

TUESDAY

JUNE 15, 1999

VOL. 74, NO. 147

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION  
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## A Million Reasons Why

Montford accepts \$1 million donation from GTE Foundation

by Angel Wolfe  
 Staff Writer

Texas Tech Chancellor John Montford received a \$1 million donation Monday from the GTE Foundation that will go toward the Horizon Campaign fund.

The donation will be used to create the GTE Learning Center.

"The GTE Foundation is giving the \$1 million donation in support of the academic learning center," Montford said.

"The learning center will have 60 computers networked to a single database, 50 laptops, two dozen tutorial carousels and two large classrooms for multimedia presentations."

The GTE Learning Center will be located inside the Academic Services Center and will be a place of tutoring and academic support for students. The Academic Services Center is scheduled to be built near the Frazier Pavilion on the north side of campus. The center will be open to all students.

The learning center, Montford said, will help push the campus into the high-tech era of the new millennium.

Former Tech student Rocky Johnson, chairman emeritus for GTE, was recognized by Montford as being beneficial in giving the donation.

"Rocky is a symbol of what we know at Tech," he said. "Tech sees great accomplishments in its graduates."

Johnson was a 1949 business graduate who served on the Tech Board of Regents from March 30, 1989 to Jan. 31, 1995. He was chairman of the board from Dec. 18, 1992 until he left the board.

"(Giving the donation) was a tough job that took longer than we thought it would," Johnson said.

"We are glad to be a part of the \$300 million campaign."

This brings the GTE total donations for the past 10 years



Wes Underwood/The University Daily

Pay to the Order of: GTE Chairman Emeritus Rocky Johnson unveils a representation of Tech's million-dollar gift.

to more than \$2 million. The GTE Foundation is headquartered in Irving and has more than 20,000 Texas employees.

Texas Speaker of the House and Tech graduate James E. "Pete" Laney also was at the press conference and said he appreciated all of GTE's help

to see Texas schools stay up-to-date.

John Burns, Tech provost, said the donation adds to a powerful legacy for GTE at Tech.

This donation brings the Horizon Campaign total to \$284 million.

## Fire ant case dismissed by Austin judge

AUSTIN (AP) — A Travis County judge dismissed a lawsuit Monday meant to stop Texas Tech from researching fire ant habits by inflicting the stinging insects on pregnant deer and baby quail.

Animal rights activists, including the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, have complained that the "bizarre" experiments are unnecessary.

District Judge Joseph Hart said his ruling is not a validation of the research project or its humanity, but confirmed the university's contention that the animal rights activists can't sue the Lubbock school.

"You cannot sue the king unless the king gives you permission. You can't sue the state unless the state has granted you authority to sue it," said Ronald Phillips, associate general counsel for Tech.

Donald Feare, an attorney for the animal rights activists, including Voice for Animals, said they had not determined whether to appeal the ruling.

"It's hard enough to fight the state if you're a multi-millionaire."

The activists may need to decide whether they can afford to proceed, he said.

Michael Sommermeyer, associate director of Tech News and Information, said in a May 5 UD article that Tech will more than likely seek court and attorney fees to compensate the citizens of the state of Texas for the frivolous lawsuit.

Angel Wolfe contributed to this article.

## Online registration awaits new students

by Jacqueline Jennings  
 Contributing Writer

New Student Orientation will differ this year at Texas Tech when incoming students register for their classes on the World Wide Web. It has been an option Tech has been working on for more than a year.

Students are required to be advised before they are allowed to register, but after advising, they can register on the Web. Students have the option of registering in either West Hall or through their department.

Janet Wright, academic adviser for the School of Mass Communications, said Web registration is a good idea.

"The students will be more responsible for what they have to do," Wright said. "It will be their luxury."

The first day of the first New Student Orientation session began Sunday. There are nine orientations throughout the summer, each having about 550 students, said Trey Hattaway, director of New Student Orientation.

## More funding for Tech, Stress Lab

by Matt Green  
 Staff Writer

The U.S. House of Representatives recently approved an increase in funding for Texas Tech and the Plant Stress and Water Conservation Laboratory.

The budget plan would increase the funding for the Plant Stress and Water Conservation Laboratory by an additional \$1 million. This gives the Laboratory a total of \$4.417 million for the 2000 fiscal year.

The newly opened Plant Stress and Water Conservation Laboratory is a state owned facility separate from Tech. Funds awarded to the Laboratory are allocated by the USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

Becca Underwood, press secretary for Rep. Larry Combest, R-Lubbock, said the USDA will allocate part of the funds to Tech.

"The Plant Stress Lab is a USDA facility, but Tech researchers are used there,"

Underwood said.

Underwood said the lab is one of the most advanced in the country.

"It is a world class facility, and it is appropriate that Tech researchers work there," Underwood said.

The Plant Stress and Water Conservation Laboratory is currently open, but many of its operations are still in the set-up phase.

The House also approved \$200,000 in funds for Tech to establish a Cotton Research

Center to study concerns affecting cotton production on the South Plains.

John Abernathy, dean of the college of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, said Tech is thankful for the continuation of funding for cotton research.

"We have been fortunate the past two years to have an appropriation for cotton research," Abernathy said.

Abernathy credited the see FINANCE, page 3



# Gore slams NRA, House

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Pressing for help in a fight for stricter gun laws, Vice President Al Gore told the nation's mayors on Monday that he had underestimated the ability of the National Rifle Association to "call the shots in Washington."

"Will we let the NRA call the shots in Washington or will we cross party lines to make our children safer?" Gore said to more than 300 city leaders at the annual meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Gore cast the deciding vote three weeks ago when the Senate passed a proposal to require background checks for gun buyers at gun shows. He said he thought the measure and others in the Senate bill "would just pick up momentum" and move toward House passage.

However, an intense lobbying effort by the NRA has helped to derail any easy passage of gun safety legislation in the House, for now.

"Some in the House are pushing

a bill that gives the NRA the loopholes it wants instead of giving the country the protection it needs," Gore said to cheers from the mayors.

"It's time to side with our children instead of the gun lobby."

Gore released a report by the Justice and Treasury departments that found 24 percent of all gun homicides are committed by 18- to 20-year-olds, a group that is just 4 percent of the population.

## Helpful sessions offered to incoming freshmen

REGISTER, from page 1

New students have many sessions during their three-day stay at Tech. The sessions range from financial aid to Greek life. Some sessions are mandatory while others are optional. New Students Orientation also incorporates sessions for the parents and students alone. The students will be advised on the second day and register on the third day. Although orientation is not mandatory for incoming students, Hattaway strongly recommends it.

"This is a truly important part of Texas Tech University," Hattaway said. "It is the last step of recruitment and the first step of retention for our incoming class. It is very important that the staff that works orientation and are involved remember that."

The Web registration was made available in the spring semester to current Tech students. Students now are able to change their schedules on any computer with Web access at any time of the day.

Marisa Moreno, a senior public relations and technical writing major from Corpus Christi, changed her second summer session schedule from her home computer.

"The instructions were easy to follow," Moreno said. "I was amazed at how little time it took."

To take away from some of the stress involved with registering for new classes at Tech, programs are planned at night so the students can get to know their new school.

Students staying on campus during orientation will be housed in Hulene/

Clement Residence Complex. During students' first night on campus, the Double "T" Crew will have a special session called "Techsan to Techsan." It will be a question-and-answer period where new students can find out more about Tech and get to know each other. There also will be a pizza party, said Lequice Lasater, assistant director of housing and dining.

## Combest praised for Tech's ag funding

FINANCE, from page 1

Abernathy credited the hard work of Rep. Larry Combest for increasing the amount of money Tech will receive.

"We appreciate the congressman's effort in getting us these funds," Abernathy said.

Abernathy said an increase in the money allocated for research will be beneficial to both Tech and farmers across the South Plains.

"Any research funding to help the agricultural clientele of this region be more competitive in

the world market is very important," Abernathy said.

He said he has no plans for the money, because it is not guaranteed at this point in time.

"This is only a house version of the bill," Abernathy said.

"We don't know where the Senate is at this point."

Approval from the U.S. Senate on a balanced budget agreement is necessary before any funding can actually be received by the university or the Plant Stress and Water Conservation Laboratory.

The Senate's budget proposal is expected later this summer.

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## the University Daily

Box 43081, Texas Tech University,  
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Room 211 Journalism Building  
Volume 74

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The University Daily is a student publication of Texas Tech University Student Publications and does not necessarily represent, in whole or in part, the views of the Texas Tech University Board of Regents, administration, faculty, staff or students.

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Display Advertising: **Tiffany Kingston, Tara Masterton, Kirk Powell, Derrick Redmon**  
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Special Class Postage paid by The University Daily, Journalism Building, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, 79409. Postmaster: send address changes to above address. Publication number: 766480. The UD is a student newspaper published Monday through Friday, September through May; Tuesdays and Fridays June through August, except during university examination and vacation periods. The UD is funded primarily through advertising revenues generated by the student sales staff with free campus distribution resulting from student service fees. Subscriptions: \$90 annually; single issues: 25 cents.

# Tech's FutureCar places seventh

by **Matt Green**  
Staff Writer

The Texas Tech FutureCar team, consisting of seven graduate students and three undergraduates, returned to Lubbock Saturday from a five-day competition. The competition began in Auburn Hills, Mich., and ended on Capital Hill in Washington, D.C.

Tech competed against 12 other universities, who each submitted cars modified to produce better mileage and lower emissions.

Vehicles were rated in emissions, acceleration, endurance, consumer acceptability, handling, braking and several other categories.

The team was led by Erle Rawlins, a graduate student in advanced vehicle engineering from Amarillo.

The Tech-modified 1997 Chevrolet Lumina ran solely from an electrical

power source. Members originally had planned to use a hydrogen powered fuel cell, but the component failed to work.

Tim Maxwell, associate professor of mechanical engineering, said the fuel cell failure was not totally unexpected.

"Nobody, not even major automobile manufacturers, has ever had a fully-functional car operated by a fuel cell," Maxwell said.

Virginia Tech was the only school to attempt the use of a fuel cell, and the car failed to meet requirements in three categories.

Tech was forced to power the car using rechargeable batteries, which took more time than was allowed to fully charge.

Maxwell said these time delays cost Tech points in certain categories.

"We ran into a few problems get-

ting the car fully charged," Maxwell said.

The emissions portion of the competition was conducted at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Vehicle and Fuels Lab in Ann Arbor. Tech's car placed second in this category.

Rawlins said a high score in the emissions category was expected by the team.

"When you're running an electric car, you don't have many emissions," Rawlins said.

Tech entered the competition with aspirations of their 180-horsepower engine winning the acceleration contest. Tech placed fifth in this category.

Maxwell said Tech's car had a powerful engine, but the aluminum cars entered by other schools posted better scores.

"The lighter cars had the advan-

tage in acceleration," Maxwell said.

The competition wrapped up on Capital Hill in Washington, D.C., with Tech taking seventh place overall.

The seventh place finish was an improvement over Tech's 10th place finish last year. Rawlins was satisfied with the outcome.

"Our car worked perfectly, and we didn't break anything," Rawlins said.

Maxwell also was satisfied with the results of the competition, which showed improvement on Tech's behalf.

"It was a good competition," Maxwell said. "Compared to last year, it was a quantum leap."

Tech plans to enter the FutureCar Challenge 2000 next year. The judgement categories will be the same as this year, but participating schools will be required to modify sport utility vehicles.

# Bush promises no abortion 'litmus test'

NEW CASTLE, N.H. (AP) — Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush said Monday he would not require his Supreme Court nominees to pass an anti-abortion "litmus test." He pledged to uphold the dignity of the presidency, raising his right hand in an oath-swearing flourish when questioned about his character.

In a wide-ranging news conference on his maiden campaign trip, Bush said he swore an oath as a twice-elected Texas governor to uphold the state constitution and respect the dignity of his office.

"It is a pledge that I have upheld, so help me God," Bush said, his right hand still raised. He refused to discuss rumors about his personal life, dismissing them as part of a "game in Washington" that he won't play.

The Republican front-runner said he was opposed to racial quotas and preferences and concerned about the Kosovo peace implementation plan. He said he was determined not to

raise corporate and income taxes and eager to work with the Republican-led Congress.

Bush spoke in Spanish as he challenged his party to adopt a softer stance on immigration. "Our party somehow has gotten the imagery that we don't welcome legal immigrants," he added in English.

Abortion is the most divisive issue in Republican politics, pitting social conservatives against the more moderate establishment wing of the GOP. Bush is trying to straddle the gap between the two factions without alienating independent and Democratic voters he would need to win the general election.

"What I'm hearing right now from the governor is waffling on the one issue that can clearly explain compassionate conservatism," said GOP presidential rival Gary Bauer, referring to Bush's political slogan. "If compassionate conservative means anything, it has to mean do anything we can to stop the loss of 1.5 million

unborn children every year."

Democrats still argue that Bush is too extreme on abortion for most voters.

"Republicans try to avoid the issue to get nominated," Democratic chairman Joe Andrew said Monday. "They never can."

Bush has said he is opposed to abortion and would support a constitutional amendment making the procedure illegal — except in cases of rape, incest and when a woman's life is jeopardy. But he also says Americans don't support the measure, thus there is no need to pursue it.

Bush told reporters he would nominate Supreme Court judges based on three criteria: judicial temperament and "do the judges share my overall philosophy and will the judges strictly interpret the Constitution as opposed to using the bench to legislate?"

Bush was asked how he interprets the Constitution on abortion, and

whether he would require his nominees to follow suit.

"There will be no litmus tests, except for whether or not the judges strictly interpret the Constitution," he said.

"I am not a lawyer. My job is to pick judges who are qualified to serve on the bench."

Press secretary Karen Hughes said afterward that Bush feels it is unethical to require a nominee to cement his or her views on any potential case — including those on abortion — before being nominated.

In contrast, GOP rival Pat Buchanan is "a 'yes' on an anti-abortion litmus test," according to Buchanan spokesman Bob Adams. New Hampshire Sen. Bob Smith has pledged "only to nominate pro-life justices for the Supreme Court," spokeswoman Karen Hickey said.

And Steve Forbes said, "I believe you should appoint justices on matter of principle. One of those principles is belief in the sanctity of life."

## Regulators: Pilot, equipment faulted in crash

HOUSTON (AP) — A Learjet's fatal crash at Bush Intercontinental Airport last year involved human error, equipment failure and a pilot's deception, according to federal regulators.

But the National Transportation Safety Board report shows that landings are now safer as a result of a change in the airport's automatic tracking and warning system for approaching planes.

Eleven contributing factors cited in the recent NTSB study included six specific items related to flight crew performance — the most fundamental being the crew's descent below a safe altitude.

Lack of a ground-proximity warning system and the FAA's failure to require this system on all aircraft were also cited in the April preliminary report.

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# WB Network, Cox Cable battle for local station

by **Andy Jones**  
Staff Writer

Come September, fans of shows like "Dawson's Creek" and "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" may be left in the dark.

The WB programs that have been available on WGN could be on Lubbock's very own station, KWBZ, but whether anyone will be able to watch that station is still up in the air.

As part of Warner Brothers new network, The WB, a new cable-exclusive station could be coming to Lub-

bock. KWBZ will be a part of The WB's 100-plus station group which targets markets ranked higher than 100 nationally by Nielson.

The WB network has been running its programs in Lubbock via Chicago's superstation, WGN. Already running in more than 80 of the 100-plus markets, the WB network is the nation's fifth-largest network and is the host to popular shows like "Dawson's Creek," "Felicity" and "Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

As of right now, Warner Brothers and Cox Communications have not

come to terms to show the cable-exclusive network here in Lubbock. The network has sparked radio advertising campaigns urging people to call Cox and ask for the WB.

While WB claims that Cox has refused to carry the new station, Vicky Bennett, head of public relations at Cox in Lubbock, said The WB network has not made any proposals to Cox regarding KWBZ or any similar affiliate in other Cox markets.

"At this point, we have not had contact with The WB," Bennett said, adding that since the station announced

its intentions, no attempt has been made to sit down with the cable company. "They (The WB) chose to do a marketing campaign instead," Bennett said referring to the radio ads.

Natalie Anderson, director of publicity for The WB, said The WB has spoken with Cox Communication's corporate headquarters and said cable companies have known the intentions of The WB since they began to run their programming on WGN.

"WGN was the best way to reach viewers but it has always been temporary," Anderson said.

She said The WB network has not had any problems with any cable companies except for Cox and one other cable company. Anderson said Lubbock is one of the few markets affected by not coming to terms with Cox.

"We're trying to give viewers and local businessman the best case scenario," Anderson said, referring to the benefits of having The WB programming on a local station.

WGN will cease The WB programming in September regardless of whether Cox has picked up KWBZ or not.

# A nation gets an in-joke; Austin Powers scores at box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Austin Powers is absolutely swinging, baby.

"Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me," the James Bond spoof sequel starring Mike Myers as the sexually charged man of mystery, took in \$54.7 million over the weekend, making more in its first three days than the original movie did in its entire run.

That knocked the latest "Star Wars" installment out of first place and accorded unlikely blockbuster status to a concept that started out as an in-joke Myers thought few people would get.

Now, everywhere you turn, somebody is trying to do his best Austin Powers imitation, imposing a bad English accent on his buzzwords: "Oh, behave!" and "Yeah, baby! Yeah!"

"We're stunned, it's almost surreal," said Mike Deluca, president of production at New Line Cinema, the film's distributor. "I think in a weird way the culture caught up with it."

The original, "Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery," tested poorly and opened to a tepid \$9.5 million in May 1997. People just didn't seem to understand the humor about a '60s spy with bad teeth, a bearskin rug of a chest and an infatuation with sex.

Myers said the idea was inspired by his late father, a Liverpool-born salesman who loved British comedy, from Peter Sellers to Monty Python.

"You would have had to have grown up in my house to get it," Myers said before the film opened.

But audiences warmed up to Austin's humor, and the \$16 million-budget film hung on through the summer to gross \$53.9 million and turn a profit.

Then it went to video, where it was — as Austin would say — smashing. The tape dominated the 1998 video charts, with \$44 million in sales. It

spawned Austin theme parties in colleges and homes, and set the groundwork for the sequel, with double the budget.

New Line also raised expectations with trailers that poked fun at the hype around "The Phantom Menace." Featuring Dr. Evil, also played by Myers, the ads tell moviegoers that if they see

just one film this summer, go to "Star Wars;" but if they see two films, check out "Austin Powers 2."

Then the studio launched a huge — and risqué — promotional push, using carefully selected marketing partners that adopted Myers' peculiar brand of double-entendre-laced humor.

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## EDITORIAL

### Grade school fundamentals should be fervently taught

(AP) — We're a bit surprised at the shock registered by some education professionals about Senate Bill 103.

The requirements of the bill — passed by the Legislature this year and signed into law by Gov. George W. Bush — are simple: Texas students must learn to spell and use punctuation correctly, and they must be able to do math without a calculator.

Judging by some of the reaction, you'd think that the little darlings were being required to redesign the space shuttle.

"We have teachers who never had to do spelling when they were in school," said Karen Hibbs, director of secondary education for the Birdville school district.

Perhaps the reason for the alarm is that spelling, punctuation and math (without a calculator) skills will now be measured on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills.

That's the test by which the state judges

not only the performance of its students but that of its teachers and schools as well. Careers hang in the balance if students don't do well on the TAAS.

That's as it should be.

The TAAS was designed because we need to know how well students are learning — and how well they are being taught — the basic knowledge that we want our public schools to give them.

In the past, students have not been graded on the spelling and punctuation that they used in the essay portions of the TAAS. SB 103 changes that.

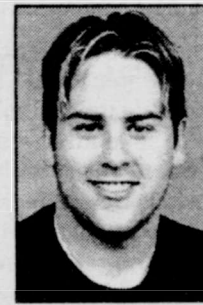
The bill's math requirements are not so much of a problem, because schools already were required to forbid the use of calculators for the TAAS in most grades.

Educators say that Senate Bill 103 will put more pressure on some teachers.

That's OK. Spelling and punctuation and math are worth the effort. — *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*

## Useful hints outlined for new students

My first summer at Tech is proving to be a surreal one. With all of the cheerleader, early start and engineering camps going on in good old Lubbock, it is quite odd seeing young children (young as in they've never known life without MTV) walking around the campus.



**Brandon Formby**  
Columnist

So it is almost a relief to see all of the tours, meetings and sight-seeing that this fall's incoming freshman have been doing this week.

Summer is orientation time, and this week kicked-off Tech's freshman season. While the young 'uns are a little bit shorter and more immature than we ever remember being, it is nice to see more people born within the same decade as us. Unfortunately it seems that you new little fish out there are in need of a lot of help.

The orientation sessions and meetings with advisers will tell you how to register for class, what our fight song is and where to go for financial aid. But spending three days in Lubbock with your parents and possibly your siblings, while attending numerous gatherings of other freshman, will not prepare you for what to expect once you finally get here come August.

First of all, I don't know what they're feeding you while you're here, but I can assure you that if you think dorm food will always taste like that you are sorely mistaken. The only time you will ever eat that good while living in the dorms is parent's weekend in the fall. That's it.

Once your parents leave after moving you in this fall get ready for a massive roller coaster ride of loud music, random towel thefts, roommate beatings and everything else newly unleashed college kids decide to do with the 18 years of energy cooped up inside. It's called dorm life and despite its shortcomings, you will find the experience well worth it.

Furthermore, it is important that you realize something very important — you are now a Red Raider. This does not mean you have to paint your face red and black and show up at every athletic event. What it does mean is this — you are not an Aggie, a Longhorn and thankfully not a Bear. Don't confuse the social mores and idiotic traditional rules you may have heard about at other schools for Tech's way of life. Oh no.

This means you can walk on the grass, (except Memorial Circle), you don't have to worry about a gunman in the bell tower on the way to class, and going to chapel is completely optional. You are not required to spend Friday nights practicing yelling. Spend the weeks leading up to school however you like — not playing red rover at some camp intent on brain washing you into an Aggie.

The Greek caste system does not run things like at Baylor, and you can have a social life if you don't wear Greek letters. The bonus to this, of course, is that it is actually socially acceptable to be seen in public without Abercrombie clothes on.

My last pointer also is very important. As I have run into, met and greeted many of you members of the class of 2003 (or 2004 in many cases) I have noticed one thing that you need to work on before starting class here. When you greet someone say "Hi," "Sup dude," "What's up?" or anything else you like.

Just don't say "Howdy!" because at Texas Tech no matter what, you will fit in somewhere just as long as you don't act like a wannabe Aggie or use on of their catch phrases.

Consider yourselves advised.

*Brandon Formby is a junior journalism major from Plano.*



# Van Gundy masters survival

(AP) — Jeff Van Gundy got around to telling stories the other day, and rather than spinning some tale about one of Pat Riley's speeches or his days at Providence with Rick Pitino, he told one about himself when he was just out of college.

It was 1985, and his mother had helped him get a \$5-an-hour job as a teacher's assistant for troubled youngsters at one of the elementary schools in her upstate New York district.

He went there in the morning, then coached a high school team at McQuaid Jesuit in the afternoons.

On his first morning of work, Van Gundy saw a 10-year-old boy walk into school with a brick and throw it through the window as he yelled "I hate school!"

Another child liked to bite himself. "Survival," Van Gundy recalled with a laugh. "It was a job of survival."

Fourteen years later, that job description has remained the same.

Van Gundy has never been as much of a survivor as he was this season, when Madison Square Garden president Dave Checketts addressed a rift in the organization by sparing Van Gundy's job and demoting general manager Ernie Grunfeld, who had built the team.

Grunfeld's offseason acquisitions of Latrell Sprewell and Marcus Camby were widely unpopular when the team was 21-21, in 10th place in the conference and in danger of missing the playoffs.

The day Checketts chose Van Gundy over Grunfeld, he made it



clear that the coach, too, was on shaky ground. But with just eight games left in the regular season, he figured the team had a better chance of salvaging something with Van Gundy than without him.

Now, two months later, the Knicks are in the NBA Finals, their improbable success is well documented and Van Gundy is being called a genius.

Despite a season-ending injury to Patrick Ewing after Game 2 and an injury to Larry Johnson early in Game 6, the Knicks beat the Indiana Pacers in the Eastern Conference finals.

Van Gundy's coaching was a big part of it, not that he would ever admit it.

After all, here's a guy so humble he still drives an aging Honda that he proudly knows has 59,900 miles on the odometer.

"To me, it's not a magical run," he said. "If this was a normal season, we would have been one of the higher seeded teams and we still feel we'd be here. But because of the way this season was set up, through no one's fault it appears to be more magical than it is. It's not magic, it's good play."

Van Gundy took endless criticism during the season for keeping Latrell Sprewell out of the starting lineup and making Marcus Camby earn his playing time through hard work.

The bashing even continued after Game 4 against Indiana when Van

Gundy, holding a 2-1 lead in the series, changed his starting lineup by adding Sprewell and then lost the game.

He stuck with the new lineup in Games 5 and 6, winning both.

"To me, that's the story — the way they (his players) handled adversity and change and really didn't blame," Van Gundy said.

"It's so easy today to point the finger of blame, and there wasn't any of that. And I think that's where the resolve built up.

"We became a team that was really, truly focused on the team instead of saying you're a team but only really caring about individual accomplishments. That's what really gave us the resolve in the big games."

This is Van Gundy's fourth season as coach of the Knicks and his 10th year with the organization after starting as an assistant and working under Stu Jackson, John McLeod, Pat Riley and Don Nelson.

He enters the finals with a career playoff coaching record of 25-18.

Van Gundy's future with the team remains uncertain, even though he has a contract with two years remaining.

Checketts, who lied to Van Gundy during the second round when he denied meeting with former Bulls coach Phil Jackson in mid-April, plans to meet with Van Gundy after the season to talk about the past, the future and whether Van Gundy wants to return.

"That's all for another day," Van Gundy said.

# Take his word: Hull will return for Stars

**BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — There's something wrong with Brett Hull's groin. There's nothing wrong with his head. Really.**

Says who? Says Hull, who laughed off suggestions Monday that he hurt his head on the same play in Game 3 of the Stanley Cup finals against Buffalo on which he reinjured his groin.

Hull, who hurt the groin twice previously this season, is doubtful for Game 4 Tuesday, but could return as early as Game 5 on Thursday in Dallas.

"Right now, it's minute to minute," Hull said Monday, talking to reporters as he worked a crossword puzzle.

As the media fired questions at the eighth-leading scorer in NHL playoff history, he responded with a few of his own as he filled in the crossword.

Q: "Who is Judith Martin's alter ego?"

A: "Miss Manners."

Q: "What golfer and former NFL quarterback share the last name?"

A: "Snead."

Q: "How did the groin feel while skating today?"

A: "I don't know, I never skated."

Q: "Did you get your bell rung on that play and, if you did, have you had any repercussions?"

A: "No, you couldn't hurt this

head."

Q: "What do you think about defenseman Darryl Sydor taking your spot on the line?"

A: "Well, that is about the next best thing to that defensive right winger as you can put there, a defenseman, right?"

Hull, of course, was making fun of his own reputation for being a scorer, and only a scorer, for most of his career. But he apparently wasn't kidding when he suggested he might play Tuesday, even if his coach downplayed that possibility.

"I still think he's doubtful," said Stars coach Ken Hitchcock, who doesn't want to risk losing Hull for the rest of the series by rushing him back.

There is no doubt Hull is one of the NHL's most quotable and colorful players, which creates a curious yet respectable relationship with his coach.

"I had a player like him in the minors, (the Penguins') Rob Brown who used to drive me crazy morning, noon and night," Hitchcock said. "We are very good friends now, even though he plays in the league. We learned a relationship of give and take. It's the same thing with Brett Hull. You never know what bomb he'll drop on you. He's a very opinionated person."

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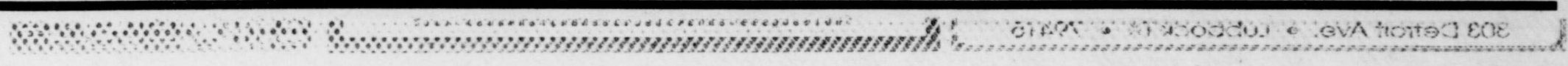
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# 'Black Comedy' not as dim as it sounds

by Stephanie Taylor  
Staff Writer

Peter Schaffer's "Black Comedy" went over almost flawlessly Saturday night at the Texas Tech Laboratory Theatre and roused nothing but loud laughter from an opening night crowd.

Director Michael Moore, an graduate student in playwrighting, worked with an outstanding ensemble cast whose command of physical comedy did not go unnoticed. The cast of eight seemed to have a natural chemistry that shined on stage.

The show revolves around Brinsley Miller, a starving young artist who has a chance to make a name for himself. All he has to do is impress the old, deaf

## Lab Theatre kicks off Summer Rep season with rousing approval

millionaire, George Bamberger.

Sound simple enough?

Brinsley must have thought so when he "borrowed" an out-of-town neighbor's treasured antique furniture to dress his place up. But when unexpected guests begin to arrive, things take a turn for the worse.

Only moments into the show, Brinsley, played by Matt Chauncey, and his fiancée Carol are forced to deal with their first and most challenging obstacle: the lights go out.

When all hope is lost to a blown fuse, the two must figure out how to

either get the lights back on before Bamberger arrives, or to communicate with a deaf man in the dark.

Here's the catch. When the cast thinks the lights are on, they are the opposite, and when the characters are fumbling around in an imaginary darkness, the audience can see every awkward move they make. While I was a bit apprehensive about this idea in the opening moments of darkness, it soon proved to be an excellent technique.

Soon guests begin to arrive, including Carol's overbearing military father, as well as the less welcome newcom-

ers, ex-girlfriend Claire and neighbors Miss Furnival and Harold Goringe — the overprotective owner of the stolen goods.

Suddenly Brinsley must struggle to keep the lights out until he can switch the furniture back, and his guests are less than cooperative.

Throughout the struggle, Bamberger, the guest of honor, remains to be seen. But as the eccentric Miss Furnival said, millionaires are always late.

Chauncey's performance as the nervous Brinsley Miller could scarcely have been better.

Every motion and expression was filled with energy and humor, and every stumble found the audience filled with laughter.

In addition to Chauncey, MFA acting/directing major Tiffany Howard's portrayal of Miss Furnival was, in a word, hilarious. And when the character has her first taste of alcohol and forgets her Baptist roots, the performance is only heightened, and her sneaking around in the dark deserves much attention.

An impressive cast willing to sacrifice their bodies to the physical theatre evoked a continuous stream of uncontrollable chuckles, and the show is worth braving the unpredictable West Texas weather for a trip to Tech's Lab Theatre.

The show can be seen June 16, 20, 25, 29 and July 1. All shows are at 8 p.m. and cost \$8 for adults and \$5 for students with a Tech ID.



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## Bard named to three All-America squads

For the second time in less than a week, Texas Tech junior Josh Bard was named to another First Team All-America squad.

The 6-foot-3 catcher was named to Baseball America's First Team squad three days after being named to the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association First Team. Monday, Bard was selected to the American Baseball Coaches Association First Team All-America squad.

He is a consensus All-America selection for the second consecutive season, giving the Red Raider program at least one consensus All-American in each of the last seven seasons.

Bard, a third round draft pick by the Colorado Rockies in the 1999 Major League Baseball draft, finished the 1999 campaign as a .366 career hitter with 43 home runs, 73 doubles and 232 RBIs in three seasons.

He was named a consensus All-American in 1998 and 1999 and also was a consensus All-Big 12 selection during the last three seasons. He was one of 12 semi-finalists for the Rotary Smith Award this season awarded to college baseball's best player. With his 13 home runs this season, Bard became one of two players in Tech history to hit more than 40 career homers.

## Dierker to have surgery today

HOUSTON (AP) — Larry Dierker will undergo brain surgery today to remove a mass of malformed blood vessels that caused his seizure in the Houston Astros dugout.

The 52-year-old manager spoke with general manager Gerry Hunsicker on Monday and said he did not recall anything after the second inning of Sunday's game.

"I talked with Larry this morning, and he was coherent and very positive and encouraged," Hunsicker said. "He was kind of joking around, but he said the last couple of days he had severe headaches and that was unusual for him."

Dierker went into violent convulsions in the eighth inning of the game against the San Diego Padres at the Astrodome. Players and coaches restrained him until medical personnel arrived and took him to Methodist

Hospital.

Tests Monday revealed he had an arteriovenous malformation — a condition in which people are born with malformed, sometimes tangled, arteries or veins in the brain. Over time, they can become dilated, so that the enlarged vessels either pressure neural tissue or even burst and bleed into the brain.

"That blood vessel mass is what triggered Larry's seizure," Hunsicker said.

Hunsicker said he was told by doctors that on a scale of 1 to 5 — with 1 the least serious — Dierker's condition is 1.

"But everything is unpredictable at this point," the general manager said. "Until they go in and do the surgery we don't really know."

Doctors also told Hunsicker the mass — about 1 1/2 inches in diam-

eter — was located in a less-critical part of the brain.

Bench coach Matt Galante will be the interim manager, with his first game Monday night against the Atlanta Braves in the Astrodome. Hunsicker does not know how long Dierker will be sidelined.

"At this point, that's the least thing on my mind," Hunsicker said. "All we can do now is take the lead from the doctors that his prognosis is excellent, but there's no way we can put a timetable on his return."

Dierker told Hunsicker he was unable to recall Derek Bell's sixth-inning grand slam.

"Larry said he was sorry he missed the grand slam," Hunsicker said.

A crowd of 39,773 turned eerily silent when play was stopped as it became obvious Dierker was having an attack.

## College World Series full of Midwestern hospitality

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — It's not just college baseball that the people of Omaha serve up every year. They also share their Midwestern hospitality.

A sign on the back walls of Rosenblatt Stadium's concession stands reads: "Remember to greet every customer with a smile. We want our fans to go home and brag about the nice people they met in Omaha."

Funny thing is, none of the friendliness at the College World Series seems contrived.

Security guards smile and say hello at the pass gate. Motorists searching for parking spots let other drivers move over in traffic.

Before each game, fans join in singing the national anthem. Afterward, they hold open doors for re-

porters rushing to the interview room.

"The people of Omaha have really embraced this event," said Dennis Poppe, the NCAA's director of championship events. "They regard it as an important part of their community and their culture. They want everyone to have fun."

Poppe said earlier during the series, a sporting goods manufacturer had distributed free seat cushions. Many fans tried to return them as they left the stadium after a game.

"Only in Omaha," he said, shaking his head.

With the amateur draft already held June 2-4, major league baseball

scouts aren't charting new prospects. They're keeping an eye on the ones they've already selected.

"You're looking at your guys, the guys that you have under your control," said Des Hamilton, the Midwest scout for the Seattle Mariners.

Other scouts, holding clipboards bearing the logos of the Minnesota Twins and Kansas City Royals, were seated in the front row shortly before the first pitch of Sunday night's game between Rice and Oklahoma State.

This year's draft was heavy on high school players.

Among the rosters of the eight teams that advanced to Omaha, only six players were taken in the fourth

round or higher.

They are:

— From Texas A&M, right-hander Chance Capel, first round by the St. Louis Cardinals (No. 30 overall), and left-hander Casey Fossom, first round by the Boston Red Sox (No. 48).

— From Florida State, right-hander Nick Stocks, first round by the Cardinals (No. 36).

— From Miami, shortstop Bobby Hill, second round by the Chicago White Sox (No. 66), injured catcher Russ Jacobsen, third round by the Philadelphia Phillies (No. 96), and right-hander Alex Santos, fourth round by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays (No. 115).

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