



INSIDE TODAY'S ISSUE

Raider baseball calls it a season after loss to Rice in NCAA Regional.

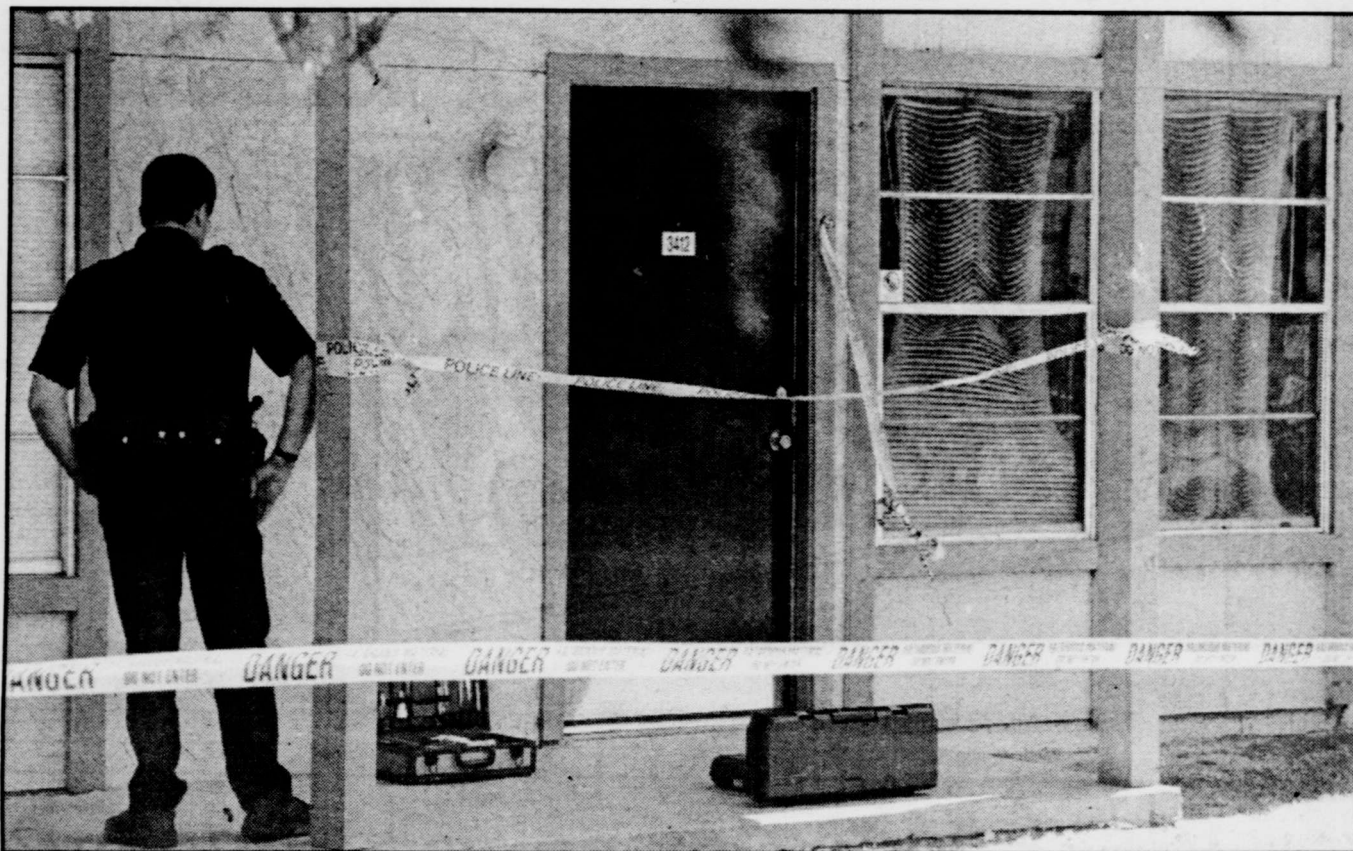


PAGE 8

the University Daily

Texas Tech University

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES



Joe Mays The University Daily

Officer Blackney of the Lubbock Police Department patrols outside of Tech Student Stefanie Hill's apartment. Hill was found dead early Monday morning. Investigations continue into the cause of Hill's death.

Search continues for Tech president

by Pam Smith
Staff Writer

As of Tuesday there was no word on who will be the next president of Texas Tech University since Donald Haragan's resignation in August.

"A list of finalists for the presidential position of the university could be drafted as early as June 1," said Nancy Jones of the Presidential Search Committee Chairman and Board of Regents.

Jones said the committee plans to meet again June 1 to review information concerning the candidates and their visits to the campus during the week of finals, May 6-10.

During the June 1 meeting, the committee will decide whether or not to submit a list of finalists to Chancellor John Montford and the Board of Regents or to continue their search.

"This meeting will really help us to decide whether to select these three candidates as finalists or help determine if we should look for others," Jones said.

The three candidates who have made visits to the campus include David Schmidly, Vice President for Research, Graduate Studies and Technology at Texas Tech University; Thomas Keinath, Dean of Engineering and Science at Clemson University and Richard Ringeisen, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at East

Carolina University. Each candidate was greeted with a reception and a campus visit over a two-day period. Keinath was the first to visit on May 7, followed by Ringeisen on May 9 and Schmidly on May 10.

Schmidly said the committee told him after the interview the committee would be checking with references and doing background checks on all of the candidates. He said they would be in touch with him after that.

Schmidly also said based on his interview, he believes one of the key qualities the committee is looking for in a president is strong leadership skills.

"I think they are looking for strong leadership qualities, the kind of leadership that the university needs as it enters the new century," Schmidly said.

Cindy Rugeley, Director of News and Publications, said all the candidates, especially the two that live out-of-state, seemed to enjoy Lubbock and the Texas Tech communities, describing them as a "perfect fit" for them as a possible job opportunity.

Schmidly, who currently works at Tech and who received both his bachelors degree in biology and his masters degree in zoology from Texas Tech said the university personally means a lot to him and

see **SEARCH**, p. 7

Mystery surrounds student death

by Jeff Lehr
Staff Writer

Autopsy results on Monday revealed "some head injury" to 19-year-old Texas Tech student Stefanie Hill, who was found dead in her apartment early Monday morning.

The cause of the head injury is still inconclusive pending further forensic

investigation, police spokesman Bill Morgan said.

Firefighters were called to a structure fire at Indiana Village Apartments, located at 701 N. Ithaca Avenue, shortly before 1 a.m. Monday where they found Hill's body lying on the living room floor, according to a police report.

Morgan said the fire appeared to be a set fire and did not appear to be caused by a

knocked-over lamp.

He also said the fire was small enough to be put out with very little water.

"It was a small fire at ground level that caused fire damage to the front blinds," Morgan said.

Tim Drake, a resident who lives across from Hill's apartment, said he was home when he heard sirens outside his door.

"I just thought it was a few fire trucks passing by," Drake said. "But then I saw four fire trucks across the yard and at least ten people standing outside."

He said he was unaware of Hill's death until the next morning when police questioned him about a homicide.

Hill, was employed see **DEATH**, p. 7

Master Plan takes shape as construction begins around campus

by Jeff Lehr
Staff Writer

The Texas Tech Master Plan is beginning to take shape on the Tech campus as construction crews continue working to stay on schedule.

Two months after a ground clearing crew began work on the future site of the English-Philosophy and Education Complex, construction for the project is still on schedule.

"To date, the contractor (Lee Lewis) is essentially right on schedule with occupation projected in

summer 2002," said Tech project manager for the EPE Complex, Robert Cameron.

The site, located near 18th Street and Elgin Avenue, has been cleared, and excavation of the basement levels is nearing completion.

Cameron said the complex will consist of a north and a south building.

The Department of English and the Department of Philosophy, as well as the University Writing Center, will occupy the north building. The College of Education will occupy the

south building.

Cameron said a number of optional project enhancements were approved and funded at the last Board of Regents meeting, which added an additional \$2.8 million to the project cost.

The original cost of the project was set at \$42 million and covered the base project work.

The approved enhancements include an emergency generator, an extension of the bell tower, interior finish improvements, courtyard im-

see **CONSTRUCTION**, p. 7



Two months after work began the English-Philosophy and Education Complex is still on schedule. Joe Mays The University Daily

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News: 742-3393
Editor: 742-3395
Advertising: 742-3384
Fax: 742-2434
E-mail: TheUniversityDaily@ttu.edu
Website: www.ttu.edu/~TheUD/

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Opinions & Ideas

Monday, May 31, 2000

The University Daily

LETTERS: The University Daily welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be no longer than 300 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number, social security number and a description of university affiliation. Letters selected for publication have the right to be edited. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication.

GUEST COLUMNS: The UD accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 750 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community.

From librarian to editor in one step

Well, here I am, editor of The University Daily.

Looking back on the past two years no one, not even myself, would have seen me in the position I am today. I am the first to admit I do not even know how I got to be editor. It certainly was not the binge drinking and the wild, all-night parties. But the party crowd was not always the life for me. I just fell into it.



Jamie Laubhan
Editor

As a freshman, I was encompassed by the college life. For over a year and a half I lost track of what I had set out to do. I had dreams and aspirations of success, not only in school, but at the paper as well. I was editor of my high school newspaper and planned to delve into my career at The UD when I arrived at Tech.

All I can do is laugh when I think back to my mindset the summer before what I would like to call my transformation. And I laugh even harder at where I am today.

One would not believe the criticism I have received from colleagues and friends since I have reverted back to my true self. While I am completely competent and capable of handling the position at hand, all they had known me as was the girl to call if they needed to party - the one who came to the staff meetings with a hangover and some wild story of the night before. For the major-

ity of my career at The UD, I accepted the lowest position on staff - librarian. It was not that I was not qualified to advance, I was just lazy - being associated with the staff was enough for me.

Then early last semester my editor saw something in me no one else saw, something I thought I had lost forever. He took a chance on me and made me a section editor - and believe me he caught his share of criticism. Even if he did regret his decision, I never knew.

Given a little power and an ego boost, I was well on my way. The transition from doing nothing to handling everything did nothing for my relationships. I nearly lost my best friend through it all. I became the workaholic I had been in previous years, nothing mattered but The UD. It was one extreme to the other.

I have grown up immensely in the past six months. I am now well on my way to the future I always had in mind for myself. I have learned to balance my life. I realized I could remain social and still hold on to my dreams. It just takes a little time management.

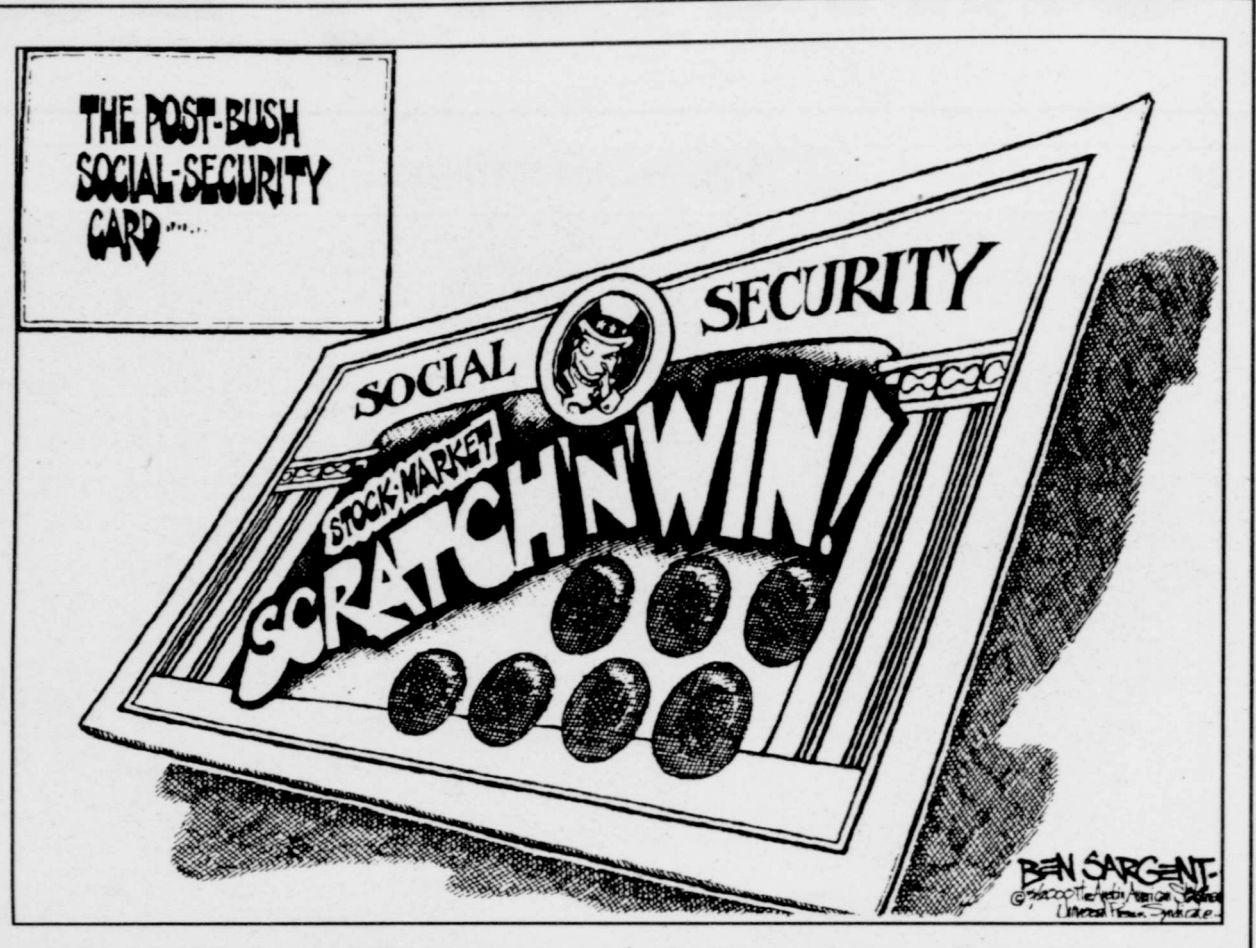
As editor of the summer issue of The UD, I take a great deal of pride in the publication. It is an honor I do not take lightly. It is one I put before everything else.

As students we should be proud of what The UD offers us each and every day and not take it for granted as I did.

The UD offers us the freedom and ability to know what is going on on our campus. It is the voice of the students for the students.

I hope that as editor I can continue a tradition that has been commonplace on campus for over 75 years.

Jamie Laubhan is a junior design communications major from Follett.



What do dreams mean anyway?

Well-read psychologists all over the world would have a field day with my dreams. Mine and just about anyone else that I'm good friends with.

I definitely agree there are parts and snippets of dreams that we can relate back to our realities and lives, but I would have to say that the vast majority of scenes, characters, and conflicts that exist in our



KC Swink
Columnist

dreams still escape our current knowledge of the human mind.

Sometimes we wake up and wonder what in the hell La La from the Teletubbies (with Gonzo's head on it's shoulders instead of it's own) was doing eating Frosted Flakes cereal in a tree in the dense woods of the Sahara desert.

And why we were trying desperately to get it (teletubbies are 'it's' in my book as they lack genitals) to teach us the mechanics of a lollipop. Huh? Explain that Freud.

Of course, sometimes we do recognize things or meanings in our dreams.

I had a dream once where Darth Vader was trying to kill me, but I guess I wasn't ready to fight him yet (maybe in an up coming sequel dream).

Well, good old Darth showed up compliments of Dr. Katz on Comedy Central that evening before I went to bed.

Dennis Leary had been talking about how he wanted to destroy this talking Darth Vader bank his son had that irritated the beezes out of him.

One thing I either heard and/or read at some point in my life is that you're not supposed to die in your dreams. If you die in your dreams, you really die.

I personally have been killed twice in my dreams. I'm still alive and kicking, too.

The first time some mafia dude shot me in the chest in a warehouse. More interestingly though, moments before my demise, the warehouse doors where we were hiding were slung open and thirty or so people ran in and began hurling ping pong balls every which way as they sprinted in a big circle.

Then came the mafia guy with the gun who had been pursuing a friend and I all dream.

It felt kind of like a Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid ending (the

whole going out with a bang thing, anyway).

The next dream is a bit more in depth with death as I was shot and burned in a riot only to live the next three fourths of my dream as a ghost.

Oh, might I add that I woke up to this dream fresh on my mind the morning of Christmas my freshman year at Tech. My mom asked me, "What's wrong?"

Not wanting to warp my mother's perception of her son's mental health, I spared her the oddity of my dream.

In the dream, I was invisible like a ghost, but could still talk to people and touch things.

Not that ghosts cannot talk and touch things now, but I'm just going on ghost stereotypes here.

If I recall correctly, I spent most of the time trying to find out who killed me.

Seeing as I don't have any more interesting dreams that could be explained without actually hooking a TV link up to my brain, start keeping tabs on those weird dreams, and see if you can become the next dream psychoanalyst or whatever they choose to call themselves.

KC Swink is a senior advertising major from Richardson.

GET YOUR NAME IN THE PAPER

Write a letter
to the editor.

Come by 211 Journalism
(bring your Tech ID)

or e-mail it to TheUniversityDaily@ttu.edu
(include social security number and phone number.)

Summer open recreation hours

Monday- Friday 6:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
 Saturday 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Sunday 2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Family Hours

Children under the age of 16 may use the Rec Center any time it is open if accompanied by an adult. Area use restrictions apply. The Aquatic Center has separate family hours. Recreational Sports office hours -room 202 Student Recreation Center, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Rentals and Reservations

Racquetball and Cardiovascular Equipment Reservations are taken one day in advance or on the day of play. Call 742-3352 for reservations or reserve in person Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Check in for courts and equipment will occur in the Fitness/Wellness Center during reservation hours. Bottled water will also be available for \$1 per bottle.

Tennis Reservations 742-3351

The eight recreational tennis courts, located behind the aquatic center, will be lighted until midnight, Monday-Friday. Reservations are taken in the Rec Sports office room 202 during office hours.

Equipment Issue 742-1995

All necessary equipment is available for check-out at the Equipment Issue Window as well as a wide selection of equipment for outside activities. To properly check out the equipment, you will need to use your Student I.D. card or Rec Center pass. The Sport Shop, located in the Equipment Issue, also sells a variety of accessory items such as racquetballs, swim goggles, soap, shampoo, weight lifting gloves, racquetball gloves and racquets. Purchases may be made at the Equipment Issue Window during building hours.

Locker Rental 742-1995

Summer locker rentals begin today and are rented at the Equipment Issue Window. Locker and towel rates: Cubicle=\$5.00, Half=\$8.00, Full=\$15.00, Towel Service=\$7.00.

Picnic Gazebo and Sand Volleyball Courts 742-3351

Both of these facilities, located southeast of the SRC, are available for individual and group use. Reservations are taken in the Recreational Sports office room 202 during office hours.

Open Recreation Swim

Monday-Friday 12:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m.
 Saturday and Sunday 12:00 p.m.-6:45 p.m.

Family Hours

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 5:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m.
 Saturday and Sunday 12:00 p.m.-6:45 p.m.


Early Bird Lap Swim

Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m.-7:45 a.m.

Pool rentals are available upon request

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Sign-ups for intramurals

Recreational Sports invites students, faculty and staff to participate in the summer intramural program. Entries for all programs will begin today. The important dates for each event are as follows.

Event	Entries Close	Play Dates
Slow pitch softball	June 7	June 11-27
Racquetball singles	June 12	June 14-15
Racquetball doubles	June 19	June 21-22
Home run hitting	June 20	June 20
Tennis singles	June 21	June 23-24

All the events are free of charge with the exception of the softball program which requires a \$30 forfeit fee be paid at the time of registration. For more information please call 742-3351 or come by the intramural offices.

Student Rec Center offers chance to run under stars

Join Rec Sports for the summer Rec Triathlon on Sunday, June 11 at 7:30 a.m. The distances are a 400 meter swim, 11 mile bike ride and a 2.3 mile run. Compete as an individual or team. Tech prices: \$20 individual/\$37 team. Community Prices: \$25 individual/\$40 team. Entries are due Wednesday, June 7 or a late fee will be assessed. Age groups from 17 and under to 45+ will be awarded. Entries are available in Room 202 or the Fitness and Wellness Center. Volunteers are needed to help and all volunteers will receive t-shirts. Call 742-3828 for details. The annual full moon run, The Lunar Lope, will be held Friday, June 16 at 10 p.m. The entry fee is \$8 (includes a t-shirt). The distances are 1 mile or 5 kilometers. Enter in the Fitness and Wellness Center.

Fitness and Wellness Center

Summer is a great time to begin or improve your fitness habits. The Fitness/Wellness Center offers blood pressure screening, body composition and flexibility screening as well as numerous healthy software programs when we are open from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Cholesterol (\$10) and Glucose (\$3) screenings will be offered Thursday, June 8 from 6:45-8:30 a.m. Register by June 7. Personal trainers are also available at \$40 for 3 sessions or \$60 for 5 sessions. Fitness assessments test your physical capacities and give you an in-depth computer generated report which includes both a strength training and aerobic work out plan. The cost is \$30. The Nike/NutriGrain incentive program returns May 30. We have lots of other interesting programs and information. Stop by the lower level of the SRC or call us at 742-3828 for more information.



Rec Center expansion continues throughout summer

The Department of Recreational Sports will continue its \$12 million facility expansion and renovation project throughout the summer, with an expected completion date scheduled for Fall 2001. SRC Members can look forward to the following: indoor soccer court, new wood flooring for current basketball courts and fitness studio, 3 cardio workout areas with 100+ machines, new outdoor pursuits center, sports club offices, 11,000 sq. feet of new and renovated weight training areas, three new basketball courts, cardio theater, new fit/well center, new fitness studio, new aquatic center deck, elevated jogging track, new 48 ft. rock climbing structure and additional class/meeting room. Architectural plans may be viewed at www.ttu.edu/recsports.



Out! Summer softball offers men's and co-rec leagues for all students, faculty and staff. Entries are due by Tuesday, June 6 with play to begin Sunday, June 11. Sign-ups begin today in Room 202 of the Student Rec Center.

Aerobic and Fitness Classes

The first summer session fitness schedule begins today. It includes classes from 6:20 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday-Friday and various classes on the weekend. The types of classes Rec Sports offers on a drop in basis that are free include Steppin' Out, Total Body Conditioning, Shape and Tone, Water Fitness, Cardio Combo, Abs and Back, Weekend Express, and Stretch. Fitness instructors are needed for the fall semester. If you are interested but need more experience and need to practice your skills, please register for the Fitness Instructor Training Class. For more information call 742-3351 or stop by SRC room 202.

CONSTRUCTION, from p. 1

improvements, exterior window muntins, which are decorative window dividers, and Ludowici roof tile. Both the muntins and the roof tiles will be added to keep with the architectural consistency of the campus.

The enhancements will bring the total project cost to an estimated \$45 million.

Cameron said no further budget modifications are anticipated.

He said in the next few months the contractor will be building form work for the basement walls, which will eventually be filled with concrete.

"Relatively, little else can be done until the basement walls are complete," he said.

Paulo Peres, Tech project manager for the renovations to the West Hall-New Visitor's Center, said the construction for the project is also on schedule and is slated to end

around the middle of April, 2001.

The New Visitor's Center will include all renovations performed during this project.

Peres said the renovations are limited to about two-thirds of the first floor but will include a three-story addition on the south side of the building and a one-story addition on the north side.

"We replaced all of the windows on the building, we will put on a new roof and we did extensive asbestos abatement throughout the building," he said.

He said other features of the renovation will include a new workroom for staff relations on the first floor, but the majority of the renovated rooms will be utilized for new staff offices.

The south side of the building will house a new catering kitchen as well as a presentation room with theater-style seating. The room will feature 36 seats and will be used for campus tours.

Peres said the one-story addition on

the north side will be used for data processing.

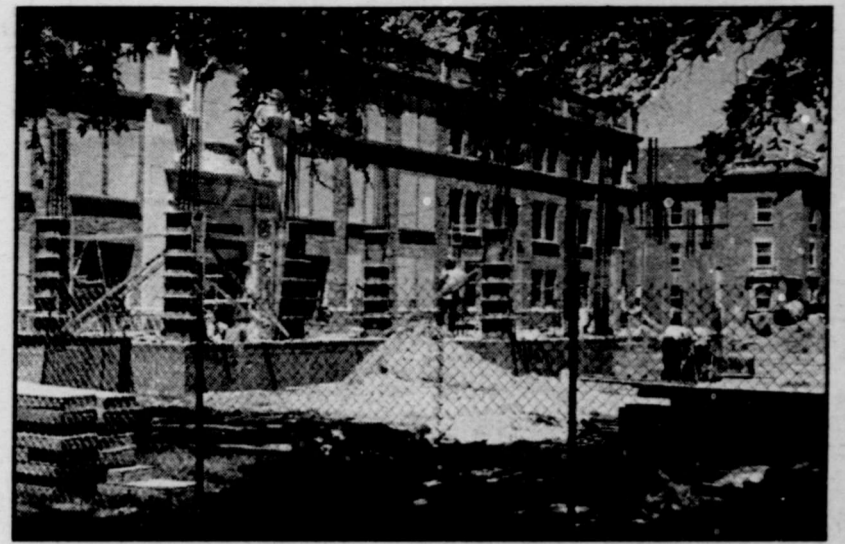
"We are going to give the data processing department their own building to free up some room for the new staff offices to be built on the first floor," Peres said.

Data processing for the registrar's office is currently located on the first floor of West Hall.

There have been some unexpected glitches encountered during renovations, but Peres said he is confident the project's contractor can work through them.

"As far as problems with construction are concerned, we did run into some structural glitches that we didn't know were there, but the contractor we are working with is very good and has kept us on schedule," he said.

There will also be a complete overhaul of the buildings only elevator. The cab of the elevator will be replaced and all of the equip-



Joe Mays ■ The University Daily

Renovations to the West Hall-New Visitor's Center is on schedule and is slated to end around the middle of April, 2001.

ment will be modernized. Peres said this overhaul will bring everything up to the Americans with Disabilities Act standards where the elevators are con-

cerned. "The project is still under the \$6 million budget and is not expected to go over that mark," he said.

SEARCH, from p. 1

to his family.

"I love Texas Tech a great deal," Schmidly said. "I'm an ex-student and the university means a lot to me and to my wife."

Rugeley also said if other candidates do become considered for the position that they too will have the opportunity to visit the campus and to interact with the rest of the community.

Jones also said the receptions and visits were also used to gather feedback from the community about the candidates and the search that is being con-

ducted to find the new president. She said all the comments and information will be considered by the committee when making their final decision.

"We've received a lot of comments about the search and the individual candidates (that have been) all over the map," Jones said. "We're taking all the comments we've received and will use them as information to consider in our decision. Each committee member will receive a packet (that consists of) all of them."

Jones also said most of the comments concerning the conduction of the search have been positive, showing that the community is happy

overall with the way the search is being conducted.

If the committee does decide to draft a list of finalists for the position, the list will then be submitted to Chancellor Montford and the Board of Regents for a final selection. Afterwards, they have a 21-day period to review the information on the candidates and to make their decision before it can be announced.

If a draft of finalists is submitted after the June 1 meeting, a new president could be named as early as the end of June," Rugeley said.

The Presidential Search Committee is comprised of members of the Board of Regents, deans and profes-

sors from several of the colleges, the presidents of the Student Government Association, Staff Senate and Ex-Student's Association.

The university has been looking for a new president since its last president, Donald Haragan, stepped down from the position in August in order to teach at the university.

If anyone would like to find out more information about the search or to comment to the committee about a candidate or the search itself, he/she can do so at http://www.texas-tech.edu/pres_search.html.

DEATH, from p. 1

at Outback Steakhouse in Lubbock, left work at midnight Monday, and police said her co-workers did not notice anything unusual about her departure that night.

Morgan said police have a witness who heard a noise and saw a man wearing a baseball cap, dark shirt and brown pants or shorts leaving the apartment.

"This is still a very generic description that will require more leads before anything is done about it," he said

Hill's roommate, who was in Odessa at the time of the incident, is getting married and was most likely out of town for that reason, Morgan said.

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Body of 'Jesse James' exhumed for DNA test

GRANBURY, Texas (AP) — A court-ordered exhumation at a Texas cemetery was conducted Tuesday at the urging of those who believe legendary outlaw Jesse James pulled off his greatest feat by faking his own death in Missouri and living to a ripe old age of 104.

Bud Hardcastle, a Purcell, Okla., used car salesman and amateur historian, said he hopes the excavation and subsequent DNA testing by a University of California at Davis anthropologist will prove that J. Frank Dalton was really James.

Hood County Judge Linda Steen earlier this year ordered the exhumation of the man known as Dalton, who was buried in Granbury on Aug. 15, 1951.

Attorney Steven J. Reid of Granbury said the testing is being done at the request of two of James' grandsons, identified as Jesse Quannah James and Charles A. James.

"This is certainly a historic day, a historic moment," Reid said. "We

hope it's an opportunity to provide some additional information on the life and legend of Jesse James. It is the belief of family members I represent and Mr. Hardcastle that Jesse James is buried here."

Elizabeth Gilliam Beckett, who operates the Jesse James Museum in Kearney, Mo., said the men identified as family members are not direct descendants of James.

She insisted James is buried in Missouri, not Texas. Besides the DNA testing of remains from the Missouri grave, handwriting analysis done in the 1980s also show that Dalton wasn't James, she said.

"We know where the real Jesse is buried, up here in Kearney," she said.

Excavation crews used a backhoe to unearth Dalton's casket Tuesday evening. It then was pulled from the ground, loaded into a van and hauled away to an undisclosed location for testing. Several family members reached out and touched the casket as it was hoisted into the van.

DNA results aren't expected for about three months.

Hardcastle said the exhumation culminated years of research and evidence that kept pointing to the gravesite, which is about 25 miles southwest of Fort Worth.

"It's important to me because I promised some James family members that I'd get the truth out," he said. "We want to set history straight. They made a big mistake."

Historical documents show James was shot in the back by Bob Ford, a member of his own gang, on April 3, 1882, in St. Joseph, Mo. Others say the veteran of the Confederate guerrilla band Quantrill's Raiders faked his death in Missouri to elude authorities and lived under the name of Dalton to avoid detection.

Oklahoma resident John Tatum, 67, who pulled up a lawn chair at the Granbury Cemetery on Tuesday morning to watch the exhumation, said he remembered Dalton from the 1940s as a man his father referred to

as "Uncle George."

When Tatum's family lived on the West Coast, Dalton paid visits, Tatum said, and once operated a shooting exhibition at the state fair in Oregon.

"He spoke Spanish. He and my Dad used to sing together. He was a good singer," Tatum said.

Dalton moved to Granbury in 1951 — the last year of his life — telling some residents he was really the famous bank robber James. The legend flourished on the account of the late Hood County Sheriff Oran C. Baker, who believed him.

Baker said he examined Dalton's body at his death and "counted 32 bullet holes from his forehead to his knees."

If he really was James, he would have been 104 when he died. His gravestone, moved aside for the exhumation, bears James' name also says in smaller letters below the name, "Supposedly killed in 1882."

The body buried as James in Missouri in 1882 also was exhumed, in

1995. Scientists who examined those remains later said the body most likely was that of James. But proponents of the Dalton theory say the findings were inconclusive. A DNA analysis of Dalton's remains will be conducted David Glenn Smith, an anthropologist at Cal-Davis. Hardcastle has said the samples from Granbury will be compared with DNA of Oklahoma City lawyer Robert Jackson, whom Beckett confirmed is a James descendant.

The dispute is good for Granbury, a town of about 6,000 people.

A representative of the local Convention & Visitors Bureau passed out packets promoting area tourist attractions to television news crews as they milled about the cemetery on Tuesday.

"This is one of the many legends we have here," bureau spokeswoman Mary Saltarelli said of the Dalton controversy. "We do have a lot of tourism. We have a legend that John Wilkes Booth lived here, as well."

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Adoption policy gaining critics

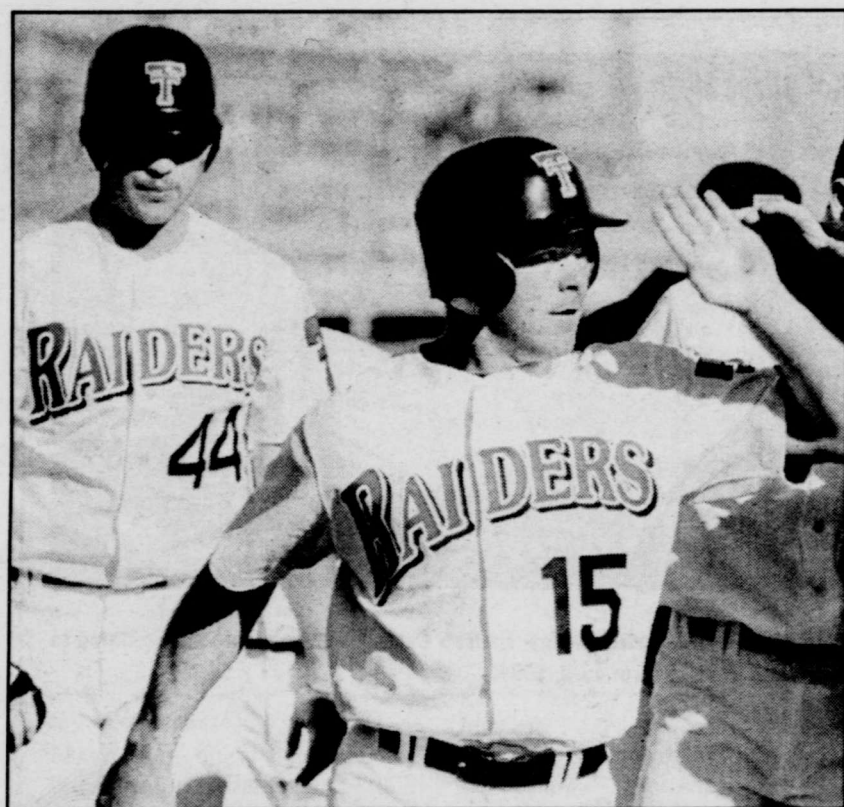
SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Perhaps Geena Stonum's birth parents aren't even alive. Or maybe they'd rather that she stay away from them. But as of Wednesday, state law is no longer keeping this adoptee — and thousands more — from finding out their true parents' identities.

"I have a wonderful family, but there's still that piece that's missing," said the 41-year-old Stonum, a mother of two. "When you see people who maybe look like you, you wonder if they're maybe related to you."

On Tuesday, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor rejected an emergency request to delay Oregon's 1998 adoption records law from going into effect.

That ended two years of court battles begun by a group of birth mothers who argued the new law violates the privacy of people like themselves who gave up their children for adoption and started new lives.

The Oregon Health Division on Wednesday will begin processing applications of more than 2,200 adoptees who already have paid \$15 to get their original birth certificates. Most are eager to know their parents' identities, and many want to know more about their medical histories. It could take up to six weeks to finish mailing certificates to adoptees, the agency said.



File Photo ■ The University Daily

Tech first baseman David O'Keeffe receives congratulations from his teammates during a contest against West Texas A&M after scoring a run against the Buffaloes. Tech won the contest, one of the 36 wins the Red Raiders collected on the year.

Red Raiders close out season

by Jeff Keller
Managing Editor

For the second straight year, Rice put an end to the Texas Tech baseball squad's season as the Owls defeated Tech twice in the NCAA Regional in Houston last weekend. Rice took the first decision 5-2 on Friday, but since it was a double elimination format, Tech still had another chance to advance to the College World Series as it defeated Princeton 10-1 on Saturday.

The Red Raiders faced Rice again Saturday night as the Owls fell to Houston in their second game, and once again Rice prevailed this time 11-4.

Tech coach Larry Hays said Tech's injuries this season and in the past have kept the Red Raiders from advancing past the Owls in the regionals.

"We haven't got to play Rice the last few years with our team," Hays said. "Rice was just all right this time; they

weren't that good of a club. They had an experienced pitcher out there that held us down. Then our defense gave them basically eight runs."

The loss put an end to an injury riddled season for Tech but also a season where the Red Raiders were able to overcome adversity to qualify for their sixth straight NCAA Regional despite posting their lowest win total in eight seasons.

Tech was able to post a 36-26 overall record this season despite losing opening day starting pitcher Brandon Roberson in the early goings of the season as well as pitchers Chaz Ackerman and Matt Harbin to injuries.

Through 33 games this season, the Red Raiders post season future was not looking bright as Tech had a 17-16 mark at the time. But Tech won 16 of its next 22 contests to finish the regular season with a 33-22 mark heading into the Big 12 Tournament. Tech won two games and dropped two games in the Big 12 Tournament

to move its record to 35-24.

The NCAA Selection Committee granted Tech with its sixth straight trip to the NCAA Regionals on May, 23.

Tech senior Marco Cunningham watched the selection show on ESPN and the Red Raiders didn't show up until the last bracket shown on the program.

"We were just hoping that we would get a bid, but nobody knew for sure," Cunningham said. "You just never know with that selection committee. We were the last bracket to be picked and it was pretty sketchy, but we finally got in and we were pretty happy."

Though the Red Raiders failed to advance past the regionals this season, Hays said he was proud of the season his team achieved.

"The overwhelming thing is that I am proud of what this team accomplished," Hays said. "We had some guys really have to carry more of the load than they should have, like Kevin Tracey, Cunningham and (Chaz) Eiguren with the bats. We just had to ask guys to do more than they should be able to do and I am kind of respectful for what they did."

Tracey led the pitching staff in wins with nine and Eiguren was first on the squad in runs batted in with 76.

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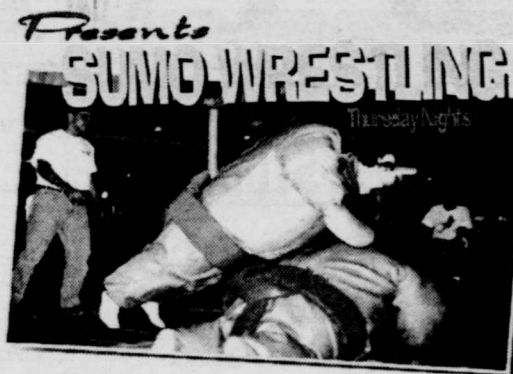
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