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## Arena's structural problems not serious

Construction problems common for its size, officials say

By Apu Naik Staff Writer

Structural problems plaguing the United Spirit Arena as described recently by the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal were not as serious as portrayed in the Sept. 22 article, said Doug Mann, Texas Tech's vice chancellor for facilities and planning.

The article, written by Avalanche-Journal staff writer John Fuquay, outlined various problems in the construction and design of the arena as a result of disputes existing between the architectural firm. Rosser International of Atlanta and the Dallas-based Centex Construction company.

Fuquay did not return The University Daily's phone calls.

Although these disputes do exist and there are

structural problems with some of the designs, the or subcontractor is to blame for the problems surproblems are nothing abnormal from that of any other construction site of this magnitude, Mann

"What happened was there was a question asked by the construction company to the architectural firm as to the design of one of the upperlevel raker beams through standard procedure," Mann said.

"Rosser then basically confirmed the problems and acknowledged that they need to retool the beam. In actuality, these problems exist all the time during construction, and if you look at the construction periods of almost any other major arena, you'll see that they had the same number of problems if not more.'

Tech now is investigating whether its architect sign problems.

rounding the arena, and the responsible party will pay for the expenses.

Construction on the arena, which began in March 1997, is now about 53 percent complete, said Don Bundock, project manager. The original projected completion date for the arena was January 1999, but complications with construction led to that date being postponed to May 1999.

Last month, two blocks of concrete, one weighing 1,400 pounds and the other weighing 800 pounds, fell from the overhead structure where the ceiling will be located, Mann said. The accident happened during a weekend when no workers were present, but Mann said he did not think the accident was caused by the aforementioned de-

Neither the architectural firm, Rosser International of Atlanta, nor the contractors, Centex Construction, Inc., would comment on the structural complications, because both companies' client, Tech, asked them not to.

But in an article from the Avalanche-Journal Tuesday, Ray Ashe, project manager for Rosser International, described the problems as "common," and "nothing major."

Tech gave the construction contract to the Dallas-based Centex Construction, which was the low bidder at \$40 million, and is working from the drawings given to them from Rosser International, and all other subcontractors work for Centex.

About \$21 million of the construction contract

see Arena page 3

### **Regents to discuss** construction of Ag science building

By Melody Ragland

When the Texas Tech Board of Regents meets again in November, they will discuss the planning of a new animal science and food technology building.

Kevin Pond, professor and chairman in the Department of Animal Science and Food Technology, said the project has been on the list for a new building.

Pond said \$8

be updated, and the arena will still be used.

The new building would also contain a creamery. Pond said, there would be a place in the building where the community would be able to buy dairy and meat products made by Tech.

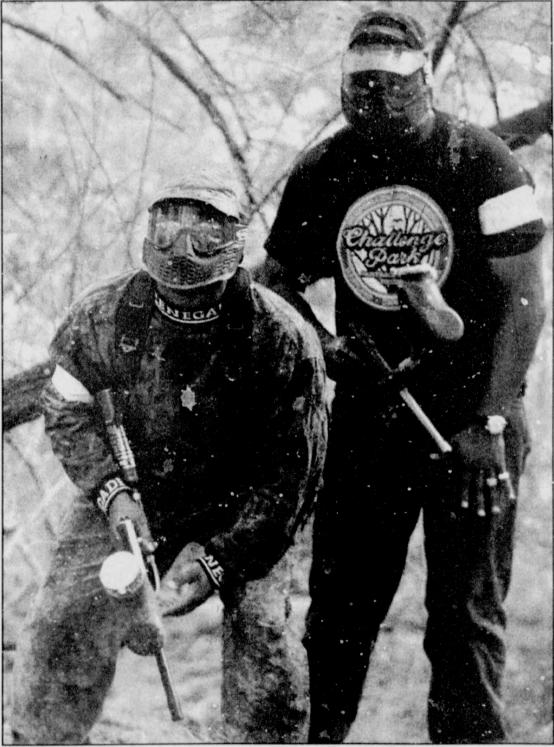
Pond said, Tech has the oldest animal science facility of any of the Big 12 schools.

Tech Board of Regent John Jones said more than likely the huildJUST SHOOT ME

Paintball games fast becoming way to 'let off steam'

**By John Davis** Staff Writer

t started last night around 7 p.m. Out past the city limits among the wilted cotton fields, seven pick-up trucks and a Honda Civic converged on a field. They got out and gathered along a fence for their instructions, guns, ammo and protective gear. Was this a meeting of the Hatfields and McCoys? No. This was the equivalent of a newmembers dinner. The only difference was instead of polite conversation, greetings and introductions were made with a paintball gun. Paintball has fast become a very popular sport both in the United States as well as the Hub City. And for the Agricultural and Economic Graduate Student Association, the experience was a new way to meet new members.



million is available, but they need three or four times that.

The \$8 million is what the **Board** of Regents previously had for the new building, Pond said.

Pond said,

the estimated cost of construction is \$180 a squarefoot. The building is estimated at

120,000 square-feet. The site for the building has not been determined yet, Pond said. He said there are three possible sites: behind the current animal science building, behind the agricultural education building or connected to the proposed science building.

Pond said, the building would bring three buildings into one. If built, the current animal science building is scheduled to be demolished and the food technology building will be "utilized for other things," Pond said.

The new building will also have a meat lab. Pond said, the meat lab will

ing will be approved. Texas Tech's new and an architect building will be from Parkhill,

> John Jones Tech Regent

state-of-the-art ..."

University of Nebraska and Oklahoma State on Aug. 5. 'Texas Tech's

new building

Jones, Pond

Smith, and Coo-

per visited the

will be a state-of-the-art, based on features from Nebraska and Oklahoma." Jones said.

Pond said, that they went to see how their animal science and food technology building was set-up.

Jones said, both schools were extremely eager to help Tech. They shared information on what to do and not to do, Jones said. He also said that he hopes the building would be built in the core part of campus because it would be accessible to the students.

Jones said, the building will be good for students since all the areas will be close at hand.

If all goes well, Pond said the building could be completed in 21/2 years.

### A&M prof re-indicted for misuse of funds

BRYAN (AP) — A Texas A&M professor accused of bankrolling his private business with public school funds has been re-indicted.

The original indictment against computer science professor Dhiraj Pradhan was dismissed two weeks ago after Brazos County District Attorney Bill Turner agreed with defense lawyer Travis Bryan III that it was too vague.

Tuesday, Pradhan received a thirddegree felony indictment from a different grand jury panel that charged him with one count of "abuse of official capacity.

Most of the 28 acts of misuse spelled out in the indictment accuse Pradhan of using A&M System funds to pay for out-of-state trips and other expenditures for his businesses in 1996. A Dec. 3 trial date has been scheduled.

The amount of funds used were "more than \$20,000 but less than \$100,000," the indictment says.

If convicted, Pradhan could face up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Pradhan, 49, has said he is innocent of all charges.

### Freshman Council results

The results from Tuesday's Cranford, Zack Sawyer, Justin freshman council election were announced today.

Out of 135 candidates, the 25 council seats will be taken by Chris Gee, Todd Worley, Ben Jackson, Chris Grimes, Kelley Terrill, Kyle Blanco, Michael Butts, Marcus Williams, Chris

Thomas, Mandy Allison, Ben Harvey, Anna McSpadden, Jane Belsky, Katy Hagler, Shawn Chippendale, G. Grant Gildon, Aaron McMullen, Brit Adams, Tammy Dickie, John Steinmetz, Clay Tarro, Megan Wright and Scott Spiegel.

DeDe Beaty, a graduate student from Stephenville, said this was her first time to play.

"I have no idea," said Beaty when asked what she thinks she's in for. "I heard it hurts when you get hit."

This "mixer" was organized by Jane Bondurant, graduate student and head of the student associa-

"It was something we'd never done before," Bondurant said. "Other than going out to eat, we thought we'd do something more interactive."

As the group went out, Eduardo Segarra, professor of agriculture and applied economics, yelled, "I'm going to shoot each and every one of them!"

This was Segarra's first time to play as well. "This beats the heck out of sitting in the office all day.'

The place was Paintball Games of Lubbock, run by Damy Donahoo. He said they had been in business since 1996.

"It's a good way to let off steam and kill someone, but you don't," Donahoo said.

Donahoo said they saw between 800 and 900 people each month this summer. He added that companies, birthday parties and church meetings are who usually come out to the field. The average age of the players was 12 to 25 year old, he said.

"I see a lot of men, but I don't see a lot of

Wade Kennedy/The University Daily

Shoot To Pelt: Duane Quinton and Darrell Berry, Lubbock residents, guard their base at Challenge Park Paintball on the corner of East 20th Street and Loop 289.

women," Donahoo said. "I guess it's a testosterone thing. People come out here for birthdays, and kids love it because they get to shoot their dads or moms, and when a kid shoots mom and dad, the smile is worth a million dollars.

Donahoo also said safety is paramount at

their field. During his speech to the players, he told them that if they were caught taking their masks off, they would be thrown out for the day without a refund.

see Paintball, page 2

### Minority enrollment remains same

#### By Gretchen Verry

Preliminary minority enrollment figures revealed Texas Tech's minority enrollment figures are similar to those of last year.

African-American and Hispanic student enrollment dropped, although, not in levels as dramatic of overall enrollment, according to statistics given to The University Daily late Wednesday.

Tech's total enrollment fell by 1.77 percent for 1998. This drop is based mostly on higher admission standards for transfer students, vice president for enrollment management Michael Hintze said.

Total minority enrollment con-

stituted 18.46 percent of the student body.

African-American student enrollment fell from 713 students in 1997 to 705 in 1998, accounting for about 2.87 percent total enrollment.

"I don't see this as a major issue, I mean it's only eight students," said Lydia Green, president of the Black Students Association.

Hispanic enrollment dropped from 2,411 students in 1997 to 2,399 students in 1998.

Hispanic students now make up about 9.9 percent of the total student body at Tech.

Native American enrollment fell from 101 in 1997 to 95 total students in 1998

Asian enrollment increased by 1.28 percent this year, bringing the total number to 475 students.

In 1996, minority enrollment at all Texas public schools dropped dramatically, following the Hopwood decision outlawing affirmative action in Texas public higher education, Hintze said.

We are definitely feeling the effects of Hopwood," Hintze said. "It is now more difficult to aggressively recruit minorities to the campus."

House bill 588, which was designed to allow all students in the top 10 percent of their graduating class to attend any Texas public school they choose, has helped to attract minorities to Texas schools, Hintze said.

Minorities at the University of Texas constitute 34.6 percent of their total student population.

Tech, with a student body that is made up of 18.46 percent minority, beat A&M, with 18 percent minority enrollment.

For the freshman class, overall minority enrollment is slightly higher then last year, Hintze said.

There was a 20 to 30 student drop, however, in African-American and Asian students.

Green said, one way Tech can increase minority retention is to host more minority-oriented programs.

"In the past, it's been left up to minority organizations to organize these programs, and that gets to be a hard thing to do," Green said.

### ff Writer

**2** The University Daily

### NEWS

### Thursday, September 24, 1998

### NASA looks toward Tech for space jam

#### **By Jonathan Biles** Staff Writer

To the moon and beyond is where Tech officials hope their relationship will go with NASA after the university meets with NASA in September.

The meetings allowed NASA to evaluate four different areas of studies at Tech in order to make a decision on whether or not NASA will continue current and future projects, said David Nes, professor of chemistry.

The four areas of particular interest to NASA are space suit design, plant sciences research, engineering and advanced cosinic-ray composi-

tion exploration space station. NASA viewed the International Textile Center at Tech, said Pam Alspaugh, communications coordinator for the ITC, and showed particular interest in the materials needed for space suit design.

Both the space suit, in which astronauts use during space-walks, and the parachute, used during re-entry, are made from materials in which the ITC is studying, Alspaugh said.

Also at the ITC, there is a tow tank which is one of only nine in the entire world, she said.

Alspaugh said a tow tank is basically the same thing as a wind-tunnel.

Except for the fact it is much slower.

Even though talks have just begun, Alspaugh is quite optimistic.

"I think Tech has to offer what NASA needs, and hopefully they will choose to include us on their research about the mission to Mars," Alspaugh said.

Plant sciences was another topic of interest to NASA because of the length of time for most missions, Nes said.

"With the missions being extended for longer periods of time, in particular the mission to Mars, I think it is important that we develop and grow plants in space," Nes said

One of the more involved parts of high levels of radiation while in a space flight is the mechanics of a flight, because of this, the Tech Department of Engineering also was studied.

The engineering of the hull of the space shuttle, Nes said, is particularly important because it powers everything from thrusters to the main power supply.

The last aspect NASA reviewed, was the continuing study of cosmicray composition at Tech, said Alan Sill, associate professor of physics.

Cosmic-ray study is important when astronauts spend extensive amounts of time in space, Sill said. Sill said astronauts experience

space, and the further studies and advancements made will help protect astronauts and allow them to stay in space longer.

The best results of cosmic-ray studies are when the experiments take place in space because of the fluctuating radiation variables that occur on Earth, Sill said.

Sill sees this as more than just an opportunity to advance space study and technology, but also to give students hands-on experience.

"With the NASA projects here at Tech, it will expose students to the forefront of the field they are studying," Sill said.

headfirst into a tile floor, Cease said.

"This was her one and only expe-

However, Sheriff's Lt. Steve Ricks

rience, and it clearly wasn't a favor-

said the girl had given authorities two

different names for the boy who al-

able one," he said.

legedly raped her.

### Adults have chance to play again Paintball from page 1

"We haven't had anyone hurt in the three years since we opened," Donahoo said. "We haven't even had so much as a sprained ankle." He said that two referees watch both sides of the field to make sure the players follow the rules.

There currently are three paintball parks in Lubbock.

Challenge Park Paintball Sports Fields, an international company has an adjoining store, Challenge Games, that sells paintball equipment in South Plains Mall.

Forrest Brown, president of Challenge Park of Texas Inc., and owner of Challenge Park International, said paintball offers an outlet for adults to be young again.

"I honestly believe that no person honestly wants to grow up," Brown said.

He added, from his observations in the other five Challenge Parks, three located in the United States, the other two in Canada and Russia, it's the adults who have the most fun.

"You can see it in the back of their minds," Brown said. "(People) really want to do this, but it wouldn't be cool to their peers."

However, Brown said paintball is not a para-military operation.

"A lot of people go in there with this 'Rambo Ideal,' but they learn real quick that it's not a military simulation. It has a military look about it." He said their games are mainly different variations of "capture the flag," offering players a team objective, instead of one team against another.

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### TI gives gift to students

The Texas Tech Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers received a \$1,000 gift from Texas Instruments in a check presentation ceremony Wednesday.

'We have worked closely with Texas Instruments in the past, and since they are leaving Lubbock, this is one of their last acts for Tech," said Howard Gibbs, vice president of the Society of Black Engineers.

The group's industrial advisor, Walt Williams, is employed by TI, and has led the group to work closely with the company.

"Mr. Williams helped a lot with making this possible," said Anita Hunt, president of the Society of Black Engineers.

The group has received funds from TI in the past, Hunt said. The company has helped to send students to national conferences.

This gift will be used mainly for the implementation of various outreach programs for the group, as well as sponsoring students attending regional and national conferences.

"We have worked hand in hand with Texas Instruments in the past, we will definitely miss them when they are gone," Gibbs said.

TI and the National Society of Black Engineers worked together to implement an engineering day at South Plains Mall.

TI also provided lecturers and tours of the TI facilities.

"It's been mutual with TI and our chapter, a lot of our students seek jobs with TI after graduation. And they have helped us with many fund raisers," Gibbs said.

The society met at 6 p.in. to receive the check.

### Rape victim accused of killing baby

ANGLETON (AP) — A 15-year-old girl accused of killing her newborn daughter says the child was conceived during a rape and said that she did not know she was pregnant until she went into labor.

The girl also believed the baby was stillborn, said her lawyer, Allan Cease.

"I've heard all kinds of stories in my 22 years (as a lawyer), but I got to talk to her and look her in the eves and I firmly believe what she's telling me," Cease said.

However, Brazoria County authorities say they doubt the girl's story, both about the rape and whether the baby was born dead or alive.

The teen, whose name has not been disclosed, is charged with juvenile capital murder in the Sept. 11 death of the infant. The birth was reported to authorities after the girl went to a Houston hospital complaining of abdominal pain. Emer-

gency room doctors discovered she standing up. The baby was delivered had given birth, authorities said. hom

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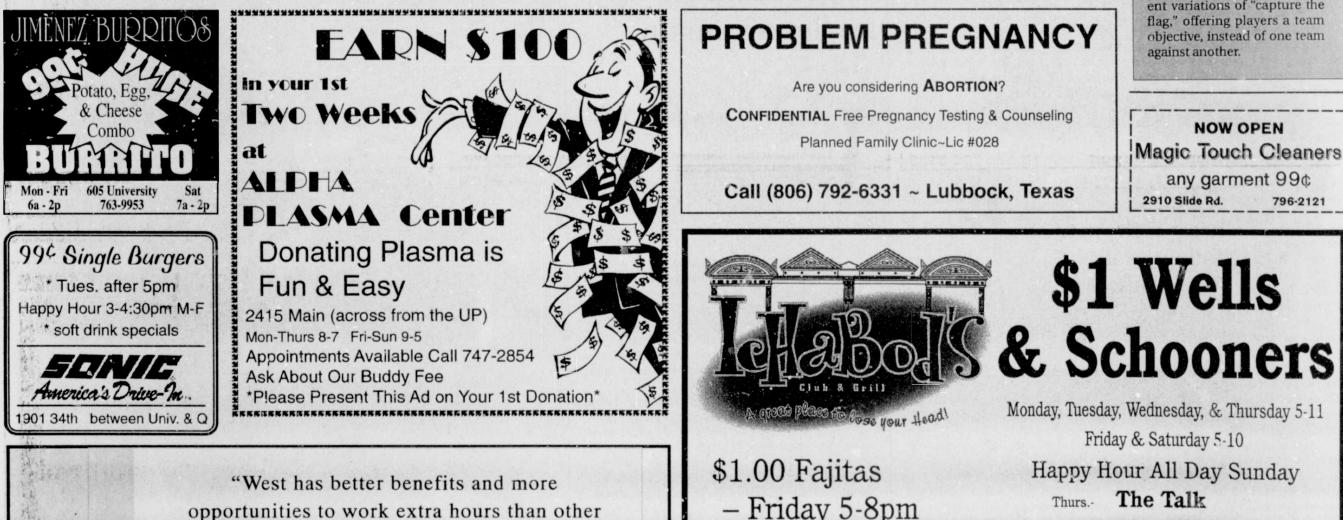
said

at h

Sheriff's officers wen home near Pearland a		id his client told him about nine months
large amount of blood in the bath- room. The girl's brother later di- rected officers to a trash bin behind an auto parts store where he said he had dis- carded the body at his sister's re- quest. Prosecutors	is was her one d only	ago by a teen-age acquaintance. The boy first en- gaged her in con- versation, then pulled a pocket- knife after she re- sisted his ad- vances, Cease said. The girl, whom Cease described as sexually naive,
are awaiting a fi-		kept the assault a

nal autopsy report before deciding whether to try to certify the girl as an adult to allow her to stand trial for capital murder. Preliminary autopsy results showed the baby was born alive, and had suffered trauma to the head.

Cease said the girl went into labor



secret, he said.

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Thursday, September 24, 1998

### NEWS

### Project celebrates graduating class

By Gretchen Verry Staff Writer

The class of 1999 may soon have a chance to leave their mark on Texas Tech. Students are now being sought to participate in a project deemed "The Millennium Project" to commemorate the last graduating class of the century.

"I basically thought that there should be something to commemorate this unique time for Tech, and something should be done to remember us by," said Logan Spence, a senior agricultural communications major from Lubbock.

Seniors will form a committee to raise funds and decide on a class gift

to give to the university upon graduation.

"The gift will depend on the committee, we want the decision to be made by a representative group of the senior class," said Blythe Clayton, president of the Student Government Association.

The committee will be sponsored through the SGA, but will function as an independent entity.

"The SGA will facilitate activities, provide a meeting place, and supply funds for advertising," Clayton said. "The committee can communicate through us.'

Seniors are encouraged to apply for the committee, as long as they are graduating within the year 1999.

"This is not an elite group, all se- dents, because we are doing this for niors with a certain degree of initiative are encouraged to apply," Clavton said.

Applications for the committee are now available in the SGA office and will be accepted through Oct. 2.

"I think just by making the effort to apply, students are showing a definite degree of interest," Clayton said. The committee will focus on a stu-

dent-led effort from the class of 1999, and give special attention to the class.

Fund-raising efforts will be concentrated on students in the class and student organizations, although other groups will also be solicited.

"We want to focus on the stu-

and CSU has ex-

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nels, Peterson

tives are to focus

"Our objec-

said.

them, but we will certainly accept donations from anyone on campus," Spence said. Students will be asked to make a big commitment to the project in order to get it all done.

"The level of commitment will vary, but it can be very intense at times," Clayton said. "This is not going to be one of these committees that you go to a meeting for twice a month and that's all. Students will be expected to work between those meetings."

The size of the committee will be dependent upon how many students apply.

Tech has not received a documented class gift since the 1950s.

### Schools' engineers work on project

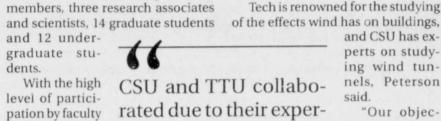
By Amy Bishop Staff Writer

Texas Tech engineers are collaborating with Colorado State University to share plans for strengthening buildings in high winds.

The annual Technology Assessment and Advisory Council will meet this weekend to discuss the Colorado State and Tech Cooperative Program in the wind engineering department.

"This is a unique experience in cross-discipline, cross-department and cross-university research, designed to improve and promulgate the science of wind engineering," said Kishor Mehta, director of the Wind Engineering Research Center and director and investigator for the TAAC.

The program is funded by Na- to their expertise in different fields, tional Science Foundation grants at they combined so that they could



universities receive \$300,000 for the

support of graduate research, said

Richard Peterson, co-principal edu-

cator of the geosciences department.

"CSU and TTU collaborated due

ceives

more enthusi-

asm, Mehta said.

Each year, the

CSU and Tech. The program has as- share their expertise and ideas," sembled a solid team of eight faculty Peterson said. Tech is renowned for the studying

> CSU and TTU collaborated due to their exper-

> > on an interdisciplinary effort on selected wind engineering re-

search problems, related to behaviors of low-rise buildings under influence of severe winds," Mehta said.

"The new CSU/Tech cooperative program in wind engineering has been organized to focus primarily on three technical research topics.

These topics are wind loads, wind engineering meteorology and wind flow around buildings.

Friday, faculty members from both universities will give a detailed report on the accomplishments of the previous year.

Discussions will be about how to divide the spending of the \$3.6 million grant Tech was given by the National Institute of Science and Technology.

"They will review what to do with

### Tech arena problems not fully reported

#### Arena, from page 1

has been spent so far on the project, which is currently at its halfway point, Bundock said.

According to the same article in Tuesday's Avalanche-Journal, "structural subcontractors say the project is beset with design flaws that have generated excessive change orders, delayed construction and inflated costs.'

The article went on to say that at least one subcontractor said "plans for the \$51 million United Spirit Arena were the worst by far I've ever seen."

The name of that subcontractor, however, was not revealed.

But at least one subcontractor guoted in the article, John Beck Sr. of Lubbock-based Beck Steel, said Fuquay misunderstood his statements and took parts of their conversation out of context.

"I was not aware that (Fuguay) was going to print our conversation," Beck said. "I was pretty angry to see my name under the quotes he had written, because most of them were taken out of context, and there was not an established understanding that they were going to be printed."

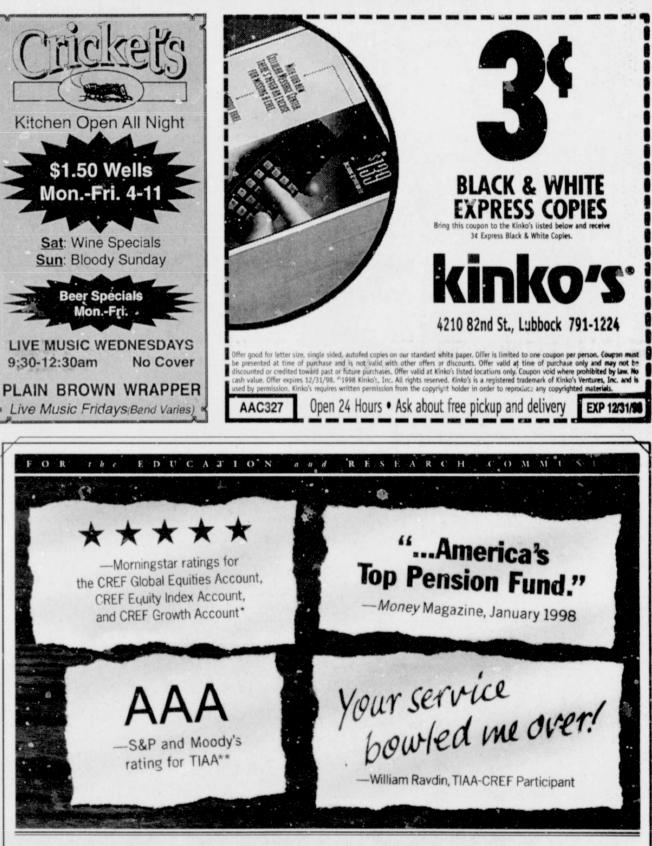
In the article, Beck is quoted as saying architects at Rosser International had complicated the difficulties of arena construction through "their lack of ability to answer questions and their arrogant attitude ... they act like every trade on the job is some sort of West Texas hayseed who doesn't understand the job ... their arrogance and attitude are major problems.'

Last year, Texas A&M also faced construction problems during the building of their multi-purpose complex, Reed Arena.

Wesley Peel, vice chancellor of facilities and planning at Texas A&M, said during the construction, trusses weighing more than 80 tons were being erected by two cranes for support in the ceiling of the complex.

"One of the crane operators dropped his side of the beam, which collapsed to the ground and caused the other crane to shake so much that it dropped its side of the beam as well," Peel said.

"Unlike the problems you all are experiencing at Tech, ours was caused by human error, but it still set our construction back.'





and students, tise in different fields." the program remuch

**Richard Peterson** Tech educator

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Period	Accounts Rated	Accounts Rated	Accounts Rated	Accounts Rated	Accounts Rated	Accounts Rated
3-Year	4/2,120	4/459	5/2,120	5/2,120	4/719	4/2,120
5-Year	4/1,363	5/235	N/A	N/A	4/487	4/1,363
10-Year	4/674	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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### THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

## VIEWPOINTS

### Thursday, September 24, 1998

## Spaying, neutering pets big necessity



Andrew Schoppe Columnist

RIGHT!

Sound familiar. The "Price is Right" was to such a decision would be one of utter definitely one of a kind when it came to game shows

many people tuned in at 10 a.m. to see who would get to spin the big money wheel and win a chance to take home lots of prizes on the showcase showdown. Before signing off after each and every show, the host, Bob Barker, always left his viewers with a simple message: "Don't forget to have your pets spayed and neutered.

In the early part of August 1998, a North Carolina sheriff decided to use television to convey the same message that Bob Barker had been stating for years. Only this time the TV programming was anything but light-hearted and jovial.

Sheriff B.J. Barnes decided to air the euthanasia of a 4-year-old collie mix on his public access program to show the public what really happens to the many

ome on down! You're the next pets that are overpopulating the streets contestant on the 'PRICE IS of cities and towns across the nation.

At first, it might seem like the reaction

disbelief and disgust However, after pondering a bit more, During the summers in Houston, the message that the sheriff was trying to get across was heard loud and clear.

As a result of the sheriff's actions, adoptions increased by 300 percent in the county. According to the Humane Society of

the United States, 67,000 dogs can be produced by a female dog and her offspring in just six years. This number is obviously far greater

than the number of available homes for newborn dogs.

As would be expected, many of the dogs that are born end up on the streets as strays and that's where the dog catcher comes into play.

The Humane Society has calculated that 61 percent of all dogs and 75 percent of all cats entering shelters are killed each vear.

In hard numbers, this means

that 8 million to 10 million dogs and cats are euthanized in shelters each year. To avoid this

massive death toll, pet owners could decide to spay or neu- will not be as pressing in future years. ter their dogs and cats for about \$55 or \$40, respectively.

For some people, even this amount of money is hard to come by in order to have one's pets spayed or neutered.

With this in mind, it would be worthwhile for the government to consider passing legislaticn to provide funding for vets, animal shelters and other animal organizations around the country to spay and neuter as many cats and dogs as possible.

The point to consider about spaying and neutering pets is that if one huge effort is successfully made to curb the overpopulation problem then the issue

... pets who have had the procedures have been found to be better behaved and less likely to develop certain kinds of deadly cancer.

> The potential birth rate among cats and dogs would be severely limited because of the greatly decreased number of pets that would be capable of reproducing. The SPCA in Tulsa, Okla., has a contract with a vet to spay and neuter cats and dogs at its shelter for \$25 an animal.

At such a cost, the government could provide a measly \$20,000 in funding (about the cost of one year of college at a private university) and spay or neuter 800 cats and dogs.

For those who are considering getting a pet in the future, it should be obvious that spaying or neutering is the right thing to do.

For those who aren't planning on getting a pet anytime soon, there are still ways to participate in the effort to control pet overpopulation.

All Texans can now order a Texas Animal Friendly License Plate to help raise money that will go towards spaying and neutering pets, among other things. For more information about this program, go to www.ark4pets.com on the Internet, or stop by the local county tax collector's office.

Not only does spaying and neutering pets help to decrease the risk of pet overpopulation, but pets who have had the procedures have been found to be better behaved and less likely to develop certain kinds of deadly cancer. The message sent by Sheriff B.J. Barnes was shocking, yet effective. Hopefully, never again will someone have to send such a message to the public.

Andrew Schoppe is a junior broadcast journalism and business management major from Houston.

## Losing keys less painful with help

ave you ever lost anything that was important to you? For those who have, I feel your pain. For those who haven't, it is an experience like no other. I recently had this experience and you can believe me when I say, it was not



Last Thursday, walking the 40 miles back to the parking lots, I discovered that I didn't have my car keys. I searched for them, tearing my backpack apart to find them. All the while, I was staring at my poor little car which was beckoning to me. My stomach started to do flip flops, not from hunger but from panic. I wondered where I could have left them. Karina Aul I started to retrace my steps. I went to the math building first. Someone told me Columnist to check the departmental office to see if my precious keys were in there. Just my luck, they were closed for lunch. It would be at least an hour before the receptionist returned. Now what? I went to the library next. Have you ever hunted for a set of keys in a building half the size of the Sears Tower? It was unbelievable. By the time I finished my search of the library, the hour that I had to wait for the math department receptionist was up.



Write a letter to the editor Just drop it by room 211 of the journalism building or e-mail it to The University Daily@ttu.edu

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### **Tossing tortillas** staple in Tech traditions, history

To the editor: I find it not only disturbing, but also pathetic that the Student Government Association feels the need to infringe upon traditions started by students of recent years, particularly tortilla tossing.

By allowing this past-kickoff tradition to continue, the students of Texas Tech have something to identify with at games. Since unnecessary legislation has been brought down against this contemporary heritage, more bad than good has come about from the vote of the SGA.

When I came to Texas Tech in the fall

of 1996, and had the chance to attend my first home football game, I looked forward with great anticipation to the opening kickoff. I thought it was very unique the way students were brought together through this tradition.

Jumping ahead to 1998, one must be a brave soul to throw tortillas without being caught by the endearingly named "Tortilla Police."

I personally find it sad that people must be hired to prevent this tradition and University Police officers must walk around and confiscate tortillas from students of today.

I understand that the SGA and Board of Regents feel it necessary to appease the donors and alumni.

But the mere fact that these donors are financially endowed is not grounds enough to resolve to ban tortilla tossing.

Now that tortilla tossing has been prohibited, students have returned to simply throwing tortillas, which are the same behaviors performed by the originators of this tradition.

If SGA believes that homecoming and activities around homecoming can be established as tradition for years to come, then the student majority should be able to recognize tortilla tossing as a time-honored tradition as well.

Since the university is compelled to hire "Tortilla Police" to stand on the field and give the student body evil stares, these employees might as well serve multi-purposes and pick up tortillas as in years past.

> Patrick Underwood junior broadcast journalism

### Writer on target with column

To the editor: Thanks for Dwayne Mamo's column "Priorities Should Be Rearranged" in Wednesday's UD. This may be the most sensible editorial opinion I've read on the current scandal. As a letter to the editor in today's A-J points out, under the smoke screen Congress has created around the scandal, it is sneaking legislation that will make our country and world a much worse place to live. Thanks to The UD and Mr. Mamo for practicing good journalism.

> Norman A. Bert Professor and Chairman Department of Theatre and Dance

On the way, I stopped numerous people to ask if they had seen my car keys. All said no and gave me a look that said, "Who the heck are you and why are you asking me this?"

Unfortunately, the math department did not have my keys. I ended up going to the mass communication office. There, Vicki Raymond, a kindly receptionist helped me out. Not only did she stem the tide of rising panic, she suggested that I call the Tech Police Department.

Yes. They had my keys.

Now I had a new problem. They wanted me to come to them. Without my car, how was I supposed to get there. I was told to take such and such bus to such and such, get off there, and then take such and such bus to such and such.

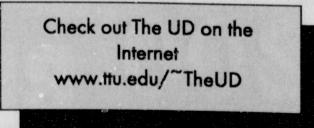
Before I started weeping in frustration, I was transferred to a dispatcher who kindly offered to get and officer to bring me my keys.

I got my keys, thanked everyone profusely and was on my way.

This serves as a thank you to the police department, who didn't have to help me, to Ms. Raymond, who was more than kind and to those poor bewildered people who are still wondering who I am.

Oh, and a I want to add one final note to those students who own cars. Do yourselves a favor - get an extra set of keys made.

Karina Aul is a sophomore journalism major from Wilson.



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Letter Policy: Letters to the editor are accepted for publication on the Viewpoints page. All letters must be no longer than two, double-spaced, typed pages. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters must be submitted in person or by mail with a picture identification and telephone number. Letters sent by e-mail must include the author's name, social security and phone number. Letters are printed at the editor's discretion, and the editor reserves the right to edit letters for length, libelous material, spelling and vulgarity. The University Daily does not discriminate because of race, creed, national origin, age, sex, sexual preference or disability

### THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

### HOT TRENDS

Theater series opens in Lubbock. see p. 6

# lifestyles

### HOT TRENDS

What is happening in the Hub City this weekend? see p. 6

#### Thursday, September 24, 1998

### Latina editor, creator to visit Tech

By Sebastian Kitchen Staff Writer

hristy Haubegger, editor of Latina Magazine, will speak at 8 p.m. tonight in the University Center Allen Theatre.

Haubegger, a native of Houston, fulfilled her lifelong dream when she started the magazine.

"She grew up in the Houston area and noticed a lack of support in the media for Hispanic women," said Angie Dunlap, activities specialist for UC Programs.

"She wanted to make a magazine to target Hispanic American women.'

Latina is a bilingual magazine and United States.

"In the lecture, she talks about how she started the magazine from the ground up and how being a

the journalism field," Dunlap said.

When she launched the magazine, Haubegger went headfirst into the Hispanic-American market where no woman's magazine had been before.

"Christy is 29 years old, and she started the magazine two years ago," Dunlap said. "I think students should go first to take a look at the business side of it, to see how young people can start a successful business, and also see how a Hispanic-American made a difference.'

worked to mainstream the Mexican-American culture.

"She's kind of a role model to the targets Hispanic women in the Hispanic population and to young students. people," Dunlap said.

Haubegger has been honored by the Hispanic Public Relations Association, the National Association of Dunlap said.

young, hispanic woman affects her in Sunday and Features Editors and was named Business Woman of the Year by the New York State Federation of Hispanic Chambers of Commerce. The entrepreneur has

been featured in Media Week, Glamour, The Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, CNN and many other magazines, newspapers and television programs through-At a young age, Haubegger has out the United States.

Tickets cost \$8 for the general public and tickets are \$4 for Texas Tech

"She can relate to a college audience because she is so young,"



Country music legend Jerry Jeff Walker, Larry and the Luke Olson Band will all perform Saturday at the 23rd Annual SAE Chili Cook-Off at Buffalo Springs Lake. The doors open at 5 a.m. and the music starts at 9 a.m.



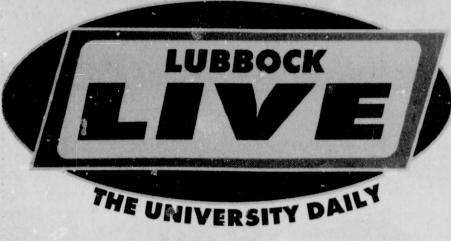
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6 The University Daily



THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams MSPuzzles @ aol.com ACROSS 1 Pound to c pulp 5 Glowing embers 10 Lock with a pin 14 Singer Fitzgerald 15 Excessive 16 Do \_ others as .... 17 Musial or Laurel 18 The Toastmaster 20 Fenway Park tare 22 Continent 23 Tallow base 25 Some carnival performers 26 The Kennedy Connection 32 Gives off 33 Literary device 34 Money manager: abbr. 37 Moral By James E. Buel misjudgments 38 Isolated Fort Washington, MD 39 Rain cats and dnesday's Puzzla Solved 6 Individual dogs 40 Make an effort 7 West or 41 Meal prayer Sandler 8 Goddess of the 42 Angry gaze 43 The Chairman moon of the Board 9 Large truck, RECII 45 Communication briefly 10 Threw baseball INERT SALTECAR PLANETOFTHEAPE services 48 Ash or ice hard 11 Pilasters follower? 49 Sap of energy 53 Slanting type 57 "Carkty Man" 12 Skunk indicator ENOS PENNED ALT SAM LIONINWINTER NNED 13 Littie lakes **19 Furious** 21 'Yours, Mina, singer 59 U2 singer and \_\* 24 Hong Kong 60 Pinnacle lycoon 26 Annoying one 61 Tee shot 62 Propel in a high 27 Abu Dhabi 63 End of a spin? leader 64 Closeouts 65 Baseball's 28 Itoy bitsy 29 and ruin 47 "Philadelphia" 39 Still hittable on 30 Sherwood director 50 Tacks on Slaughter the links 41 Riding the \_\_\_\_ Canadian prov. 51 Scarlett's home DOWN 34 Checked train 42 Insect pest garment? t Interlock Wicked 54 Crazy bird? 55 Scuttlebutt 35 Run smoothly 2 Countertenor 43 More forceful 44 Garden blooms 36 Region 38 Football coach **3** Louver 56 Small beds 58 been had 4 Phone parts 45 Tablelands 46 Make into law been had 5 Stick weapon Parseghian

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### LIFESTYLES

### THURSDAY

Dragging Juliet—Hub City Brewery, 1807 Ave. H, 10 p.m., \$3

David Trout–Chelsea's Street Pub, Th-Sat., 6002 Slide Rd., 9 p.m., Free

The Talk–Ichabods, 2420 Broadway, 9:30 p.m., \$3 Personal Touch–Clousseau's, 1302 Buddy Holly Ave., 8 p.m. \$3

### FRIDAY

The Briggs Brothers Band–J. Patrick O'Maley, 1211 University Ave., 10 p.m., \$3

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 2						
STAT. CHAN.	KTXT	KCBD	KLBK	KUPT	KAMC	KJTV
AFFIL.	PBS	NBC	CBS	UPN	ABC	FOX
CITY	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock
7 :00	Bloomberg Homestretch	Today Show	News	Shop & Home	Good Morning	Bobby/World Li'.e/Louie
8 :00 :30	Sesame Street	и и			America "	Doug Ducktales
9:00	C. Horse Barney	M. Stewart M. Stewart	Sally Jessy Raphael	K. Copeland Match Game	Regis & Kathie Lee	Howie Mandel
10 :00 :30	Wimzie Mr. Rogers	Sunset Beach	Price is Right	Dating Game / Newlywed Gm.	Vie <del>w</del>	Donny & Marie
11 :00 :30	Arthur Magic Bus	Leeza	Young & the Restless	Forgive Or Forget	All My Children	People Court
12:00	Old House Julia Bakes	News Days of our	News Beautiful	Ricki Lake	News Port Charles	Mills Lane Joe Brown
1 :00	Sit & Be Fit Barney	Lives Another	As the World Turns	Paid Program Boy/World	One Life to Live	Madock
2 :00	Marsh Magic Bus	World Hiwyd Square	Guiding Light	Paid Program Mr. Cooper	General Hospital	Nanny Paid Program
3 :00	Arthur Wishbone	Rosie O'Donnell	Roseanne	Liv'g Single Martin	Maury Povich	Spiderman PR Playback
4 :00	Carmen Bill Nye	Oprah Winfrey	Jeopardy Sein feld	LAPD LAPD	Montel Williams	Mystic Hercules
5 :00	R. Rainbow Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	News CBS News	Jerry Springer	News ABC News	Sic/Sister Grace/Fire
6 :00 :30	Newshour	News Extra	News W/Fortune	Judge Judy Judge Judy	News ABC News	Home Impr. Simpsons
7 :00	Letter From Waco	Friends *PG Jesse *PG	Diagnosis Murder	Movie: 'House	ABC Movie: "Executive	Police Videos
8 :00	Mystery!	Frasier 'PG Veronica 'PG		Party III'	Decision"	FOX Files New Mag.
9 :00	lsamu Noguchi	E.R. *PG	48 Hours	Cowboys Cheerleader		Cops Cops
10 :00	Nightly Bus.	News Tonight Show	News David	Real TV Hard Copy	News MASH	Frasie: Cheers
11 :00		" Conan	Letterm an Tom Snyder	E.T. Real TV	Nightline Mad/You	Jerry Springer
12:00		O'Brien Later	Paid Program	Paid Program Shop @ Home	Incorrect Access	Newsradio Paió Program

+110

The Toon-Billiards Plus, 5610 Frankford Ave., 10 p.m., \$3 Smokey Joe's Cafe-Lubbock Municipal Coliseum, 7:30 p.m. through Sun., \$32-\$14 Jeff Paterson-Hub City Brewery, 1807 Ave. H, 10 p.m., \$3 Mike Pritchard and Blue Thunder-Ichabods, 2420 Broadway, 9:30 p.m., \$3 Charlies Backyard Planet-Philly's, 2417 Broadway, 10 p.m., \$3 D.G. Flewellyn-Clousseau's,

1802 Buddy Holly Ave., 8 p.m. \$3



Jerry Jeff Walker and guests at

the SAE Chili Cook Off-Buffalo Springs Lake, East 50th St., 5 a.m.-5 p.m. \$16, \$18 D.G. Flewellyn-Caprock Cafe, 3405 34th St., 10 p.m, \$3 Kyle Abernathy's Sing-A-Long-Bleachers, 1719 Buddy Holly

Ave., 9:00 p.m., \$3 Cinderella, Hair of the Dog, Chet Arthur-The Depot 19th St. Warehouse, 1824 Ave. G, 8 p.m.,

Tracy Lawrence—South Plains Fair Park Coliseum, 105 East Broadway, 7 p.m., \$12

Dr. Bruno and the PROPHETS of Rock—Hub City Burrito Co., 2102 Broadway, free Plaid Joe—Hub City Brewery, 1807 Ave. H, 10 p.m., \$3 Buddy Simmons—Ichabods,

### Thursday, September 24, 1998

2420 Broadway, 9:30 p.m., **\$3** Charlies Backyard Planet— Philly's, 2417 Broadway, 10 p.m., **\$3** 



7 Mary 3, Feeder, Failing Jupiter-The Depot 19th St. Warehouse, 1824 Ave. G, 8 p.m., \$13, \$15

Charlie Pride-South Plains Fair Park Coliseum, 105 East Broadway, 7 p.m., \$12 D.G. Flewellyn-Hub City Brewery, 1807 Ave. H, 10 p.m., \$3

That's my Tractor—Ichabods, 2420 Broadway, 9:30 p.m., \$3

## Play to debut in Hub City

#### By Laura Hensley Staff Writer

Many of the greatest rock 'n' roll hits of the '50s and '60s will be brought to life this weekend in the season opener of the "Give Your Regards to Broadway" theater series.

Familiar songs such as "Jailhouse Rock," "Stand By Me," "Yakety Yak" and "Love Potion No. 9" are a few of many rock songs featured in the touring production of "Smokey Joe's Cafe," which is scheduled to hit town Friday.

This Broadway mainstay is set to rock Hub City audiences with five performances beginning with a 7:30 p.m. show Friday. Other performances will be at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and a performance at 2 p.m. Sunday. All performances will be at Lubbock Municipal Auditorium.

The Grammy Award-winning musical celebrates the lifestyle and attitude of the '50s. It features the music of song writing greats, Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. Their music helped define the careers of rock leg-

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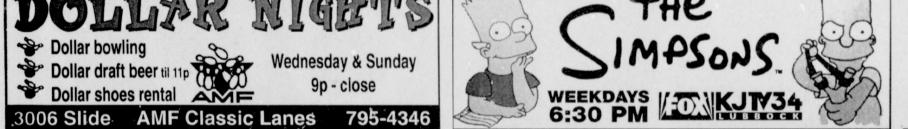
CS • CHEN

ECHANICAL ENGINEERING • BUSINESS ANALYSIS

Courtesy Photo Scene from Smokey Joe's Cafe

end. It's basically a song book," said Judith Rose, who plays the role of Patti. "It's a great show and a lot of fun."

Rose said the energy and music of the show delights many audiences. She said she gets her thrill when the audiences have a good time during the performances "I like to see the audience recognize every song in the play," Rose said. "They like to clap and sing along with the music and that's what makes doing this play fun." The nine-member cast of 'Smokey Joe's Cafe" has been touring the United States by bus with this production since June. Another production has been performing for a year and a half in Reno, Nev., and the play currently is playing on Broadway. "Traveling is hard at times, but it's definitely worth it," Rose said. Tickets range from \$14to \$32 and are available by calling Select-A-Seat at 770-2000. One hour prior to the show, there will be a student rush. All students who present their ID will be able to buy remaining seats for \$10 cash only.



ATTARANA

ERING

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ends such as Elvis, the Coasters and the Drifters. And now, that same music, which helped shape an era, can be heard in the musical, "Smokey Joe's Cafe."

"It's all music from beginning to





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Thursday, September 24, 1998

### SPORTS

The University Daily /

### Martincevic pulls out of Clay **Courts after appendicitis**

BALTIMOLE, Md. (Special) - tors removed Martincevic's ap-Sophomore Texas Tech men's tennis player Borut Martincevic's run at the National Clay Court Championships came to an abrupt end Tuesday.

Martincevic had just defeated Joel McGregor, of Tulsa, in his first qualifying match, when he was taken to the emergency room at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center.

Martincevic was complaining of severe cramps and stomach pains.

After an examination, the doc-

pendix.

The appendicitis ended Martincevic's run at the National Clay Court Championships.

and scheduled to play again Wednesday. "This is one of the most disappointing situations I've had in my

coaching career," said Director of Tennis Tim Siegel.

tations and was well on his way to the main draw of the championships.

### Cubs' Sosa belts home runs Nos. 64 and 65 to tie McGwire

he conceded the home run race, loss to the Milwaukee Brewers. Sammy Sosa struck back.

for the record and breaking an 0-for- record 33 home runs this season.

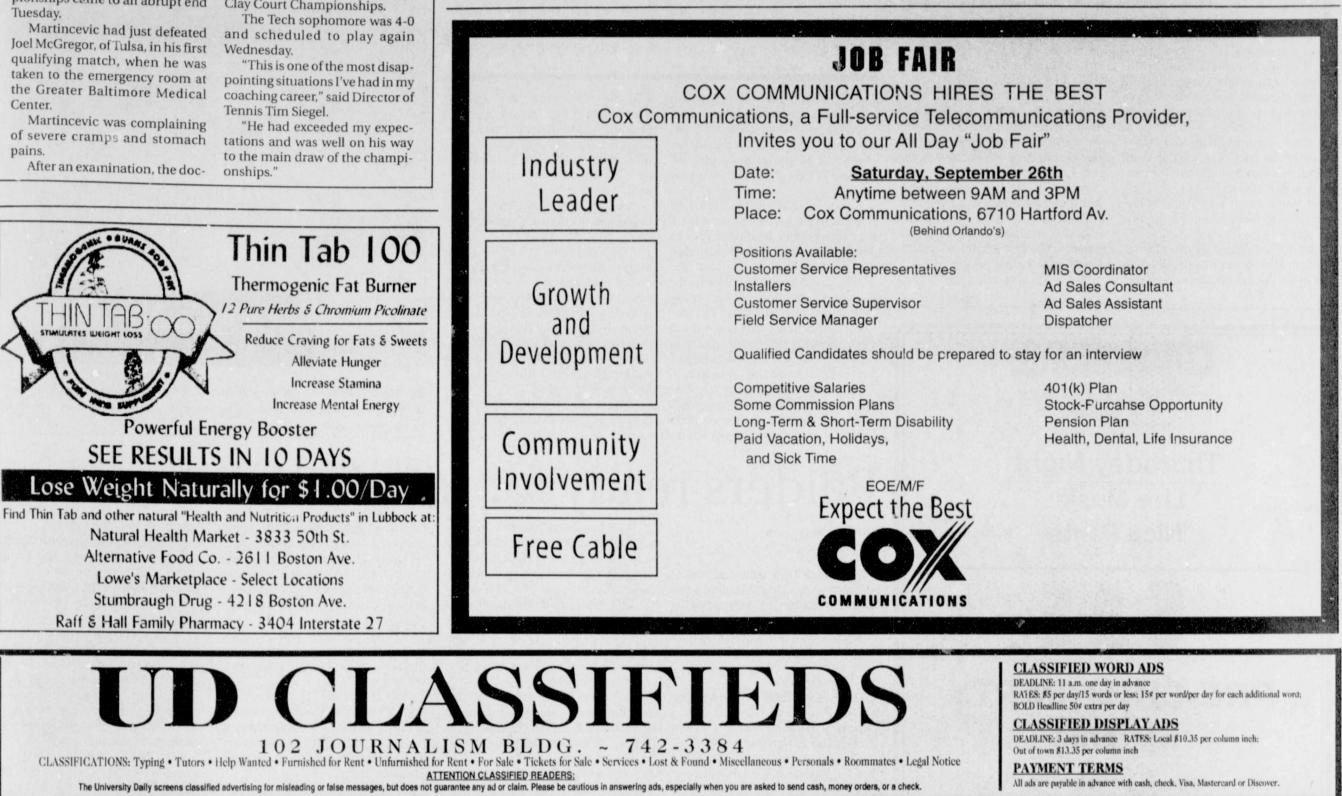
MILWAUKEE (AP) — A day after 21 slump in the Chicago Cubs' 8-7

The Cardinals faced Houston on He hit home runs Nos. 64 and 65 Wednesday night in St. Louis, where on Wednesday, tying Mark McGwire McGwire has hit a Busch Stadium the Brewers this season.

The Cubs slugger, picking on his homer games this season, tving the favorite pitching staff, homered against Milwaukee in the fifth and sixth innings, giving him 12 against Sosa's No. 65 gave him 11 multi-

major league record set by Detroit's Hank Greenberg in 1938.

Sosa hit a solo shot to right field with one out in the fifth off rockie left-hander Rafael Roque.



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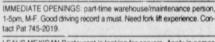
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LEAL'S MEXICAN Restaurant is looking for servers. Apply in person at 60th & Slide. We'll work with your schedule.

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MAMARITA'S NOW hiring for the counter position, flexible hours. Apply at 6602 Slide Road MORNING CONSTRUCTION help wanted. Strong back, willing to work. No experience necessary. 794-1042

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STUDENT ASSISTANT Data entry position immediately available in the Physical Plant Safety Fleet Management Office. Must have com-puter experience (WordPerfect, Excel), be dependable, and work a nimum of 20hrs/ week. Flexible hours to coordinate with class schedule and holidays. \$5.15/ hr, applications taken at Physical Plant corner of Flint & Main ), Room 105 from 7:45 - 11:45am and 12:45 4:45pm. Applications taken until position filled.

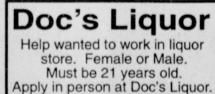
STUDENT ASSISTANT- Data entry, filing, copying, errands, etc. Ex perience with Windows 95 required. Work to be performed in an in dustrial environment. Must work minimum 20hrs/ week. Hours flexible between 7:45am -4:45pm Monday thru Friday. Job is year round position. \$5.15/ hr. Applications taken at Texas Tech University Physical Plant, Room 105, until position is filled.

STUDENT ASSISTANT- Physical Plant Human Resources- filing copving, light data entry, mail, errands, etc. as needed. Typing skills 45WPM minimum. WordPerfect, Word, Excel preferred. Interperson-al skills to work with all levels of Physical Plant staff. Dress code- business atttire. Must work minimum 20hrs./ week year round to include summers and part of Christmas breaks, hours flexible between 7:45am - 5:00pm Monday thru Friday. \$5.15/ hour, applications taken at Texas Tech University Physical Plant, Room 105, until position filled.

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WORLD GYM is now hiring for part-time receptionist. Must be able to work mornings. Apply in person 5217 82nd (Slide)



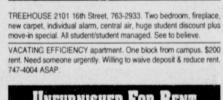
call 744-4742 / 781-2384

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2/1 QUAD, fireplace, w/d built in, yard, and no pets. \$500/month. Call Carolyn 793-0703/794-2941.

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### MOMENT S NOTICE

Moment's Notice is a service of the Student Government Asso-

ciation for student and university organizations. Announce

ments are subject to the judgement of the SGA staff and availability

of space. Announcements are placed in the SGA Office, UC 2nd floor, by completing a separate form for each Tuesday and Thurs-

day the notice is to appear. Deadlines: THURSDAY AT NOON FOR TUESDAY'S PAPER, MONDAY AT NOON FOR THURSDAY'S PA-

PEP. All questions should be directed to the SGA of-fice at 742-3631.

**RUSSIAN CLUB** 

INFORMAL MEETING Sept. 24. 7:00pm 50th Street Caboose. Con-

**GOLDEN KEY NATIONAL HONOR SO-**

CIETY

Fields (volleyball courts) Contact: Holly Short, 795-3263

1st Meeting of1998 Fall Semester Sept. 24, 5:20pm Gazebo at Rec

VISIONS OF LIGHT GOSPEL CHOIR

1st weekly choir rehearsal, Sept. 26, 2:00pm Community Baptist Church. Contact: Dameon Randall-Dennis, 724-4401

**TECH PRE-MEDICAL AMERICAN** 

MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Inaugural Meeting Sept. 24, 7:00pm Biology 101 Contact: Dillon Miller

**PRODUCTION ASSISTANT** 

Minimum qualifications: high school diploma, 2-yrs ex-

perience with Macintosh hardware/software, basic

knowledge of Mac network system plus pre-press

knowledge including paste-up and scanning. Part-time

(30hrs per wk) ten-months, during fall & spring

semester, August-May, 6 p.m. to midnight, Sunday-

Thursday and part-time (24hrs per wk) two-months,

during summer semester June-July, 6 p.m. to midnight,

Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday. Send resume

and three references by October 1, 1998, to Vidal

Pérez, TTU Student Publications, Box 43081, Lub-

bock, TX 79409. (806-742-2935)

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Applicant to do pre-press production for the

University Daily. Duties include ad composition, scan-

ning and editorial layout. Must be able to type and

have 1yr Macintosh experience.

12hrs/week Mon., Tues. & Thurs. 6-10pm.

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8 The University Daily

SPORTS

Thursday, September 24, 1998

## Rutstein returns as Tech starter with bang

#### **By Brent Dirks** Sports Editor

A familiar face on the Texas Tech soccer team, senior forward Amy Rutstein, has made her return to the Red Raider starting lineup with a bang this season.

"I think I've done really well, stepped up and taken my role on the team," she said. "And I'm hoping as a team that we will continue to do well.

After coming off the bench for most of the past two years at Tech, Rutstein was a major factor in helping the Red Raiders pick up their first ever tournament win at the Maryland/Puma Tournament earlier this month.

In the first game of the tournament against Towson State, Rutstein came off the bench and scored one

Happy Hours:

4-7

9-11

3216 4th

goal, one assist and had five shots in the contest.

With the performance, Tech coach Felix Oskam put Rutstein into the starting lineup in the tournament's final game against nationally ranked Maryland. She didn't fail to please, as she scored two goals in the 3-2 win, including the game-winner with less than three minutes.

"It felt good," Rutstein said of the performance. "I'm glad I could just come off the bench and contribute. I just want to go out there and play my game and keep everybody going non-stop intensity."

In last weekend's Butler Tournament, despite a loss and tie by the Red Raiders, Rutstein kept going strong as she had one goal in two games, while being name to the All-Tournament team.

But despite starting for the Red

**Thursday Night** 

Live Music:

**Nice Pants** 

SAE

**PRE-CHILI PARTY** 

Either way, she's earned the right to start."

Barbara Chura Tech soccer assistant coach

Raiders, Rutstein said she is happy in whatever capacity she plays.

"Wherever the coaches need me, wherever they feel I should be, whether it be starter or coming off the bench," she said. "Either way is fine.

Rutstein said she has learned many things in her four years at Tech, after starting her freshman year in 1995. The Spring product started in 18 games and scored a 10 goals.

'It's a lot different from my freshman year," she said. "I started my freshman year, and I think I'm way more mature now. And I understand what has to be done and what you need to do to get that win. I hope I can continue to do this all season."

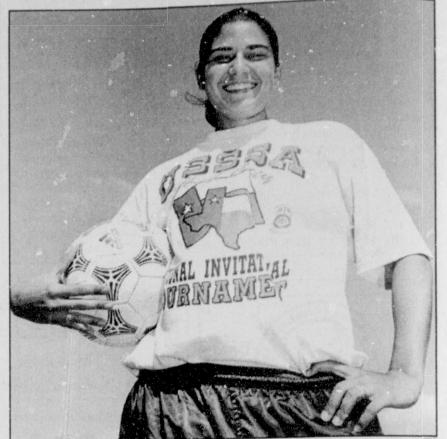
Red Raider assistant coach Barbara Chura said Rutstein has grown in her four years on the Tech squad. "Aniy's come a long way," Chura said. "Amy's freshman year, she had a lot of goals. Then the next couple of years, it kind of decreased in that category. This year, out of any year, I think Amy is playing at her best and her abilities are coming out on the field."

And as a senior, Chura said Rutstein is becoming a leader on the field.

"She's emerging as a leader, more by her play than anything else," Chura said. "I think this is a really good year for her as far as what happened in Maryland and getting the game-winning goal. Her play on the field has increased a lot.

Whether off the bench or as a starter, Chura said Rutstein brings intensity on the field.

"Either way, it works out for us," Chura said. "She's earned her right to start.



Wade Kennedy/The University Daily

Big Impact: Tech forward Amy Rutstein has made a major impact for the Red Raider soccer team this season. She has four goals, one assists and both of Tech's game-winning goals on the season.

### Raiders ready for tough Big 12 season

### By Jeff Keller

The Texas Tech volleyball squad entered at No. 25 in the rankings this week just in time for the start of Big 12 action.

With a 10-2 overall record and a tough non-conference schedule, the Red Raiders cracked the top 25 for the first time this season.

It gives our team a lot more confidence," junior outside hitter Courtney Putnam said of the Red Raider's top 25 ranking.

The Red Raiders will begin Big 12 play this weekend, as both Texas and Texas A&M will visit Lubbock to

With five teams ranked in the top 25, the Big 12 has quickly developed into one of the top volleyball conferences in the nation, Tech coach Jeff Nelson said.

'Right new it's the best volleyball in the country," Nelson said of Big 12

volleyball. 'The conference has really made itself the premier volleyball conference in the country.'

The Texas Longhorns are the defending Big 12 volleyball champions after compiling a 25-7 record last year and a 17-3 mark in the conference.

The Longhorns headed the list of Big 12 teams to make the NCAA tournament in 1997

Oklahoma and Kansas State joined the Longhorns in the tournament.

The Red Raiders did not make the tournament last year after compiling a 23-11 record, with 10 of those 11 losses coming in conference matches.

"All the tearns are good," Nelson said of the conference competition this season. "Every night you have to battle.'

The Red Raiders took on a tough non-conference schedule to start the season, as they faced two top 10 teams in the nation in California-Santa Barbara and most recently Brigham Young.

The other teams in the Big 12 have Nebraska, Colorado, Texas A&M, also played a tough non-conference

schedule, Nelson said.

"The teams every week in the preseason were going out and beating the teams from the other conferences," Nelson said. "You know that the battle is going to be within the conference.'

With so many top teams in one conference, postseason tournament spots may be a challenge to earn at the end of the season.

With the Red Raiders jumping out to a quick start, the road to the NCAA tournament begins to toughen as the conference season begins.

"I'm by no means happy with where we are at," Nelson said of his squad.

LET THE JOURNEY BEGIN

"We still have to prove ourselves."

What you've been

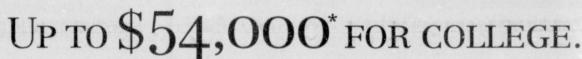
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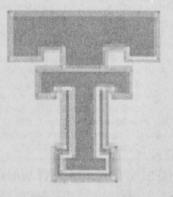
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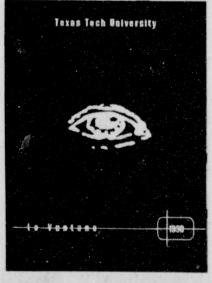


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