

Library to
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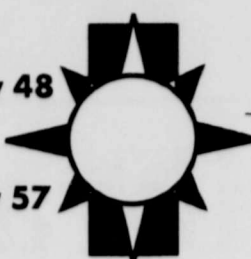
Olympic
hopeful trains
on Tech campus



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Today
High 86, Low 48

Wednesday
High 81, Low 57



TUESDAY

April 27, 1999

Volume 73
Issue 134

THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

Serving Texas Tech University since 1925

Parking garage construction delayed

By Ginger Pope
Staff Writer

While the commuter parking garage and bonfire construction may not be ready by August, Texas Tech administrators expect to complete them eventually.

Earlier plans for the construction of the arena parking garage were scheduled to be completed by September.

"We were told that when the arena is completed, all commuter parking would be replaced," said Blythe Clayton, former president of the Student Government Association.

The parking deck has been planned to contain 1,000 spaces for commuter parking and arena events.

Funding shortages cause problems in parking, bonfire site completion

Financial constraints during the bidding process has led to a funding shortage, said Jim Sowell, chairman of the Tech Board of Regents.

"Bids came in, and they were higher than what we had money to do," Sowell said. "Now, we're wrestling with a decision. We've sent advertisements back out for bids."

Jim Brunjes, vice president for Fiscal Affairs, said even though there are problems with funding, students still will get their park-

ing — eventually. In the meantime, the administration will continue to fund the Citibus shuttle from commuter lots to the business administration building.

"This is a commitment we plan to honor. It may not be the same way, but it will be within Indiana Avenue," Brunjes said.

Displaced commuter parking is only one concern involving the parking garage. Now, some Tech students are worried that the

promised new bonfire site will not come through.

Brennan Bazar, a Saddle Tramp and a senior engineering major from Seguine, said while he believes the administration has good intentions for their plans with the bonfire site, they may have rushed the public commitment to build it by this fall.

"Right now, we're waiting for the fire," Bazar said. "We've got no choice but to wait."

One concern of the Saddle Tramps is the groundbreaking for the bonfire site was in fall 1998, dedicating it to be finished fall 1999, Bazar said.

"Being as it's almost May, I don't see how they're planning on getting it done by fall," he said. "It leaves people hanging."

The bonfire site, which will cost about \$500,000, was a part of the arena garage budget. The project was really too small to contract out by itself, Brunjes said. Tech can get more for its money if the project is combined in another project budget.

Sowell said the bonfire site has been combined with a \$14 million landscaping project, but the project has been slowed because of paperwork to be completed.

Goodbye, Miss Peggy

Residents, campus bid farewell to Wall/Gates legend

By Rachel Bielamowicz
Contributing Writer

The chalkboard hanging too far to the left announces this month's buffet night theme in every color of the rainbow. The aromas and voices fill the air as the residents of Wall/Gates Residence Hall stand in line for dinner.

If you listen closely, you can hear a voice that is familiar to those who live there. A voice that comforts all at meal time.

Peggy Sue Dillard stands behind the counter and greets every student by name as they hand her their ID card. Her smile radiates as the best advertisement residents could find for the cuisine that awaits them inside.

"Being able to see the student's smiling faces everyday and to know that they are happy to see me too really keeps me motivated," Dillard said. "I really like doing my job. I have never gotten tired of the routine."

Dillard, who is retiring this year after 18 years of service at Texas Tech, has worked at the Wall/Gates Dining Hall reading student ID cards for eight years. Before that, she was a supervisor in the processing department of Tech Central Foods for 10 years.

"Peggy is the coolest," said Gates resident Joe Polard, a sophomore math and computer science major from Harker Heights. "She was the first person in this whole dorm that knew my name, even before my own roommate."

Dillard said her ability to remember names is a talent she's had for a long time.

"My ability to remember names is a God-given talent that I'm very thankful for," said Dillard with a proud smile.

Students enjoy being welcomed by such an uplifting person, such as Dillard.

"She always seems to make your day and will always lift your spirits," said Gates resident Danny Mathew, a junior biology major from Irving. "I'm going to miss Peggy."



Bucky Nance/The University Daily

Friendly Smile: Peggy Dillard swipes a card for Rebekah Kern, a junior music education major from Pasadena, at Wall/Gates Dining Hall on Monday. Dillard, who remembers everyone's name, will retire May 12.

A relationship is built with each and every student she sees daily. "It is very easy to talk to the students and important to me to know if their day is going good and how they are," Dillard said. "I will miss all the students I've known and loved for the past eight years. I will also miss the hugs and smiles I receive everyday and the many workers who work here, too."

When her time at Tech is over, Dillard and her husband plan to travel in their motor home to places such as Graceland. Dillard is a big Elvis fan. The couple also have plans to see Washington, D.C.

With all her extra time, Dillard plans to sew and go to craft shows, work with flowers, and most importantly, her favorite hobby of all will be entertaining her 3-year-old grandson.

"I also love to try to out-fish my husband," Dillard said.

While residents have learned so much about being genuinely light-hearted and happy from Dillard, she said she has learned a lot from residents, also.

"I have learned about the different challenges you face at your age and that the decisions you have to make on your own are difficult at times," Dillard said. "My advice to all of you would be to make good use of your own time and do your best while you are here."

Although Wall/Gates residents will miss Dillard, chances are they might spot her at a Tech athletic event someday.

"I will always be a Tech fan and am very proud of our university and beautiful campus," Dillard said. "My ears will always be open listening to hear a Miss Peggy from any of you kids whenever I'm out."

Horizon Campaign receives \$1.1 million

Total stands at \$262 million

By Melody Ragland
Staff Writer

Texas Tech received another gift for the Horizon Campaign on Monday.

Elizabeth Haley and Dr. Glenn Jones donated \$1.1 million in a planned gift.

The money will be used for an endowed chairman or chairwoman position in the College of Human Sciences.

Haley has been the dean of Tech's College of Human Sciences since 1981.

She also served as interim president of the university before President Robert Lawless was appointed in 1989.

Jones is a physician in Lubbock with the Diagnostic Radiology Associates.

He graduated from Baylor College of Medicine in 1951.

After graduation, he completed his internship at Cambridge Hospital in Massachusetts and his residency programs in radiology at Johns Hopkins Hospital and Caylor-Nickel Clinic.

Chancellor John Montford said no two people deserve recognition more than Jones and Haley.

Haley encouraged both alumni and students to give back to Tech.

"It's nice to think about what you want to do after you're gone," Haley said.

The total of the campaign now is \$262 million.

LCU student faces reality of Kosovo situation

Exchange program brings Albanian-born student to city

By Apu Naik
Staff Writer

Imagine living in constant fear of death — not only of yourself but of your friends, family and loved ones as well.

Imagine living in the middle of a brutal civil war, where strangers walk into your classroom and direct you outside with fully automatic rifles. By the time you get home, your mother and father look you in the face with tears and tell you your home has been seized.

Arguments among people in the streets turn into savage blood-baths. Bullets whiz through the air only inches away from your head.

This is the reality Daniel Kristo, a Lubbock Christian University exchange student, experienced every day since his home country of Albania switched to a democracy in 1991.

In 1997, because of the conditions in his home country, Kristo's family

decided it would be best for him to leave Albania and go to school in America through an exchange student program.

"At first, it was really hard to leave my home when I was 17 years old," Kristo said. "I had to leave my parents behind, and I didn't want to go. But now, I realize it was probably for my own good."

Kristo was sent to live with a family in Austin, where he graduated from high school in May 1998.

After graduation, he and four other Albanian exchange students decided to extend their education and attend college at LCU.

Kristo, who is from the southern coastal city of Vlora, Albania, said he speaks to his parents about once a month, and the conditions are still as bad, if not worse.

"They have become almost numb to the violence now," Kristo said. "When I talk to my dad, he'll say something like, 'Three more people



... I didn't want to go. But now, I realize it was probably for my own good."

Daniel Kristo
LCU student

were shot yesterday,' and he won't realize that it's not something normal. They have just gotten so used to it."

Kristo's father, a medical doctor in Albania, has been busy helping injured refugees.

Recently, the house Kristo had lived in since he was born was seized and taken away from his family, sending them to find refuge in a nearby apartment building.

But, Kristo was not surprised when he learned of his family's home. The 19-year-old said he'd experienced many acts of force while go-

ing to grade school in Albania.

"On several different occasions, we were taken out of our schools at gunpoint ... one of the best ways to make a point to the public was by threatening people's children in schools," Kristo said.

"There was a large mountain in front of the school, and gunmen would often shoot at children from there. I once had a bullet fly inches away from my head."

Three days later, Kristo's school was closed down for the safety of its students.

The issue of involvement in



Bucky Nance/The University Daily

Checking Up: Albania native Daniel Kristo, a freshman pre-medical major at Lubbock Christian University, checks the Internet to see how his family is doing. Kristo's family lives about 400 miles from the NATO bombing targets.

Kosovo has sparked support among many Americans, who feel atrocities similar to the ones Kristo has faced

are important enough to defend. But, an equal amount of Americans still are divided on the issue.

lifestyles

Tuesday, April 27, 1999

Pink Floyd, Oz theories discussed

By Laura Hensley
Staff Writer

Texas Tech students will have the chance to step into the dark side of the rainbow Wednesday for a special showing of the fabled Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* synchronization with "The Wizard of Oz."

The University Center Films Committee had heard the popular rumors of the coincidence and wanted to put them to the test.

The committee first came up with the idea a year ago and has finally put the production together.

"We thought we should check it out," said Darryl Robbins, University Center activities specialist. "It's a huge experiment, but we invite everyone to experiment with us."

The audio-visual experience will begin at 8 p.m. in the UC Allen Theatre and is free for all Tech students.

Robbins said the film should be an interesting experience for everyone

scene changes. You can really tell it goes along with the movie."

Many obvious links are song titles and words that coincide with characters' actions.

Sarchet said the music rises and falls along with character and scene action.

The two popular works have been linked together for many years.

There are several theories about how it started and where to exactly start the music.

But, a popular theory suggests that *Dark Side of the Moon* stars on the first roar of the MGM lion.

Other theories suggest other albums to be played after *Dark Side of the Moon* is completed, which is

around the time when Dorothy puts her head on the Tin Man's chest. Some theories say the album can be

repeated for Pink Floyd's 1975 album *Wish You Were Here* or the 1979 album, *Animals*, can be played.

Although many differing theories exist about "The Wizard of Oz" and Pink

Floyd's synchronization, Robbins said he hopes many people enjoy the experience.

"Just bring your friends, bring your tie-dye and have fun," he said. "It will be a fantastic escape from school life and a chance to walk on the dark side of the rainbow."

"Me and a bunch of friends in my dorm decided to try it."

Brandon Sarchet
Tech student

Bone identification leads to new species

CLEVELAND (AP) — Bones found over the past two years have led to the identification of two new species of heavily armored dinosaurs larger than elephants, a researcher said Monday.

The species, both 30-foot long, are of an ankylosaur, or club-tailed armored dinosaur, and a clubless armored dinosaur or nodosaur, said James Kirkland, incoming state paleontologist for Utah.

He said they were identified as new species because the

bones differ from those of known dinosaurs.

The bones include two partial skulls, limb bones, a handful of armor and some backbones of the ankylosaur and a shoulder blade and several dozen smaller bones of the nodosaur.

Ankylosaurs and nodosaurs are ankylosaurids or heavily armored dinosaurs that originated in the Jurassic Period and are believed to have crossed a one-time land bridge from Asia to North America.

Disposable diapers prove fire-resistant

JUPITER, Fla. (AP) — A soggy, stinking baby diaper is helping save everything from homes to utility poles from wildfires.

A fire-resistant gel — developed by a firefighter who noticed a disposable diaper was the only thing that survived uncharred in a house fire — is being touted by experts and businesses as the greatest invention in firefighting since the hose and pump.

Barricade gel is made from the same super-absorbent polymers found in baby diapers. They act as tiny, mega-absorbent sponges that can hold off flames for up to 30 hours and even put out a fire, says John Bartlett, founder of Barricade Inter-

national and a Palm Beach County firefighter.

And he's not just blowing smoke. Already the gel is being used by the Los Angeles fire department, the U.S. military and Florida Power & Light Co., one of the nation's largest utilities.

The gel — which looks like shaving cream and can be applied with a hose — was credited with saving several homes during last year's blazes in Flagler County and recent wildfires in Port St. Lucie.

"It's impressive stuff," says Bill Kramer, a professor of fire science at the University of Cincinnati and fire chief of Deerfield Township, Ohio.

"I've seen a lot of new products," he adds, launching into a litany of foams and other items.

"This is the only one that gives the fire chief a quantum leap to put lasting protection on a burning structure."

The gel can be washed off after the

fire threat is gone.

Bartlett, 45, says he was rummaging through charred trash from a house fire when he happened on something slimy and white. It was the diaper, the only thing that hadn't burned in a huge pile of garbage.



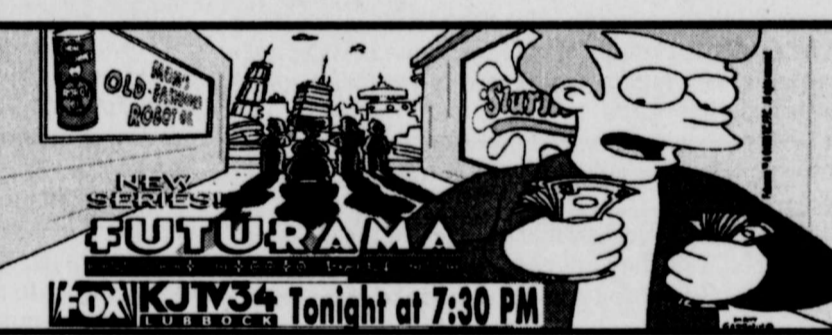
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TUESDAY APRIL 27

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7:00	Bloomberg Body Elec.	Today Show	News	Shop @ Home	Good Morning	Magic Bus
8:00	Sesame Street	"	"	"	America	Doug Duckdale
9:00	Mr. Rogers Barney	Martha Stewart	Roseanne	K. Copeland Match Game	Regis & Kathie Lee	Forgive or Forget
10:00	Teletubbies Wimzie's	Sunset Beach	Price is Right	Dating Game Newswed Gm.	View	Donny & Marie
11:00	Zoboomatoo Arthur	Leeza	Young & the Restless	Howie Mandel	All My Children	People Court
12:00	Lida Ital. Motorweek	News Days of our	News Beautiful	Ricki Lake	News Part Charies	Mills Lane Joe Brown
1:00	Painting Barney	Lives Another	As the World Turns	Paid Program BoyWorld	One Life to Live	Mailbox
2:00	T. Turboat Groundling	World Hynd Square	Guiding Light	Mr. Cooper Paid Program	General Hospital	Nanny Paid Program
3:00	Arthur Wishbone	Rosie O'Donnell	Jeopardy! Ragsdale	Martin LAPD	Mrs. Povich	Spiderman Hercules
4:00	Zoom Bill Nye	Oprah Winfrey	Jeopardy! TBA	E.T. Real TV	Montel Williams	P.R. Space Myet. Knight
5:00	R. Rainbow	News NBC News	News CBS News	News Jerry Springer	News ABC News	Sis/Sister Grace/Fire
6:00	News Hour	News NBC News	News CBS News	Judge Judy	News ABC News	Home Impr. Simpsons
7:00	NOVA	3rd Rock 'PG	News JAG	Moesha Clueless	Home Impr. Hughleys 'PG	King/Hill Futarama
8:00	Frontline	Shoot Me 'PG	CBS Movie: "The Patty Duke Show"	Matc.Eddie Betr./Bros.	Spin City Sports Nite	The P.J.'s Futarama
9:00	Archbishop Desmond	Dateline	"Duke Show"	Ricki Lake	NYPD Blue	Cops Cops
10:00	Nightly Bus	News Tonight Show	News David	Mills Lane Joe Brown	News MASH	Frasier Cheers
11:00	Conan	Conan	Leitman Craig	Head Copy Real TV	Nightline Mad/You	Jerry Springer
12:00	O'Brien Later	O'Brien Later	Kilborn Paid Program	Paid Program Shop @ Home	Inconnect Access	Newsradio Paid Program



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It's Greek To Us!

La Ventana Yearbook is looking for a Greek Section Editor for the 2000 yearbook.

If you have **good organizational skills**, are familiar with **Tech's greek system**, and **enjoy page layout** or you have **high school yearbook experience**, experience in journalism or have an interest in the journalism field, come by 103 Journalism Building to complete an application and sign up for an interview. Yearbook and Pagemaker experience preferred. Leave the toga at home.

Deadline: Friday, April 30

La Ventana

Recording Tech History Since 1925

VIEWPOINTS

Tuesday, April 27, 1999

Fast food slowly killing America

It is uncanny how Americans can routinely harm themselves and not even be aware of the process. Not only do they harm themselves, but they let others do so.

What am I talking about?

I'm talking about the complete dependence on carbonated beverages, fast food and super-sizing.

We are a binge society. We would be totally satisfied with a regular extra-value meal, but we must super-size the meal to get our Monopoly piece.

Then when we reach our filling point, we look at the rest of the \$3.39 laying on our Quarter Pounder wrapper and decide we must eat the rest.

For some reason, we feel guilty for not eating all the food we bought, plus we act on the dotting-mother principle — the one that states we must eat everything on our plate.

Fast food is automatically a devastating experience for our bodies, let alone the fact that we must pump it full of more food than our already stretched stomach can handle.

Added to this, we have been brainwashed into thinking that carbonated beverages are the only thing we must drink, apart from alcohol. It is ridiculous that people actually believe that soft drinks are the optimal thirst quencher. Yeah, like caffeine and sugar have been known to quench thirst, when they are known as classified dehydrants.

Not only do we abide by this fallacy, but sodas are full of phosphates, one of the first things that gets excreted by the body.

In and of itself that isn't harmful. What is though is that calcium binds to these phosphates, and therefore, whenever a Coke is consumed, you are losing dire calcium for your body.

Don't think these companies don't know about what the effects of their products really are. I mean we're talking about one company who knowingly put cocaine in their drinks.

It becomes even more evident when everywhere you go, all you see are vending machines for these types of beverages.

It was only until recently that fruit juice machines were being placed, but they are concentrated products and also not as good for you as a natural jug of juice would be.

Even then, at least we had water fountains, but apparently they no longer exist in the English building.

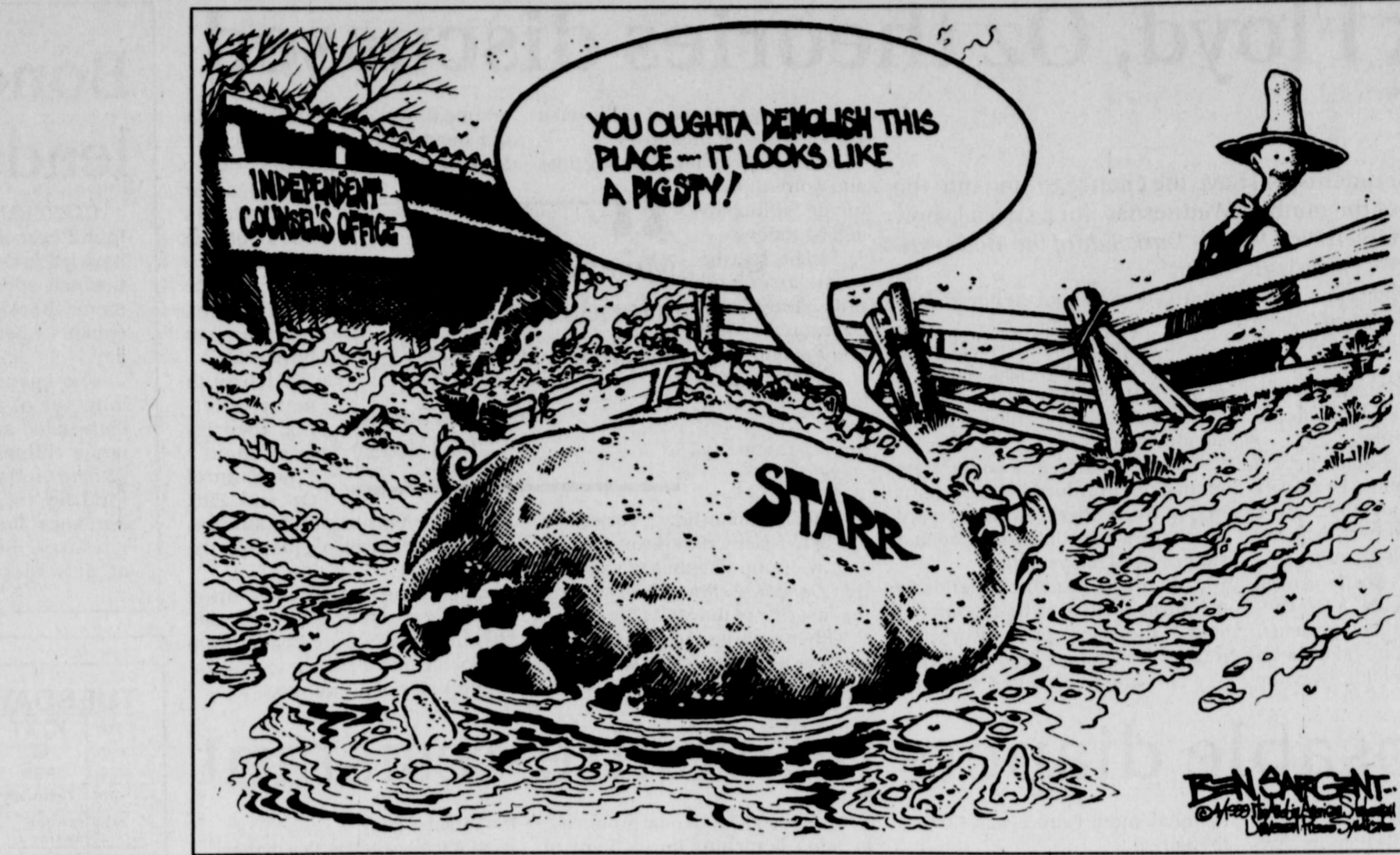
Whatever the case, these companies are out to make a dollar based on the fact that we have no time to cook for ourselves, or squeeze our own oranges or make our own pudding.

Plenty of years of commercials and Happy Meals, super-sizes and varieties of soft drinks have weaned our generations and subsequent ones into dependence.

Our television babysitters, magazines, movie sponsorships and billboards, which our parents did not have much of, have finally seeped into our lifestyles to the point in which we no longer see any options for what we should eat or drink.

Dwayne Mamo is a senior philosophy and creative writing major from Malta.

No really. Write a letter. But remember, have the courage to want your name printed with it.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Networks sensationalized tragedy in Colorado town

To the editor: During the tragic shooting in Littleton, Colo., on April 20, 15 lives — including the two gunman's lives — were senselessly taken. The two disaffected students brought a small arsenal of weapons and more than 30 bombs to school and wreaked havoc upon Columbine High School. The lives of the families of the 15 victims were changed forever, and the psyche of the American public received yet another scar.

Before the situation was even over, the television networks were on the air with sketchy details and some textbook yellow journalism.

Facts such as the shooters were particularly after minorities, for instance, were bantered about in a shoddy attempt to sensationalize the situation even more, and then found to be blatantly incorrect.

The networks even began to try to analyze the reason for the situation and what could be done to prevent another one. One of the reasons, which was bandied about, was the fact that gun control laws were too lax. Would stronger gun control laws have prevented the situation?

The answer to any honest thinker is no. These disaffected students packing semi-automatics would not have been stopped by another empty anti-gun law that is more restrictive on the followers of the law than on the law breakers.

To find out how to prevent the situation from happening again, one must focus on the cause. These students were "outcasts." They were the group that didn't fit in any of the cliques in their high school.

They were put down by others who thought they were better, and thought there were in a position to judge

those, in the Trenchcoat Mafia. The popular guys made them the butt of jokes, the "pretty" girls didn't talk to them and their teachers never paid them any attention or gave them a second chance. Most of your readers know this goes on and were on the giving and receiving end of the ridicule for being different in high school.

And it doesn't stop in high school; in college it's the same regrettable game.

What we as Americans and humans must learn from this is that segregating and making fun of people because we think they are different has to come to an end, or the situation in Littleton will play itself out again in high school sooner than you think. There are people who are different in this world.

We each individually must do our best to put an end to this kind "social segregation." Next time you see someone who you think is too dumb, too smart, too fat or too ugly; next time you see someone who has a funny accent, who likes showtunes, who worships a "wacky" religion, has a different skin color, votes for the wrong political party or is just plain weird, stop yourself dead in your tracks.

They are human just like you. They have feelings and care what other people think just like you. When you think about it, you probably have more in common with that person than you could possibly imagine. Instead of making fun of them, have a conversation with them. Instead of trying to make them mad, be their friend.

I guarantee it will make your life and theirs a lot better. Remember the old adage, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." It's worth a shot.

Jonathan H. Butcher
senior
telecommunications

Campus project brings trees, tradition to Tech

To the editor: On behalf of Campus Care Givers, I would like to invite all students, faculty and administrative personnel to attend Texas Tech's Arbor Day Celebration beginning at noon Friday at Memorial Circle.

There will be a town hall meeting at noon in the University Center Courtyard today. The Master Plan boards will be on display to view.

The event was first established on the Tech campus in the spring of 1938 under the direction of Tech President Bradford Knapp. He declared the campus was barren and turned out students, faculty and administration to help with the planting of thousands of trees.

We hope to renew this tradition and re-enact some of its historical aspects. There will be buggy rides, a band, and food vending beginning at noon, followed by a special tree dedication to the memory of Knapp at 1 p.m.

The planting of trees, shrubs and flowers will begin at 1:30 p.m. Chancellor John Montford will oversee the activity on horseback, just as Knapp did. At the conclusion of the planting around 3:30 p.m., we will have an ice cream social served from a chuck wagon. There will be an information booth set up at Memorial Circle for directions.

Our theme — Plant a Tradition — was designed by students and captures the essence of what Arbor Day is all about. Campus Care Givers hope you will help us celebrate this special day.

Debbie Montford
chairwoman of Campus Care Givers

You could have your opinion here for the world to see. Just write a letter to the editor.

End of year brings new way of living



Brandon Formby
Columnist

I must admit that the end of the school year has got to be my favorite time of the year.

It's when all the teachers say "We only have two weeks left? And I had so much more stuff to assign. Oh well, I'll just give you the two term papers, three group projects, five pop quizzes and a research experiment right now, and you can turn it in on Friday."

Man, I love it when they say that. Thank goodness they are kind enough to save me from the hell of good times, funny memories and drunken nights that I normally live through.

I often find myself in my room at 3:54 a.m., working away, which I totally live for.

Did you know that listening to Tae-Bo infomercials and Dionne's psychic pals while trying to piece together and calendarize a strategic

marketing plan that would maximize incoming profits while balancing a budget with seven imaginary employees, actually increases the creative process?

I haven't slept since Easter, which makes me real energetic and happy to talk to people. I also get excited when I realize that the bags under my eyes could probably actually hold my books better than my backpack.

I showered last Wednesday, which is great because I have this wonderful aroma about me now, which I never had before.

It's kind of like a chemical-based mix of onions and lawn fertilizer. My hair looks awesome, too.

It makes me feel really good about myself because a squirrel has turned my hair into a home for her and her three babies. The youngest baby's name is Tarzan. I named him that because he swings around from my

ever-growing locks of grease. I haven't shaved in so long that a friend of mine actually lit a match off my face the other day.

Tonight, I'm going over there to help him sand down some lumber he has.

Being poor only adds to the joy. It's fun because I get to go to my room and play this awesome game called penny search.

The 92-foot pile of dirty clothes, which coincidentally houses a colony of ferrets in the middle of my room, makes the game challenging. Once while I was playing, I actually found this guy in there. He said his name was Jimmy Hoffa or something like that. To win the game, you have to find enough change to buy a stick of gum.

Gum, by the way, can really keep your metabolism running and provides tons of energy.

Last week, my friends actually thought I was dead because I haven't returned any phone calls or e-mails since 1987. Boy was I surprised when those police guys broke down my door searching for my body.

Speaking of e-mails, I feel kind of guilty because I have 456 unanswered messages. I know at least half of them are from dying children in Afghanistan, who have tongue tumors and need cornea transplants and are going to die because I haven't forwarded the messages to everyone I know.

Yup. The end of the school year rocks. Seriously, when else are you given the opportunity to give up the life of a normal functioning member of society to live the life of the Unabomber?

Brandon Formby is a junior journalism major from Plano.

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TECH BASEBALL

Red Raiders head to 'The Law' today
see p. 5

Kickin' It In

Decathlete trains on Tech campus

By Shanyeari Hampton
Contributing Writer

It is a cool, crisp spring day. Illuminating spectrums of white, red and black colors align the track of Fuller Stadium at Texas Tech.

Trafton Rodgers is a 27-year-old Olympic hopeful that has been training with the Tech track team. Rodgers moved to Lubbock from Oberlin, Ohio, to help accomplish his life-long goals to break the world record as a decathlete in the 2000 Olympics.

"It's going to take a lot of hard work and dedication," Rodgers said. "I have to score 900 points to break the world record."

The decathlon is a competition based on a scoring table. An athlete accumulates more points by how fast they run or how far they throw or jump. Whoever has the most amount of points wins.

"It's harder for decathletes because we have a total of 10 events," Rodgers said. "This gives me 10 chances to screw up. I have to be so on top of my game. It's hard because I have to train four years for this one day."

Rodgers explained how God helped him become the man he is today.

"My mother taught me many lessons in my life, and she helped me to overcome part of my struggles," Rodgers said. "She taught me how to be responsible for my actions."

Rodgers accredits his devotion to fatherhood and a successful career record in track to his mother's

advice.

"I have been a devoted father since I was 15 years old," Rodgers said. "I had to become the man of the house. I had certain role models within my church, but as far as my house was concerned, I was treated as a man."

Despite other struggles, such as a near-death experience and not being able to attend the Olympics in 1998, Rodgers is prepared to reach his goals.

He already is the No. 1 heptathlete in the United States and was named in the top-10 performance in the indoor World Heptathlon rankings for 1999.

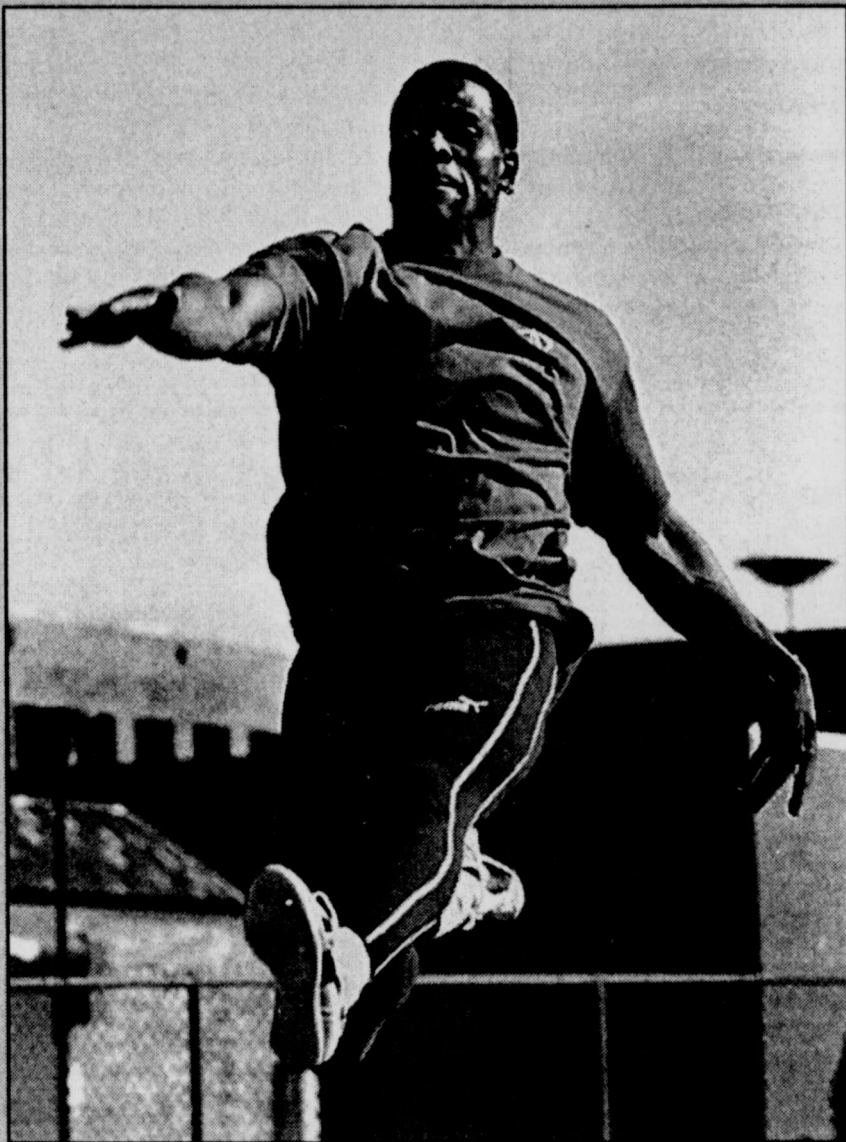
"It's natural that I give 100 percent in what I do," Rodgers said. "My mother's way of discipline was hard work, and you can't do anything half."

Rodgers said that he uses the discipline his mother taught him in his training and in his life.

"My workouts are very strenuous because sometimes I may be the first one to come and the last one to leave the track," he said.

When asked the question why he came from Ohio to a place in West Texas, Rodgers is delighted to give an educated response.

"My personal coach, Chris Beene, became the assistant coach for Tech," Rodgers said. "We have a common



Wade Kennedy/The University Daily

Reach: Trafton Rodgers, a volunteer assistant with the track team, trains for the 2000 Olympics.

goal. He wants to coach an Olympic champion, and I want to be an Olympic champion. This also would be the first time in history that an athlete and coach would be the same age."

Although Rodgers has dedicated part of his life to conquering his goals for the 2000 Olympics, he also would like to explore other sights in life.

"My mother always said I would

be an actor," Rodgers said. "Movies are like magic."

Rodgers said after accomplishing his goals with the Olympics, the first thing that he would like to do is have a home-cooked meal.

"My only wish is to have my mother cook my favorite meal," Rodgers said.

Track successful at Penn Relays

By Jeff Keller
Staff Writer

Texas Tech track was well-represented at the 105th running of the Penn Relays over the weekend.

Fourteen members from the men's and women's squads competed in the event, which is the oldest annual track event in the nation.

Junior Leigh Daniel continued her banner season by winning the 5,000-meter race with a time of 16:02.42.

The time is the fastest in the nation this season and tops the Tech record, previously owned by Mary Medina, by more than 40 seconds. Also on the women's side, sophomore Kristen Koppes ran a personal best time of 9:46.36 in the 3,000-meter race.

Assistant coach Dave Smith said the race only will add to the confidence of both Koppes and Daniel.

"It was definitely a positive experience for them," Smith said.

The women's distance medley relay team finished fourth out of 21 teams in their race Friday. The team completed the race in a time of 11:52.99.

Ngozi Iwu ran on the distance medley relay team and said the competition she faced at the event was the toughest she has ever run against.

"It was a great experience," Iwu said. "It was a really fun competition because I got to compete against some of the top people in the nation. And I got to meet professionals like Michael Johnson, so I liked it a lot."

For the men, the 100-meter relay team placed sixth in the consolation

race with a time of 41.40. Sophomore Shameron Turner ran on the 100-meter relay team and said the event will help them as they race in future events.

"I think this event will help us later," Turner said. "But, a lot of us are trying to concentrate on our individuals right now."

The weather at the event did not help matters for the men, but track coach Greg Sholars said he was pleased with their performance.

"On the men's side, we were missing two of our All-Americans in Pap Howard, who's redshirted this year, and Rohan McDonald, who is injured. But, we were still able to make the finals in the 100-meter relay, which I thought was good."

"We didn't run near as fast as we wanted to, but I was still pleased with the way the guys competed under those conditions. It rained all Friday when we were competing. So, I was pleased with their performance in those conditions."

Tech track will be in action this weekend in Austin, and Sholars said he will get a more accurate account of where his team is at in Austin than he did at the Penn Relays.

"That is really just a relay meet," Sholars said of the Penn Relays. "We are really looking more toward Austin this weekend. We're going to take more people, and we will get to take more of a look at the individuals and see what they are going to be able to do. This week will give us a little better look at how we are going to be able to match up individually with the rest of the conference."

Men's golf in ninth place after first day of Big 12 Tourney

HUTCHINSON, Kan. (Special) — The Texas Tech men's golf team is in ninth place after the first day of the Big 12 Championship Monday at the Prairie Dunes Country Club.

The Red Raiders shot a 297 as a team, 11 strokes behind leader Kansas. Colorado and Nebraska are tied for second with a 288.

Oklahoma State, Texas A&M and Baylor are all tied for fourth with a 291.

Texas is seventh with a 294, and Iowa State is eighth, one stroke ahead of the Red Raiders.

Individually for Tech, two golfers are in the top 15 after the first round at the 6,637 yard, par-70 course.

Sophomore Corey Henegar is tied for 12th overall after shooting a 72.

Senior Philip Tate is tied for 14th after firing a 73 in the first round.

Blake Smith fired a 75 to enter into a tie for 30th.

Matt Loving is in a tie for 45th after a 77.

Alex Armstrong tied for 54th with an 80.

The tournament will conclude with 18 holes starting at 8 a.m. today.

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