

Seven U.S. soldiers killed in latest Afghan assaults

By Robert Burns/Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Seven American soldiers were killed and 11 were wounded Monday when two U.S. helicopters took enemy fire during the most deadly allied air and ground offensive of the war in Afghanistan.

The U.S. assault, code-named Operation Anaconda, marked a new approach. Instead of relying on Afghan forces to take the fight to the al-Qaida, with U.S. troops in support, the Americans took of the winter."

the lead. Afghan, Canadian, Australian, German, Danish, Norwegian and French forces were supporting.

In all, 40 U.S. soldiers were wounded since the operation began Friday. Fighting was fierce, by all accounts,

in difficult conditions. U.S. ground troops and pilots were operating at elevations between 8,000 and 11,000 feet, said Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, cold, icy and snowy

"like the Rocky Mountains in the middle

helicopters had been hit with extraordinary amounts of small arms fire but were able to continue their assaults. Air Force AC-130 gunships, armed with howitzers and 40mm cannon, were serving as the ground troops' airborne artillery.

Air Force bombers and Navy and Air Force strike aircraft had dropped more than 350 bombs by Monday.

The men killed Monday were not the first U.S. casualties in the new offensive, which appeared far from finished. Army

Army officials said Apache attack Chief Warrant Officer Stanley Harriman, of the soldiers involved are brought back 34, of Wade, N.C., was killed in a ground attack Saturday shortly after American forces, joined by Afghan and other allied troops, began the offensive against hundreds of fighters of the al-Qaida terror network and the former ruling Taliban militia dug in near the town of Gardez.

Details on the two helicopter incidents were sketchy, and military officials offered two differing accounts of what happened.

"The fog of war will persist" until more

and debriefed, Army Gen. Tommy Franks, commander of U.S. Central Command, told a news conference in Tampa, Fla., where he is based.

Pentagon officials said that in the first incident, an MH-47 Chinook helicopter ferrying a reconnaissance force to the area came under fire as it approached its landing zone. It landed under control, but when it lifted off, a soldier fell out of the aircraft. Franks said the crew did not realize it had lost him until it had left.

More than three hours later and about four miles away, Pentagon officials said, another MH-47 Chinook brought in troops to fight the al-Qaida forces. The helicopter came under machine gun and rocket-propelled grenade fire and was forced to make what Franks called a "controlled" crash landing.

The soldiers aboard the helicopter immediately came under fire and left the chopper to return fire, Pentagon officials

ASSAULT continued on page 5



Alumnus, former governor turns 90

ROUNDING A MILESTONE: Tech community shares in Preston Smith's birthday celebration.

By Natalie Worthen/Staff Reporter

Ninety years of former Governor Preston Smith's legacy and heritage were celebrated Monday at the Preston Smith Library of the Tech Health Sciences Center.

Friends, family and well-wishers surrounded Preston Smith as he stood by his colleagues who retold stories and discussed his accomplishments.

Preston Smith graduated from Texas Technological College in 1934 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and then turned toward politics. In 1944 he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives.

Preston Smith served three terms in the House and six in the Senate, and then became lieutenant governor in 1962. He was elected governor in 1968 and was sworn in as the



PRESTON SMITH. FORMER Texas Governor, blows out 90 candles with the help of his daughter, Jan Taylor, at Smith's 90th birthday party Monday in the Preston Smith Library.

He started his tenure as governor with the signing of the legislation establishing the Texas Tech Medical School, now

TEXAS TECH PRESIDENT David Schmidly checks his schedule and makes sure he is on the right bus as he heads to class Monday after switching schedules with Jon Mark Bernal, a graduate student from Austin studying higher education. Bernal got to be Tech president for a day.

Trading

Tech president, student switch schedules for a day to see the other side of campus life

By April Tamplen/Staff Reporter

Close friends of Jon Mark Bernal, who work in the Student Government Association, know Bernal's future goals of becoming Texas Tech president.

Co-workers of Tech president David Schmidly know his goal of relating to the students and understanding what the students want.

Monday, Schmidly and Bernal switched places in the annual President for a Day event sponsored by the Mortar Board.

Bernal, a graduate student from Aus

PRESIDENT continued on page 5



JAIME TOMAS AGUILAR/Photography Editor TEXAS TECH PRESIDENT David Schmidly (MIDDLE) receives instruction on the best way to take roll from the instructors of the IS 1300, Introduction to Business class from Cathy Duran and Don Stull.



JAIME TOMAS AGUILAR/Photography Editor ION MARK BERNAL, a graduate student from Austin studying higher education, reads excerpts from the unedited proof of Tech men's basketball coach Bob Knight's book, "Knight, a Coach's Life," which was on Schmidly's desk.

38th governor of Texas on January 21, 1969.

BIRTHDAY continued on page 5

Senior Salute offers one-stop shopping

By Liesl Klinkerman/Staff Reporter

Texas Tech University will be presenting the Senior Salute, a series of events geared toward graduating students. The event will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday in the Student Union.

Mandy Wiley, the manager of Tech Traditions, said students can find all the items necessary for graduation at the event.

"It's like a graduation fair," Wiley said. "Students can buy announcements, caps and gowns, rings and diploma frames. It's one-stop shopping."

Bill Dean, the executive vice president of the Alumni Association, said he believes the Senior Salute is a great way for students to get their



graduation responsibilities taken care of. "It's a great opportunity for seniors to make one stop, one time and get everything done," Dean said.

The official Texas Tech Alumni Association class ring will be on display throughout the Senior Salute. "Rings are on sale at the Senior Sa

SENIORS continued on page 5



DAVID JOHNSON/Staff Photographer BILL MULLICAN, FROM the Texas Water Development Board, was the last speaker to talk at the High Plains Water, People and Economic Enterprise held in the International Cultural Center Monday.

Public forum discusses Texas water conservation, distribution

By Jenny Klein and April Tamplen/Staff Reporters

Everyone needs water to survive and every economy needs it to thrive. The question posed at Monday's forum, however, was how to make the natural resource last and the best possible way to distribute it.

Several politicians, including the speaker of the Texas House of Representatives and state senators, as well as members of local agriculture and water groups, gathered at the International Cultural Center to discuss the topic.

More than 180 people from all over the state attended. "Our objective is to bring water to the forefront and bring

discussion about water as we know it," John Abernathy, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Texas Tech, said.

Tech co-sponsored the event with High Plains Water Conservation District No.1, Second Baptist Church of Lubbock and the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Addressing issues that are prevalent now and could make

or break the future of the state in many economic areas, such as agriculture, is the beginning of the planning process and a proactive approach, Abernathy said.

James E. "Pete" Laney, speaker of the House, said Texans are known for creating colorful phrases about the semi-arid conditions of the state.

"Throughout history, water, or lack of it, has played a major role in defining the character of the state and its people," Laney said.

In the future, Laney said he hopes to hear people creating phrases about the productivity of Texas, by means of water planning on local and state levels.

Texas has been divided into regions according to water resources and availability.

Lubbock is in Region O, which consists of 21 counties. Because of Senate Bill 1 passed in 1997, each region has been assigned to plan for the future of water in its region.

The purpose of Senate Bill 1 is to create water regions and water planning committees for each region.

"Water planning is a continuous process, a permanent pro-

cess, that changes and evolves and becomes more efficient," Laney said.

Water problems are a complex issue, he said. Everyone has different ideas on how to solve them.

The issues brought to the forefront at the forum ranged from water marketing and transportation to water rights and sustainability.

Susan Combs, commissioner of the Texas Department of Agriculture, said urban and rural interface is a challenge.

People are moving off their ranches and into the cities, Combs said. The debate is how much land the government can take from the few ranchers left, who have underground water flowing through their land.

Ranchers need the water to produce crops, which, in return, produce ample food supply for the state, Combs said.

"We can never underestimate the effects of water to people who need it," Combs said. "If folks don't have reliable, affordable water supply, you will be importing food."

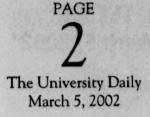
WATER continued on page 3

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Up 2 Date

News Editor: Jeff Stoughton (806) 742-3393 news@universitydaily.net



Morales promises pay raises for teachers

AUSTIN (AP) - Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dan Morales on Monday vowed to give Texas teachers a pay raise, even if it means new taxes.

"I think it's time that Texas begins treating teachers like the professionals they are," Morales said after dropping his children off at school in Austin.

A spokeswoman for Tony Sanchez, Morales' main opponent in the March 12 primary, said Sanchez also supports higher teacher salaries but criticized Morales' pledge as a tax-and-spend solution without first looking elsewhere for the money.

Texas public school teachers have long earned salaries below the national average, contributing to a teacher shortage of more than 30,000 with most of the vacancies in subjects such as math and science.

Texas teachers earn an average of \$38,000 a year, about \$3,000 less than the national average.

Morales said he would bring Texas teachers up to the same pay level as their national counterparts or higher.

"I think Texans are willing to invest in a top-quality public education system," he said. "We have no higher priority."

John Cole, president of the Texas Federation of Teachers, welcomed the pledge.

"Thank God for elections. Every election period our public officials get religious as far as education is concerned," Cole said.



The Rundown

Human rights report scolds three nations

Department's annual human rights report contains strong criticism of China, Russia and Saudi Arabia, saying all three nations violated rights of their citizens during 2001.

China is accused of using the worldwide campaign against terrorism as a pretext for cracking down on Muslims in the Xinjiang region, and Saudi Arabia stands accused of torturing prisoners.

members of Congress on Sunday evening in preparation for its public release Mon-

Parts of the report were made available to The Associated Press by congressional sources.

Blemishes are reported in Israel's human rights record as well, but its struggle with terrorism is underscored, and several Arab military groups, including Hamas and Hezbollah, are condemned for their attacks on Israel.

Deaths at the hands of terrorists surpassed 200 in Israel last year and more than 1,500 people were wounded. While Israel, in trying to cope with terrorism, generally respects the rights of Israeli Arabs and of Palestinians on the West Bank and in Gaza but its practices sometimes are questionable, the report said.

U.S. government an excessive use of force by Israeli authorities. But the report casts most Israeli abuses in terms of the country's need to resist terrorist attacks by Palestinians.



WASHINGTON (AP) - The State

The report was submitted to key

Human rights groups reported to the

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Prisoners continue hunger strike

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP) - Only 13 captives at this remote U.S. military outpost have refused food for all five days of a hunger strike that sometimes has included more than 180 sympathizers, military officials said.

Military spokesmen previously said at least half the strikers apparently were refusing food since Wednesday. The number of strikers peaked Thursday when 194 of the 300 held at the base refused lunch.

The hunger strike began after detainees learned that a guard stripped a fellow detainee of his turban during Tuesday prayers.

The military revealed the new tally Sunday after officials finished a cell-by-cell count of hunger strikers. The number of prisoners refusing to eat has varied by day and by meal.

As the hunger strike entered its sixth day Monday, 83 detainees skipped breakfast. On Sunday night, 82 had skipped dinner.

"We have 13 individuals who have not eaten at all since this hunger strike started," said Marine Capt. Joe Kloppel, a spokesman for the detention mission at the U.S. base in southeastern Cuba. "Others have had at least one meal since this whole thing started."

The announcement coincided with a visit by FBI Director Robert Mueller, who arrived Sunday afternoon, met with officials at the base and toured the detention compound.

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Quote of the Day

"It didn't bother me a bit to park in the commuter lot or ride the bus. I wouldn't mind parking out there all the time."

- DAVID SCHMIDLY, Texas Tech president, on being a student. Please see TRADING, page 1.

Tech Notes

The Finance Association's recruiting trip to Dallas is scheduled for Wednesday through Saturday. The cost for the trip is \$125, and space is limited to 25 people. For more information, contact a Finance Association officer or see the Finance Area secretary in BA 902. For more information, call Jennifer Elder at (806) 780-1190.

Delta Sigma Theta, a nonprofit public service sorority, will conduct an AIDs awareness program with HIV testing from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Parkway Neighborhood Center. For more information, call (806) 792-5414.

Notice: There will be a test of the warning and alert systems at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Sirens will be activated for a period of one minute at that time.

The Texas Tech University Music Theatre's production of "The Bartered

Police Blotter

Bride," originally scheduled for March 23 and 24 has been postponed until next fall. For more information, call (806) 742-2270, ext. 233 or e-mail Liza Muse at liza.muse@ttu.edu.

The Cardinal Key Honor Society is now accepting applications. Applicants must have a 3.0 GPA and 60 hours by Fall 2002. Applications are available in West Hall Room 250 and are due March 21. For more information, call Carl James at (806) 749-2750.

Rho Lambda Honor Society, an allfemale greek honor society, is accepting applications until March 19. Applicants must have a 3.0 GPA and 60 hours by Fall 2002. Applications are available in West Hall Room 250. For more information, contact Beth Adams at (806) 785-3702 or e-mail badams84@hotmail.com.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF Officer investigated criminal mischief to the north door of Gordon Hall. A window was broken out, Feb. 26.

The Chancellor's Ambassadors or-

ganization is open to students who will

be juniors or seniors as of Fall 2002.

Visit the chancellor's office, located in

the Administration building, to pick

up an application and sign up for an

interview time. The sign-up deadline

for greek fraternities and sororities, is

accepting applications for new mem-

bers until March 19. Applicants must

have at least a 3.0 GPA and 60 hours

by Fall 2002. Applications are avail-

able in West Hall, Room 250. For more

information, call Kyleigh Merritt at

The Finance Association will meet at

Order of Omega, an honor society

is March 20.

(806) 771-1397.

Officer investigated criminal mischief to door 3A of the Plant Science building. A window was broken out, Feb. 26.

Officer investigated criminal mischief, which occurred on the 10th floor of Weymouth Hall. Someone had set a piece of paper on fire and damaged some tiles, Feb. 26.

Officer investigated criminal mis-Feb. 28.

to parking control device 3A located at the Hartford entrance to the Z-4P park-

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chief, which occurred in the Z-4R parking lot. Mechanical parking control device 2A, located at the northwest entrance of the lot, was broken,

Officer investigated criminal mischief

ing lot, March 1.

THEFT Officer investigated burglary that oc-

curred in Room 115 of Gates Hall. A man's wallet and contents, several textbooks and other miscellaneous items were taken, Feb. 25.

For more police blotter information, go to our Web site at www.universitydaily.net.

lamarita's) 794-6666



6:30 p.m. today in the BA rotunda. Pizza will be provided. For more information, call Jennifer Elder at (806) 780-1190.

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Don't leave Tech without your copy of the 2002 La Ventana!

You can purchase your copy of the La Ventana in the Student Union Courtyard during Senior Salute on March 5th, 6th, and 7th from 8am-5pm. Don't miss this final opportunity.





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For more information, come the McNair Scholars Program information booth at the UC Courtyard:

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NEWS



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Breaking News

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Tech Notes

Tech Notes is a service provided to Texas Tech students by the Student Government Association and *The University Daily*. To have your student organization event listed, please call 742-3631 or e-mail *UD*@ttu.edu.

Corrections

Call: (806) 742-3393 Policy: *The University Daily* strives for accuracy and fairness in the reporting of news. If a report is wrong or misleading, a request for a correction or a clarification may be made.

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Call: Connie Pauda at (806)742-3388 Subscription Rates: \$120 annually; single issues: 25 cents. Postmaster: send address changes to The University Daily, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409. Faculty candidate speaks to architecture college

HELP WANTED: Texas Tech seeks to improve faculty-to-student ratio in the College of Architecture.

By Preston Files/Staff Reporter

The Texas Tech College of Architecture is addressing the student-to-faculty ratio by interviewing new faculty candidates.

The college hosted Michael Rabens, faculty candidate in architecture history, who gave a lecture to architecture students, faculty, staff and administrators Monday.

"The Texas Tech school of architecture is one of the most important in the country, one of the largest in the country, and has a new and innovative curriculum which I would like to be a part of," said Rabens, an assistant professor of the school of architecture at the University of Florida.

The lecture focused on "Jules Hardouin-Mansart and the dilemma of Chambord."

"It is not my first time in Lubbock and I am attracted by what I see," Rabens said.

Rabens' educational background includes a bachelor of science in architecture studies and master of architecture from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, master of fine arts and a Ph.D. in history of art from Princeton University.

Rabens has been the recipient of numerous fellowships and awards including the Faculty Honoree at the 2001 fall convocation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Florida.

Kimberly Raney, freshman architecture and civil engineering major from Red Oak attended the lecture for extra credit in her architecture history class.

"A candidate should exhibit good communication skills, bring their own experiences into their teaching, and be able to make an impression that would stick in a student's mind," she said.

Because of an increase in enrollment and a commitment to quality teaching, the college is inviting applicants for six full-time, tenure-track positions.

The vacant positions include three assistant or associate professor tenure-



MICHAEL RABENS, A faculty candidate in the College of Architecture, speaks to faculty, students and administrators Monday.

track positions in design studio, one in architectural history classes, one in urban and regional planning and one position in computer-assisted design drawing.

In all these areas, the college is seeking qualified faculty candidates with teach, research, and professional experience. Tech College of Architecture and professor of architecture internships and studio course architecture design thesis, said the National Architecture Accreditation Board's report stated the college's student-to-faculty ratio was too high.

James White, former dean of the

White said Tech Provost John Burns allocated two positions for the academic year 2001-2002, two positions for 2002-2003 and two more positions, which will be advertised in September for the 2003-2004 academic year.

Lisa McDonald, Knights of Architecture president and a senior architecture major from Amarillo, said the college is currently facing a ratio of about one faculty member for every 21 students.

The National Architecture Accreditation Board placed the college on a three-year accreditation period last year.

The NAAB will return to re-evaluate the college in 2004. The college must earn the highest level of accreditation to keep its degrees in good standing through 2010.

One issue affecting the school's accreditation is the student-to-faculty ratio, which is higher than the maximum allowed by the NAAB.

Music festival highlights cultures

By Michael Mondragon/Staff Reporter

The Texas Tech School of Music and the International Cultural Center will host the 2nd Annual Symposium of World Musics beginning Wednesday.

Christopher Smith, assistant professor of music, said the symposium will consist of concerts, workshops, lectures, scholarly papers and presentations. Admission to all events is free.

"The symposium will provide an exciting opportunity for scholars, performers and students of the world's indigenous musics to share research, performances and discussion over three days,"

Smith said last year's symposium was successful, and this year should be the same, if not better. "The purpose of this event is to bring

scholars, students and faculty together to enhance a better understanding of the world of music," he said. Wednesday with the first session of the academic paper presentations in the Lubbock Room in the Student Union.

The second session of the academic paper presentation will be presented at 9:30 a.m. Thursday.

There are 28 papers that will be presented by scholars, students and faculty from around the world about a variety of musical styles, Smith said.

Smith said he and his colleagues were searching for paper presenters since October.

"It isn't just an academic presentation," Hinds said. "This is a good way to bring students in the community to our campus."

The music symposium is part of International Week.

"We are a huge sponsor of the music symposium and are delighted to hold Wednesday and Thursday night," said Idris Traylor, executive director of the international office and director of the

96-

e International Cultural Center.

The concerts are scheduled to be in the auditorium of the International Cultural Center. Last year, the concerts filled the auditorium and Traylor anticipates a similar turnout.

Wednesday, participants will present the Festival Concert, consisting of traditional music from Japan, Ghana, China and the American Southwest. The event will conclude with performances by the Texas Tech's Mariachis, Raiders Rojos. A reception will follow the concert.

The second Festival Concert, scheduled for Thursday, will feature music of the Caribbean, Irish, Native American and Appalachian. Texas Tech professor of music Stuart Hinds will feature his original compositions. The South Plains College Bluegrass Band also will perform with a reception to follow after the concert.

Water

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The college recently interviewed

Paul Clarke and Carla Corroto as poten-

tial faculty members. Clarke served as an

associate professor of architecture and

urban design at Miami University in

Oxford, Ohio. Corroto is currently an

assistant professor of the Department of

Interior Architecture at the University

of North Carolina in Greensboro.

The situation at hand is whether or not water can be sold and transported to larger cities for use. Landowners are being asked to sign contracts with larger cities to provide

water for them for upcoming years. H.P. "Bo" Brown Jr., chairman of the Region O Water Planning Committee, said in order to keep meeting the needs and conditions of local regions, water must remain in local control and restrictions on major water suppliers, like the Ogallala Aquifer, must be kept to a minimum.

"Friends, we are dealing with a major issue that will affect us for years," Brown said.

In an effort to preserve water and conserve its supply for the West Texas area, the state's philosophy is to prolong the life of the aquifer by means of rationalizing its contents.

Such severe restrictions could cause a dramatic hardship of this region, Brown said.

Ken Kramer, executive director of the Lone Star chapter of the Sierra Club, disagrees.

He said water issues have changed with time, and with time, changes have to be made in order to keep the supply flowing for future generations.

"Water transfers have to be in the mix. We can't blindly reject water transfers and water marketing," Kramer said. "There needs to be a balance on how we look at water issues in the state."

T. Boone Pickens, President of Mesa Water, owns a ranch in Roberts County where his neighbors and him have joined together to own more than 3.3 million acre feet of useable ground water.

Pickens said they are considering building pipes that will carry water through the Lubbock, Midland and San Antonio area.



Experience Life

rld of music," he said. Idris Traylor, exec The activities will begin at 1 p.m. international offic

at Jenerson Commons

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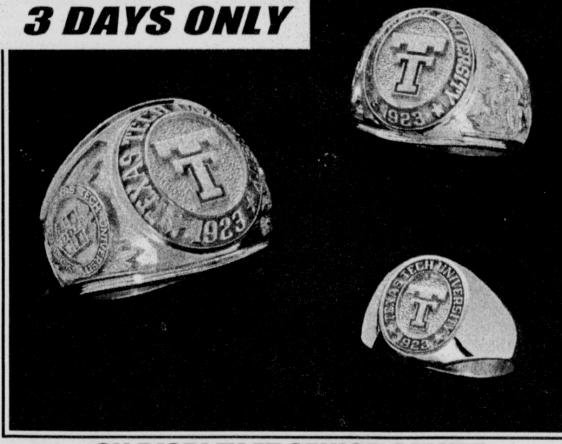


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ON DISPLAY AT SENIOR SALUTE

The Official Texas Tech

Alumni Association Class Ring

Official Ring applications will be accepted during SENIOR SALUTE in the University Center Courtyard on March 5, 6 and 7 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Ring orders placed by March 8 will be delivered in time for President Schmidly to present during Official Ring Ceremonies April 14 and 16 at the Merket Alumni Center.

Graduates can order Official Graduation Announcements and Regalia at SENIOR SALUTE.

SENIOR SALUTE is sponsored by the Texas Tech Alumni Association, Student Alumni Board, Career Center, Student Publications, Kaplan and the Texas Tech Bookstore.









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. Letters can be e-mailed to opinions@universitydaily.net or brought to 211 Student Media.

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.

UNSIGNED EDITORIALS appearing on this page represent the opinion of *The Uni*versity Daily. All other columns, letters and artwork represent the opinions of their authors and are not necessarily representative of the editorial board, Texas Tech University, its employees, its student body or the Texas Tech University Board of Regents. The UD is independent of the School of Mass Communications. Responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies with the student editors. people in our age group who actually want to know what's going on in the world trapped into a never-ending "Real World" marathon.

All you want is to know what's up in Afghanistan and after 20 minutes, you realize you have just called nine of your closest friends to make fun of Tanya for going back home to Walla Walla, a town whose name is Pacific Northwestern for "Um, where the hell are we?"

CNN, however, is news. And as a news person, you are required, as part of the conditions of your conviction, to watch it. The network is like an algebra lecture — you receive so much information in 50 minutes that by the time it's all over you have no idea what just happened. All you know is that your head hurts, your nose is bleeding and if you don't get to Cricket's soon someone is going to get hurt.

The channel has so much news they have had to develop a special news formula in order to convey all the information they have. And if you thought algebra was hard, you should check out this equation. It took me 42 "Real World" marathon commercial breaks to crack it. It goes something like this: something about a strike.

So you start to pay attention to an airline going on strike when — BOOM! — flashing headlines at the bottom start conveying something about an altercation somewhere, but you can't make it out because to fit the information in that small space, abbreviations are required.

You start trying to figure out what "Not a Fight, Not Quite a Riot: Sprtswrtr injrs 12 stdnts in apprnt fite ovr Sprs tckts" really means, but by then, you see your favorite stock is now worth less than your biology book will be when you try and sell it back in May. You're left sitting on the couch wondering if the signs about Enron stock are too big and keep causing rebel alliances to vote Tony Blair off the island, then what does United Airlines have to do with the judging and why did the Canadian figure skaters want to plead the Fifth Amendment to Congress in the first place?

Of course, being in this business does give you some laughs. E-mail, for one thing, is the highlight of the day. You get death threats from people who are ticked about who you endorsed for the upcoming school elections because the candidate you and the editorial board chose was belligerent at the basketball game. Then there are the e-mails hated each other at the way we speak. But we don't. And I know when the photography editor tells me he doesn't have a mom, he and his dad share mine, he means it with all the love in his heart.

A lot of people think we're just a bunch of bumbling kids. But that's OK because we work with the administration on a daily basis and know no one could be more bumbling then them. Not even Kenneth Lay.

Besides, at least we're not the other paper in town, whose editor recently lectured mass communications students about ethics right after telling them that said paper has a deal with sources — that if they give them the information early, the paper will play that news bit up.

Yup, working at a newspaper is a pretty shocking experience. But it sure beats serving hard time. Trust me, I know.

But that's a whole other column.

Brandon Formby is the editor of *The University Daily* and a senior journalism major from Plano. He can be contacted at editor@universitydaily.net.



paramount in any field of research.

A special Lubbock council traveled to Winnipeg, Canada (one of five BSL4 labs in North America) to research safety. This trip left them confident in the safety of BSL4 labs. A BSL4 lab in Lubbock would be enclosed in three walls of concrete and all air is filtered for particles 100 times smaller than the smallest known disease-causing agent.

There is almost no threat to society from these organisms and minimal risk to the researchers. The amount of germs used is so small that if exposed to air they would quickly be diluted and destroyed in the sun. Extensive sterilization of equipment and personnel enhances safety.

Due to these precautions, no one in North America has ever been accidentally exposed to a BSL4 pathogen from one of these labs, while one reported case occurred in Russia due to experiments on local citizens.

Everyone working in the bio-safety labs has to be rigorously trained in Atlanta at the Centers for Disease Control. Currently a council of 20 world-renowned experts is advising Texas Tech. Everything will be done to prevent accidents from happening.

Acquiring a BSL lab would contribute to Lubbock's identity, economy and diversity. Considering there are only five of these facilities in North America (Winnipeg, Maryland, Atlanta, San Antonio and Galveston) and a couple in Europe and Russia, Lubbock would instantly be on the world stage.

A huge market for jobs, due to additional incoming industry, would be created for biologists, chemists, engineers, marketers, construction workers and other industry employees. Local businesses would benefit by commerce with the expanding population.

Due to current uncertainty in agriculture, Lubbock must diversify its industry. President George W. Bush has already reserved millions of dollars for bio-safety research. Lubbock could benefit from these funds and help ensure a strong, vibrant future economy.

The Lubbock bio-safety council and Tech will enforce the highest level of safety; remember they live here, too. The benefits of this research could be prolific and potent. If successful, millions of lives could be affected and saved, possibly as many as affected by second-hand smoke each year. Surely, local citizens can support research for an imperative cause that will benefit Lubbock's economy and identity in the future.

■ James Tarbox is a second year doctoral candidate at the Health Sciences Center. He can be contacted at dabox23@hotmail.com.

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NEWS

Birthday

Abilene and Dallas.

the HSC.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dr. David Smith, president of the

HSC, said because of Preston Smith,

the HSC has expanded to include the

school of medicine, schools of nurs-

ing, allied health, pharmacy and the

graduate school of biomedical sci-

ences with regional campuses in

Amarillo, El Paso, Odessa and more

programs expanding toward Midland,

is his legacy and has benefited count-

less young people through the years,"

David Smith said. "This is not just

another university but a way to save

"His support of higher education

MARCH 5, 2002

President

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tin studying higher education, was randomly selected in a drawing to switch places with Schmidly.

Jason Sharp, senator-at-large for the Tech Student Senate and a friend of Bernal's, said he has heard Bernal mention wanting to become Tech president.

"I know he is getting his master's in higher education," he said. "I assume that will lead him to get a doctorate."

Bernal said being in office was exciting and everyone around him was very welcoming.

"I haven't done a lot all day, when I got here I started talking with people, reading

The University Daily and answering phone calls," he said. "I really don't want to feel like I am getting in his way."

While Bernal takes over the president's office, Schmidly parked in the commuter lot, rode the bus and went to Bernal's classes.

Schmidly said the day was challenging but was very impressed with the buses, students and professors.

"I enjoy Jon Mark in here running the university; I just might keep him around here," he said. "It is nice to be with the students for a day, although I like to spend some time every day with the students."

Schmidly said he was amazed with how well the bus system was running.

"When I was on the bus, students told me they like the bus system, and

The Tech Barnes & Noble Bookstore

will also be in attendance and will be receiving orders for graduation cap and

gowns. May graduates will also be able

to purchase official graduation an-

"Bachelor's and master's (degree can-

didates) can purchase cap and gowns

until graduation," said Carolyn Kelly, a

Although Senior Salute is primarily

aimed at helping seniors, students who

have completed a minimum of 60 hours

can apply for the official ring that will

be presented by Tech President David

Official ring ceremonies will be held

April 14 and 16 at the Merket Alumni

Center. A reception will start off the

evening at 6:30 p.m., with ceremonies

beginning at 7:00 p.m. Students must turn in ring applications by March 8 to

take place in the ceremony.

salesclerk at the Tech bookstore.

nouncements.

Schmidly.

that made me feel good," he said. "It didn't bother me a bit to park in the commuter lot or ride on the bus, I wouldn't mind parking out there all the

time.' Schmidly spent the morning taking roll for two introduction to business classes, for which Bernal is a teaching assistant for.

Schmidly said he was amazed at how large the two classes were.

"I spent most of the class taking roll," he said. "I was noticed by the students though, the professors introduced me, and I promised I was taking roll accurately."

During the afternoon, Bernal called potential donors who would donate money to the Mortar Board scholarship fund.

lives."

P.C. Snodgrass, president of Lubbock Crosby Garza County Medical Society, presented Preston Smith with the Golden Stethoscope Award.

"This is an award for someone who assures health care to those in need, besides a doctor or the spouse of a doctor," she said.

Snodgrass said presenting the award was special.

"It was sentimental for me because I am a product of the TTUHSC program."

David Smith read aloud a birthday card from President George W. Bush at the reception and awarded him with a chair of prestige from the HSC.

Pete Laney, speaker of the House, said Lubbock would be different without Preston Smith.

"There would be an interstate highway in Lubbock that goes nowhere without Preston Smith," he said. "Lubbock would be arguing about something different if it wasn't for him."

Senator Robert Duncan said he is thankful for what Preston Smith has done

"I feel when Preston Smith walks in a room, people should rise and give him a standing ovation," he said. "I feel that he is the best governor that has served in my lifetime.'

Preston Smith said he was not sure if he was worthy of all the credit he had been given.

"I've been credited with a lot of things, but it was because of the people who voted for me who put me there where I could help," he said.

Seniors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lute," Wiley said. "They can buy them until March 8. The prices vary depending on the ring. The ladies' are approximately \$285 and the men's are \$410."

Various departments will be attending the Senior Salute to provide graduating students information on various subjects.

The Career Center and the Alumni Association are among groups planning to be on hand.

"We've been doing this for about four or five years," David Kraus, director of the Career Center, said. "Our intent is to make sure graduating students have the opportunities to touch base with offices that will impact their lives and help them while they are looking for jobs."

sure whether the casualties were sustained in the landing, the firefight or a combination of the two.

spokesman, Marine Maj. Ralph Mills, said the first helicopter was flying low when it was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade that knocked a soldier out of the aircraft and caused a hydraulic problem. The first helicopter landed about a half-mile away, Mills said.

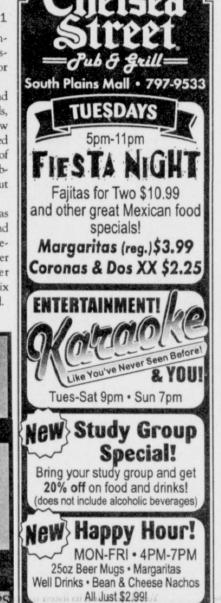
He said the second helicopter was flying in tandem with the first and rescued the downed crew, then returned to the area where the soldier fell out. The second helicopter dropped troops in that area, and six were killed in a firefight, Mills said.

TICKETS

BURGERS

\$5.95

\$2.00 Wells

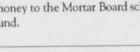


STAT. CHAN.	KTXT	KCBD	KLBK	KUPT 22	KAMC	KJTV
AFFIL.	PBS	NBC	CBS	UPN	ABC	FOX
CITY	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock
7 :00	Morning Bus. Body	Today Show	News	Recess Tarzan	Good Morning	K. Copeland Magic Bus
8 :00	Dragon Tales		Early Show	Lightyear Sabrina	America "	Caroline Paid Program
9 :00		Today Show	Sally Jessy Raphael	Judge Mathis	Regis & Kelly	Cross/Over Cross/Over
10 :00 :30	Sesame Street	Martha Stewart	Price is Right	People's Court	View	Ananda Lewis
11 :00 :30	" Teletubbies	Montel Williams	Young & the Restless	Hatchett Paid Program	Mad/You Port Charles	Other Half
12 :30	Motorweek Fine Art	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Paid Program Paid Program
1 :00	Health Diary Clifford	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Jenny Jones	One Life To Live	Matlock
2 :00	Sagwa Zoboomafoo	" Hlywd Square	Guiding Light	Paid Program Clueless	General Hospital	Divorce Court
3 :00	Arthur Cyberchase	Rosie O'Donnell	Maury Povich	Paid Program E.T.	lyanla	Joe Brown
4 :00	Betw./Lions R. Rainbow	Oprah Winfrey	For Women Judge Judy	7th Heaven	Tell/Truth Family Feud	Home Impr. Shoot Me
5 :00 :30	Zoom Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	Jeopardy News	Street Smart Street Smart	News ABC News	Sabrina Simpsons
6 :00	Newshour	News Extra	CBS News News	Voyager	News W/Fortune	Friends Raymond
7 :00	National Geographic	Frasier *PG Ellie *TV14	JAG	Buffy	Dharma/Greg Spin City	That 70's Undeclared
8 :00 :30	" Visions Of	Frasier *PG Scrubs *TV14	Guardian	As If Random Yrs.	NYPD Blue TV14	24
9 :00 :30	Italy	Dateline	Judging Amy	Cops Cops	Philly *TV14	News
10 :00 :30	Nightly Bus.	News Tonight Show	News David	Change/Heart Blind Date	News Nightline	Seinfeld Frasier
11 :00 :30		" Conan	Letterman Craig	Blind Date Change/Heart	Incorrect Abbott	King/Hill Cheers
12 :00		O'Brien Last Call	Kilborn Paid Program	Paid Program Shop @ Home	Access Paid Program	Spin City Coach



ubbock Apartment Association





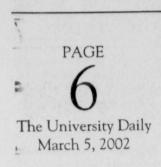
Assault

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said. Six were killed. Franks was un-

However, a Central Command





life & leisure

Life & Leisure Desk: (806) 742-2936 lifestyles@universitydaily.net

Faculty and students to honor women who make music

By Liesl Klinkerman/Staff Reporter

In celebration of Women's History Month, continuing through March, the Texas Tech School of Music and Women's Studies program will be honoring the occasion with the 2nd Annual Women's History Month concert at 8 p.m. today in the Hemmle Recital Hall, located at 18th Street and Boston Street.

The concert is a celebration of women making music, said Lora Deahl, associate professor of music at the School of Music.

"This concert will be a wonderful opportunity to highlight music composed by women," Deahl said. "We hope that this recital will make people aware of the long history of women composers."

Esther Lichti, coordinator of Women's Studies Programs at Tech, said she believes the concert is a good event to pattern.

"This is a phenomenal tradition," she said. "Women have been writing music

for centuries."

The event will consist of performances by Tech faculty and students. Pieces will include work by historic woman composers, which date from the 11th century to the 19th century.

Gladys Montaño, a graduate student from Bolivia, South America, will be make a world premiere of a work entitled, "Movements for Strings and Per-

cussion." "I had to compose a piece in order to complete my Masters," Montaño said. "Because of my schedule and work, it took some time. I worked on it little by little. It took me about a year, start to finish.'

Montaño's piece consists of three parts.

"There are three movements," she said. "Every movement has a little part for a solo. Then there are others where all the instruments interact. One movement is slow, one is full of motion and the other is much faster."

Montaño found inspiration through

other composers' methods. posers used," she

said. "The piece is my creation, my baby."

Montaño said she has pre-show jitters. "I am nervous and excited," she said. "There are butterflies in my

My tummy. thoughts are exposed - that's how I feel." Montaño said

she hopes the audience will get pleasure from her work, like she has.

said. "I enjoyed the process, and I like what I wrote. I would still like it, even if others didn't. I just hope they enjoy it

the way I do. I hope the musicians have texts. "I used techniques that other com- fun performing it because that's what

> music is about-to bring happiness into our lives. During the concert, I'm going to just sit and enjoy."

Lichti believes Montaño's work will be a great contribution to the concert. "A particularly exciting part of the

concert is the last piece," Lichti said. "Montaño has to create a piece to get her masters. This is the piece. This is really neat and really unique because it's a

world premiere." Over the years, Deahl said the contributions of woman composers have been overlooked in traditional musical

Lichti said she also believes woman composers' talents have been dismissed due to the times.

"Historically, women's musical talents were ignored since society restricted them from performing their work publicly," she said. "Women were not able to display their musical gifts since they were not able to attend school where music and art were taught."

Since men dominated some era's milestones, women's attributes went unrecognized, Lichti said.

"It's not that people chose to ignore women's accomplishments, they just were not aware," she said. "The people who were in charge of documenting accomplishments were men, so understandably, they were more interested in what men were doing. Women were more active in the private sphere, so they're achievements weren't recognized as important."

Women often used music as an outlet in private, Lichti said.

"Although music was considered a traditionally womanly activity, women were supposed to show off their talents in the privacy of their homes," she said. "So although there were many talented women composers through the ages, their works were not widely played."

Lichti said women were encouraged to be musical but only in the home. It was not proper to publicly display their talents. If a woman's husband or brother was a composer, his work could be published but not hers.

Women composers have surfaced in the past 25 years, Lichti said.

"Over the past 25 years, people have been asking, 'What were women doing at the given time?" She said. "After people started asking questions, we've become aware of what happened and what women did, not only for music but in a number of areas."

Admission is free and open to the public. A reception will immediately follow the program.



FRANK VACULIN/Graphics Artist

"I really hope people enjoy it," she

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Raiders look to dehorn Frogs for fifth time this year



TEXAS TECH OUTFIELDER Scooter Jordan dives back to first base during the Seton Hall series two weeks ago at Dan Law Field. Tech opens a seven-game homestand tonight when they begin a three-game series with Texas Christian at 7 p.m. at "The Law.'

Softball sqaud takes road show to Albuquerque

By David Wiechmann/Staff Reporter

Fresh off its Troy Cox Classic victory and the cancellation of the New Mexico Tournament, the Texas Tech softball team left for Albuquerque, N.M., Monday.

The Red Raiders will play a threegame series with the Lobos with a double header Tuesday at 1 p.m. and one game Wednesday also at 1 p.m.

Tech (8-14) has won five of its last seven games, and Tech coach Bobby Reeves is anxious to get back on the diamond.

"We need to play," Reeves said. "We haven't played in a week and a half."

The team is looking at the series with the Lobos as one last chance to make improvements before heading to the Kia Classic in Fullerton, Calf., this weekend.

We're ready to play," centerfielder Eva Harshman said. "These will be good games to get in before we go to the Kia. We'll be facing some tough teams in

Reeves said this match up will play a direct role on how the team approaches the Kia Classic from March 13 to 17.

"These are the last three games before California," Reeves said. "I want to finish on a good note, and hopefully we can go into California with a positive outlook."

Harshman said the way the Raiders have played of late should show the team they can leave New Mexico satisfied.

"I want to come back 3-0," Harshman said. "I would love to sweep, and definitely with the way the New Mexico State tournament went, and the way we've played lately, we are capable of doing it."

First baseman Carmen Grindell said winning is not the only thing on the players' minds.

"It's not really about winning," Grindell said. "It's about how we show up to play."

Sometimes playing well does not get the job done, but feeling good about the

proach and be pumped up on the field," Grindell said. "You can go out there and play your best and still lose. All we can do is show up. If we show up to play, we have a chance to beat anybody."

Reeves said Tech's key to success is showing up.

"Our main deal is showing up to play every game," Reeves said. "And control what we can control. We should win all three games, but that depends on if we show up to play."

Before the umpire can say "play ball," the bus trip has to be made.

The Raiders said they will use the road trip to catch up on sleep and homework.

"The trip will be good hours to get homework done," Harshman said. "I have two tests coming up so I'll have to study.'

Grindell said traveling is a never-ending cycle of catching up on class work. "This week is horrible," Grindell said.

"You have to catch up from last week, and then you'll have to catch up on this

By Jeff Keller/Staff Reporter

The Red Raider baseball squad will try to rebound from a sweep at the hands of Texas A&M when they face the Texas Christian Horned Frogs at 7 p.m. today at Dan Law Field.

between the two schools this sea-

son. Texas Tech

has taken the pre-

vious four meet-

took three closely

contested con-

tests from the

Raiders in the Big

12 Conference

season opener for

stop Gera Alvarez

said the A&M se-

ries could have

gone either way,

Tech short-

both teams.

The Aggies

ings.

Now we have got to come into our place and just take care of business and try to win out from here on out.

- GERA ALVAREZ Texas Tech Shortstop

but the bounces went the Aggies' way last weekend, and

the Raiders have to move on. "We can play with anybody, and we have just got to take that approach," Alvarez said. "One key hit or one key

was played Sunday instead of Saturday pitch, and we could have easily been up as scheduled. two games against A&M. But that is just the game of baseball. It doesn't always hang tough with the Aggies in the un-

go your way. You have just got to battle." The Horned Frogs enter the contest

with a 5-7 record with the Raiders handing them more than half of their losses. Tech catcher Willie Durazo had a hot

bat during the A&M series. Durazo batted .500 for the series going six for 12 The game will be the fifth meeting from the plate and driving in three runs.

Durazo said af-

ter dropping three

games to the

Aggies, the Raiders

are anxious to get

back out on the

diamond against

the Horned Frogs.

ready to get back

out onto the field,"

Durazo said. "It is

good to come back

and bounce back

especially after get-

ting swept like that.

We should have

won at least two

out of three. Us

coming back to our

home field will give us an advantage."

Poor weather plagued the Tech-

Durazo said the Raiders were able to

A&M series forcing a double header Fri-

day to begin the series. The series finale

"We are always

expected elements so the three losses did not hurt their confidence.

"I don't think it hurts our confidence because we swung the bats," Durazo said. "It was tough weather and a tough field and a tough place to play at. But we still swung the bats, and we pitched pretty good."

With today's contest being the fifth meeting this season between Tech and TCU, Durazo said the Raiders are getting used to what the Horned Frogs have to offer on the field and vice versa.

"The more we get to play them, the more we know them," Durazo said. "I am sure they will do some adjustments against us as we're going to do some adjustments against them. That will help us out in the long run against other opponents."

Tech will play two games against the Horned Frogs this week with the second being contested Wednesday.

Today's game will be the first of a seven-game homestand for the Raiders. Alvarez said it will be important for Tech to put the conference opening series sweep behind them and get the job done at Dan Law Field against the Horned Frogs.

"It is something we have just got to deal with," Alvarez said of the A&M series. "They are a good ball club. We went in there, to their home field, and it was tough to be in their place. Now we have got to come into our place and just take care of business and try to win out from here on out."

JAIME TOMAS AGUILAR/Photo Editor

Tech-UNM agree to move football game to a Friday

The University of New Mexico football program in conjunction with Texas Tech will move the 2002 meeting between the two schools to Fri., Sept. 27 at University Stadium in Albuquerque, N.M.

The game, originally scheduled for Sept. 28 is being rescheduled to accommodate a national broadcast of the game by ESPN. A kickoff time for the game will be determined at a later date.

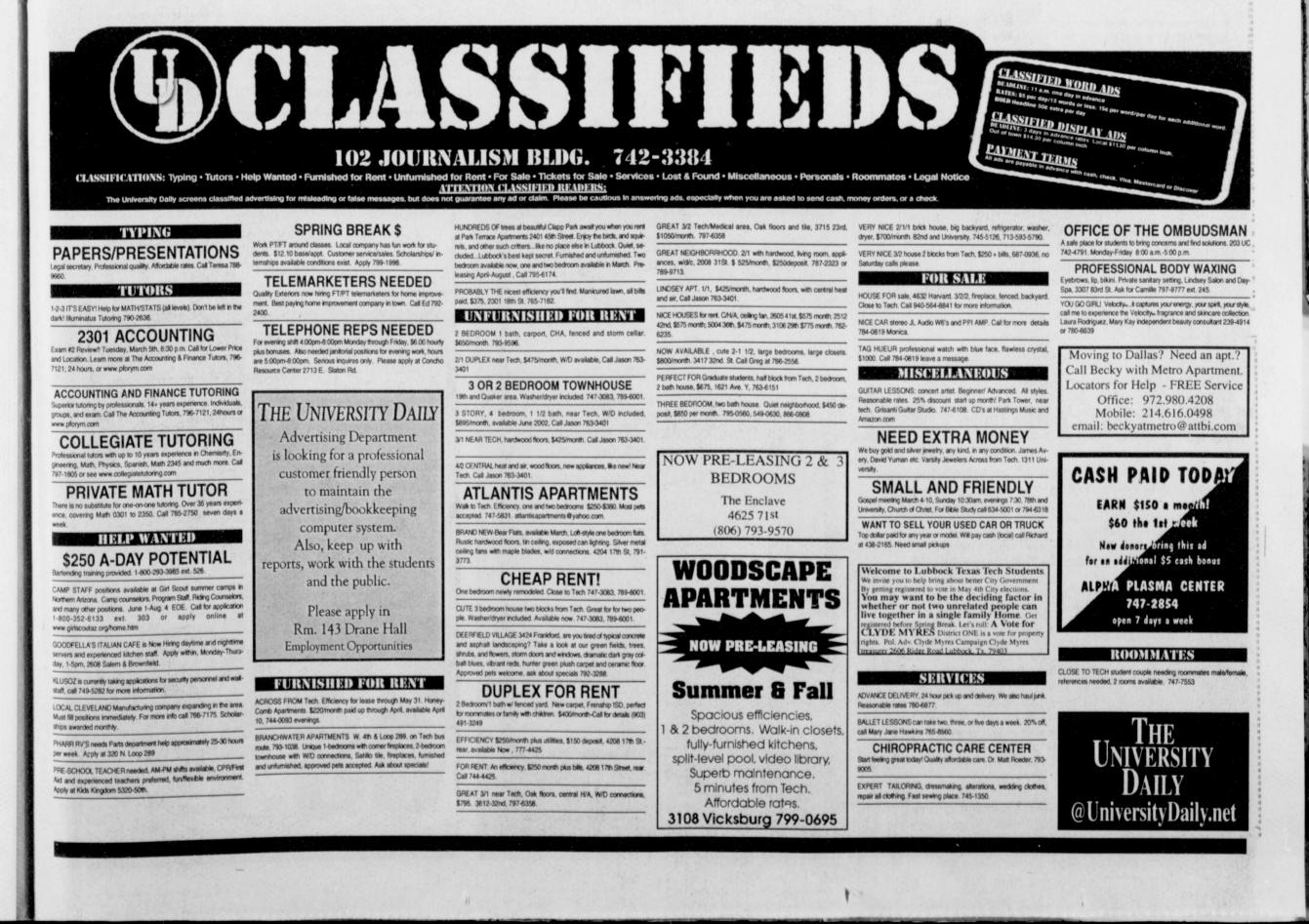
The Red Raiders kickoff the 2002 season in the NACDA Pigskin Classic at Ohio State Aug. 24 at 2:30 p.m. (CT). The game will be televised nationally on ABC.

After playing OSU and before playing the Lobos, the Raiders play three other non-conference games. Tech plays SMU in Dallas and Mississippi and North Carolina State at Jones SBC Stadium.

California. We all just want to play and performance is key she said. get some games in."

week, but it's still fun. It's good bonding "We all have to have a positive ap- time with all the girls."

TEXAS TECH SHORTSTOP Kristi Robles prepares to throw out a runner during the NMSU win at Rocky Johnson Field on Feb. 19. Tech faces New Mexico today.



Sports

Sports Editor: Matt Muench (806) 742-2939 sports@universitydaily.net

Lady Raiders search for K.C. masterpiece

NEW SEASON: Tech looks to boost NCAA chances at the Big 12 Tourney in Kansas City.

PAGE

The University Daily March 5, 2002

By Jeff Keller/Staff Reporter

The Lady Raiders will venture into unfamiliar territory when they battle the Missouri Tigers at 6 p.m. today at Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Mo. The contest will take place in the first round of the Big 12 Conference Tournament.

The Lady Raiders enter the tournament with a 17-10 overall record and an 8-8 mark in Big 12 Conference action.

Missouri enters the contest with a 14-13 overall record and a 5-11 posting in conference play.

Texas Tech's .500 mark in conference play earned them a No. 7 seed in the tournament while Missouri's regular season conference finish was good enough for a No. 10 seed in the tourney.

This marks the first time Tech has played a first-round Big 12 Conference tournament game as the Lady Raiders claimed first-round byes in the first five Big 12 Tournaments by finishing the regular season as one of the Top four teams in the conference.

If the Lady Raiders are to win the conference tournament this season, as they did in 1998 and 1999, they will have are rested going into it, and we are fo-

to win four games in the tourney as opposed to three in their two championship runs in the late 1990s.

Tech coach Marsha Sharp said it will be a tough road to travel if the Lady Raiders are to claim this season's Big 12 Tournament Championship.

"I think it is going to be really tough to play three days in a row, take a break and play that fourth day," Sharp said. "I don't think there is any question that it will test our physical toughness as much as anything and possibly mental toughness too. We have dug that hole for ourselves right now, and we are just going to have to live with it and go make the

most of it.' One

BIG 12 Missouri's five conference wins this regular season came against the Lady Raiders. Missouri defeated Tech 82-71 when the two teams met in Columbia, Mo., earlier this

season Tech forward Jolee Ayers said it will be important for the Lady Raiders to be rested and focused heading into the tour-

nament contest against the Tigers. "First of all, we all need to make sure that we go up there rested and ready to play," Ayers said. "Big 12 games are kind of brutal anyways so if you have a couple or three in a row, day after day, it can get kind of rough. We need to make sure we

cused on what we want to do up there." Tech guard Amber Tarr played on the

1999 Big 12 Tournament championship team and said playing a first-round game this year does not have to be negative for Tech.

"We can make this a positive," Tarr said. "This way we will have already played on the floor and so if we win this game, the next game we will be familiar with the court and have already shot on it. So I think we can use this to our advantage.

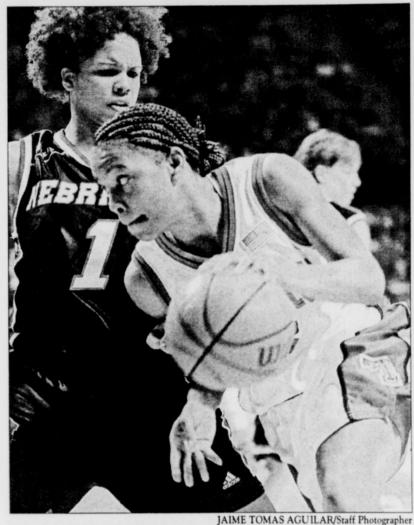
If Tech loses its first-round game to Missouri, the Lady Raiders will have a

CONFERENCE

record of 17-11. If that happens, it will mark the first time Tech has failed to win 20 games in a season since the 1988-1989 sea-

son. Sharp said the Lady Raiders would not be a lock for the NCAA Tournament if they lose in the first round of the conference tour-

"I think we would probably be a bubble team in my opinion if we don't get at least one win in the tournament," Sharp said. "I think because all of the rest of the people we play in the tournament will be ranked above us after the first day, I don't think we can hurt ourselves after that day. The first day we can hurt ourselves because Missouri is not ranked.'



TEXAS TECH FORWARD Casey Jackson makes a move to try and get past a Nebraska defender in a game earlier this season. Tech opens the Big 12 Conference Tournament at 6 p.m. today against Missouri in Kansas City, Mo.

this week.

Four men's

listed in the Top

Texas). Both the

Cowboys and

won national

Longhorns have

championships,

25 with two in

the Top 10

(OSU and

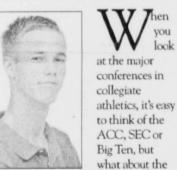
golf teams are

The Big 12 Conference hands down the overall best league in America today

COLUMN

look

Big 12 Confer-



just one team per sport, either.

Eight teams in the Big 12 made the NCAA Volleyball Championship Tournament. This tied an all-time record for most teams from a conference sent to the tournament. Those eight teams were 2000 National Champion Nebraska, Texas A&M, Kansas State, Colorado, Texas Tech, Texas, Missouri and Baylor. Four of these teams finished the season in the Top 25.

Eight football teams went to bowl ames. Two played in BCS bowls. including Nebraska fighting for a National Championship in the Rose ence? Does it get Bowl.

receiving votes. Kansas sits on top of the basketball world with the first perfect conference record in Big 12 history. It

appears the six men's teams mentioned will all be selected for the Big Dance. The women have a whole herd of teams ranked in the Top 25. Seven

teams are ranked

18th or better. Over

two teams in the Top 10 and one more at 23. Two more teams received votes again

> This is the Big 12 Conference. It is the most powerful

conference in the nation.

Texas A&M is No. 7 and Nebraska 12th. Softball remains silent despite having Texas is one spot out of the Top 25. Colorado swept the cross-country

conference championships this season, and the men won the NCAA. The Buffalo women placed eighth. Baylor has a number of national champions in track and field. World record holder and gold medallist Michael Johnson attended Baylor and still works out there from time to time.

This is the Big 12 Conference. It is he most powerful conference in the nation. It is the most competitive conference. When people talk about major conferences, the Big 12 should be mentioned long before the SEC, ACC, PAC 10, Big Ten or Big East.

Williams offers sympathy to dead driver's family FLEMINGTON, N.J. (AP) -

Former NBA star Jayson Williams offered "heartfelt condolences" Monday to the family of a limousine driver who he is accused of killing with a shotgun blast at his rural estate.

The former New Jersey Net spoke briefly before leaving the Hunterdon County courthouse, where he appeared for a five-minute hearing on the case. Williams is charged with second-degree manslaughter in the Feb. 14 shooting death of Costas Christofi.

"Me and my wife would like to send out our heartfelt condolences to Mr. Christofi's family," Williams said. He declined to comment on the case. saying his lawyer advised him not to.

Williams, 34, did not enter a plea. He is not required to do so until a grand jury hands down an indictment.

During the court appearance, Superior Court Judge Ann Bartlett told Williams what his rights were. Williams did not speak; his lawyer, Joseph Hayden, said they had received a copy of the charges and the hearing ended.

Christofi's neighbor and longtime friend, Joseph Armstrong, attended the hearing, saying afterward he was pleased to hear Williams address the family.

"It's just the right thing to do," Armstrong said. "I just want to make sure it stays focused on who the victim was and what happened. It's a tragedy for everyone."

Christofi, 55, of Washington Borough, was hired to drive Williams' friends from a Harlem Globetrotters show in Bethlehem, Pa., to a restaurant, and then to Williams' estate 30 miles northwest of Trenton.

The limousine driver, described by many as a sports fan, was apparently invited inside for a tour of the 40-room mansion, Acting Hunterdon County Prosecutor Steven C. Lember said.

Lember has said the shooting occurred less than an hour after the group arrived at Williams' home. The 911 call came in at 2:54 a.m. Since then, many questions have surrounded Christofi's death, which prosecutors say was first reported as a suicide by Williams' brother. Neither the prosecution nor the defense has described the events leading up to the shooting.

DAVID WIECHMANN

any respect? It does by way of postseason invitations and performances and weekly

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It is the most competitive conference.

and being ranked have a shot at doing it again. Texas and OSU are both ranked in the women's poll, also.

The Big 12 does not compete in men's soccer, but on the women's side, David Wiechmann is a sophomore journalism major from Lubbock. E-mail him at wrechem d man@hotmail.com



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