

High 50 / Low 31 Tomorrow: High 66 / Low 39



TUESDAY March 19, 2002

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Tech grieves students' deaths

By Justin Matthews/Staff Reporter

During a time of what normally is fun and games, Spring Break proved to be a tragic week for some Texas Tech students, as two separate accidents claimed the lives of three students and left a fourth in critical condition.

Jason Albert Johnson and Rydon Endres died after truck driver Daniel Redmond attempted to pass in a no-passing zone, trapping the two seniors in their own lane. Officers at the scene reported that Redmond received a drug test, the result of which is still pending. Redmond could face a charge of vehicular manslaughter.

Lt. Bill Bower, district commander for the New Mexico State Police, said it is unlikely Redmond would receive more than a citation.

Both students were members of the fraternity Sigma Chi.

Dan Biafe, president of Sigma Chi, attended Alberts' funeral Monday, which

was held in Humble.

"These were two of our brothers and two of our friends; they will be missed

dearly," Biafe said.

Another accident claimed the life of Susan Theresa Chiodo, a sophomore from Houston. Chiodo was traveling with three others: Richard Rovegno of

Houston, Melissa Nail of Graham and Tara Ann Flanagen of Corpus Christi, when the vehicle overturned near Canvon.

Flanagen is in critical condition at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo. Rovegno, the driver, and Nail were

treated and released. Chiodo was a member of the sorority Kappa Kappa Gamma. Richard Lenox, associate director for the Counseling Center, spoke on what the center is doing to aid grieving stu-

"Some of our counselors are going out to meet with some of the Greek organizations involved," Lenox said. "We have had several students come in already; since it's so recent, most students are just learning of it and still are in a period of shock and numbness, which is typical for something as tragic as this."

Greg Elkins, director of Campus Life, has the job of verifying information and notifying university officials in the situation of a student death.

"We have anywhere from 8 to 12 deaths in any academic year," Elkins said. "For three students to be involved in critical automobile acci-

STUDENTS continued on page 3



By April Tamplen/Staff Reporter

Texas Tech is one of several higher education institutions in Texas making a bid to land the George W. Bush presidential library.

Since the plan to build the library in Texas was first announced, the number of Texas schools interested has grown to four: Baylor, Southern Methodist University, Texas A&M, University of Texas in Austin and Tech.

Kelli Stumbo, internal vice president for the Student Government Association at Tech, said the SGA is interested in Lubbock becoming the home of the Bush library.

"The SGA is planning on making an even more greater effort to secure the bid for the library," she said.

The SGA has adopted a senate reso-

lution that proposes Tech make serious efforts to pursue and obtain the placement of the presidential library at the university.

Heath Cheek, arts and sciences senator for the Student Senate, presented the

resolution.

Cheek said Tech President David
Schmidly included the bid for the presidential library in his university strategic

Cheek said in the resolution the administration was asked to make efforts to include representatives of the student body in the process of getting the library in order to keep student interest and support at high levels.

The purpose of the presidential library would be to house papers and me-

BUSH continued on page 3



JENNA HANSEN/Staff Photographer

NORTH OVERTON, FREQUENTLY referred to as the "Tech Ghetto," has been deemed the worse of the two Overton areas due to deteriorating conditions of the property, Randy Henson, senior planner for Lubbock, said.

PIECES OF LUBBOCK HISTORY

Combination of age, increase in renters contributed to deterioration of 'Tech Ghetto'

By Jenny Klein/Staff Reporter

In the early 1900s a portion of Lubbock developed, known as Overton.

During the course of the century, the area di-

vided and the differences between the two have become more distinguished. South Overton emerged as a separate entity

officially in the 1960s. It became a neighborhood separate from the northern portion of the area.

North Overton, frequently referred to as the "Tech Ghetto," has been deemed the worse of the two, due to deteriorating conditions of the property, Randy Henson, senior planner for Lubbock, said.

However, the poor condition of North Overton is something that developed over time.

"South Overton and the Broadway Avenue

"South Overton and the Broadway Avenue area developed in conjunction with the Texas Tech University," Henson said. "The majority of area in North Overton wasn't placed until the



FIRST IN A SERIES

This week, *The University Daily* will present a three-part series exploring the history, plans and status of the North Overton neighborhood.

'40s and '50s

South Overton has a longer history than North Overton, he said. Business owners, homeowners and Tech professors and officials

OVERTON continued on page 3



JENNA HANSEN/Staff Photographe

Tech, city administrators visit Washington, D.C.

By Justin Matthews/Staff Reporter

Top administrators from Texas Tech University and Tech Health Sciences Center are heading to the nation's capitol today to discuss Tech's university system with members of Congress.

Ben Lock, executive assistant to the chancellor, said administrators have been participating in this trip for several years.

"This will be like laying the final ground for the work we've been doing here at the university," he said. "It will be the first look that the Texas state delegation will be able to see what Texas Tech is doing this year." For a day and a half Tech administra-

For a day and a half Tech administrators will "walk the halls," visiting with every member of Congress from Texas. Ronald Phillips, special assistant to

the president at Tech will be on the trip.

"We give each congressional office our red book," Phillips said. "The red book contains 16 projects that we're bringing forward saying, 'Look, these are some research projects that we need fed-

eral funding for."

Administrators involved in the trip
to Capitol Hill include President David

Schmidly, Deputy Chancellor Bess Haley, Regents Robert Brown and Brian Newby, as well as Glen Provost, vice president of policy and federal relations at HSC, among others. Dr. David Smith, interim chancellor and president of the

HSC, will also attend.

Tech administrators, along with the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, will visit Washington, D.C., for the third consecutive year.

"We (Texas Tech and the City of Lubbock) try to help each other and reinforce each other," Lock said. "We support Lubbock business, and Lubbock business supports us."
The Lubbock Cha

The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce plans to take 20 to 30 members to discuss issues involving Lubbock business.

Wednesday, a "Red Raider Reception" will be held in Washington, D.C., honoring the Texas delegation and senators.

"In the past, we've had anywhere from 200 to 300 people attend the reception," Phillips said. "Tech alumni, Texas delegation and the two senators from Texas will probably at-

More than 80 arrested in computer porn ring

By Ted Bridis/Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal law enforcement authorities have broken up a computer-based pornography ring that targeted children, Attorney General John Ashcroft said.

Announcing "Operation Candyman," Ashcroft said Monday that more than 80 people have been arrested in the operation and said more are coming.

"As its name implies, the 'Operation Candyman' e-group had a single purpose in mind as well: to exploit and degrade children," Ashcroft told a news conference at FBI headquarters here.

"It is clear that a new marketplace for child poronography has emerged from the dark corners of cyberspace," he said. "Innocent boys and girls have been targeted by offenders who view them as sexual objects."

Holding a news conference with FBI officials, Ashcroft revealed that the sting

operation had begun in January 2001 and that it continues.

"In the past 14 months," he said, "all 56 national FBI field offices investigated hundreds of individuals who were subscibers to the 'Candyman' e-mail group."

Ashcroft said that among those caught in the sting were police officers, members of the clergy and — in one case — a bus driver.

He said that prior to Monday's announcement, the FBI had arrested 86 people "on child pornography grounds" and 27 members of the "Candyman" e-mail group have been arrested and admitted to molesting 36 children.

Ashcroft told reporters federal authorities have shut down the e-mail group and will to shut down others as well.

"Our investigation uncovered an estimated 7,000 members (of the e-mail group), including some 2,400 outside out borders," he said.

SOMETHING FISHY



JEREMY MOORE/Staff Photographer ADAM FULLER, A biology doctoral student from Baton Rouge, LA, uses a centrifuge in his extraction of fish DNA from the animal's tissue. Fuller tries to find DNA markers to differentiate between the different species of endangered fish he works with.

PAGE

Tech Notes

Chancellor's Ambassadors is accepting applications. Applicants must be a junior or senior by Fall 2002 and must stop by the chancellor's office for an interview. Deadline to sign up is Wednesday.

The Texas Tech University Library will conduct a Web-based survey of randomly selected students, faculty and staff today. The information will be used to improve services available, and participants can elect to register to win a Palm Pilot VIIx, a bookstore gift voucher worth \$30 or a round-trip ticket on

Sticks it out __ the tentmaker

10 Q-tip 14 Contribution 15 Call on the

links 16 Romanian

round dance Enact

18 Stumble 19 Famous cookie

20 Atmosphere 21 Still in a movie

31 Touched down 32 Throw out, as

light 34 Puccini opera

39 Bog down 40 Prepared to take notice?

42 Subway statio 43 Jury makeup 45 "Star Wars"

princess 46 Fiddler in the

47 Lubricates

55 Bare

49 Characteristics 51 Spiral-shell

fruit treat

period 62 Mid-month 63 Reprobate 64 Scout group 66 Rents

Compulsion Former nit

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The Lubbock Dietetic Association and the Texas Tech Student Diabetes Association will host a Nutrition on the Run 5K race and a one-mile fun run/walk at 9 a.m. Saturday at Mae Simmons Park, located at 2004 Oak Ave. Admission will be \$20. All proceeds will benefit the South Plains Food Bank. For more information, contact Michele Butler at

The Faculty Senate will meet at 3:15 p.m. Wednesday in the Student Union

Senate Room. For more information, contact Marc Giaccardo at (806)

The Texas Tech Credit Union and the Tech Alumni Association will host a blood drive today in the Frazier Alumni Pavilion. For more information, contact Ellen Hein at (806)

The Texas Tech School of Law will host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday in the Law School Forum. For an appointment, call Frank at (806) 742-3793.

Sigma Lambda Beta will host a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at 48th Street and University Avenue. For an appointment, call Andres at (806) 795-9442.

Omega Delta Phi will host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at the United Blood Services Mobile Donor Coach. For more information, call Isaak at (806) 773-

The Joe Arrington Cancer Research and Treatment Center will host a Prostate Health Nutrition Class from 6 to 7:30 p.m. today in the Arnett Room, located on the sixth floor of Covenant Medical Center-Lakeside at 4000 24th St.

The Ronald McDonald House will host a rummage sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at 29th St. and Brownfield Highway. For more information, call (806) 744-8877.

A Student Organization re-registration meeting will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. today in the Student Union Matador Room. For more information, call (806) 742-3621.

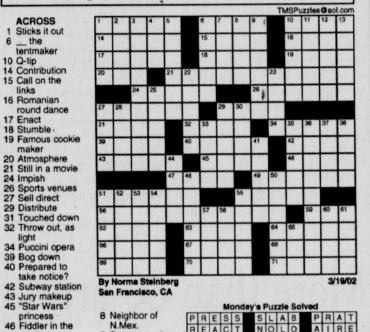
Hillel, a Jewish student organization, will host its next meeting Wednesday in the Student Union Courtyard. All interested students are invited to attend. For more information, contact Isack Kohn at ikohnx@yahoo.com. The Shaolin Warriors will conduct

a master class from 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday in the Student Union ballroom. Only 20 spaces are available. For more information, call (806) 742-3621.

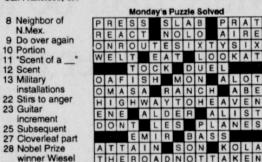


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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



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swinging 37 Surface layer

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old same old

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Quote of the Day

"They cannot come up with a 'George W. Bush Library Service Fee' for the students to pay."

- DONALD DYAL, Dean of Tech Libraries, on possible presidential library. Please see TEXAS, page 1.

The Rundown



HOUSTON (AP) — Andrea Yates walked into court Monday for formal sentencing on her murder convictions and looked toward the bench where her family sat for four weeks during tes-

None of her relatives were there. They were making television appear-

The only familiar faces were a pair of jail psychiatrists who first treated Yates after she arrived at the Harris County Jail last June after telling police she had drowned her five children in the bathtub of their Houston home.

Asked by State District Judge Belinda Hill if she had anything to say, Yates shook her head no. The judge then told Yates she was going to prison for two concurrent life terms for drowning three of her five children.

"Good luck to you, Mrs. Yates," Hill told her to complete the less than 15minute sentencing.

Yates, 37, who will become eligible for parole in 2041, was dressed in an orange Harris County jail jumpsuit instead of the dresses she wore during her trial. She was fingerprinted in the courtroom and left in handcuffs, a departure from the previous routine where she was escorted by deputies but not restrained.

Yates was returned to the Harris County Jail to await transfer to a crisis management prison cell at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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· GUARANTEED BASE WAGE



(AP) — When John Davin got acceptance letters from seven colleges, he weighed their financial aid offers and then asked his top two choices if they could do better.

They could, and Davin saved nearly \$6,000 his first year. Now 20 and a sophomore at Carnegie

Mellon in Pittsburgh — which famously welcomes a chance to reconsider its aid packages — Davin echoes advice often heard these days from guidance counselors, consultants and even some college officials.

"Go for it," Davin said. "You don't have anything to lose."

Usually it is the private, less competitive schools that entertain such appeals.

But Davin was offered more money from two of the best when he wrote to Cornell and Carnegie Mellon, citing a generous scholarship dangled by his third-choice school, his family's high property taxes in suburban East Northport, N.Y., and his three younger sisters headed for college.

For his freshman year, Carnegie Mellon nearly doubled its initial offer of a \$6,000 grant.

This academic year, the university boosted its aid even more because Davin's eldest sister is in college, too. Davin and his parents are spending less than \$10,000 at Carnegie Mellon this year, less than a third of the estimated \$35,700 cost of tuition, living expenses and supplies.

MARKETING REPRESENTATIVES



JERUSALEM (AP) - Israel and the Palestinians were making progress toward a cease-fire agreement, and it appeared Israel might withdraw its troops from the West Bank town of Bethlehem as early as Monday night - meeting an important Palestinian demand for a truce in the 18-monthold Mideast conflict.

Vice President Dick Cheney arrived to bolster the efforts of U.S. mediator Anthony Zinni, and the two Americans held talks Monday afternoon with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

The effort follows one of the bloodiest periods in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Israelis are increasingly impatient for an end to the carnage, while the Palestinians have been suffering heavy casualties and economic losses.

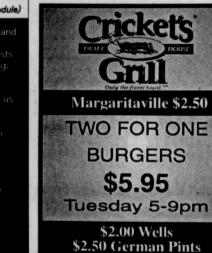
In violence Monday, Israeli soldiers shot and killed an armed Palestinian near a crossing point between Gaza and Israel, the military said. Also, Palestinians fired two Qassam

rockets into Israel from northern Gaza, the military said. Palestinians said Israel sent armored vehicles to search farms afterward.

Meanwhile, Israeli soldiers tracked down and arrested two Palestinians who had infiltrated into northern Israel, planning to carry out a terror attack, the military said.

In the most promising sign since Zinni arrived last week, Israeli and Palestinian security officials met three times in less than 24 hours, and officials on both sides said they expected a troop pullback from the Bethlehem

After nightfall, soldiers began dismantling rooftop positions there, witnesses said.



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For letter of intent forms and abstract submission guidelines, log on to the GPSGA website at http://www.gpsga@ttu.edu/.

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Gov. Ventura urges Europeans to visit

BERLIN (AP) — Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura urged Europeans on Monday to set aside fears of terrorism and visit the United States, saying tourists should help defeat terrorists by "living our normal lives."

The former Navy SEAL, professional wrestler and film star was lending support to tour operators from the United States and around the world at a top tourism industry trade fair in Berlin. At the Cuban booth, he talked long enough to get a couple of hand-rolled cigars.

Speaking later at the SeeAmerica pavilion of the International Tourism Exchange, Ventura said that in trying to rebuild tourism after Sept. 11, public figures must travel to show others they have nothing to fear.

"You think I'd fly here if I had any worries?" Ventura said. "We will win this war and we will return everything to as normal as we can, and the best way to do that is by living our normal lives."

About 30,000 Germans visited Minnesota last year — a figure Ventura said he wants to see increase.

At a talk later to members of the American Chamber of Commerce, Ventura said because of the terrorist attacks, tourism must be seen as more than just a way to bring in dollars.

"If we all get together and travel to everyone's homes and meet each other, will see we all put our pants on one leg at a time," Ventura said. "We all love, we all hate, we laugh, we cry, and we're all human beings in the end."

In its 36th year, the trade fair brings together nearly 10,000 exhibitors from 181 countries and territories and runs through March 20.

Promoting travel to the United States and economic incentives like low air and hotel rates are more necessary than ever, said Noel Irwin-Hentschel, Chairwoman and chief executive of Americantours International, the largest handler of inbound visitors to the United States.

"The tourism industry was hit very hard by Sept. 11, and we're still recovering from that," Irwin-Hentschel

Ventura pitched his home state as the "perfect place to spend vacation days and step away from the pressures of everyday life."

"You will find in Minnesota ... the American dream does live on, that you don't have to be a professional politician to lead a state in the United States of America," Ventura said.

Overton

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

settled the area, resulting in nicer homes and infrastructures.

The North Overton area was an ideal place to build simple homes, most of which were government housing, Henson said.

"The styling of housing was like small cracker boxes. They weren't well built and began to wear out faster," he said. "General housing conditions in Overton North have deteriorated significantly, whereas homes in Overton South have been much more stable."

The combination of age and the increase in the percentage of renters caused the deterioration faster in North Overton than in South Overton, Henson said.

A major cause for the upkeep of South Overton compared with North Overton is the presence of homeowners, Henson said.

North Overton, which extends from Fourth Street to 19th Street and from Avenue Q to University Avenue, is comprised mostly of rental properties, Henson said. Homeowners in the area are scarce.

Over the course of the construction of Interstate Highway 27, many people were displaced and relocated in the North Overton area.

The portion of town 1-27 now occupies was in the same condition as Overton North is in now, Henson said.

Those people brought with them conditions North Overton

homeowners were not content with, causing them to move and rent out their homes.

"A lot of that element moved to North Overton. Crime statistics began to creep up. That is what actually drove so many people away," Henson said.

Tom Botello, who lived in North Overton from 1965 until 2001, saw changes in the neighborhood.

When he first bought a home in the area, it was a beautiful place to live, fit to raise a family, Botello said. It was near a church, school and col-

The construction of the interstate moved in people and the upkeep of the infrastructures began to decline, Botello

hood intact, North Overton residents developed the North Overton Neighborhood Association in 1985.

In an effort to keep the neighbor-

Botello served as a board member until he moved in 2001.

"We saw the deterioration set in more and more and it was not good in our eye," he said. "We hoped we would do really well, but we failed."

The lack of participation from tenants in the neighborhood also hindered their effort. In 2001, McDougal Realtors bought

North Overton for redevelopment. Botello, like many other North Overton residents, has since sold his home in North Overton and bought a home elsewhere in the city.

Bush

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mentos from the Bush presidency, along with a library and museum.

Donald Dyal, dean of Libraries for Tech, was involved with the process A&M took to receive former President George Bush's library.

Dyal said the presidential library would cost at least \$100 million to build.

"The good news is this is raised money from outside sources," he said. "They cannot come up with a 'George W. Bush Library Service Fee' for the students to pay.'

Dyal said the benefits of receiving the presidential library will benefit the local business community and tourists, and will bring notoriety and recognition to Tech and Lubbock.

Dyal said the only downside of the presidential library he could think of, that happened at A&M, was the fundraising becoming too important.

"At A&M, the Presidential Library became so important that it used up all the air in the room," he said. "Other programs had a tendency to get lost."

Dyal said the fact that Bush was raised in West Texas would be a good reason to locate the library at Tech.

"He grew up in Midland for 11 years," he said. "Tech is the premier of higher education in West Texas. so it would be a natural home to the

Students

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dents within a span of two to three days, that is not common."

Elkins said flags are normally lowered to half-staff on Mondays in remembrance of the recently deceased. Tentatively, the flags will be lowered Monday, but the date has not been set.

Police reports show there are generally more problems during Spring Break.

"In this particular case here, in New Mexico, there wasn't a whole lot the students could do," Bower said. "I can only tell students to drive defensively and not offensively. I was passed in a no-passing zone here recently by a group of Texas college students speeding. Believe me, they received a citation."

Students in grief and in need of counseling may contact the Counseling Center on campus at (806) 742-3674 or go to West Hall, Room 214.

The service is offered 24 hours a day. More than 20 therapists and 10 full-time psychologists are on board to assist any personal needs.

Dr. Beatrice Tatem, outreach coordinator at the office and a counseling psychologist, said the service is geared toward students.

"We are here to help, to listen, anything needed; a student can't ask too much in a case like this," Tatem said.



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Breaking News

Phone: (806)742-3393 E-mail: UD@ttu.edu

Fax: (806) 742-2434 **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.

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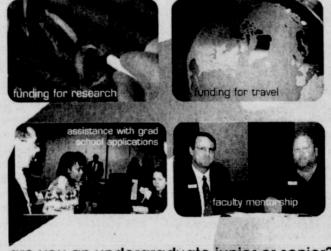
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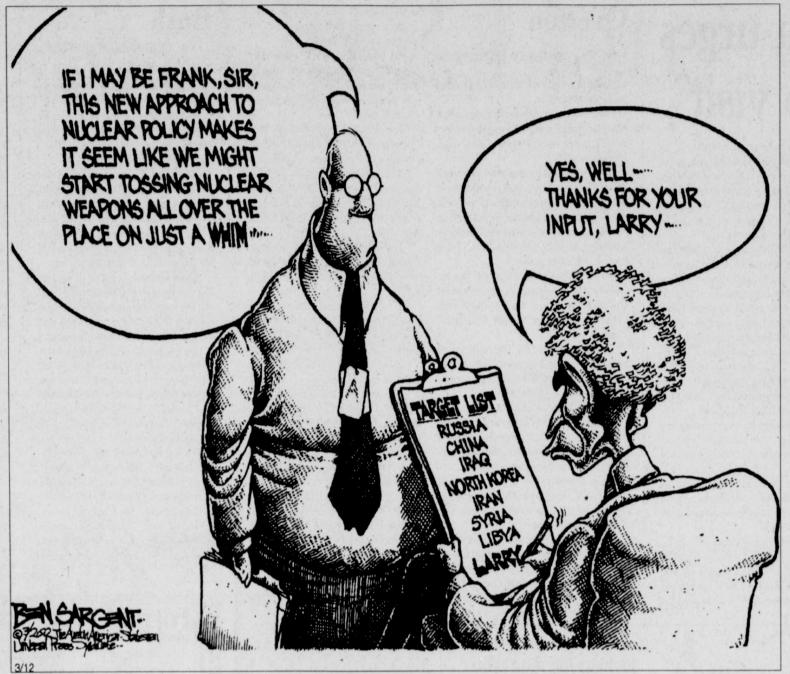
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Emotions run deep at Ground Zero

COLUMN



FORMBY

Breath departs.
The heart sinks. And words fail.
To describe Ground
Zero, which is what is now

Zero, which is what is now left of this city's biggest sorrow and our nation's largest attack, is an impossibility. Construction

TEW YORK -

Emotions burn.

crews work around-theclock, moving in and out of construction walls, which block visitors' view of the

wreckage. So, I cannot tell you what it looks like in there - that is something any of us can only imagine.

But to stand and watch other people stare is a sight unto itself. People come from all over the world to Manhattan for several reasons, and now it seems visiting Ground Zero is another must on the list of things to do while here.

I do not think it is for tourism reasons. It seems to be more of the process of healing. Even though many Americans did not know anyone in those buildings or on those planes, what happened more than six months ago will forever be a part of every American's life. Flowers, candles, pictures, signs, banners and other forms of remembrance line an entire city block, paying homage to victims and survivors.

People line up at police barricades to just stand and stare blankly. Some with empty faces. Some with tear-lined cheeks.

Judging by the surrounding blocks; life has indeed moved on. Business continues. People go about their daily lives. But right there, at Ground Zero, a force lingers. Echoes of the chaos remain. The pain has not dulled. And to see a whole area of nothing where once stood the city's two tallest structures is humbling.

uctures is humbling.

You cannot go there and expect to be cold and

callous. You cannot expect to not feel anything. You cannot expect to handle what you will feel. It is too overwhelming. All you can do is take it in.

Standing in the spot where it all happened — in the place where our nation's life was changed forever — my spine is chilled knowing there are people in this world willing to kill in such a bloody, malicious and hate-filled manner.

And then, turning away from the site, there is a cemetery whose gates are lined with homage paid to the innocent of Sept. 11 — pictures of people who were simply going to work on a Tuesday morning with poems and messages of despair, sadness and sorrow.

Fire stations who lost firefighters have pictures and newspaper clippings paying tribute to their fallen colleagues in display cases outside their front door. Many even had messages of thanks from the station to the people of the city for their support, their understanding and their compassion.

One native from Long Island told me she still refuses to visit Ground Zero.

"I'm just not ready to see it," she said.

For decades, this block was the pride of a city and a symbol of a nation. For one morning, it was the epicenter of hell. For the rest of its days, it will be the heart of this city's grief.

To stand here and stare is to accept vulnerability. It is to understand the level of sadness that seeps into the blood. It is to know that the nightmares too horrible to imagine are possible, whether we can conceive them or not.

Visiting this site is not fun. It does not bring closure — it only conjures up the darkest, murkiest emotions. But it will make you feel humble. It will force you to not only accept your humanity — your mortality — but it also will force you to embrace it.

Yes, there is evil in people we dare not think about. And yes, they use that as a driving force to create terror. The human heart is capable of much. Emotions can be felt in depths we do not yet know exist. And sometimes it is easy to close off that which we do not want to feel.

Judging by the faces of the people here, it did not seem like many people were doing that, though. People come here to grieve. To understand. To feel those emotions which rip through your gut and leave you empty. But sometimes it is important to allow these feelings to come to life. Because as horrible as it is to think about body parts, luggage, fire and cement raining from the sky, it happened. It was something that left its mark on this country's destiny.

I did not think I would feel this helpless, this weak, this sad. But I did not think I would feel this

Like most New Yorkers and Americans, when it comes to this part of history, I will never understand a lot of what happened. But to visit Ground Zero, I understand a lot more about the human condition.

We have a spectrum of possibilities when it comes to feeling. Sadness, weakness and fear do not make us weak. They make us real. We all have our own agendas in this life we have been given. But when it matters, we are not alone.

The most surprising thing I felt, though, is hope. To know such camaraderie, such love, such unity can pour from so many broken souls gives me faith. To know good and love can be born from pure evil gives makes me rethink a lot of

I wish I could give some profound summary of being here — some words that capture the essence of this place and the feelings it evokes. But I can not. I want to cry. I want to weep for what happened, for what people are still going through, for everything.

All I can tell you is that hope and despair, love and hate, good and evil can and do coexist. Here, everywhere and within all of us. Allowing yourself to acknowledge their existence and feel their power is not the hard part of life. No, the hard part is finding harmony within it all.

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

Some things are worth keeping



JUAN SHERWELL

o the cry of 'I exchange old wives for new!' the merchant canvassed the streets of the town with his convoy of painted carts. Transactions, based on inexorably fixed prices, were carried out rapidly. Those interested received proofs of quality and certificates of guarantee, but nobody had a choice."

This is the first part of the "Parable of the exchange," by Juan Jose Arreola (who never finished elementary school and became one of the most outstanding writers in the Spanish-speaking world in the 20th Century).

The story tells that all the men from a certain town had an opportunity to trade their "old wives" with the merchant for their "new" ones.

The women the merchant was offering were all beautiful and "perfect." It was an opportunity no one should miss. A lot of them were ruined since they spent all the money they had. But there was one man in town that did not take part of the business, and while all his neighbors were celebrating the new transactions, he stayed behind the window seeing the convoy passing with the merchandise.

His wife Sophia was next to him, nervous and afraid to be exchanged. He heard, for the last time, the trader saying "I exchange old wives for new!" but didn't move.

For a moment, Sophia could not really understand why she was the only old wife that was not exchanged.

The first days following were happy for all the men — until one day, all the exotic women started to get oxidized. The men pretended that nothing had happened and hid their wives, but the truth came out rapidly — the merchant had fooled them.

The good friends do not care about what time it is either; they do not care whether we call at 3 a.m. or 3 p.m.

Sophia got many admirers quickly but not for long — all the men went in an expedition to look for the merchant, but he was never found. On the other hand, Sophia's husband knew that for the rest of their lives Sophia's beauty would never fade away.

I first read this parable several years ago. I used to relate it exclusively to a situation about the love a guy and girl feel for each other, but I guess we can use it in a different place as well. Because I am not an expert in the "Romeo and Juliet" art of love (the relationship type of love), I can only offer you the previous parable, which speaks for itself and other explanations are not needed.

But there is another type of love that regardless of whether we have a boyfriend or girlfriend or not, we have all experienced more often, and that is the one we feel for our friends.

Every day we make decisions that will help build our relationships, but we may also make decisions that may not contribute to it. The merchants are everywhere, full of temptations for us: shallow magazines where every single page talks about how to get the "perfect body," movies where the main attraction is the look of actors and actresses, products that will define our muscles overnight. And the list can keep on going.

But I do not think that a true friend cares much about certain things. A true friend does not care, for example, what kind of car we have. It makes no difference to him or her if what we have is a Porsche or an old car that with some luck will not break down on the way back from a party.

They do not distinguish between expensive or cheap clothes. The good friends do not care about what time it is either; they do not care whether we call at 3 a.m. or 3 p.m. (not that they really want us to call at 3 a.m., though). The good friends are with us at all moments, good or bad ones, when we laugh and when we cry, when we win and when we loose, when they agree with us but also when they disagree, when we have said something that makes them feel better but also when we have said something that could have hurt them.

Those are the friends that will always be there. As in the parable of the exchange, we have similar choices. We can always exchange the people we love for some other "better-looking ones" or some materialistic things. Or instead, we can grow in love with the people that, like Sophia, will always keep an internal beauty, beauty that will never fade away.

■ Juan Sherwell is an economics graduate student from Mexico. He can be contacted at jsherwel@ttu.edu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SGA response to fee disheartening

To the editor: Surprise, surprise, they passed the athletics fee. Like we didn't know that was coming. What did surprise me, though, was the Student Government Association's response.

To the senators who resigned in opposition to the SGA's refusal to vote on a position on the fee — bravo. The comments made during the meeting, which were later published by *The University Daily* are sickening. One senator was even quoted as basically saying that the SGA can't make the administration mad because "they're the ones that

allow us to do everything."

Ahem. The "S" in "SGA" does stand for something. I thought it was supposed to stand for "student," but apparently, it stands for "spineless." The SGA knew full well the majority of the student body was against the athletics fee (need I bring

up the available seats-to-student ratio again?) but they refused to stand up to the administration.

It's nice to see that the SGA is actually a policy arm of the administration. I'd like a refund on any fees I had to pay to fund the SGA now, please.

Maybe the new guys will do a ittle better.

Derrick Crowe senior political science

Creationists do have a leg to stand on

To the editor: I am writing in response to Loren Bell's column "Creationists may find a good debate hard to find" (UD 03-07). I would personally like to thank Bell for giving us all a reason not to believe in evolution. He stated, "That theory stands up only to the point that one solitary shred of data comes to light in contradiction to it."

I am so relieved that no one has to believe in evolution anymore. So here's my iota of evidence: Dr. Francis Crick, one of the scientists credited with discovering DNA and oddly enough winning the Nobel Prize for it, tried to calculate the probability that a molecule as complex as DNA could come into existence by chance. Crick eventually abandoned his work because he was dissatisfied with his answer. He repeatedly came up with a zero percent probability.

Fred Hoyle, another scientist and astronomer, also attempted to give evolution a statistical value. Our buddy Fred even tried to shift the scales in his favor. He based his calculations on the supposed age of the universe's 15 to 20 billion years instead of the supposed age of the earth's 4.5 billion years, giving him an enormous statistical advantage since his study was based on things happening (or not happening) over time.

He also figured on the probability

of just one cell, not anything as complicated as oh shall we say humans coming into existence. His conclusion: it would take 1.04 million years for just one cell to come into existence by chance.

To give you some perspective on how large that number is, any event

To give you some perspective on how large that number is, any event in which the probability is 1 in 1,050 is deemed statistically impossible. Also, the probability of randomly selecting a predetermined electron from all the electrons in the universe is 1 in 1052. So, what I'm saying is 1.04 million is a really big number to be basing evolution on.

Thanks again, Bell. You just put the Tech population's mind at ease. In case you were wondering, yes I am a Christian. I encourage everyone to go back and read the last paragraph of Bell's column, take his advice, and when you watch the sun rise, remember it's not there by chance.

Justin Ritter senior mathematics

send letters to the editor to opinions@universitydaily.net

Actors race for Academy award gold

OSCAR PREVIEW

This week,

leading up to the

Oscar ceremony

airing Sunday on

ABC, I will be



venturing my predictions and also including personal picks for the win-**JAMES**

The predic-**EPPLER** tions will be who I believe will win.

The preferences will be who I would like to see take home the statue. It is a difficult year for Oscar predic-

This year there are not many, if any, locks on any given category. The annual Barbara Walters special will also air.

This years show promises to be exciting and entertaining.

Best Actor Nominees

Russell Crowe, "A Beautiful Mind;" Sean Penn, "I am Sam," Will Smith, "Ali;" Denzel Washington, "Training Day;" and Tom Wilkinson, "In the Bed-

This race appears to be a face-off between Crowe and Washington. Originally, I was sure Crowe would take the award, but he received some bad publicity for roughing up a BBC producer who edited his British Academy Film Award acceptance speech. The bad press came just a few days prior to when the Academy was set to cast their votes, and this could hurt his chances. Crowe also won last year for "Gladiator." Many people believed it was a sympathy award from voters for not giving him the Oscar for "The Insider" the year before. I'm not so sure the Academy will make another

Tom Hanks out of Crowe. It's much too

Then there's Washington, who played against type as a crooked cop in "Training Day." Washington deserves to win but so does Crowe. Its a tight race, but I think the voters will end up siding with Washington, who has never won for Best Actor in a leading roll. The Academy may also see fit to award him because he lost for "The Hurricane." After watching "Training Day" again on DVD, I am also choosing Washington. Will Smith's nomination is more of a tribute to the person he played, and Sean Penn is just a waste of a nomination.

Prediction: Denzel Washington Preference: Denzel Washington

Best Actress Nominees

Halle Berry, "Monster's Ball;" Judi Dench, "Iris;" Nicole Kidman, "Moulin

Rouge;" Sissy Spacek, "In the Bedroom;" and Renee Zellweger, "Bridget Jones's

This is another tight race between Spacek and Berry. Spacek has both a great performance and a long career on her side, but Berry has the more daring roll. Spacek is probably the safer bet, but it would be sad to see Halle Berry having to wait another year.

Berry was amazing and has a promising career ahead of her. On the other hand, I would be pleasantly pleased to see Zellweger win for her wonderful performance that held "Bridget Jones's Diary" together.

Prediction: Sissy Spacek Preference: Halle Berry

Best Supporting Actor Nominees

Jim Broadbent, "Iris;" Ethan Hawke, "Training Day;" Ben Kingsley, "Sexy

Beast;" Ian McKellen, "The Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring;" Jon

This is probably the toughest category to call this year.

Broadbent has won awards already this year so his chances are slightly diminished. Hawke underplayed superbly to show the dynamic difference between himself and Washington's character

Kingsley plays against type as a nasty foul-mouthed gangster, and McKellen has politics, a great career and a solid performance going for him.

Jon Voight is nominated for his portrayal of Howard Cossel.

If nominations are given for impersonations, then anyone on "Saturday Night Live" is eligible

I did not see "Iris," and I'm not sure enough voters did either.

The Academy loves actors playing against type, which is good for Kingsley, but Sir Ian McKellen is the only nominated actor from LOTR. In the end, I

think voters will want to honor LOTR and the knighted McKellen.

Prediction: Ian McKellen Preference: Ian McKellen

Best Supporting Actress

Jennifer Connely, "A Beautiful Mind;" Helen Mirren, "Gosford Park;" Maggie Smith, "Gosford Park;" Marisa Tomei, "In the Bedroom;" and Kate Winslet, "Iris."

The closest thing to a lock this year is Jennifer Connely.

She's talented, beautiful and refuses to take roles that are beneath her. Smith and Mirren cancel each other out for "Gosford Park," and Tomei won for "My Cousin Vinney" years ago. Connely is the most deserving and the most likely

Prediction: Jennifer Connely Preference: Jennifer Connely



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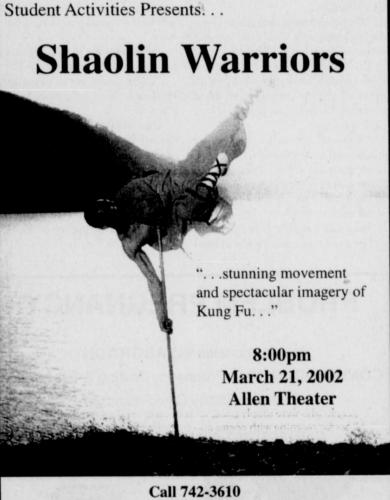
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Ranked Raiders play Lobos at Law

RECOGNIZED: Baseball No. 23 in coaches' poll

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By David Wiechmann/Staff Reporter

After winning two series over ranked conference opponents, the Texas Tech baseball team will take a

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Lubbock

break from Big 12 action to play host to New Mexico (13-12) today at 5 p.m.

and put its No. 23 ranking on the line. Tech (20-10, 4-5) will return to conference play this weekend in Nebraska.

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The Cornhuskers (11-5, 4-2) are ranked 13th in the nation.

The Raiders saw all three aspects of the game work to their liking and assist in beating Oklahoma State this past

"We played good against Oklahoma State," coach Larry Hays said. "We had great defense, and we had three pitchers pitch well. Our bats were good all week, too."

Hays said Tech has played at a higher level and would like to see it

"Hopefully, we can keep playing at

the level we are," Hays said. "And keep it going Tuesday and afterward to Nebraska. Catcher Willie Durazo said the Raid-

ers will begin to ride their momentum into their game with the Lobos and bring it to Nebraska.

"We can definitely carry it into (Tuesday)," Durazo said. "And even into this upcoming weekend in Nebraska."

Durazo said the players have become more comfortable with each other off the field, and the chemistry has found its way on the field to help make things click recently.

"We've all got used to each other and started to know each other on a more personal level," Durazo said. "That makes it more fun to play. We all know we're on the same page, and we all want to win."

Hays said the game with the Lobos will be a test for his team and will need

his pitching staff to not let up.

"New Mexico is hitting about .350 right now," Hays said. "And they've started winning, so we need Dusty (Buck) to control them a little bit."

With the wins over ranked Texas and OSU last week, Tech moved in to the Top 25, but Durazo said whether or not Tech moved into the national rankings would not make a difference because the team will continue to do what it has been doing.

"If we didn't make it in or not, it doesn't matter because we're still going to go out there and keep winning," he said

Hays said the team's recent victories over its ranked opponents displayed what the team can do on the field.

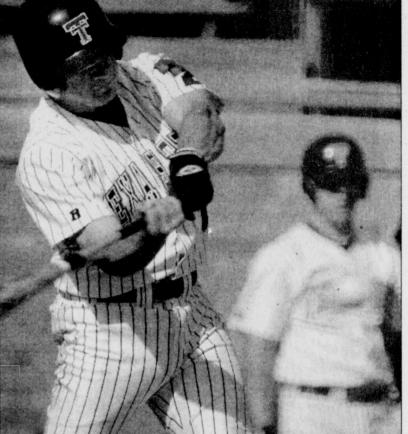
"It shows what we are capable of doing," Hays said. "And, hopefully, we can keep doing it. A key to doing that will be if we can keep pitching like we have."

If the bats were to remain hot, Hays said he would be more satisfied.

"Offensively, we're doing well," Hays said. "Now we just need more of

Hays said pitching will not only be a crucial part of the UNM game, but it will need to be a priority for the remainder of the season.

"For the rest of the way we need our pitchers to pitch ahead," Hays said. That way it will give our defense a chance. It will be imperative for us the rest of the way."



Catcher Jake Valles swings at a pitch during a Tech game with Sam Houston State. The Raiders will face-off with New Mexico at 5 p.m. today at Dan Law

Big 12 puts four in Sweet 16

DALLAS (AP) — The Big 12 has league has broken through, with four never had a problem getting teams into the NCAA tournament. It's sticking around that's been tough.

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teams among the remaining 16, the most for any conference. Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Missouri all will try giving the Big 12 its first Final Four team - or two.

"We've had all the ingredients in place for teams to achieve at a very high level," commissioner Kevin Weiberg said Monday. "We believed it was a matter of time more than anything. Each year our basketball has been getting better."

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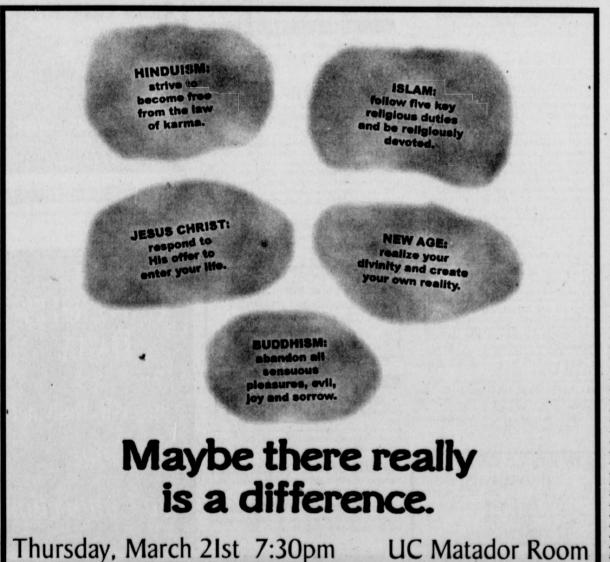
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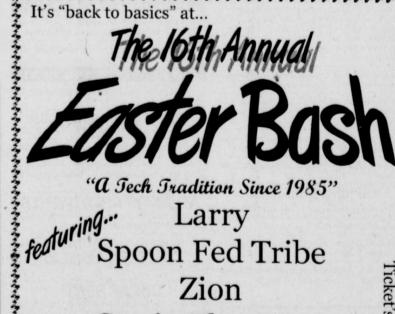


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