

Prosthetics offer second chance to 2012 Paralympic athlete

HSC works to help amputees lead healthy lives

By NICOLE MOLTER STAFF WRITER

In 2005, Matt Brown was working on a natural-gas well. He said he was relieving pressure in a line, but the line separated. The 3 and-a-half inch pipe severed his leg on impact.

"I was laying on my back," he said, "and I looked up and I saw my foot, just my leg — just standing up with the bone sticking out - shattered. So I freaked out a little bit."

Brown, with the help of therapy and a prosthetic leg, competed in the 2008 Beijing Paralympics where he finished fourth in the discus event. He will compete in the 2012 Paralympics in London this summer, again that we all do every day." in the discus event.

Occupational therapists, physical therapists and prosthetists all play a role in helping patients get back into a lifestyle as normal as possible, said Matthew Geddie, with the Occupational Therapy Program at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

"Usually, physical therapists are more focused on walking and strengthening," he said. "Occupational therapists focus on those things, but I think our end goal is a little more what we call ADLs -

activities of daily living."

Physical therapy initially involves looking at functional capacity and biomechanical limitations of someone with an amputation, said Nancy Lewis, an assistant professor involved with the physical therapy program at the HSC in Amarillo. The prosthetist fits and fabricates the person with an amputation with a prosthetic limb.

"There are lots of different options for how the prostheses is strapped onto the leg or attaches to the residual limb," she said. "Lots of options and choices on different capacities that the prostheses (allows) the person to stand, to walk, to assume most of the functional tasks

Accidents in the workplace, congenital amputations and diabetes are all reasons for amputation, Geddie said. Accidents and diabetes are probably the most common reasons for amputation and lower body amputations are overall most prominent. A prosthetic can cost from \$5,000

to \$50,000, or more, depending on how advanced the part is, he said. Electric prosthetics are more expensive and break easily, so a lot of people use mechanical, or hook, prosthetics.

PARALYMPICS cont. on Pg. 2

Vampire Venture





PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

AFTER LOSING HIS left leg in 2005, Matt Brown competed in discus and shot put events at the 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing and will compete in the discus event at the 2012 Paralympic Games in London this summer.

PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

ERIN COLLOPY, AN associate chair and associate professor for the College of Arts and Sciences, teaches a class about vampires in Eastern European and Western culture.

Tech offers course about vampires

By PAIGE SKINNER STAFF WRITER

Between "The Twilight Series," "True Blood" and "The Vampire Diaries," vampires seem to have taken over literature, movies and TV.

For Texas Tech students who have an interest in the blood-sucking mythological beings, a course about the history of vampires in the East European and Western culture is offered in Fall 2012.

Erin Collopy, the professor who teaches the course, said the course has been around since the 1960s and is not original to Tech.

the vampire from its roots in Slavic folklore about female sexuality." into the literary and film vampire of today," said the associate professor of Russian language and literature.

Growing up, Collopy was interested in vampires, monsters and supernatural beings in general, she said. Now, she has grown to understand vampires signify something more.

"I'm more interested in what the vampires represent," she said. "They are an excellent metaphor for human anxieties, fears and desires. If you look at something like the book 'Dracula,' that has traditionally been read about anxiety about the foreigners, anxiety about political systems "(The course) traces the development of that are different from the British system, anxiety

The course fulfills a multicultural and humanities requirement that is required for all Tech students.

"I don't know if students always agree with me, but what I like about (the course) is it attracts (the students) and it appeals to them," she said. "And there's so many things that they can get from the class for learning about the human condition, so for the humanities; also about how we view people who are different from us, so the multicultural element."

VAMPIRES continued on Page 5



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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewi ACROSS 1 River movement 5 You can count on them 10 Braff of "Scrubs" 14 Cleanse 15 Does a scrapbooking task 16 Away from the wird wind 17 Tension-easing activity 19 Breathing organ 20 In accordance with with 21 Road trip respite 22 Triangular architectural feature 23 Music to a collector's ears 28 Pursue quietly 30 IRS business docignation designation 31 Partner of ciencias 32 Perfect 36 Warsaw _____ 37 Drink suggested by the starts of 17-, 23-, 47- and 58-Across 39 Ancient gathering By Bart Beisne 5/3/12 Outclass "Charlotte's __ Cut taker Wednesday's Puzzle Solved AD 6 White-wine cooking liquids 7 Diving bird 8 Hook shape 9 Leb. neighbor 10 Big name in restaurant AMIN - place 41 Fried, filled tortilla 43 All-out 43 All-Out 44 Be gaga over 46 Keystone State team, familiarly 47 New Orleans tourist spot 52 Patron saint of girls irveys 11 Out 12 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument 13 Abductee of Paris girls 53 Campaigned 18 Skating venues 22 George who famously asked Knute Rockne to 54 www address 57 Men's clothing cut 58 Starlet's benefactor, perhaps 62 Alien-seeking org. 63 Circle 64 Thunder sound 65 African antalone in just one" fo 24 Ellington's Song Go Out of My Heart" 48 Obvious flirt 37 Olympic sport in which belts are 49 Kwanz 49 Kwarizaa principle 50 Alternate song recording 51 Less grilled, say 55 Nutritional figs. 56 Singer Lovett 58 Hom say worn 38 Second word of 25 Eyepieces 26 Thing to pass in 65 African antelope 66 Mixer that completes 37-Across 67 Start of North Carolina's motto 40 They're rolled in 27 Word with gum or rain 28 Gullible sort 29 Gillette's 42 Chocolate critters 43 Turn over Gillette's __ II 'Tender __ Night'' Rebellious 59 Sch. founded by Jefferson 45 Company with a DOWN spokesbaby 47 ____ profundo: low voice 1 Turn on a griddle 2 Doily material 60 Heater 61 King Kong, e.g. dispositions Wassailer's song www.ombuds.ttu.edu Ombuds Office A safe place to bring concerns and find solutions May 3rd is the last day to withdraw from the University.

Paralympics -

Lewis said she has been a therapist for 38 years. Some of the basic shapes are the same, she said, but computer technology has progressed in materials, allowing more control of movement. A lot of the newer materials are lightweight, yet stronger ---which reduces the effort a body has to put out to use a prosthetic.

"The knee that (Matt Brown) wears every day is the C-Leg," said Jason Phillips of Lubbock Artificial Limb and Brace Ltd. "It processes at 50 times a second. It actually has a computer built into it. We Bluetooth it to program it — it's really advanced."

This microprocessor knee can memorize gait and rhythm of movement, Phillips said. Lubbock Artificial Limb and Brace has the most recent technology and prosthetic parts. With the recent war in Iraq and Afghanistan, there is a lot of focus on people with amputations and investing in technology.

"If I'm walking across the sidewalk and, you know, sometime there's a lip that's lifting up a little bit," Brown said. "If you're walking along and your foot hits that, (the C-Leg) will sense that and lock up and so you won't fall. There's so many different features with these microprocessor knees. It's almost like having a knee.'

Brown said he has seven legs total and numerous foot parts, including a special foot for throwing a discus.

College Park, an orthotics prosthetics

AFTER LOSING HIS left leg in 2005, Matt Brown competed in discus and shot put events at the 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing and will compete in the discus event at the 2012 Paralympic Games in London this summer. company, and Lubbock Artificial Limb and bound," Phillips said. "As soon as you get Brace are sponsoring Brown for the 2012 Paralympics. He said Lubbock Artificial Limb and Brace provide him with differ-

ent knees and feet to try out and keep if

"I've seen people that were wheelchair-

he likes them.

'em a leg, they're up and moving and walking. Sitting in a wheelchair is no way to live. It's our goal to get everybody up and active in the community and that's one good thing. Getting somebody a prosthetic --they're going to be active in the community. Sitting in a wheelchair they're going to be staying at home. That's just no way of life."

PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

Adjusting to a prosthetic varies from person to person, Brown said. Age, psyche and physical fitness before amputation all affect adjustment time. Brown said he was competing six months after his accident.

"Personally, I was determined that I wasn't gonna let this defy me and ruin my life," he said. "I had that motivation to get up and get on with my life."

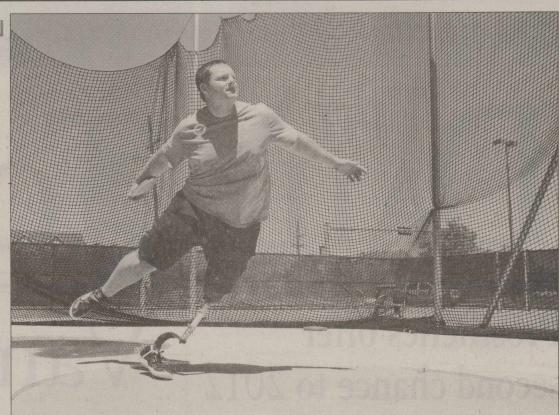
Many people look at people with amputations with a "strange eye," Brown said, but they are all just normal people and can do the same things able-bodied people can do; having a prosthetic gives them a second chance.

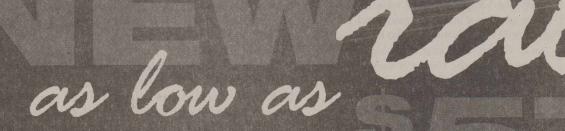
"I don't look at my disability as anything but cool almost," he said. "I was excited to get my prosthesis, and I was excited about venturing into a new part of life.

"I want to also maybe motivate people that are dealing with this - motivate them to get on with their life and not to sit around and feel sorry for themselves. There's a whole new world available out there for amputees, or not just amputees but anybody with a disability, like the Paralympics. I think it's a great opportunity for anybody to be an athlete or have an active life. It's important that we have an active life."

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NEWS

MAY 3, 2012

3

POLICE BLOTTER Non-student found living in residence hall

10:06 a.m. — A Texas Tech medication was taken from an officer investigated theft in the Horn Residence Hall laundry room. Clothing was taken from a dryer.

10:53 a.m. - A Tech officer responded to a medical emergency at the Texas Tech Physician's Medical Pavilion. An infant was transported to University Medical Center by Lubbock Emergency Medical Services.

3:37 p.m. — A Tech officer arrested two non-students for public intoxication in the 400 block of University Avenue. The two non-students were transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

4:37 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated theft on the fifth floor of the Texas Tech Main Library. A student's prescription

unsecured backpack.

7:13 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated theft at Murdough Residence Hall. A secured bicycle was taken from the bicycle racks.

7:40 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident without injuries in the 700 block of Indiana Avenue.

7:48 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident without injuries in the Z4P parking lot.

9:36 p.m. — A Tech officer detained a non-student at the Wall Gates Residence Hall office, after the housing staff told him he could not be living in the residence hall. The non-student was issued a criminal trespass warning for all Tech property.

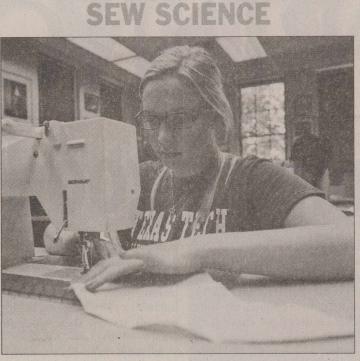


PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

MADISON DYER, A freshman apparel design major from San Antonio, uses a sewing machine to create a shelve for her final project in her flat pattern class in the Human Sciences building Wednesday.

Texas man's execution stopped temporarily

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A federal judge in San Antonio at least temporarily stopped the execution Wednesday of a rapist who was on parole when prosecutors say he killed a neighbor and stole the man's Harley Davidson motorcycle.

U.S. District Judge Fred Biery granted a reprieve to Anthony Bartee after his lawyers filed a civil rights lawsuit against Bexar County District Attorney Susan Reed.

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Bartee, 55, was scheduled for lethal injection later in the day. The Bexar County prosecu-

tor's office immediately appealed the court order to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, saying the judge's reprieve was improper and to allow the order to stand would "reward late filers and create a perpetual motion machine of last-minute attempts to stay executions."

MAY 3 - MAY 5

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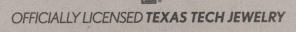
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PAGE 4 THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2012

OPINIONS

here is a continuing debate over whether concealed handgun license holders should be allowed to carry their weapons onto college campuses. To me, the issue is very clear.

Allowing CHL holders to carry on campus makes perfect sense. We all remember the horrible massacre at Virginia Tech University in 2007. Why was the shooter able to kill 32 people that day? Because no one else had a gun to protect themselves.

The ban of guns on campus obviously didn't stop the shooter, nor has it stopped anyone else who has broken the law. Gun control laws only hurt law-abiding citizens. Criminals are law-breakers by nature and therefore pay little attention to a statute that says they cannot with a gun do something.

Allowing concealed handguns on campus would not create more other arguviolence, as some will suggest. Only certain people are allowed to get a concealed handgun of which hold any water. Some license.

You must be at least 21 years old, pass a background check and complete a gun safety and train-



ing course. People with a CHL are law-abiding citizens who know what to do and what not to do anyway. with a gun.

Allowing these responsible people to carry guns would be a very strong deterrent against school shootings. Also, in the event of a school shooting, someone could save lives. There are

ments against allowing guns on campus, none drink, and guns and alcohol just don't mix.

The problem with this argu-

get a CHL. The vast majority of students that age do not live in on-campus residence halls. Furthermore, most students drink in off-campus bars, clubs or in their off-campus residence, places unaffected by campus gun bans. Alcohol is not allowed in dorms here at Tech, so the point is moot

But, for those few students who do live

in a dorm and

have a CHL,

the most re-

cent Texas

state bill re-

garding guns

on campus

contained a

provision that

would have al-

lowed univer-

sities to regu-

late the storage

of guns in on-

So, do everyone a favor and support the right of CHL holders to carry their weapons on campus.

Guns on campus good

campus dorms. Problem solved:

The benefits of allowing CHL say college students tend to holders to carry guns on campus are not just limited to school shootings, which are, thankfully, very rare. There are many other

ment is you have to be 21 to crimes committed on college campuses around the country, most notably assault and, occasionally, rape. Allowing CHL holders to carry weapons would work to prevent these types of crime.

It's simple logic that a criminal will choose a place to commit a crime where he or she thinks they have the best chance of success. If he or she knows no one on a college campus is carrying a gun, but people outside of that campus might be, then they would choose the campus.

Gun ownership does not cause crime; it prevents crime. It acts as a deterrent in some cases and as personal protection in the rest. As the saying goes, an armed society is a polite society.

So, do everyone a favor and support the right of CHL holders to carry their weapons on campus. They won't go around shooting anyone, but they just might be able to stop someone who does.

Gleinser is a junior political science and history major from Kingwood.

>>> agleinser@dailytoreador.com

Romney flip-flops to court students **By MATTHEW WESTFALL**

governor of Massachusetts, fees THE DAILY REVEILLE on state college campuses in-(LOUISIANA STATE U.) creased 63 percent, according to the Massachusetts Board of Higher Will the real Mitt Romney Education.

The fee hikes were enacted by each campus to offset deep budget cuts of about \$140 million, or about 14 percent during the fiscal crisis.

Romney also came out in support of Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan's radical budget proposal - the same budget proposal that would cut \$170 billion from funding for Pell grants, while allowing the interest rate for federally subsidized Stafford loans to double.

Many Republicans are far more interested in cutting taxes, largely for the rich, than they are in helping low- and middle-income students get a college education.

With the Ryan budget, money being cut from higher education would be used to offset the \$3 trillion in tax cuts for high-income households and corporations.

Romney's advice for students: "The best thing I can do for you is to tell you to shop around."

President Obama doesn't have to pander to young people — he's already wildly popular with them because he's held the same proeducation stance all along.

The Obama administration has taken historic steps to provide Americans with a fair shot at an affordable college education, and during the president's weekly address, he reiterated that "higher education cannot be a luxury. It's an economic imperative that every family must be able to afford."

Some proponents of the Ryan budget believe that curbing student loans would counteract the curbing of federal aid. But making it harder for our younger people to afford higher education is not the answer to helping the economy or our country's financial woes.

Politicians should put country over party

By KEVIN FRANCFORT THE DARTMOUTH (DARTMOUTH COLLEGE)

It's no secret that the political climate in the United States is currently tense.

Conflict between Republicans and Democrats seems to affect nearly every big issue this election cycle, from President Barack Obama's decision to put off authorization of the Keystone XL Pipeline until after the elections in November to the House

to compromise.

While many politicians have followed the example set by their party leaders, former Republican Utah governor and presidential candidate Jon Huntsman has not, and he may pay dearly for it.

York City

on April 22,

Huntsman

candidly criti-

cized the GOP

and Republi-

tial candidates

a third party, suggesting that another option in presidential politics would "be a healthy thing."

Huntsman's recent remarks offer a refreshing perspective on the political scene. The Repub-During an interview in New lican Party, however, hasn't been very receptive

to his message,

revoking their

invitation for

him to speak at

ed, "My first

thought was,

this is what

they do in

... a winning strategy for

the conflict on the others' failure February calling for the rise of dard of gridlock and rhetoric is acceptable, then Huntsman may be making a moot point.

> But as the politicians in Washington continue to bicker, issues ranging from the national debt and Medicare's uncertain future loom and grow in severity. As Huntsman put it, "People forget that we're in a human game, a people game."

Some may argue that Huntsman is only stirring up trouble for personal political gain. But I doubt that making such comments will help Huntsman's political prospects, especially since they have caused him to fall out of favor with his own party. When asked about his own candidacy, he is unafraid to admit that he considers himself a failed politician. After serving an overwhelmingly popular four years as the governor of Utah, Huntsman was unable to make much of an impact on the national stage when he was given the opportunity during the Republican primaries. But he is exactly the type of candidate that should be most attractive to Americans. We shouldn't be looking to simply throw our support behind candidates who cater to powerful forces within their parties. Too often, these politicians are more concerned with their own upward political mobility than with what is best for their country. We ought to be conscious of the motives that drive our political leaders. When they do not line up with what is best for our nation's future, we need to be wary of the status quo. Huntsman's right-of-center style of campaigning was a losing strategy in the Republican primary, but a winning strategy for politicians in this political climate may be a losing strategy for Americans.

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he'd forgotten to say something to the thousands of college students across America concerned with the soon-to-expire interest rates.

Here we go again. It's called flip-flop fatigue, and Romney's got it.

please stand up on education?

On April 23, alongside charis-

matic Florida Sen. Marco Rubio,

Romney took a grand pivot to-

ward the center on the federally

subsidized student loan interest

public event, Romney realized

Having almost finished the

rates set to expire July 1.

His symptoms are getting much worse, as he can hardly remember which side to pander to?

His recent ideological swing doesn't match up with the previous hard line he took against government help with student debt or his stance on funding for higher education.

In March, a high school senior from Ohio asked Romney at a town hall meeting what he would do to help students pay for college. Romney replied, "It would be popular for me to stand up and say, 'I'm going to give you government money to pay for your college,' but I'm not going to promise that. ... Don't expect the government to forgive the debt that you take on.'

Now that President Barack Obama has launched a campaign to extend low interest rates on federally funded student loans and signaled he'd make it central in the presidential race, Romney has drastically shifted his views.

During the press conference with Rubio, Romney stated that "with the number of college graduates that can't find work or that

can only find work well beneath

their skill level, I fully support the

effort to extend the low interest

Let the Etch-A-Sketching

If we've learned one thing

from Romney, it's that it's better

to look at his actions instead of

simply listening to his words. Af-

ter all, Mitt Romney is the "pan-

der bear" of American politics.

Under Romney's policies as

rate on student loans."

begin.

Republicans' repeated attempts to repeal key provisions of the Affordable Care Act.

Americans have been disappointed in policymakers' inability to reach compromises. According to a poll conducted by ABC News and The Washington Post, only 26 percent of Americans are optimistic about "our system of government and how well it works."

This is the lowest level of public optimism in the government since these surveys were created in 1974. Both political parties have attempted to use this strife to their advantage by blaming

can candidates who vied for the party's presidential nomination this year. He commented that, after observing the slate of Republican presiden-

before the first primary debate in Iowa last year, he had asked himself, "Is this the best we could do?"

This came on the heels of previous comments he made in

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a Republican National Compoliticians in this mittee fundpolitical climate raising event in Florida. may be a losing In response, Huntsman boldly stat-

strategy for Americans.

> China on party matters if you talk off script."

Although it might be a stretch to compare the GOP to the Chinese Communist Party and Huntsman himself said the comment has been taken out of context - Huntsman's overarching point deserves consideration.

While the two-party system has functioned well for most of this country's history, recently it seems to be discouraging productive dialogue while increasing polarization. The failure of the congressional "super committee" to overcome partisan hurdles and reach an agreement on ways to reduce the nation's debt has demonstrated the serious problems of the current political polarization.

It is time that Americans from all backgrounds and ideologies ask themselves what they expect from their politicians. If they believe that the current stan-

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Publishing information

Periodical Postage paid by The Daily Toreador, Student Media building, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, 79409: Publication number: 766480. The DT is a student newspaper published Monday through Friday, September through May; Tuesdays and Fridays June through August, except during university examination and vacation periods The DT is funded primarily through advertising revenues generated by the student sales staff with free campus distribution resulting from student service fees

Subscriptions

Call: 806-742-3388 Subscription Rates: \$150 annually; single issues: Postmaster: send address changes to The Daily

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Obama points out that "when a big chunk of every paycheck goes toward loan debt ... it's painful for the economy because that money is not going to help businesses grow."

Raising the rates would put students in a deep financial hole before they even get a shot at success.

So, the question remains: Where does Mitt Romney actually stand on higher education? And after years of flip-flopping, does it really matter?

PAGE 5 THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2012

Blaze hits at Tyler Perry Atlanta studios

ATLANTA (AP) — The cause of / a fire that ripped through a simulated streetscape at the studios of Atlanta filmmaker Tyler Perry may never be known, Atlanta fire officials said Wednesday.

The Tuesday evening blaze at Tyler Perry Studios in southwest Atlanta will be recorded as undetermined, Atlanta Fire Chief Kelvin J. Cochran said in an emailed statement.

"The intensity of the fire in the area of origin consumed any evidence that would lead to a cause of ignition,"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Anthony Qualin, an associate pro-

fessor of Russian language and literature,

said students can expect a solid back-

ground in the origins of vampires and

in most folklores, in most cultures," he

said, "but this traces what we come to

know in the Western Europe and the

In the final part of the course, Qualin

said Collopy focuses on the American

United States as the vampire — which

it started in that part of the world."

"I think there are vampire-like things

Slavic folklore.

Cochran said.

There were no reports of injuries from the blaze that began shortly before 9 p.m. Tuesday and burned through the exterior facade of a large building, Atlanta fire spokesman Capt. Jolyon Bundrige said.

"It was all in flames," Dorothy Ware, who lives in a high-rise apartment next door to the studio complex, told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Flames shot as high as nearby trees that stand about as high as a six-story

Both Collopy and Qualin said the popularity of vampires comes and goes.

With the fame of "The Twilight Series" and "True Blood," Collopy said, a lot of female students became interested in taking the course, but the attention has died down since then.

"I think it's down on its downswing," Collopy said. "These things come in waves. There was 'Interview with the Vampire,' and the Anne Rice books, and it started to die down a bit and then picked up again with 'Twilight.' 'Twilight' was the apex and already I'm not getting the kind of response from students about 'Twilight' that I did a few years ago."

Collopy said the favorite vampire

to the four-alarm blaze. Perry - whose films include "Diary of a Mad Black Woman," "Why Did I Get Married?" and "Daddy's Little Girls" — was at the

complex Tuesday night and spoke with

"The building started popping,"

Ware said. "Whatever the fire was

hitting, was blowing up. There were

plenty of sparks coming over here where

More than 100 firefighters responded

building, Ware said.

we are."

Cochran.

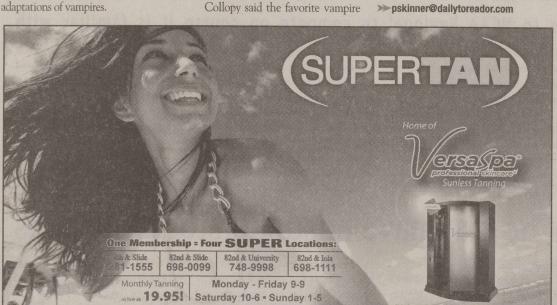
film right now is, "Let The Right One In." However, she is not a big fan of "The Twilight Series," she said.

"I don't like the message," she said, "and I'm not particularly fond of the writing. 'I got to be a girl, so I might as well make the best of it.' It just seems too hostile to girls."

While students are taking the course, Collopy allows the students to explore their own interest in vampires, as long as they use the correct academic analysis, Qualin said.

Along with exploring their own vampire interests, Collopy said students can expect to read and write for the course.

»» pskinner@dailytoreador.com



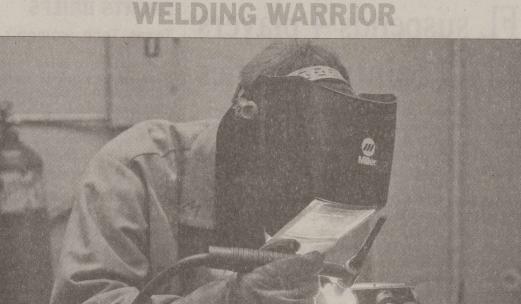


PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador JEFF BOUVIER, A sophomore mechanical engineering major from Austin, welds together a radiator hose in the Mechanical Engineering building Wednesday. The radiator hose will be used in a formula car for a

competition hosted by the Formula Society of Automotive Engineers next week in Brooklyn, Mich. Pregnancy Testing STD/STI Testing and Treatment **Ultrasound** Confirmation empowering individuals **Confidential** Counseling **Conveniently** located to make close to campus informed choices NO Cost. NO Hassle. NO Judgment.

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PAGE 6 THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2012

NFL suspends 4 players for NO Saints' bounties

Wednesday. Originally, the league said

that 22 to 27 defensive players were in-

volved in the illegal scheme, which was

orchestrated by then-Saints defensive

coordinator Gregg Williams and started in the season New Orleans won its only

Targeted opponents included quar-

terbacks Aaron Rodgers, Cam Newton,

Brett Favre and Kurt Warner. "Knock-

outs" were worth \$1,500 and "cart-offs"

\$1,000, with payments doubled or

book on the league's discipline for boun-

ties, leaving the Saints without their

head coach and top defensive player

(Vilma) for the full season - and also

focused on players who were in leader-

ship positions at the Saints; contributed

a particularly large sum of money toward

the program; specifically contributed to

a bounty on an opposing player; demon-

strated a clear intent to participate in a

program that potentially injured oppos-

ing players; sought rewards for doing so;

and/or obstructed the 2010 investiga-

tigation showed "a significant number

of players participated" in the bounties

— by ponying up cash or collecting it

--- "the players disciplined participated

While the league said that its inves-

tion," Goodell said in a statement.

"In assessing player discipline, I

Wednesday's penalties close the

Super Bowl championship.

tripled for the playoffs.

affecting two other clubs.

(AP) - New Orleans Saints linebacker Jonathan Vilma was suspended without pay for the entire 2012 season by the NFL, one of four players punished Wednesday for participating in the team's cash-for-hits bounty system.

Defensive lineman Anthony Hargrove, now with the Green Bay Packers, was suspended for the first half of the 16-game season; Saints defensive end Will Smith was barred for the opening four games; and linebacker Scott Fujita, now with the Cleveland Browns, will miss the first three games. Like Vilma, they were suspended without pay.

All four players have three days to appeal NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell's ruling, and the head of the NFL Players Association said the union would fight the penalties. Fujita is a member of the NFLPA's executive committee.

The league's statement said Vilma, Hargrove, Smith and Fujita were suspended because of "conduct detrimental to the NFL as a result of their leadership roles" with the bounties.

An NFL investigation determined that the Saints ran a bounty system from 2009-11 that offered thousands of dollars to players for big hits that knocked opponents out of games. In March, Goodell suspended Saints head coach Sean Payton for all of next season, and levied other penalties against the club.

But no players were punished until at a different and more significant level."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Texas Tech women's tennis checks another first off the list with NCAA regional berth

After picking up its first Big 12 Conference title in program history, No. 21 Texas Tech women's tennis added another first to the list.

The Lady Raiders earned a berth into the NCAA Championships.

Tech (19-5) will head to Coral Gables, Fla., to face No. 39 Utah

For the sixth-straight season the Texas Tech men's tennis squad clinched a berth in the NCAA Championships.

The No. 19 Red Raiders (15-8) will head to Berkeley, Calif., to face No. 63 Cal Poly (15-7) in the first round of the California Regional at 11 a.m. May 12. It will be a difficult region to get out

Regional on May 11. The berth in the tournament

SPORTS

displays the amount of work the team has put in during the course of the year, Tech head coach Todd Petty said.

"What a great honor for the team and Texas Tech University," he said

the team is ready to go and compete.

heading west," he said in a news release.

"We have had a good season and we

look forward to the challenge that this

region presents."

"I felt all along that we would be

Tech hasn't played Cal Poly since

(11-10) in the first round of the Miami in a news release. "It really shows the effort our team has put in this season. This is an exciting time for us and I could not be prouder of this group of young ladies."

The Lady Raiders may be favored in the rankings and overall records, but Utah got the better of Tech earlier this

of, Tech head coach Tim Siegel said, but 2001, but picked up the 6-1 victory ence, and another Texas foe in UTSA, in that match up. Cal Poly made it to the regional by winning the Big West Conference regular season title and conference tournament title as well.

> Also featured in the regional are host team are No. 14 California, who placed fourth in the Pac-12 Confer

season with a 4-3 win in Las Vegas. The other teams competing in

this regional are host-school No. 10 Miami, who has an unblemished 14-0 record at home and is hosting its eighth-straight regional, and North Florida, who won the Atlantic Sun Conference.

Red Raiders seal spot in sixth consecutive postseason tournament, head to West Coast

who picked up an automatic bid by winning the Southland Conference tournament.

If Tech picks up the win against Cal Poly, it will go on to play the winner of California and UTSA at 1 p.m. May 13.

three-run homer to put Tech up 10-6,

and plate Hagen's fourth, fifth and sixth

their offensive outpour, as Tech put up

two runs in the top of the ninth to put

The Red Raiders weren't done with

Tech will now head to an important

Big 12 Conference series, as it heads to

RBI of the night.

the game out of reach.

Tech baseball gets revenge against New Mexico State, picks up third consecutive win

Texas Tech baseball went to Las Cruces, N.M., looking to make up for its loss earlier in the season against New Mexico State.

The Red Raiders got just that. It took Tech a little while to get going, but after it did the bats caught fire leading the Red Raiders to a 12-7 win Tuesday.

However, during the first few innings it looked like Tech's two-game winning streak would be snapped. After to cut the gap to one.

gies plated four runners in the bottom of the third to jump out to a 5-0 lead.

close the gap.

got the fourth inning started off, with a blast to left field to give Tech its first run of the game. The Red Raiders would go on to score three more in the inning

College Station for a three-game set carbon copy of the fifth, as with two against Texas A&M.

Lady Raider golf heads to NCAA Regional to compete on course it is familiar with

round of the Big 12 Tournament, the Texas Tech women's golf team picked up its third-straight berth into postseason play.

The Lady Raiders were selected as the No. 10 seed in the West Regional, which will begin May 10 and run until May 12

After making a late surge in the third course and is familiar with some of the seen throughout the year." teams, Tech head coach JoJo Robertson said, which gives the team some confidence going into the regional.

There will be 23 other teams competing in the regional, who will all be fighting "We are very pleased to be selected to make it in the top eight of the tourna-

> the NCAA Championships. Featured in the field are top three

ment, as these eight teams will head to

the teams in this regional are ones we've do. Two other Big 12 Conference schools in Baylor and Oklahoma are also featured in the top 10 seeds at the tournament.

> Despite the level of play, Tech will have some confidence at this course, as the last time the team played at Colorado National Golf Club, it came home with the tournament victory.

>>> sports@dailytoreador.com



Pettitte agrees he may have misunderstood Clemens

questioning of Pettitte on Wednesday,

Pettitte, Clemens' longtime friend and former teammate, was on the stand for a second day in the trial that is to determine whether Clemens lied at a 2008 congressional deposition and hearing when he denied taking steroids and human growth hormone.

During cross-examination, Clemens' lawyers got exactly the answers

to the West Regional," she said in a

news release. "We feel good about the

putting up one run in the first, the Ag-But it didn't take long for Tech to

The Aggies responded by putting up a run in the bottom of the fourth, but the Red Raiders offense kept rolling.

With runners on first and third, Stephen Hagen stepped up to the plate and knocked in his third home run of the season to give Tech its first lead of the game. >

The top of the sixth was almost a runners on Hagen blasted another

Tech center fielder Barrett Barnes

they wanted.

Might Pettitte have misunderstood when Clemens supposedly acknowledged using human growth hormone to Pettitte in a conversation during the 1999-2000 offseason?

"I could have," Pettitte answered. Is it fair to say there is a "50-50" chance that Pettitte misunderstood?

"I'd say that's fair," Pettitte replied. The government tried to salvage their witness, but prosecutor Steven Durham's follow-up questions were lacking — at least in the minds of Clemens' lawyers and, more importantly, U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton. Clemens' lawyers moved to strike Pettitte's testimony about the 1999-2000 conversation as "insufficiently definitive."

The judge seemed to agree, openly wondering why Pettitte wasn't asked for a current, definitive recollection of the conversation. He repeatedly berated Durham, who was also part of the government team last July when prosecutors showed the jury a snippet of inadmissible videotaped evidence, prompting the mistrial.

"I was waiting for you to ask, and you didn't ask that," Walton said.

"My understanding is that (Pettitte's) position is at this time, he is conflicted. ... His testimony now before the jury is 'I don't know," the judge continued. "I thought that what we would hear is, 'Mr. Pettitte, currently, what is your memory of what Mr. Clemens told you back in 1999?""

In other words, the jury might have concluded that maybe Pettitte did "misremember" the conversation, as Clemens has claimed.

Durham tried to contend that he addressed the matter in a different way. The defense will file a brief in support of its position, and Walton could rule on Pettitte's testimony as early as Thursday.



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SPORTS

MAY 3, 2012

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@DailyToreador Police: Junior Seau found dead at California home

OCEANSIDE, Calif. (AP) -Junior Seau, a homegrown superstar who was the fist-pumping, emotional leader of the San Diego Chargers for 13 years, was found shot to death at his home Wednesday morning in what police said appeared to be a suicide. He was 43.

Police Chief Frank McCoy said Seau's girlfriend reported finding him unconscious with a gunshot wound to the chest and lifesaving efforts were unsuccessful. A gun was found near him, McCoy said. Police said no suicide note was found and they didn't immediately know who the gun was registered to.

Seau's death in Oceanside, in northern San Diego County, stunned the region he represented with almost reckless abandon. The same intensity that got the star linebacker ejected for fighting in his first exhibition game helped carry the Chargers to their only Super Bowl, following the 1994 season.

a fist and kick out a leg after dropping house, weeping uncontrollably. a ball carrier or quarterback.

"It's a sad thing. It's hard to understand," said Bobby Beathard, who as Chargers general manager took Seau out of Southern California with the fifth pick overall in the 1990 draft. "He was really just a great guy. If you drew up a player you'd love to have the opportunity to draft and have on the team and as a teammate, Junior and Rodney (Harrison), they'd be the kind of guys you'd like to have."

Quarterback Stan Humphries recalled that Seau did everything at the same speed, whether it was practicing, lifting weights or harassing John Elway.

"The intensity, the smile, the infectious attitude, it carried over to all the other guys," said Humphries, who was shocked that Seau is now the eighth player from the '94 Super Bowl team to die.

Seau's mother appeared before

"I don't understand ... I'm shocked,"

Luisa Seau cried out. Her son gave no indication of a problem when she spoke to him by phone earlier this week, she said.

"He's joking to me, he called me a 'homegirl," she said.

Seau's death follows the suicide last year of former Chicago Bears player Dave Duerson, who also shot himself in the chest.

In October 2010, Seau survived a 100-foot plunge down a seaside cliff in his SUV, hours after he was arrested for investigation of domestic violence at the Oceanside home he shared with his girlfriend. The woman had told authorities that Seau assaulted her during an argument.

There was no evidence of drugs or alcohol involved in the crash and Seau told authorities he fell asleep while driving. He sustained minor injuries.

I've never seen Junior in a down frame of mind," Beathard said. "He was always so upbeat and he would keep people up. He practiced the way he played. He made practice fun. He was a coach's dream. He was an amazing guy as well as a player and a person. This is hard to believe."

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Seau's ex-wife, Gina, told the Union-Tribune San Diego that he texted her and each of their three children separate messages: "I love you."

"We're all in shock," she said. "We're beyond sad and beyond shocked. The kids and I are just huddled together at home. There is no way to make sense of this."

Seau, who played in the NFL for parts of 20 seasons, is the eighth member of San Diego's lone Super Bowl team who has died, all before the age of 45. Lew Bush, Shawn Lee, David Griggs, Rodney Culver, Doug Miller, Curtis Whitley and Chris Mims are the others.



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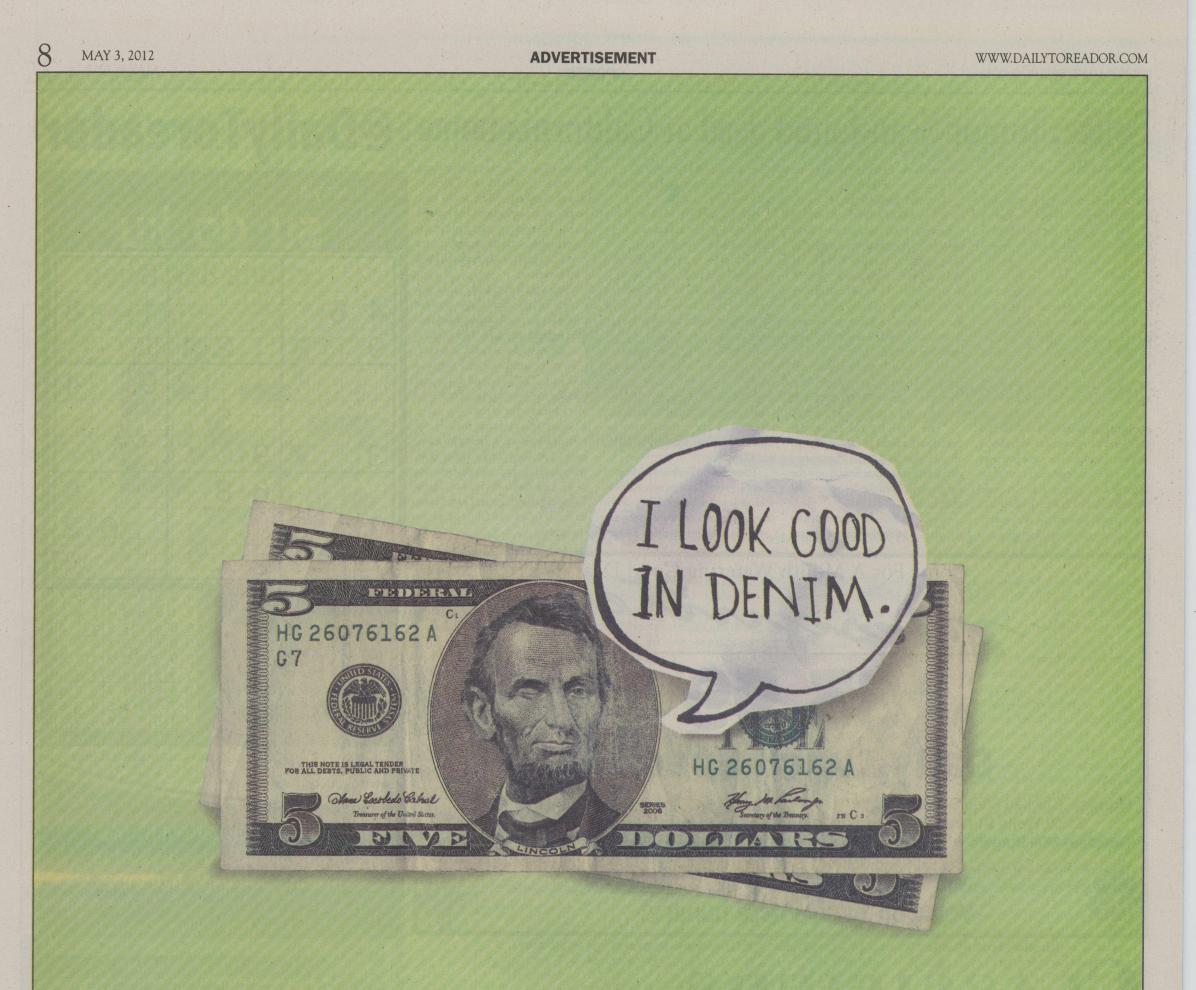
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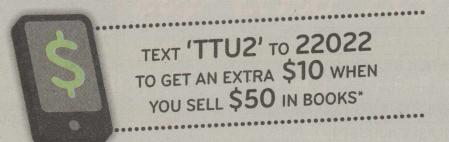
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