

VOL. 74, NO. 148

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Hampton case heads to Hub City

by Angel Wolfe

Staff Writer

A federal judge ruled Monday that the suit filed by a Hampton University women's basketball coach, Hampton University and others against the city of Lubbock be deferred and a change of venue be granted that would move the case to Lubbock.

The decision was made Monday in the Earle Cabell Federal Building in Dallas by U.S. District Judge Jerry Buchmeyer. Although Buchmeyer decided in favor of the venue change, the decision does not necessarily mean that the case has to be heard in Lubbock. The decision will be left up to Lubbock's U.S. District Judge

Sam Cummings.

Attorney's with the city of Lubbock asked for a change of venue from Wichita Falls where the suit was filed by lawyers Johnnie Cochran; Royce West, state senator from Dallas; Gary Bledsoe of Austin; and Faye Hardy Lucas with the general counsel's office at Hampton University.

Cochran cited more than 30 items written in a local newspaper as one reason the trial should not take place in Lubbock.

"There was an editorial on Nov. 30 that already claimed my clients were crying racism," Cochran said.

Cochran said he only is interested in having a fair and impartial trial for his clients and not one that is tried in the newspapers.

"Anywhere but Lubbock," Cochran said. "All I want is a fair chance for my clients."

Cochran quoted research surveys from the city of Wichita Falls as being 53 percent neutral to the suit.

"We want neutral jurisdiction," Cochran said. "We have found that to get that, we have to go out of Lubbock, anywhere but Lubbock."

Tony Privett, corporate communications manager for the city of Lubbock, said the city retained George Thompson and Floyd Holder, both private attorneys at law, to represent the defendants in the trial. Defendants listed in the suit are the city of Lubbock;

police chief Ken Walker; police officers David Houser, Keith Jobe, Brian McNeill, Roger Hearron and Mike Overland; as well as unknown emergency employees of the Emergency Medical Center.

Thompson said he was concerned that if this trial was transferred out of the city then all cases from Lubbock would be branded unfair.

"Judge Cummings is a fine and fair judge who can address the issues with respect," Thompson said.

Buchmeyer said he would discuss the areas of San Angelo, Abilene and even Amarillo as possible sites for the trial if Cummings does not feel the plaintiffs can receive a fair trial in Lubbock.



Brandon Formby/The University Daily

In the Sportlight: Hampton University attorneys Royce West and Johnnie Cochran answer questions regarding the lawsuit Monday in Dallas.

Parking it in Overton

New neighborhood park to be built at 16th Street and Avenue X

by Andy Jones

Staff Writer

Ground breaking ceremonies took place Monday for a new park in the South Overton neighborhood.

The new park will be located at 16th Street and Avenue X.

Many Tech students living in the area will start to notice the transformation of the grass triangle and blocked off street that exist on the spot across from St. Paul's on the Plains Episcopal Church in upcoming weeks.

The Overton South Neighborhood Park will feature walking paths, tables and benches, new trees, a gazebo and a brick neighborhood entry sign for South Overton.

The park is a project of the South Overton Residential and Commercial Association.

SORCA president Dr. Robert Brodkin said the park is the beginning of the group's "South Overton 2000" campaign.

According to the June 1999 issue of "Neighbor to Neighbor," a newsletter distributed to South Overton residents, the campaign is to educate the public about South Overton's historical importance to Lubbock and shaping its role in the next century.

Brodkin said the South Overton area serves as residence for many Tech students and, over the years, has often been referred to as the "Tech Ghetto" by those not living there.

"Texas Tech and South Overton are brothers in arms, so to speak," Brodkin said of the close relationship between the university and the surrounding area.

"It shouldn't be an area we're ashamed

During his speech at the ceremony, Brodkin said South Overton is unique because it is Lubbock's only neighborhood that has been designated as a historical district by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

David Seitz, Tech interior design student and SORCA board member, said the South Overton area extends from University Avenue to Avenue Q and from Broadway to 19th Street, serving many Texas Tech students.

Seitz said he has been in Overton for four years and spent much of his child-hood there visiting his grandparents.

He is the only Tech student on the SORCA board.

Lubbock city councilmen Victor Hernandez and T.J. Patterson both were on hand Monday to speak at the ceremony and both discussed the importance of preserving the heritage of Lub-



Wes Underwood/The University Daily Revitalized: Dr. Robert Brodkin helps kick off the "South Overton 2000"

campaign Monday.

oock.

That heritage was represented at the ground breaking by Raleigh Middleton, a member of Tech's first graduating class. Middleton's connections with Tech and South Overton run deep.

"I have been connected to this area since it first started," Middleton said of his connection to the area. "My parents lived on Avenue Y."

Besides residents, Brodkin said the board is trying to work with local churches, the city, property owners and Tech.

Legendary Texas politician dies at 69

by Wayne Hodgin

Edito

Three decades of public service came to an end Friday for one of Texas Tech's most famous graduates.

Former Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock died at his Austin home at the age of 69. Services were Sunday at Austin's Central Christian Church with eulogies delivered by Gov. George W. Bush and former Texas House Speaker Byron Tunnell.

In a career spanning 42 years, Bullock soared to the state's most powerful seat in the Texas Senate after bouncing back from the drudges of alcoholism.

"Bob Bullock was the legendary Texan of our time. All of Texas has lost a great leader," said Bush in a recent *Associated Press* article.

Bush ordered flags to be lowered to half staff in honor of Bullock, who had suffered various health problems over the years. Most recently, he was hospitalized for congestive heart failure.

Lt. Gov. Rick Perry said Bullock was focused on making Texas a better state, whether it was education or the environment.



Bullock

"Lt. Gov. Bullock will cast a long shadow over the state of Texas for as long as there is a Texas," Perry said. "He was a great man. I learned a lot from him."

Although Bullock chose not to seek a third term as lieutenant governor, he left the office Jan. 19 with much credit to his name.

A 1958 Tech graduate, Bullock took charge of the Texas Senate in 1991. He served other Texas offices, including: state comp-

Lawyers: Secretive tapes should not be used in Cisneros trial

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawyers for former Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros sought Monday to keep prosecutors from using tapes secretly recorded by his ex-mistress, saying they constitute "tampered, inauthentic evidence" that shouldn't be allowed at his upcoming conspiracy trial.

"The tapes shouldn't come in," said Barry Simon, a member of Cisneros' legal defense team. "The bottom line is the government has advised the court already ... they were tampered with. End of story."

Prosecutor Mark Jackowski acknowledged that Linda Jones had deleted portions of her taped phone conversations with Cisneros, editing out passages where she threatened him or that dealt with their sex life or other people. But Jackowski said the tapes are "relevant evidence"

"She just edited out these offen-

sive passages or what she believed to be offensive passages," Jackowski said, adding that she destroyed the originals after making copies.

He said only five of the 33 tapes the government intends to use at Cisneros' September trial were altered.

The independent counsel's office wants to use the tapes to corroborate witness testimony that the former Cabinet member conspired with his one-time lover to conceal more than \$264,000 in "hush money" payments to her.

Jones, who ran afoul of the Cisneros prosecutors and was put in prison in part because she misrepresented the tapes as originals, took the witness stand Monday. She provided details about the extramarital affair and her decision to begin taping Cisneros, on the advice of a friend, after the highly publicized liaison ended.

Money laundering warning issued

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Treasury Department warned U.S. companies on Monday of a crackdown on a widespread drug money-laundering scheme involving purchases of American products for export to Colombia.

"If there are those that are out there willingly facilitating this criminal system, they should know that we will be vigilant," said Treasury Under Secretary for Enforcement James E. Johnson.

The "black-market peso exchange system" launders an estimated \$5 billion a year in drug profits, Johnson told members of the Senate's informal Caucus on International Narcotics Control

Services held for former lieutenant governor

BULLOCK, from page 1

troller, 1975-90; secretary of state, 1971-72; aide to the governor, 1969-71; assistant attorney general, 1967-68; Texas Historical Commission, 1963-1965; and state representative, 1957-1959.

Former Texas Gov. Preston Smith, a Tech graduate, worked closely with Bullock for a number of years while they were in office together.

In a January interview with *The University Daily*, Smith said while Bullock was in office, he provided Tech with valuable benefits.

"He helped Tech climb the ladder and continue its programs, but not at the expense of others," Smith said.

In a released statement, Tech

Chancellor John Montford said whether it was an individual who Bullock had met once in a crowd or some little tidbit of history about state government, he always remembered.

"Today Texas lost a great man, higher education lost a supporter and I lost a friend," said Montford, a former state senator. "This is the end of an era in Texas politics and government."

Cindy Rugeley, Tech vice chancellor for News and Information, worked as Bullock's press secretary from November 1994 to March 1996.

She said Bullock knew the value of the media and felt he had a responsibility to the media.

"I knew Bullock both as a reporter

and working with him," Rugeley said.

"He was an old school politician that believed in traditional politics — shaking hands and meeting people. He was a great guy."

Bullock said in a January interview with *The UD* that although many Tech graduates have strong sentiments toward their alma mater, he would always keep Tech in mind.

His casket draped with a Texas flag, Bullock was buried at the Texas State Cemetery alongside many of the political leaders with whom he had worked. Pallbearers were a detachment of Texas Rangers.

Bullock was born July 10, 1929, and is survived by his wife, Jan; three adult children; and one grandchild.



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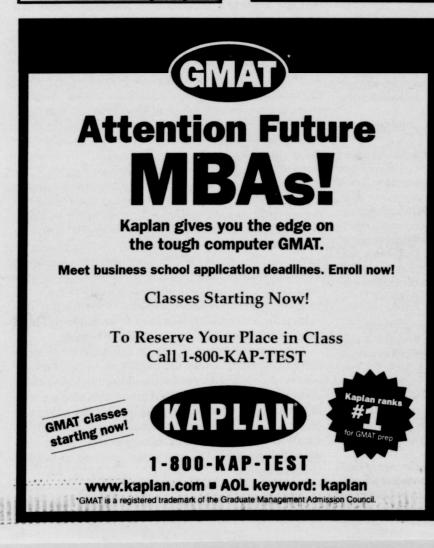
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#University Daily

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editor: Wayne Hodgin managing editor: Jason Bernstein reporters: Jonathan Biles, Tamara Beletti, Adrienne Gaviglio, Matt Green, Andy Jones, Lindsay Rowden, Stephanie Taylor, **Angel Wolfe**

photography: Wes Underwood 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.

Center tackles learning disabilities

by Andy Jones

Staff Writer

Students with learning disabilities now have a reason to make Texas Tech their first choice in higher education.

The new TECHniques Center in Wiggins Hall is the first program of its kind in the state of Texas.

According to Leann Diandreth-Elkins, counseling supervisor and coordinator for the TECHniques Center, the center will provide support for students who have Attention Deficit Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder or any other learning disability including dyslexia.

Elkins said the center will offer students access to computers that scan books and perform tasks to better accommodate students with learning



TECHniques

disorders. Along with computers, the center offers counseling, weekly contact and learning difference tutors.

"We will offer ongoing workshops just for students," Elkins said, "It's a real supportive environment."

Elkins said first-year students in

the TECHniques Center must participate on a full-time basis and will receive a learning style and study skills assessment test.

Elkins said the idea for the TECHniques Center came from Dean of Students Michael Shonrock.

"About a year ago, we were receiving questions about types of support we offered students with learning disorders," Shonrock said.

He said he had the chance to visit a similar program at the University of Arizona in Tucson and discovered students there who were enrolled in the program graduated at a rate of 80 to 85 percent.

The program was not only good for retention, but also enhanced the students overall satisfaction," he said.

Shonrock said he thought a simi-

lar program at Tech would be a good opportunity to establish something to support students with learning dis-

Shonrock said proposals were prepared and presented and everything else fell into place to create the **TECHniques Center.**

The program is a fee-generated service with a full-time cost of \$1,000 per semester and a half-time cost of \$500 per semester. The learning style/ study skills assessment is a one-time

"Ultimately, we want students with learning differences to be successful at Texas Tech," Shonrock said.

For more information about the TECHniques Center, visit Room 143 in Wiggins Hall or call the TECHniques Center at 742-1822.

Tech instructor takes home Jiu-Jitsu gold

by Matt Green

Staff Writer

Texas Tech personal fitness and wellness instructor Klay Pittman won a gold medal in the 1999 Texas State Jiu-Jitsu Championship in Dallas over the weekend.

Pittman, who graduated from Tech in 1998 with a degree in business management, completed the tournament without being scored upon.

Pittman has won the last three state championships and entered the

tournament as the highest ranked fighter in the state of Texas. One of his opponents, a former world-class wrestling champion, had never lost a

"It was the best victory of my career," Pittman said.

Pittman is entered in the Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu World Championship, which will be in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, next month. He and three students will leave Lubbock on July 15 to train in Brazil for several weeks before the tournament, which is scheduled for July 23-25.

Pittman said the world championship is the largest tournament of the year, with more than a thousand of the world's best fighters expected to com-

"These fighters are the best in the world, not just anybody can go," Pittman said.

The winner: Klay Pittman is congratulated by Carlos Machado after winning a gold medal in Jiu-Jitsu. Courtesy



The experience of fighting in the world championships is more important to him than winning, he said.

"I look forward to watching my

opponent's skill," Pittman said, "Whether I win or lose, I'll sleep the

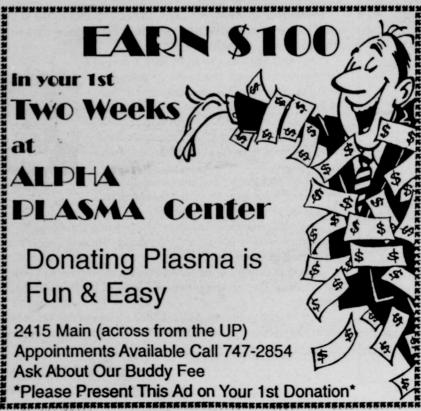
Tech student Rex Benson, a junior public relations major from Fort Worth, is one of the fighters who will accompany Pittman to Brazil to compete in the tournament.

"I'm very excited to have an opportunity to go down there and train with some of those guys," Benson said.

Pittman has been teaching Gracie-Machado Jiu-Jitsu in Lubbock for five years and began instructing at Tech

He will teach two sections of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu at Tech this fall.







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Under His Watchful Eye: Members of Lyons Chapel Baptist Church ride on their float during the Juneteenth parade. Their theme was "Look where the Lord has brought us."

CELEBRATION FREEDOM

Lubbock citizens celebrate historic Juneteenth festival recognizing the day Texas slaves were told they were free



Never a Plain Routine: The Estacado High School Cheer Squad performs during the parade.



Royal Time: Vanda Jones, Miss Black Lubbock, enjoys her time in the sun Saturday.



Up, Up and Away: Texas Tech Upward Bound students ride one of the many floats in the parade.



Balloon Walk: People of all ages participated in this year's Juneteenth festival over the weekend.

VIEW POINTS

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TRAFFIC & PARKING UPDATE

CHANGE IN POLICY — ACADEMIC HOLDS PLACED BY TRAFFIC AND PARKING

In the near future we hope students will see a change in the Traffic and Parking policy of placing an academic hold on a student's records for overdue parking citations. For many years when a student failed to pay his/her parking tickets in a timely manner, a hold was placed on their records that prevented them from registering or receiving a transcript. This was a terrible inconvenience, especially for those who had already waited in line to register for their classes but had forgotten they had a ticket. We plan to begin transferring these outstanding charges to the Student Business Services office (20 days after the ticket is issued) so they can be added to your monthly tuition statement. This way students have one less thing to worry about during registration. For 20 days before the citation is issued, it may be paid at Traffic and Parking, once it is sent to the Student Business Services office it will be paid there. We'll keep you informed when this change takes place. Details will be printed on the ticket envelope as well as in the statement we mail out 10 days after the ticket is given. We hope that this results in a better situation for the students.

FACULTY/STAFF PARKING IN RESIDENCE HALLS LOTS DURING THE SUMMER

Until a few years ago, there was an abundance of available parking on campus during the summer months. During the summer we used to allow faculty and staff with reserved permits to park in the residence halls lots. With so much going on around campus these days—summer orientation sessions, cheerleading camp, baseball camp, bas-

ketball camp, swimming lessons, construction, etc. — we don't have the luxury of letting employees take up two spaces (a space in the residence hall lot and their reserved space). Even though we haven't allowed this for three or four years, we continue to get inquiries — thought we'd put out the official word.

SUMMER CONSTRUCTION — RESERVED SPACES

Very little of the summer parking lot/road repair construction will affect reserved spaces this year. The west row of the R-7 lot (administration building) will be impacted for a very short time. The R-4 parking lot (behind electrical engineering) will be resurfaced and will cause some inconvenience. We'll do our best to notify everyone as soon as we know the schedule. Quite often we don't know until the day before the contractor is ready. Alternate parking for those affected will be the closest residence hall or commuter lot.

We urge you to share your concerns, questions, suggestions and other input with us. Information gained through this input may be used to correct inefficiencies and promote positive customer relations. We look forward to what we hope will be a positive exchange of ideas. Please contact us: Traffic and Parking Services, Texas Tech University, P.O. Box 43161, Lubbock, Texas 79409. Or contact us through Campus Mail at Mailstop 3161.

Traffic and parking Update is a service of Traffic and Parking Services and compiled for students, faculty and staff of Texas Tech by Gail Wolfe, director.

Take it from me, plan out your road trips

The Suburban was finally packed, and the four of us guys were ready to leave Plano. The summer bug of absolutely needing to take a road trip was calling us. Visions of independence and spontaneity danced in our heads at the thought of the days ahead. When we finally left Dallas to embark on our journey, that car was

so full of testosterone and energy that we had the roll the windows down so we wouldn't explode from euphoric overdrive.

Planning to do as much as we possibly could in three days, we were on the Guadalupe River in New Braunfels by lunch, spent the afternoon lounging in the river and by nightfall were cruising San Antonio's River Walk. We slept there that night and then woke up to head for the most exciting part of our trip — Galveston.

We arrived and drove around the

Brandon Formby

Columnist

small island for awhile checking out the sights. I for one, had never even stepped foot on a real beach before and was anxious to

do so. We decided to find the hotel we had booked. After driving down Seawall Boulevard, we found it and stared at the building in awe. It looked as though a rough wind could blow it down and many of the windows were boarded up. OK, Plan B.

We drove around looking for hotels. If they weren't

We drove around looking for hotels. If they weren't booked, they said we were too young. After a couple of frustrating hours of this, we finally came across a sign of hope — a place we knew would house us; a place open 24 hours a day; someplace we knew well. We had found the Wal-Mart. So we decided we'd just live out of the Suburban and park it in the Wal-Mart parking lot. So we did.

So we parked, changed (very carefully) and hit the beach for a couple long-awaited hours of coastal excitement. As the air got cooler and the sky got darker we figured it was time to head back to Hotel Wal-Mart and get ready to go out for the evening. We had seemed to overlook one important circumstance. Though Wal-Mart had a bathroom, which we totally capitalized use of for brushing our teeth, cleaning our contacts and doing our hair, it didn't have a shower. Our emergence from the salty water left us feeling sticky and nasty. OK, Plan C.

Then we had a random moment of clarity. The Texaco, like most gas stations, had a water hose for you to use on your car if needed. Well, we had other plans for that hose.

The final day was spent hanging at the beach, cruising through various shops and hitting our Texaco shower one more time. We got everything packed and were ready to leave but planned one more stop. The tattoo parlor. What guy trip is complete without evidence of an awesome time in the form of body art? It took nearly 32,104.24 hours to decide what we were getting but finally made our decisions and took turns desecrating our bodies. Paying with nearly all the money we had left (it's against the law or something to come back from a trip with leftover money) we finally headed home. Of course, by this time we were tired, cranky, and had been around each other for way too long. We again had to roll the windows down, but this time to keep the tension, dirty looks and snide comments from causing an explosion of anger and fierce hatred.

But we made it back in time to catch up on our sleep before getting back into the humdrum of our summer jobs. And we had all learned some important lessons, like: planning isn't everything, don't hit on girls who are with their dads, but most importantly that it's not where you go, how you get there, or even what you survive while on vacation — but how many awesome stories you have when you get back. Oh, and a new tattoo to show off is always a bonus.

Brandon Formby is a junior journalism major from Plano.

Dallas' new champs celebrate first-ever Stanley Cup, Texas style

DALLAS (AP) - With a tug of his pant legs, Dallas Stars owner Tom Hicks showed off the perfect symbol of a Texas team winning the Stanley Cup: black boots with the shiny silver trophy emblazoned on each shin.

Forward Dave Reid added to image by wearing a black cowboy hat throughout a downtown parade on Monday and a Reunion Arena pep rally in honor of the NHL champions.

More than 75,000 people lined the streets for the parade. They saw the players ride by on four floats, the final one carrying the Cup.

"For them to see a team other than the Cowboys win something is fun," forward Guy Carbonneau said.

Truth is, Dallas fans have loved the Stars ever since they moved from Minnesota in 1993.

"You've been here with us for six structure. years," captain Derian Hatcher, one of three remaining Minnesota North Stars, told the Reunion Arena crowd. "Now we have (the Cup) here and it looks good here. Hopefully, we can build a nice little house for it."

The Stars won the first title in their 32-year history and the first for a team in the Sun Belt early Sunday with a 2-1 triple-overtime victory over the Buffalo Sabres in Game 6. Although a controversy is brewing over the Cup-winning goal scored by Brett Hull while his left foot was in the goalie's crease, there were no references to it Monday.

After a 45-minute parade from City Hall to Reunion Arena, the players were introduced, each walking through a giant star-shaped metal

The last player out was Hatcher, who ushered in the Cup beneath a shower of fireworks and a burning, revolving star. He placed the trophy on a 5-foot pedestal in the center of

"As long as we've got one of these, why not go for two?" coach Ken Hitchcock said. "Aw, hell, let's go for

Each player got a turn hoisting the Cup and most of them kissed the trophy, Mike Modano doing so several times.

Goaltender Ed Belfour, who was serenaded by cheers of "Ed-die! Eddie!" throughout the hourlong show, savored the Cup the longest. He circled the stage while Hicks, team president Jim Lites and general man-

ager Bob Gainey led a standing ovation.

Fans goaded Belfour into speaking and, with a voice hoarse from 36 hours of celebrating, he thanked the crowd for their support.

"This has been an unbelievable year," said Belfour, who inspired one fan to write "In Eddie We Trust" on the back of a car. "This is a great moment."

The clinching game in Buffalo ended around 12:30 a.m. Sunday after many fans were asleep and too late to make some editions of the local newspapers. Only about 200 fans made it to the airport to greet the plane at 6:45 a.m. Sunday.

Also taking part in the celebration were the Reunion Arena Zamboni and the heavy metal band Pantera.

Band members are fans of the team and friends with several players. The group pounded out a song featuring only the words "Dallas! Stars!"

A full house awaited the team at Reunion Arena, where two 1999 Stanley Cup champion banners hung from the rafters for the first time. It was the 50th straight time the team packed the 17,001-seat facility, although with seats on the ice the total attendance was closer to 20,000.

B.J. Thomas, the Grammy-winning singer best known for "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head," opened the pep rally by singing the national anthem.

The Stars were 6-0 this season when he sang, including a victory in Game 5 of the finals.

NHL confident right call was made in triple overtime

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) - Hours after 18,000 heartbroken fans filed out of Marine Midland Arena, their hopes for a Stanley Cup championship dashed by a questionable goal, Salvatore Garrasi headed back to the scene of the purported crime.

He and a small contingent of other die-hard fans spent hours Sunday and again Monday collecting about 800 signatures on a petition intended for National Hockey League officials.

"We want to force the NHL to follow its own rules and have a continuation of Game 6," Garrasi said. 6 early Sunday morning. 'What's fair is fair.'

A videotape replay showed that the right skate of the Dallas Stars' Brett Hull was in the crease when he scored the Stanley Cup-winning goal in the third overtime period of Game

That could have nullified the goal, but the play was allowed to stand by the on-ice officials and video replay

A league representative cited a rule not specifically listed in the

NHL's official rules as justification for the call.

Fans said they would show their support for the Sabres, still the Eastern Conference champions, at a noontime rally planned for today in front of City Hall.

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by Stephanie Taylor Staff Writer

Charles Hukill, inspired by his year spent as a Sears collection agent, has a hit on his hands with the recently released play "Occupational Hazard."

Hukill hails from Abilene and brought the show to make its world premiere on the Texas Tech Laboratory Theatre stage during the summer repertory season.

The comedy, while humorous, has a deeper meaning.

Paul Farmer, hilariously portrayed



by Omar Sadigh, is a bill collector from Sears who has a difficult time forsaking any trust and compassion to become the cold-hearted repossession man the job calls for.

Farmer's first stop is the run-down home of Teddy and Marie Presley, distant cousins of the king, Elvis

Farmer confronts Marie only to

find that she knows nothing of the account, and that her husband had opened it behind her back in order to lavish his mistress with gifts. At this point, Marie takes Farmer, along with her imitation-leather clad and Elvis impersonator husband hostage.

The conflict rages throughout the show, and all the while Farmer flashes back to experiences with various indebt customers.

Each stop finds Farmer more and more unsure of his chosen profession.

The ensemble cast is outstanding. Each performance brought with it amusement, as well as meaning.

Michael Moore, a graduate student in playwriting, heard an onslaught of well-deserved applause each time he exited the stage.

If Tech gave Oscars, Moore would have taken home the little golden statue for his portrayal of Windy Winderson, the worm farmer whose words ultimately shaped Farmer's end decision.

Matt Chauncey, on stage in a white vinyl outfit ornamented with tassels and sequins, was almost too convincing as a deadbeat Elvis impersonator. It makes me wonder about his night job.

Oh, and don't forget about the show's deeper meaning.

The show is an entertaining interpretation of how jobs shape who we are and what we become, as well as how we shape ourselves. Farmer's experiences keep adding up, and the words of Windy Winderson stick with him until one day he just ... well, you'll have to see for yourself.

"Occupational Hazard" can be seen June 22, 24 and 30 at 8 p.m., and June 27 at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$8 for adults, or \$5 with a Tech ID.

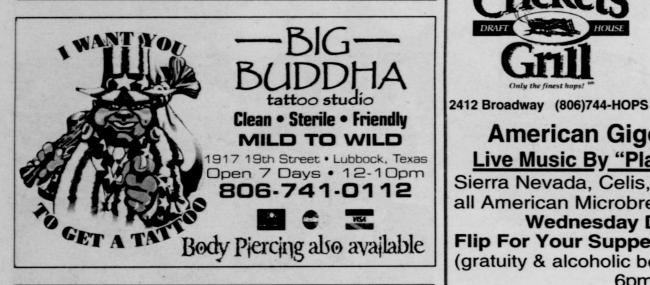
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Writer King to undergo major rehabilitation after accident

LEWISTON, Maine (AP) -His body is broken after being struck by a van. But the mind that created best sellers like "Carrie," "The Shining," and "Pet Sematary" is intact, Stephen King's office said Monday.

King, who was to undergo surgery Monday, faces major rehabilitation over the next year. In addition to fractures of his right leg, King suffered a broken hip, a collapsed lung and a cut on his scalp.

His office took care to note that his serious injuries were from the shoulders down.

"Mr. King's mental state is great," his office said in a statement.

The best-selling horror writer remained in serious condition at Central Maine Medical Center.

King, 51, was thrown 14 feet when he was hit from behind Saturday afternoon by a minivan as he walked along the shoulder of a road in rural Lovell, where he owns a summer home.

The driver, Bryan Smith, 41, lost control after being distracted by his dog, which was loose inside the minivan. Smith was not speeding and stopped immediately, sheriff's Deputy Matt Baker said.

"There's nothing to charge him with," Baker said. "He wasn't being reckless. He was just distracted."

'Tarzan' leads battle of swingers at box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In the battle of swingers, "Tarzan" debuted atop the weekend box office with \$34.2

"Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me" dropped to second with

"The General's Daughter" opened with a solid \$22.3 million for third.

The top 20 movies at North American theaters Friday through Sunday,

1. "Tarzan," \$34.2 million.

"Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me," \$31.4 million.

3. "The General's Daughter," \$22.3

4. "Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace," \$18.9 million.

- 5. "Notting Hill," \$6.9 million.
- 6. "Instinct," \$3.22 million.
- 7. "The Mummy," \$3.2 million.
- 8. "Entrapment," \$1.35 million, 1,464 locations.
- 9. "The Matrix," 1.3 million.
- 10. "Tea with Mussolini," 283 locations, \$2,170 average.

. 11. "The Thirteenth Floor,"

Stern plays defense on ratings, lockout

defiantly defended his low-rated finals and lockout-tainted season, even while announcing that a panel will recommend changes to improve the quality of NBA games.

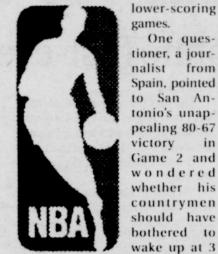
"It was nice to have a season," the commissioner said Monday at his annual NBA Finals news conference. "We think the fans appreciated both the settlement of the collective bargaining negotiations and the fact that teams like San Antonio — the league's smallest market - have an opportunity to continue to compete."

Stern faced a stream of questions about the league's troubles — the huge drop in television ratings for the finals, the trend toward stagnant offenses and low-scoring games, players entering the league at a younger age and the fallout from the lockout. several hours before the start of Game 3 of the finals between the New York Knicks and San Antonio Spurs.

"Obviously, there is an absence of the world's most famous person, no less that world's most famous athlete, Michael Jordan," Stern said. "But I think we're seeing the creation in front of our eyes of the kinds of teams ... that are going to get known. So the state of the league is one that finds us very optimistic about the future."

The 16-member committee, composed of coaches, former players, team executives and owners, will meet Tuesday.

The 1999 season was marked by a significant drop in scoring, with only one team, the Sacramento Kings, averaging 100 points a game. This continued a decade-long trend toward a



"On the basis of one game and relatively low shooting percentages, I wouldn't think that game as you

wondered

a.m. to watch

lower-scoring games. said.

One ques-"It's true, (Game 2) was not the tioner, a jourprettiest game that we've ever had in from the NBA finals, and it does continue a trend of very aggressive defense. It's Spain, pointed to San Anan issue that obviously is a concern to us," he said. tonio's unappealing 80-67 victory

The special committee is made up of coaches Lenny Wilkens, Rudy Tomjanovich, Rick Pitino, Pat Riley and Mike Krzyzewski, players Antonio Davis of Indiana and Steve Smith of Atlanta, broadcasters Isiah Thomas, Hubie Brown and Doug Collins, executives Kevin McHale, Donnie Walsh, Billy King and Dan Issel and owners Jerry Colangelo (Suns) and Gordon Gund (Cavaliers).

The committee will focus on four

-officiating: how games are

know it has come to an end," Stern called and whether NBA basketball has gotten too physical.

-the lane: creating more open space near the basket.

-clock rules: having 24 seconds to shoot and 10 seconds to bring the ball past midcourt.

defense: whether to allow zone

"The general consensus is that we need to do some correcting here,' deputy commissioner Russ Granik said. "Our goal is to try to implement whatever recommendations they come up with by the start of next sea-

Game 2 of the finals drew a 9.6 rating, making it the lowest-rated game since Game 5 of the Knicks-Rockets series in 1994. That game drew an 8.0 rating, with many viewers watching the famous O.J. Simpson chase.

Stewart's 15-footer will go down in history

was only for par. The distance was just 15 feet, a slight bend to the right.

Given what was at stake, and the history of the man on the green, it might go down as one of the most memorable shots in a major cham-

When I looked up, it was about 2 feet away from the hole and breaking right into the center of the cup," Payne Stewart said after capturing the U.S. Open on Sunday. "I couldn't believe my eyes. I couldn't believe I

PINEHURST, N.C. (AP) — The putt had accomplished my dream."

And now that putt on the 18th green at Pinehurst No. 2 - made under the most excruciating pressure golf can offer — takes its place in the game's lore.

Right there with Tom Watson's chip-in for a birdie in the 1982 Open at Pebble Beach. Right there with Gene Sarazen's double eagle in the 1935 Masters. Right there with Ben Hogan's 1-iron into the eighth green at Merion in the 1950 Open.

This was the first time in the 99-

year history of the Open that the tournament was won by a putt that long on the 72nd hole.

In knocking in that putt, Stewart avoided an 18-hole playoff the next day with Phil Mickelson and provided the Open with one of its most riveting finishes.

"To question his toughness, I don't think would be fair. ... He's going to represent the United States well as our national champion," Mickelson

Stewart became only the 13th

Several Imitators,

player to win the U.S. Open at least twice. It also was his third major championship — he won the 1989 PGA Championship and the 1991 U.S. Open. That's one more than Greg Norman, just as many as Hale Irwin and Nick Price.

"Where it puts me in the golf world is, I'm a pretty good and accomplished player." Stewart said. "Nobody can ever take that away from me, no matter what's been written about me.

Lately, what had been written

about Stewart had to do with failure.

Never mind that he won 1991 U.S. Open at Hazeltine by making up two strokes over the last three holes against Scott Simpson, first to get into a playoff, then to win the next day. He failed to put enough pressure on an inexperienced Lee Janzen in 1993. He blew a four-stroke lead against Janzen last year at Olympic Club.

No other player in the history of the U.S. Open - not Hogan, not Bobby Jones, not Jack Nicklaus - had led after any of the first three rounds as much as Stewart. All he had to show for it was one U.S. Open title.

His only victories since then were the Houston Open in 1995, where Scott Hoch virtually handed him the tournament, and in February at Pebble Beach, where the tournament was called after 54 holes because of

Stewart said then he wanted to prove he could win over 72 holes. No one can question that now, and Stewart for once doesn't have to answer to anybody.

"What happened last year at the U.S. Open ... all my friends came up and said, 'Boy, you sure tried. It was a great effort. You're a great competitor," Stewart said.

I didn't want to hear that, and that motivated me."

After the tournament, Stewart sounded a lot like Nicklaus did before

Nicklaus recalled his first chance to win a U.S. Open. He had a onestroke lead in the final round at Cherry Hills until he three-putted the next two greens, missed two short birdie putts and watched Palmer charge from behind to win the 1960. U.S. Open.

"Every time you lose, you learn something," Nicklaus said.

Those are words with which Stewart can identify.

'I just think I learned a lot from last year," Stewart said.

If you can learn from defeat, then I think that makes you a much better player."

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