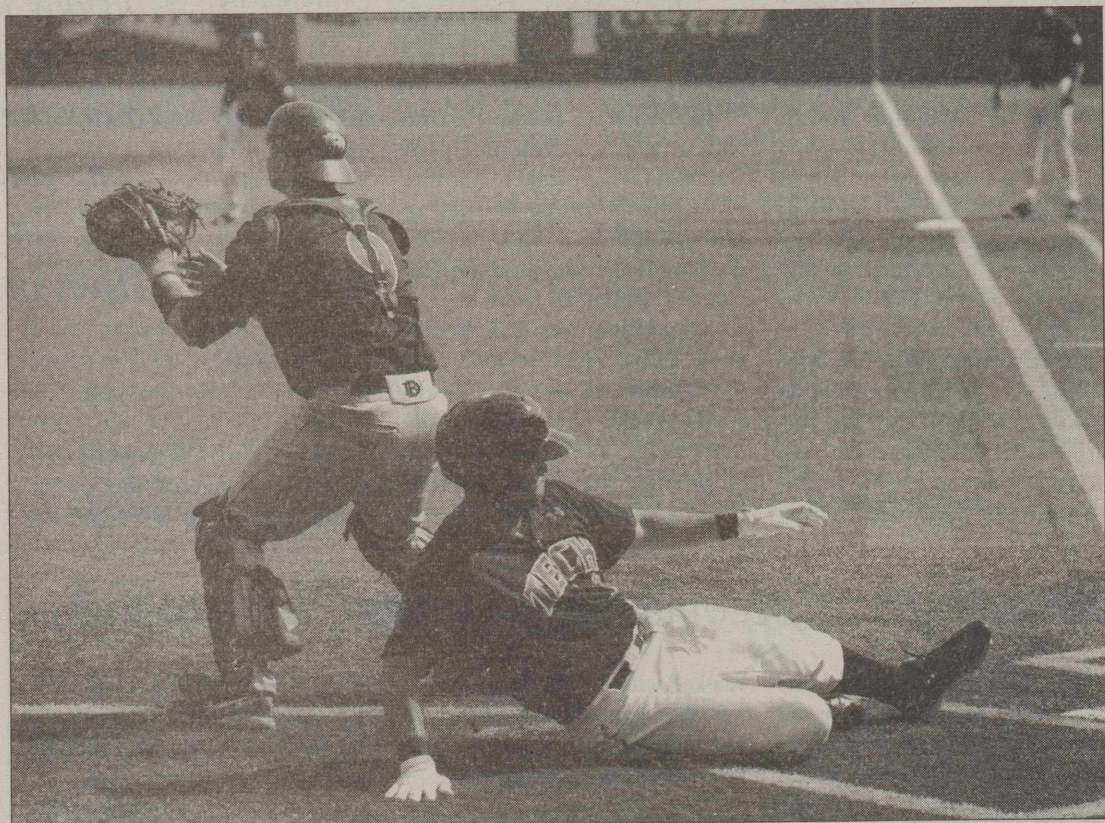


PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador  
TEXAS TECH SCOTT LeJeune slides into home plate during the bottom of the sixth inning at Rip Griffin Park on Wednesday. Tech defeated Dallas Baptist University 7-1.

## Seattle Mariners heading home after 5-3 loss in Texas

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Seattle Mariners are finally coming home. They're happy to bring their starting pitchers with them, even if they didn't have much to show for it in Texas.

Left-hander Jason Vargas gave Seattle its third straight solid start. Not good enough.

Derek Holland struck out eight with no walks in 7 1-3 innings, and Michael Young backed him with a two-run homer and four RBIs in the Rangers'

5-3 victory Thursday.

Vargas (1-1) allowed four runs and seven hits in 6 2-3 innings, and trailed 3-2 when he turned it over to the bullpen. His start came after Blake Beavan and Kevin Millwood each gave up just one run the previous two nights, only to both leave trailing 1-0.

The Mariners managed one win in the four-game series, and only because they knocked around new Texas closer Joe

Nathan for three runs in the ninth inning of a 4-3 victory Wednesday.

"We threw the ball great," Vargas said. "They have some guys who do it on the mound pretty good over there, so it's tough on our guys too. They've got some pretty good arms and live arms."

The Mariners were returning to Seattle two months and a day after reporting to spring training in Arizona. Upon landing, they

will have traveled more than 15,000 miles and started their regular season twice — first in Japan and then Oakland.

"You'd be lying if you said it wasn't wearing on you a little bit," said shortstop Brendan Ryan, who was benched for a game after a rough night in the series opener. "It'll be nice to unpack."

Holland (1-0) allowed two runs and five hits. After two walks that helped the Chicago White Sox rally for a 4-3 win in his first start, Holland had a much sharper outing.

"I'm not going to worry too much about a previous game," Holland said. "My mentality is I want to be the starter and the closer. I always try to go out there and go as long as I can."

Following Ichiro Suzuki's two-out single in the first, the only runner he allowed in a span of 14 batters was on a throwing error by second baseman Ian Kinsler the first error by the Texas infield this year after 108 clean chances.

Holland extended a scoreless streak by Texas starters to 22

2-3 innings before Alex Liddi's RBI single in the sixth. Kyle Seager added a 438-foot homer into the right-field upper deck in the seventh, but Holland bounced back with a strikeout of Miguel Olivo and got a flyout from Casper Wells.

Already at 102 pitches after seven innings, Holland struck out Ryan starting the eighth, then allowed Chone Figgins' double and was replaced after 115 pitches by Koji Uehara.

"When he got into the sixth inning, he started elevating his pitches," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "He fought through the seventh, and it looked like he might get us three outs in the eighth but it didn't work out."

Young put Texas ahead with an RBI single in the first. Then with the Rangers leading 1-0 in the fifth inning for the third straight game, Young hit an opposite-field homer into the first row in right for a 3-0 lead against Vargas. Young added a run-scoring single in the eighth off Erasmo Ramirez.

"All Michael does is hit,"

said Washington, who moved Young up to second in the order from his usual No. 5 spot to give shortstop Elvis Andrus a day off. "I just happened to have him in the perfect spot hitting second, and he came through huge for us today."

Kinsler had three hits for Texas, including a two-out RBI double in the seventh that gave the Rangers a 4-2 cushion with closer Joe Nathan unavailable after pitching on consecutive days.

Mike Adams filled in for Nathan, giving up Olivo's two-out RBI double in the ninth before retiring Michael Saunders on a grounder for his second save with the Rangers and the fourth of his career.

Vargas had a shaky first inning, allowing three of the first four Rangers to reach base. He bounced back to retire nine in a row before faltering again in the fifth.

"Vargo was really good today," Mariners manager Eric Wedge said. "He was up a little bit early, but he found it. He gave us every opportunity to win."

## Marlins return home braced for cool reception

MIAMI (AP) — When the Miami Marlins' new ballpark stirs to life Friday, concession-stand workers will prepare such Cuban fare as fresh ceviche, roasted pork sandwiches and plantain chips with garlic sauce.

Then they'll wait to see if South Florida's Cuban Americans still have an appetite for baseball.

The Marlins hired Ozzie Guillen as manager to raise their profile, and he has done just that. By praising former Cuban leader Fidel Castro, Guillen made national headlines, earned a five-game suspension and antagonized a large percentage of the franchise's fan base.

Now the Marlins return home for the first time since the furor began. When they open a six-game homestand Friday against Houston, the focus will be not on the Marlins' talented team or futuristic ballpark in Little Havana, but on the possible fan

boycotts and protests.

"This is the Marlins' core clientele," said Francis Suarez, chairman of the Miami city commission. "So they have to figure out how they are going to win back the hearts and minds of those people who are their fans, who generate the revenue that is going to keep the team operating."

Marlins officials worked behind the scenes this week with various local groups attempting to mitigate the public relations disaster, but no special promotions or marketing campaigns are planned for the homestand. The Marlins believe the best thing the team can do is simply take the field.

"We represent this community, and this community was very hurt," team president David Samson said. "And it's time to heal."

A few victories might help, even in Guillen's absence. He returns to the

dugout Tuesday.

"The best thing he's doing is he's owning up to what he did," Marlins closer Heath Bell said. "He feels really bad. He and his family have to deal through this tough time and move on, and we're going to go play baseball."

When the Marlins opened the ballpark last week, the animated home-run sculpture beyond the center field wall was the team's most controversial topic. Then came Guillen's political commentary.

Escalating anger over the remarks prompted him to return from a trip with the team and hold an extraordinary news conference at the ballpark. He apologized repeatedly, and his contrition placated some.

"His declarations seemed sincere," said Vicente Rodriguez, editor of "La Voz de la Calle (The Voice of the Street)," a newspaper circulated in Little Havana. "He had the humility to recognize and ask the Cuban community for forgiveness."

It was unclear whether the small group of protesters at Guillen's news conference might demonstrate this weekend. On talk radio and Twitter, some fans with season tickets said they would stay away from games. The Cuban American Bar Association said it would skip an annual lawyer appreciation event Tuesday at the ballpark.

Empty seats would be nothing new for the Marlins. They perennially finish last in the National League in attendance but began a new era with the move to Little Havana, a neighborhood heavily populated with immigrants from baseball-crazy Cuba.

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