

TUESDAY

December 5, 2000

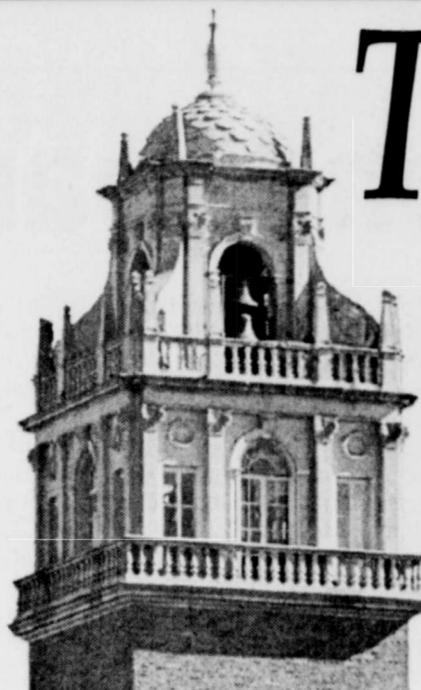
Volume 76, Issue 68

Today:  
High 52 Low 38

Tomorrow:  
High 47  
Low 26

Partly  
Cloudy

Stocks Nasdaq S&P 500 Dow Jones  
price: 2616.28 1324.99 10,570.24  
change: -29.01 +9.76 +196.70  
Monday's closing figures



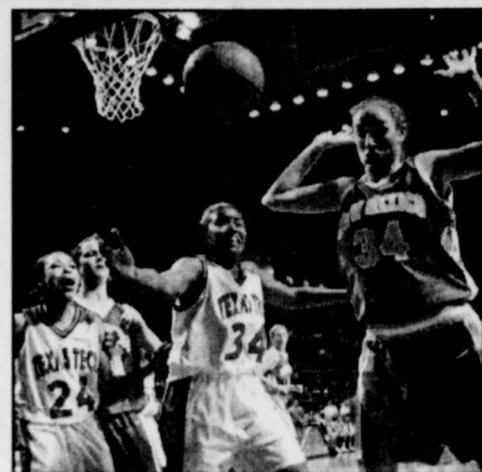
# The University DAILY

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Lubbock, Texas

INSIDE TODAY'S ISSUE



Lady Raiders too much for New Mexico, 80-56

## STATE

### School districts may face buyout fining

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Large school districts appear to be skirting a state law mandating financial penalties for districts that pay their superintendents to quit, while five small districts have lost a combined \$345,000.

San Antonio, El Paso and Austin have given their superintendents large buyouts in the past three years and could be penalized a combined \$1.3 million. Meanwhile, five small districts have been penalized nearly \$350,000 for buying out their top administrators' contracts.

A vaguely worded law could be to blame. And State Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio, said she has asked for clarification from the Texas Education Agency on what constitutes a buyout.

"It's a difficult statute to interpret because it doesn't define the terms," Pablo Escamilla, a San Antonio attorney told the *San Antonio Express-News* in Sunday's editions. His firm represents many school districts throughout South Texas, including the San Antonio school district.

The Legislature in 1995 passed a law that penalizes districts for buying out their superintendents.

## NATIONAL

### Road-rage murderer given 13-year term

COLUMBIANA, Ala. (AP) — A woman was sentenced Monday to 13 years in prison for the "road rage" shooting death of another woman motorist on the exit road of a busy interstate.

Shelby County Circuit Judge Al Crowson denied probation as he sentenced 40-year-old Shirley Henson, who was convicted of manslaughter in the roadway killing of Gena Foster, a 34-year-old mother of three.

Prosecutors said Henson tailgated Foster for several miles on Interstate 65 as the two women drove from work to their homes in suburbs south of Birmingham on Nov. 8, 1999.

Henson showed no emotion when the judge read the sentence.

Crowson said everyone has "a little road rage" inside, and he knew his sentencing in this case would be closely watched. He said neither probation nor the maximum sentence of 20 years was appropriate.

## WORLD

### Dalai Lama tradition celebrates 50 years

DHARMSALA, India (AP) — The Dalai Lama on Monday celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ascension as Tibet's teenage head of state, and confirmed during the elaborate ceremony that his government-in-exile was again in contact with China.

The exiled priest-king of Tibet told reporters that his administration had resumed contact with Beijing, stalled since 1998.

The news came during a daylong festivity marking his rise to political power as a teen-ager in 1950.

The Dalai Lama said his brother, Gyalo Thundup, who had led previous missions to China, was invited to visit Beijing about three months ago.

After his brother returned to Dharamsala the Dalai Lama asked Beijing for permission to send a fact-finding delegation to Tibet.

The Dalai Lama said contact was an opportunity to exchange views, and he repeated his position that he did not want independence.

## Model students



Melissa Veale, a senior interior design major from McKinney, and Alex Mireles, a senior architecture major from El Paso, make final adjustments to their groups presentation for an academics center at the Texas Tech campus at Junction. Students from the collaborative studio classes gathered in the Agriculture Pavilion on Monday afternoon to showcase their landscape architecture models.

## Baylor Congress urging logo change

Student government aims to implement new look for school emblem due to "cartoonish" style.

By Pam Smith  
Staff Writer

The Student Congress at Baylor University cannot bear the university's current logo and are taking steps to change it.

At their last meeting, the Congress passed a bill stating they wanted to change the logo — a green bear with paws reaching over the phrase "Baylor Bears" — because the student body has complained about the logo being "too cartoonish" against the traditional image of the school. The logo has been the official logo for the university since September 1997.

"Many student organizations were using old logos, such as the sailor bear, instead of using the new one," said Baylor Congress Rep. Glenn Roush, who authored the bill. "We felt the student population was very unhappy with it."

Roush said many students had told him and other representatives that they would rather have a logo that was "tough but classy"



representing the university they attend. He said he feels the reason the administration possibly could be hesitant is because it spent \$40,000 designing the new logo three years ago when Baylor became part of the Big 12 Conference.

"The university spent \$40,000 to hire a New York company to design the logo," Roush said. "At the time with several NBA expansion teams adopting cartoon logos, they thought it was the way logos were going."

In a Nov. 16 article in Baylor's student newspaper, *The Lariat*, employees of the campus

bookstore and spirit shop had said the merchandise bearing the new logo was not as popular with the students who purchased collegiate merchandise. Students interviewed said they would not mind the logo on merchandise such as banners and window stickers, but they did not want to purchase clothing imprinted with the logo.

Because of the popularity of old logos, such as the sailor bear and a growling bear, Student Body President Jon Rolph said the legislation to change the logo originally included changing the logo back to the sailor bear.

"The original legislation was to go back to the sailor bear," he said. "However, it has to be revised in order to leave open other options for a new logo."

While the administration of the university would have to make the final decision about changing the logo, Roush said, the Congress has been working hard to keep the issue alive and to demonstrate to the administration that this is a change the student body wants made.

"This issue has stirred up a lot of controversy and talk," he said. "Next semester, we are planning to put a question about the logo change on the student life survey that is conducted every semester so we will have numbers." **see LOGO, page 3**

## Willful Red Raiders sought by charity

By Whitney Wyatt  
Staff Writer

The Salvation Army is looking for volunteers who want to keep the myth of Santa Claus alive.

Ryan Ward, Jessica Rose and David Butler, members of the Texas Tech University Range, Wildlife and Fisheries Club, did just that on Friday.

Ward, a sophomore range management major from Henrietta, said he enjoyed ringing bells at the kettle outside the Barnes and Noble bookstore.

"We want to help people because it is the season of giving," he said. "It's hard to realize that we have so much while others don't."

Maj. Mark Satterlee, commanding officer of the local chapter of the Salvation Army, encourages Tech organizations, students, staff and faculty members to ring bells at the various kettle locations so less-fortunate children on the South Plains can have a Christmas.

Satterlee is willing to work around schedules — weekends, days and nights.

Theta Chi and Kappa Kappa Psi, both Tech organizations, are also ringing bells, he said.

The Salvation Army, established in 1923, has more than 30 kettles set up across Lubbock. Wal-Mart, United, Dillard's, Hobby Lobby and many other businesses are home to kettles during this Christmas holiday.

Volunteers began ringing bells at the kettles Nov. 17 and will continue until Dec. 23, with the exception of Sundays.

The donated money goes toward buying toys, clothing, food and other necessities for less-privileged families.

Parents are going to provide for their children, even if they can't afford it, Satterlee said, because they will let the rent or utility bills go.

"Our hope is to provide for these families by rendering them financial assistance," he said. "If we can impact their lives in that way, it would be good."

Denise Rively, volunteer coordinator **see DONATE, page 3**



Texas Tech's Range Wildlife and Fisheries Club members ring bells at Barnes and Noble on Nov. 30 to help collect money for the Salvation Army. Ryan Ward, a sophomore wildlife management from Henrietta and David Butler, a junior wildlife management major from Flower Mound, volunteer in an effort to raise donations.

## Judge ousts VP election appeal bid

Al Gore's hopes of winning the election suffer a major setback on Monday.

(AP) — Al Gore's prospects for winning the presidency dimmed Monday when a circuit court judge refused to overturn George W. Bush's certified victory in Florida and the U.S. Supreme Court set aside a ruling that had allowed manual recounts. Running out of options, the vice president's team pleaded with Democrats to stick with him a few more days.

"They won. We lost. We're appealing" to the Florida Supreme Court, said Gore attorney David Boies after Circuit Judge N. Sanders Sauls rejected the Democrat's unprecedented contest of the election. "We've moved one step closer to having this resolved."

It was, Gore's advisers said, a major step in the wrong direction.

Neither decision settled the legal knots tying up the election of a 43rd American president, but the developments were a blow for Gore. He is urgently searching for a court victory to sustain his presidential quest.

Andrew Card, Bush's prospective chief of staff, said the day's court rulings had buoyed the Republican camp and given new impetus to efforts to form a new Bush government.

"We'll be able to move pretty quickly," once there is either a conclusive court ruling or a Gore concession, Card said in an interview.

On Day 27 of the longest, closest presidential race in a century, running mate Joseph Lieberman and campaign manager William Daley called Democrats on Capitol Hill to explain the whirlwind legal develop-

**see REJECT, page 3**

## SHS offers flu shots

By Linda Robertson  
Staff Writer

Flu shots will be available for students at Student Health Services starting Friday for \$7.

Administrative director Dee Jackson said flu shots have been available, but the supply is low.

"I would like to let everyone know that flu shots are available, and since everyone is going home, if they take the shot now, they will be immune by the time they return to school in the spring," she said. "We haven't had an epidemic yet, and we are trying to prevent that happening."

Jackson stresses that the flu shot will not cause the flu, but will give immunity to the current strain.

According to the Centers for Disease Control Web site at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov), the symptoms of influenza, known commonly as the flu, are like those of a cold, only worse. They include headache, body aches, runny nose, cough, a fever of 100 degrees or higher, as well as nausea and diarrhea.

It can be fatal to those who are elderly, young and those who have chronic illnesses.

The CDC recommends that people who work in large crowds, live in communal settings, such as in residence halls or hostels, or in health care settings get the shot to prevent getting the flu.

The Web site also said people have a tendency to call a bad cold the flu, but there are distinct characteristics of each illness. For example, a cold can start mild and progress, while the flu has a sudden onset and generally takes 10 days to two weeks to get over. Neither illness responds to antibiotics because they are viral in origin and not bacterial.

For more information, call Student Health Services at 743-2848.

# Center thriving in only second year

**Program that aids students with learning disabilities sees great success at Tech.**

By Jacob Heesch  
Contributing Writer

The TECHniques Center at Texas Tech is the only center in Texas that provides academic support to undergraduates with learning disabilities. The program was started last year and is enjoying great success helping students with learning disabilities succeed at college.

Leann DiAndrèth-Elkins, counseling supervisor and coordinator of the center, said the goal of the program is to help students with learn-



## TECHniques Center

ing disabilities make it through college just like any other student.

"We try and teach the students the learning skills needed to be a successful college student," Elkins said.

There are three separate application processes students must complete to get involved in the program. Students have to be accepted by

Texas Tech through the Office of Admissions and School Relations, and then must submit an application and sufficient documentation in the form of an evaluation by a qualified professional to AccesTECH. Finally, students need to submit an application in the TECHniques Center. Applications are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Right now, there is a high demand to get into the program, Elkins said, with about 41 students in the program now. There are about 20 tutors that help these students with homework and prepare for exams.

Elkins said that students average four or five hours a week meeting with their tutors.

"The students either meet with their tutor here or at the library. The student and tutor decide this themselves," she said.

Students that wish to be in the program can choose full-service or

partial-service. It costs \$1,300 per semester for the full-service participation and \$500 for the partial-service participation.

The program is also offered in the summer. The summer session would cost a student \$500. Students also can go to a learning style assessment. This is a one-time session that costs \$100.

The program is working very well. In Fall 1999, the program's first, 75 percent of the students in the program earned at least a 2.4 GPA. Also, 43 percent of upperclassmen earned their highest semester GPA. Also in Fall 1999, 23 percent of students in the program earned at least a 3.0 GPA.

During Spring 2000, 30 percent of the students in the program earned a better GPA than their previous semester and 30 percent of the students earned at least a 3.0 GPA.

This success of the program has

received attention from the National Association of Student Personal Administrators, which has named the center as one of seven national exemplary programs.

The tutors at the TECHniques Center also are Texas Tech students. The tutors must have completed 60 hours and have at least 3.0 GPA. A student can have any major and still be a tutor.

Paula Patel, a senior MIS major from Houston, has been a tutor since the program started last year. She is tutoring five students this semester and works about 10 to 15 hours a week.

"The students are really cool," Patel said. "The only tough thing is having my tests during the same week as the students."

The center is located in 143 Wiggins Hall. The center can be reached at 742-1822 for further information.

## Texas plaintiffs appeal dismissal in Cheney suit

DALLAS (AP) — Three Texans have appealed a federal judge's decision to dismiss a lawsuit that sought to block Gov. George W. Bush's election as president.

The appeal was filed Monday in the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans.

The plaintiffs have challenged the residency status of vice presidential candidate Dick Cheney.

They claimed that Cheney is a resident of Texas, not Wyoming, and that

he and Bush, therefore, shouldn't be awarded the state's 32 electoral votes.

The lawsuit cited the 12th Amendment, which prohibits the president and vice president from living in the same state.

U.S. District Judge Sidney Fitzwater, a Republican appointed by President Reagan, ruled Friday that Cheney has proven he "has both a physical presence within the state of Wyoming and the intent that Wyoming be his place of habitation."

Plaintiffs' attorney Bill Berenson of Fort Worth said Monday he expects the case to go all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Houdini himself could not have escaped Texas the way Cheney supposedly did," he said. "We are dead right on the law."

But Fitzwater ruled the plaintiffs failed to show they would prevail on the merits of their case or would suffer irreparable injury if the injunction was not granted. A similar lawsuit filed

in Florida was dismissed Nov. 20.

"We believe the plaintiffs are engaged in a fruitless effort. Two judges have already kicked this argument out of court," Cheney spokeswoman Juleanna Glover Weiss said.

Cheney, a former Wyoming congressman, lived in Dallas while he was chairman of Halliburton Co. until he changed his voting registration to Teton County, Wyo., on July 21 — four days before becoming Bush's running mate.

## TechNotes!

**ATTENTION COMMUTERS:** Because of an event taking place in Lubbock Municipal Auditorium on Thursday, portions of the Auditorium/Coliseum parking lot (C1) will be closed (Appendix A section 11.e.4 in the Traffic and parking regulations).

Please allow additional time to find parking on this day. There should be plenty of available space in the parking lots west of Indiana Avenue.

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# Condemned killer of 7-year-old set to die

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — The pickup truck tailgate where 7-year-old April Marie Wilson was raped and murdered served as a lectern at the trial of her accused killer.

An 8-by-10 photograph of her was displayed on the prosecution table. "She was the prettiest little thing," retired Jones County District Attorney Jack Willingham recalled. "I set her picture up on the counsel table as a witness that couldn't be there."

Garry Dean Miller, the man convicted of choking and fatally bludgeoning her, was set to die tonight.

Miller, 33, would set a record, becoming the 38th condemned murderer to receive lethal injection this year in Texas, topping the mark of 37 set three years ago. Thirty-five were executed last year.

*Execution would be 38th; tops 37 of three years ago*

"I don't take any pride in this," said Willingham, who retired four years ago.

"But it was just a terrible thing. You just can't imagine a human being can do that to a child."

Miller also would be the first of three Texas death row inmates to be executed on consecutive nights this week.

"I don't have too much mercy for these guys," said Gary Brown, who succeeded Willingham as district attorney in Jones County, north of Abilene, and responded to Miller's appeals.

"They're dying a better way than their victim. That's my attitude."

"It's too bad you can't walk in and

one day they don't know about and just say: 'OK. Bye!' And just kill them — just like they did their victim."

Miller, who worked as a bartender and laborer, was believed to have been drinking heavily when he returned to his girlfriend's house in Merkel, about 15 miles west of Abilene, in the early morning hours of Nov. 11, 1988.

April Wilson was the girlfriend's cousin, was staying at her house and was asleep on a couch when Miller arrived.

In a confession to authorities, Miller said he woke up the girl and asked if she wanted to go for a ride. In a cotton field to the north in Jones County, he raped her on the pickup

tailgate, then choked her and hit her with an object he picked up from the ground.

"He said she began to cry and holler," Willingham said. "This little girl ... he held her on the tailgate of his pickup and raped her. I remember him saying: 'I told her it wouldn't hurt long.'"

"I won't ever forget, I used it in my closing argument," Willingham added.

Miller said he used coat hangers to drag the girl's body through some prickly pear and left her corpse in some brush.

When Miller's girlfriend awoke the next morning and April was gone, police were notified and a

search began with Miller among the searchers. Her body was found by quail hunters and Miller was tied to her death. Blood evidence from the tailgate was used against him.

"He'd been drinking tequila," Brown said. "God knows what he shoved down his throat that night. Too bad it wasn't a .357 slug."

Miller, who declined repeated requests for interviews with reporters, ordered his attorneys to not pursue appeals once the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review his case.

On Wednesday, Daniel Joe Hittle, 50, was set to die for the 1989 shooting death of a Garland police officer.

The following night, Claude Howard Jones, 60, was scheduled for injection for the 1989 robbery and shooting death of a San Jacinto County liquor store owner.

## State algebra test resulting in failing grade

**■ Most Texas high school students are having trouble with math portion of TAAS test.**

HOUSTON (AP) — A state algebra test is adding up to trouble for students, with most failing it and then facing an even tougher exam to graduate from high school, officials say.

Current scores on students' end-of-course algebra tests could predict how students will do on the revised Texas Assessment of Academic Skills that's required for graduation, state

officials are telling school districts.

"Does it have us worried? You bet," Rockwell Kirk, Spring's assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, told the Houston Chronicle in Monday's editions.

Eighth-graders this year will be the first to face a revised graduation test in 2004 that includes algebra and geometry.

Among suburban students, the state algebra test's passing rate at the end of the Algebra I course was 47.6 percent for Spring, 59.7 percent at Fort Bend and 60.7 percent at Spring Branch, state figures show.

Troubled by high teacher turnover in math, Spring educators have started paying bonuses to encourage math teachers to stay.

In Fort Bend, administrators began offering tuition-free summer school this year to ninth-graders who failed algebra. A task force is also researching teaching strategies, especially for students from poor families, since only 34.3 percent of low-income students passed the algebra exam last spring.

Only 11.6 percent of students in the North Forest Independent School District passed the state algebra test at the end of their Algebra I course last year. And just 37 percent of students in the Houston Independent School District passed the exam, usually taken in the eighth, ninth or 10th grade.

Officials say a big focus at HISD in helping students is providing

training not only to algebra teachers but to math teachers in lower grades.

"As you look at this issue, you know that what students are able to do in high school is a function of what they learned in elementary and middle school," Susan Sclafani, HISD's chief of staff for educational programs, said.

Most students fail the algebra exam because they don't have a good math foundation, say researchers with an Austin-based group that studies state educational trends.

"You have to prepare the kids," said Chrys Dougherty, director of research for Just for the Kids. "You can't take a totally unprepared kid and throw algebra at them and expect them to get it in one year."

**Former president Bush to undergo hip replacement**

ROCHESTER, Minn. (AP) — Former President Bush is scheduled to undergo hip replacement surgery Tuesday at the Mayo Clinic in this southeastern Minnesota city.

Clinic spokesman John Murphy confirmed the surgery was planned but said no details would be released until Tuesday.

Former first lady Barbara Bush had successful total hip replacement at the clinic in December 1997.

Bush, 76, was hospitalized in February in Texas to have tests for an irregular heartbeat. His physician, Dr. Ben Orman, said at the time the former president "is in excellent health overall."

Both Bush and his wife also have a thyroid disorder, called Graves' disease, which can be controlled with medication.

The former president captured worldwide attention in 1997 and 1999 by skydiving. He has said he wants to jump again in 2004 for his 80th birthday.

The surgery comes as the former president and first lady await the outcome of legal rulings that could determine if their son George W. Bush won the November presidential election.

**Local man run over by machine dies at hospital**

LUBBOCK (AP) — A recycling plant worker in the South Plains has died from injuries he suffered when he was run over by a machine.

Terry Dickson was pronounced dead Sunday at University Medical Center.

Dickson, 43, was injured Friday at the BFI plant where he was standing in front of a Ditch Witch.

The machine jumped into gear, then rolled over and pinned Dickson, sheriff's officers told local media.

Other employees at the recycling plant were able to lift the machine off Dickson before emergency medical services workers arrived.

**■ DONATE**

from page 1

nator for the Salvation Army, said people get a special feeling when they volunteer.

"Your time is going to something special — it will put a smile on a kid's face on Christmas morning," she said.

Anyone can volunteer, Rively said.

"We have members of the Lion's Club to homeless people ringing bells," she said. "Some that do the best are the homeless."

Bell ringers, though, are not the only kind of volunteers needed this year, she said.

The Salvation Army, located at 1111 16th St., needs volunteers to help distribute toys and food from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 18, 19 and 20 and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 22.

The South Plains Food Bank has donated 2,500 boxes of food to the Salvation Army.

The Angel Tree, a project where a volunteer buys clothes and toys for a child, continues until Dec. 15. Students can adopt an angel in the University Center or in the Law School.

For more information about volunteering, contact Rively at 741-1710 or Janie Garza, the Christmas director for the Salvation Army, at 765-6521.

Christmas dinner will be served at the Salvation Army from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Dec. 25. Volunteers who want to help prepare the food are welcome to start showing up at 7 a.m.

**■ REJECT**

from page 1

ments and urge them to remain steadfast. One senior Democrat who participated in the talks said there was no sense of quitting from the Gore team.

However, the vice president's advisers said privately that their boss was running out of time and options.

They said he would not concede the race before the Florida Supreme Court rules on Sauls' decision and a Democratic lawsuit is settled in Seminole County over irregular handling of GOP absentee ballots. If he loses both cases, Gore is almost certain to give up, said advisers — most of whom insisted he had a decent chance of prevailing before the state high court with its seven Democratic appointees.

One Gore confidant, who said the cause is all but lost, argued that even if the vice president wanted to leave the race before his legal options are exhausted, internal pressures from the party's base would not allow it. The advisers spoke on condition of anonymity.

Gore, Bush, lawmakers in Florida, congressmen in Washington and

scores of judges presiding over the more than 40 lawsuits are focused on two deadlines: Dec. 12, when state electors are chosen, and Dec. 18, when the Electoral College meets.

Without a clear resolution, the Constitution throws the election in the lap of a divided Congress.

"I think whoever wins at the Florida Supreme Court, we'll accept that," Boies said — setting an end date on the long-count election.

Democrats were glum, though they seemed to be heeding Gore's request to stay by his side until the Florida Supreme Court rules.

"I think we're down but not out," said Sen. Barbara Mikulski of Maryland. "This was a punch that knocked him down, but it didn't knock him out."

Sen. Robert Torricelli, D-N.J., said the case is "a legal issue that at some point becomes an issue of time."

Republicans were in a hurry to hear the bell toll for Gore.

"How many defeats are enough?" said Rep. J.C. Watts, R-Okla., the fourth-ranking member of the House. "The time has come for the vice president to admit defeat."

"Al Gore is facing the longest week of his political life," said Scott

Reed, a GOP operative who ran Bob Dole's failed 1996 presidential campaign. "Time has run out, but he won't give up."

Just three days after hearing historic arguments, the U.S. Supreme Court invited Florida's top court to clarify its reasons for extending the deadline for hand-counted ballots in some Democratic counties. A spokesman for the state high court said briefs were due on that case Tuesday afternoon.

Bush called the Supreme Court ruling "a very strong statement on our behalf." While posing for pictures in front of a garland-strung hearth, Bush told reporters he was dispatching running mate Dick Cheney to Capitol Hill to meet with GOP leaders to continue making plans for a presumptive Bush presidency.

Hours later, Sauls ruled that Gore "failed to carry the requisite burden of proof" in the unprecedented legal challenge to Bush's 537-vote certified victory.

Florida's seven justices, all appointed by Democratic governors, had ordered Secretary of State Katherine Harris, a Republican, to accept recount totals for several days after the state's Nov. 14 deadline.

Roush said he also plans to discuss the issue with the alumni association.

The Student Congress is a body of the student government that is made up of representatives from each college and the Baylor residential halls.

**■ LOGO**

from page 1

bers to present to the administration."

Rolph said he has not yet talked to the administration about the

change, but said he hopes the Student Congress can coordinate a change with the administration for the best outcome for the university.

"We plan to follow up and work with them," he said. "We also might put the issue up for a university-wide vote to decide the issue."

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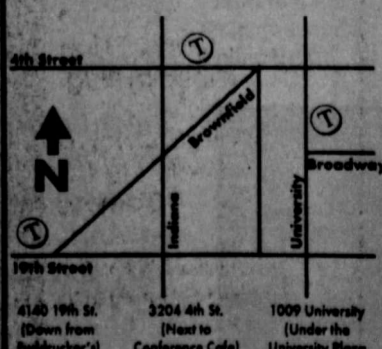
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Opinions & Ideas

The University Daily

The University Daily

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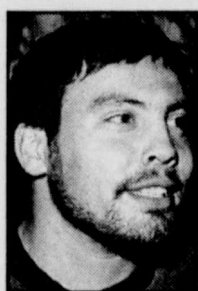
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LETTERS: The UD welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be no longer than 300 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number, social security number and a description of university affiliation. Letters selected for publication have the right to be edited. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. All letters are subject to verification.
GUEST COLUMNS: The UD accepts submissions of unranked 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.

Your View

What do you want for Christmas?



"I want to go home. I haven't been home in two years, and I am going to get to this Christmas. That is really enough. I don't need anything else."

Marino Baghdati
junior petroleum engineering major from Greece



"I want a new sound system for my car. That would be great. I also want to have a good Christmas with my family and my new niece, who was born today."

Crissi Brooks
senior exercise and sports science major from Tulla



"I want an A in all of my classes. That is really all that I want. That's about it."

Josh Kurzweil
junior music education major from Plano



"I want my own apartment and a puppy, and on Christmas Day I am going to sit and sulk because I didn't get what I want."

Cris Newsome
sophomore undeclared major from Houston



"I don't know what I want. I guess to pass all of my classes. Think Santa can grant that one?"

Elizabeth Prather
senior animal science major from Austin



"I want money. Lots and lots of money. Clothes are always a good thing, too. And world peace, that's good, too."

Brian Wilson
senior music education major from Flower Mound

compiled by Kristina Thomas



Column

Grades have no place at Tech

With finals just around the corner and graduation only a few months away, I realize now that college is not about learning and preparing for our futures. Its purpose is rather to show us how stupid we really are.

I remember thinking in high school that it must be a great feat to accomplish college graduation. One must be a true intellectual to be able to walk across that stage by the time all the requirements are completed. Now I see that I was completely wrong because I still feel like a dumb kid.

Actually, I don't think that feeling ever really goes away. I've heard too many law students' horror stories about studying 30 hours a day for three years, taking the bar exam (a test that is also meant to show you how stupid you really are) and then walking into a courtroom for the first time still feeling like a dumb kid.

The "dumb kid" feeling may just be part of nature — being the humble person I am. I guess it's not universal since there are still a handful of college students who think they have everything under control and who brag about their four-point every chance they get. These are the same students who, in high school, sat on the front row constantly waving their hand in the air to show everyone that they knew the answer. I used to beat up guys like that in high school, but I guess they never go away.

Another problem with college is that every semester it never fails that we have that one professor who teaches for no other reason than to make our lives a living hell. That professor walks in with a smile, but it's not a smile that says, "I love teaching, and I love my students." Instead, it's a smile that says, "I am diabolical. I really don't want to be here, and I get off on the fact that I can fail you if I want to. Just for kicks, I'm going to give you 20 hours worth of irrelevant homework and then punish you when you get it all wrong."

Luckily, I, the enlightened guru of truth, have a solution to the problem of college. The root of the

dilemma lies in the concept of grades and their existence. Grades are arbitrary, contingent and unnecessary, so I propose that they be done away with. Not only would the number of college students drastically increase, but also the number of despotic professors and proud four-point students would cease to exist. The lyceum would be a place to study and learn for those who desire to know. I do not by any means imply that these exiled professors and students would be completely banned from the campus. In fact, they would come in handy. I would have a little hand-held bell that I could ring while sitting in class that would signal them to bring me a sharpened pencil or a cup of hot tea.

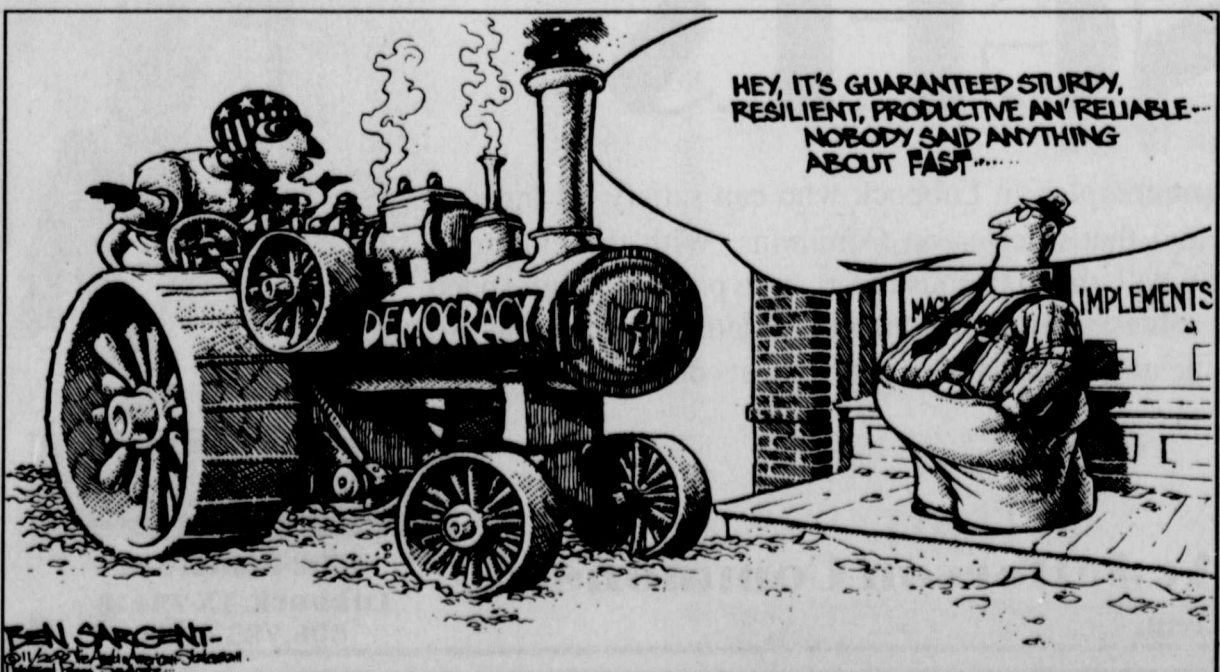
Since there will be no grades in my college, the exams will be optional. If the student feels as though a particular exam will not dedicate to his erudition, he or she simply does not have to take it. The college population again would increase, and the world would be a smarter, more educated place to live.

My school is not complete as long as there are degrees, so we must do away with those also. Bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees must be taken out and forever forgotten. Degrees, like grades, are symbols that show some arbitrary standard set by some arbitrary institution; therefore, they have no place in the learning process. Unfortunately (or maybe fortunately), the college would sink to an all-time low of about five or six students. The entire college student body most likely would consist of a few of us nerds in the philosophy department who get a kick out of torturing ourselves by trying to understand such philosophers as Kant and Heidegger, who really only make sense if read when inebriated.

It's time for a little civil disobedience. Instead of saying no to drugs, let's say no to grades since grades are infinitely more detrimental. Let's all congregate in our "free speech area" outside the University Center and protest rather than take final exams.

Well, you can if you want to. I'll probably just shut up and take my finals.

Joseph Colley is a senior English and philosophy major from Mount Pleasant. He encourages everyone to have a super duper, extra special, happy holiday season.



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# TechLife!

The University Daily

## 'Vertical Limit' scary despite slow spots

(AP) — The cliffhanger is back. "Vertical Limit" may be a bit oxygen-deprived when it comes to character development, but it compensates with nail-biting, stomach-churning feats of death defiance on the slopes of the world's second-highest mountain.

Though there's a stretch or two of near inertia where the movie lumbers along like a stubborn pack mule, "Vertical Limit" delivers enough gripping action to make up for the slow spots.

Chris O'Donnell stars as Peter Garrett, a mountain climber who must make a terrible choice in the movie's opening scene to save himself and his sister, Annie (Robin Tunney), while scaling a rock-face with their father.

In the span of a few minutes, director Martin Campbell ("GoldenEye," "The Mask of Zorro") captures a really horrifying moment. Unfortunately, "Vertical Limit" then grounds itself for prolonged meanderings and musings as the action jumps ahead a few years and shifts to the snows of Pakistan, where Peter will have to mount a daring rescue.

After the incident with his father, Peter has shunned mountain climbing, instead studying wildlife for National Geographic. Peter conveniently is on a project within spitting distance of Annie, who is about to scale K2 with a team that includes wealthy adventurer Elliot Vaughn (Bill Paxton).

The movie takes an overly long breather to introduce its large cast of climbers. Foremost is Montgomery Wick (Scott Glenn), a wild-haired abominable snowman who spends his time alone on K2 looking for his dead wife, lost in an expedition years earlier.

There's the French-Canadian beauty Monique (Izabella Scorupco); Tom McLaren (Nicholas Lea), the levelheaded leader of Vaughn's climb; two wacky Australian brothers (Steve Le Marquand and Ben Mendelsohn); and

Kareem (Alexander Siddig), the big-hearted Muslim porter.

Peter organizes the rescue after foul weather traps Annie, Tom and Vaughn high up in nosebleed altitudes.



The pulse quickens once "Vertical Limit" hits the hills again. To extricate the victims from a crevice, the rescuers cart along nitroglycerin, which they soon discover is not the ideal liquid to haul into avalanche country.

Split into three two-person teams, they dangle dizzily off cliffs, make a scarifying jump from a helicopter and get up-close and personal with monster snowslides.

There's tension in the ranks as Peter discovers a dark connection between Wick and Vaughn that calls into question the grizzled climber's motive for joining the rescue. And the self-preservation-minded Vaughn becomes positively Machiavellian about whether supplies should be "wasted" on the injured Tom.

Despite these little touches, the characters are mainly one-dimensional types whose yammer occupies time from one puppet-on-a-string stunt to the next. And the symmetry between the movie's climax and its harrowing opening scene is a bit much for credulity.

"Vertical Limit" is a case where less explication would be more. By excising some of that mountainside chit-chat, Campbell could have created a tauter movie that keeps the focus where it belongs — namely, on its very effective cliffhangers.

## Give my regards to Lubbock

Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast' to bring Broadway to city with dazzling special effects, timeless love story

By Leslie Follmar  
Staff Writer

To add to the holiday fun and festivities of this year, the "Give Your Regards to Broadway" Season presents Disney's "Beauty and the Beast."

The award-winning musical provides entertainment for all ages. Elaborate costumes and catchy songs have drawn audiences into the story's plot for years.

Ron Bagden plays Cogsworth (the clock) in "Beauty and the Beast" and has been acting professionally since 1976. From performing in such plays as "A Christmas Carol" in Madison Square Gardens to "Amadeus" on Broadway, Bagden grew up in a family that did not take much of an interest in theatre. It wasn't until high school that a director took him to a play at Temple University that Bagden felt a calling to the stage. "I left that performance just knowing in my blood that's what I was supposed to do," Bagden said.

He then went to Temple University and on to the Royal Academy for Dramatic Arts in London and taught acting at a college in New York. Bagden said being with "Beauty and the Beast" has been a great experience for him. "I'm working with a really great company and cast. The ensemble does great work, and they are the ones who really make this show sparkle. The cast carries a good amount of talent; they all have good acting credits."

Beauty and The Beast tells the story of Belle, a young woman in a small French town, and the Beast, a selfish prince who is cast under a spell by a witch. All the servants in the Beast's castle are under the spell as well and are being transformed into household items. The Beast must learn to truly love if he is to



The cast of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" serenades Belle and Gaston in a town scene. The show opens in Lubbock tomorrow.

break the spell, but if not, the castle will be cursed forever. Many remember "Beauty and the Beast" as the first Oscar-nominated animated movie. The theatrical performance opens up that world and brings the animations to life.

Seeing "Beauty and the Beast" for the first time was a very moving experience for Bagden. "It's such a moving tale that brought me to tears the first time I saw it," Bagden said. "I'd encourage people to go see the show if they can, and it's great to see it from far away. All the special effects and costumes are great when the whole stage is visible."

Bagden said although a lot of people look at "Beauty and the Beast" as "trite and corny," everyone can relate to the struggles in the plot. "I love the story of 'Beauty and the Beast,'" Bagden said. "Many people can relate to this story. Seeing the Beast as some-

one who is being taught how to love, learning not to jump anger and not to respond emotionally; this is something we can all learn."

"Beauty and The Beast" opens at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and runs until Dec. 10. A special matinee performance will be at 1 p.m. Thursday. The show will be at Lubbock Municipal Auditorium. Ticket prices range from \$17.25 to \$62.25 and can be purchased at all Select-A-Seat locations.

## Kittie to play Liquid 2000

The powerful all-female metal band Kittie will headline a concert tonight at Liquid 2000, 1812 Ave. G. The bill will include Factory 81, Drowning Pool and Nonpoint.

Kittie, who was scheduled as an opening band on the last Pantera tour, decided to headline its own tour after the Pantera tour was postponed because of an injury.

After spending the summer performing with Ozzfest, the band recently began the headlining tour and will play in venues across the United States. The band hit radio airwaves this year with songs like "Brackish" and "Spit." Kittie's debut album, *Spit*, was certified gold. Several live versions of tracks from *Spit* will be released on an EP Dec. 12. The EP will contain a special CD ROM for the video "Charlotte."

Beginning in 2001, Kittie also will perform on the Sno-Core Tour, which begins Jan. 16. The follow-up to *Spit* will be released early next year.

Tickets to tonight's show cost \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door and are available at both locations of Ralph's Record's, 909 University Ave. and 3322 82nd St., and at Liquid 2000. The show will begin at 9 p.m.

## Cowboy art museum names new director

KERRVILLE, (AP) — A man who began his career at Fort Worth's Amon Carter Museum is returning to the Lone Star State as executive director of the Cowboy Artists of America Museum.

Michael W. Duty will begin at the Kerrville museum in early 2001. He succeeds Natalee Nunn, who is retiring.

Duty helped create Museums West, a group of 10 museums that spotlight Western art and history and Native American culture in the U.S. and Canada.

Three years ago, he played a major role in establishing permanent western art galleries at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

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July 3 - July 24  
4th Term  
July 24 - Aug. 7

We will be interviewing  
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 6th, 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church 16th and Ave. X

### The Student Government Association announces the STUDENT ORGANIZATION BUDGET WORKSHOP

7 p.m. Tuesday, December 5 in the University Center Matador Room

All registered student organizations wishing to receive SGA Funding for the 2001-2002 school year **MUST ATTEND**

either the December 5th or January 16th Workshop. Funding Request Packets will be available at the workshops.

For more details call the SGA office at 742-3631.

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# Sports

The University Daily

Raider men battle UTEP 7

Muench awards 7

## Lady Raiders knock out New Mexico, 80-56

By Matt Muench  
Staff Writer

You could say the Lady Raiders were just teasing New Mexico on Monday night.

After a sloppy first half on offense and defense, No. 10-ranked Texas Tech exploded for 49 second-half points to top the Lobos, 80-56, in front of 11,082 fans at the United Spirit Arena.

"I was a little disappointed at our defense, particularly in the first half," Tech coach Marsha Sharp said. "But we are glad to get the win because New Mexico is a quality team."

The Lady Raiders (5-0) and Lobos

(5-3) opened the contest exchanging buckets, and it seemed like whichever team had the ball last would win.

At one point in the first stanza, Tech went nine possessions with just one field goal and one free throw.

Sharp said she felt like the first-half sloppiness occurred because of bad shot selection and bad free throw shooting.

"We were going to the free throw line and not making them," said Sharp, whose team hit just 20-of-38 free throws. "I thought our attack was OK, and we were doing a good job of putting the ball where we had a chance to score, and we just didn't."

Tech closed the first half with a 10-3 run to take a 31-24 edge at the break, but New Mexico came out of the locker room fired up, scoring the first five points of the second half to draw within two.

That was when Lady Raider forward Plenette Pierson said she had to step up.

Pierson did just that, as she scored six consecutive points to pull Tech ahead by eight points.

"I felt that my team was struggling and someone had to be the one on the team to step up," said Pierson, who finished with a game-high 24 points. "I thought I needed to be that one to get everyone motivated."

After that, Tech cruised by the Lobos using two key second-stanza runs. Back-to-back three pointers by

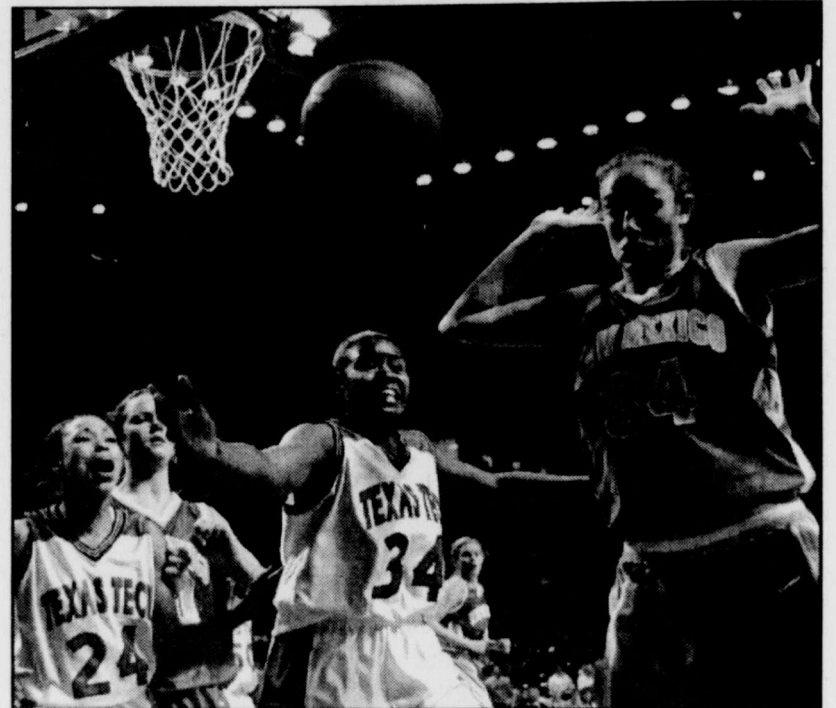
guards Candi White and Amber Tarr sparked a 17-2 run for the Lady Raiders. White said it was the best game of the season for her as she finished with 10 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds.

"It was important that we come out and play better the second half," White said. "We played slow the first half, and it was just something we had to do."

During the 17-2 run, New Mexico went through a stretch of hitting one field goal in 12 possessions.

Sharp said the defense on the blocks was the main factor during that run.

"We were a little better defensively in the second half," Sharp said. "We tried to take away from things on the blocks, and it was a situation where we wanted to stay consistent on defense."

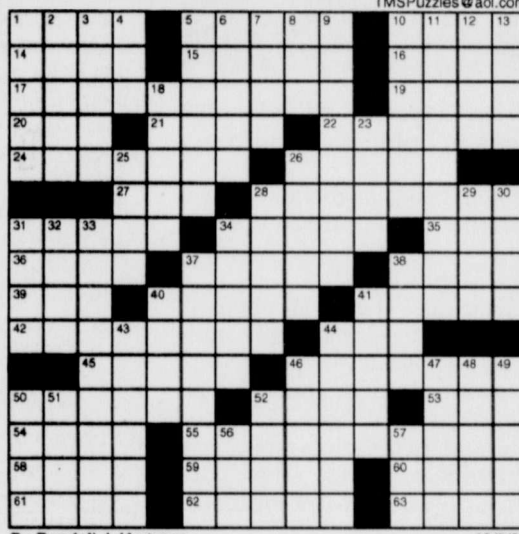


Lady Raiders Katrisa O'Neal and Tanisha Ellison avoid touching the ball and await the referee's call on which team will gain possession of the ball in Tech's win over New Mexico Tuesday night at the United Spirit Arena.

### THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- Wound mark
  - Supplications
  - Cornell or Pound
  - Subject matter?
  - Dirt
  - Bankruptcy
  - Poe poem
  - Primo condition
  - Overweight
  - Dies
  - Musical transition
  - Twist off
  - Augusta's state
  - Annex
  - Orchestral composition
  - Foundation
  - Hold contents
  - Albee play, "The \_\_\_ Story"
  - Islands off Galway
  - Outer robes
  - Saxophonist Stan
  - Stimpy's pal
  - Gainer and swan
  - Gaggle group
  - Harried
  - Indigo or wood
  - Pass along
  - La Scala voice
  - Actor Omar
  - "Well That Ends Well"
  - School of whales
  - Musical appendix
  - Cian plan
  - Consumer
  - "Fear of Flying" author Jong
  - It the truth?
  - Exploit
  - Passover celebration
  - GM make



By Randall J. Hartman  
Escondido, CA 12/5/00

#### Monday's Puzzle Solved

MASH DICIES AMEN  
OTTO EVEREST RAVE  
ASIS VALSA DIET  
TENPOINTTYPE  
SATTING ONTOP  
TENCENTSTORE  
TATAR AROSE MAE  
ARAL ABATE MELT  
SDI COATTI GUISE  
TENGALLOHAT  
ENTER OMERTA  
TENPENNY NAIL  
TITO OSTEO EDNA  
ALOU BATOR SIAM  
BLOT STANS SOSO

- Took a look
- H. Hamlin TV series
- Perry's creator
- Dined
- Contrivances
- Weasel's kin
- Jjsselmeers' site
- Leader leader?
- Pot entrance fee
- Flycatchers and goatsuckers
- Puerto Rico
- 25 First murderer
- Forenoons
- Crowded?
- Kids
- Seep
- Don Rickles remark
- Length x width
- "Gidget" star
- Flock of quail
- Serengeti giants?
- Will of "The Waltons"
- Sub shop
- Word with moth or cab
- Actor
- Depardieu
- Type of diplomacy?
- Opposite shot to a hook
- "Love"
- An infinity
- "Golden Boy" playwright
- Gust of wind
- Fireman's carry
- In the thick of
- Exist
- Chinese way

### TUESDAY DECEMBER 5

STAT CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT (5) Lubbock	KCBD (11) NBC Lubbock	KLBK (13) CBS Lubbock	KUPT (22) UPN Lubbock	KAMC (23) ABC Lubbock	KJTV (24) FOX Lubbock
7:00	Bus. Report Body Elec.	Today Show	News	Lightyear Recess	Good Morning America	K. Copeland Paid Program
8:00	Barney Teletubbies		Early Show	Sabrina Pepper Ann		Greg Mathis
9:00	Caillou Sesame	Today Show	Sally Jessy Raphael	Nanny Caroline	Live W/Regis	Dr. Laura
10:00	Street Mr. Rogers	Martha Stewart	Price Is Right	Grace/Fire Liv'g Single	View	Divorce Ct. Divorce Ct.
11:00	Dragon Tales Arthur	Montel Williams	Young & the Restless	Ricki Lake	Mad/You Port Charles	Joe Brown P/Attorney Mills Lane
12:00	P. Gardener Motorweek	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	PI/Attorney Mills Lane
1:00	Fine Art Barney	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Jenny Jones	One Life to Live	Matlock
2:00	Zoboomatoo Clifford	Hlwyd Square	Guiding Light	Street Smart Paid Program	General Hospital	Paid Program Magic Bus
3:00	Arthur Washbone	Rosie O'Donnell	Maury Povich	Clueless Moesha	Housecalls Housecalls	Dinozaurs Lightspeed
4:00	Zoom R. Rainbow	Oprah Winfrey	For Women	7th Heaven	Tell/Truth Family Feud	X-Men Digimon
5:00	Belw/Lions Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	MASH CBS News	People's Court	News ABC News	Sabrina Simpsons
6:00	Newshour	News Extra	Jeopardy News	Judge Judy Judge Judy	News W/Fortune	Spin City Frasier
7:00	Orchid Delirium	M. Richards 3rd Rock *PG	Rudolph Reindeer	Movie: "Alien"	Millionaire	Billboard Music
8:00	Best of "Cosmos"	Frasier *PG DAG *PG	60 Minutes II	Fury	Dharma/Greg Geena Davis	Awards
9:00	Pledge Event	Dateline	Judging Amy	Voyager	Once & Again	News
10:00	Nightly Bus.	News Tonight Show	News David	Arrest/Trial Cops	News Nightline	Spin City Frasier
11:00		Conan	Latterman Craig	Blind Date Change/Heart	Access Paid Program	Cheers Coach
12:00		O'Brien Later	Kilborn Seinfeld	E.T. Real TV	Access Paid Program	News

### Heisman finalists announced

NEW YORK (AP) — Three quarterbacks — Drew Brees of Purdue, Josh Heupel of Oklahoma and Chris Weinke of Florida State — and running back LaDainian Tomlinson of Texas Christian were announced Monday as finalists for the Heisman Trophy.

The award to the nation's best college football player, will be presented by the Downtown Athletic Club on Saturday night.

The four finalists are the leading vote-getters in month-long balloting by 922 sports writers, broadcasters and former Heisman winners.

Balloting continues through Friday but the finalists are well ahead of other contenders.

Brees, a finalist last year, is the Big Ten's career passing leader with 11,517 yards and led Purdue to the Rose Bowl for the first time since 1966.

He threw for 3,393 yards this season with 24 touchdowns and 12 interceptions, and he also ran for 516 yards and five more TDs.

Heupel led Oklahoma to the No. 1

ranking in the country, completing 256 of 389 passes for 3,172 yards with 18 touchdowns and 11 interceptions.

He has at least one TD pass in all 24 of his career games at Oklahoma and has passed for more than 300 yards in 14 of them.

Weinke led the nation with 4,167 passing yards with 33 TD passes and 11 interceptions.

He 32-2 as a starters at Florida State with a streak of 25 consecutive victories.

He holds Atlantic Coast Conference records for passing yardage at 9,789 and touchdown passes with 79. At 28, he would be the oldest to win a Heisman.

Tomlinson led the nation in rushing for the second consecutive year and became only the seventh back in NCAA history to run for 2,000 yards in a season.

He carried 369 times for 2,158 yards — fourth highest in NCAA history — and 22 touchdowns.

His 5,263 career yards is sixth highest in NCAA history.

## 2000 Billboard Music Awards

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# TRUE OR FALSE?

25% OF PEOPLE SAY THEY CAN DETECT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HOW EACH NOSTRIL PERCEIVES SMELL.

AMERICANS EAT APPROXIMATELY 350 SLICES OF PIZZA PER SECOND.

7 OUT OF 100 AMERICANS HAVE FLOSSED THEIR TEETH WITH THEIR HAIR.

MEN BURP 4.7 TIMES PER DAY WHILE WOMEN BURP 2.1 TIMES PER DAY.

8% OF COLLEGE STUDENTS HAVE NOT WATCHED T.V. IN THE LAST WEEK.

NEARLY 2/3 OF COLLEGE STUDENTS DRINK ON AVERAGE LESS THAN ONE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE PER DAY.\*


ONE OUT OF EVERY FOUR AMERICANS HAS APPEARED ON TV.

3.9% OF WOMEN DON'T WEAR ANY UNDERWEAR. 6.4% OF MEN GO COMMANDO.

\*SOURCE: CORE INSTITUTE 1999

GUESS WHAT? EVERY ONE OF THESE IS TRUE. MOST IMPORTANTLY, COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE MAKING RESPONSIBLE CHOICES ABOUT DRINKING. THANKS FOR MAKING INTELLIGENT CHOICES THE NORM.

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