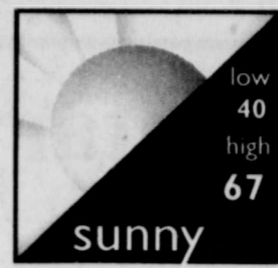




**Different spin** *Iolanthe*  
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Texas Tech  
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# THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

6 pages Serving Texas Tech University since 1925 Vol. 72 Issue 120

## Research receives national attention

**Professor's program considered for grant**  
**BY DANIEL KERR**  
The University Daily

Texas Tech's national research presence is growing. Officials in the Pentagon recently announced that Magne Kristiansen, a Texas Tech Thorton and Horn Professor in electrical engineering, could receive up to \$5 million in five years for his pulsed-power research. The grant is one of 16 Multidisciplinary University Research Incentives administered by the U.S. government. The MURI grant guarantees Tech's

pulsed-power program \$1 million a year for three years with a possibility of a two-year, \$2 million extension. In 1995 Kristiansen received an MURI grant for research into high-power microwave sources, which was extended two years for a total of \$5 million. Kristiansen said the grant will help fund post-doctoral fellows, faculty salaries, travel and equipment needed for the program. A bow-and-arrow is an example of a pulsed-power system, he said. "You store the energy in the bow and you release it quickly in the arrow," he said. "It's basically the idea of storing

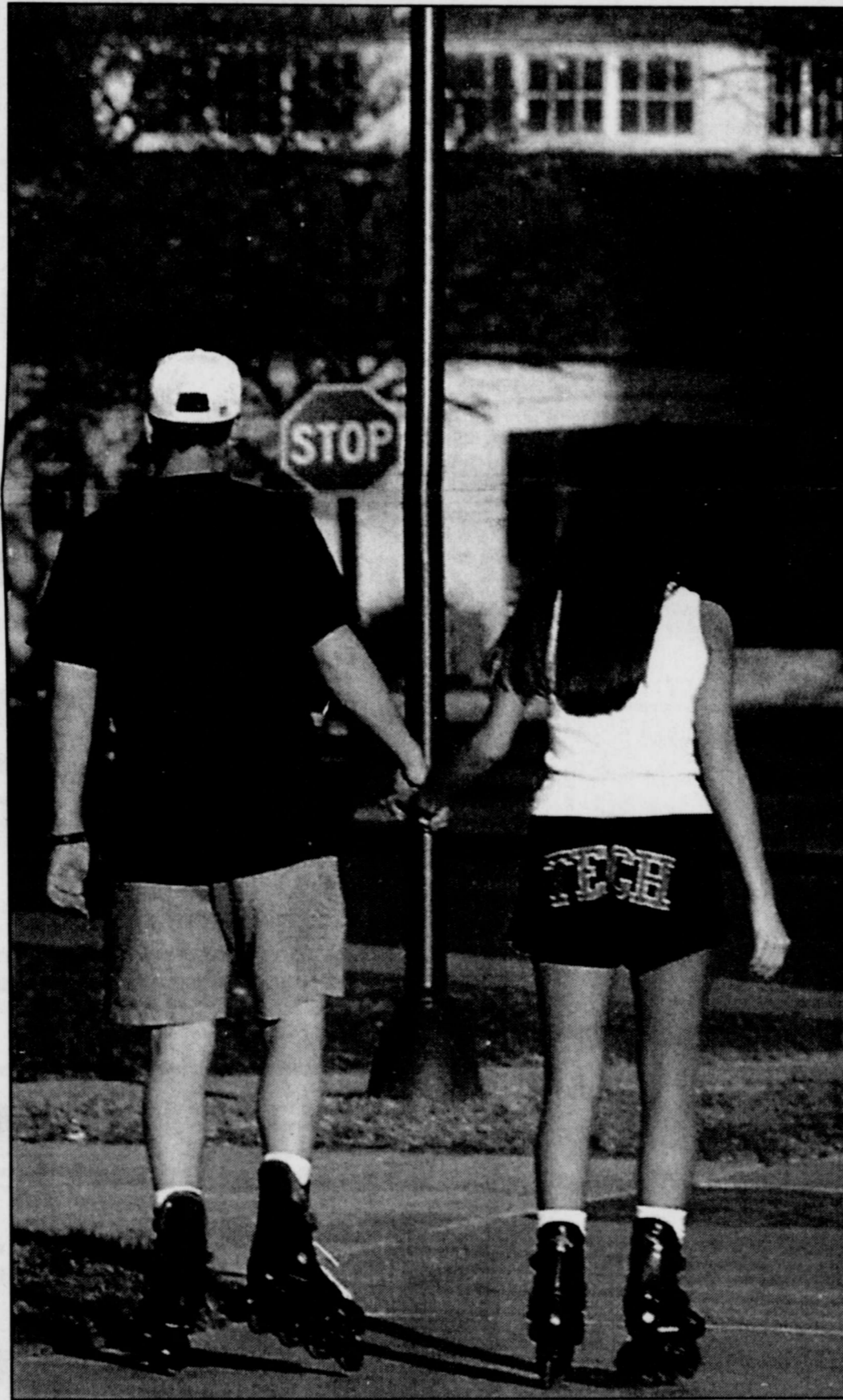
energy slowly and releasing it quickly at a higher power level, but we do it in extreme degrees — sometimes up to 1/1000 or 1/1,000,000 of a second." Tech's pulsed-power program began at Tech in 1972 and has received more than \$40 million in federal research support. A new laboratory addition being built with federal and state funds is scheduled for completion in the fall of 1998. "We have a fairly large program here — about 30 people at this time," Kristiansen said. "It's the largest of its kind among any university in this country and maybe in the world."

Tech's partner in this MURI research project is the University of Missouri at Rolla, Mo., and involves converting the energy from explosions into short electric pulses to drive high-power microwave generators. The actual explosives tests will be performed at the University of Missouri. James Dickens, assistant research professor in electrical engineering, said being awarded the grant highlights Tech's growing research presence. "The universities that we beat out for this program are much larger than Tech in terms of students," Dickens said. "It

shows we are very well respected. It puts us more in the spotlight on federal level in terms of funding." Although there are many military applications for pulsed power, Dickens said there are civilian applications for pollution clean-up as well. "In terms of civilian applications, it could be used in an oil field-type environment or in a mining environment," Dickens said. "This technology, in conjunction with hybrid electromagnetic generators, can be dropped from an airplane, or fired into a known mine field for mine field clearing."

## GOP directs legislation to defeat

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans steered campaign finance legislation toward defeat in the House Monday, ignoring protests from Democrats and dissident GOP lawmakers who were denied a vote on their own plan to clean up a scandal-ridden system. "I think that's an abomination," said Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn., who has clashed sharply with his own party's leaders in recent days. Republican leaders made last-minute changes in the legislation designed to maximize GOP support, saying, for example, they had broadened a ban on "soft money." The GOP leadership brought the issue to the floor in a package of four bills, with debate limited to 40 minutes per measure, no amendments allowed and a two-thirds vote required for passage. Such rules are customarily reserved for noncontroversial bills, and several Democrats rushed to denounce the entire process as a sham. Even some Republican supporters said they were climbing on board reluctantly. Said GOP Rep. Asa Hutchinson, a first-term lawmaker from Arkansas: "I am deeply disappointed that in the last moments the people's hope for reform was crushed when majority rule became defeat by design." The first measure, originally crafted as a comprehensive GOP response to calls for campaign finance reform, would curtail union political activity and ban large, loosely regulated "soft money" donations to the national political parties. It also would let local election officials seek federal help to verify prospective voters' citizenship and permit individuals and political action committees to donate larger sums to candidates than current law allows. Democrats and some Republicans criticized the union provision. And advocates of a more comprehensive effort to reduce the money in campaigns said the soft-money ban included a gaping loophole that would let donations continue to state parties, which could funnel them to congressional campaigns. Late in the day, Republicans said they had agreed to include state parties in their ban, although lawmakers of both parties said they were attempting to determine the precise nature of the change.



**Rollin':** Tony Morris, a sophomore business major from Fort Worth, skates with his friend Shani Bumgardner, a freshman elementary education major from Fort Worth.

## Students chosen to represent party

**BY JAMES WALKER**  
The University Daily

Lubbock Democrats selected three Texas Tech students to represent them at their state convention this summer in San Antonio. Brothers Jesus and Frank Sanchez, both members of Tech's University Democrats, were among the delegates chosen at the county democratic convention Saturday at O.L. Slaton Junior High School. Jose Lopez, a senior history, political science and Spanish major from Lubbock, also was chosen.

Beside selecting state convention delegates, attendees at Saturday's meeting passed several resolutions explaining their stance on various issues. The Lubbock County Democratic Party passed resolutions in favor of abortion rights, against school vouchers and a sales tax on food and medicine, and in support of President Clinton and gubernatorial candidate Garry Mauro. "They were pretty plain-Jane resolutions," said Frank Sanchez, a senior Spanish and pre-physical therapy major from Lubbock. In recent years, Democratic Party meetings have featured more vigorous debates, he said. "The meetings have been a lot more animated because a lot more was at stake," he said. "This isn't a presidential election year, and the field is kind of vanilla as far as candi-

**Democrat Issues**

Lubbock Democrats are:

- In favor of abortion rights
- Against school vouchers
- Support a sales tax on food and medicine
- In support of President Clinton and gubernatorial candidate Garry Mauro.

dates go." T.G. Caraway, president of the Lubbock Young Democrats and a storekeeper at Tech's physical plant, said the most significant of the resolutions was the one opposing school vouchers. The Lubbock County Republican Party, which also met Saturday, passed a resolution supporting vouchers. That difference makes the line between the two parties clear, Caraway said. Caraway also was named a delegate to the state convention. Mark Harmon, the democratic candidate for the U.S. House seat, now held by Republican Mac Thornberry, attended the meeting briefly and spoke about his campaign before leaving to attend other party meetings in Amarillo and Wichita Falls. Harmon is an associate professor of telecommunications at Tech.

## Scientist to speak about diversity in nature

**BY ANJELA ANAYA**  
The University Daily

A two-time Pulitzer Prize winner will address the issue of the diversity of life Wednesday. E.O. Wilson, Harvard professor, will speak at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Texas Tech University Center Allen Theatre. Harlan Thorvilson, entomologist professor in the Department of Plant and Soil Science, said he expects standing room only. "Wilson is one of the foremost biologists in the world" Thorvilson said. "He is an expert in biodiversity, which is the diversity of the interactions of species such as plants and animals in given areas. He writes that extinction is forever and works to preserve and maintain diversity."

"He's a wordsmith, so that typically average and intelligent people can understand. He has reached the pinnacle of his academics and philosophy life and he has a great deal to say to the rest of us." Sherman Phillips, associate professor of entomology in the Department of Plant and Soil Science, used Wilson's research and books when he did his master's and doctorate work in the 1970s. "He has a beautiful voice when he writes. His writing is so articulate to

read and very visual. He writes to be understood by taking the reader step-by-step so that the reader is never lost," Phillips said. "Tech students might gain a higher appreciation for the diversity of life. They might start developing a more global view of biology, and see that everything is intertwined and interlinked around the world. "Here's an entomologist who transcends all. He takes our profession to a higher level," Phillips said.

Loren Smith, Kleberg professor of wildlife ecology at Tech, said students should attend his lecture. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for most students to hear him in person. He is the premier entomologist in the world today. His new book, *Consilience, The Unity of Thought*, will probably be controversial," Smith said. Thorvilson said the book is about unifying the techniques of the natural sciences and humanities techniques with a general theme of different techniques of different disciplines meshing together. Warren Conway, a first-year graduate student in wildlife science from North Kingstown, R.I., said Wilson is world-renowned for his work with island biogeography. See WILSON, page 2

## Florida executes woman who poisoned husband

STARKE, Fla. (AP) — Her frail-looking body barely filling the seat of the big oak electric chair, the "Black Widow" went to her death Monday in Florida's first execution of a woman since 1848. Judy Buenoano, 54, was executed for fatally poisoning her Air Force husband with arsenic in 1971 after his return from Vietnam. She also drowned her paralyzed son, tried to blow up her fiance and was suspected of killing a boyfriend. Her head shaved and coated with conducting gel, Buenoano was barely walking as guards led her into the death chamber. Asked if she had a final statement, she answered weakly. "No, sir," squeezing her eyes shut and keeping them shut, not looking at the

witnesses on the other side of the glass. Buenoano collected about \$240,000 in life insurance after the deaths of her husband, son and boyfriend but maintained her innocence. In her final days, the former cocktail waitress and nail salon owner crocheted blankets and baby clothes, said she wanted to be remembered as a good mother, and got a third of the way through *Remember Me*, a murder mystery by Mary Higgins Clark. Buenoano was convicted of drowning her 19-year-old son, Michael Goodyear, in 1980 by pushing him out of a canoe into a river. He was paralyzed from arsenic poisoning and was wearing heavy leg and arm braces.

## MTV documentary examines heroin use

PLANO (AP) — Barbara Shaunfield had a feeling her son Matt's life wasn't going to have a happy ending.

Her fears were realized early on the second morning of 1996 when Matt's college friends found the 220-pound, 6-foot-2 student slumped over in his bathroom, blue from lack of oxygen and about to die from a heroin overdose.

"They put a pillow under his head and covered him with a blanket and thought he would sleep it off," Shaunfield said.

But Matt, 22, never woke up. Nor did a dozen other heroin users over the next 18 months in his hometown of Plano, a community of 188,000 about 10 miles north of Dallas.

“Somehow there has been a gap in the education of this drug.”

**Laura Lazin,**  
vice president of MTV News and Specials

The deaths of so many youths in a leafy suburb better known for corporate campuses than shooting galleries set off a shock wave that resonated all the way to the New York offices of MTV, the youth-oriented cable channel.

"Somehow there has been a gap in the education of this drug," said

Laura Lazin, vice president of MTV News and Specials. "It seems like so many people in this generation don't understand how dangerous this drug is."

To hammer home that heroin's growing danger to young Americans, the network has produced a documentary that features Plano's ongoing

battle against the drug.

"Fatal Dose" is the first in a new series called "True Life" that will tackle subjects from drugs to personal finances and women in sports. MTV plans to air a new documentary each Tuesday night at 10 p.m. beginning this week.

Lazin said the idea is to tell young adults' stories in their own words, from their own points of view.

Bob Weiner, spokesman for the White House's Office of National Drug Control Policy, said heroin is quickly replacing crack as the nation's drug of choice.

He attributes heroin's growing popularity to its low price and its ability to be snorted or smoked rather than injected.

## Wilson

continued from page 1

Wilson coauthored a book with Robert MacArthur in 1967 titled *The Theory of Island Biogeography*. In the book, there is a mathematical formula about how to figure the ratio of how many species can fit into a certain area of island.

"It's a mathematical formula that works out every time, so you just can't disprove it. Basic ecology students have to learn the formula and the concept," Conway said.

Wilson is ranked in *Time* magazine as one of the 25 most influential people in America and is listed as one of the top 100 scientists of all time in the book *The Scientific 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Scientists, Past and Present*. He has written several books including his two Pulitzer Prize-winning books *On Human Nature* in 1979 and *The*

*Ants* in 1990. He is the creator of the sociobiology field and the author of the best-selling book on that subject, *Sociobiology: The New Synthesis*.



Wilson

Wilson received the most major awards given to international scientists including the National Medal of Science, American Association for Advancement of Science Award for Public Understanding of Science and Technology, the World Wildlife Fund for Nature Gold Medal, Crafford Prize from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and the International Prize for Biology (Japan).

This event is sponsored by range, wildlife, and fisheries, plant and soil science, biology, research services and the president's office.

## Jury finds no rights violations

AUSTIN (AP) — A federal jury Monday said the Austin Police Department did not have a custom, policy or practice of using excessive force against blacks in 1995, but refused to decide whether too much force was used at a chaotic Valentine's Day party that year.

The seven-member jury, with six white members and one Hispanic, rejected a claim of civil rights violations raised by 16 black Austin residents.

The group of mostly teenagers said some 80 police officers used excessive force and racial slurs against them at the party.

The officers were responding to a dispatcher's call for assistance for an injured officer who had gone to the party after a disturbance call.

"The biggest dynamic was the color complexion of the jury," plaintiff's attorney Gary Bledsoe said. "The fact remains that the jury declined to vindicate the APD" by refusing to say there was not excessive force used that night.

Fred Hawkins, an attorney for the city, and police disagreed.

"The Austin Police Association accepts the unanimous decision ... as a vindication," the association said in a written statement.

Plaintiffs testifying during the nine-day trial said police yelled racial epithets, sprayed people with pepper spray without provocation and put guns to the heads of teen-agers.

Seventeen officers and an expert in the use of force denied the allegations.

They said many of the 50 to 100 party guests were hostile and threatening.

"We know that our children did nothing wrong on the night of February 11, 1995, and they had no reason to be treated the way they were," said Pam Wade, the mother of one of the partygoers.

Wade's daughter, Candice Wade, said she is not satisfied with the decision.

"I want justice done," Candice Wade said.

"What those policemen did to us that night was uncalled for."



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# 'The Ultimate Athlete': Studies show ballet is more than just dancing, its a sport

BY SEBASTIAN KITCHEN

The University Daily

"The Ultimate Athlete" is not a typical, slow ballet featuring dancers in frilly tutus.

According to a study done several years ago by doctors at a hospital in New York, ballet topped basketball, soccer, football and baseball as the most physically demanding sport.

The study inspired the book *The Ultimate Athlete* which inspired a ballet.

Friday and Saturday, Ballet Lubbock will perform "The Ultimate Athlete" at 8 p.m. in Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Theater.

"The study proved you have to have more stamina, be more athletic

to be a dancer," said Carla Olson, business manager for Ballet Lubbock. "This ballet is real fast paced. They performed this in New York, and the audience had a great reaction. Their reaction was 'it was like going to a party.'"

The performance contains several different dances based on the categories the doctors used in their study and in the book — strength, endurance, body type, flexibility, coordination, speed, agility, balance, intelligence and creativity.

"The whole show displays athleticism at its finest," said Yvonne Racz, artistic director for Ballet Lubbock.

Daniel Catanach, a choreographer from New York took time during

Spring Break to come to Lubbock and work with the Ballet Lubbock dancers for the work.

"It is rare for a New York choreographer to come from New York to come to Lubbock, Texas and set choreography for a dance," Racz said.

The dancers, including Texas Tech sophomore Angie Gullo, gave up their Spring Break to work on "The Ultimate Athlete."

"I spent my whole Spring Break on it," said Gullo, an early education major from Houston.

"We've put in a lot of time. It is very challenging, but it is going to be an awesome show. It is going to be worth all of the hard work we put into it."

Gullo agrees with the study by the

doctors in New York.

"Ballet is as hard as any other sport if not harder," she said. "I love it. It is great exercise."

Besides Catanach, two other New York performers are flying to Lubbock to take part in the production. Jay Barrett and Amar Ramasar perform in Catanach's dance troupe in New York.

Racz said Catanach is known for his athletic choreography.

"His choreography is known for its athleticism," she said. "It is fast and new. His choreography is so challenging you have to be in top-notch form to do his ballet."

Racz wanted to give her dancers a chance to perform that style of dance.

# Sony Pictures merges Columbia, TriStar studios

CULVER CITY, Calif. (AP) — Sony Pictures Entertainment said Monday that it combined Columbia Pictures and TriStar Pictures into one studio, a move aimed at unifying film production under a single brand name.

TriStar, producer of the hit films "Jerry Maguire" and "As Good as It Gets," will become a part of Columbia in the restructuring, which includes the business, legal and story departments of the two studios.

"This restructuring is about a smarter, more creative way to do business," said John Calley, president and chief operating officer of Sony Pictures.

The goal, he said, was to increase production to 20 to 24 films per year.

By combining the production departments, he said, "we will be able to concentrate the efforts of the very talented people we have working on both sides of the lot and accomplish the ambitious program of films we have planned."

Columbia President Amy Pas-

cal will run the combined operation. Christopher Lee, president of production at TriStar, will hold the same title at the new studio.

The change will boost Sony's visibility with moviegoers by presenting films under a single name, said analyst David Advise of Hooigan Looked Howard & Zuni in Los Angeles. The public often fails to associate the studios with their parent, he said.

"The management team that's been in place on the business side has moved ahead in some innovative ways," he said. "This appears to be part of their overall strategic plan."

TriStar began in 1982 as a joint venture by Columbia, CBS Television and Home Box Office. TriStar and Columbia were purchased by Sony in 1989.

TriStar productions include "Rambo: First Blood Part 2," "Total Recall," "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" and "Basic Instinct."

Columbia, which celebrates its 75th anniversary next year, was established in 1924.



Wade Kennedy/The University Daily

# Operetta to be performed by Tech's music theatre department

BY LAURA HENSLEY

The University Daily

When most students hear the word opera, visions of overweight women singing, screeching and moaning in a foreign language come to mind. But the Texas Tech music theatre department will offer a somewhat different spin on opera this weekend, filled with humor resembling the popular Monty Python.

"It is going to be very, very light-hearted and funny," said cast member Mark Garner, a senior vocal performance major from Lubbock. "People who don't like opera will like this."

Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operetta, "Iolanthe," is a humorous British operetta that pokes fun at the upper establishment of British politics. The light-hearted fanciful opera is full of fairies, dukes and barons.

"This has been a big stretch for me," Garner said. "I'm used to being in plays where the events could really happen. But "Iolanthe" is not serious at all. It's just a lot of fun."

The annual opera production by the Department of Music Theatre and the University Symphony Orchestra will begin at 8 p.m. Friday and Satur-

day at the University Center Allen Theatre.

"This will give students a good chance to see opera they enjoy," Garner said. "This will expose them to opera while supporting opera here at Tech."

The production will be directed by John Gillas, and the orchestra will be conducted by Albert George Schram.

Choreography will be by Diana Moore.

"We have wonderful scenery, lovely music and great costumes," said Gillas. "This will be a very enjoyable evening of entertainment filled with lots of laughs."

Gillas said the witty writing of Gilbert and Sullivan is wonderful and delightful for anyone and contains spoken dialogue as well as singing and dancing.

"This is just like a musical, with more emphasis on the singing," Gillas said.

"This should be a lively, enjoyable evening for anyone who goes — filled with lots of laughs."

Tickets are available in room M201 in the music building or at the theatre box office the nights of the show. Tickets cost \$12 for the general public and \$8 for Tech students.

**Iolanthe**  
April 3-4  
Allen Theatre  
8 p.m.  
Tickets are \$8

## Watch it there, buddy:

Kimberley Brownlee and Michael Scott perform in the one-act play "Fate With a Capital F" by Michelle Melgren. Performances of Raider Red's One-Act Play Spectacular began Monday and will run through Friday in the Texas Tech Laboratory Theatre. Tickets for the spectacular currently are on sale at the theatre box office and cost \$4 for Tech students and \$8 for the general public.

Other productions in the spectacular include "Relief at the Receptionist's Office" by John Trundle, "Stew" by Julie Mitchell and Seth Marstrand, "Madonna of the Rocks" by Catherine Crosby Bigham and "Concordia Discors" by Ryan Palmer.



**SPKWORD**

"Well, here's your chance, leg or breast?"

**MOMENT'S NOTICE**

Moment's Notice is a service of the Student Government Association for student and university organizations. Publication of announcements is subject to the judgment of the Student Government Association staff and availability of space. Anyone who wants to place an announcement should go to the SGA office on the second floor of the University Center and complete a separate form for each Tuesday and Thursday the notice is to appear. The deadlines are as follows: THURSDAY AT NOON TO BE PRINTED ON TUESDAY, MONDAY TO BE PRINTED ON THURSDAY. All questions should be directed to the SGA office at 742-3631.

**Student Government Association**  
Tech-Lubbock Community Day  
Saturday, April 4  
Sign up in SGA Office, Rm 230 in the UC.

**Hispanic Student Society**  
Meeting with speaker from South Plains  
Aids Resource Center  
Wednesday, April 1: UC Senate Rm, 7-8pm  
Contact: Tina Hernandez, 724-7030

**Society of Student Composers**  
Monthly Meeting and elections  
April 1: Music MB 106, 5-6pm  
Contact: Kevin Jagoe, 765-7482

**Society of Student Composers**  
Composer in the Courtyard-concert  
April 1: UC Courtyard, 12-1pm  
Contact: Kevin Jagoe, 765-7482

**University Select**  
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AFIL	PBS	NBC	CBS	UPN	ABC	FOX	AFIL	PBS	NBC	CBS	UPN	ABC	FOX
CITY	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	CITY	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock
7:00	Bloomberg Body Elec.	Today Show	This Morning	Tex Avery K-Men	Good Morning America	Bobby/World Bobby/World	7:00	Sesame Street			Super Heroes Bananas	America	101 Dalmians DuckTales
8:00	C. Horse Barney	M. Stewart Gayle King	Sally Jessy Raphael	K. Copeland Life Today	Regis & Kathie Lee	Matlock	9:00	Wimzie Mr. Rogers	Sunset Beach	Price is Right	Pictionary Paid Program	View	Judge Judy Judge Judy
9:00	Arthur Magic Bus	Lezza	Young & Restless	Beverly Hills 90210	All My Children	People Court	10:00	Master Chefs Motorweek	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jenny Jones	News Port Charles	Heat of the Night
1:00	Painting Barney	Lives Another	As the World Turns	Jerry Springer	One Life to Live	Dr. Quinn	11:00	Marsh Magic Bus	World In/In/In Edition	Guiding Light	Dating Game Newlywed Gm	General Hospital	Paid Program Beetleborgs
2:00	Arthur Washbone	Rotie O'Donnell	Maura Povich	Breaker High Sweet Valley	Gerardo	Spider-Man P.P. Turbo	3:00	Carmen Bill Nye	Opah Winfrey	Sainfield Jacaranda	Living Single Marlin	Montel Williams	Life/Louis Boy/World
4:00	R. Rainbow Business	News NBC News	News CBS News	Real TV Hwy. Patrol	News ABC News	Mr. Cooper Simpsons	5:00	News Hour	News Extra	News W/Fortune	Next Generation	News ABC News	Grace/Fire Home Impr.
6:00	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:00

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## Being inoffensive hard to do

JULIE MITCHELL/  
COLUMNIST

I'm going to do it. You don't think I can, but I'm going to do it. I'm going to write a nice, sickly sweet, happy column that doesn't offend anyone. Are you ready? Here we go ... uh, let's try that again — here we go ... hmmm ... OK, OK I got it now ... must offend ... no ... think pure thoughts, Julie, think pure thoughts ... cute little bunnies ... Barney ... want to kill Barney ... no, want to love Barney ... want to looooooath Barney ... hate Barney ... want to blow that big, off key singing, tree hugging, poor excuse for a purple dinosaur to bits! Ummm ... let me try this again.

Aren't the spring flowers pretty this time of year, because it's spring, and flowers are pretty, and I want to stomp on all the pretty flowers like a wild beast in heat ... no, that's not

want I meant to say. I meant to say that I want to walk through the pretty flowers of spring like cute little Bambi, who should have been shot up like his mother. Uh, this is a little harder than I thought.

OK, we have nice weather don't we. It's been nice and sunny and warm, except when it's been nasty and cloudy and cold and the winds have been up to 60 miles an hour.

Maybe I should just forget about the nature stuff. Nature is bad ... but Slurpees are good. Red Slurpees are good. And brown Slurpees are good, which is kind of funny because you wouldn't think that brown ice would taste good, but it does, so that's good. And orange Slurpees are good. Well, they're not too good, but I'll pretend they are so that I don't say anything negative like how orange Slurpees taste like orange vitamins and make me want

to hurl all over 7-Eleven. And, I won't say anything about how sometimes I go in to get a Slurpee, and my heart is just set on a Slurpee (I mean, nothing in the world would satisfy me more than if I could have a Slurpee),

and the freaking machine is broken, and I look at the cashier and she just sneers as if to say "I think it's funny you want a Slurpee, and the machine isn't working," and then I have to beat her up, or just get really, really mad about the whole situation but not do anything about it.

I don't like it when that happens, but I won't talk about it because this column is supposed to be about pleasant, inoffensive stuff.

And, since it's supposed to be inoffensive, I won't mention how I think that all males should be slaves and women should rule the world, or how I believe that I am the supreme being

and people should worship me. Nope, I won't mention any of that.

You know, when my mother told me "If you can't say anything nice don't say anything at all." I don't think she realized that following that rule would make me a mute.

What can I say that will not offend a single person I say it to? If I tell everyone in the world that they're nice, I'm bound to run into someone who doesn't want to be nice and doesn't appreciate my compliment. What if I talk to everyone in the world about the weather?

Someone will surely get offended that I'm wasting his or her time in idle chatter.

It's not in the speaking but in the hearing that misunderstandings occur, because no one has the ability to take the I out of listen.

We hear what we hear, and no one can convince us that we heard something else.

So does it really matter what I say, if you're only listening for what you are determined to hear? Hmmm ... I wonder.

Julie Mitchell is a junior English/theatre arts major from Corsicana.

## STATE VIEWS

## Conroe Courier on Jonesboro school shooting:

For the residents of Jonesboro, Ark., one of the questions being asked in the aftermath of Tuesday's tragedy was "Why?"

For the rest of the nation, another question is being added: "Who's next?" America seemingly is in the throes of a new, deadly trend in which children are cold-bloodedly assaulting their classmates. Children killing children.

These crimes seem even more horrific perhaps because they are so inexplicable. Who can explain children not known to be dangerous who allegedly decide one day to don camouflage gear, grab high-powered rifles and mow down their classmates in an apparently premeditated plan of attack?

Juvenile crime rates have decreased slightly in recent years, but that's small comfort in the face of these tragedies.

It's time for a new round of national soul-searching. We need to search for wisdom to understand what could cause a teen-ager to kill, and pray for the solutions that can help prevent the next child from turning a playground into a killing field.

## Fort Worth Star-Telegram on U.S. policy in Africa:

Africa matters. The significance of President Clinton's historic journey to sub-Saharan Africa can be summed up in those two words.

The 12-day trip amounts to a declaration that the United States of America, the world's richest and most powerful nation, the exemplar of democratic government, intends no longer to treat that continent and its 700 million inhabitants as comparatively insignificant in the global scheme of things.

It signifies that this country has awakened to its need to play a stronger role in African affairs, both for Africa's sake and for America's. Moreover, it signals an overdue acknowledgement of the progress that has been made by some sub-Saharan countries toward democratization and improving the lives of their citizens.

That progress provides a basis for forging stronger economic and political links between the United States and those countries. Such linkages can go far toward showing the nations that are still stagnating under despotic rule or still caught up in the futility of internecine strife that there is a better way.

For much too long, Africa has not appeared to matter very much to this country. During the Cold War, what passed for an Africa policy boiled down to no more than backing African leaders who would side with the West instead of the Soviet bloc countries.

It didn't matter that some of those leaders were brutal dictators who ruthlessly oppressed and exploited their people as long as they were anti-communist. And after the Cold War, we tried to wash our hands of the mess we helped create in Africa through our self-interested concern with ideological allegiance.

Our policy toward South Africa, also tainted with the overemphasis on anti-communism, helped perpetuate the evil of apartheid. The weight of overwhelming international opinion and domestic protest finally brought us around to supporting the international economic sanctions that brought minority white rule to an end in that country.

In the aftermath of the Cold War, this country has projected no coherent policy toward Africa. The Balkans, the Middle East and other regions of the world have been given a higher priority.

Sub-Saharan Africa, with its poverty and turmoil, was viewed by most of the American public as beyond help and beyond the perimeters of America's vital interests.

The debacle in Somalia persuaded us against involvements in other places on the African continent — places whose political and ethnic complexities we could not completely comprehend. That's why we stood aside and allowed genocide to occur in Rwanda, when we had intelligence that we might have acted upon to prevent it.

During his trek through Africa, Clinton gave assurances that this country would not commit such a sin of omission again. And in the summit meeting with several African leaders, he laid the groundwork for an initiative to eliminate the scourge of genocide from that continent.

Most significant of all was the commitment Clinton made to fostering increased U.S. trade with and investment in African nations.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## President's moral standards matter

**To the editor:** I was quite disturbed by the column by Caren Carnefix about her road rage in March 23's *UD*. I am a former employee of the Texas Department of Transportation as well as a student at Tech, and I can attest to the seriousness of the obvious problems that Carnefix has. I have seen numerous wrecks, close calls and near-death incidents involving other motorists, my fellow employees and pedestrians as a result of the lack of courtesy and common sense of people when they are driving.

Is this what these two young men consider a good American who presents an example of greatness? No wonder our morals have fallen when we are applauding the infidelity of probably one of the most important and well known men in America. The

point is that he is a role model for the whole country, and Scott and Aaron believe we should support his inability to keep his pants on and that he is receiving unnecessary heat for his actions.

If men are so controlled by their hormones that they can't keep their zippers in the upright position, then they shouldn't enter into a monogamous relationship.

They also compared Clinton to a stallion. Fine, then that makes him a basic animal that has no standards and no idea of right and wrong. Do we really want an animal running the country?

As for the point of Robin Williams and Charlie Sheen, what these men did isn't any better, but there are certain differences. The first is that the affairs of these men were not plastered over national broadcasts and all newspapers.

The second is that in Robin Williams' case, at least, the affairs

stopped after the birth of his child. Clinton hasn't even done that much. Third and most importantly is that these men are not running our country. They are not expected to be superior role models for our children. Again, I'm not saying that what they did is right, but I let's not applaud the immorality of our so-called "national leader."

I now would like to apologize to every red-blooded American man who hasn't had an affair, and I know you are out there.

I am lucky to be dating one, so I refuse to believe that this is "human nature." I refuse to believe that men just can't help themselves. Yes, Clinton is being publicly tainted, but it's for decisions he chose to make, not "human nature."

So let's not applaud men of no morals who use excuses like, "Everyone else does, why shouldn't I?" Instead, let's applaud the other men who stand at the altar and when asked if

they will be faithful to their wives, promise "I do" and keep the promise. Let's applaud the strong men who are faced with the exact same temptations and still choose to go home to their wives rather than a seedy hotel room. These are the good American men who present an example of greatness. These are the men who deserve respect.

Following the advice of Alexander and Guitierrez will only lead to a decrease in morals.

Their thinking "It's on the downspiral, why fight it?" will never help society better itself. What is the next dangerous trend? Rape being OK? I mean, hey, he was only following his hormones, right? It's just "human nature," why fight it, right? Give me a break.

Wake up and take a look at reality!

Lee G. Jackson  
sophomore  
mechanical engineering major

## Columnist needs to drive safely

**To the editor:** I have never been so appalled in my life than I was this morning after reading the letter to the editor titled, "Clinton only did what any man would do," by Scott Alexander and Aaron Guitierrez. The only part of this letter that I agree with is that the morals of this country have fallen, but have they fallen to such a degree that we should applaud a man for being unfaithful to his wife and daughter, for not being able to control his hormones and for creating this wonderful role model for all of America's children.

There are also several discrepancies in Carnefix's column. I can hardly see how she even has a complaint about other people allegedly breaking the law if she, herself, was driving at an illegal 80 mph. Carnefix said she spotted some pedestrians

crossing the street a quarter of a mile away. If she has, in fact, taken defensive driving like she says she has, then she would know to think ahead and anticipate future maneuvers of her vehicle. Also, I am afraid it does not take a vehicle a quarter of a mile to slow from 80 mph to 20 mph.

Carnefix, please fix your problem! I do not want to meet you on the road on one of your bad days or any other day; people like you should not be allowed on our highways. As for your column, although it is an opinion; it needs a little improvement in its appropriateness. I do not know if it was an ill-fated attempt to raise publicity or merely a story you decided to write about in absence of a better idea. And another thing, there is really little need for mention of your vulgar hand gestures; they only provide further insight into your dim outlook on driver behavior.

Lorana Hanna  
freshman  
telecommunications major

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Write a letter to the editor. Bring it to the journalism building, Room 211. Or e-mail it to [TheUniversityDaily@ttu.edu](mailto:TheUniversityDaily@ttu.edu)





# Tech looks to gain momentum after OSU series

BY HEATH ROBINSON

The University Daily

The Texas Tech baseball team keeps showing flashes of brilliance this season. The problem all year has been the follow-ups to those flashes.

The latest glimmer of hope came this past weekend when the Red Raiders traveled to Stillwater, Okla., to play perennial power Oklahoma State. Tech won the first two games of the series before dropping the rubber match Sunday. The series victory moved Tech to 22-11 on the season and 6-5 in Big 12 play.

The challenge for Tech is to keep the momentum moving forward.

The Red Raiders play College of the Southwest at 7 p.m. today at Dan Law Field before taking on the Mis-

souri Tigers Friday through Sunday.

Tech also added home games next week. The Red Raiders will play Sul Ross State at 7 p.m. April 7, and New Mexico Highlands at 4 p.m. April 8.

That makes it a six-game homestand, one Tech players believe is crucial to their season.

"We've had some high notes this year," third baseman Keith Ginter said.

"But we have to follow this up with some more wins. It's important for us to keep playing well this week and after that."

Other Tech high notes this season came in a home sweep over Long Beach State and a two-game mini-sweep of Texas at home. The Red Raiders followed up the sweep of Long Beach State by losing three of

their next five games. After beating

the Longhorns twice, Tech dropped 2-of-3 against Baylor in their next conference series.

"There are times this season when we have taken a step forward only

to go backwards a little right after that," Red Raider coach Larry Hays said. "The consistency hasn't been there for every game. For us to accomplish the goals we have set, con-

sistency has to come around."

Consistency in starting pitching has been the biggest problem. But in the last week, Tech may have shored up their middle relief and their third starter woes.

In a 6-5, 13-inning win over Eastern New Mexico last Tuesday, Cade Allison tossed seven innings in relief of starter Eric Cooper. Allison gave up just one earned run in that span, keeping Tech in the game.

Against Oklahoma State Sunday,

“It’s important for us to keep playing well this week and after that.”

Tech third baseman Keith Ginter

## New season may be the year of the slugger



JASON BERNSTEIN/  
SPORTS REPORTER

As March turns to April, the eyes of the nation shift from the fast-paced basketball world, to the more deliberate baseball arena.

That's right. For many major league clubs, today is opening day.

This season will span six months while producing the most games ever in a regular season (2,430).

Interesting plots to the season include the National League's newest teams in the Arizona Diamondbacks and the Milwaukee Brewers.

Diamondbacks manager Buck Showalter last managed a team nearly three years ago as he led the pre-World Series version of the Bronx Bombers in New York.

As for the Brew Crew, they join the worst division in baseball in the National League Central. Nearly every team in the division has a shot at the title. The team with the inside track is the one that can finish above the .500 mark.

The Astros seem to have a solid squad after picking up Moises Alou from the Florida garage sale. The loss of Darryl Kile will prove to be the difference unless Alou can take the mound and round up 15 to 20 wins.

The Cardinals look like a team with high expectations after a disappointing '97 campaign. A healthy Mark McGwire, coupled with the infield duo of Delino Deshields and Royce Clayton, could be dangerous if the pitching comes through.

And of course there's the Cubs.

After an abysmal 0-14 start last season, they responded by finishing tied with the Phillies for the league's worst record. Key off-season acquisitions included the signing of Mickey Morandini, Jeff Blauser and Henry Rodriguez.

The infield could be one of the best

in the league with Mark Grace at first and up-and-coming Kevin Orie at third.

The problem lies in pitching. The Cubs don't have any. Look for Rodriguez and Sammy Sosa to set new records for single-season strikeouts as they tend to expand the strike zone a bit too much.

As for the Pirates and Brewers, they'll just hold on for a new market sharing agreement that could bring them some spending money in order to compete with the big boys.

In other league news, Travis Fryman, Cecil Fielder, Pedro Martinez, Kenny Lofton, Randy Myers, Joe Carter and Andres Galarraga all moved to new teams in search of a World Series ring.

Lofton leads a hefty list of players returning to teams they once starred for.

Besides Lofton going back to Cleveland, Rickey Henderson returned to Oakland, Tony Fernandez to Toronto, Dennis Eckersley is back in Beantown (Boston), Terry Mulholland to the Cubs, Jeff Conine

in Kansas City, Jose Vizcaino to L.A., and journeyman Dave Stieb has signed a minor league contract with the Blue Jays.

Baseball also lost some big names in the off-season as Brett Butler, Jim Abbott, Ryne Sandberg and Eddie Murray are all on the former-players list. They all proved to be class acts on and off the field, as long as you discount Brett Butler's remarks towards Mike Piazza this off-season.

Some rather odd moves included the firing of managers Cito Gaston and 1997 AL Manager of the Year, Davey Johnson.

I guess we'll be looking to Gaston and Johnson to replace some other unfortunate managers that will undoubtedly get the axe.

Despite the escalating salaries and uninformed complaints that the game is boring, baseball remains one of the most-watched sports in all the land.

Just keep watching, for this is going to be the season of the slugger.

Jason Bernstein is a sophomore political science/broadcast journalism major from San Ramon, Calif.

## Penders reports possible NCAA rules violation

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas coach Tom Penders said Monday he was just doing his job by reporting a possible NCAA rules violation involving a Texas booster and the parents of a Texas player.

Penders said he received a phone call Thursday that a Texas booster flew Gary and Nina Mihm, parents of star Longhorn freshman center Chris Mihm, to Texas' Feb. 24 game at Oklahoma State on a private jet.

The Texas coach, embroiled in controversy over the past two weeks because of player complaints and an assistant coach's public release of a player's grades, said he reported the information to UT compliance director Barbara Walker Friday while both were in San Antonio for the Final Four.

The Mihms said they are friends with the booster, Rick



Hawkins of Austin, outside of basketball and that the plane trip

was not special treatment.

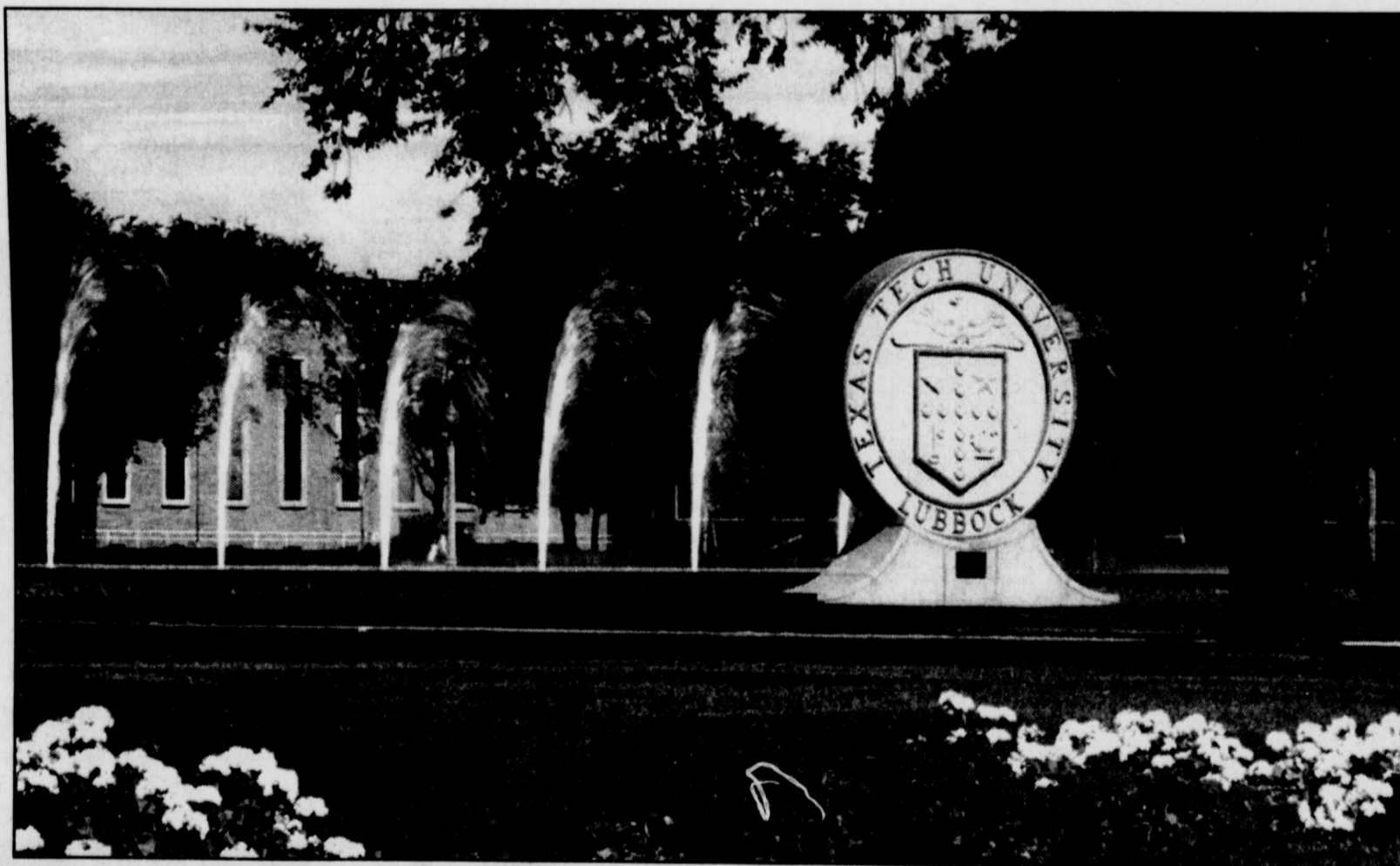
Nina Mihm told the *Austin American-Statesman* that Penders was "trying to find any dirt he can to muddy the waters."

Hawkins, a season-ticket holder and Texas Foundation member, is chairman of a biotechnology company in Austin.

"I was taking my son, his AAU teammate and his coach to the Texas game, and I told the Mihms if they wanted to catch a ride, they could do it," Hawkins told the newspaper.

"I wonder why he (Penders) turned it in now... the timing is a little interesting."

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