

THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

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Problems continue with Tech computers

By Apu Naik
Staff Writer

Problems surrounding Texas Tech's new computer system have caused another delay within the university's administrative duties. This time the result is a delayed release of the school's final enrollment figures.

By state law, state universities are required to release preliminary enrollment figures by the 12th class day of the semester, then release final enrollment figures by the 20th class day.

The 20th class day for Spring 1999 fell on Monday, yet problems within Tech's new computer system have resulted in a miscount similar to that of financial aid problems from earlier this semester, said Cindy Rugeley, assistant vice chancellor for Tech News and Publications.

"It's not the same problem, but it's the same system having a problem counting the number of students," Rugeley said. "With financial aid, all students who showed an overpayment from the university had their checks automatically held."

Rugeley said Tech's new computer system had held about 8,000 student's financial aid checks because of that problem, and now, a similar problem is miscounting enrollment figures.

"This time, (the computer) is basically having a problem counting the number of students who have paid their tuition, which is a problem because unpaid students have to be canceled from enrollment," Rugeley said. "The most important thing, however, is that with this problem, no one will be hurt."

Preliminary enrollment figures are those released before the number of students who have not paid their tuition are canceled from the university.

Those numbers, released last week, indicated that Tech's enrollment, before cancellation of unpaid students, totalled 22,774, down 1,858 students from last fall and down 54 students from Spring 1998 enrollment figures.

But Michael Heintze, vice president for enrollment management, said figures could be down by as much as an additional 150 students, depending on how many failed to make tuition payments within the week.

"They (Institutional Research) are trying to be accurate in counting the number of students who paid their

see System Problems, page 2

It Takes Guts

Reporter talks about the story that broke it all

By Greg Okuhara
Staff Writer

Several months have passed since the *Houston Chronicle* wrote any articles about Texas Tech's ineligible players.

However, Danny Robbins is still feeling backlash from Tech students.

Robbins, an investigative sports reporter from the *Chronicle*, spoke to students at the University Center Allen Theatre Wednesday morning about investigative reporting.

Robbins was one of several speakers who took part in Mass Communications Week.

He said criticism comes with the job of investigative reporting, and reporters need to be willing to deal with adversity.

"I think you have to be real plugged into the facts," Robbins said.

"Stand behind your facts and build an immunity to criticism."

Robbins spoke to students Wednesday morning at the risk of being booed off the stage. He took questions from the audience. Yet, Robbins said he was not nervous about coming to Tech after the NCAA infractions story.

"Of course you're going to take some hits, but you just kind of keep plugging away," Robbins said.

Contrary to popular belief, Robbins is not out to get Tech. Throughout the course of his career, Robbins has completed several investigative stories.

He covered the FBI investigation into Baylor University's coaches. While working at the *Dallas Times-Herald*, he wrote about the Southern Methodist University athletics department, which was ultimately given the NCAA death penalty.

Robbins also has worked on projects not involving collegiate sports.

"I've done stuff involving



Danny Robbins

Wes Underwood/The University Daily

agents. I've been working on a bunch of stuff involving high school sports in Houston and the Olympics," Robbins said.

When he first entered the journalism field, Robbins said he did not know investigative reporting would be the route he would take.

"I just wanted to be a sports reporter," Robbins said. "I was at the *Dallas Times-Herald*, in the sports department as a general assignment, and the situation with SMU and their football program arose. They called for somebody to look into it, and I was the general assignment guy so I did it, and I found out I liked it."

Karen Johnson, a senior broadcast journalism major from Terrell and journalism day chairwoman for Mass Communications Week, said Robbins was invited to speak because of his journalism merit.

In Robbins' opinion, every reporter should be an investigative reporter and should inform the public. "I think all reporters should be investigative to a certain degree," Robbins said.

"Newspapers should have people who can go into a little more depth and turn over rocks. Newspapers' jobs are to bring things into light and that's the way to do it."

Addressing the Issues:

Danny Robbins, an investigative sports reporter for the *Houston Chronicle*, addresses students' questions at the Mass Comm Week journalism panel.

Hosts liable for minors' actions at party

By Gretchen Verry
Staff Writer

This is the fifth story in a six-part series about college students and alcohol.

When a student or organization throws a party where alcohol is served, they assume responsibility for the party and those who attend. Sometimes that responsibility can lead to fines and even jail for the party givers.

"When a person over 21 throws a party, it is their responsibility to prevent minors from drinking," said Kim Eggleston, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission agent. "Students need to ask themselves what a normal person would do in the situation and evaluate their responsibilities."

Eggleston said in situations where minors are caught drinking, the person found responsible for supplying the alcohol can receive separate citations for each minor. The charge is called making alcohol available to minors.

Partygivers can also be cited for selling alcohol without a license if any type of barter system exists in exchange for alcohol.

"People can be charged with selling without a license regardless of if they're charging money or even cans of food," Eggleston said. "It is based on whether or not there is value in the exchange."

Texas Tech Dean of Students Michael Shonrock said the university does not get involved in punishing party givers if the party is given off campus.

"A party is out of our jurisdiction if it is held off campus," Shonrock

see House Rules, page 2

Housing, dining explain budget increases

By Christi Biddy
Staff Writer

The Department of Housing and Dining experienced some increases in spending for the 1998-99 fiscal year.

The increase in the budget is attributed to an increase in labor production in dining services and a decreased number of students living on campus, according to James Burkhalter, director of Housing and Dining Services.

"Housing is down a little less than 200 students," Burkhalter said.

Each student who lives on cam-

pus brings in approximately \$4,000.

The delay on the construction of the Carpenter/Wells Residence Complex also decreased the amount of money coming into housing and dining, said Samuel Bennett, associate director for Housing and Dining services.

"It didn't help that people weren't able to move in on time," Bennett said.

"We are hoping enrollment bounces back up next spring," Burkhalter said.

Bennett said labor is one of the biggest factors that has affected the budget.

"Stangel/Murdough (Residence Hall) required extra labor," Bennett said. "And we had to overstaff in Hulen/Clement by three and Wiggins by five."

Bennett also said increasing numbers of non-student employees who work full-time in the dining halls has impacted the budget over the years.

"Five years ago the student-to-full time ratio was 70 percent students and 30 percent full-time," Bennett said. "Now it is about 50-50 percent."

Housing and dining has a budget of about \$25 million and employs about 300, Burkhalter said.

Other added labor affecting the

budget is the labor of workers at the Market and Sam's Place.

Both Burkhalter and Bennett said they were not sure how the Market would eventually affect the budget.

"As we viewed other food courts, we realized we were going to have to increase labor costs," Bennett said.

Bennett said the nature of the food court was an almost one-on-one atmosphere.

"It is very time consuming," Bennett said.

The three biggest factors contributing to the budget are salaries, utilities and labor, Burkhalter said.

In addition, Housing and Dining

Services has to conform with state regulations regarding employees.

"We are not state funded," Burkhalter said. "But we have to conform with what the state mandates for state employees."

Overall salaries are up for state employees, Burkhalter said.

Housing and Dining Services' operating budget for the fiscal year of 1999 is about \$26.4 million.

The budget is about \$200,000 more than it was last spring.

Neither Bennett nor Burkhalter could give an exact estimate on the current Housing and Dining Services budget.

Candidates clash for external VP office

By Gretchen Verry
Staff Writer

Four Texas Tech students will compete for the Student Government Association's Office of External Vice President.

Ashlee Thames, Hollye Hodges, Cassious Johnson and Forrest Duke are running for the external vice president position.

Thames, a sophomore sociology major from Lubbock, currently serves on the public relations committee of the Student Senate. She has been involved in student government for two years and served on a committee in conjunction with the Dean of Students Office to recruit students to Tech.

Thames said it is important to encourage students to get involved in

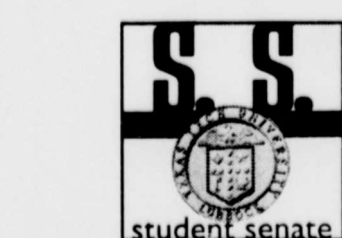
student organizations, and, if elected, she would work to develop the senate's existing Contact-A-Senator program.

The program was established to give students a more direct voice in the student government.

Hodges, a senior public relations and political science major from Amarillo, said she plans to focus on student representation in parking matters.

"Parking is a problem I'm glad to have because it means growth," Hodges said. "I think the most effective way to deal with it is by making sure that students are well represented. We need to find a strong middle ground between students and administrators."

Hodges said she has been involved in senate during her entire



Office of External Vice President

college career and tried to keep a finger on issues at Tech.

"I try to see both the good and the bad in every situation and find solutions," Hodges said.

Johnson, a junior political science major from Hamilton, Ala., is running on a platform consisting of four main points.

The first involves improved communication between administrators, the SGA and the student body through increased contact with student leaders from various organizations.

The second includes a public relations campaign targeted at enhancing the image of the SGA among the student body.

Johnson also advocates the creation of a carpool parking lot, along with an organization that collectively attempts to represent student organizations and develop a vision for the entire student body.

Johnson said he has been involved in various organizations around campus, giving him exposure to different ways of doing things.

"I feel that I could bring new ideas and a new vision to the organiza-

tion," Johnson said.

Duke, a senior management information systems major from Stephenville, plans to address student parking and election fliers in his campaign.

"I am totally against the use of flyers. I will not use any in my campaign, and, if elected, I will work to get rid of them in the SGA election process," Duke said.

Duke said he also would work to establish a carpool parking lot, as well as a short-term pay lot in front of West Hall.

"Ever since I began college, I have been involved in a lot of leadership roles," Duke said.

"I have not been involved in the Student Senate, but as a fresh face, I feel that I could represent the average student well."

Staff Senate discusses bylaws

By Ginger Pope
Staff Writer

After their second meeting, the Texas Tech Staff Senate is one step closer to becoming more official.

Staff senators still are in their development phase. Members read and discussed the first draft of bylaws at their meeting Wednesday.

The second draft of the bylaws will be approved at the senate's next meeting March 3, said Dan Burns, president-elect and assistant director of University Center operations.

"We're in our growing pains now. We didn't want to jump into resolutions before we laid a framework," Burns said.

The bylaw committee used examples from other senate bylaws and constitutions on campus and at other universities, he said. The senate also received startup money in the amount of \$2,500.

The Staff Senate already is fulfilling its purpose, said Beth Trischitti, senator and execu-

see Staff Senate, page 2

Senators introduce telecommunications legislation

AUSTIN (AP) — The price of making an in-state long distance call would be cut by 6 cents a minute under legislation filed Wednesday.

The bill filed by Sens. David Sibley, R-Waco, and Troy Fraser, R-Horseshoe Bay, sets out a four step plan to reduce the amount local phone companies such as Southwestern Bell can charge long-distance companies to complete in-state long distance calls.

The access charges, which long-distance companies pass on to consumers, would be reduced from 12 cents to 6 cents.

"Reducing access rates will slash the cost of long distance calls made within our state," said Sibley. "The cost of a call from Hillsboro to El Paso should drop dramatically."

The first reduction would come

this summer when the Public Utility Commission completes an already planned 3 cent reduction, Sibley said. Another 1 cent reduction would kick in Sept. 1, according to the bill.

The last two steps hinge on how quickly the PUC decides Southwestern Bell is ready to enter the long-distance market. The access charge would be reduced by one cent when the company enters the long-distance market and again one year later.

"I am firmly committed to reducing the local access charges that Texans pay for long distance calls and I believe this bill is a good vehicle to start out discussion in the Senate," Fraser said.

The bill also extends the rate cap for residential and business local

telephone service until Sept. 1, 2003. The cap was set to expire Sept. 1.

Pending its entry into the long-distance market, Southwestern Bell also would gain the authority to use flexible pricing for some optional services, including caller identification, call waiting and voice mail.

Bill Maddox, spokesman for Southwestern Bell, said the legislation provides "the opportunity to start addressing important industry issues. We look forward to working with the Legislature to produce a bill that best serves Texas consumers ... and continues the transition toward less regulation."

AT&T, MCI WorldCom and other long-distance companies have long complained about the 12 cents a minute access charge, which they allege grossly exceeds the actual cost

of completing the calls. MCI spokesman Neil Larson said he supports the senators' efforts to reduce the charges.

"Texas has one of the highest access rates in the entire country," said Larson. "Every other state has acted on getting access rates to a reasonable level and its time for Texas to do the same thing."

But Larson said he had some concerns about a provision in the bill that extends the power of the PUC to include making sure long-distance companies pass on the savings to consumers.

"We do have very strong concerns about the PUC micromanaging a very competitive industry," he said.

The PUC had attempted to lower access rates but became concerned

that long-distance companies would pass on the savings only to their most favored customers.

"It's important that all consumers — no matter how many long distance calls they make each month — save money because of these reductions," Sibley said. "Our intent is not to benefit only the high-volume caller."

The bill replaces a similar one filed by Fraser last week that would have reduced the access charge from 12 cents to 5 cents. The two senators said they decided to work

"... we've sat down and worked through all of the issues ..."

Rick Perry
Lieutenant Governor

together. Lt. Gov. Rick Perry said he expected the bill to be referred to the Senate Economic Development Committee, which Sibley chairs, then to a subcommittee that Fraser leads.

While there was some initial confusion about who would sponsor the bill "we've sat down and worked through all of the issues of where the bill's going to go and they're working very well together," Perry said

Baylor medical school settles for \$2.5 million

HOUSTON (AP) — Baylor College of Medicine has settled a multimillion-dollar lawsuit filed by a former researcher fired in 1995 after the school found he had faked successful test results.

Baylor settled the \$25 million suit for \$500,000 and declared victory in the case, which was in the second week of trial in state District Judge Dwight Jefferson's court when the deal was reached last Thursday.

Kimon Angelides was fired for allegedly faking successful results in published papers on the ability of an antibody to help damaged nerve cells transmit signals. The research was part of an effort at Baylor to find new ways to treat muscular dystrophy and multiple sclerosis.

Angelides sued the college and several former colleagues who served on a committee to

decide whether his results were false.

The settlement came one day after an appeals board agreed with the U.S. Office of Research Integrity that Angelides had committed scientific misconduct and that Baylor properly investigated the allegations, said Angelides' attorney James Pianelli.

Angelides, who has worked as a researcher at the University of Durham in England since he was fired, maintains his innocence but realized the report "would be detrimental to his case," Pianelli said. "We have mixed emotions about the settlement," Pianelli told the *Houston Chronicle*.

Baylor attorney Gerald Pecht said the school agreed to the settlement because it would have cost millions more to continue fighting.

Bush "warming" to task of presidency

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. George W. Bush emerged from a Wednesday meeting with legislative leaders from New Jersey and South Carolina, saying: "I'm warming to the task" of running for president.

"A couple of the people here said, 'If you'll run, we'll support you.' For that, I'm most grateful," Bush said after his latest meeting in which politicians from outside Texas urged him to seek the White House.

The Republican governor, leader in several recent opinion polls on the 2000 race, repeated that he still hasn't made up his mind.

But three New Jersey lawmakers who had lunch with him at the Governor's Mansion said they hope he will run.

"I've come from New Jersey specifically to encourage this governor to run for the presidency because I believe the integrity of the presidency is something that is lacking. I think George W. Bush can bring that back to Washington," said Alex DeCroce, deputy speaker of the

New Jersey General Assembly.

New Jersey Senate Majority Whip Diane Allen said she'd been undecided until meeting the Texas governor.

"I came down here wanting to listen to what George W. Bush had to say, to look him in the eye and size him up. I've decided to be a supporter," Allen said.

South Carolina Lt. Gov. Bob Peeler also attended the luncheon, Bush aides said, although Peeler didn't speak with news reporters afterward.

However, South Carolina House Speaker David Wilkins issued a statement saying he and 57 other members of that state's GOP House members had signed a letter urging Bush to run.

"Our nation is yearning for a conservative leader who represents the values of most American families," the letter to Bush said.

"Your proven record of success and ability to reach out to many different groups is desperately needed as we prepare to embrace a new century."

Wednesday's calls were the latest in a series Bush has heard from politicians from other

states.

Last week, a delegation of legislators from Iowa — the state with the nation's first presidential nominating caucuses — traveled to Austin to urge him to run.

Bush has been petitioned to run by California legislators, urged to run by congressmen in Washington and even had his brain picked

by the leader of Britain's Conservative Party, who traveled to Texas to learn about the governor's "compassionate conservatism" themes.

"I've never seen anything like this," said George Christian, an Austin political consultant who was press secretary to President Lyndon Johnson.

"The polls probably started it. And something else that caught a lot of notice was the (November) election. He can get Democratic votes, independent votes," Christian said.

That was echoed by the New Jersey lawmakers on Wednesday.

DeCroce said Bush's election successes — the first Texan ever to win consecutive four-year terms as governor — make him more appealing than a potential New Jersey hopeful, publisher Steve Forbes.

"Steve Forbes, we don't know if he's electable. We know this governor's electable. We know he's reached out to the people," DeCroce said.

Millennium Committee answers questions from students in UC

The Millennium Committee will be in the University Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today to answer any questions from students.

The committee is trying to raise awareness about the project for a senior class gift, said Logan Spence, committee chairman. The committee is funding an interactive sundial. Students can purchase a brick with their name on it for the sundial.

"We want students to be aware of what we're doing and begin to show some support for it," said Spence, a senior agricultural communications major from Lewisville. "We're hoping each student will spend at least \$50 for a

brick." The committee also is looking for donations to the Bill Collins Clock Tower to be built near Carpenter/Wells Residence Complex. The committee has received a \$20,000 challenge grant from the chancellor's office.

"We're hoping that the class of '99 will want to leave their mark on Texas Tech," Spence said.

The committee is made up of seniors from the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Engineering, Agriculture and Human Sciences.

For more information or donations, call Spence at 742-3621.

Computer system postpones release of enrollment figures

System Problems from page 1

tuition to make sure an undercount does not occur within the new computer system," Heintze said. "The final figures are sent to Austin for legislative purposes, so it is extremely important that the figures are accurate before they are released."

Final enrollment figures weigh heavily on the amount of money, which is allotted from the state's legislature to state universities for grants and additional funding dollars, Heintze said.

Tech's enrollment between Fall 1997 and Fall 1998 dropped by a total of 444 students, lowering the university's total enrollment from 25,022 in 1997 to 24,578 in 1998.

During a Feb. 2 meeting among Tech administrators, Tech Vice President of Fiscal Affairs Jim Brunjes said this loss in enrollment was one of the three main reasons the university decided to increase its institutional tuition.

In addition to raising faculty and staff salaries and competing with other state universities, Brunjes said raising tuition next fall would be necessary in order to generate an additional \$1.2 million for research and expanding faculty.

Tech's final enrollment figures for Spring 1999 are expected to be released today, and the figures are expected to be lower than last spring's, yet not as much of a decline as in the fall, Rugeley said.

Private parties not exempt from law

House Rules from page 1

said. "Of course, if the party is held by a registered student organization, the circumstances can change."

A private residence becomes public domain if people can come and go freely from a party, Eggleston said. When the party becomes public domain, officers can enter and ask partygoers to leave and issue citations.

"Basically, anything a peace officer can see happening can be charged. If minors are standing out in the yard drinking, it becomes public domain," Eggleston said.

A party can be broken up if it is

found to be causing a public nuisance.

Eggleston said party givers can be held on criminal charges if traffic accidents occur following the party due to alcohol-related circumstances, depending on the ruling of a court.

Attorney for Students Jim Aldridge said he sees a lot of students in his office that have had these types of infractions. The office can counsel and advise students as to their legal rights but cannot represent them in court.

"I can tell students the extent of the fines and restrictions they are facing and advise them of actions to take," Aldridge said.

Staff Senate decides length of terms, receives feedback

Staff Senate from page 1

tive assistant to the dean of architecture.

"We're providing a sounding board and representation on campus. Staff members already have been mentioning their concerns to senators," Trischitti said.

The creation of the new senate has received positive feedback from other campus senates and administrators, she said.

Other business conducted at the meeting included senators drawing for the length of term

they will serve. Because this is a beginning year, some senators will serve one, two or three-year terms.

The system is designed so that one-third of the senators will rotate off each year.

Alternate senators will serve one year with an opportunity to run for election the next year.

The Tech Staff Senate offers a web site so staff can keep up with meeting minutes at www.ttu.edu/staffsenate.

For more information, call 742-7555.

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Fair introduces off-campus living

By Lisa Marie Lachmann
Staff Writer

Students gathered at the University Center on Wednesday at the Housing Fair to look for and find apartments.

For the first time, the Lubbock Apartment Association sponsored a Housing Fair for students to find housing. More than 90 facilities were on-hand to answer questions and give information on price, location and amenities.

Kimbra Quinn, marketing director for Lubbock apartments, copied the idea from Texas A&M.

"This is something that has been done for a really long time, and it's a good opportunity for the students and the apartments," Quinn said.

Quinn also developed the Apartment Directory, which comes out quarterly and has a new apartment on each cover. The directory is free and has an apartment index with prices.

The LAA also is a part of the Texas Apartment Association and the National Apartment Association. Out of 21,000 apartment units in Lubbock more than 18,000 units are members of LAA and TAA. Through the membership, apartment units can be displayed in the Apartment Directory and follow a standardized lease form.

Jeffery Lowry, property supervisor, said the TAA created a more detailed lease form to add security benefits for residents. The lease provides an agreement on regulations between the resident and the apartment complex.

"The TAA provides security and benefit-lease forms for the residents and land owners," Lowry said.

Lowry also pointed out the "Residential Rental Housing, Apartment Living and Texas Law" guide. The guide informs readers what to look for and what questions to ask. The brochure has six steps to look for before signing a lease. Much of this information includes facts about the security deposit, insurance and eviction process. Steps like these can ensure a renter's satisfaction.

Lindsay Allen, a junior biology major from San Antonio, is looking for a smaller apartment to move into. Allen liked the convenience of the fair and received the answers she needed.

"This is a great idea, because I don't have to truck all over Lubbock," Allen said. Allen is looking for an apartment with lower rent, more space and in a nice neighborhood.

Some of the apartments included Jefferson Commons, Branchwater, Villa West, Savannah Oaks, Wyndham, and Woodcrest and



Jennifer Galvin/The University Daily

Getting the Scoop: Tech students Lucas Hubble, Robert Covey, and Scott Clements listen to Michelle Stafford, a representative from Tanglewood Apartments, say what their apartments have to offer. Apartments and housing facilities got together to show students choices for off-campus housing in the University Center yesterday.

much more.

The majority of apartment representatives were giving out prizes of money, free months rent and some were signing pre-leases.

Woodcrest, located at 5402 66th St., used a \$150 mall-money give-away

as a marketing tool to attract students.

"My goal is to make Woodcrest a premier property for students," said Mindy McCamish, Woodcrest property manager. For more information on apartments in Lubbock, call LAA at 794-2337.

Growth hormones prove to be varied, unpredictable

(AP)—Giving growth hormones to short but otherwise healthy children adds only a modest 2 inches to their height on average, a study found, leading some experts to question whether up to 10 years of daily injections are worth the cost and the trouble.

The 10-year study in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine is the first long-term look at the controversial practice of administering growth hormones for cosmetic reasons, a use that has not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

Dr. Raymond L. Hintz and colleagues at Stanford University showed that about 80 percent of the children studied reached heights greater than would have been expected otherwise.

However, the results in individual children varied, and 20 percent saw no height increase.

"The question is: Do we treat, understanding that it's not a 100 percent guarantee and that it's years of treatment, or do we let nature take its course?" he said.

"This is going to be a difficult judgment. I think different parents are going to give different answers."

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends use of growth hormones only in children who have a deficiency of the hormones; a rare chromosomal abnormality called Turner syndrome that stunts growth in girls; or a chronic kidney disorder that retards growth.

The academy warns that the hormones should not be widely used for cosmetic reasons be-

cause they could lead to tumors, diabetes, hip problems or difficulties with self-esteem.

This study found no side effects.

Even though the FDA has not approved the drugs for use in short but otherwise healthy children, it is not illegal to do so.

Roughly 30,000 children are treated with growth hormones in the United States yearly.

About 20 percent of them don't fit into one of the categories the FDA deems as medically necessary.

One year of growth hormone therapy can cost \$10,000 to \$25,000.

The new study was paid for in part by Genentech Inc. of South San Francisco, Calif., which holds 67 percent of the U.S. market for growth

hormones. Eli Lilly and Co. and Pharmacia & Upjohn also produce growth hormones.

The researchers examined 121 children who were considered short for no known medical reason and were treated with growth hormones for two to 10 years.

Among 80 children who received treatment and who have reached adulthood, both boys and girls were an average of about 2 inches taller than would have been expected otherwise.

Hintz defended the use of the hormones in some cases where a person is "severely short," meaning below 4-foot-11 for a woman or 5-3 for a man.

"When you have trouble interacting with people or in handling kitchen cabinets or driving, then it becomes a significant problem," he said.

Two news channels merge to survive

By Ginger Pope
Staff Writer

'Survival of the fittest' is the motto two Lubbock news groups, KAMC ABC-28 and KLBK CBS-13, have used to justify the merger of their news-gathering efforts.

KAMC, which was sold about a month ago to VHR, a company out of Tennessee, and KLBK decided to combine their news departments to provide a stronger competition against KCBD NBC-11, said Mike Snuffer, news director at KLBK.

"We're the third or fourth in the nation to do something like this," Snuffer said. "It's a matter of survival."

Each station will continue to have separate owners and programming, but newsrooms will be under one roof, he said.

"Flipping back and forth, the only thing viewers will see that are the same are news reporters and sports reporters," Snuffer said.

"Each station will still have its own personality."

KLBK has an appeal to an older audience, Snuffer said, while KAMC

has a stronger appeal to a younger audience and with more Texas Tech viewers.

"This ought to increase our Tech coverage because typically, KAMC has done a lot more Tech news," he said.

K C B D does not know yet how the merging will impact its viewership, said Craig Wells, station manager for KCBD.

"We don't anticipate a loss of viewership. We still see them as a

competitor and will continue to do what we can to provide a number-one product," Wells said.

With more and more radio stations merging, this move by KLBK and KAMC is not too surprising, said Jeff Klotzman, former news director and Tech mass communications instructor.

"Broadcast journalism is reinventing itself. We may see more of this," Klotzman said.

The merging effort could work to the advantage of the two stations' news-gathering efforts, but they will have to make some interesting procedural calls, he said. The merger likely will be the subject of many market studies, too.

Volcanoes helped shape Mars

(AP)—Volcanoes belched up to 10 times more lava onto the surface of ancient Mars than previously thought, and the planet may still have some fire left in its belly, scientists say.

In one-of-two studies published in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature, researchers reported evidence that more than 3.5 billion years ago, Mars' volcanoes filled one canyon alone with enough molten rock to bury the entire United States beneath a fiery lake four miles deep.

The evidence included more than 100 layers of what the researchers believe is volcanic rock

jutting from the walls of the 2,400-mile-long Valles Marineris canyon.

Alfred S. McEwen, a research scientist at the University of Arizona's Lunar and Planetary Laboratory in Tucson, and his colleagues studied photographs obtained by the Mars Global Surveyor, a spacecraft that has been orbiting Mars since 1997 and begins a two-year mission next month to map the entire planet in fine detail.

Their research supports the growing view that Martian volcanoes were more important than meteor collisions in shaping the planet's surface.

They examined photos of a lava flow in a volcanic crater and esti-

mated it formed 40 million to 100 million years ago.

The flow was marked with relatively few meteor craters, in contrast with older flows that were heavily pockmarked. That suggests the flow is relatively young.

"We're not saying that there's going to be an eruption in 1999, but there may still be dormant areas on Mars with the potential for future eruptions," said William K. Hartmann, a scientist at the Planetary Science Institute.

He said the research team is analyzing photos that suggest even younger flows.

Citizens want ban on sex toys lifted

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP) — Women who say they can't enjoy themselves in the bedroom without sex toys like vibrators asked a federal judge Wednesday to block a new Alabama law banning the sale of such items.

Those challenging the 1998 law contend it violates privacy rights by indirectly prohibiting adults from engaging in legal acts behind closed doors. But the state contends there is no fundamental right to a product used to produce an orgasm. U.S. District Judge Lynwood Smith gave no indication of when he might rule.

The ban on sex toys in this Bible Belt state was signed by Gov. Fob James, who was defeated last November.

The ban was inserted in a law to prohibit nude dancing in nightclubs. Selling or distributing "any device designed or marketed as useful primarily for the stimulation of human genital organs" was made punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

The law is not being enforced pending the outcome of the lawsuit, which was filed by six women, four of whom say they use vibrators for gratification that couldn't otherwise achieve.

Mark Lopez of the American Civil Liberties Union, representing users and sellers of sex toys, told the judge that many sex therapists recommend the devices for women who cannot achieve orgasm.

Attorneys for the state contend that similar bans in Texas and Georgia have been upheld and that legislators have broad discretion in passing laws to protect the public from what they regard as harmful products.

Paul H. Van Wyk, a Montgomery psychologist who is not involved in the lawsuit, said that he rarely recommends sex aids to clients, but he doesn't believe the items should be banned.

"Protecting us from vibrators is protecting us from a crime without a victim," he said.

One of the plaintiffs, Sherri Williams, who owns stores called Pleasures in Huntsville, said, "It was Valentine's. That's a big time for us."

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Reaching Beyond

Mass Communications Week 1999
February 15th-18th

TODAY
9:30-10:50
PR Speaker - Luann MARTIN, Director of PR
Publicis International

11:00-12:20
PR Speaker - John Shaffer, Media Relations
Director, Fed Ex Orange Bowl

Panel Discussions
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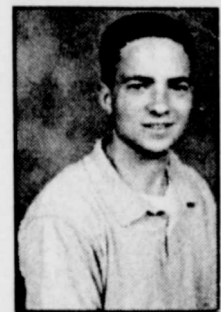
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Officials rushing to build

How easy is it to get started on something and get so excited about it that you can think of nothing else but to keep doing what you're doing? How easy is it to pick up a thought-provoking book and become so engulfed in it that it's impossible to do anything else until the book is completed? How easy is it to start building things and get so wrapped up in the great plans that are made that you build way too fast and don't really weigh all the pluses and minuses of what you're doing?



Andrew Schoppe
Columnist

The Tech Master Plan is something totally new and breathtaking for many people in Lubbock and at Tech. In this day and age, where bigger is better, and the only thing people seemingly want to do is get more and more things, it's easy to see how people's mouths salivate at the possible improvements that could become realities at Tech during the next 10 years. Plans this big have never taken shape so quickly in one short period of time throughout the entire history of this university, with the possible exception of the university's creation back in 1923.

The creation of the United Spirit Arena, the Carpenter/Wells Residence Complex and the Market at Stangel/Murdough Residence Complex have shown that when plans are made hastily, things can go wrong causing production to jump off schedule and extra costs to be incurred. Higher costs and unexpected expenses can lead to a death of a far greater sort — a financial debt that can't be escaped.

There are discussions taking place to consider whether or not the University Center should be expanded and how such an expansion should be funded. One of the possible methods of funding the expansion of the UC would involve an increase in student fees. The advocates of UC expansion say that Tech's University Center is a bit outdated and is in need of a facelift. They also say that if UC expansion is approved, students could benefit from having numerous student services located in the same building. Also, approval could mean the creation of more offices for student organizations at Tech in the UC.

All of these reasons in favor of UC expansion sound good, but it's time to consider a few other things. Would an increase in student fees really be the best way to fund this? If the UC expansion is approved, how feasible is it to house so many student services under a single roof? Currently, the bursar's office, the Tech Bookstore, the Financial Aid office and the Admissions office all occupy buildings that, based purely on physical space, could never fit inside the UC. If all these student services are brought under one roof, it seems like the facilities in the UC would be more like satellites separated from their main bases. This in turn would mean that even with UC expansion you could wind up having to go from building to building to take care of your business just like you do today.

If UC expansion is hurriedly approved, who's to say that in the future, after all the other parts of the Master Plan are installed, there wouldn't be a need to tear down the UC and build a totally new building?

Wouldn't that have made a tremendous waste of money out of the funds pumped into expanding the UC just a few years earlier?

This isn't to say that improvements to the UC aren't needed. Creating more offices for student organizations at the UC would definitely help to unify the various groups on campus and create a sense of community among them.

But aren't there alternatives to funding UC expansion through an increase in student fees? How about writing for a grant, as one candidate for SGA external vice president suggested? What this column intends to point out is that we shouldn't rush into a hasty decision to expand the UC when more sensible options haven't been discovered and presented.

During the next few weeks, this issue is likely to surface as the candidates for SGA state their platforms and discuss changes they would like to make at Texas Tech. Originally, the issue of UC expansion was to be voted on this coming March 3, a.k.a. SGA election day. Yet, now it seems as if the earliest date for a vote on this issue might come sometime next fall.

If UC expansion is approved at some point, it could be our money that will be spent to make the changes to the UC. Let's not rush into this decision; rather, let's make sure we run this issue through the ringer a few times so our money isn't wasted.

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



Something got you peeved?
Write a letter to the editor.

Drop it by 211 Journalism or e-mail it to TheUniversityDaily@ttu.edu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Seniors unhappy about recent ticket limitations

To the editor: This is from the graduating seniors of chemical engineering.

Wasn't it great of Texas Tech to get us such a distinguished speaker like former President George Bush to speak at our graduation?

Most of us found this exciting. Then, they tell us, "You won't be graduating in the United Spirit Arena." Well, that wasn't a huge surprise to most of us, but now they tell us, "You get to invite two people to one of the most important days of your life."

This means that if we invite our parents, our 60- and 70-year-old grandparents have to "fight" for a seat. Our brothers, sisters, roommates, spouses and children also have to "fight" for a seat.

How early should they get to the coliseum, 5 a.m.? All they want to do is help us celebrate the beginning of our lives in the "real world." Before I go any further, let's do some math:

1000 students graduating x 2 tickets each = 2,000 seats
Total capacity of Lubbock Municipal Coliseum = 7,500
Seats remaining = 7,500 - 2,000 = 5,500 seats
Who will fill the remaining 5,500 seats?

The people who donated the most money to Texas Tech, local, state and federal legislators and any family member or friend who is brave enough to go stand outside and wait to see if they get a seat.

Why does it have to be this way?

Because, "that's the price we have to pay for such a distinguished speaker." What about the hotel rooms that have been booked for more than a year? What's this going to do to the Lubbock community when people start canceling?

Few days in life are more important than the day you graduate.

We've worked hard for four or five years. We've paid thousands of dollars and hours to get to this day. Now, we can only share it with two people? Why not give each student four tickets?

That still leaves 3,500 seats available. This time Texas Tech outdid itself in putting the needs of the students last. Hope they aren't counting on us for alumni support.

chemical engineering seniors

Whole family should attend commencement

To the editor: I am writing in response to the article about spring commencement. I am still in shock about having to limit the number of people who will see me graduate.

I, like so many others, have worked a long time to get to this point.

It is not fair to us or our families to have to decide who can "for sure" come and see our accomplishment. This is just another slap in the face to the students by the administration.

Don't expect any money from me or my family in the future. (We have three undergraduates and one with a master's from Tech).

This semester, I decided to take 24 hours to graduate in the spring. (The amount was due to some mistakes made by my "well-trained" advisers).

Now that I am committed to these hours, the only people guaranteed to see me walk are my parents.

It seems funny, people wait all their lives to see their children, siblings or friends graduate from college and because their loved one decided to attend a mediocre university, they will not be guaranteed this opportunity. I am one of five children.

Because of this stupid decision, my four siblings may not see me walk. What about people who have stepparents?

Are they suppose to choose the set of parents who attend their graduation? Should they draw straws? The loser gets to look at the pictures. What about married people? Do they choose their spouse or their parents? I could go on.

Whoever was in charge of this decision should have spent a little more time on it.

Oh yeah, about invitations. Am I suppose to send them out and tell people they are not invited, or tell them to come and pitch a tent the night before so they are assured a seat?

I really don't know what to do. Maybe I should ask Jostens.

I am very excited that George Bush is going to be speaking at my commencement.

That is a great honor. But if Tech doesn't have the facilities to accommodate the families of the graduate, then they should not book such high-profile speakers.

My last comments are to Blythe Clayton. I don't know if you were, you wouldn't have such an "Oh well, that is how it goes" attitude.

I want my family, my relatives and my friends there if they choose to be. It makes me angry for Texas Tech to tell me how many of my loved ones are allowed to be present.

I guess this is just another way Tech is reminding me how relieved I will be when I am done. I should have gone with my first instincts in choosing a university and gone southeast about 350 miles.

Talley Brown
senior
English

Limiting tickets to graduation ridiculous

To the editor: Students and Vice Provost James Brink, correct me if we are wrong, but we were under the impression that the graduation ceremonies at Texas Tech were for the graduating seniors and their families.

However, Laura Hipp's article Wednesday said, "because of the high profile of the speaker, Brink said officials are trying to ensure that each graduate has at least two people there supporting them."

Now, we would like to point out the obvious mistakes in this statement.

Brink stated that officials are trying to ensure that each graduate could have two friends and or family members present at the ceremony. We would like to ask Mr. Brink how many friends and family he had at his college graduation?

We think we speak for the majority of the Texas Tech senior class when we say we are planning on having more than two people watch us walk.

Also, what about those students whose parents are divorced?

Is it really Texas Tech's intention to force these students to choose between sets of parents?

Next, the "high profile" speaker is there to address Texas Tech graduates and their families, not John Q. Public of Lubbock.

Although former President Bush may be the most noteworthy speaker the Lubbock coliseum has seen in a very long time, Brink and his associates should be aware that this is not an event for the citizens of Lubbock.

The seats for graduation should be given first come, first serve to the graduates' families and friends the day of graduation (the way it has been done in the past).

Also, our parents have given more \$30,000 to Texas Tech during the five years we have attended school here.

Should Montford, Brink and other Tech administrators ask someone who has given more than \$30,000 to Tech to get up at 5 a.m. (after a long drive or plane flight and a night in a hotel) and see their child graduate? What an embarrassment to our institution.

Is this just another way Texas Tech administration is showing us, the students (who pay their paychecks), the amount of respect they have for us? In conclusion, we would like to ask two questions.

First, how many tickets are Montford, Brink and others allotted for the ceremony? Second, would this ever happen at A&M or UT?

Seniors — we can't take this kind of abuse from our administration. Speak up.

Stacey Sullivan
Tina Hartman
Tech seniors

THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

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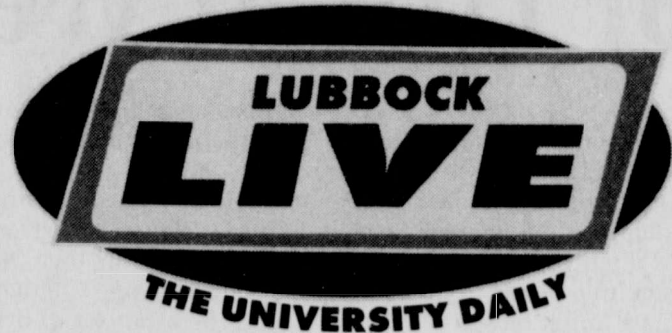
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lifestyles

Thursday, February 18, 1999



THURSDAY

David Trout's Rock & Roll Comedy Karaoke—Chelsea Street Pub, South Plains Mall, 9 p.m., through Saturday, no cover
Swing Night—Clousseaus's, 1802 Buddy Holly, 8 p.m., lessons - \$5
Yolanda King—UC Allen

Theatre, 8 p.m., \$5, \$10
Plain Brown Wrapper—Hub City Brewery, 1807 Buddy Holly, 10 p.m., no cover
Budha Brothers—Ichcabod's, 2420 Broadway, 10 p.m., \$2

FRIDAY

Zone—Fat Katz, 2608 Salem, 10 p.m., \$3
Buddy Simmons Band—

Bleachers, 1719 Buddy Holly, 9 p.m., \$3

Rodney Carrington & Barry Martin (comedy)—The Library, 2216 I-27, 8 p.m., \$15, \$20
Pike Fest featuring Tim McGraw & Sons of the Desert—Lubbock Municipal Coliseum, 8 p.m., \$25, \$27

West Texas Medicine Show—Hub City Brewery, 1807 Buddy Holly, 10 p.m., no cover
Cary Swinney & Friends—Godbold Cultural Center, 2601 19th St., \$8

Donnie Allison & Friends—Texas Cafe, 3604 50th St., 9:30 p.m., \$3

Medicine Man—Ichcabod's, 2420 Broadway, 10 p.m., \$3
D.G. Flewellyn & Mike Fuller—Clousseaus's, 1802 Buddy

Holly, 10 p.m., \$3

SATURDAY

Zone—Fat Katz, 2608 Salem, 10 p.m., \$3

The Toon—Sports Form, 3525 34th, 10 p.m., no cover
Jeffery Duke Patterson—Hub City Brewery, 1807 Buddy Holly, 10 p.m., no cover
Kyle Abernathie's Sing-A-Long—Bleachers, 1719 Buddy Holly, 9 p.m., \$3

Donnie Allison & Friends—Texas Cafe, 3604 50th St., 9:30 p.m., \$3

Tungi—Ichcabod's, 2420 Broadway, 10 p.m., \$5

Jim Morse—Clousseaus's, 1802 Buddy Holly, 10 p.m., \$3

Yolanda King will speak at 8 p.m. tonight in the University Center Allen Theatre. King is speaking as part of the UC Programs series.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 23 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 23 FOX Lubbock
7:00	Bloomberg Homestretch	Today Show	News	Shop @ Home	Good Morning America	Magic Bus Spy Dogs
8:00	Sesame Street					Doug Ducktales
9:00	Mr. Rogers Barney	Martha Stewart	Sally Jessy Raphael	K. Copeland Match Game	Regis & Kathie Lee	Howie Mandel
10:00	Teletubbies	Sunset Beach	Price Is Right	Dating Game Newlywed Game	View	Donny & Marie
11:00	Zoboomafoo	Arthur	Young & the Restless	Forgive Or Forget	All My Children	People Court
12:00	Old House Bak'g/Julia	News Days of our	News Beautiful	Ricki Lake	ABC 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	Matlock
2:00	T. Tugboat Marsh	World Hiwyd Square	Guiding Light	Mr. Cooper Liv'g Single	General Hospital	Nanny Paid Program
3:00	Arthur Washbone	Rosie O'Donnell	Roseanne	Martin LAPD	Mauri Povich	Spiderman Gozalla
4:00	Zoom Bill Nye	Oprah Winfrey	Jeopardy Seinfeld	E.T. Real TV	Montel Williams	P.R. Space Myst. Knight
5:00	R. Rainbow	News NBC News	News CBS News	Jerry Springer	News ABC News	Sis/Sister Grace/Fire
6:00	News Hour	News Extra	News W/Fortune	Judge Judy Judge Judy	News ABC News	Home Impr. Simpsons
7:00	Natural World	Friends 'PG Jesse 'PG	Diagnosis Murder	Movie: 'Last Man	World's Deadliest	Wild Police Videos
8:00	Mystery!	Frasier 'PG Veronica 'PG	Turks	On Planet Earth	ABC Mini: 'Storm Of	Most Shock'g
9:00	Affluenza	E.R. 'PG	48 Hours	Ricki Lake	The Century	Cops Cops
10:00	Nightly Bus	News Tonight Show	News Joe Brown	Mills Lane Joe Brown	News MASH	Frasier Cheers
11:00		Conan	Letterman Tom Snyder	Hard Copy Real TV	Nightline Mad/You	Jerry Springer
12:00		O'Brien Later	Paid Program	Paid Program Shop @ Home	Incorrect Access	Newsradio Paid Program

WEEK NIGHTS

JERRY Springer Show 5:00 PM
JUDY 6:00 PM
 Channel 22

Lubbock in need of volunteers

The Lubbock Lake Landmark is trying to dig up a few volunteers.

This archeological preserve located in north Lubbock at 2401 North Landmark Dr. will begin training volunteers Feb. 27.

The site is one of only a few known areas in North America to contain evidence of human habitation spanning 11,500 years.

Susan Shore, museum educator, said the landmark has been running low on volunteer sup-

port, and they would like new, young people who enjoy the outdoors to join the program.

Volunteers will be involved with educational programs at the site.

They will lead tours of the nature trails, excavation sites, exhibits and gallery for school children and the general public who visit the site.

The training program is free and will consist of a 20-hour, five-week course concluding April 1.

The class will meet Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

During the course, trainees will learn about archaeological research conducted at the site, regional geology and environmental and cultural history.

Shore said the volunteers are not required to have previous experience, just the willingness to learn.

The volunteers are preferred to offer one year of service.

To register for the training or for more information, call 742-1116.

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SPORTS

TEXAS WARRIORS
Red Raider men's
hoopsters fall to Texas
see p. 7

BUCKED
Lady Raiders down
Oklahoma State
see p. 8

Thursday, February 18, 1999

Rangers ready for run at West

DALLAS (AP) — Tom Hicks didn't become a billionaire without demanding value for his investments.

Now, he begins his first full season as owner of the Texas Rangers looking for a return on his \$250 million purchase and on players' salaries likely to exceed \$80 million this season.

And expectations are high as pitchers and catchers report to the Rangers' spring-training camp in Port Charlotte, Fla., on Thursday. No one's expectations are higher than Hicks'.

Those expectations are becoming known to Rangers watchers as "the line in the sand."

"They know I support them and give them the resources to do their job," Hicks said recently. "I expect reasonable performance in return. People will be held accountable, as

they should be, and they are in the real world everyday."

And the first to be held accountable are likely to be general manager Doug Melvin and manager Johnny Oates, who are beginning their fifth seasons with the Rangers.

Hicks is looking for the defending American League West champions to improve on last year's first-round playoff performance, when they were swept in three games by the New York Yankees' juggernaut.

As always with the Rangers, the doubts start with pitching. Last season, Rick Helling won 20 games, and fellow right-hander Aaron Sele won 19. Both were career bests.

But no other Rangers starter won more than nine games, and the staff had just 63 starts of at least six innings with no more than three runs allowed. That was the worst in the

league.

The defection of late-season acquisition Todd Stottlemyre to the Arizona Diamondbacks in free agency didn't help, but the Rangers believe they've filled that gap by signing hard-luck free-agent right-hander Mark Clark from Chicago.

Clark went just 9-14 for the Cubs last season, but the Chicago bullpen blew 19 of his leads. Melvin expects Clark's luck to change dramatically this year with an offense that scored the second-most runs in the league last season.

"You analyze Mark Clark, and you ask yourself if this club, with its offense, would do for him what it did for Aaron Sele last year. I think the support will help him a lot," Melvin said.

John Burkett, who won two key games late last season, will have to

improve on his 9-13 record, while Estaban Loaiza must improve on 3-6.

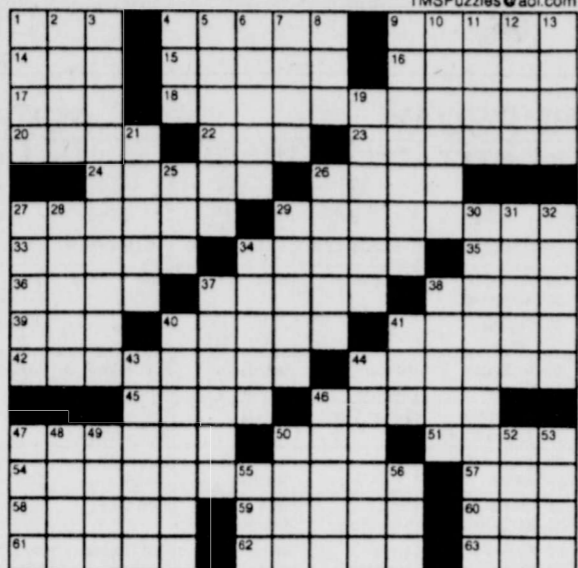
Hicks tried but failed to sign Randy Johnson to strengthen the starting rotation, then promised the money for Roger Clemens if a trade could be arranged to bring the star right-hander from the Toronto Blue Jays.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram quoted an unidentified source Wednesday as saying the Rangers' discussions regarding the five-time Cy Young Award recipient are "very much alive." The Houston Astros also have been pursuing the Katy, Texas, resident.

Bullpen closer John Wetteland is recovering from off-season surgery to his pitching elbow, but Rangers officials say his recovery is progressing ahead of schedule.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
1 Enthusiasm
4 Soft drinks
9 Sweetheart
14 "You... My Sunshine"
15 Texas shrine
16 Work
17 Time period
18 Security device
20 Lasso
22 Annoy
23 Moscow moolah
24 Atolls
26 Transmit
27 Midpoint
29 They went ___
33 Incited
34 Plumbing problems
35 Arab robe
36 Dugout stack
37 Overly sentimental
38 Mishmash dish
39 Late starter?
40 Wandering calf
41 Twinned crystal
42 Moderated
44 Struck with crushing blows
45 Shoshones
46 L'chaim, e.g.
47 "Citizen Kane" director
50 ___ goo gal pan
51 Hindu discipline
54 Satellite surveillance
57 Break the tape
58 Arctic goose
59 Host
60 Put a stop to
61 Marsh plant
62 Lion's plaints
63 Beam



By Gerald R. Ferguson
Portland, OR 2/18/99

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------|-------|
| 8 Jack of "Barney Miller" | BASS | HOSE | CRABS |
| 9 Exhibits ostentatiously | LILY | INCA | HELIO |
| 10 Greek letter | IMAM | FEAT | OHGOD |
| 11 One of Adam's sons | MEMPHIS | BELLE | |
| 12 Additional times | PESTO | RELEASE | |
| 13 Memorable | OPALS | DALLAS | |
| 19 Like old stairs | MIAMI | VICE | SILT |
| 21 Rob of "Silk Stalkings" | ISM | SENORAS | BEE |
| 25 Was first | DEAL | TULSA | TIME |
| 26 Contour | ARNOLD | READE | |
| 27 Noah's ark measurement | SEABEES | ARABS | |
| 28 Eradicate | SANTAFETRAIL | | |
| 29 Lukewarm | PARTS | OVAL | ARLO |
| 30 Guard's post | ALBEE | LINK | COBB |
| 31 White poplar | WEIRD | EDGE | ENOS |
| 32 Swerved off course | | | |
| 34 Theater sections | | | |
| 37 Most achy | | | |
| 38 Impudent | | | |
| 40 Period of peace | | | |
| 41 Lamb's lament | | | |
| 43 Whimpering | | | |
| 44 ___ T. | | | |
| 46 Puccini opera | | | |
| 47 Insect snares | | | |
| 48 "Jane ___" | | | |
| 49 Get the ___ out (hurry) | | | |
| 50 Office note, briefly | | | |
| 52 Actress Lolobrigida | | | |
| 53 Gibb or Williams | | | |
| 55 His companion | | | |
| 56 Affirmative response | | | |

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MLB turning its back on fans

And they're off. The time has come for spring training and all those out-of-shape millionaires to take the field in hopes of fulfilling their childhood dreams of winning a World Series ring.

But, wait a minute. It seems that there has been more movement this offseason than in previous years as marquee players such as Mo Vaughn, Albert Belle, Randy Johnson and Kevin Brown all have taken their acts to new venues.

What happened to team loyalty and respect of the fans? Have you no shame?

I guess not. The love of the game has been reduced to a tangent equivalent to that of a college student's interest in Latin American pottery. Some may like it, but most could care less.

Unfortunately, the all-mighty dollar has not only corrupted the league formerly known as the No Basketball League but the ranks of Major League Baseball as well.

Actually, professional sports have become a mockery because of the lack of control within each ball club,

both morally and financially. Obviously, Charles Barkley was right when he said athletes aren't role models. He was up to something, and his peers have proven him right over and over again.

The NBA had an image problem even before Michael Jordan's retreat and the recent lockout.

From Allen Iverson's marijuana usage to Chris Webber's attitude and gun-toting, followed by the Latrell Sprewell choking/non-

choking incident, the league has had a problem. And, it only goes to show how corrupt professional sports have become.

The situation is rather ironic to say the least, as I sit here with aspirations of breaking into the professional journalism world covering, of all things, sports.



Jason Bernstein
Sports Editor

But, to remain true to one's self with an objective point of view is more reliable than that of a sports homer, a guy (or gal) that blows or shines in the direction of his or her respective beat. Do you want to be told that you have broccoli in your teeth, or would you rather keep smiling all day thinking that you look like a million bucks?

So with all that said, baseball players, to get back to the original argument, have been the root of all that is wrong financially with professional sports. It was baseball that closed its eyes on a salary cap. It was baseball that bequeathed a number of powers to the player's association, making labor agreements that much more difficult to come by. It was baseball that introduced a player's strike at the most simple of levels. It was baseball that originated baseball cards that eventually became million-dollar entities. And, let us not forget the cost of a Mark McGwire home-run ball.

But, it was the very same baseball that brought many people together and unified a country when times were bad.

But, who the hell cares about the past?

We are in the "what have you done for me lately" generation and frankly, athletes have proven time and time again they do not care about anyone but themselves.

Like a TABC agent breaking up a simple house party on a Saturday night in Northcentral Lubbock, athletes are only watching out for their own hunkies. Occasionally, there is a Kirby Puckett or Barry Sanders who comes along with a genuine interest in the community and the fans. But, that is a rare occurrence, regardless of the sport.

As for baseball, free agents or not, fans are becoming more and more disenfranchised with America's pastime, and it is high time an effort was made to limit the enormous salaries and constantly-changing rosters.

The game will go on as will Celine Dion's heart. But at what cost to the fans?

Jason Bernstein is a junior broadcast journalism and political science major from San Ramon, Calif. He can be reached via e-mail at jasonb@ttu.edu.

Tech falls to 'Horns, 62-54

AUSTIN (Special) — The Texas Longhorns (16-10 overall 11-2 Big 12) ended Texas Tech's (12-14 overall 4-9 Big 12) two-game winning streak with a 62-44 victory Wednesday night at the Erwin Center.

The Red Raiders won the tip and grabbed a 4-0 lead, but the Longhorns battled back to take their first lead of the game at 7-6 early in the first half.

Texas extended its lead to 18-15, but guard Stan Bonewitz hit a three-point shot at the 6:45 mark to tie the game at 18-all for the Red Raiders.

The game was tied at 25 with 1:00 to go in the half when Bonewitz was called for a technical foul.

The Longhorns converted the free-throws and scored three more points before the half to take a 30-25 lead into the locker room.

Tech committed 10 turnovers in the first half to the Longhorns one.

The Red Raiders held the edge in shooting percentage, floor to 41 percent from the hoop to Texas' 37 percent on the evening.

The Red Raiders pulled down four more rebounds than the

Longhorns owning a 21-17 lead on the boards despite losing its first game in three outings.

Texas extended its lead to 10 at 36-26 at the 16:45 mark in the second half.

A slam by Texas forward Gabe Muoneke put the Longhorns up 40-28 with 14:40 left in the game.

Tech went on an 11-5 run topped-off by guard Jevon Banks' free-throw that pulled Tech within six points at 45-39.

Tech would get no closer as the Longhorns closed the game on a 17-5 run.

Texas had 43 rebounds to Tech's 42 and outshot Tech 36 percent to 31 percent from the floor.

Texas center Chris Mihm had 20 points and 13 rebounds to lead the Longhorns offensively.

Center Andy Ellis led Tech with 12 points and six rebounds. Guard Rayford Young managed only 10 points after scoring 41 points in his last outing against Kansas.

The win was the Longhorns' fifth-straight over the Red Raiders.

Tech next will face Nebraska at 8:30 p.m. Saturday at the Lubbock Municipal Coliseum.

Astros still eye Clemens, want resolution

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros' rotation was almost set as pitchers and catchers reported for Thursday's first workout. The biggest question: Will hometown Roger Clemens be a part of it?

Astros owner Drayton McLane has been one of Clemens' most determined pursuers since the five-time Cy Young Award winner asked the Toronto Blue Jays to trade him to a contending team closer to his home in Houston.

But McLane is ready for the chase to end, one way or the other. He wants the issue settled this week so there will be no distractions for the Astros as they begin defense of their NL Central championship.

"I think he (McLane) and I agree that it would be a distraction to our club that we'd like to try to avoid," general manager Gerry Hunsicker said.

"I will defer that final decision to him but clearly, before the full camp opens next week, we'd like to see this thing over."

Toronto general manager Gord Ash had hoped to accommodate Clemens' request to be traded to a contender at baseball's winter meetings. It hasn't happened and with Blue Jays pitchers and catchers scheduled to report Monday, Ash may want to avoid a clubhouse problem by trading Clemens sooner rather than later.

Blue Jays right-hander Pat Hentgen took Clemens' remarks about wanting to go to a contender personally, claiming it sent a message that the Blue Jays could not compete this season.



negotiations between the Astros and Blue Jays could heat up as spring training begins, but Hunsicker declined to update the negotiation process.

"I talk to Gord pretty often but I don't want to characterize our talks," Hunsicker said.

"It's very difficult when this is made public and everyone is looking for the inside scoop. So we're just continuing to explore all the options that we can think of and hopefully we can find one that makes sense."

The Blue Jays want center fielder Richard Hidalgo and pitcher Scott Elarton, two promising young players McLane is unwilling to give up in a trade.

Clemens appeared to take himself off the market on Dec. 22 when he rescinded the Dec. 2 trade request. That triggered talks with the Astros, New York Yankees, Cleveland Indians and Texas Rangers.

Clemens complained about the way negotiations were handled by Astros team president Tal Smith and Hunsicker, adding that he could not

play for either Astros official. He later said he'd still like to play in his hometown.

Clemens, 36, won his fifth Cy Young Award last season after going 20-6 with a 2.65 ERA. He has been one of the game's dominant pitchers since coming out of the University of Texas in 1983.

Rangers general manager Doug Melvin said the Rangers are still in the race for Clemens, but he also declined to elaborate.

The Rangers attempted to acquire Clemens throughout December but they would not part with left fielder Rusty Greer.

Rangers pitchers and catchers are scheduled to report to camp Thursday in Port Charlotte, Fla.

Shane Reynolds, happy with his three-year \$21.5 million contract extension, will be the Astros' ace if Clemens doesn't come over. Mike Hampton, Jose Lima, Sean Bergman are solid as starters with Scott Elarton and Chris Holt expected to get chances at a starting spot.

"The rotation is unsettled in that the fifth slot is still technically open," Hunsicker said.

"Chris Holt is coming off an arm operation and appears to be healthy, so he'll get a good look. Scott will also get a good look. We have to leave camp with a strong alignment of 11 pitchers."

Closer Billy Wagner also has a new contract, along with relievers Doug

Henry, Trevor Miller Jay Powell and Xavier Hernandez, if he's healthy following rotator-cuff surgery.

Astros veterans will report on Monday.

They host Atlanta in their spring opener March 5.

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Lady Raider Basketball				Lady Raiders @ Nebraska 2 p.m.			Lady Raiders @ Colorado 8 p.m.
Red Raider Basketball			Nebraska @ Tech 8:30 p.m.				Colorado @ Tech 7 p.m.
Red Raider Baseball	Tech vs. San Diego St 9 p.m.	Tech vs. Oregon St 5 p.m.	Tech vs. UCLA Noon				Tech @ New Mexico 2 p.m.
Red Raider Softball	At San Diego State Tournament						
Dallas Stars		Chicago @ Stars 7:30 p.m.		Colorado @ Stars 2 p.m.		Stars @ Nashville 7 p.m.	Nashville @ Stars 7:30 p.m.

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'Grand Viking' gets probation for starting fire

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (AP) — A Minnesota Vikings fan who calls himself "the Grand Viking" was placed on two years' probation and fined \$200 Wednesday after pleading guilty to setting on fire the clothing and hair of two Green Bay Packers fans.

Brian E. Siegmann, 23, of Eau Claire, pleaded guilty to two misdemeanors in return for more serious charges being dropped.

Eau Claire County Circuit Judge Thomas Barland also ordered Siegmann to spend 30 days in jail or perform 240 hours of community service and to get an assessment for drug and alcohol abuse, Assistant District Attorney Keri Singstock said.

"Is he a bad man who tried to set the entire Water Street on fire? Probably not," Singstock said Wednesday, referring to the street of taverns where the encounter took place last Oct. 4, the night

before a Packers-Vikings game. Siegmann was accused of lighting Casey Connors-Herm's left pants leg on fire and then setting Meagan Corcoran's left jacket sleeve and hair on fire after they identified themselves as Packers fans. Neither was seriously injured.

Siegmann told police he tied a shirt to the end of a piece of metal and lit it on fire and was attempting to stir up a rivalry between fans by creating an "Olympic torch."

He pleaded guilty Tuesday to endangering safety by negligent use of a weapon and negligent handling of burning material.

Prosecutors dropped one felony count of first-degree endangering safety and one of second-degree endangering safety. Those charges carried a maximum punishment of seven years in prison.

Lady Raiders rope Cowgirls

By Brent Dirks
Staff Writer

The first half belonged to Rene Hanebutt and the second stanza belonged to Angie Braziel, but the two combined were able to push the Texas Tech Lady Raiders past Oklahoma State 73-58 Wednesday night at the Lubbock Municipal Coliseum.

"I really felt like for 40 minutes we were much better tonight than we were against Missouri on Saturday," said Tech coach Marsha Sharp. "We talked a lot this week about shortening their runs and lengthening ours. They still made a couple of runs at us, but I think we did a better job of maintaining our composure through that."

After having problems maintaining consistency Saturday against the Missouri, No. 11 Tech (22-3 overall, 11-2 Big 12) stormed out to a 5-0 lead and never looked back in the contest.

In the first half, Tech used 17 points from Hanebutt to take a 41-30 lead at halftime. The senior from Bowie was on fire during the first half, connecting on 5-of-8 three pointers.

"I wish somebody would tell Rene Hanebutt that she has got to catch the ball before she can shoot it," Oklahoma State coach Dick Halterman said after the contest. "I don't think I've ever seen somebody shoot the ball as quick as she shoots

it. Obviously right now we're struggling to find any kind of points."

In the second half, Hanebutt took a back seat, scoring only two points, but Braziel took over, powering her way to 18 second-half points and 30 for the ball game.

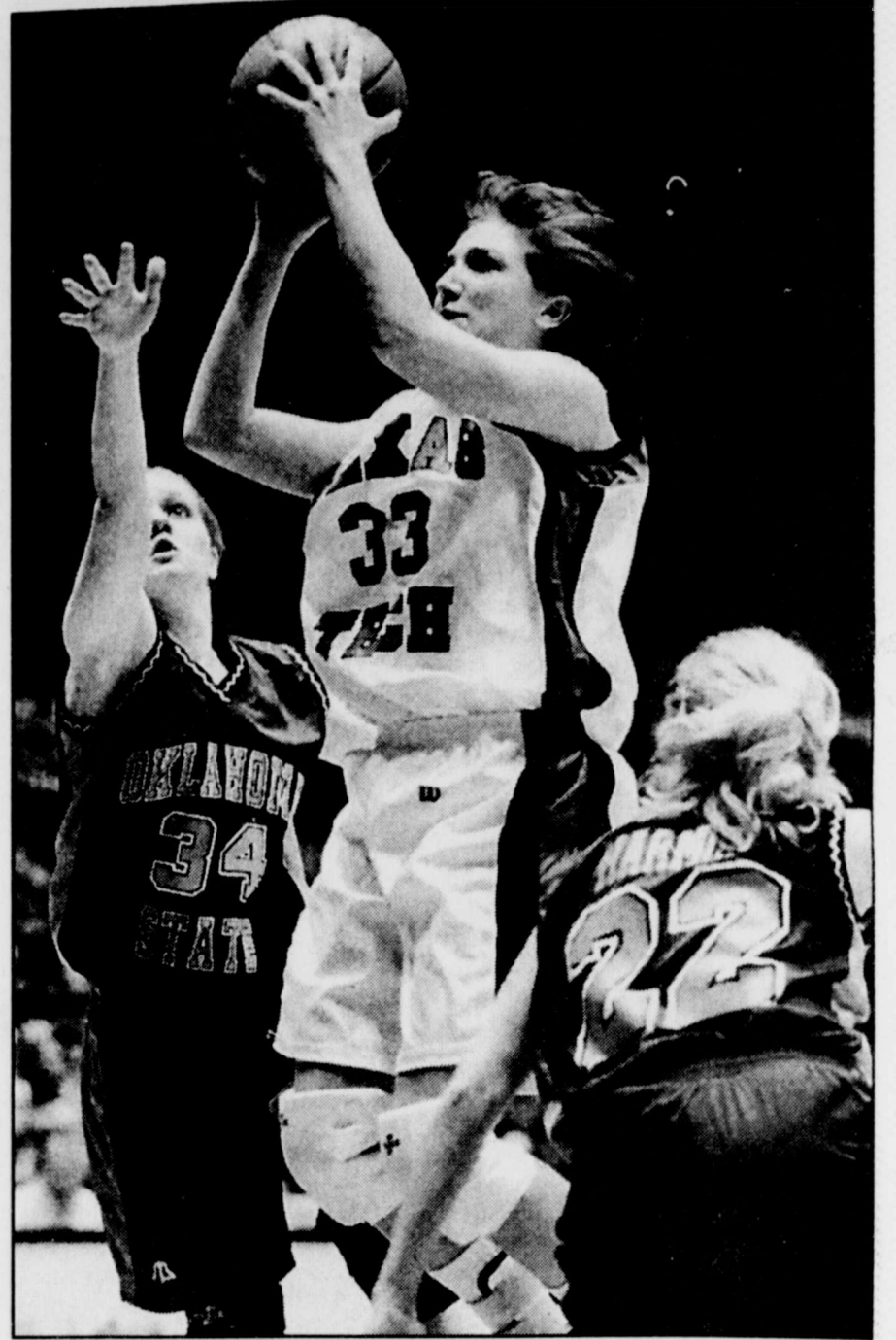
"I don't think I just really had the focus that I did in the first half," Hanebutt said. "I didn't get near as good looks. I think they tried to defend our picks better, and I didn't get any good looks at the basket. I was pretty pleased with how I shot the ball in the first half. I just wish it would have continued in the second."

But Sharp said while Hanebutt was shut down in the second half, Braziel had better opportunities to score against the Cowgirls (12-11 overall, 4-9 Big 12).

"I thought a lot of the things that happened for Hanebutt in the first half really opened up a lot of things for Braziel in the second half," Sharp said. "They really got out and defended our perimeter players a lot tougher, switched on some picks with some post players and got them out of defensive position against Braziel."

To start the second stanza, the Lady Raiders went on a 7-2 run to take a 49-32 lead. Braziel continued to pound away on the Cowgirls on the inside in the second half, but 16 points from Jennifer Crow helped the Cowgirls from being blown out.

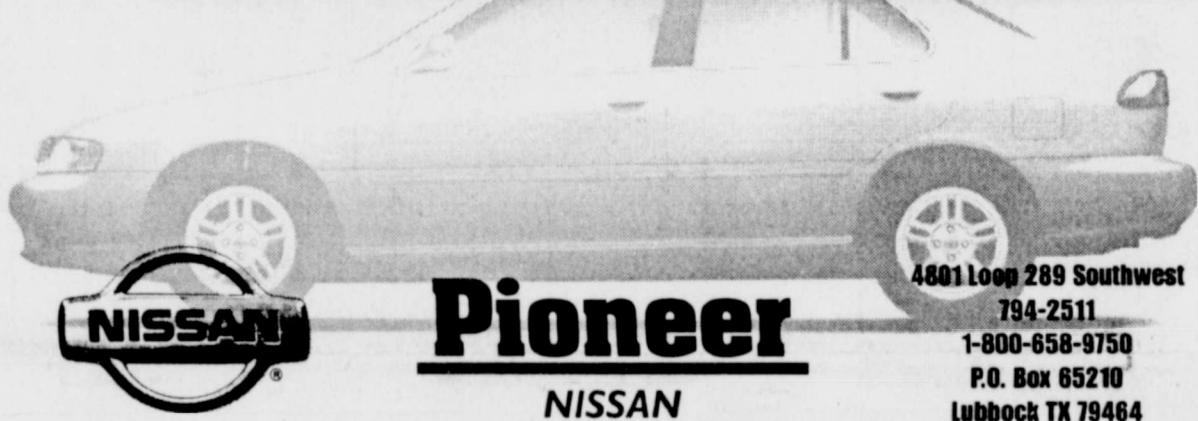
"That's the reason they're as good as they are," Halterman said of the Lady Raiders. "They've got good players inside and good players outside. They execute, and they know who to get the ball to and where to get it to them. They just run their offense and do things a little better than the rest of us right now."



Wade Kennedy/The University Daily
Hanebutt's Horizon: Tech guard Rene Hanebutt connects for two of her 19 points during the Lady Raider's 73-58 win over Oklahoma State.

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Softball heads to West Coast

After breaking out of an early-season slump last weekend at the Texas-Arlington Tournament, the Texas Tech fastpitch softball team hits the road to the West Coast for the San Diego State Tournament beginning today.

The Red Raiders (5-5 overall) begin the tournament with Stanford at 9 a.m. today.

During play, which lasts through

Sunday, Tech also will play Long Beach State, Cal State-Northridge, Sacramento, San Diego State, UC-Santa Barbara and Cal State-Fullerton.

Tech travels to the tournament off the momentum of picking up a consolation bracket title in Arlington last weekend.

After losing three of the first four games of the tournament, the Red

Raiders powered their way to the title with wins over Arkansas, No. 4 Oklahoma State and Northwestern.

The win over the Razorbacks was a turning point for Tech this season, said coach Rene Luers-Gillispie.

Down 5-3 in the fifth inning of the elimination games against Arkansas, the Red Raiders hit two home runs late in the game to propel them to victory.

- Residence Halls**
- Feb. 22-23 Same Room
- Feb. 24 New Room/Same Hall
- Feb. 25-26 New Room/New Hall

- Carpenter/Wells***
- Feb. 22-23 Same Room/Same Apt.
- Feb. 24 New Room/Same Apt.
- Feb. 25-26 New Apartment

- Gaston Apartments****
- Feb. 22-23 Same Apartment
- Feb. 25-26 New Apartment

*Applies to current residents of Carpenter/Wells only. Any other available space will be offered to those on the waiting list.

**Applies to current residents of Gaston Apartments only. Any other available space will be offered to those on the waiting list.

