

INSIDE:

Tech, Lubbock community weigh in on sexual health, quick facts about STDs, testing centers

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Cyber Monday likely to be busiest online sales day, up 20 percent from last year

NEW YORK (AP) — Bye-bye Black Friday. So long Small Business Saturday. Now, it's Cyber Monday's turn.

Cyber Monday, coined in 2005 by a shopping trade group that noticed online sales spiked on the Monday following Thanksgiving, is the next in a series of days that stores are counting on to jumpstart the holiday shopping season.

It's estimated that this year's Cyber Monday will be the biggest online shopping day of the year for the third year in a row: According to research firm comScore, Americans are expected to spend \$1.5 billion, up 20 percent from last year on Cyber Monday, as retailers have ramped up their deals to get shoppers to click on their websites.

Amazon.com, which is starting its Cyber Monday deals at midnight on Monday, is offering as much as 50 percent off a Panasonic VIERA 55-inch TV that's usually priced higher than \$1,000. Sears is offering \$430 off a Maytag washer and dryer, each on sale for \$399. And Kmart is offering 75 percent off all of its diamond earrings and \$60 off a 12-in-1 multigame

table on sale for \$89.99.

Retailers are hoping the deals will appeal to shoppers like Matt Sexton, 39, who for the first time plans to complete all of his holiday shopping online this year on his iPad tablet computer. Sexton, who plans to spend up to \$4,000 this season, already shopped online on the day after Thanksgiving known as Black Friday and found a laptop from Best Buy for \$399, a \$200 savings, among other deals.

"The descriptions and reviews are so much better online so you can compare and price shop and for the most part get free shipping," said Sexton, who lives in Queens, N.Y., and is a manager at a utility company.

Sexton also said that it's easier to return an online purchase to a physical store than it had been in previous years. "That helps with gifts," he said.

How well retailers fare on Cyber Monday will offer insight into Americans' evolving shopping habits during the holiday shopping season, a time when stores can make up to 40 percent of their annual revenue. With the growth in high speed Internet access and the wide use of

smartphones and tablets, people are relying less on their work computers to shop than they did when Shop.org, the digital division of trade group The National Retail Federation, introduced the term "Cyber Monday."

"People years ago didn't have ... connectivity to shop online at their homes. So when they went back to work after Thanksgiving they'd shop on the Monday after," said Vicki Cantrell, executive director of Shop.org. "Now they don't need the work computer to be able to do that."

As a result, the period between Thanksgiving and Cyber Monday has become busy for online shopping as well. Indeed, online sales on Thanksgiving Day, traditionally not a popular day for online shopping, rose 32 percent over last year to \$633 million, according to comScore. And online sales on Black Friday were up 26 percent from the same day last year, to \$1.042 billion. It was the first time online sales on Black Friday surpassed \$1 billion.

For the holiday season-to-date, comScore found that \$13.7 billion has been spent online, marking a 16 percent increase over last year. The

research firm predicts that online sales will surpass 10 percent of total retail spending this holiday season. The National Retail Federation estimates that overall retail sales in November and December will be up 4.1 percent this year to \$586.1 billion.

But as other days become popular for online shopping, Cyber Monday may lose some of its cache. To be sure, Cyber Monday hasn't always been the biggest online shopping day. In fact, up until three years ago, that title was historically earned by the last day shoppers could order items with standard shipping rates and get them delivered before Christmas. That day changes every year, but usually falls in late December.

Even though Cyber Monday is expected to be the biggest shopping day this year, industry watchers say it could just be a matter of time before other days take that ranking.

"Of all the benchmark spending days, Thanksgiving is growing at the fastest rate, up 128 percent over the last five years," said Andrew Lipsman, a spokesman with comScore.

TEST RUN



PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador
THE MASKED RIDER, Ashley Wenzel, rides the interim horse, Trey, before the Texas Tech 52-45 overtime loss against Baylor on Saturday in Cowboys Stadium in Arlington.

Meat judging team finishes season, prepares for next

By EMILY GARDNER
STAFF WRITER

The 2013 Texas Tech meat judging team has started its spring training, as the 2012 team wrapped up its competitive season.

The 2012 team won the national competition in Dakota City, Neb., Henry Ruiz, graduate assistant and 2012 team coach, said. There were 12 members of the team, 10 males and two females, who were mostly sophomores and juniors.

"It was actually a pretty interesting season," Ruiz said. "We

definitely had our highs and our lows. We had probably one of our worst performances at our very first contest this fall, and then we ended up setting the all-time high record team score at another contest about a month later."

The members of the 2012 team were hardworking, Collin Corbin, graduate student and 2012 team coach said.

The team started practicing a year and a half ago, Ruiz said.

"Next year's team started up in August," Corbin said. "The first competition will be in Denver in January. And then from there, it'll

go all the way to this contest in November. So, three in the spring, and four in the fall."

Meat judging competitions started in 1926, Corbin said.

According to Tech's meat judging website, Tech started participating in meat judging contests in 1938 with the implementation of its meat judging program.

"On the collegiate level, where schools like Texas Tech, or for example Texas A&M meet up, and they have competitions," Corbin said. "Basically, it's where they come together, we have a competition, and you evaluate lamb, beef

and pork on many different levels, look at quality, cut ability, which is fat and lean, and then there is a lot of critical thinking."

The students are expected to show and explain their evaluations and the actions they would take to a committee, Corbin said.

Any student that shows an interest in meat judging can join the team, Ruiz said. However, Tech is only allowed to mark four students for the competition. The practice level and performance of the competitor determine which students are marked.

"It's the largest team in Texas

Tech history," Ruiz said. "I believe, roughly about 21 or 23. They have just a broad array of students who have competed already at a 4H and FFA level, and students who have never judged before."

The coaches for the 2013 team will be different than the 2012 team, Ruiz said. A coach generally only coaches one year's team.

From late August to September, the team learns the principles of meat evaluation and how to write reasons, Ruiz said. In November and December, they will practice carcass training and beef judging and specifications at

Plainview's meat processing plant.

"I coached the team that just won," Corbin said. "I don't really have any goals for them except for as an alumni, I want them to win. I want them to come together, work real hard, never give anything to chance. Win or lose, they'll be winners at Tech because that's what we strive to do with those kids. Make sure that they just have fun, and make good friendships, and then work real hard, never give anything to chance, or be scared of what they are going to face."

>>egardner@dailytoreador.com

The Texas Tech Alumni Association wishes to congratulate our fall class of Official Class Ring recipients for their commitment to receiving a degree from Texas Tech University.

"Bear our Banners Far and Wide!"

November 26

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- Rio Acosta
- Mikaela Addison
- Amy Akabue
- Jessica Alvarado
- Myles Anyigbo
- Jennifer Arend
- Jamie Arnold
- J. Michael Aston
- Alexis Atkins
- Hillary Austin
- Daniel Avila
- William Baker
- Taylor Banks
- Alexandria Bates
- David Bazan
- Katherine Beard
- Alec Beavers
- Michelle Bejar
- Anthony Benitez
- Francesca Bianchi
- Bryan Bolger
- James Bookhout
- Michael Boughton
- Jennifer Brook
- Erik Brown
- Joseph Brown
- Elizabeth Bryant
- Casey Bryant
- Megan Burns
- Calvin Burns
- Catherine Burris
- Katherine Butler
- Brennan Buxkemper
- Ruben Cabuto
- Alisha Caffrey
- Heather Calaway
- Kyle Campbell
- Kenneth Campbell
- Connor Campbell
- Eliseo Carrasco
- Corbin Carsrud
- Amanda Castillo
- Ileana Castillo
- Veronica Castro
- Meagan Chambers
- Zachary Chapman
- Sophia Chappell
- Allisen Chumney
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- Spencer Cocheu
- Elaine Coddington
- Darian Condarco
- Daniel Conovaloff
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- Brittani Crawford
- Morgan Crump
- Lisa Cruz
- Nathaniel Culbertson
- Steven Culepper
- Kevin Cummings
- Lara Davis
- Jess Davis
- William Delong

- Nikolas Dewinne
- Jace Ditzler
- Tosha Doherty
- Dawson Dorie
- Alexandria Douglas
- David Dover
- Stephanie Drewry
- Austin Duncan
- Emily Dunlap
- Elizabeth Dunn
- Ashley Eddy
- Christian Ellison
- Hannah Eubank
- Megan Falconer
- Justin Fang
- Joseph Fazio
- Tanisha Fields
- Jacqueline Fierro
- Adrianna Fike
- Aaron Finnestad
- Krystal Fleming
- Kevin Lewis
- Jason Flori
- Nicholas Flynn
- Michael Foreman
- Robert Fossett
- Rebecca Frazier
- Daveyanna Garcia
- Dulce Garcia
- Erik Garza
- Joshua Garza
- Grant Gibson
- Kristina Gomez
- Veronica Gonzales
- Joel Gray
- Cooper Green
- Jared Greunke
- John Griffin
- Trey Groves
- Jamie Haarmeyer
- Allie Hair
- Jacquelyn Haltom
- Amber Hamblin
- Michael Harmon
- Morgan Harned
- Alyssa Hartmann
- Fredrick Hawkins
- Eric Hayden
- Eric Hellman
- Markus Henderson
- Lisa Henderson
- Ryan Henson
- Mitchell Hicks
- Shelby Holloway
- Kevin Holmes
- Ashley Hood
- Chad Hopkins
- Hilary Howard
- Rickey Huckaby
- Brittany Huseman
- Giomar Ibarra
- Zachary Jagers
- Ethan Jasso
- Ryan Jerden
- Casey Joiner
- Christopher Jonckheer
- Rachel Jones

- Lindsay Jones
- Stephanie Kaufmann
- Mary Kelby
- Kendall Kennedy
- Kassidy Keron
- Kelli Kimble
- Casey Kinman
- Kyle Kitchen
- Kaitlyn Klattenhoff
- Meredith Klipple
- Kelsey Kostrewa
- Sara Koya
- Quent Kramer
- Karina Lago
- April Lancto
- Jennifer Lane
- Eric Lantz
- Michael Lara
- Kaitlin Leachman
- Rebekah Leal
- Joshua Leeper
- Kevin Lewis
- Kerstie Lockhart
- Alexander Lozano
- Paige Luce
- Kristina Luera
- Jenni Luke
- Celina Luna
- Dolores Luna
- Lane Magness
- Lexie Marchel
- Connie Maza
- Stephen McCarty
- James McElroy
- Cory McGregory
- Kathryn McKeever
- David McVey
- Katherine Melinder
- Selena Mendoza
- Aaron Miller
- Lorenzo Mireles
- Robert Moreno
- Katelyn Morgan
- David Morris
- Zachary Morrison
- Anthony Mouton
- Leah Munios
- Lauren Myers
- Brandon Nally
- Henry Nelson
- Chela O'dell
- Chinwe Obi
- Jacob Olivarez
- Manuel Olivias
- Haley Oliver
- Charles Olivier
- Janet Orta
- Justin Ortuno
- Amanda Owens
- Braden Padgett
- Katie Parkes
- Elissa Peckham
- Elisabeth Perkins
- Taylor Peyton
- Kris Plunkett
- Alexandria Popko

- April Porras
- Manuel Ramirez
- Ryan Records
- David Reed
- Chris Rehkopf
- Elissa Remmert
- Russell Richards
- Richard Rigby
- Kelsi Robinson
- Macey Rodriguez
- Jacquelyn Ronquillo
- Colby Rosen
- Rachel Rosson
- Elissa Runkles
- Ryan Russell
- Melisa Ryba
- Demetria Salinas
- Brittany Santo
- Eric Schneider
- Jillian Schraeder
- Christopher Scurlock
- Trevor Seberry
- Miguel Segura
- Anna Serna
- Abby Shelton
- John Shiflet
- Kelcie Silva
- Camaron Allen
- John Allison
- Simon Alvarez
- Adam Anderson
- Cintya Aragon-Hernandez
- Joel Arce
- Alexander Arens
- Travis Arrington
- Anthony Aulds
- Elizabeth Baker
- Donna Balderas
- Michael Barefield
- John Barrandey
- Daniel Barron
- Laney Bateman
- David Batista
- Barrett Beck
- Lauren Beebe
- Leroy Benavides Jr
- Ryan Bennett
- Rowdy Bergstrom
- Preston Black
- Matthew Blake
- Garrett Block
- Brady Bolf
- Jose Borunda
- Alex Brushida
- Jake Bray
- Jared Breaux
- Karrie Brooks
- Brooke Brown
- Parker Browning
- Christopher Brummitt
- Andrew Brummitt
- Travis Bruster
- Weston Burson
- Michael Buster
- Allison Butler
- Joseph Butler
- Rylee Calvert

November 27

- Tolani Afolabi
- Bolaji Afolabi
- Elizabeth Alaniz
- Camaron Allen
- John Allison
- Simon Alvarez
- Adam Anderson
- Cintya Aragon-Hernandez
- Joel Arce
- Alexander Arens
- Travis Arrington
- Anthony Aulds
- Elizabeth Baker
- Donna Balderas
- Michael Barefield
- John Barrandey
- Daniel Barron
- Laney Bateman
- David Batista
- Barrett Beck
- Lauren Beebe
- Leroy Benavides Jr
- Ryan Bennett
- Rowdy Bergstrom
- Preston Black
- Matthew Blake
- Garrett Block
- Brady Bolf
- Jose Borunda
- Alex Brushida
- Jake Bray
- Jared Breaux
- Karrie Brooks
- Brooke Brown
- Parker Browning
- Christopher Brummitt
- Andrew Brummitt
- Travis Bruster
- Weston Burson
- Michael Buster
- Allison Butler
- Joseph Butler
- Rylee Calvert

- Kristina Campos
- Landon Cantrell
- Cason Carroll
- Samuel Caskey
- Abel Cerda
- Albert Chambers
- Mark Chapin
- Casey Chapman
- Michael Chavira
- Meredith Chiles
- Brandon Christian
- Aaron Cirota
- Jim Clawson Iii
- Cassie Cochran
- Corey Coleman
- Hayley Colleen
- Callan Coltharp
- James Conley
- Breanna Conner
- Colin Cooksey
- Brian Cooper
- Blaine Corliss
- Camaron Cox
- Tyler Crafton
- Joshua Crisswell
- Roy Crownover
- Chadwick Dabbs
- Ashley Daggis
- Brent Daugherty
- Courtney Daugherty
- Mackenzie Davidson
- Bethany Davila
- Evan Davis
- Corey Dawson
- Ruben De La Fuente
- Levi Deleon
- Aric Denton
- Zachary Dimmick
- Lorena Dominguez
- Derek Draper
- Christopher Draper
- Nicholas Duchene
- Caroline Duncan
- Garrett Eagle
- Jacob Edwards
- John Ely
- Griffin Emerson
- John Engle
- Scott Erzinger
- Anthony Esch
- Mark Essary
- Robert Evans
- Mathew Fahrmeier
- Mitchell Fair
- Erin Farley
- Jake Fautrot
- Derek Ferraro
- Lillian Fish
- Ethan Fishman
- Edward Flores
- Kyle Fogarty
- Nicolas Forbes
- David Fordyce
- Sarah Forehand
- Matthew Frazell
- Julio Garcia
- Zachary Garrett

- Randy Garza
- Paul Giany
- Ethan Glenn
- Diana Gonzalez
- Paul Gomez
- Francisco Gonzalez
- Jeffrey Goodall
- Alejandro Granados
- Michael Greenlee
- Ryan Gregory
- Dayne Grenier
- Richard Griffin
- Jeremiah Griffith
- Jordan Guzman
- Halee Haggerton
- John Haigood
- James Hamill
- Kelsi Hancock
- Colleen Hawk
- Dustin Hawkins
- Lauren Hebert
- Joshua Heiden
- Stefani Henderson
- Dylan Hesse
- Matthew Hilburn
- Sterling Hohensee
- Tyler Holmes
- Taylor Howell
- Bryce Humpert
- Travis Hunt
- Jason Hunter
- Ly Huynh
- Sossi Iacovides
- Anthony Ibarra
- Robert Imel
- Paul Ives
- Steven Jacob
- Tucker Jacobs
- Jen Jett
- Sarah Jimenez
- Miranda Johnson
- Jonathon Jordan
- Khaled Kais
- Myles Keffer
- Jacob Kellin
- Travis King
- Jordan Kirk
- Thierry Kouamou
- Kyle Krueger
- James Lane
- Bradley Lane
- Travis Lee
- Megan Lee
- Kyle Lents
- William Leonard
- Daniel Lewis
- Michelle Limer
- Ryan Long
- Rey Lopez
- Javier Lozano
- Kathryn Marcotte
- Michael Marley
- Sean Martinez
- Chase Mayeux
- Paige McCain

- Kolby McCormick
- Ty McCullough
- Trenton McDaniel
- Dakota McDonald
- Elizabeth McDonald
- Charles McKirahan
- Audrey McKnight
- Elizabeth McLean
- Kaydee McMenamy
- Hailey Meyer
- Adam Miesse
- Zachary Mills
- Logan Millsaps
- Kyle Mitchell
- Emily Mitchmore
- Erica Moczygemba
- John Montgomery
- Seth Moore
- Caitlin Moore
- Justin Mooring
- Gabriella Moreno
- Andrea Morgan
- Blaine Nevans
- David Nickelatti
- Michael O'Rourke
- Mika Old
- Brian Ortiz
- Thomas Owings
- Jeffrey Paden
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- Corbin Parker
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- Lauren Turner
- Crystal Portillo
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- Irvin Ramirez
- Ryan Ramos
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- Joshua Ratcliff
- Amit Ravassipour
- Jace Reed
- Chris Reed
- Jennifer Regan
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- Chase Renfro
- Taylor Richardson
- Tab Ricker
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- Ainsley Robinson
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- Kelsey Shumaker
- Connor Simpson
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- Robert Smith
- James Sneed
- Ashley Snell
- Laci Snider
- Justin Sosa
- Evyn Spring
- Henry Stoneham
- Curtis Stoner
- Lauren Stricklin
- Marynell Subia
- Samantha Sullivan
- Cody Sultenfluss
- Jon Sweeney
- Ashley Temple
- Taylor Thetford
- Melissa Thomas
- Mark Thomas
- Sarah Thomas
- Josh Thompson
- Ryan Thrash
- Christopher Tomdale
- Alonso Torres
- Kevin Traub
- Edwin Trujillo
- Lauren Turner
- Chelsey Wetzel
- Andrew Whiteley
- Christopher Wilcut
- Dakotah Williams
- Kalyn Williamson
- Brydon Wilson
- Gregory Wilson
- Timothy Wingo
- Amanda Wolfe
- Dawn Wolf
- Jordan Wright
- Kytra Yates
- Justin Zimmerhanzel

Official Ring Ceremonies for recipients will be Nov. 26 & 27, 2012, at the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center.

www.TexasTechAlumni.org/Ring

US must rethink role in Israeli-Palestinian conflict

After weeks of explosive fighting between Israel and Palestine, a shaky cease-fire was struck Wednesday, organized by none other than the U.S. Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton.

Normally, I would be inclined to have an optimistic view about the possibility of progress in an unarmed solution to the decades-old conflict between Israel and the Palestinian people. However, looking deeper into the cease-fire accord struck Wednesday, one can see it barely amounts to slapping a Band-Aid on the gaping wound that is Israeli-Palestinian relations.

What the U.S. should be doing now, instead of trying to merely "de-escalate" the conflict, as it said on the accord, is reanalyzing what messages our actions send to the Palestinian people and to Israel. Clearly, the classic

Jakob Reynolds



American cure-all of brute force and support for governments that do what we tell them to is not a very effective solution for Middle-Eastern conflict in general.

After all, it was Western Christian Zionist policies that essentially started this particular Middle-Eastern conflict in the first place. For those who aren't familiar with this issue, the state of Israel was established shortly after World War II in the lands historically considered British Mandated Palestine, which was inhabited mostly by Arabs. The Arabs got the short end of the stick, having more than half the

land they previously inhabited partitioned away for the national Jewish state. Sound familiar, America?

Since then, the Palestinians have been in a constant battle against Israel and its allies as its territories have been slowly occupied and encroached upon. As one might imagine, Palestinians and their allies have never been the biggest fans of the United States because we politically, economically and militarily have supported the state of Israel since its inception. Hamas, the Palestinian ma-

majority party currently ruling the Gaza Strip, has been classified as a terrorist organization by the United States. This is officially because of their use of violence to advance their goals and opposition to the interests of the United States in the Middle East, according to the U.S. State Department's list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations.

This is interesting considering Israel has been sanctioned countless times by the United Nations for its treatment of the Palestinian people.

I am not defending the use of indiscriminate violence to

achieve the goals of any individual or any group of people. It is unacceptable and counterproductive. Just look at the latest flare-up in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The security of Israel is still threatened, and the self-determination of the Palestinian people is still as far from being achieved as it ever was. However, the use of violence by Palestinian groups like Hamas shouldn't come as a surprise if the West is going to continue to support their oppressors.

Since the beginning of the "peace process," which started in the early 1990s, the policies of the U.S. in the region have done nothing but give incentives to the increasingly violent and terroristic behavior of groups like Hamas. Ignoring the legitimate concerns of the denial of human rights and dignity to the Palestinian people by Israel, which continues

to colonize their lands until the Palestinians begin fighting back, only perpetuates the problem. It is a strategy that has repeatedly failed to promote peace for decades and will continue to do so until we change our methods of dealing with the region.

If the cease-fire accord reached on Wednesday is going to have any meaning at all, the United States needs to acknowledge and address the concerns of the Palestinians and pressure Israel to stop the oppression and colonization of Palestinian territories. Otherwise, Palestinian rocket attacks and Israeli air raids will continue to be the norm, and the U.S. will be just as responsible for the casualties that are sure to result from them.

Reynolds is a junior music major from Lubbock.
► jreynolds@dailytoreador.com

"The United States needs to acknowledge and address the concerns of the Palestinians."

Thanksgiving dinner an exercise in moderation

By SAM GILBERT
MUSTANG DAILY (CAL POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO)

Distant relatives have purchased their plane tickets, Dad pre-ordered the turkey a week ago and all football games planned for Nov. 27 are TiVo'd. Anyone else ready for Thanksgiving?

This is the time of year for family to come together and feast in celebration of the day the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock. It's important to keep in mind, however, that moderation is key when surrounded by overwhelming amounts of food.

What people shouldn't do is starve themselves before the dinner because then they overeat, food science and nutrition professor Susan Swadener said.

"Research shows if you skip meals, then, if you normally eat 2,000 calories a day, you'll end up eating around 4,000 because you're so hungry," Swadener said.

The portion size for meat is about three ounces, or the size of the palm of your hand, Swadener said. A serving of potatoes is about half a cup, and a serving of vegetables is a cup.

What tends to add up is generally how things are prepared, food science and nutrition professor Laura Hall said.

"Gravy, mashed potatoes with a lot of butter and cream in them or sweet potatoes with a lot of sugar in them all end up having more calories and are generally less healthy because they're high in fat," Hall said.

If you can cook a healthier meal in the first place by trimming off the fat on the turkey, using low-fat milk in the mashed potatoes and making healthier choices, then you can cut the fat in your diet, Hall said.

Little things such as deciding not to put whipped cream on your pie or choosing low-fat ice cream instead can make a difference, Hall said.

Swadener and Hall both offered tips to keep in mind when making a conscious decision about what to eat on this sacred holiday.

Studies have shown that if you eat on a bigger plate, or put more on your plate, then you're going to eat it, Hall said. If you use a smaller plate, or put

less food on it, you won't eat as much. Enjoy the company of the people you're with, take your time and drink water to not overeat, Hall said.

It's a good idea to have some of the foods from Thanksgiving such as turkey or cranberry sauce throughout the year, Swadener said. If you eat them more often, then you're less likely to binge on them.

Kelsey Hollenbeck, STRIDE public relations and media coordinator, said you should avoid snacking throughout the whole day.

"I know that when we cook in my house, I'll just be eating little pieces of everything as we make it, and then I'm full by the time dinner comes around," Hollenbeck said.

Everyone overeats at Thanksgiving — it's part of the culture of it, Hollenbeck said.

Students also generally go home after being used to having little food on hand or eating ramen, whereas Thanksgiving offers an opportunity to gorge on food other people make, Hollenbeck said.

This time of the year involves more socializing, and there are foods you wouldn't typically eat, such as pies, so it's easy to overindulge, Hall said.

You always hear that people gain weight around this time because they're eating differently and they may not be exercising like they normally do, Hall said.

It's important to let yourself feel full and to not overeat, Hall said. You can always have leftovers and don't forget to be physically active.

A good way to not gain a lot of weight during the holidays is to make it a family tradition to take a walk before or after dinner so you don't sit around and eat all night, Swadener said.

This is the time to be with each other, and sometimes if you do more physical activity, such as a walk, then you spend more quality time with one another than just sitting around and watching the television, Swadener said.

Good food in moderation and even better company is the trick to finding the balance to a perfect Thanksgiving.

Big Ten expansion beneficial for everyone

By NICK KORGER
BADGER HERALD (U. WISCONSIN)

Let's play a game of word association. Ready? OK, here's the word.

Big Ten.
So what's the first word that comes to your mind?

Maybe it's one of the sports like football and basketball that the conference is renowned for. Then again, maybe it's one of the schools that make up its DNA, like perennial powerhouses Michigan and Ohio State. Or perhaps it's even one of the great players that the league has produced over the years, like Heisman winners Desmond Howard, Eddie George and Ron Dayne to name just a few.

But who in their right mind would say Maryland or Rutgers?
It reminds me of my childhood learning programs like Sesame Street, where they played the game "one of these things is not like the other."

This Big Ten's conference expansion was sudden, but not unexpected. But it still seems baffling — until placed under closer examination — why the conference chose these two schools to incorporate into its ranks, and why these schools decided to bolt to greener pastures.

Geographically, Rutgers and Maryland couldn't lay farther apart from the latest add-on to the conference, Nebraska. In fact, the distance between

the campuses of Maryland and Nebraska is more than 1,200 miles. So, with the extension comes the destruction of the classic pre-held notion that the Big Ten is a Midwest-only collection of collegiate athletic programs.

That being said, Pennsylvania does border the states whose campuses the Big Ten's newest members reside in, helping to expand the eastern flank of the conference's reach.

The positive of this expansion lays in the fact that the move extends the reach of the conference across the nation not only in recruiting but also in terms of exposure.

For recruiting, the Big Ten will be able to open up — well, more than before — the East Coast and compete with other conferences for the region's best players. Now athletes in the respective states of New Jersey and Maryland will get a chance to see the Big Ten first hand, not only in terms of the athletic contests themselves, but also in terms of regional penetration by the Big Ten Network, a key player in the allure of the conference to its two newest members.

Something that offers long-term security with the Big Ten is not only its strong record of athletic prowess and the revenue that its large enrollment schools and prestigious programs bring, but also the money that lays in its television market and its deal with the Big Ten

Network. Those deals alone bring the conference's schools several millions of dollars in revenue each year.

If the Big Ten Network can penetrate the basic cable market in its new states and the major metropolitan areas around them — Washington, D.C., New York, etc., it could make an absolute killing. And even if it doesn't, the network will still make a disgusting amount in subscription fees. Because, keep in mind, the Big Ten has a strong base of alumni that populates the East Coast and there's plenty of people willing to pay to see the conference's games.

So money, money, money. Who does it go to? The schools, the conference and the network. Everyone gets a piece of the pie and money makes the world go around, so why not get in while the gettin's good?

Additionally, the ACC and Big East are renowned as basketball conferences. What brings in more revenue? Well, besides overall numbers, maybe this imagery can explain it. The biggest basketball facility in the NCAA, seating wise, is 33,000 at the Carrier Dome, home of Syracuse, who coincidentally just joined the ACC — along with Pittsburgh — confirming the idea that the conference is a basketball-centered one.

The biggest seating facility for FBS college football? Try Michigan Stadium. The "Big House" holds 109,901 people.

Based on ticket sales alone, revenue from football beats the hell out of basketball. Moving to a conference where the schools are bigger and the football is more relevant on a national stage makes too much sense for Maryland and Rutgers.

Also, keep in mind that Maryland was in a hole financially (the school lost \$4.5 million last year) and had to cut a few sports programs. Rutgers' football program is stuck in the rather weak Big East and apparently has some ambitious construction and upgrade plans for its campus and facilities planned. The needed financial boost that the Big Ten brings will only help revenue, boosting the schools to new heights both academically and athletically.

If there was 800 more words to this column I could go into much deeper detail and provide the solid figures and stats that would bore most readers to death and satisfy all the critics to this article, but keep this in mind: In 2008, the Big Ten had seven of its then 11 teams reported in the top 25 for total revenue earned from athletics.

It's disappointing that rivalries and the geographic location that made the Big Ten special are largely taking the back burner to the reformation and expansion of the conference. But in a sport — and world — where money rules all, it's a necessary evil in the ever-changing landscape of college athletics.

United States plays big, silent role in Gaza

By THE ORACLE EDITORIAL BOARD
THE ORACLE (U. SOUTH FLORIDA)

Though the rockets and bomb blasts are almost 7,000 miles away, the turmoil in Gaza is not far removed from U.S. interests.

In fact, with its economic heft, the U.S., as a seemingly silent superpower, is a larger player in the chaos ensuing now than perhaps either Israel or the Gaza strip.

But as Israel has intensified air strikes and bombs in retaliation to Hamas-launched rockets from Gaza, the U.S. response has spoken as to what side the American taxpayers will be supporting.

While President Barack Obama has said it would be "preferable," according to the Associated Press, for violence to not exist, he has consistently defended

Israel's "right to defend itself."

But according to the New York Times, Gaza health officials have reported at least 600 injuries and 70 deaths since Wednesday and Israel has reported 79 injuries and three deaths, the human rights violations being brought upon the people of Gaza by Israel are not things the U.S. should endorse.

While the initial violence of the rocket launch is not condonable, Israel's response — the response sponsored by the taxpayers of America — is certainly not either, and coupled with the history of aggression and blatant disregard of civilian, women and children's lives, the U.S.'s strategic oblivion is one that goes against the very value of democracy that allied Israel with the U.S. in the first place.

Gilad Sharon, the son of former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, called for the "flattening of Gaza" in

an op-ed written for the Jerusalem post.

"We need to flatten entire neighborhoods in Gaza," he wrote. "Flatten all of Gaza. ... There should be no electricity in Gaza, no gasoline or moving vehicles, nothing."

The U.S. has a strong, vested interest in Israel — an interest so expansive (and expensive) that it is willing to overlook important aspects of democracy, such as human rights, to secure its own best interest in an utterly undemocratic process.

Israel has received about \$115 billion in U.S. aid, and continues to receive about \$3 billion a year, making it the largest recipient of U.S. aid since World War II. According to a Congressional Research Report prepared for the U.S. Congress, the Bush administration approved a 10-year, \$30 billion package for Israel's Foreign Military Financing grant, which Obama has continued.

The very Iron Dome system, the system that has intercepted 245 rockets for Israel since the recent burst of violence, is largely funded by the U.S., which provides an additional \$70 million for it per year, according to CNN.

While it is incredible that this technology protects Israeli civilians, does the U.S. government value their lives more than Palestinians?

Though a 2011 Gallup poll found that 63 percent of Americans supported Israel over Palestine, it is worth a closer look as to whether cozying up to Israel solely because of its "democratic" roots is worth the fiscal and humanitarian costs.

A democracy is not simply electing leaders, and by turning a blind eye to these injustices, the U.S. is further distancing itself from other Middle Eastern nations at a time in which diplomacy is most needed.

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Editor-in-Chief
Jose Rodriguez
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News Editor
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news@dailytoreador.com

La Vida Editor
Paige Skinner
features@dailytoreador.com

Opinions Editor
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Photo Editor
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Andrew Nepsund
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Copy Editor
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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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Be Santa to Senior program seeking volunteers

By ASHLYN TUBBS
STAFF WRITER

Living on a dirt road outside of Lubbock, she was a lone inhabitant of her household.

Without a car and unable to cook, she relied on an aid two days of the week, and Meals on Wheels catered her food each day.

A constant beeping reminded her that her smoke alarm batteries were dying, but she patiently told herself her son would change it in two weeks when he visited for Christmas.

This beeping did not extend this long, though. Volunteers from the Be a Santa to a Senior campaign visited her home before Christmas to help spread holiday cheer and refused to make her wait any longer.

"All of her smoke detectors had different batteries, so we went and bought new ones," George

Ann Benson, one of the campaign volunteers, said. "We changed all of the batteries so she didn't have to listen to that beeping noise it makes."

This was the first year Benson has participated in the campaign. She said she used to exchange gifts with 12 of her friends each Christmas, but during one holiday season, they decided they no longer needed to continue that tradition. Instead, Benson read about the Be a Santa to a Senior campaign in a newspaper and recommended the idea to her friends. They have participated in it each year since.

"They're so thankful for everything we do for them, and it makes me aware of how I have everything I really need," Benson said. "There are people out there who really need things, especially elderly people who don't have other people around."

Home Instead Senior Care is

partnered with Meals on Wheels and Adult Protective Services, and the organizations host the nationwide campaign. Volunteers can pick up ornaments with the first names of seniors and their gift requests from Christmas trees located at Kmart, City Bank and Wilshire Place. It will continue through Dec. 7.

Tracy Baugh, owner of Home Instead, started this program in Lubbock nine years ago. She said space heaters, blankets, food, sleepwear, slippers or even socks and ibuprofen are among items the seniors have asked for in years past.

"It's really very touching," Baugh said. "Some of the requests have been for practical things that most of us take for granted. Every once in a while they ask for candy or snack food because apparently Meals on Wheels doesn't deliver junk food, so they do like those

special treats."

Baugh said along with the campaign they also are trying to fill a Silver Star room for Adult Protective Services that case managers can access in an emergency or crisis situation.

"When they have a situation that is reported to them of an individual who needs immediate help, they are able to have food items," she said, "and things that are going to be important for that individual's wellbeing and safety."

Baugh said the campaign usually has about 300 seniors who require a person-gift delivery. She said it is difficult to find volunteers for this part of the campaign, but said it does not require much time.

"We will be delivering the 12th through the 15th of December," she said. "I know it's close to finals, but they can deliver it on their own time as long as it is before Christmas."

One constant participant in the campaign is Brian Baugh, a sophomore management information systems major from Lubbock. He has helped his mother for the past nine years by volunteering and delivering gifts to the seniors each year.

"Going to their houses and seeing that they don't have very much makes me feel like giving them simple gifts affects their lives so much," he said, "and to see the smile on their face when you give them something as simple as that is always gratifying."

Brian Baugh said the seniors especially love if volunteers deliver the gifts and visit with them.

"Some of them may not be able to get up and go to the store, and some don't have any family left because they may have outlived them," he said. "I feel like helping them out is one of the least things I can do."

Baugh encourages other Texas Tech students to participate in this service opportunity.

"It's not hard to do," he said. "You can participate, and it doesn't take much out of your day, and the things you buy don't have to cost that much, so students can afford it. Around the holidays, everyone deserves a gift even if you're just giving socks or supplies for a kitchen. They enjoy that more than anyone could think."

Benson said while most people focus on children during the holidays, it is important to remember senior citizens as well.

"I think this is another way we can give back to our community by helping the people who have gone before us and helped us get where we are in society," she said. "Volunteering brightens your Christmas spirit because you are helping others out."

atubbs@dailytoreador.com

Larry Hagman as J.R.: A TV villain for all ages

NEW YORK (AP) — One reason "Dallas" became a cultural phenomenon like none other is that Larry Hagman never took its magnitude for granted.

During an interview last June he spoke of returning to Dallas and the real-life Southfork Ranch some months earlier to resume his role of J.R. Ewing for the TNT network's revival of the series. There at Southfork, now a major tourist attraction, he came upon a wall-size family tree diagramming the entanglement of "Dallas" characters.

"I looked at it and said 'I didn't know I was related to HER!'" Hagman marveled. "And I didn't know THAT!"

In its own way, the original "Dallas" — which aired on CBS from

1978 to 1991 — was unfathomably bigger than anything on TV before or since, while J.R. Ewing remains unrivaled not just as a video villain but as a towering mythical figure.

All this is largely thanks to Hagman and his epic portrayal of J.R., a Texas oilman and patriarch who, in Hagman's hands, was in equal measures loathsome and lovable.

Hagman, who died Friday at 81, certainly had nothing more to prove a quarter-century ago when "Dallas" ended after 14 seasons.

But in the series revival, whose first season aired this summer, J.R. was even more evil and deliciously conniving than ever. Though visibly frail, Hagman knew how to leverage J.R.'s vulnerabilities as a new form of strength to wield against his rivals.

Hagman knew how to double-down on J.R. as a force the audience could hiss and cheer with equal delight.

Of course, in his long career, Hagman did more than star in "Dallas" and tackled more roles than J.R. Ewing. Had "Dallas" never come along with its operatic sprawl of power, corruption and family feuds, Hagman would likely be remembered for an earlier series, "I Dream of Jeannie," the 1960s sitcom about an astronaut and the genie who loved him.

Even so, during Hagman's five seasons co-starring with Barbara Eden as the sexy genie-in-a-bottle, he was inevitably upstaged.

That would never be a problem on "Dallas," especially after the final hour of the series' second season,

when J.R. was gunned down by an unknown assailant and left for dead on his office floor.

All that summer and late into the fall, the nation was seized and teased by the mystery of Who Shot J.R.? Nearly every fellow character had sufficient motive to want J.R. killed, and which of them had done the deed was a question everyone was asking. Finally, the answer was delivered on the episode that aired 32 years ago almost to the day — on Nov. 21, 1980 — when the shooter was revealed to be J.R.'s scheming sister-in-law and mistress, Kristin.

And oh, by the way, J.R. survived. As J.R., Hagman could marshal

piercing glances with his hawk-like eyes, and chill any onlooker with his wicked grin. There was no depth to which J.R. couldn't sink, especially with the outrageous story lines the series blessed him with.

But his popularity exceeded that for even a notable bad guy. This, too, is a credit to Hagman's portrayal. By all indications, the glorious rascalness that made J.R. such fun to watch was lifted intact from Hagman's own lively personality.

During last June's lunch interview with Hagman and Linda Gray (J.R.'s long-suffering onetime wife, Sue Ellen), Gray recalled the day the "Dallas" cast first met.

"He walks in, this man with a cowboy hat," said Gray, "and I thought, 'What's this?' To me, he was still the astronaut from 'I Dream of Jeannie.' Then he looked at me and he went, 'Hello, darlin.' And that was it: I thought, Oh, darn, this is gonna be fun."

"She THREW herself at me!" Hagman broke in. "She'd had a couple of glasses of champagne already, and she put her arms around me and said, 'I'm your WIFE!'"

"Where do you come up with these stories?" Gray, laughing, fired back at the man she would describe at his passing months later as "my best friend for 35 years."

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SPORTS

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MONDAY, NOV. 26, 2012

Tech drops fourth game in five weeks after OT loss

By **MICHAEL DUPONT II**
STAFF WRITER

After beginning the season 6-1, the Red Raiders have lost four of their final five games including a 52-45 loss to the Baylor Bears in Cowboys Stadium.

Texas Tech led for the majority of the game, but 31 second-half points allowed the Bears to take the lead back in the fourth quarter.

Senior quarterback Seth Doege passed for 359 yards and three touchdowns and also threw three interceptions in the loss.

Tech coach Tommy Tuberville said it was unfortunate the Red Raiders were unable to find a way to get their third overtime win, especially for the senior class.

"Seth, a lot of people will say three interceptions, but I'll tell you what, I'll take that kid to battle every time," he said. "He has made a lot of plays. He's one of those kids that he'll take it harder than anybody. He told the group at the beginning of the week, he says, 'Just give me some help, we'll win this game. I'm going to do everything I can to win this game.' We had some great performances. But again, (this was) our third overtime, and we weren't able to pull it off."

Baylor missed a 42-yard field goal on its opening drive. This would be

a recurring theme during the game.

Tech appeared to have a potential touchdown when Doege looked deep down the field for senior receiver Darrin Moore, the pass fell incomplete, but a pass interference penalty gave Tech a first down.

Two plays later, Doege caught Baylor's defense shifting to the left side of the field, which created an open running lane for Doege allowing him to score on a 19-yard rushing touchdown.

Shortly thereafter, sophomore Kenny Williams scored another touchdown on a 5-yard scamper giving Tech an early 14-0 lead.

Junior Glasco Martin scored from 1-yard out on the Bears following drive, however, 55 seconds later Doege connected with Eric Ward for a 23-yard touchdown pass.

The quick-paced scoring also would be a theme from the game Saturday. At one point, Tech answered a Baylor touchdown with a 97-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by freshman receiver Jakeem Grant.

"I basically saw the open hole, and I used my speed," Grant said. "(I) just ran past everybody."

Moore finished with a stellar performance, tallying 13 catches for 186 yards and two touchdowns.

Moore said he expected to have a good game against Baylor's defense

but a win would have been better.

"I wouldn't say it's bittersweet," he said. "It's bitter that we took the (loss). All those stats don't mean anything when you still lose."

The Bears would score again in the closing seconds of the first half when senior quarterback Nick Florence connected with sophomore receiver Levi Norwood from 39 yards out.

After a 36-yard pass to Terrance Williams allowed the Bears to set up inside of Tech's 5-yard line, Martin fumbled the football only for Florence to recover and scramble across the goal line for another Baylor touchdown.

Williams also had an impressive day at the receiver position. The senior had seven catches for 175 yards and one touchdown.

Tuberville said the game plan was to keep multiple defenders around Williams, but he still was able to make some spectacular catches.

"We doubled him most of the time," he said. "He still caught it, (he) made some unbelievable catches. The one third-down catch, their last drive, was just unbelievable."

Florence connected with Williams again from 4 yards out for the Bears final touchdown in regulation.

Tech answered back quickly when Doege tossed a 6-yard touchdown pass to Darrin Moore, which gave



PHOTO BY BRADLEY TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador
Texas Tech wide receiver Darrin Moore tries to avoid Baylor safety Mike Hicks during the Red Raiders' 52-45 overtime loss against the Bears on Saturday in Cowboys Stadium in Arlington. Moore caught the ball 13 times for 186 yards and two touchdowns during the loss.

the Red Raiders a 45-42 lead in the closing minutes. Baylor would kick a field goal, however, and tie the game again.

After an interception from Doege, Baylor had an opportunity to win the football game in regulation. However, a missed field goal squandered the Bears opportunity, and the game was

settled in overtime.

Baylor had the first possession of overtime and wasted little time attacking Tech's defense. The Bears dialed up four consecutive running plays, capped off by a 4-yard touchdown run by Martin.

In contrast, Tech chose to throw the ball five consecutive times dur-

ing its possession in overtime. All five of the passes were incompletions including the fourth down pass that ended the game.

With the loss, Tech is now projected to face Oregon State in the Holiday Bowl, according to CBS sports.

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For all your Tech news and sports

Parker scores 32 as Spurs beat Raptors

TORONTO (AP) — Tony Parker called it was a game that "could have gone either way." But with a perfect performance in the second overtime, Parker made sure his San Antonio Spurs came out on top.

Parker scored six of his 32 points in the second OT, Tim Duncan had 26 and the Spurs beat Toronto 111-106 Sunday, their fourth straight victory over the Raptors.

Duncan said no one was more vital to San Antonio's win than Parker, who made all three shots he took in the second overtime and topped 30 points for the second straight game.

"He's our closer and he has been that way for the last couple of years," Duncan said. "He steps up and makes big shots for us. That's what we ask him to do and he's delivered for us."

Manu Ginobili scored 15 points, Danny Green had 13 and Boris Diaw 11 as the Spurs won their third straight and improved their NBA-best road record to 7-1.

"We take pride in winning on the road," Ginobili said.

Parker made jump shots on consecu-

tive possessions with less than 1 minute, 15 seconds to go in the second overtime as the Spurs held on.

"We had to work hard for this one," Parker said.

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich agreed, not that he was happy about it.

"In a lot of ways, (Toronto) played better than we did," Popovich said. "They destroyed us on the boards. For most of the meat of the game they just threw it up there, missed it and they'd go get it again. That kept them in the ballgame. We did a better job in the overtimes defensively and on the boards, and that got us over the hump."

DeMar DeRozan led Toronto with 29 points, while rookie Jonas Valanciunas had 22. Kyle Lowry scored 20 points and Ed Davis had 15 points and 14 rebounds for the Raptors, who have lost their past three games by a combined seven points.

Toronto's Andrea Bargnani had a disappointing game, scoring four points and making just two of 19 field goal attempts.

"Today was definitely a very bad night," Bargnani said. "Maybe the

worst."

Raptors coach Dwane Casey dismissed suggestions that he should have benched Bargnani, the first overall pick in the 2006 draft.

"I've got to go with Andrea," Casey said. "He's our guy."

Valanciunas calmly made free throws to tie the score at 88 with 24 seconds left in regulation. San Antonio gave the ball to Parker, who let the clock run down to six seconds, but almost turned it over as he drove. Parker's 3-point effort fell short, giving Toronto one-10th of a second to try for the winning basket, but Bargnani's no-look shot went wide, sending the game to overtime.

San Antonio led 92-90 on Duncan's dunk with less than 30 seconds to go in the first overtime when a foul by Parker gave possession to the Raptors. But Parker stole Jose Calderon's inbound pass and raced in for a layup, giving the Spurs an 94-90 lead with 24 seconds left.

"I saw that Calderon was going to lob it and so I felt that with my speed I could sneak in there and get it," Parker

said. "I just tried to make a play and it worked out for me."

Lowry answered with a 3 for the Raptors, cutting the gap to one, but Ginobili made a pair of free throws with 15 seconds left, making it 96-93.

DeRozan's dunk cut it to one with 14 seconds left and, after Gary Neal made one of two from the line, the Raptors called timeout, trailing 97-95. DeRozan grabbed his own rebound and made a layup with 0.9 left, tying it at 97. The Spurs couldn't get a shot off before the buzzer, forcing a second overtime.

Toronto never led in the second extra session, with Green's 3 with 4:43 to go giving the Spurs the lead for good.

"It's tough that we couldn't close it out at the end," Davis said. "We were fighting hard the whole game."

Toronto opened the third with a 7-0 run, thanks in part to seven straight missed shots by San Antonio. Toronto led 60-51 with 7:29 left but the Spurs erased the deficit thanks to eight points from Ginobili. DeRozan made a driving shot with 27 seconds left and scored 12 points in the third as the Raptors took a 70-69 edge into the fourth.

Texas A&M Aggies find success in 1st SEC season

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — No. 10 Texas A&M has reached 10 wins for the first time since 1998.

The accomplishment is even sweeter for the Aggies because of the skeptics who predicted they'd

struggle in their first season in the Southeastern Conference.

Texas A&M wrapped up its

regular season Saturday night with a 59-29 win over fellow SEC newcomer Missouri. This is its first season of double-digit wins since an 11-3 record in 1998.

The Aggies aren't surprised. They say they knew they'd have a good year after leaving the Big 12.

"People acted like we were going to be some kind of doormat or something," senior linebacker Sean Porter said. "But this entire time we had a lot of confidence."

Coach Kevin Sumlin said he heard three concerns about his team repeatedly entering the season. They were that the Aggies didn't have an established quarterback after Ryan Tannehill was taken drafted eighth overall, that his offense wouldn't work in the SEC, and that his defensive front was thin.

Today's

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Puzzles by PageFiller

In Sudoku, all the numbers 1 to 9 must be in every row, column and 3 x 3 box. Use logic to define the answers.

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

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Basketball player finds peace on court

By MICHAEL DUPONT II
STAFF WRITER

Daylen Robinson spends as much time as he can honing his skills in the gym so he can help the Red Raider basketball team, which has jumped out to an early 3-0 start.

Robinson's path to Texas Tech was filled with accolades, where he earned all-state selections in both basketball and football.

During his senior year in high school, Robinson averaged 32 points per game at his alma mater Northeast High School in Robinson's hometown, Kansas City, Miss.

"I was underrated coming up in high school," he said, "so scoring a lot of points was exciting for me and my family, you know, just going to different colleges, going to junior college first and taking it from there."

Robinson received two Division I recruitment letters for basketball, one from Texas A&M and the other from Virginia Tech.

He also excelled on the football field and was recruited by similar schools.

"I played middle linebacker in high school, I made all-state," he said. "I averaged 17 tackles a game, I got one letter, and it was from Virginia Tech also. I made it all-state. I only played like five games because I came late. I was quicker than the other lineman, so I was getting to the gaps really fast."

Robinson instead chose to

attend Moberly Area Community College where he averaged 16 points and five assists per game, before deciding to transfer to Tech.

"I knew this guy at Moberly," he said. "His name was Nathan Johnson, he was a close friend, he went to Florida State, and he went to Moberly also. He just taught me the game, like, it's not all about scoring, it's about setting your teammates up, so I listened to him, and he guided me through junior college."

Family plays a large factor in everything Robinson does, he said. The team he is a part of is family first. Robinson said

everything he does is in hopes of creating a better opportunity for his family.

Robinson is the middle child of five brothers and sisters and said the most difficult part of

growing up with all of them was trying not to be a follower.

"I'm not going to say my brothers were the best people in the world, but they had good hearts," he said. "They never disrespected their elders, they always try to take care of the family being older. So I tried to follow them, but not follow the wrong things, and it was just hard trying to stay out of the way."

He was forced to deal with adversity at an early age when his brothers were both fatal victims of gunshot wounds.

Robinson almost decided not to play basketball anymore.

After his mother moved him into a different environment, Robinson felt he could play again and played with the spirit of his brothers in his first game back on the court.

"My coach came and took me to this tournament and I scored, like, 40 points and had the game winning shot," he said. "That's when I made my mind up again that I want to stick with basketball and stay in school."

Robinson was dealt another crushing blow heading into his junior season. He found himself in the wrong place, in an unfortunate situation and was shot several times.

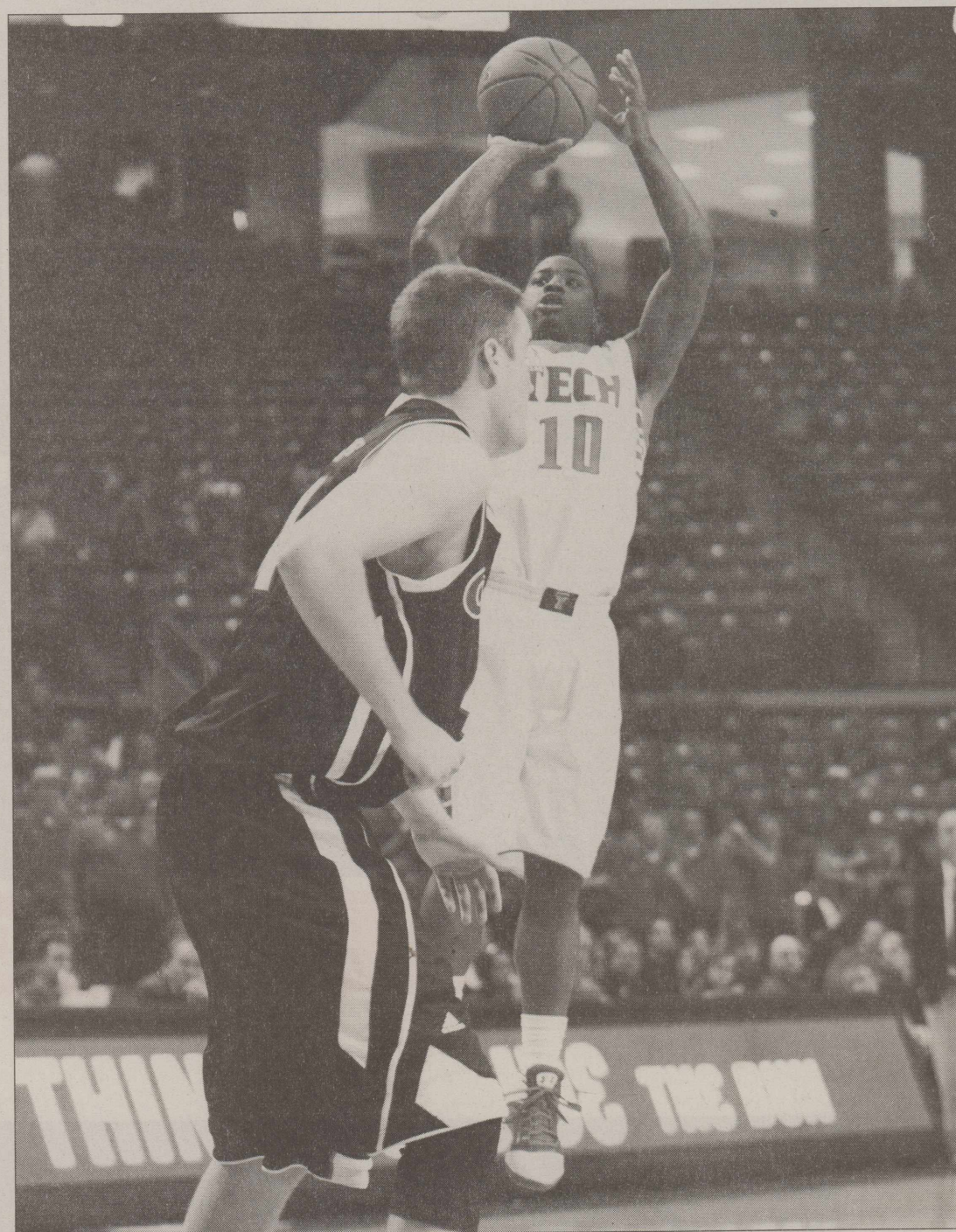
"Just in the wrong place at the wrong time basically," he said. "I was shot five times, twice in my leg, my stomach, my back and my arm. I was told I would never play basketball again if I moved any wrong direction I would shatter every bone from my knee down."

Robinson recovered from his wounds, however, and eventually began playing basketball again.

Robinson said during that time he grew to become a more spiritual person, and his religion has fueled the choices he makes, not only as a player on the court, but also as a person away from it.

"I like to laugh," he said. "I like to sing, I really like going to church and learning new things about God and just listening to anything and just soaking it in. I'm friendly, I'm kind and I'm respectful, and that's a lot of stuff people don't know because of all of the things I've been through."

Tech coach Chris Walker described Robinson as a spark plug on Tech's bench that he has been able to use in numerous situations.



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Treador
TEXAS TECH GUARD, Daylen Robinson, jumps up for a basket while Nebraska-Omaha center, John Karhoff, runs to block it during the Red Raiders 91-63 victory against the Mavericks on Nov. 14 in United Spirit Arena.

"I love Daylen," Walker said. "Daylen is a spark plug. He comes in the game, if Josh gets unsettled, he comes

in and settles us down. He's quick, he makes things happen. That hasn't shown yet, but I'm telling you right now,

as time goes on he's definitely going to be a guy we depend on."

>>>tcampton@dailytreador.com

Chiefs get only FGs again in 17-9 loss to Denver Broncos

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Chiefs had the ball back late in the fourth quarter Sunday, and were facing fourth down in Denver territory with just over 6 minutes left on the clock.

Coach Romeo Crennel thought about going for it — indeed, thought hard enough that he called a timeout to give himself extra time to weigh his options. But he ultimately sent out the punt team, and Kansas City never had another opportunity to take the lead.

With four-time MVP Peyton

Manning directing the offense, the Broncos kept picking up first downs as time kept melting away, and a field goal in the closing seconds sealed their 17-9 victory.

Doomed the Chiefs to their eighth straight loss, too.

The late-game decision by Crennel was just one example of a conservative approach that still has not yielded a touchdown since Nov. 12, a span of 11-plus quarters and more than 173 minutes.

"I was considering going for it, but then I decided not to go for it

and we punted the ball," Crennel said, before explaining why: "The fact that it ended up being fourth-and-6 (at the Denver 47), and we still had the time on the clock to go out there and make the stop."

Crennel also elected to kick a field goal in the first quarter, when they were leading 3-0 and facing fourth-and-2 at the Denver 4. His reasoning was that it was best to get certain points, even though the Broncos had scored at least 30 in five straight games.

They didn't need nearly that

many to overcome Ryan Succop's three field goals.

Manning threw for 285 yards with touchdown strikes to Jacob Tamme and Demaryius Thomas, and Knowshon Moreno added 85 yards rushing for the AFC West-leading Broncos (8-3), who won their sixth straight despite putting Willis McGahee on injured reserve this week with a knee injury.

"I've got to tip my hat to Knowshon Moreno," Manning said. "He stepped up today and did a heck of a job. Really an impressive effort

by him." Jamaal Charles had 107 yards rushing for the Chiefs (1-10), but Brady Quinn was just 13 of 25 for 126 yards and an interception in place of benched starter Matt Cassel.

"We tried to get the ball out quick on some of the different pass plays, we tried to run the ball," Quinn said. "We were able to keep 18 on the bench for a good amount that we wanted to."

Manning, having one of his best seasons after missing all of last year

with a neck injury, broke a tie with his boss and Broncos vice president John Elway with his 149th win as a starting quarterback. He trails only Brett Favre, who won 186 games during his career.

The Chiefs pursued the 36-year-old quarterback in the offseason, but never so much as received an opportunity to speak with him before Manning signed a five-year deal with Denver.

Now, the Broncos are flying high while the Chiefs are waiting to bottom out.

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