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Former student pleads guilty to two intoxication charges

By CATHERINE MCKEE
STAFF WRITER

The 2010 case has been put to rest.

Before she could be sentenced, former Texas Tech student Jeena Roberts plead guilty to colliding into another car while intoxicated. The 2010 car crash killed one passenger in the other car and critically injured another.

Roberts accepted the charges against her, including intoxication

manslaughter and intoxication assault, before her trial Monday in 140th District Court with Judge Jim Bob Darnell presiding, special prosecutor in the Lubbock District Attorney's Office Tom Brummett said.

Roberts received 15 years for the intoxication manslaughter charge and eight years for the intoxication assault charge. Both will be served concurrently in the Texas State Penitentiary, Brummett said.

The state made the plea offer to

Roberts during February 2011, but she rejected it at the time. Brummett said her change in plea was unexpected.

"I knew that that was a possibility," he said, "but no, since that was the original offer, I didn't feel that she was going to accept that. So it was a bit of a surprise, but I think it was the best outcome for all of the parties involved."

On Oct. 22, 2010, Roberts went on a field trip with the Bob L. Herd Department of Petroleum Engineer-

ing at Tech. She was intoxicated when she left the campus to drive home, Brummett said.

Roberts proceeded to drive home at a speed of 80 or 90 mph, and at the intersection of Marsha Sharp Freeway and Avenue L, she collided into the back of another vehicle, causing the vehicle to flip onto its roof, he said.

Linda Smaltz, one of the four passengers in the vehicle that flipped, Brummett said, was ejected and sustained fatal injuries.

The blood sample collected from Roberts that night showed her alcohol concentration was .25, three times the legal limit, he said.

Intoxication manslaughter is a second-degree felony with a punishment range from two to 20 years, while intoxication assault is a third-degree felony with a punishment range of 2 to 10 years, Brummett said.

Roberts originally faced three charges, with the third being aggravated assault. That charge, he

said, was eventually dropped.

Roberts was jailed immediately following the crash for a few days but was released on \$5,000 bail for the intoxication manslaughter charge, \$3,500 bail for intoxication assault and \$12,000 bail for aggravated assault.

Brummett said Roberts is only eligible for parole after she has finished half of her term, or seven and a half years because her crime included the use of a deadly weapon.

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Parking services takes toys for tickets

By CATHERINE MCKEE
STAFF WRITER

Students have the opportunity to turn parking citations into gifts for children with the Toys for Tickets program.

The program began Monday and will last until Dec. 14. During that time, faculty, staff and students can bring new, unwrapped toys of equal or greater value than their parking citations in exchange for the dismissal of the ticket.

By donating toys, students can have unpaid citations — for any violation at any time — dismissed. Receipts must be taken with the toys to show the value.

Toys for Tickets began about five years ago and has been partnered with the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation said Eric Crouch, managing director of Texas Tech Transportation and Parking Services.

Transportation and Parking Services was interested in the exchange of parking tickets for community service, but Crouch said they were not sure how to implement the idea.

After meeting with the Student Government Association, it was decided that donating toys would be the best way for students to give back to the community without sacrificing their time.

Crouch said the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation seemed like the perfect partner because they were capable of delivering and picking up toys.

The program typically fills five to six barrels full of toys, although last year, Toys for Tickets received fewer toys than usual, he said.

Students who are exchanging toys for tickets must do so at the Transportation and Parking Services Office, while students who do not have parking tickets can

donate toys at any of the seven entry stations on campus.

The average parking ticket is \$25, Crouch said, which is also the average cost for a toy. Toys for Tickets has received toys ranging from bicycles and Legos to dolls and action figures, he said.

Although he doesn't have a car on campus, Dallas freshman software engineering major Julius Larbi said he would participate in the program if he received a parking citation.

"It's turning a negative to a positive," he said. "If I had a car and I got a citation, I would do it. I would bring a toy."

Along with helping children, Larbi said he likes the idea of turning around a bad situation.

"I think it's cool because there's less fortunate kids out there, and this is a way for them to benefit from things."

JULIUS LARBI
FRESHMAN
ENGINEERING

"I think it's cool because there's less fortunate kids out there, and this is a way for them to benefit from things," he said. "There's a lot of students around who get tickets and citations, so if they bring toys, then they're getting out of their citation and they're helping someone at the same time."

Josie Bortz, a graduate Spanish literature student from Charlotte, N.C., said she would participate in the program if she had a ticket because she loves children.

Receiving a toy, she said, will have a lasting effect for children who are less fortunate.

"When we are in childhood, we have fantasies and we cannot break those fantasies, no matter what," she said. "We have to provide the kids good, educational toys, and I think (Toys for Tickets) is a great idea."

Bortz said she encourages students who have citations to participate because "children will remember forever who gave that gift."

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FINALIZING FABRIC



PHOTO BY ISAAC VILLOBO/STAFF WRITER

LISA HON, A sophomore apparel design and manufacturing major from Lubbock, organizes fabric for her final project in her draping class Tuesday in the Human Sciences building.

President signs whistle-blower bill for US workers

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama signed legislation Tuesday that affords greater protection to federal employees who expose fraud, waste and abuse in government operations.

Capping a 13-year effort by supporters of whistle-blower rights, the new law closes loopholes created by court rulings, which removed protections for federal whistle-blowers. One loophole specified that whistle-blowers were only protected when they were the first to report misconduct.

Obama also signed legislation that protects U.S. airlines from having to pay into a European Union program to cut down on pollutants. Earlier this month, the EU postponed its enforcement of the payment for non-EU airlines amid protests from numerous countries and threats of a possible trade war.

The whistle-blower law makes it easier to punish supervisors who try to retaliate against the government workers.

The federal official who investigates retaliation, Special Counsel Carolyn Lerner, said her office "stands ready to implement these important reforms, which will better ensure that no employee suffers retaliation for speaking out against government waste or mis-

conduct."

The new legislation, however, would go beyond restoring protections, to expand whistle-blower rights and clarify certain protections. For example, whistle-blowers could challenge the consequences of government policy decisions.

Specific protections would be given to certain employees, including government scientists who challenge censorship. Workers at the Transportation Security Administration, who provide airport security, would be covered under the law for the first time.

The law also would clarify that whistleblowers have the right to communicate with Congress.

To stop illegal retaliation, the law would make it easier to discipline those responsible, by modifying the burden of proof required when taking action against those trying to punish whistleblowers. Also, the Office of Special Counsel, which was established to protect federal employees, would no longer be liable for attorney fees of government managers if the office does not prevail in a disciplinary action.

The new law would suspend the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals' sole jurisdiction to review decisions in

whistle-blower cases.

The law's supporters said the court consistently narrowed protections and ruled for whistle-blowers only three times in 229 cases between October 1994 and May 2012. A review by all federal circuit courts was added as a two-year experiment.

Tom Devine, legal director of the Government Accountability Project, said, "This reform took 13 years to pass because it can make so much difference against fraud, waste and abuse. Government managers at all levels made pleas and repeatedly blocked the bill through procedural sabotage."

Devine, whose organization represents whistle-blowers, said the bill sailed through Congress once some senators who previously worked in secret to block a vote dropped their opposition.

The new airlines law was a response to an EU program that places a cap on carbon dioxide emissions from industrial polluters. Early this year, the law was expanded to include all airlines flying into and out of Europe.

U.S. airlines complained that they would be charged even for the emissions discharged over the United States or the Atlantic on their way to European destinations. The U.S. industry says it

would cost it some \$3.1 billion between 2012 and 2020. Those payments were to start in April, but the EU postponed that earlier this month.

"Although European leaders have temporarily pulled back their tax proposal, the law signed by the president today will help ensure the EU scheme will not resurface next year like a phoenix rising from the ashes," said Rep. John Mica of Florida, the Republican chairman of the House Transportation Committee.

The airlines emissions legislation requires the transportation secretary to prohibit U.S. airlines from paying into the EU emissions program if that prohibition is deemed in the public interest. It also urges the administration to engage in international talks to seek a global approach to aircraft emissions.

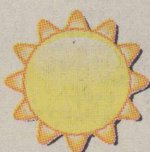
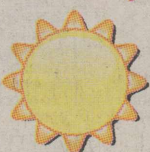
"The Obama administration should seek binding regulations and limits on such pollution when it meets with international partners to establish these rules at the International Civil Aviation Organization," said Sarah Saylor of the environmental group Earthjustice.

Obama also signed legislation that permits construction of a natural gas pipeline within certain areas of the Gateway National Recreation Area in New York City.

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Orange: Salvation Army should reconsider homosexuality stance
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Alamo's embattled Daughters find closure in scathing report

AUSTIN (AP) — The head of the Alamo's longtime caretakers said Tuesday her embattled group has found closure in a scathing report from state investigators who lambasted the Daughters of Republic of Texas as dysfunctional and financially inept.

Karen Thompson, president-general of the Daughters, also said membership hasn't suffered despite three years of bad publicity and embarrassing disclosures that rank among the low points in the organization's 122-year history. Last week, the Texas attorney general's office released a blistering report that highlighted the chronic mismanagement that led lawmakers to remove the Daughters as the Alamo's exclusive caretakers.

The report accused the Daughters of neglecting critical

preservation projects and misappropriating state funds. Prosecutors, however, have said they will not press charges.

In a fiery rebuttal last week, Thompson expressed shock at the report's "outrageously inaccurate conclusions." But on Tuesday, in what served as the Daughters' formal response, Thompson struck a more even tone and said the report closes the books on the controversy.

She also defended the Daughters' care of the Alamo for the past century.

"Do you think if we had mismanaged that place so bad for 107 years, wouldn't it be falling down?" Thompson told The Associated Press. "Wouldn't it be a bad place to visit? Would it not look like what it does today? Just look at the Alamo. I don't think it looks like it's falling down."



PHOTO BY DAVID VAUGHN/The Daily Toreador
DAVID GRIGGS, A civil engineering graduate student from Atlanta, Ga., measures the deformation of an iron rod after stress has been applied Tuesday in the Civil Engineering building.

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Suit targets 'locator' chips in Texas student IDs

AUSTIN (AP) — To 15-year-old Andrea Hernandez, the tracking microchip embedded in her student ID card is a "mark of the beast," a sacrilege to her Christian faith — not to mention how it pinpoints her location, even in the school bathroom.

But to her budget-reeling San Antonio school district, those chips carry a potential \$1.7 million in classroom funds.

Starting this fall, the fourth-largest school district in Texas is experimenting with "locator" chips in student ID badges on two of its campuses, allowing administrators to track the whereabouts of 4,200 students with GPS-like precision. Hernandez's refusal to participate

isn't a twist on teenage rebellion, but has launched a debate over privacy and religion that has forged a rare like-mindedness between typically opposing groups.

When Hernandez and her parents balked at the so-called Smart-ID, the school agreed to remove the chip but still required her to wear the badge. The family refused on religious grounds, stating in a lawsuit that even wearing the badge was tantamount to "submission of a false god" because the card still indicated her participation.

On Wednesday, a state district judge is expected to decide whether Northside Independent School District can transfer Hernandez to a different campus.

"How often do you see an issue where the ACLU and Christian fundamentalists come together? It's unusual," said Chris Steinbach, the chief of staff for a Republican state lawmaker who has filed a bill to outlaw the technology in Texas schools.

The concept isn't new, but hasn't exactly caught on nationwide. In 2005, the American Civil Liberties Union raised concerns about a similar initiative at a California school. That same year, a suburban Houston school district began putting the chips in its student IDs, and served as the blueprint for Northside's pilot

program that began this fall.

Ronald Stephens, executive director of the nonprofit National School Safety Center, said he didn't believe the technology to be widespread but predicted "it'll be the next wave" in schools. The chips use radio-frequency identification (RFID) transmitters and only work on campus.

The Northside school district spent roughly \$261,000 to equip students at one high school and one middle school with SmartIDs, a decision made with safety and efficiency in mind, said district spokesman Pascual Gonzalez. Imagine quickly accounting for students in the event of a lockdown, he said, or cafeteria lines moving faster as scanners instantly identify who's picking up that lunch tray.

Yet the biggest motivation was financial. In Texas, school funding is based on daily attendance. The more students seated in homeroom when the first bell rings, the more state dollars the school receives. If a student is lingering in the hallway or the library when roll is called, the marked absence hurts the school's bottom line.

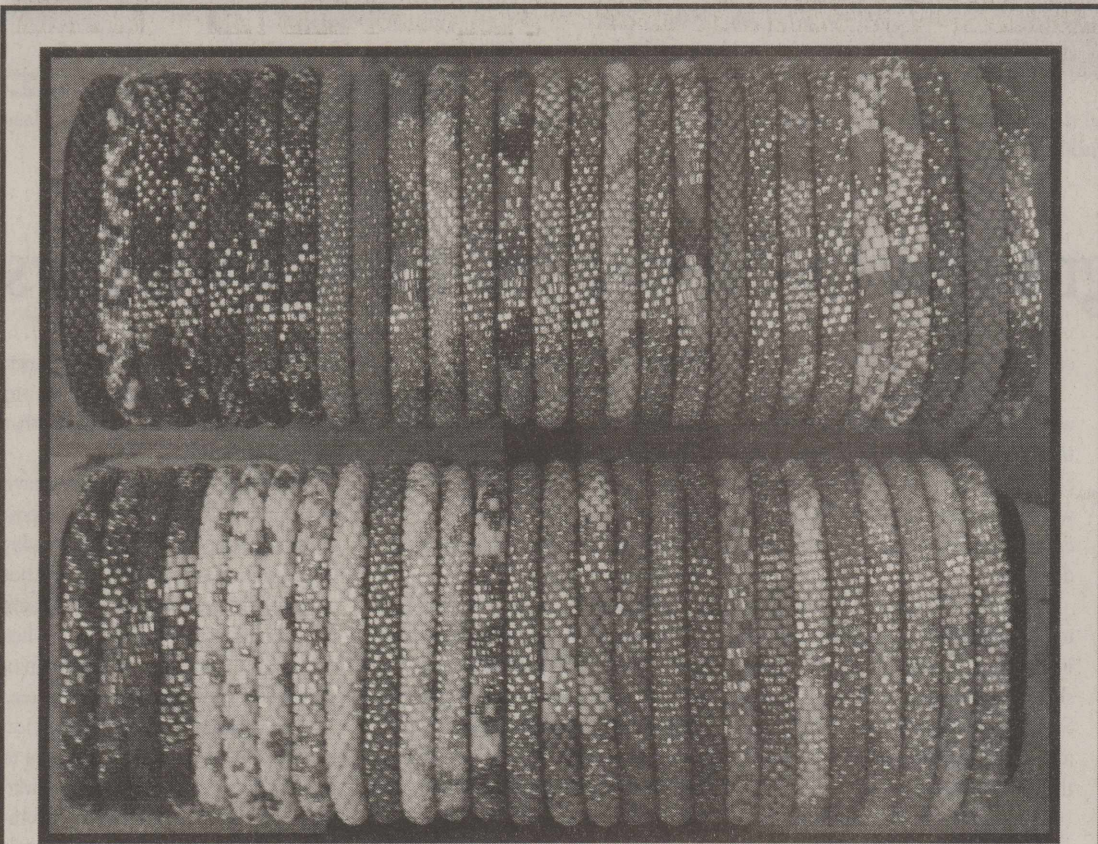
But with the locator chips — the district doesn't like to call them "tracking" — a clerk in the main office can find out if a student is else-

where on campus, and if so, include them in the attendance count. Every student found amounts to another \$30 in funding, based on the school's calculations. In that way, those moving red dots that represent students on the clerk's computer screen are like finding change in the couch cushions.

Gonzalez said the district has estimated another \$1.7 million in funding if the program delivers on expectations, somewhat lessening the sting of losing \$61.5 million after state lawmakers cut public school funding in Texas by nearly \$5 billion last year.

"Nobody is sitting at a bank of monitors looking for the whereabouts of 3,000 students," Gonzalez said. "We don't have the personnel for it, nor do we have the need to do that. But when I need to find (a student), I can enter his random number and I can find him somewhere as a red dot on that computer screen. 'Oh, there he is, in Science Room 22' or whatever. So we can locate students, but it's not about tracking them."

Hernandez's family isn't convinced. Nor is a Virginia-based civil rights group, The Rutherford Institute, which took up Hernandez's case and filed the lawsuit against the district.



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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Blue toon</p> <p>6 Stats at Anaheim's "Big A"</p> <p>10 Thyme rackmate</p> <p>14 Garbage can insert</p> <p>15 Vane point</p> <p>16 Supermodel Heidi who inspired a 2009 Barbie doll</p> <p>17 Wonderland wanderer</p> <p>18 Arctic obstacle</p> <p>19 Words before a conclusion</p> <p>20 "Darth Vader, e.g."</p> <p>23 Educ. support org.</p> <p>24 Place to see long lines, briefly</p> <p>25 Copier tray abbr.</p> <p>28 "City near Sacramento</p> <p>33 Luciano's love</p> <p>35 Common bill</p> <p>36 Never, in Munich</p> <p>37 Workplace in many crime shows</p> <p>38 "Weekly newspaper with three Pulitzerz"</p> <p>42 It's ground in a Southern side dish</p> <p>43 Desperate letters</p> <p>44 Aviv</p> <p>45 Calvin of couture</p> <p>46 "Bottom-feeding fish"</p> <p>49 Weird</p> <p>50 Developer of the one-named "Jeopardy!" contestant</p> <p>52 "You don't say!"</p> <p>53 Horror video game/film franchise, and a literal feature of the answers to the questions</p> <p>59 Composer Bartok</p> <p>62 Privy to</p> <p>63 Pizzeria order</p> <p>64 Folk singer associated with Dylan</p> <p>65 As is proper</p> <p>66 Chromosome components</p> <p>67 Student's surprise</p> <p>68 This, in Havana</p> <p>69 Bouquets</p>	<p>11/28/12</p> <p>Tuesday's Puzzle Solved</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>ERIE</td><td>BABE</td><td>HURON</td></tr> <tr><td>XENA</td><td>ARIS</td><td>ANEMO</td></tr> <tr><td>AMOR</td><td>MEOS</td><td>CHUNG</td></tr> <tr><td>MICHI</td><td>GA</td><td>OKAIPIS</td></tr> <tr><td>LUOMO</td><td>GUM</td><td>IAN</td></tr> <tr><td>ALLPRO</td><td>SANDBAG</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>BRAE</td><td>BLUNT</td><td>RSA</td></tr> <tr><td>ENT</td><td>ONTARIO</td><td>ISR</td></tr> <tr><td>VIE</td><td>PAUSE</td><td>GDAY</td></tr> <tr><td>YESITIS</td><td>RESEED</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>GIVER</td><td>METZ</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>RESUME</td><td>SUPERIOR</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>ADLAI</td><td>CVIL</td><td>ELHI</td></tr> <tr><td>NEONS</td><td>OPER</td><td>ALOT</td></tr> <tr><td>GREAT</td><td>ESSE</td><td>LAKKE</td></tr> </table> <p>34 1972 host to Nixon</p> <p>37 Decorator's study</p> <p>39 Final article of the Constitution</p> <p>40 Naval variety</p> <p>41 URL ending for many agencies</p> <p>46 It's usually barely passing</p> <p>47 "Time to split!"</p> <p>48 Aroused the patrolman's suspicion</p> <p>51 Hit back?</p> <p>53 Make fun of</p> <p>54 Blockhead</p> <p>55 Gaelic music star</p> <p>56 Ristorante beverage</p> <p>57 Eclair finisher</p> <p>58 Reduced by</p> <p>59 Jul. 4th party, often</p> <p>60 Claire</p> <p>61 Ring of blooms</p>	ERIE	BABE	HURON	XENA	ARIS	ANEMO	AMOR	MEOS	CHUNG	MICHI	GA	OKAIPIS	LUOMO	GUM	IAN	ALLPRO	SANDBAG		BRAE	BLUNT	RSA	ENT	ONTARIO	ISR	VIE	PAUSE	GDAY	YESITIS	RESEED		GIVER	METZ		RESUME	SUPERIOR		ADLAI	CVIL	ELHI	NEONS	OPER	ALOT	GREAT	ESSE	LAKKE
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Perry announces skilled workforce training initiative

HARLINGEN (AP) — A new workforce training initiative will aim to fast-track education for people with skills and real-world experience but without formal certification, Gov. Rick Perry said Tuesday.

The "Skilled Workforce Initiative" would seek to meet the growing demand for skilled workers in areas such as advanced manufacturing with people who already have some training and experience, including military veterans and displaced workers.

"The framework for technical training that we're going to be putting in place will enable these workers to earn their technical certification fast at an affordable cost and targeted to specific skills that are needed by industries so that they can be sure that the jobs are going to be waiting for them when they finish their coursework," Perry said.

By assessing those students' skills and giving them credit for what they already know, the time to achieve certification can be cut dramatically, he said. Less time will mean less cost as well.

A program launched earlier year called College Credit for Heroes also sought to address the question of giving credit specifically to veterans for training they received. The Harlingen campus of Texas State Technical College, where Perry spoke Tuesday, has about 188 veterans enrolled among its 6,000 students.

As Great Lakes plummet, towns try to save harbors

ONEKAMA, Mich. (AP)—For more than a century, easy access to Lake Michigan has made Onekama a popular place for summer visitors and a refuge for boaters fleeing dangerous storms. Now the community itself needs a rescue, from slumping lake levels that threaten its precious link to open water.

The Great Lakes, the world's biggest freshwater system, are shrinking because of drought and rising temperatures, a trend that accelerated with this year's almost snowless winter and scorching summer. Water levels have fallen to near-record lows on Lakes Michigan and Huron, while Erie, Ontario and Superior are below their historical averages. The decline is causing heavy economic losses, with cargo freighters forced to lighten their loads, marinas too shallow for pleasure boats and weeds sprouting on exposed bottomlands, chasing away swimmers and sunbathers.

Some of the greatest suffering is in small tourist towns that lack the economic diversity of bigger port cities. Yet they are last in line for federal money to deepen channels and repair infrastructure to support the boating traffic that keeps them afloat.

"How do you like our mud bog?" Township Supervisor Dave Meister asked on a recent afternoon, gesturing toward the shoreline of Portage Lake, part of a 2,500-acre inland waterway that connects Onekama to Lake Michigan. A wide expanse that normally would be submerged is now an ugly patchwork of puddles, muck and thick stands of head-high cattails. A grounded pontoon boat rested forlornly alongside a deserted dock.

The Army Corps of Engineers has estimated that about 30 small Great Lakes harbors will need attention in the next couple of years.

In bygone days, friendly members of Congress would slip money into the federal budget to dredge a harbor. But so-called earmarks have fallen out of favor, leaving business and civic leaders wondering where to turn. A desperate few are raising money locally for dredging but insist they can't afford it on a regular basis.

Tourism has sustained Onekama since the early 1900s, when northwestern Michigan coastal towns became popular with wealthy visitors from Chicago, Milwaukee and Detroit. On a typical summer day, the community's marinas are crowded with yachts, speedboats

and fishing charters.

But the falling water levels are taking a toll, illustrating how extensively the health of the Great Lakes affects the economy of a region that is home to more than 30 million people extending from Minnesota to New York.

Lake Michigan's level at the end of October was more than 2 feet below its long-term average. The Corps of Engineers says without heavy snowfall this winter, the lake may decline to its lowest point since record-keeping began in 1918.

The channel that connects Portage Lake and Lake Michigan is now about 7 feet deep at best. When the water is choppy, some vessels can hit bottom. If things get much worse, Onekama may be effectively cut off from the big lake.

"Businesses would close. People would be laid off. It would be devastating," said Jim Mrozinski, owner of Onekama Marine Inc., which services and stores pleasure craft and draws customers from across the Upper Midwest. He owns three marinas, one now unusable because of shallow water. If he's lucky, the others will have enough depth to rent perhaps 10 of the 55 slips next spring.

Lines by Madonna and other celebrities pop up in stores

(AP)— This holiday season you're likely to spot singer Jennifer Lopez in Kohl's. You could get a peek at pop music icon Madonna in Macy's. You might even catch a glimpse of reality TV star Kim Kardashian in Sears.

Well, not literally. These celebrities likely won't be making guest appearances in the aisles of your favorite department stores. But clothes, shoes and even ties that bear their names will.

It is part of a big push by stores to cash in on celebrities' money-making names. The move can be savvy. After all, who wouldn't want to don the stylish duds of a superstar? It can also be risky. The stars, figuratively, have to be aligned for celebrity lines to become a hit with shoppers. That can mean having the right celebrity pair up with the right store at the right time with the right amount of involvement in the design of the line.

"If it's simply to monetize your moment in the sun, it is not going to work in the long term," says Ivanka Trump, the daughter of real estate mogul Donald Trump who is an executive vice president for his Trump Organization and appeared on his "Apprentice" reality TV show.

Trump, 31, has a line of \$150 handbags and \$125 pumps at Lord & Taylor and other department stores. "You have to be involved in every aspect of the product line," she says.

Celebs have long dabbled in design. But with the growth of TV shows and websites that follow everything celebrities say, wear and do, interest in their clothing lines has increased in recent years. Indeed, revenue in North America from celebrity clothing lines, excluding merchandise linked to athletes, rose 6 percent last year to \$7.58 billion, according to The Licensing Letter, an industry trade publication. That's on top of a nearly 5 percent increase in 2010.

Major department stores, facing growing competition from trendy fashion chains such as H&M, Mango and Zara, have jumped on the trend. They're hoping to reap benefits from the lines during the holiday shopping season in November through December, a time when stores can make up to 40 percent of their annual revenue. Big stores now get as much as a quarter of their sales from celebrity brands, which is up from under 10 percent five years ago, according to market research firm NPD Group.

As interest from stores and shoppers grows, so does the list of celebs with their own lines. Madonna, 54,

has a new Truth or Dare line of perfume, over-the-knee lace-up boots and other shoes at several department stores. Nicole Richie, 31, former reality TV star and daughter of singer and songwriter Lionel Richie, earlier this year rolled out an eponymous clothing line of \$86.50 floral maxi skirts and \$49.50 lace tops on QVC home shopping network.

And singer Jennifer Hudson's new fashion collection was launched on QVC this fall. Her line includes \$96.50 hooded jackets, \$53 blouses and one of her favorite wardrobe staples — \$50 leggings. Hudson, a spokeswoman for Weight Watchers' weight-loss program, says her goal is to appeal to women of all sizes.

"Every piece is a part of me," says Hudson, 31, who recently slimmed down from a size 16 to a 6. "And it came from something that I have worn or would wear."

THE PIONEERS
Jaclyn Smith, who starred in the popular 1970s series "Charlie's Angels," pioneered the celebrity brand business in 1985 with a line of clothing and accessories at Kmart.

For more than a quarter of a century, the line that carries everything from \$79 striped trench coats and \$49 faux fur trimmed vests to \$299.99 artificial Christmas trees and \$179 dining sets, has become a staple at the discounter. In fact, the products' success has risen even though Smith, 67, has long been out of the spotlight. Kmart officials declined to give sales figures, but retail consultant Burt Flickinger estimates that the collection rings up about \$250 million in

annual revenue, which is considered healthy.

"She's a beloved American icon," says Flickinger, adding that the merchandise in the line has remained popular because they're "timeless, in good taste and have quality."

Kathy Ireland, 49, a former Sports-wear Illustrated swimsuit model, also turned her celebrity brand into a moneymaker. Since 1993, she has built a \$2 billion global retail business, according to fashion trade publication Women's Wear Daily. Her line includes more than 15,000 items from curtains to wedding dresses that are sold in more than 50,000 small chains.

Ireland attributes her success to her methodical approach to expansion. In fact, her first foray into the business was socks. She wanted to see how something simple would sell before she rolled out swimwear, active wear and other items a year later in 1994.

"If women would embrace something as basic as a pair of socks, that would tell us we were on to something," says Ireland, who sketches looks for her line for a design team to refine.

More recently, singer Jessica Simpson, 32, has built her brand into a billion-dollar brand in the past seven years. She now sells more than 29 products from shoes, clothes and perfume to purses and luggage in department stores such as Macy's. For the winter holidays, items include \$89 platform bright blue platform pumps and \$128 strapless belted lace dresses.

DILIGENT DRAWING

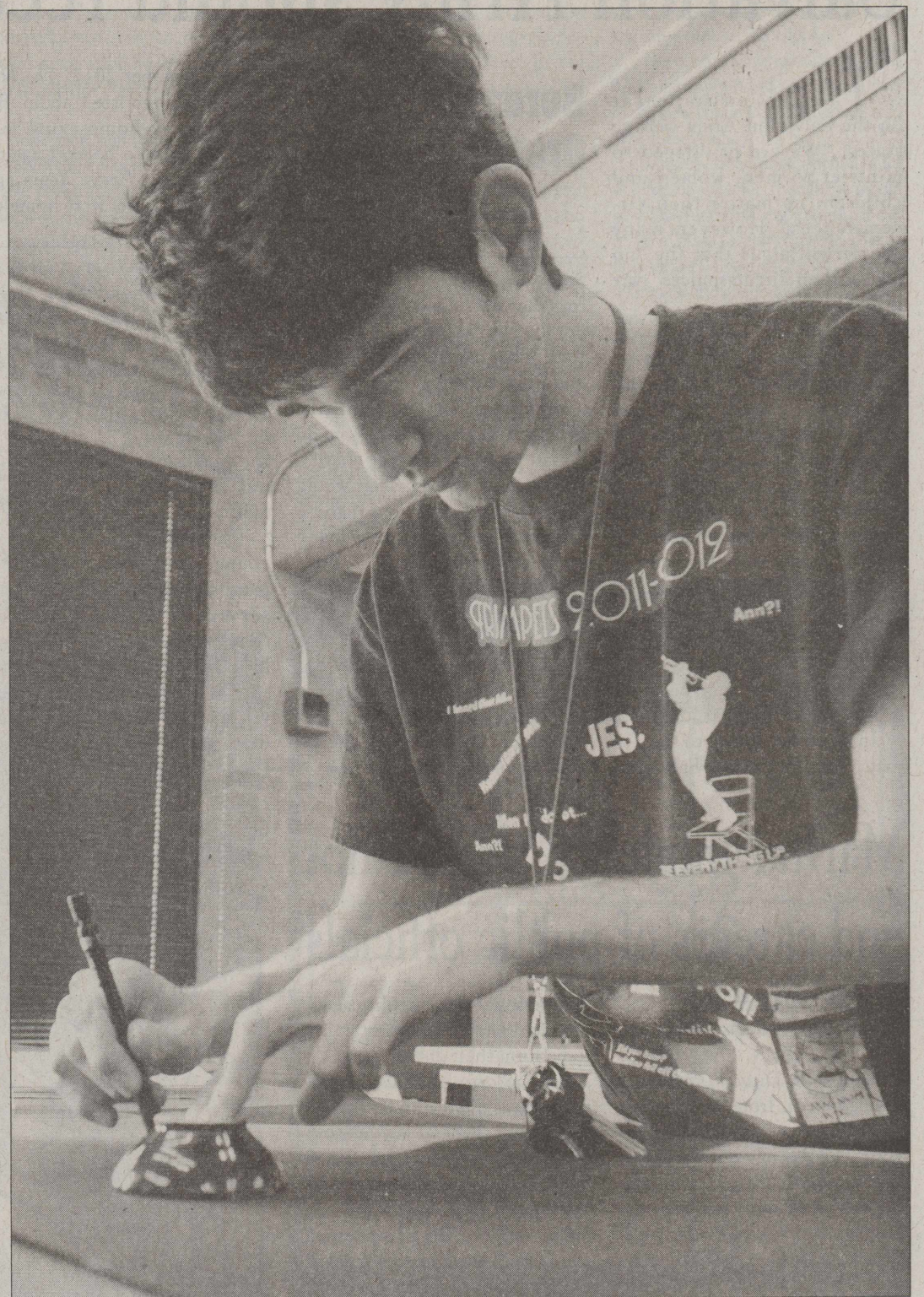


PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador

GRANT ROEMERSHAUSER, A freshman architecture and civil engineering major from Houston, works on a poster of the Chartres Cathedral for a freehand drawing class Tuesday in the Architecture building.

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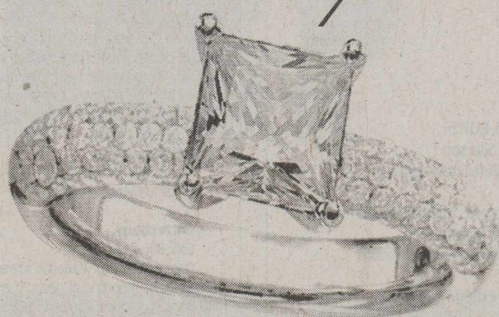


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Salvation Army should reconsider homosexuality stance

The mission statement on the Salvation Army website states, "We are privileged to minister to men, women and children, no matter their circumstances." However, many people will argue that the "no matter their circumstances" part is highly misleading.

Many people know The Salvation Army as a Christian ministry that gives back to the community and those in need. They have thrift stores, social programs and most notoriously, those little red kettles during the holiday season outside our convenience and grocery stores. Who can resist the elderly people standing outside the door of Walgreens asking you to dig deep into your heart and donate to those in need? Well before you consider doing your good deed of the day, consider whom you are doing it for.

In 2010, according to the *Toronto Sun*, the Calgary Salvation

**Berea
Orange**



Army actually sifted through the toys that were donated and threw out the Harry Potter and Twilight toys. They considered them an endorsement of witchcraft and contradictory to their Christian beliefs. When asked if they would donate them to another charity, they simply said no. That would be considered support for these things and, of course, they could do no such thing.

That may not seem like a very big deal to you, but consider their views on homosexuality. The Salvation Army states that according to the Bible, the act of homosexuality is a sin, and therefore, homosexuals should practice abstinence.

In December 2011, *The New York Times* reported about Bill Browning, a homosexual man who organized a boycott against the Salvation Army. Years ago, he and his partner were homeless on the street in Southern Indiana. The Salvation Army refused to help them unless they would break up and "leave the homosexual lifestyle behind."

They asked them to attend church services. If they were to break up, only one of them could stay at the shelter and, if there was enough room for the other, that person would have to be on the other side of the room and the

couple wasn't allowed to look at each other.

Just this June, a media relations director for the organization, Andrew Craibe, was interviewed about the Salvation Army's homosexual views. I'm not sure he initially knew the Australian journalists (Serena Ryan and Pete Dillon) were homosexuals, but he succeeded in putting his foot in his mouth.

Ryan asked, "According to the Salvation Army, [gay people] deserve death." Craibe continued to agree and further stated that they deserve death. Biblically, I understand

what he meant. Someone had to go behind him and clarify that he meant a spiritual death.

Biblically, this is true. Sin (not just homosexuality) equals death (spiritually). I'm just sorry they didn't have a better media relations director to speak on something like this. If you're going to go on a radio show hosted by homosexuals to speak about your beliefs, at least do it intelligently.

While I think Craibe is an imbecile and find the toy debacle to be completely out of line, what really upsets me is how Browning and his partner were treated. "Break up with the person you love and become a Christian, and we'll help." A problem so many evangelists have is that they do not know how to bring people to Christ.

This is not the way people should be at all. The Bible says to help the poor. You serve God by serving others. You do not put conditions on your charity. The

way the Salvation Army treated Mr. Browning and his partner was the way most "sinners" get turned off from the Christian lifestyle.

I personally believe in leading by example and loving your neighbors (hate the sin, not the sinner). What the Salvation Army did to that poor, homosexual couple that needed help from God's people was disgusting. They do not give purely altruistically, and as a result, made their mission statement false.

As a Christian, I am sorry they were subjected to such discrimination, and my hope is that they do not consider these the views of all Christians. So this holiday season, when I walk past the little red kettles, the volunteers get only a smile from me as I walk by purely on principle.

Orange is a senior human development and family studies major from Arlington.
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Marital infidelity should not end careers of public officials

By **WILLIAM ROSE**
CONNECT2MASON (GEORGE MASON U.)

General David Petraeus stepped down from his position as the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency on November 9, 2012 amidst criticism concerning his affair with his personal biographer, Paula Broadwell. This certainly is not the first time a public official has stepped down from a powerful office in response to the elucidation of an extramarital affair—Bill Clinton, arguably one of the most effective Presidents of our time and consistently ranked in the top quartile, was impeached after allegations of having a relationship with Monica Lewinsky. But, to what degree do our "extra-curricular activities"

The personal lives of political figures, in no way, affect their ability to perform their duties.

In the case of Bill Clinton, perjury was the reason for his impeachment. Federal law declares perjury to be a felony. Clinton lied under oath and, unfortunately for the American people, was nixed for it—unlike his predecessor, which we'll leave to another article. Petraeus's situation, however, was quite different. He resigned amongst controversy, but not as a result of an sort of immediate conviction. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this situation is the fact that the Federal Bureau of Investigation conducted the initial investigation into supposedly harassing emails exchanged between Broadwell and an acquaintance

of Petraeus, Jill Kelly. Perhaps the proximity of Broadwell to Petraeus somehow justified this awkward intrusion by the FBI, but I find it difficult to justify the FBI then ceasing a personal email account of Petraeus's, uncovering a deeper cause for investigation, and then acting upon it, outing Petraeus's affair.

Regardless of my opinion that the FBI should have little business in the affairs of leaders in other intelligence agencies, even if it was "accidentally stumbled upon," an affair, in no way, affects a leader's capacity to carry out their duties. While I am not condoning adultery, I find it disappointing that the personal lives of officials are brought under the public eye. They have a right to privacy just like everyone else and I don't think they should have to relinquish that right in their service to the American people.

"An affair, in no way, affects a leader's capacity to carry out their duties."

our ability to carry out our jobs? People in Europe didn't understand why Bill Clinton stepped down after having an affair; they largely considered extramarital affairs to have no bearing on leadership capacity. While there may be a difference in cultural norms between, generally speaking, Europe and the United States, the underlying presumption, from a European perspective, still stands—why would a leader's personal affairs be of concern to American citizens? Even when I was in high school, I was critical of the media's incessant hounding on Sarah Palin's daughter, Bristol. Sarah Palin was an idiot regardless of how many pre-marital children her daughter popped out by Election Day—why should the personal life of her daughter have anything to do with Governor Palin's capabilities, or lack thereof, of being Vice President.

THE TROTS



BY ANDREA FARKAS

Obama drone policy unethical, harmful to US perception

By **MICAH CONKLING**
THE DAILY ATHENAEUM (W. VIRGINIA U.)

Unmanned aerial vehicles, most commonly referred to as drones, have been used by the US military to attack suspected enemies consistently since 2004, when President Bush sought to locate and kill Taliban and Al-Qaeda members in Pakistan.

Since then, drone use has been on the rise and has diversified to include other countries, and drone operations are targeting various terrorist groups.

According to a recent article in *The New York Times*, there have been more than 300 drone strikes and 2,500 people killed by those drone attacks since Barack Obama took office. The Obama administration and the American people need to think carefully and critically about the ethical implications of drone use, as well as what the United States' use of drones says about our country's philosophy and global agenda moving forward.

It is unfortunate that President Obama has taken the stance he has regarding the use of drones in military action. As a man who champions himself and is lauded by a good deal of the American people as a supporter of human and civil rights, Obama's backing of drones

doesn't jive with his ethos.

Obama has sold himself as a President who has concerns for minorities and the weak. Does the use of a remote controlled killing device that sometimes kills children fit Obama's character? Does it comply with what we want America to be?

Many say the use of unmanned drones is a necessary evil to protect the American homeland. Others will roughly guffaw that President Obama and the government who support drone use aren't letting down the American people, but keeping them safe. A United States that believes civilian life in Pakistan is less valuable than civilian life in Maryland is not a United States I am proud to be a part of.

While some might groan at the prospect of an increasingly global world community, it is happening and is irreversible. We would be good to embrace the changes, rather than try and fight them. We don't have a very good track record of attempting to deny cultural shifts.

The legality of drone use has been continually questioned by American and global leaders. A UN specialist on extrajudicial killings, Christof Heyns, has suggested that some drone strikes constitute "war crimes." Other experts like Ian Seiderman, the

director of the International Commission of Jurists, have said that because of drone use, "immense damage was being done to the fabric of international law." Experts are indeed worried US drone use might be doing more harm than good, encouraging terrorists to act out and possibly provoking other countries to violate laws set up by events like the Geneva Convention.

The ethics of drone use is probably the most challenging argument, as has already been mentioned with the loss of civilian life. A joint 2012 report done by law school researchers at NYU and Stanford titled "Living Under Drones: Death, Injury and Trauma to Civilians From US Drone Practices in Pakistan" details the terrorizing effects drones are having on people in the affected areas.

According to the report, "their way of life is collapsing: kids are too terrified to go to school, adults are afraid to attend weddings, funerals, business meetings or anything that involves gathering in groups." Obviously drones are not just sniping out evil individuals—they are destroying cultures and innocent lives.

One of the most defeating moments of the 2012 presidential elections came in the last

debate when both Mitt Romney and Barack Obama refused to deliberate over the use of drones, both basically conceding that what was happening was working for the country and didn't need a change. When asked about Obama's drone policy, Romney said, "I support that entirely and feel the president was right to up the usage of that technology and believe that we should continue to use it to continue to go after the people who represent a threat to this nation and to our friends." No discussion about the ethical implications or civilian deaths caused by drone use ensued.

While American drone attacks have indeed killed terrorists, legal ramifications and human rights violations must be reconsidered. Like any technology, continued analysis and questioning must be done as America and other countries navigate toward finding peace on the earth. President Obama would do better to reassess his position under the lens of his human rights campaigns.

The American people need to look outside themselves and view all civilian lives as valuable, not just ones with whom we share citizenship. Those things we deem as necessary evils are still exactly that: evil.

Let us know what you think.

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The Daily Treador accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community. Guest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification and submission.

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Female military members sue to serve in combat

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Four female service members filed a lawsuit Tuesday challenging the Pentagon's ban on women serving in combat, hoping the move will add pressure to drop the policy just as officials are gauging the effect that lifting the prohibition will have on morale.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in San Francisco, is the second one this year over the 1994 rule that bars women from being assigned to ground combat units, which are smaller and considered more dangerous since they are often in battle for longer periods.

The legal effort comes less than a year after the ban on gays serving openly was lifted and as officials are surveying Marines about whether women would be a distraction in ground combat units.

"I'm trying to get rid of the ban with a sharp poke," said U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Jennifer Hunt, who was

among the plaintiffs in the latest lawsuit and was injured in 2007 when her Humvee ran over an improvised explosive device in Iraq.

Hunt and the other three women said the policy unfairly blocks them from promotions and other advancements open to men in combat. Three of the women are in the reserves. A fourth, Marine Corp Lt. Colleen Farrell, leaves active duty this week.

Women comprise 14 percent of the 1.4 million active military personnel. The lawsuit alleges that women are barred from 238,000 positions across the Armed Forces.

At a Washington, D.C., news conference, Pentagon press secretary George Little said the Defense Department was making strides in allowing more women into combat. He said Defense Secretary Leon Panetta has opened about 14,500 combat positions to women.

Shakespeare's Globe building new indoor theater

LONDON (AP) — Shakespeare's Globe, the open-air London playhouse that helped win modern audiences over to all-weather outdoor theatergoing, is embracing the great indoors.

The Globe on Tuesday unveiled details of a new indoor venue that will sit alongside the O-shaped Elizabethan-style theater on the banks of the River Thames.

Built from 17th-century plans, it will allow audiences to remain warm and dry as they watch candlelit performances of plays by the Bard and his successors — and, its creators hope, cast those classic plays in a new light.

"We're hoping it will prove as great a revelation as this building has," said Globe artistic director Dominic Dromgoole, referring to the open-air theater that opened in 1997. "In the simplest terms, it's called going back to the future."

The Sam Wanamaker Theatre — named for the late American actor-director who spent decades realizing his dream of rebuilding Shakespeare's

playhouse near its original site — is due to open in January 2014, and will allow the Globe to hold performances year-round for the first time.

Modeled loosely on the long-vanished Blackfriars playhouse where Shakespeare's company, the King's Men, performed in winter, the timber-framed space will hold 350 people, in seated galleries and a standing-room pit.

Dromgoole said that in true 17th-century style, it would feature "a lot of people packed tight into a very small space — bulging with humanity."

In another nod to authenticity, the oak-framed, wood-paneled theater will be lit by candles, no small achievement in our safety-conscious times.

Martin White, a leading expert on theater lighting and a consultant to the project, said that with modern safety techniques open flames in a wooden theater can be perfectly safe — and convincing the London Fire Brigade proved remarkably easy.

"I was quite surprised," he said.

"They became really interested in the project. I think they wanted to see live flames lighting a performance in the theater. They became enthusiastic about it, and that is always the best start for everything."

Dromgoole pointed out that the Globe has a history of getting permission to bend building rules. In the 1990s it became the first thatched-roofed building constructed in London since the Great Fire of 1666. Thatched roofs were banned in London after the fire, which razed much of the medieval city.

The new venue is being built based on drawings found at Oxford University's Worcester College in the 1960s — the earliest surviving plans for an indoor theater.

No theater buildings from that era survive, and many questions remain about how they were constructed.

Farah Karim-Cooper, head of the Globe's architecture research group, said the goal was "to build a theater Shakespeare might recognize," rather than a reconstruction of any particular

venue.

Wanamaker, who died in 1993, dreamed of an indoor theater beside the Globe's outdoor space, and the shell of the venue was built as part of the reconstruction. But financial constraints prevented it from being completed at the same time as the Globe.

The company has raised most of the 7.5 million pound (\$12 million) cost of the new venue from individuals and charitable trusts.

Shakespeare's Globe opened amid skepticism — some thought it would be a kitschy tourist trap. It turned out to be a huge success, drawing 1 million visitors a year and winning over audiences and critics with productions that use staging techniques of the past to shed new light on old plays.

The company's all-male productions of "Richard III" and "Twelfth Night" starring former Globe artistic director Mark Rylance opened this month to glowing reviews in London's West End after a summer run at the Globe.

Alamo's embattled Daughters find closure in report

AUSTIN (AP) — The head of the Alamo's longtime caretakers said Tuesday her embattled group has found closure in a scathing report from state investigators who lambasted the Daughters of Republic of Texas as dysfunctional and financially inept.

Karen Thompson, president-general of the Daughters, also said membership hasn't suffered despite three years of bad publicity and embarrassing disclosures that rank among the low points in the organization's 122-year history. Last week, the Texas attorney general's office released a blistering report that highlighted the chronic mismanagement that led lawmakers to remove the Daughters as the Alamo's exclusive caretakers.

The report accused the Daughters of neglecting critical preservation projects and misappropriating state funds. Prosecutors, however, have said they will not press charges.

In a fiery rebuttal last week, Thompson expressed shock at the report's "outrageously inaccurate conclusions." But on Tuesday, in what served as the Daughters' formal response, Thompson struck a more even tone and said the report closes the books on the controversy.

She also defended the Daughters' care of the Alamo for the past century.

"Do you think if we had managed that place so bad for 107 years, wouldn't it be fall-

ing down?" Thompson told The Associated Press. "Wouldn't it be a bad place to visit? Would it not look like what it does today? Just look at the Alamo. I don't think it looks like it's falling down."

Lawmakers last year removed the Daughters as chief caretakers amid concerns over their management and fundraising capabilities. The state's most iconic landmark is now in the hands of the General Land Office, which is asking lawmakers for \$1 million for immediate preservation work and repairs.

Thompson said "no organization is perfect" and that the group plans to use the report as a learning tool.

Membership in the Daughters remains steady despite their battered public image, Thompson said. She said the organization is approaching 8,000 active members and in the process of chartering three new chapters.

The Daughters still help the state care for the Alamo, but now answer to much stricter oversight. Among the responsibilities the organization lost was management of the gift shop, which the state has turned over to a private company for the first time in history.

"We've been there 107 years. We want to continue to be there for 107 years more," Thompson said. "But in this process, we've learned that we don't need to do this by ourselves."

MODEL BEHAVIOR

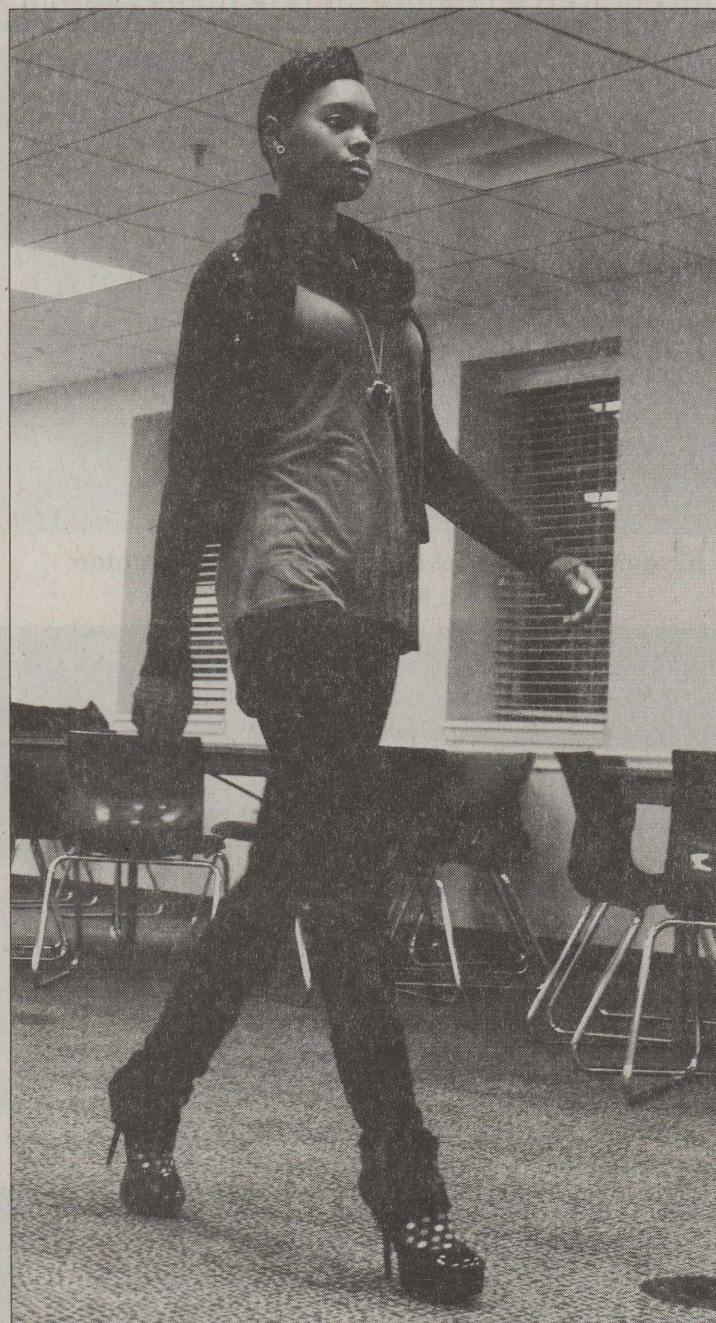


PHOTO BY EMILY MCCARTHY/The Daily Torador
 RIA RIVERS, A sophomore retail management major from Cibolo, auditions to model two of Texas Tech's fashion designers clothing to raise money for the Cancer Has Cancer Foundation and the Afro Care Foundation Tuesday in the Mesa room in the Student Union Building.

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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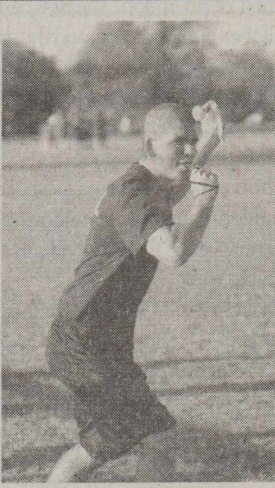
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Sport Clubs News
 The following Sport Club Officer were recognized as Officers of the Month during the Fall! One of these Officers will be selected as Sport Club Officer of the Semester.

- Taylor Roberts - Men's Soccer
- Cybbi Barton - Women's Rugby
- Jacob Mota - Quidditch
- Liz Reed - Women's Lacrosse
- Ryan Smith - Inline Hockey

Outdoor Pursuits Center

DID YOU KNOW TECH HAS A SKI SHOP?
 Full ski and snowboard packages will be available when the shop officially opens after Thanksgiving. Ski rentals will be available for the semester break too! Please check with the OPC in person or at 742-2949 for more information on semester break specials!

	Weekend	Week
Snowboard Package	\$35.00	\$80.00
Ski Package	\$30.00	\$65.00
Ski Only	\$20.00	\$40.00
Boots Only	\$15.00	\$30.00
Ski Poles	\$6.00	\$12.00
Snowboard Only	\$25.00	\$50.00
Snow Shoes	\$10.00	\$20.00
Helmet	\$5.00	\$10.00

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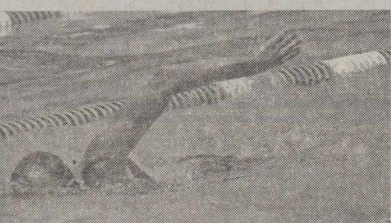
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Aquatics



Long Course Swim at the Aquatic Center on Saturday, December 1 from 10:00am - 11:30am

Fitness/Wellness

GROUP FITNESS INSTRUCTOR AUDITIONS
 Are you Fit, Fun, and a Fantastic Instructor? Apply now to be a Group Fitness Instructor at the Student Recreation Center! Applications are due at the Fit/Well Office in the SRC by Friday, November 30th. Auditions will be held Sunday, December 2nd, from noon to 4 PM.

WELLNESS BLOOD SCREENINGS - Nov. 29th
 Covenant Health Center has partnered with the Texas Tech Student Recreation Center to provide Wellness Blood Screenings to the Texas Tech Community. Look online at <http://bit.ly/IHMyof> for full screening details as well as explanations of each test. Sign up by November 28th at noon in the Fit/Well for screenings on the 29th.

Intramurals and Intramural Soccer Champions



Intramural Soccer Men's Greek Red Champion Phi Kappa Psi



Intramural Soccer Women's Champion Who Knows



Intramural Soccer Men's Greek Black Champion Phi Delta Theta



Intramural Soccer Co-Rec Champion Balls and Dolls

3-PEAT FITNESS FINALE
 THREE CLASSES-SAME MUSIC-SAME TIME-SAME PLACE

TEXAS TECH REC SPORTS
DEAD DAY
 3-PEAT FITNESS FINALE
 TABATA-TURBO KICK+SPIN

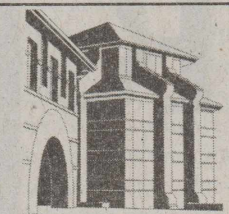
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
 5:30-6:30pm @ the indoor soccer court
 Free t-shirts given to the first 150 people to donate 3 cans for the South Plains Food Bank!

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 TODAY IS LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!
 Grab five friends and participate in our Intramural Dodgeball Tournament! Teams play six players at a time, and registration is free! Sign up today!

FLAG FOOTBALL REGIONAL TOURNAMENT
 Texas Tech University Recreational Sports would like to thank all Texas Tech and community members who contributed to the very successful Regional Flag Football tournament held before Thanksgiving. The tournament featured 46 Intramural Champion Teams from several states in Region 4 NIRSA group, and will be held again at Texas Tech next year. Special thanks to our Texas Tech referees: Jake Bush, Jeffly Noel, Ben Germ, and Corbyn Gilbert.



Intramural Soccer Men's Champion Ringers



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EVENT CALENDAR NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 4



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Gordon takes head coaching job at MS State

By **HOLDEN WILEN**
STAFF WRITER

After spending six seasons with the Texas Tech women's soccer team and helping it achieve a school-record 16 wins during the 2012 season, Tech associate head coach Aaron Gordon has accepted the head coaching position at Mississippi State.

According to a news release, Mississippi State Director of Athletics Scott Stricklin named Gordon as the fourth head coach in school history Tuesday, with the decision pending the approval by the Board of Trustees and the Institutions of Higher Learning. Gordon spent the last year as associate head coach at

Tech, and six seasons overall on coach Tom Stone's staff.

"We are excited to have a coach with great credentials like Aaron coming to lead our soccer program," Stricklin said in the release. "Aaron is a hard-working, intelligent coach who is a great recruiter and teacher of the game. He is well-respected in

the soccer coaching community, and seeing what he helped build at Texas Tech this season has us excited to see where he can lead our soccer program."

As part of Stone's staff at Tech, Gordon helped build the team into a winner, culminating in the program's

first NCAA tournament berth. Gordon oversaw all facets of the program, according to the release, including recruiting, scouting, team training and video match analysis.

Gordon, along with his wife Ashley who also spent six seasons on Stone's staff, helped Tech win 60 games overall and 23 wins in-conference. Both totals are more than the team won its previous nine seasons combined.

"Aaron and Ashley Gordon have been instrumental in the development of this program since we arrived in 2007," Stone said. "Their dedication, passion and expertise were key ingredients in the process that culmi-

nated in our selection into the NCAA Tournament this year for the first time in program history."

Gordon originally came to Tech after spending three years with FC Dallas of Major League Soccer, where he served as the director of coaching. He received his Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from the University of North Texas after spending time at Hardin Simmons University and the University of South Carolina-Spartanburg.

Accepting his first collegiate head coaching job, Gordon said in the release he is excited to take advantage of an opportunity he could not pass up.

"It's exciting to come to Mississippi State and have a chance

to be a part of this athletic department, to get a chance to build a program and compete in the SEC," Gordon said. "It's everything I've wanted as a coach, and this opportunity is very exciting."

Stone said he hopes the best for Gordon and his family after the two coaches spent the last nine seasons together at Tech and WUSA.

"(Gordon) is going to be fantastic for Mississippi State as they set out to change the culture and competitiveness of their women's soccer program," Stone said. "We wish the Gordons all the best in this exciting next chapter of their careers."

—hwilen@dailytoreador.com

"(Gordon) is going to be fantastic for Mississippi State as they set out to change..."

TOM STONE
TECH
HEAD COACH

Will Manziel break Heisman Trophy freshman curse?

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — In the 77-year history of the Heisman Trophy, no freshman has ever won the award.

Texas A&M's Johnny Manziel, the player who proved coach Kevin Sumlin's prolific offense could work in the SEC, may finally change that.

Manziel accumulated 4,600 yards of total offense and 43 touchdowns this season along with a signature win over then top-ranked Alabama to make him a front-runner for the Heisman.

In the past some voters have been reluctant to pick a freshman for the award. But those attitudes might be changing.

Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops coached Adrian Peterson in 2004 when he finished second in voting — still the highest

finish ever for a freshman.

"A player is a player, it shouldn't matter what age he is," Stoops said.

Manziel spoke to the media for the second straight day Tuesday after not being available all season because Sumlin doesn't allow freshman to talk to the media. He danced around the question almost as deftly as he avoids defenders when scrambling out of the pocket when asked if he thought age should matter in Heisman voting.

"I've heard a lot about it and people have their different opinions on that," he said. "I just think that situation will play itself out."

"It goes to the most outstanding player in college football, if that happens to be me

then that's something that I'll cherish for the rest of my life. If not, then that's just kind of how the cookie crumbles, I guess."

The other top freshman finishers in the history of the Heisman were Herschel Walker in 1980 and Michael Vick in 1999, who both came in third. Vick, like Manziel, was a redshirt freshman. Walker and Peterson were in their first seasons on campus.

Manziel wasn't yet born when Walker had his fabulous freshman season and was just 6 years old when Vick wowed in his. But, Manziel who turns 20 next week, does recall Peterson's first year.

"I do remember Adrian Peterson at Oklahoma and the year he had and they still talk about it to this day," Manziel

said. "People still remember his freshman year at Oklahoma that was something that was truly spectacular."

Manziel is second in the nation in total offense with more than 383 yards a game. He leads the SEC in yards rushing a game (98.4), pass completions a game (22.8), scoring per game (9.5) and points responsible for per game (21.5).

His success in what is widely considered the toughest football conference in the country is a big reason why some think his freshman status won't matter to voters.

"I don't think there's any reason not to vote for him, simply because he's a freshman," CBS Sports analyst Verne Lundquist said. "He's put up numbers this year that are

astounding. Not only are the stats astounding, but his style of play is so compelling. I would not be surprised if he won, and I think he's probably earned it."

Some believe that Manziel could benefit from the fact that he's not a true freshman, but is in his second full year of college.

Tim Tebow became the first sophomore to win the award in 2007, starting a string of three straight sophomores to win it.

As for Manziel, he's still trying to grasp the fact that he's a top contender for the award, and says he hasn't even thought about writing a speech in case he wins. When he first heard his name mentioned for the award he was floored.

"It's something that you don't really believe," he said.

"But it's something that's cool to see."

He said he's been able to stay grounded despite his meteoric rise from fighting for the starting job in August to leading the Aggies to 10 wins this season because of a tight-knit group of friends.

"My friends do the best job of making sure that doesn't get to my head or anything like that," he said.

"I think they're in love with more college football players than they even like me. They talk about Jeff Driskel or Braxton Miller or whoever it may be."

"They talk about those guys all the time and it makes me sit back and think: 'Do y'all even like me?'" Manziel said with a laugh.

NFL great Jack Pardee ill with cancer

HOUSTON (AP) — Jack Pardee, one of Bear Bryant's "Junction Boys" who went on to become a five-time All-Pro linebacker and an NFL coach, has been diagnosed with gall bladder cancer and has six to nine months to live, his family said Tuesday.

The cancer has spread to other organs and that her 77-year-old father plans to move to a Denver

hospice where the College Football Hall of Fame inductee's wife, Phyllis, has been receiving care since having a stroke, daughter Anne Pardee confirmed to The Associated Press.

Anne Pardee said her father was in good spirits despite the diagnosis.

Jack Pardee survived a bout with melanoma when he was 28

and in the middle of his 15-year NFL playing career.

He played only six-man football at Christoval High School in west-central Texas, near San Angelo, before moving on to Texas A&M. Bryant became the Aggies' coach in 1954 and moved their preseason camp to desolate Junction, about 100 miles northwest of San Antonio.

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K-State's Snyder still favors Big 12 title game

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — Kansas State coach Bill Snyder still believes the Big 12 should ultimately expand to at least 12 teams, creating two divisions and a conference championship game.

Snyder said Tuesday that "there are a number of programs in our conference who have and would profit from that type of system," pointing out that teams with multiple losses would generate more interest late in the season by still having a chance to play for a championship.

"You walk out here and you walk through the lobby and you see a trophy case here, and if we didn't have divisions that would probably be a single trophy case," Snyder said. "We had a chance to play for division championships, and then conference championships, and that was positive."

The 73-year-old Snyder has seen the Big 12 go through a dramatic series of changes since he took over the once-downtrodden Kansas State program in the late 1980s. When the old Southwest Conference disintegrated, the Big Eight expanded by four teams to become the Big 12, and played a conference title game every year from 1996-2010.

The game has cut both ways for the Wildcats: They were in position to play for a national championship in 1998 before losing to Texas A&M in double-overtime, but managed to win the Big 12 title and earn a Fiesta Bowl berth in 2003 by upsetting then-No. 1 Oklahoma.

The league has undergone even more change the past couple

of years, with longtime member Colorado leaving for the Pac-12 and Nebraska heading to the Big Ten, and with Missouri and Texas A&M joining the Southeastern Conference beginning this season.

The league picked up West Virginia and TCU to remain at 10 teams, and locked up broadcast rights to stabilize a league not long ago on the brink of extinction.

The conference realignment merry-go-round has been spinning again in recent weeks. Maryland is leaving the ACC and Rutgers the Big East to establish a 14-team Big Ten, while Tulane announced Tuesday it would join the Big East, with East Carolina joining as a football-only member.

That's left the Big 12 in a precarious position: Stand pat with 10 teams or expand to 12 or more, thereby re-establishing its lucrative conference championship game.

"You look at the North Division," Snyder said, referring to the old six-team division of the Big 12. "I would suggest there are probably four schools that profited by that system. It gave teams opportunities. When I first came back, we were 6-6, not a very good team, but the last game of the season we were playing for a division championship. That has some meaning."

Provides some drama, too.

Rather than playing a single winner-take-all game on Saturday, two games will be played with title implications: TCU plays No. 12 Oklahoma early in the day before the Wildcats finish up the regular season against No. 23

Texas at night.

TCU can essentially make Kansas State's game irrelevant by beating the Sooners, because the Wildcats would be assured of at least a share of the title and, through tiebreakers, the league's automatic BCS bowl berth. And if the Sooners and Wildcats both win, they'll share the trophy.

"I don't know that K-State's game is irrelevant. That's a bit strong," Kansas State athletic director John Currie told The Associated Press. "I mean, it matters from a national ranking standpoint, from an individual award standpoint. It's certainly going to matter to the 50,000 people out here, and the University of Texas, where their season is and where it can go."

"I don't disagree that you can make an argument against that, but the bottom line is we have four teams playing Saturday, in two different games, that determines the conference race."

Currie said the Big 12's athletic directors regularly discuss the merits of expanding to 12 or more teams, but at the moment, league officials appear content to remain at 10.

"Certainly coach Snyder has been up front with his perspective, and I don't disagree with his perspective, and we talk about those types of opportunities," he said. "Right now, I believe we continue to discuss the landscape of the league and see where it goes."

Currie said there are undeniable benefits to having fewer teams: more opportunities to play on television, fewer ways to split



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

KANSAS STATE HEAD coach Bill Snyder shakes hands with Texas Tech head coach Tommy Tuberville after a football game between the two schools, Oct. 15, 2011. The Wildcats need to beat Texas to clinch the Big 12 Conference and an automatic BCS berth.

revenue, and a deeper conference from top to bottom.

The Big 12 already has nine schools that are bowl eligible.

"It's a tough deal, but our fans,

what have they seen? Everybody in the Big 12 can beat everybody, and that's not the case in other conferences, where there are games that are just completely

non-competitive," Curry said. "There's no weak sister in the Big 12. Everybody is really good. And who wins at the end for that? Our fans and our television partners."

Dallas ground game stuck in neutral without Murray

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas running game is stuck in neutral without running back DeMarco Murray.

Of course, the Cowboys have also had a temporary center and backups starting at two other spots on the offen-

sive line. And they fall behind almost every week.

Any of the above could explain why Dallas has the NFL's worst rushing offense, and one of the most overworked quarterbacks in Tony Romo.

"We've got to run the ball better. We've got to run the ball more," coach Jason Garrett said. "We have to be effective running the ball early in the ballgame so we don't get behind."

Probably easier said than done,

particularly if Murray misses his seventh straight game Sunday night against Philadelphia. He last played against Baltimore on Oct. 14, when the Cowboys rushed for more yards than the defense-first Ravens have ever allowed in a game.

That 227-yard day was marred by Murray spraining his right foot in the first half and the Dallas running game hasn't been the same since.

The only time the Cowboys have rushed for more than 100 yards in the

past six games, they barely made it, getting 101 in a victory at Philadelphia. Felix Jones led Dallas with 71 yards, but his next-highest total filling in for Murray is 44 yards. For the season, Dallas is averaging 79 yards rushing per game.

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