# Funeral services set for Siebenthal

Lubbock Police Department responded to a call of a body found in the 2520 Marsha Sharp parking lot.

Chris Cook, the managing director of the Office of Communications, verified the individual as Michael Siebenthal, a Texas Tech student.

"Anytime a student passes, our deepest sympathy goes out to their family and friends," Cook said. "We are always heartbroken to hear of these tragic incidences."

Police arrived on the scene shortly after 4 a.m., and Siebenthal was pronounced dead.

According to the Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Chapels and Cemeteries obituary for Siebenthal, he was a 25-year-

Early Thursday morning the old who loved sports and had many friends.

> The obituary confirmed an evening visitation for Siebenthal will be hosted at 6 p.m. this Thursday, July 5, at Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home in Rosenberg, followed with a Rosary. The Funeral Mass was also written in the obituary to be hosted at 1 p.m. on Friday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Richmond, Texas.

> The obituary listed in lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Siebenthal's name to Cross International, 600 SW Third Street, Suite 2201, Pompano Beach, FL, 33060 or to the Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, MD

» atubbs@dailytoreador.com

# Midweek holiday causes muddle for some travelers

knew the calendar could cause so much vacation heartburn?

For the first time in five years Independence Day falls on a Wednesday, leaving travelers unsure when to celebrate and worrying those who make a living

"The midweek holiday seems to have travelers confused," said Anthony Del Gaudio, vice president of hotel sales for Loews Hotels, which isn't seeing the normal July Fourth spike in bookings.

Those who sell vacations say this year's calendar gives Americans more options: Tack on Saturday through Tuesday or Thursday through Sunday to the holiday, or just take the entire week off.

But consumers' confidence has been waning. Now, some aren't happy about having to burn an extra vacation day or two to get that long weekend. From 2008 through 2011, the work holiday fell on either Friday or Monday, so employees and their families got an automatic three-day weekend, similar to Memorial Day and

"It's irritating because everybody wants those three, four-day holiday weekends," said Tom Donohue, who runs an HIV awareness program based in Charlottesville, Va.

In recent years, he's traveled to see family in Pennsylvania, including his father whose birthday is on July 2. There's swimming and boating on the Susquehanna River and — of course — fireworks.

Not this year. Donohue plans to stay local, savings those days off "for an actual vacation," a Caribbean cruise in October.

Others are determined to have

NEW YORK (AP) — Who their summer holiday no matter

Alicia Hutton, her husband and their two daughters are flying from Boston to Baltimore to see family. The parents had to take two extra days off from their jobs to make the Wednesday-Saturday

"It's not ideal because normally we would tack on one day to a long weekend," Hutton said.

AAA, one of the nation's largest travel agencies, projects 42.3 million Americans will journey 50 miles or more from home between July 3 and July 8. That's roughly the same amount that traveled in 2007, the last time July Fourth fell on a Wednesday. Last year, when the holiday fell on a Monday, 40.3 million people traveled. But before you think it's a big increase, note that AAA's economists changed how they estimated the number of travelers: They used a six-day period this year compared to five

"In general, we think that travel from last year is pretty flat," said Shane Norton, a director at IHS Global Insight, which provides economic forecasting and research for AAA.

The economy weighs heavily on families' travel plans. Consumer confidence has fallen for four straight months as Americans continue to worry about their jobs and retirement funds. The June reader of a widely followed confidence index was 62. A reading of 90 indicates a healthy economy.

That helps explain why families don't seem prepared yet to splurge on vacation. Many want to get away but are opting for lower-priced hotels and are looking specifically for properties with

# Country Concert





PHOTOS BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

TOP: COUNTRY STAR Alan Jackson waves to the crowd as he comes out on stage at the United Spirit Arena on Friday. ABOVE: Alan Jackson points out at the crowd at the United Spirit Arena on Friday during his song "Gone Country."

By ASHLYN TUBBS STAFF WRITER

In the words of country recording act Alan Jackson, it was "time for a good time," 7:30 p.m. Friday at the United Spirit Arena.

Jackson, who has topped the country singles chart 35 times, performed in front of a crowd of about 5,500 people of all ages.

"This was my first time to attend an Alan Jackson concert," said Jenn Penry of Lubbock. "We had a chance to see him a few months ago in Florence, Ariz., when he performed in Country Thunder, but it was eight hours away. I'm

Country music star makes appearance in Lubbock

finally see him."

Gloriana, a three-member vocal group, opened for Jackson. The gets," said Shea Silvas of Lubbock. band features Tom and Mike Gossin and Rachel Reinert. Among the songs they performed was their single released last October, entitled "(Kissed You) Good Night." After their performance, they had a meet and greet with fans.

Jackson, who is 53 years old, has sold more than 60 million albums. He was named Country Music Association Entertainer of the Year in 1995, 2002 and 2003.

He thanked the fans in atglad we got to make it up and tendance at the concert for their show, throwing many T-shirts and

continuous support.

"The older he gets, the better he "I love him."

As Jackson sang many of his hit songs, he would continuously point at his fans. Among songs performed were his latest single "So You Don't Have to Love Me Anymore" and "Where Were You When the World Stopped Turning?" which he wrote after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. This song evoked tears among many audience members.

Jackson interacted with his fans frequently throughout the

guitar picks and touching their outreached hands.

He also took time during his performance to sign various objects among the front row audience, including many cowboy hats and boots. Jackson laughed when one fan handed him a baby boot to

"It was a really fun concert," said Chloe Reeds of Lubbock. "I wish I was in the front so I would get my boot signed.'

Jackson came back to the stage for an encore, in which he then performed "Mercury Blues."

>>> atubbs@dailytoreador.com

# INDEX

Classifieds......3 Crossword.....4 Opinions.....4 Sudoku.....2

# WEATHER

Sunny



Wednesday

Partly Cloudy

**Skinner: Choose** apologies wisely OPINIONS, Pg. 4





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# HALL OF FAME



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

The Friday evening storms, a me-

teorological phenomenon known as a

derecho, moved quickly across the region

with little warning. The straight-line

winds were just as destructive as any

hurricane — but when a tropical system

strikes, officials usually have several days

to get extra personnel in place. Not so

you three days of warning, this storm gave

us all the impact of a hurricane without

any of the warning," Maryland Gov.

Martin O'Malley said Sunday on CNN's

Florida and Oklahoma were on their way

to the mid-Atlantic region to help get the

power back on and the air conditioners

running again. Even if people have

generators, the gas-run devices often

don't have enough power to operate an

Several people interviewed by The As-

sociated Press said they remained without

power even though the lights were on

at neighbors' homes across the street. In

Maryland, Gov. O'Malley promised that

he would push utility companies to get

electricity restored as quickly as possible.

up Pepco's and BGE's backsides than I

referring to the two main utilities serving

in to help in New Jersey and West Vir-

ginia. Crews had for the most part cleared

debris from major roadways, and signals

were working in many major intersec-

tions. But officials still had much work

tent to rough it, at least for now. The

Sixty-year-old John Swift was con-

to do on secondary roads.

National Guard troops were brought

Maryland.

No one will have his boot further

And power restoration was spotty:

Power crews from as far away as

"State of the Union."

"Unlike a polite hurricane that gives

ROBERT GIOVANNETTI, RIGHT, interviews Robert Wilkerson and Andy Lopez, Wilkerson's coach at Florida, during the College Baseball Hall of Fame live TV broadcast from the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center on Saturday. Wilkerson played for the Florida Gators baseball team from 1996 to 1998.

# Mid-Atlantic power outages could last days

FRANCONIA, Va. (AP) — A day after seeking refuge at shopping malls and movie theaters, hoping the lights would be back on when they returned, nearly 2.7 million residents faced a grim reality Sunday: stifling homes, spoiled food and a looming commute filled with knockedout stoplights.

Two days after storms slammed the mid-Atlantic region, power outages were forcing people to get creative to stay cool in dangerously hot weather. Temperatures approached 100 degrees in many storm-stricken areas, and utility officials said the power will likely be out for several more days.

"If we don't get power tonight, we'll have to throw everything away," Susan Fritz, a mother of three, said grimly of her refrigerator and freezer. Fritz came to a library in Bethesda, Md., so her son could do school work. She charged her phone and iPad at her local gym.

The severe weather that began Friday was blamed for 17 deaths, most from trees falling on homes and cars. Three people were killed Sunday in eastern North Carolina when sudden storms hit there. Meanwhile, Coast Guard officials say they have suspended the search for a man who went missing early Saturday while boating during the storm off Maryland.

On Sunday night, federal and state officials in the mid-Atlantic region gave Monday to ease congestion on the roads. Federal agencies will be open in Washington, but non-emergency employees have the option of taking leave or working from home. Maryland's governor also gave state workers wide leeway for staying out of the office.

The bulk of the damage was in West Virginia, Washington and the capital's Virginia and Maryland suburbs. At least six of the dead were killed in Virginia, including a 90-year-old woman asleep in her bed when a tree slammed into her home. Two young cousins in New Jersey were killed when a tree fell on their tent while camping. Two were killed in Maryland, one in Ohio, one in Kentucky and one in Washington.

On Sunday night in North Carolina, a 77-year-old man was killed when strong winds collapsed a Pitt County barn where he was parking an all-terrain vehicle, authorities said. In neighboring Beaufort County, a couple was killed when a tree fell on the golf cart they were driving. Officials said trees fell onto dozens of houses, and two hangars were destroyed at an airport in Beaufort County. The damage was mostly blamed on straight-

From Atlanta to Baltimore, temperatures approached or exceeded triple digits. Atlanta set a record with a high of 105 degrees, while the temperature hit 99 at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport just outside the nation's capital. With no air conditioning, officials urged residents to check on their elderly relatives and neighbors. It was tough to find a free pump at gas stations that did have power, and lines of cars snaked around

States worked to make sure the power \_ will," O'Malley said Sunday afternoon, that people at least had clean water. Chain-saws buzzed throughout neighborhoods as utility crews scrambled to untangle downed trees and power lines. Neighbors banded together.

"Food, ice — we're all sharing," said 51-year-old Elizabeth Knight, who lives in the blue-collar Richmond suburb of Lakeside.

# Texas grad student mauled by chimps knew the risks DALLAS (AP) — An American An uncle, Carl Oberle, of subur-

anthropology student attacked by chimps he was studying in South Africa knew primate research was not without risks. But after having volunteered at the Jane Goodall Institute Chimpanzee Eden in the past, he was eager to pursue graduate research with abused and orphaned chimpanzees.

He knew the people, the chimps, and it was a good opportunity.

"We all really encouraged him," said Lisa Corewyn, a primatology doctoral student at the University of Texas at San Antonio where Andrew Oberle is working on his master's degree. "Once we knew he wanted to work with chimps, we said

Authorities say Oberle was giving a lecture to about a dozen tourists Thursday when two chimps pulled him under a security fence. He was bitten and dragged nearly a half-mile before the manager of the institute fired in the air, scaring the animals away. Efforts to pull the chimpanzees off Oberle had failed, and conservationist Eugene Cussons said he himself was attacked during

Cussons, a host of the Animal Planet show "Escape to Chimp Eden," said Oberle had apparently gone behind the first of two security fences while talking to the group. He said he wouldn't know what led to the attack until he spoke

Oberle was in the intensive care unit at Mediclinic Nelspruit hospital in South Africa on Monday. He remained sedated after six hours of surgery Sunday, when doctors cleaned and stitched multiple wounds and attended to fractures and other injuries, the hospital said.

ban St. Louis, said his nephew did not lose an arm in the attack but both limbs were "ripped up." He said Oberle had been placed in an induced coma "because he lost so much blood and his blood pressure was so low.'

"I don't know if he is out of it yet," Carl Oberle said. "He has to get his strength back up so they can do more surgeries."

Oberle, 26, had been passionate about chimps since the seventh grade, when he saw a film about Goodall, said his mother, who spoke to The Associated Press before leaving Missouri for South Africa. Goodall, a famed primatologist, discovered that chimps were the first non-human animals to make and use tools, an area of research that also intrigued Oberle.

Before enrolling his master's program, he worked for several years as a camp counselor at the St. Louis Zoo, where he also did primate research, zoo spokeswoman Susan Gallagher said.

"He was enthusiastic, engaging and made children understand the need for conservation," Gallagher said. "He is very well-liked and respected at the zoo."

Corewyn, who met Oberle in 2008 or so when he was taking an undergraduate anthropology class she was teaching, also described him as positive and enthusiastic, particularly about the graduate program he eventually applied to. The program is unusual, she said, in that it has three primatologists in its anthropology department and a large contingent of primatology graduate students doing research around the world.

Oberle stood out in the group because his background was with captive animals, while most of his peers study primates in the wild, Corewyn said. He made an extended visit to the Goodall institute a year or so ago to observe the chimps and then returned last month for a follow-up visit, Cussons said. He had training to ensure he understood how chimpanzees might behave in captivity and knew to keep a safe distance. He also received additional training before speaking to the tour group.

"Chimps are notoriously difficult to work with, we all know that," said Corewyn, whose own research is with howler monkeys. "But people that love chimps, love their chimps."

Male chimps can stand up to 5 feet, 7 inches tall and weigh about 154 pounds, according to the Goodall institute. The two that attacked Oberle were male, though the sanctuary's website did not say how large they were. They have been isolated since the attack.

Corewyn said Oberle knew he wouldn't be able to go in with the chimps because they discussed the issue during meetings at the university. That was one of the challenges he had to figure out: how he was going to do his work given the barriers.

"We all know that there's risk in what we do," said Corewyn, whose own research assistant was shot and killed in the forests of Ecuador, where they were working a few years ago. "Some of us working in the wild, we have a high-risk field, so we have our share of horrible things happen just because of the nature of what we do and where we do it.

"But it's still shocking because normally, for the most part, these things just don't happen," she said, adding, "Most of the time, (primates) are extremely caring and gentle."

# Dell buying Quest Software for \$2.36 billion

In a move to branch out beyond the weakening personal computer business. Dell said

it more competitive in the server, storage, networking and computing services business.

Quest helps companies manage databases and provides other corporate IT services. Quest's technology would add to its security and data protections offerings, along with other services aimed at business customers, Dell said.

With the deal, Dell, the second-largest U.S. PC maker after Hewlett-Packard Co., is trying diversify beyond the

lower-margin business of making personal computers. PC hot-selling iPad.

Both Dell and HP have been buying software and technology services companies to expand beyond PCs and plumb the more fertile territory of advising big companies and government agencies on how to manage their technology needs. As part hope to sell more software and computing equipment.

In late May, Dell Inc. reported disappointing first-quarter financial results and predicted

weak sales in the current quarter. The computer maker said sales sales have weakened in the last to government, big businesses two years as consumers increas- and consumers decreased. Total Monday that it's buying Quest ingly navigate the Internet product revenue fell 5 percent to Software for about \$2.36 billion. on smartphones and tablet \$11.42 billion in the Jan.-March Dell said Quest would make computers such as Apple Inc.'s quarter as revenue from mobility products, software, desktop PCs, and storage products all decreased. Sales to consumers took a particularly sharp decline of 12 percent, while government sales to fell 4 percent and revenue from large businesses dipped 3 percent.

Sales to small and mediumof that process, the companies sized businesses were a bright spot. They grew 4 percent.

> Dell's acquisition comes in the midst of some belt-tightening at the company. In June, it outlined a cost-cutting plan designed to trim expenses by \$2 billion over the next three years.

Quest, based in Aliso Viejo, Calif., had agreed to be bought by Insight Venture Partners for \$23 per share, or \$2 billion, in March, and a series of increasing bids from Insight and another bidder followed.

The March bid was a 19 percent premium to the company's closing stock price the day before the deal was announced. Dell's \$28 per share offer announced Monday is a 44 percent premium to Quest's ending price of \$19.40 from March 8.

The deal is expected to close in Dell's August-October quarter. Both boards have approved the deal, but Quest shareholders must still vote it through.

Quest CEO Vinny Smith, who has a 34 percent stake in Quest, had agreed to support Insight's offer in March. But he will vote his shares for the Dell deal, Quest said Monday. In a statement Monday, Smith said that with the Dell deal, Quest's products and workforce would be the "foundation" for Dell's software business.

Quest paid a \$25 million breakup fee as well as \$12 million for expenses to Insight and Vector Capital, which joined Insight as a partner bidder last month.

Shares of Quest Software Inc. slipped 5 cents to \$27.76 in morning trading. Shares of Dell, which is based in Round Rock, Texas, dipped 8 cents to \$12.44. In the last year, Dell's stock has traded in a range between \$11.68 and \$18.36.



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# SUMMER SWIMMING



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

DUNTE HECTOR, A group fitness coordinator at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center, finishes a lap in the outside lap pool Sunday.

# No one-size-fits-all approach to wooing Hispanics

— In New Mexico, Tomasita Maestas says she will pick the presidential candidate who has the best plan to fix education and the economy.

In Arizona, Mexican immigrant Carlos Gomez backs Republican Mitt Romney because he's more conservative on social issues than his Democratic opponent.

In Miami, Colombia native Luna Lopez probably will vote for President Barack Obama now that he's decided to halt the deportation of many illegal immigrants brought to the United States as children.

The reasons that Hispanics give for choosing between Obama and Romney are just as diverse as the countries that they or their ancestors once called home, suggesting there's no one-size-fits-all approach to courting the nation's fastest-growing

The Latino vote isn't monolithic or, really, a voting bloc. It includes a range of people with varying opinions. Among them are Republicanleaning Cubans in Florida, new Mexican immigrants and longtime descendants of Spanish settlers in the Southwest, and Democratictilting Puerto Ricans in the East.

Immigration policy would seem to be the natural top issue for these voters, except that nearly two-thirds of Hispanics are born in the U.S. Their priorities are the same as the general population — jobs, the economy, education and health care.

"We need to see more jobs here, that's my No. 1 priority and what I want to hear about," says Stefan Gonzalez, an almost 18-year-old from Denver, whose heritage includes Spanish, Mexican and Native American roots. Gonzalez, who works in a suburban Denver pawn shop, says he plans to vote for Obama this fall.

In Albuquerque, Ernest Gurule, an 84-year-old whose ancestors settled New Mexico in 1580, says

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) his main issue is the federal health year setting up offices with grassroots care plan upheld by the Supreme Court last week, and that he'll back Obama in part because of it. Also, the Democrat, adds: "It's too expensive to change horses midstream."

> Democrats and Republicans are in a fierce race to figure out how to best reach Hispanics.

> In the short term, these voters could decide the outcome in Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico, Florida and elsewhere. The longterm stakes are even bigger because Hispanics are projected to account for roughly 30 percent of the population by 2050, doubling in size and, potentially changing the national political landscape.

> Like most minorities, Hispanics traditionally have leaned Democratic. But a recent Pew Research poll indicates that Hispanics also are the fastest-growing group of independent voters, with 46 percent now shunning a party label compared with 31 percent six years ago. Such results only underscore how diverse Hispanics are and the challenges for the political parties.

"It is going to be a very hard fight to win," says Jennifer Korn, the executive director of the Republicanbased Hispanic Leadership Network, which was established to help bring more Hispanic voters to the GOP. "The more they assimilate, the more sophisticated they become and that's when they start dividing between

For now at least, Obama and his Democrats have an advantage, with the latest polls showing 65 percent of Hispanics back Obama and 25 percent back Romney.

The Democrats' campaign has worked to keep that edge, helped by Obama's new immigration policy and the Supreme Court's decision to side with the administration on most of an Arizona law that many immigrants viewed as overly harsh.

His campaign has spent the past

outreach to Hispanic communities in the Southwest, as well as in important states such as Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Florida.

Mindful of the diversity among Hispanics, Obama has customtailored his outreach, including tweaking Spanish dialect for differ-

For instance, in Florida the campaign has two distinct outreach plans. One focuses on Cuban-Americans in Miami who tend to lean Republican and are less concerned about immigration; the other speaks to traditionally Democratic Puerto Ricans, who are U.S. citizens from birth, as well as new immigrants from Central America.

Obama also has promoted the new health law, which can resonate in states such as New Mexico, which has one of the highest rates of uninsured in the country.

Romney has plenty of ground to make up after a bruising primary season filled with tough rhetoric that even Republicans acknowledge turned off many Hispanics. He recently established a Hispanic advisory group that includes top elected Republican Hispanics.

During the primaries, the former depends on who's asked.

Massachusetts governor pledged to veto legislation, known as the DREAM Act, that would give a path to citizenship to young immigrants who came to the United States illegally as children but have since attended school or served in the military. He has since toned down his anti-immigration stance, which included self-deportation, telling a Hispanic leadership gathering in the Orlando area that he would address illegal immigration "in a civil but resolute manner."

Alexandra Franceschi, a spokeswoman for the Republican National Committee's Hispanic effort, made clear that the GOP outreach will focus broadly on the economy. "Hispanics are Americans and are facing the same issues as everyone else, chronically high unemployment, lower pay and rising health care costs," she said.

Republicans have noted that under Obama, the Hispanic unemployment rate is higher than the national average. And Hispanics' median household income fell 7 percent between 2000 and 2010, from \$43,100 to \$40,000, according to the Pew Hispanic Center.

What drives Hispanics to vote



# Rangers, Yanks, Giants get 3 All-Star starters

NEW YORK (AP) — Josh Hamilton is set to lead a Texas parade to the All-Star game. Now, fans will decide if Chipper Jones gets one final appearance or whether it's time for teen sensation Bryce Harper.

Hamilton drew a record total of more than 11 million votes, and the slugger was among seven Rangers chosen Sunday as All-Stars. A trio of San Francisco Giants rallied in the last week to claim spots, while three Yankees also made the starting lineup.

"I don't think the Texas Rangers have to apologize because we've got good players," AL manager Ron Washington of Texas said. "I certainly didn't pick my guys being selfish, I picked them very deserving of being All-Stars, bottom line."

Washington fastballer Stephen Strasburg and Mets knuckleballer R.A. Dickey were two of the 66 players chosen by fans, managers and big leaguers for the showcase July 10 in Kansas City. So was 20-year-old Angels rookie outfielder Mike Trout, who leads the AL in hitting at .339 and drew more than 800,000 write-

Few of the races for starting spots were close and there seemed to be little complaining about the fans' choices. OK, sure, David Wright could've gotten the nod over Pablo Sandoval.

But there certainly will be campaigning this week when it comes to Jones and Harper after they were left off — for now, anyway.

The NL and AL each have one spot left, with fans voting online through Thursday to select one of five candidates in both leagues. Jones and Harper are two of the NL possibilities.

At 40, Jones is a seven-time All-Star and plans to retire after this season. Banged up, the Atlanta third baseman has managed to hit near .300.

"This being my last year, it would be fun to go. I'd love to take my kids," At 19, Harper started the season in

Triple-A. The Washington outfielder has dazzled since his promotion with his bat, arm and flat-out hustle.

"I'm an old-timer, so I'd probably lean toward Chipper," NL manager Tony La Russa said on the TBS selection show.

The league that wins the All-Star game gains home-field advantage in the World Series. The NL won last year, then St. Louis became the ninth straight home team to win Game 7 in

Sandoval was picked for the NL at third base despite missing a month with a broken hand and not matching the stats of Wright.

"I'm surprised I made it," said Sandoval, popular for his "Kung Fu Panda" persona. "He's been having a great year but the fans gave me the votes. I can't thank them enough."

Wright was diplomatic about the

"That's the way the system is. I understand how the system works and I respect that system. Pablo's having a very good year. I'd be lying if I said I wasn't disappointed that I don't get a chance to start, but I'm going to do everything I can to help win that game," he said.

Giants catcher Buster Posey, back from a devastating injury last season, was the NL's top vote-getter and beat out Philadelphia's Carlos Ruiz, the league's leading hitter. Wright and Ruiz made the NL team as reserves.

"This is hard to wrap my head around," Posey said. "I watched all the All-Star games and home run derbies when I was a kid. It's surreal I get to play in one and get to watch the home run derby."

Posey, Sandoval and San Francisco outfielder Melky Cabrera overcame late deficits to win starting spots. Giants ace Matt Cain, who pitched a perfect game in June, made the NL pitching staff.

Texas will have a team-record three starters. Hamilton, who hit four homers in a game earlier this season and leads the majors in RBIs, will be in the outfield with Adrian Beltre at third base and Mike Napoli at catcher. A postseason star last year, Napoli has started only about half the time at that spot this year, but still easily outdistanced Minnesota's Joe Mauer.

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# **JPINIONS**

# A momentous decision Choose apologies wisely

By THE DARTMOUTH EDITORIAL BOARD

THE DARTMOUTH (DARTMOUTH COLLEGE)

The U.S. Supreme Court's landmark ruling on Thursday to uphold key provisions of the Affordable Care Act has sent shock waves through the public psyche. In a 5-4 decision, with Chief Justice John Roberts surprisingly siding with the Court's four liberal justices, the majority supported the constitutionality of the law's individual mandate, but limited the government's ability to cut off Medicaid funding to states that do not comply with new eligibility requirements. Whatever the political implications, the Court has settled the ideological score by implicitly accepting the central premise of the Affordable Care Act — that all Americans are entitled to health care as a fundamental right. On that note, today we are proud to call ourselves Americans.

By choosing to uphold the individual mandate, the Court subscribed to the government's secondary line of reasoning — that the penalty imposed for not adhering to the mandate is the sort of tax that Congress can legally implement. This decision carries great significance for our generation of Americans.

In the legal battle preceding the decision, the argument against the law's legitimacy focused on the act as commercial regulation. It is this view of the mandate as a tax that makes the decision so noteworthy.

In his majority opinion, Roberts should be especially proud of our stated that the individual mandate receives no legal protection from the commerce clause because the mandate does not regulate existing commercial activity, but rather forces individuals to become active in commerce. Roberts' choice to justify the law's constitutionality in the context of a tax seems to have affirmed the government's ability to control behavior through taxation, but has also curtailed the breadth of the commerce clause. Indeed, Ruth Bader Ginsburg penned a dissent on behalf of the Court's liberal faction decrying the perceived harm done to the commerce clause and the Court's apparent loss of jurisprudence over commerce and spending.

Ginsberg's protest speaks to a broader point: From a legal and social perspective, the nuances of this decision will be hugely important in contextualizing future battles over government intervention. Roberts' majority opinion is somewhat paradoxical in that it simultaneously supports a historically unprecedented expansion of government power yet leaves the Commerce Clause, a mighty and traditionally flexible portion of the Constitution, rather toothless. As with any landmark case, the real question lies in the precedent that has been set by the majority opinion. The health care debate is only the tip of the iceberg in discussions of the government's proper role in society.

With the mandate intact, we

# lyrics. She isn't stating she has and seen it country's achievement, given the immediate and tangible benefits to

ticians, public figures or your professor saying something stupid and then quickly taking it all back and apologizing. And, as a public relations major, I am the first to judge public figures on what they say and how they say it. But, there comes a point where you've got to stick to your guns and own up to what you say.

edy Central's "Tosh.0" airs.

But, imagine if every Wednesday morning, Tosh issued a statement apologizing for something he said during Tuesday night's episode. The apologies would become insincere and meaningless and I, and probably others, would no longer think he was funny.

Toreador, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

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number and a description of university affiliation. Students

should include year in school, major and hometown. We reserve the right to edit letters. Anonymous letters will

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The Daily Toreador welcomes letters from readers.

**Paige** celebrities, poli-

I am the biggest Daniel Tosh fan out there. Every Tuesday night is like the Super Bowl for me because that's when Com-

If you've watched 10 seconds of the TV show, or any of Tosh's stand-up acts, you know he will say practically anything to get a laugh. And, as he says, he likes to cross his own personal line of decency every once and awhile to make sure he still has one. And that is why I love him. He doesn't just make fun of one group of people; he makes fun of everyone and everything, including

I applaud Tosh for saying what he wants and not backing down

The other side of this is the always-politically-correct Taylor Swift. If you've been a fan of hers for as long as I have, maybe you have her first CD with the song "Picture to Burn." I love this song and the fiery lyrics. What some of y'all may not know, though, is instead of the lyrics, "Go and tell your friends that I'm obsessive and crazy, that's fine, you won't mind if I say," she used to sing in the original version, "Go and tell your friends that I'm obsessive and crazy, that's fine I'll tell mine you're gay." Apparently, Swift was questioned about these lyrics and changed them to please everybody — or at least her PR folks did.

To me, there is absolutely nothing wrong with the original

anything wrong with gay people. She is, however, saying if you're a young, straight male dating girls, you probably don't want to have a reputation among girls as being gay. That could hurt your game a little bit. The original lyrics were so spot-on, making everyone in the crowd sing along. And now, the lyrics are meek, boring and the opposite

And how come rappers are allowed to say derogatory things in their lyrics, but Swift can't take a jab at an ex-boyfriend? She's never claimed to take a back seat in anything she does and has said several times if you do something wrong to her, she'll let the whole world know about it through her songs.

There are times and places for being politically correct — like in politics, for instance. Those people should always be on their toes when speaking. But for a comedian, songwriter or anyone who gets paid to freely express themselves — censoring seems kind of silly.

Skinner is a junior public relations major from Garland. >>> pskinner@dailytoreador.com

# Lawyer says Paterno did not compromise investigation

By ANNA ORSO DAILY COLLEGIAN (PENN STATE U.)

Coming on the heels of a CNN report Friday that painted the late head coach Joe Paterno as a player in a potential cover-up of an incident involving Jerry Sandusky, the attorney for the Paterno family released a statement saying Paterno didn't interfere with any investigation of Sandusky.

According to the statement released by attorney Wick Sollers, Paterno testified truthfully when he was before a grand jury that was investigating the former assistant coach

Sollers said the emails didn't originate with Paterno or go to him because he never used email. He said it would be inappropriate for the family to comment further because it has not seen the emails obtained by CNN.

CNN reported Friday that it had

obtained email exchanges between former athletic director Tim Curley, former Interim Senior Vice President for Finance and Business Gary Schultz and former President Graham Spanier regarding a course of action in how to handle a report that Sandusky had been seen acting inappropriately with a boy in a Lasch Building shower.

According to the emails, a plan was set to notify the Department of Welfare and The Second Mile, Sandusky's charity he founded for underprivileged children. But then, Curley changed his mind "after talking it over with Joe," and the administrators decided they would go directly to Sandusky.

Sandusky was convicted last Friday on 45 of 48 counts of sexual abuse. Curley and Schultz are each charged with perjury and failure to report suspected abuse in connection with the Sandusky case. Spanier has not been charged.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

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our society from the gradual imple-

mentation of the Affordable Care

Act. Among its most notable accom-

plishments is curtailing insurance

companies' ability to deny coverage

to those with pre-existing condi-

tions and expanding the security of

coverage afforded to young adults,

like the vast majority of Dartmouth

students, until they reach age 26.

For now, it seems that the Court

has adequately balanced the proper

use of government power with the

understanding that health care will

remain one of the nation's leading

public policy concerns as we move

forward. For that, the justices must

case reverberates through American

society, we must wonder how the na-

tion will react. Will future politicians

be more inclined to justify policy

change in the context of socially

conscious taxation? How might or-

ganized interest try to leverage the

government's ability to impose taxes

for noncompliance? Particularly with

respect to the Commerce Clause,

we can envision a later instance in

which the government's ability to

regulate commerce, perhaps regard-

ing a macro-level issue like climate

change, will be hindered by the Rob-

erts Court's specific interpretation of

this statute. Only time will tell, but

what we know today is that it would

be difficult to understate the impact

of this ruling on the country.

However, as the weight of this

be commended.

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TOREADOR

**Summer Editor-in-Chief** editor@dailytoreador.com

**Summer Managing Editor** Jennifer McKown managing@dailytoreador.com

**Editor-in-Chief** editor@dailytoreador.com

Brett Winegarner managing@dailytoreador.com

**News Editor** 

news@dailytoreador.com La Vida Editor Paige Skinner

**Opinions Editor** Jacob Reynolds opinions@dailytoreador.com

features@dailytoreador.com

**Sports Contact** sports@dailytoreador.com

**Summer Photo Editor** photo@dailytoreador.com

**Brad Tollefson** photo@dailytoreador.com

**Electronic Media Editor** Andrew Nepsund online@dailytoreador.com

Jennifer McKown

**REACHING US** Newsroom: 806-742-3393 Sports: 806-742-2939 Advertising: 806-742-3384 Classified: 806-742-3384 Business: 806-742-3388 **Circulation:** 806-742-3388 **Fax:** 806-742-2434 Email: dailytoreador@ttu.edu

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3 Break the tape 4 Wing tips' tips 5 Space cartoon

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