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Gillispie out on indefinite medical leave

Tolbert: 'I don't want to play for him if he comes back.'

By ZACH DISCHIANO
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech men's basketball coach Billy Gillispie took an official leave of absence Monday because of poor health condition, *The Associated Press* reported.

Gillispie was hospitalized for six days battling a high-blood

pressure problem according to an ESPN.com report, and was released from the University Medical Center on Thursday.

Gillispie's position at Tech is under review as Tech Athletic Director Kirby Hocutt and staff continue to investigate allegations against him mistreating Tech basketball players.

Jordan Tolbert, Tech's leading scorer last season, told ESPN.com on Monday he does not want to play for Gillispie if he is to remain at Tech.

"I don't," Tolbert told ESPN.com. "I don't. Maybe I would for the assistants. I haven't put that much thought into it. There is a big sense of urgency. I don't

want to play for him if he comes back."

Attempts to contact Gillispie via phone were unsuccessful and no calls were returned.



GILLISPIE

Phone calls to Hocutt and Blayne Beal, Tech associate athletic director, were not returned as well.

Among the accusations are that Gillispie forced injured players to stay in team facilities for excessive amounts of time.

The second-year coach also was said to practice players well past the NCAA-approved time limit, going as long as eight hours

in a day. The NCAA permits up to four hours of practice in one day and no more than 20 hours in one week.

"Those inquiries were investigated and submitted, and those sanctions have been served already by our program," Hocutt said Wednesday at a news conference.

GILLISPIE continued on Page 8 >>>

Interim vice president for research replacement named

Lawrence Schovanec, Texas Tech's interim president, announced Friday that Michael San Francisco had been appointed as the interim vice president for research.

Taylor Eighmy, San Francisco's predecessor, will begin his new role as vice chancellor for research at the University of Tennessee system on Oct. 2.

San Francisco was formerly an associate vice president for research at Tech. He has more than 20 years of experience at Tech, 15 of which have been spent in an administrative capacity, Schovanec said in a news release.

"It is my pleasure to appoint Dr. Michael San Francisco as interim vice president for research," he said. "He is a respected faculty member with a strong record of teaching and research. I look forward to working with Dr. San Francisco on the crucial initiatives that are part of our research enterprise and ensuring that Texas Tech maintains its momentum moving forward."

San Francisco said he was honored to receive the interim position.

"First and foremost, I'd like to thank Dr. Eighmy for setting the stage for our future," he said in a statement. "And as for me, as interim vice president for research, I will make sure we maintain the

momentum we currently have with research and work with Dr. Schovanec, the rest of the upper administration, deans and faculty members in a cooperative way to fulfill our research agenda. I would also like to forge stronger research relationships with the Health Sciences Center."

San Francisco joined Tech as an assistant professor in biological sciences in 1990 and was promoted to full professor

in 2004, according to the release. He also is a professor at the Health Sciences Center in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

San Francisco will begin his duties Oct. 1.

>>>cosborn@dailytoreador.com

"It is my pleasure to appoint Dr. Michael San Francisco as interim vice president for research. He is a respected faculty member with a strong record of teaching and research."

LAWRENCE SCHOVANEC
INTERIM PRESIDENT,
TEXAS TECH

Dialed-in Delegate



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY WILLIAM ROBIN/The Daily Toreador

MICHAELA RED CHERRIES, a sophomore history major from Edgewood, is Texas' youngest delegate and recently returned from the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla.

Tech sophomore is youngest delegate at Republican National Convention

By TORI O'HARA
STAFF WRITER

For even the most politically active students, being elected as a delegate for the Republican National Convention is a lofty goal, indeed. But for Michaela Red Cherries, who has been involved in the political arena since she was in fifth grade, it was simply the next logical step.

Red Cherries, a sophomore history major from Edgewood, said her involvement in politics started with a childhood dream.

"When I was nine, I really wanted to be an Air Force pilot," she said. "My parents and I started towards getting a congressional appointment, so we got heavily involved

with our local politicians and their groups. As I got older, I did not want to be a pilot anymore, but I enjoyed helping out my state representatives and congressmen."

Red Cherries has spoken at several Republican clubs, Tea Party events and is a member of the Texas Tech chapter of the Young Conservatives of Texas.

Ray Meyers, president of Kaufman Tea Party, said Red Cherries acted as a magnet for their group, drawing everyone to speak with her.

"She is just so knowledgeable," Meyers said. "She has a phenomenal work ethic. Michaela is a political animal, if you can believe that."

Meyers said it is refreshing to have a young adult like Red Cherries so heavily involved in politics.

"With the state of our country now, we are in a re-

ally bad place," he said. "Your age group is going so fast, everything is going on for you all, that you do not take the time to look around you. If your age group does not get engaged, you are going to lose your country. And Michaela knows this."

Red Cherries said being appointed as a delegate at such a young age comes with a considerable amount of pressure.

"It is not animosity I feel as much as people wondering what I have to offer," she said. "These are people who have been so involved in politics for much longer than I have. There was another young delegate there with me, and we felt so much pressure to prove ourselves."

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WEATHER

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Reynolds: Two-party political system needs change
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Community Calendar

Today

Toddler Tuesday at the Museum of Texas Tech
Time: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Where: Museum of Texas Tech
So, what is it?
 Come bring your toddler to the Museum of Texas Tech for a day full of fun. \$1 per child; space is limited.

Social Media 201: Taking Communication to the

Next Level
Time: 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Where: Knipling Education Conference Center
So, what is it?
 There are 125 seats available for this interactive workshop featuring 11 social media experts.

Tuesdays at the Art Factory
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Where: Lubbock Municipal Garden and Arts Center
So, what is it?
 Come out and join teacher Mr. Neely every Tuesday for a new and exciting fine arts project. \$20

per person.

Military Officers Association of America Monthly Dinner Meeting
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Where: LakeRidge Country Club
So, what is it?
 Officers or former officers of the Armed Forces of the United States can attend this dinner and bring a guest. \$18.50 per person.

Ballroom Dance Social Every Tuesday Night
Time: 7 p.m.
Where: Dance With Me
So, what is it?
 Every Tuesday night, everyone is welcome to a ballroom social dance. There is no cover.

John Sprott
Time: 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Where: Triple J Chophouse and Brew Co.

So, what is it?
 Come out and enjoy John Sprott as he plays classic rock, blues, country and more.

Andy and Andy
Time: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Where: La Diosa Cellars
So, what is it?
 Come out and enjoy live music at La Diosa Cellars. The music is folk and traditional.

Open Mic Night
Time: 8 p.m.
Where: Jack and Dianne's
So, what is it?
 Every Tuesday come out and participate in an open mic night. Bring your guitar and friends.

Wednesday

Toddler Tuesday at the Museum of Texas Tech
Time: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Where: Museum of Texas Tech
So, what is it?

Come bring your toddler to the Museum of Texas Tech for a day full of fun. \$1 per child; space is limited.

Tech PR
Time: 6 p.m.
Where: Media and Communication building 3rd floor student lounge area
So, what is it?
 Come learn about Tech PR in its first meeting of the semester. Free food will be available.

Scrabble Club
Time: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Where: Market Street
So, what is it?
 Come out and compete with Lubbock's Scrabble Club. All levels of competition are welcome.

West Coast Swing Group Class
Time: 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Where: Dance With Me
So, what is it?
 Come out and learn some dance

moves at Dance With Me studio. The swing group class is every Wednesday.

Zumba classes
Time: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Where: Dance With Me
So, what is it?
 Come work out to the Latin-inspired dance. The moves are easy to follow and zumba is a fun way to work out.

Seven Fold Duet
Time: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Where: La Diosa Cellars
So, what is it?
 Come out and enjoy live music at La Diosa Cellars. The music is rock and acoustic.

To make a calendar submission email dailytoreador@ttu.edu.

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

10 Buck Tuesday

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Honors College to offer application online

The Texas Tech Honors College is expected to offer its college application for the first time online Saturday.

Heather Medley, director of admissions for the Honors College, said while the college has been a part of Tech for 13 years, this will be the first time it has offered an online application.

"The Honors College is really excited about our new online application," Medley said. "Students are able to apply to the university through applytexas.org, and then come right over and apply to the Honors College."

The Honors College is considered to

be general or centralized, which means all the honors programs offered at Tech go through the college, she said. Typically at other universities, each individual program offers its own honors classes.

Medley said the benefits of being a part of the college are numerous. The college offers a closely-knit network and community, smaller classes that allow students to develop more personal relationships with their professors and a book club, which offers scholarship opportunities.

Celeste Flood, a human development and family studies major from

Fritch, said a student in the Honors College can take a variety of different classes that aren't part of the regular curriculum, but still count the same as regular credits.

"We offer classes like 'Sherlock Holmes,' there's a 'Frankenstein' class, a 'Joan of Arc' class, a women's studies class and a zombies class — that's always a real popular one," the sophomore said. "In the spring time, we offer a superheroes class, too."

According to the Honors College website, classes such as "Sherlock Holmes" and "Joan of Arc" can fulfill

three hours of the core curriculum humanities requirement, and the zombie culture class can fulfill three hours of a visual and performing arts requirement.

Prospective students need to have at least a 1200 SAT score, letters of recommendation, community service experience and good leadership skills, Medley said. Any current Tech student interested in applying, and has at least a 3.4 GPA, is encouraged to apply.

"It's only enhanced my experience," Flood said. "A centralized Honors College prepares you for the real world."

atrbula@dailytoreador.com

Debate surrounds annual \$60M cost of 9/11 memorial

NEW YORK (AP) — A debate over balancing the need to honor the memory of Sept. 11 with the enormous costs of running a memorial and museum at ground zero has been reawakened on the eve of the attacks' 11th anniversary, as officials faced questions Monday over the project's expected \$60 million-a-year operating budget.

The number comes on top of the \$700 million construction cost of the National Sept. 11 Memorial and Museum. A report Sunday by The Associated Press noted that \$12 million a year would be spent on security, more than the entire operating budgets of Gettysburg National Military Park and the monument that includes the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who leads the nonprofit foundation's board, on Monday called the Sept. 11 memorial's operating cost a necessity for security and other costs unique to hosting millions of visitors a year on the reborn site of two terror attacks, in 1993 and 2001.

Some congressional Democrats underscored their efforts to help get federal money to cover some of the

operating cost, while a Republican senator reiterated his opposition. Even some victims' family members are divided over whether the annual price tag represents the price of paying tribute to the nearly 3,000 lives lost or the cost of unnecessary grandeur.

At ground zero, several visitors Monday to the memorial plaza were surprised — but not put off — by the \$60 million-a-year figure.

"Really?" said Pat Lee, 57, a Walmart manager from Atlanta. But, she said, "I don't think the money is too much. Because it's important to keep alive the memory of what happened."

The centerpiece of the rebuilt World Trade Center site, the memorial includes both a serene, solemn memorial plaza, where waterfalls fill

the fallen towers' footprints, and a mostly underground museum that is to house such artifacts as the staircase workers used to escape the attacks.

The plaza opened last year and has drawn 4.5 million visitors so far. The museum was to have been finished by Tuesday, but progress has stopped amid a construction-costs fight between the memorial foundation and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the agency that owns the trade center site. The Port Authority has claimed the Sept. 11 memorial foundation owed it \$300 million for infrastructure and revised project costs; the foundation has argued it's owed money because of project delays.

Both Bloomberg and New York Gov. Mario Cuomo said Monday they hoped to resolve the dispute.

Pick up your book.

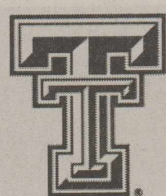
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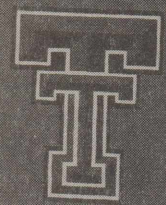
Pick up your book in room 180 -
 1st Floor Rotunda of the new Media & Communication Building (Old BA)
 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.



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POLICE BLOTTER

Officer detains 5 students in Weymouth Residence Hall

Thursday

11:17 a.m. — A Texas Tech officer documented a medical emergency, which occurred at the Student Union Building. A non-student had an asthma attack and was transported to University Medical Center by Emergency Medical Services.

11:36 a.m. — A Tech officer documented an odor of burnt marijuana, which occurred in Weymouth Residence Hall.

12:14 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a theft, which occurred at the Bledsoe Residence Hall bicycle racks. A specialized bicycle was taken.

1:44 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a theft, which occurred at the Bledsoe Residence Hall bicycle racks. A secured bicycle was taken.

2:28 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, without injuries, which occurred in the R-5 parking lot. A university vehicle was involved in the traffic accident.

6:05 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, without injuries, and duty on striking an unattended vehicle in the C-16 parking lot.

7:42 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated a traffic accident, without injuries, which occurred in the Zone 5B parking lot.

Friday

3:41 p.m. — A Tech officer investigated criminal mischief, which occurred in the C1 parking lot. A vehicle's passenger side door had been keyed.

11:49 p.m. — A Tech officer

arrested a student for an instant Lubbock County citation for consumption of alcohol by a minor, which occurred in Wall Residence Hall. The student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

11:49 p.m. — A Tech officer arrested a non-student for an instant Lubbock County citation for consumption of alcohol by a minor, which occurred in Wall Residence Hall. The non-student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail.

4:42 a.m. — A Tech officer detained a student for consumption of alcohol by a minor, which occurred in the Z4P parking lot. The student was issued a Lubbock County citation, which he signed and was released.

Saturday

12:04 a.m. — A Tech officer detained five students for consumption of alcohol by a minor in Weymouth Residence Hall, following an investigation of a loud party. The students were issued a Lubbock County citation for consumption of alcohol by a minor, which they signed, and were released.

2:31 a.m. — A Tech officer detained two students for consumption of alcohol by a minor in the 1600 block of Akron Ave., following a welfare check. The students were issued a Lubbock County citation for consumption of alcohol by a minor, which were signed, and they were released.

2:35 a.m. — A Tech officer detained a student for consumption of alcohol by a minor in

the Z4P parking lot, following a traffic stop. The student was issued a Lubbock County citation for consumption of alcohol by a minor, which was signed, and the student was released.

3:42 a.m. — A Tech officer documented information on a medical emergency, which occurred in Bledsoe Residence Hall. A student had a racing heartbeat and was transported to University Medical Center Emergency Room by Emergency Medical Service.

5:04 a.m. — A Tech officer detained a student for consumption of alcohol by a minor in the Boston Avenue Residence Hall. The student was issued a Lubbock County citation for consumption of alcohol by a minor, which was signed, and the student was released.

Sunday

9:26 p.m. — A Tech officer detained a non-student in the 900 block of Texas Tech Parkway following a welfare check on a passenger in a motor vehicle. The non-student was released pending the filing of charges for possession of drug paraphernalia and public intoxication. The non-student was transported to the Lubbock County Jail, where the jail refused to accept the non-student. The non-student was transported from the jail to the University Medical Center Emergency Room by Emergency Medical Services.

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

Hazed & Confused?

Don't be confused!
All of the following are examples of hazing:

- Signatures
- Required alcohol purchase and/or consumption
- Forced labor
- Physical harm
- Calisthenics
- Kidnapping
- Errands for active members
- Introductions
- Forced physical activity
- Sleep deprivation

Did you know?

- In Fall 2010, one men's social fraternity was suspended from Texas Tech.
- Anyone can be hazed, including active members.
- The entire organization is responsible even if alumni are the individuals who are hazing students.
- The activity does not need to include alcohol to be considered a hazing incident.
- Hazing is not limited to physical activity, but includes activities that could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of a student.
- Failing to report hazing to the Office of Student Conduct violates the *Code of Student Conduct*.
- Students and student organizations who commit hazing offenses are subject to legal action and/or prosecution.
- Students and student organizations are required to comply with the regulations and/or standards set forth in the *Student Handbook*, and are subject to university disciplinary action accordingly.

Don't Be Confused: If you have to ask if it's hazing, then it probably is!

Have questions? Want to find out more? We can help!

Texas Tech University is required to distribute a summary of the Texas Education Code hazing provisions (Chapter 37, Section 151) and provide a list of organizations that have been disciplined or convicted of hazing on- or off-campus during the last three years (Chapter 51, Section 936).

The following registered student organizations have been found responsible for hazing within the last three years:

Sigma Alpha Epsilon (Fall 2010)
Beta Theta Pi (Fall 2010)
Sigma Chi (Spring 2012)
Theta Chi (Spring 2012)

The Center for Campus Life (806-742-5433) and the Office of Student Conduct (806-742-1714) are available to assist with hazing education and reporting. Students and student organizations are encouraged to act with integrity.

Strive for Honor...Evermore!



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Office of the Provost: Division of Undergraduate Education & Student Affairs
Office of Student Conduct

025 Student Union Building
742-1714
www.depts.ttu.edu/studentconduct

WHERE WERE YOU ON 09/11/01?

“

I was at school. I was really young at the time, so I didn't really know what was going on. My parents were freaking out, so basically, I felt like something bad was happening.”

Brandon Honeycutt -
freshman general studies major from Austin



“I was at class, in my third grade classroom. I didn't hear about it actually until after school. I was just surprised that something like that could ever happen to the United States.”

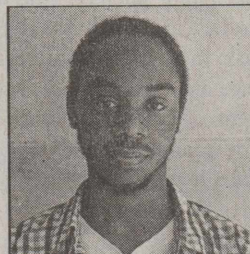
- Paul Bartel
- sophomore civil engineering major from Amarillo

”

“

I was probably in fifth grade, I think. They played it in our elementary class on TV. I didn't know what was going on. The teacher turned off the TV and told us to go to lunch.”

Carlton Ellison -
junior graphic design major from Corsicana



“I think I was watching TV with my little brother in our living room. I didn't really understand what was going on. I was really little.”

- Melinda Callender
- freshman mechanical engineering major from Austin

”

“

I was living in the Middle East. My dad called and said there was a terrorist attack and to turn on the TV. So we turned it on right after the first plane hit and we saw the second plane hit and we were just astounded.”

Leigh Hardesty -
senior art history major from Midland



“I was actually taking my daughter to kindergarten. All that I heard was that a plane had hit the World Trade Center, but they didn't have any other exact things. I remember I was on church staff, so we spent literally the rest of the day watching the news. It was pretty much unbelievable.”

- Jeff Kennon
- Baptist Student Ministries director

”

“

I was in class. I didn't understand what was happening. I didn't know why class had suddenly stopped or why everyone was crying.”

Monalisa Villalpando -
sophomore studying pre-nursing from San Antonio



Compiled by Katie McKee/The Daily Toreador

Congress returns for short pre-election session

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress returned to Washington on Monday for an abbreviated pre-election session in which it appears likely to do the bare minimum: making sure that the government doesn't shut down.

Almost everything else of consequence, most notably a set of automatic, economy-rattling spending cuts and tax increases that have been dubbed a “fiscal cliff,” will get put off until a post-election lame duck session — and maybe beyond.

Top lawmakers unveiled a six-month spending bill that would finance the government's day-to-day operations until next March to give the next Congress and whoever occupied the White House time to work out a final solution on more than \$1 trillion in annual spending for the Pentagon and other Cabinet departments.

Typically such temporary funding bills, known in Washington parlance as continuing resolutions, or CRs, freeze spending at current levels. But

the measure released Monday actually allows for a 0.6 percent increase to every program to keep pace with a slight increase in spending permitted by “caps” set by last summer's hard-fought budget and debt accord.

The 2012 budget year ends on Sept. 30. But not a single one of the 12 annual agency appropriations bills has become law, requiring lawmakers to step in with the stopgap funding measure to avoid a disastrous partial shutdown of the government.

Students use different modes getting to, from classes

By **KATELIN KELLY**
STAFF WRITER

Racing fast on a downhill, wind in their hair, smiles on their faces and all inhibitions freed, no one would guess it is Monday and students are making their way to 8 a.m. classes.

Whether students prefer grinding their way to class on their longboard, taking a leisurely stroll on foot, rolling their pant legs up and pedaling their way there, or taking a seat on the bus Texas Tech students have a variety of options when choosing modes of transportation to get to and from class.

The Tech Longboarding Club meeting took place 6 p.m. Thursday at the amphitheatre of the Student Union Building. President and founder of the club, Jason Miller, a junior exercise and sports sciences major from Sugarland, said he was stoked to get the club organized.

"Just to get a way to meet fellow longboarders and then a way for longboarders to get together," Miller said, "so, we can all meet and get together and skate and be friends and stuff. Just another way to meet people with the same interests, I guess."

About 23 students showed up for the first club meeting, four of

which were women.

"Last year we probably had maybe half the people show up," Miller said. "Sadly, not many people who came out last year showed up, but we obviously picked up a bunch of new members. But, I'm definitely happy with the turnout and hope we can get more people."

Miller has been longboarding for about three years and prefers longboarding not only to and from school, but also for fun.

"It's just fun, it's easy, I recommend trying it," Miller said. "It can be real, like I guess, freeing just to do. It's a lot less stressful than having to pick your bike up if you're just talking about transportation."

For Jessica Davis, an art history graduate student from Colleyville, riding her bike to and from class is her favorite style of transportation.

"It's just more convenient for me," Davis said. "I just don't want to have to drive every day if it's only a mile away and plus I'd have to pay for a parking pass."

There may be pros and cons for every form of transportation, but there are rules and regulations for everyone.

Rules which Kenny Evans, Tech Police Department assistant chief of police, strives to enforce

and maintain.

"If you're going to be on the roadway, then it has to be registered license vehicle," Evans said. "If bicycles are on the roadway, they must abide by the traffic laws."

According to the Tech traffic and parking regulations, bicycles are allowed only on shared-use pathways and must yield right of way to pedestrians and operate at a safe speed and in a manner consistent with public safety.

Davis said she is not aware of the rules and regulations for bikes on campus, but sticks to the bike trails to stay on the safe side.

Some forms of transportation prohibited on campus are four wheelers and golf carts, unless operated by officers of Tech PD when necessary to fulfill their lawful duties, Evans said.

The document states that no person may skate or use a skateboard on or in any Tech building, structure, stairway, elevated sidewalk, access ramp, step, retaining wall, handrail, mall, bench, fountain area or other architectural element areas.

Miller said he does a lot of tricks on campus and on his way to class, and even though at times he may wipe out, you just have to pick up your board and move on.

► kkelly@dailytoreador.com

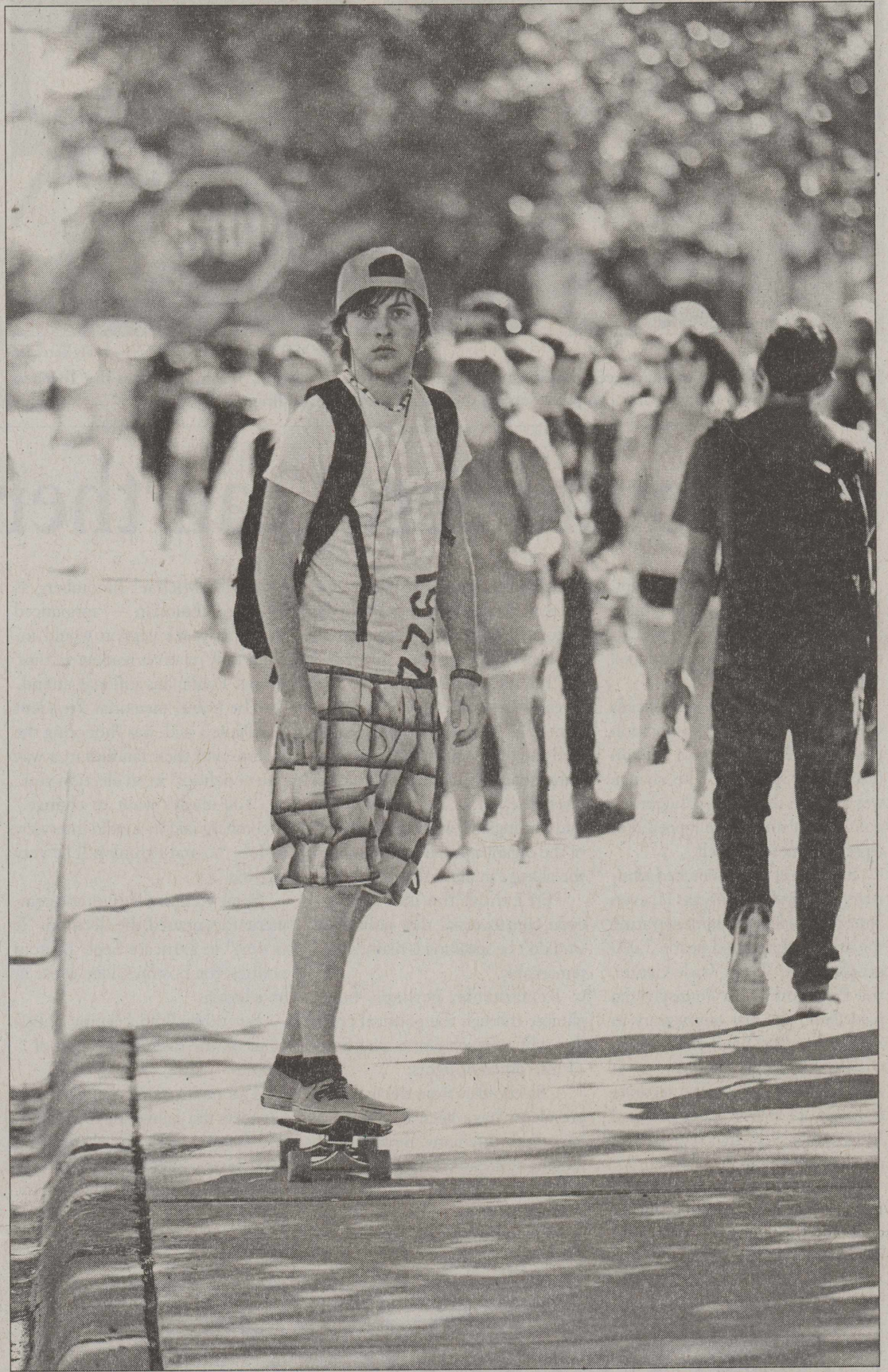


PHOTO BY DAVID VAUGHN/The Daily Toreador

AUSTIN NETTLETON, A junior public relations major from Queen City heads to his public relations class on his longboard Monday outside the Media and Communication building.

Baseball coach gets help with cancer fight

AUSTIN (AP) — As a minor league baseball coach, Brian Rose has always been a competitor and has tried to imbue his team's players with that same fire.

Now, the bench coach of the Wichita (Kan.) Wings of the independent American Association is fighting for his life, diagnosed with stage 4 melanoma.

The suburban Austin resident recently won a battle to pay for his participation in a clinical trial, but it wouldn't have happened if not for the help of a pair of foundations and an Austin businessman.

The Austin American-Statesman

(<http://bit.ly/NjyWtrj>) reports Rose, who lacked medical insurance, got help from the Lance Armstrong Foundation's Cancer Navigation Center and the Patient Advocate Foundation. Then Austin businessman and philanthropist Milton Verret pledged \$35,000 and issued a community challenge to raise the rest.

"It was absolutely unbelievable," Rose told the newspaper. "You hear these stories in the news where somebody steps up to help, but that's just another world to me."

Rose was diagnosed in April 2010 with cancer that, by the end of the year,

had spread to his lungs, liver, spleen and brain. Rose had no medical insurance and was having no luck getting any because of the pre-existing condition.

"It was like, 'I have melanoma all over my body, but if I get the flu you'll take care of me? Thanks,'" he said.

The Patient Advocate Foundation, which helps people grapple with insurance problems, and Armstrong's foundation helped him access coverage through the federally funded Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan. But the insurance company refused to pay when Rose tried to get into a clinical trial for a new drug earlier this year.

Chicago teachers strike in bitter contract dispute

CHICAGO (AP) — For the first time in a quarter century, Chicago teachers walked out of the classroom Monday, taking a bitter contract dispute over evaluations and job security to the streets of the nation's third-largest city — and to a national audience — less than a week after most schools opened for fall.

The walkout forced hundreds of thousands of parents to scramble for a place to send idle children and created an unwelcome political distraction for Mayor Rahm Emanuel. In a year when labor unions have been losing ground nationwide, the implications were sure to extend far beyond Chicago, particularly for districts engaged in similar debates.

"This is a long-term battle that everyone's going to watch," said Eric Hanuskek, a senior fellow in education at the Hoover Institution of Stanford University. "Other teachers unions in the United States are wondering if they should follow suit."

The union had vowed to strike Monday if there was no agreement on a new contract, even though the district had offered a 16 percent raise over four years and the two sides had essentially agreed on a longer school day. With an average annual salary of \$76,000, Chicago teachers are among the highest-paid in the nation, according to the National Council on Teacher Quality.

But negotiators were still divided on job security measures and a system for evaluating teachers that hinged in part on students' standardized test scores.

The strike in a district where the vast majority of students are poor and minority put Chicago at the epicenter of a struggle between big cities and teachers unions for control of schools.

Emanuel, who has sought major reforms while also confronting the district's \$700 million budget short-fall, acknowledged his own fight with the union, even as he urged a

quick resolution.

"Don't take it out on the kids of Chicago if you have a problem with me," he told reporters Monday.

As negotiators resumed talks, thousands of teachers and their supporters took over several downtown streets during the Monday evening rush. Police secured several blocks around district headquarters as the crowds marched and chanted.

The protesters planned to rally through the evening at an event that resembled a family street fair. Balloons, American flags and homemade signs hung above the crowd.

Teacher Kimberly Crawford said she was most concerned about issues such as class size and the lack of air conditioning.

"It's not just about the raise," she

said. "I've worked without a raise for two years."

The strike quickly became part of the presidential campaign. Republican candidate Mitt Romney said teachers were turning their backs on students and Obama was siding with the striking teachers in his hometown.

Obama's top spokesman said the president has not taken sides but is urging both the sides to settle quickly.

Emanuel, who just agreed to take a larger role in fundraising for Obama's re-election, dismissed Romney's comments as "lip service."

But one labor expert said that a major strike unfolding in the shadow of the November election could only hurt a president who desperately

needs the votes of workers, including teachers, in battleground states.

"I can't imagine this is good for the president and something he can afford to have go on for more than a week," said Robert Bruno, a professor of labor and employment relations at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

For two decades, contract agreements have slowly eroded teachers' voices, Bruno said.

"But this signals to other collective bargaining units that the erosion of teachers' rights isn't inevitable. They (the union members) are telling them, 'You don't have to roll over.'"

The union has done so in large part by making the most of one of the biggest sources of friction: teacher evaluations.

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