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TUESDAY Feb. 25, 2003

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SGA elections begin today only on the Web

By Matt Muench/Staff Reporter

day and Wednesday to choose who the will be their voice in next year's Student Government Association.

Voting is only available online at runoff election March www.sga.ttu.edu from 9 a.m. today to 4-5. 7 p.m. Wednesday. The winners will be announced Wednesday night sion Adviser Bill shortly after the polls close.

On the ballot this year are 11 candidates for the top three positions. Three are vying for the spot of president, five are bidding for internal vice president and three look to snag the external vice president position.

date must receive at least 50.1 percent most viable for a runoff." Students can cast their votes to- of votes. If a candidate does not reach

50.1-percent mark, the top two will go one-on-one in a

Election Commis-Brannan expects to see runoffs in all three executive positions.

see a runoff," he said. "Anytime you race. get more than two people that race, it

To win those positions, the candi- internal position will probably be the of them has their own qualities to of- the park

There are 68 available positions on Senate. Eighty-one students are running to be senators of their respective colleges, and 19 are running for

> senator-at-large. The majority vote gets the candidate a seat in the Senate.

SGA President "There are enough candidates to Kelli Stumbo said it should be a good

"They have a lot of challenges increases the chance of a runoff. The ahead of them," she said. "Each one because the SGA is not a walk in

fer. But I think some candidates think these are positions where you can just go in there and wing it."

SGA External Vice President will win the three executive positions.

"It is going to be interesting," will win. It is always a surprise. I see that there are definitely some that are more qualified than others. But it all comes down to what the students

Stumbo said she hopes students choose the right people for the job

'We have come along far this year," she said. "But the SGA has a lot farther to go. Students need to choose wisely and realistically because Leigh Mauer said she has no idea who these are the people that are going to go to bat for you.'

She said she has heard some can-Mauer said. "You can never tell who didates not being honest in their plat-

> "I think there are a few smooth talkers that just tell students what they want to hear," she said. "I hope students realize that some candidates are giving promises that can't be kept."

ELECTIONS continued on page 3

EXECUTIVE CANDIDATES

President: Jeremy Brown, Louis Constancio and Carissa Nichols

■ Internal Vice President: Chris Carr, Darbara Daily, Don Dildy, Jackque Steinmetz and Wesley Stephens

External Vice President: Colton Batchelor, Sara Floerke and Charles Lair

Universities debate tuition deregulation

By Kelly McAlister/Staff Reporter Jan. 28.

attempting to find their own ways to A&M Student Senate said their deal with the potential tuition deregulation that may be imposed by the tion at its last meeting. state Legislature.

The University of Texas Executive Vice President and Provost Sheldon Ekland-Olson said the university is in intend to work with the state Legfavor of tuition deregulation, which would allow universites Board of Regents to determine the cost of their opposed to shifting any more costs insitution's tuition.

"If the state could pay for it, we would prefer not to," he said. "But the state is not.

He said the quality of Texas universities will be damaged beyond repair if the Legislature cannot produce reduction in expenditures of the the money necessary for the universi- current fiscal year and a 12.5 perties or allow universities to find differ- cent decrease for fiscal years 2004 ent sources of revenue.

"Some form of increased capacity for the universities to generate rev- News and Publications Cindy enue has got to be found," Ekland-

istrative associate Becky Carreon said University of Texas System to althe organization approved a resolution low for flexibility of setting tuition entitled, "Expressing the Fervent Opposition to Tuition Deregulation" on

Megan Stephenson, a member Universities across the state are of the executive branch of the Texas Senate approved a similar resolu-

Stephenson said the Student Senate does not support complete deregulation of tuition, but senators islature if a bill is passed.

She said the Student Senate is of education to students than is absolutely necessary.

Gov. Rick Perry requested all state institutions impose a budget cut to aid the state in its shortfall. The state has called for a 7 percent

Texas Tech Vice Chancellor of Rugeley said the topic of tuition deregulation was first proposed by UT Student Government admin- Chancellor Mark Yudolf of the

DEREGULATION continued on page 3



JENNA HANSEN/Staff Photographer

DONNIE CARPENTER, A senior finance and economics major from Southlake, looks at a ceramic sculpture entitled "Women's Planet," made by Vanessa Tirey at the art show in the Student Union on Monday.

International events on campus this week

By Angela Timmons/Staff Reporter being aware," Moore said. "Stu-

Texas Tech is making note of international events this week with International Week, sponsored by the International Culture Center.

The week kicked off Monday with several presentations and events, including France and the World, and comprised the programs, Moore Irish Dance Music and Songs.

International Week is important because Tech students, faculty and staff need to become acquainted with other cultures, said Sonia Moore, information specialist for International

"Dr. Haragan has always stressed

dents will deal with someone from another country in the workplace. It's important to see what we have in common and what are our dif-

Faculty and student recommendations and ideas for presentations

"Some years, students are really involved; other times, there's more faculty," Moore said.

The International Food Festival, she said, will not be put on this

CULTURE continued on page 3



CHRIS SMITH PLAYS banjo with the Irish band Last Night's Fun as the High Plains Irish Dancers perform Monday in the International Cultural Center Auditorium.

Lubbock nightclubs safe despite national concerns

By Heidi Toth/Staff Reporter

With all the anxiety after two nightclub tragedies in the last week, ally that would have regulated that, Lubbock club-goers can breathe a little

Fire Marshal Mike Camp said there are no major safety concerns with any of the approximately 50 large nightclubs in the city.

There are several city ordinances that regulate how many people are allowed in a facility. The number varies for each building and is dependent on features such as square footage of the building and how many exits there

In addition, Lubbock does not give many nightclubs permits for pyrotechnic displays, such as the one that killed almost 100 people and injured almost 200 more in Rhode Island last week. Those permits fall under a different code than regular building requirements, but the Rhode Island nightclub

was most likely not in compliance, Camp said.

"There are codes in place nationand probably would have prevented it if they had followed standards," Camp said.

With displays that involve fire, the department looks at the height of the ceiling, distance from the show to the audience and if there are flammable materials nearby that could catch on

Most pyrotechnic permits are for the United Spirit Arena, the Lubbock Municipal Auditorium and the Lubbock Municipal Coliseum, Camp said, because those facilities have more room and there is more distance from the stage to the audience.

The fire department inspects Lubbock clubs quarterly to ensure they remain in compliance, he said. The

CLUBS continued on page 3



IENNA HANSEN/Staff Photographer

MARCIA CRABTREE, A freshman psychology major from Junction, tries to stay warm as she walks to the Student Union on Monday. The low this morning is forecast to be 11 degrees.

'OLD SCHOOL' LACKS PLOT,

LIFE & LEISURE, PAGE 5



Big 12 TITLE RACE **TIGHTENS**

SPORTS, PAGE 6



RED RAIDERS

SPORTS, PAGE 6

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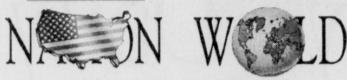


DALLAS (AP) - For teachers and students at a Dallas school, Norah Jones' sweep of the Grammy awards came as no surprise. Grammy-winning graduates are part of the arts legacy of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts.

along with those by fellow Booker T. had students celebrating in the school tracks flotsam. "The effort's worth it be- der with Kyrgyzstan, at 10:03 a.m. local halls and dreaming of their own suc- cause these Nikes have only been adrift time, the government said. The U.S.

"They are ecstatic," said school spokeswoman Sharon Modabberi. "It gives them hope. They know she sat new Nikes washed up on Washington's Zhang Yong, director of disaster prevenin the same seats they sit in."

The Rundown



Dallas grads bring 33,000 Nike shoes Earthquake in China home seven Grammys drifting near Alaska kills at least 94 people

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) container ship off Northern California.

There's just one hitch. "Nike forgot state media said. Jones' five wins Sunday night, to tie the laces, so you have to find mates," said Curtis Ebbesmeyer, an Bachu County on the western edge of alums Erykah Badu and Roy Hargrove, oceanographer in Washington state who Xinjiang, near China's mountainous bora few months. All 33,000 are wearable."

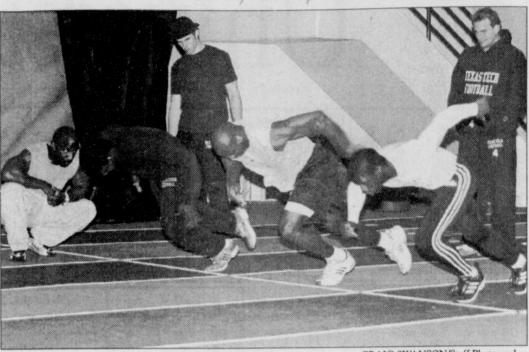
about the shoe spill after finding two Olympic Peninsula on Jan. 9 and 16.

BEIJING (AP) - A powerful Enough soggy Nike basketball shoes to earthquake struck China's remote outfit every high school team in Alaska western region of Xinjiang on Monare drifting through the Pacific Ocean day, killing at least 94 people and coltoward the state after spilling from a lapsing more than 1,000 houses and school buildings, a disaster official and

The quake of magnitude 6.8 struck Geological Survey in Golden, Colo., re-A beachcomber told Ebbesmeyer ported the quake's magnitude as 6.3.

"The death toll might increase," said tion for the Xinjiang Seismology Bureau.

READY, SET, RUN



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer

TECH SPEED AND conditioning football coach Bennie Wylie (far left) looks on as Tech players (left to right) Ivory McCain, Carlos Francis and Sirdon Lewis work on speed drills Monday afternoon in the Athletic Training Center.

Tech Notes

Applications for the 2003 Homecoming Coordinating Committee are available at the Center for Campus Life in Room 228 of the Student Union building. The application deadline is Friday. For more information, contact Siobhan Shahan at (806) 742-



5433 or e-mail siobhan.a.shahan@ttu.edu. Lubbock's Pittman's Academy of Martial Arts is hosting a Brazilian Jiu vard. The event will include an intro-

Jitsu Exhibition from noon to 1 p.m. Friday in the Student Union Courtduction and explanation of moves in Portuguese and English, and free Brazilian food and music. All students are invited to attend. For more information, contact professor Antonio Ladeira at (806) 742-1550.



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Feb. 27-28 New apartment

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Feb. 27-28 New room, new hall

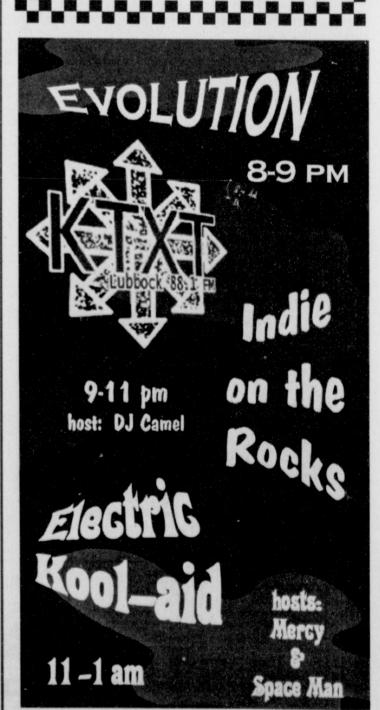
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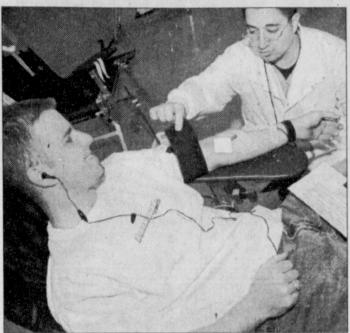


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UNDER THE NEEDLE



JENNA HANSEN/Staff Photographer

TONY HERNANDEZ (RIGHT) takes the blood pressure of Josh Zaffos, a senior finance major from Houston, while he donates blood at the Sigma Pi blood drive in the Student Union on Monday.

Clubs

The department also checks the storage of the building to ensure there are no flammable materials or other items that could be dangerous to people in the club.

Camp said most clubs comply without difficulty. Occasionally, his office will receive a call from someone at the club who complains of overcrowding or blocked exits. In these cases, units are available to investigate to see if there is a problem.

If the fire department thinks the club could be overcrowded, the door count is checked. If it is necessary, the department will count the people in

the club to check the door count, but Camp said that is a last resort not of-

Texas Tech student Craig Cason, who said he goes to clubs occasionally, has never felt unsafe, but he has noticed the crowds and said things

"Everyone rushes the stage at once, and if you don't run with them, you could get trampled," the sophomore pre-veterinary major from Wichita

Jeremy Bishop, a freshman agriculture economics major from Dimmitt, said he goes to clubs several times a month, and he does not feel clubs are too crowded nor has he felt unsafe.

Justin Cruce, a sophomore psychology major from Lubbock, agreed

(Night Club), but all the other ones

have been in Austin for the past

week presenting their university

needs to Legislature Board mem-

Tech Chancellor Dr. David

Smith said Tech does not want to

deregulate tuition. He said he does

not want to lose the partnership

cent of the cost of tuition. Texas

A&M and UT receive the same 45

percent, Smith said, however, they

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with the state.

Dance Music and Songs event. CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

year because of Student Union "Hopefully, we'll be able to resume it next year," she said.

International Week falls at a pivotal time in 2003, as foreign relations are playing a major role in the lives of world citizens. Moore said it is important to remember tolerance in this day and age.

Culture

"Tolerance is the most important thing," she said. "To keep an open mind, get to know someone of another country or even another

afraid of the unknown or of people of other cultures, but overcoming the fear will help one get to know people from across the world. 'You have to be tolerant of

Moore said people are often

people different from you and me," she said. "You'll find people are basically more alike than different."

Dr. Christopher Smith, assistant professor of music history and literature, helped to combine the

forces of two Irish dance and music groups to put on Monday night's Irish

The Texas Tech Ceili Band and the High Plains Irish Dancers were combined to celebrate the opening of International Week. Smith has directed the Ceili Band and played traditional Irish music for years. He said this week provides students and the community with the opportunity to learn about the music.

"We were asked to give this presentation as a public outreach," Smith said. "While some have a strong educational purpose, we can bring in a living community tradition, something people still participate in communities around the world."

The theme of community, he said, is not only important in Irish traditional performing, but also for today's global scene.

"Promoting community across cultures is always important, and especially now, when creating communities across cultures presents a way in which, perhaps, we can avoid military conflict," Smith said.

It is easy, he said, to think of someone as "alien" when one does not know anything about the person or culture.

"But if you come to know something about them, their music and dance, you understand concerns are similar," Smith said. "You realize their potential as human being ... that what unites people is a shared sense of what human beings need in order to sur-

Smith said music and dance provide a good opportunity to cross cul-

"If somebody from Iran and I agree that Iranian music is beautiful, which it is, then we have something in com-

Erica Enns, a junior French major from Cote D'Ivoire, Africa, made use of International Week to highlight French international relations throughout history.

Enns said the French relations presentation Monday seemed important in order to deal with real issues in the

TUESDAY

world today and to heighten awareness on those issues.

She said many of those issues pertaining to French-speaking countries are neglected by western societies.

"There's a difference in ideologies between France and the U.S. or Anglophone countries," Enns said. "France, ever since World War II, has always wanted to be militarily independent; the way they view war, they don't see it as necessary but harmful."

Enns said the French also are interested in preserving their culture and

"It's definitely a topic that affects many important things going on right now," she said.

International Week will be hosting events every day of the week. For more information and schedule of events, call the International Cultural Center at 742-2218 or visit www.iaff.ttu.edu.

FEBRUARY 25

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

department checks to make sure there are sufficient exits that are accessible and marked with exit lighting.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"(Deregulation) was not envi-

Instead, it was intended to com-

sioned to let the state off the hook,"

pensate for lost money from the

budget crisis. The problem with deregulation is once funding from the

state has been cut, Rugeley said, it

never comes back. This is when

education becomes a tax on the

comes "do you adopt a policy that basically changes that way you deal

She said the question then be-

The state Legislature will be answering that question during the next few months. Tech officials

& Cheese Combo-

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Deregulation

according to students' majors.

Rugeley said.

with education?"

ten used.

could get out of hand.

"Crowds are pretty bad at Crystal's

are pretty fun," he said.

Tara Winfrey also said Crystal's sometimes gets too crowded, but nothing has ever happened.

"I don't really feel unsafe as far as what's going to happen to me, but it gets really crowded," the sophomore restaurant, hotel and institution management major from Denver City said.

Despite feeling safe at the clubs, all four students said they had never noticed where the emergency exits were or how best to get to them, something Camp said was vital when going to a club or other facility with crowds.

"There's always a concern when you have a large group of people together," he said. "One of the biggest problems ... is everyone tries to exit out the front door where they came in."

receive money from Permanent University Funds that Tech does

Smith said the cuts proposed by the governor have the potential to harm Tech.

"We are not willing to let Texas Tech go backwards," Smith said. University officials are in Austin, he said, as part of the

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typical Legislature process.

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Elections

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Last year, 2,590 students voted. During the 2001-2002 election, 2,735 students cast their votes.

Stumbo said she expects to see a better turnout for this election.

"I think more people will vote just because of the recent news of the fee increase," she said.

Jason Birk, a senior exercise sports science major from Houston, said he would not vote.

"I never have, and I won't this year," he said. "The SGA does nothing for the students. My vote wouldn't matter because none of the candidates matter."

Birk's friend Emily Huston, a junior art major from Houston, dis-

"That is what is wrong with students here," she said. "They complain, and yet, they don't even vote. I am going to vote, and I hope every student votes."

Unlike last year, there are no constitutional referendums on the ballot. However, after a vote is cast, students will be redirected to another Weh nace with a roll recarding the

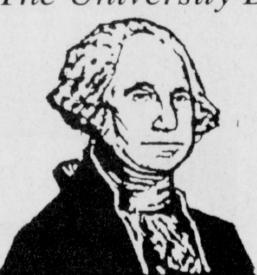




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Applications Due: 4 p.m. Monday, March 3 103 Student Media Building

Interview with UD Management Staff: Monday, March 24 Interview with Student Media Committee: Wednesday, March 31



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Why does life occur? Why do we have die anyway? What is the point of all read to answer this question. The first

time: the Bible The second book to find the purpose of life isn't too far behind the Bible in total sales: the dictionary. Since I'm not currently in the mood to get into a religious discussion over the multiple meanings of life for dif-

> The other day, I was doing what nerds like myself do — reading the dictionary. I was flipping through the "F" section, and I reached a word on page 275 that simply struck me. A few pages later, still mingling around in the "F" section, I came upon another word. And then it hit me: I had found the meaning of life, defined right there in the dictionary.

ferent beliefs around the world, I have

chosen to use the dictionary.

Why do good things happen to bad

I feel there are two books one can

book is the best-selling book of all

people? Why do bad things happen to

These words are the two most im- The word is family.

People are always wondering portant words in the dictionary, coined what the meaning of life is. a mere 300 years apart from each other. Why are we here on Earth, There are more than 70,000 words mulling about in our putrid existence, clearly defined in the dictionary today, and only two of them, if you will allow me to personify a word will stick with you, through thick and thin, no matter what.

good people? Why does death occur? That means that less than .003 of life if we are all ultimately going to 1 percent of the words in the English language are words worthy of your time and attention.

Notice I did not say I was flipping through the "M" section. I'm not talking about money. And I was not flipping through the "P" section, so I'm not talking about possessions either. These things and their relatives are frivolous to the words I am describ-

Sometime before the beginning of the 12th century, the first word came to be. Merriam-Webster defines this word, the first of our life-altering discussion, as "one attached to another by affection or esteem, a favored com-

The word is derived from the Middle-English word "frend" and is pronounced like it sounds — friend.

The second word that defines the 15th century. "A group of persons of common ancestry" is how it is defined.



Anthony Rudine

In this time of war and uncertainty, it is even more important to cherish the time you have with the people you care about.

Life is full of ups and downs, bad times and good times, hard times and easy times. Money is only a temporary satisfaction. Material possessions, in all of their glory and fulfillment, are only meaning of life came sometime in the a brief satisfaction in the big scheme

> Money is an addiction just like cocaine is an addiction. Possessions are only to extend and develop the rela-

ply never be enough. The more money you get, the more money you want. The more toys you have, the more toys you want. It turns into a vicious cycle that can never have an end.

What bothers me is family and friends are many times, forgotten in the good times of one's life. When the money is rolling in like salmon in a fishing boat, many people are just too busy, too successful and too "happy."

But this happiness is only a pseudohappiness. It is a smoke screen to the real success in life. Our society today is completely based around this fake happiness, a temporary filling of the ever-growing smile cup. The problem is the cup keeps getting bigger and bigger, and when down times come, the things grounded in the material aspects of life are unable to fill this cup.

Friends, happiness is not something only rich people have, something only successful people have, or something that can only come with the next vacation to the Bahamas. These things are all arbitrary. They are all meaningless. In the end, it doesn't matter how many times you have been scuba diving off the coast or how many new cars you have or how many times you have gone fishing in your boat.

Material possessions are meant

like a drug to the soul. There can sim-tionships you have with the two real secrets to happiness: your family and your friends.

It comes down to an age-old question with many variations. Would you rather go skiing at the nicest resort, eat the finest meals with the finest wine around people who are there to serve your exquisite wealth, or would you rather just go have a cheeseburger with the people you care about?

Do not envy the people who would rather have the wine and the fine foods. They do not realize the depth of true happiness. It is physically impossible — their cup is never filled.

In this time of war and uncertainty, it is even more important to cherish the times you have with the people that care about you. It is even more important to let them know you care about them because in the end, your friends and family are all you truly

I think Stevie Wonder, Elton John and Dionne Warwick put it best -"Keep smiling, keep shining, knowing you can always count on me. For sure, that's what friends are for." And just remember, there is no better friend than a family friend.

So keep your heads high, your nose clean, your teeth brushed, and give your family a call and tell them how much they mean to you.

University Daily

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Color Kafka: an ethnic 'Metamorphosis'

s I awoke one morning from uneasy dreams, I found myself transformed in my bed, into someone I was not. I was lying on my back when I realized that I no longer held the same physical characteristics of which I had become famil-

What had happened to me? It was no dream. My room was as it had always been, but I was not the same.

I checked my alarm clock and saw it was already 9 a.m., and I had 15 minutes to get to my first class. I found my mirror in the same place it always was, but the face looking back at me was not who I had been the night be-

Instead of my long, bushy hair, there was a closely cropped cut on the top of my head, and as my eyes trailed down my face, the reflection in the mirror was not that of the Caucasian male that had fallen asleep the night before, but that of a much darker skinned individual.

With my roommate still asleep, I had not turned on the lights, and it became obvious the light must be playing a trick on me. I slipped my shoes on and threw my backpack over my shoulder and glanced at the unfamiliar reflection once more, rubbing my eyes in disbelief.

Although the lack of light in my room had allowed me to dismiss my physical changes before, the early morning sun reflecting off my skin could not be ignored. My skin tone



Christopher Sokol chrissokol@hotmail.com

I had awoken with the same beliefs, the same personality, the same interior characteristics, but to those staring back at me that day, I was not the same.

was a light shade of brown, and the familiar birthmark on my right forearm was no longer visible.

I told myself it couldn't be; what had happened to me? With the attitude of someone who knows he is about to awake from a dream, I allowed for my body to carry out its regular routine as I became an impartial

As I arrived at my first class, I and almost looked past the individual judged.

walked with an air of familiarity to my staring back at me. My eyes had beand not too far away. The individuals with whom I usually carried on a seemed distant and reserved. There was no doubt my physical characteristics had altered their perception of

minutes early, and I couldn't be happier to get away from the classroom. I glanced at my watch and saw it was two minutes until 10 a.m. and decided it would be best if I took a few minutes to gather myself.

My professor ended class a few

startled by the individual in the mir-

In complete confusion, I began to feel my eyes water up, only to notice the tears were resolving not from my usual blue eyes but a dark pair of unfa-

I was doing. I wiped my tears with my shirt sleeve and as my forearm passed by my eyes, I became transfixed on my

The color of my skin was not my normal tanned white nor the unfamiliar light brown from only moments ago. Instead there was a smooth tan tone. As my eyes trailed up my arm, I quickly noticed it was now a minute past 10 a.m.

I rushed to the bathroom mirror

usual seat, not too close to the front come much smaller, and the close crop of hair from earlier was replaced with a shock of black hair. My eyelids were friendly conversation with suddenly obviously much tighter than before, and my appearance was that of an Asian individual.

It couldn't be; what was going on? As it had happened before, my body seemingly put my self-awareness in the passenger seat and took me to my next class. When I arrived, once again, the people I had called friends the day before would either choose to ignore me or become very distant.

The rest of the day now seems little I entered the bathroom only to be more than a dream from which the memories seem impossibly real. I can remember, as each passing hour would turn over to the next, my physical appearance would change to something completely different. None of the faces or characteristics that would stare back at me from the mirror were I shoved a stall door open and fell my own, but the person inside of those appearances was very much my own.

The people I came into contact with would treat me as though I was out of place. How could that be? I had awoken with the same beliefs, the same personality and the same interior characteristics, but to those staring back at me that day, I was not the

The only thing that had changed was my physical appearance, but to the eyes of the world around, what was inside of me was not what had been

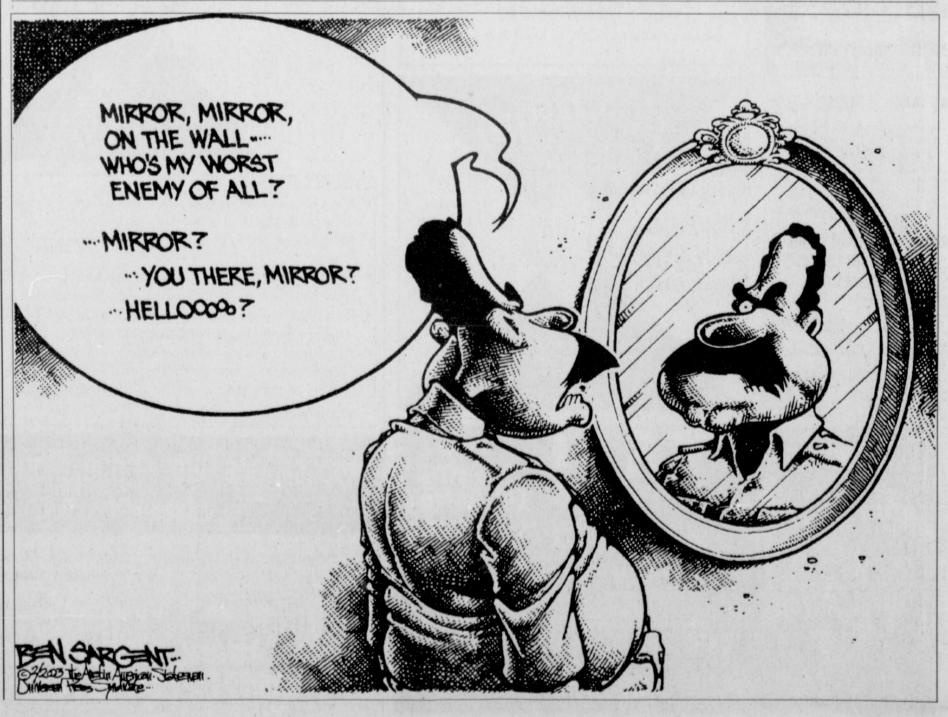
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"Old School" is simply old-hat

film about three men in their 30s who noise? decide to start a fraternity.

vious work includes "Road Trip," a fun. college comedy that made me laugh in spite of myself. But "Old School" lacks creativity and, most importantly, consistently funny material.

Wilson plays Mitch, a lawyer who comes home to find his girlfriend hosting an orgy in their bedroom.

Vaughn plays Beanie, a married ter. man with kids who owns an electronics chain. He is playing the type of role that he's familiar with a wisecracking control freak who always seems to have the best ideas (aka his roles in "Swingers" and "Made").

Farrell, having just departed from "Saturday Night Live," plays Frank, who has just gotten married, but slips back into his drinking and streaking days of old.

The three guys start an informal from college age to late 80s. They charms of

hen will people realize make Mitch's house their frat house there is only one "Ani and throw crazy parties on the front mal House" and that the lawn. Heck, they even manage to get material therein is hard to expound Snoop Dogg to perform on the front porch. The music is loud and boom-Luke Wilson, Vince Vaughn and ing. Question: Why do none of the Will Farrell star in "Old School," a neighbors call the cops about the

Jeremy Piven plays the dean of the The film is co-written and di- local college who has it out for our rected by Todd Phillips, whose pre- three heroes and wants to spoil all the

> The beginning of the movie looked promising with some funny dialogue and a few sight gags, but later, it just ceased to be funny. And it's not just me. I saw the movie with quite a few college students in the theater. There was not much laugh-

It's all the kind of stuff that we've seen before-hazing of pledges, drunken stupors and the like. There's also the incorporation of Farrell and Vaughn's wives taking an oral sex class with their friends. It's just a shameless sight gag that isn't funny

In fact, one of my biggest problems with the movie is it has the audacity to try to take itself seriously. This is especially evident in Wilson's fraternity consisting of men ranging character as he tries to win the

FILM REVIEW James Eppler



The beginning of the movie looked promising with some funny dialogue and a few sight gags, but later, it just ceased to be funny. And it's not just me. I saw the movie with quite a few college students.

Ellen Pompeo ("Moonlight Mile"). Are we really supposed to believe this woman, a single mom to boot, would actually be attracted to this guy going through a serious mid-life crisis?

Perhaps the screenwriters here thought they could create a balance: romance for the girls and nude women wrestling in K-Y Jelly for the

This is just such a huge disappointment because these three lead actors are all capable of good work. Many will find most of the funny moments are in the previews, but be sure to stick around for the end credits for some of the movies' most amusing scenes. It's a shame one has to wait until the end of the movie for the biggest laughs.

EPPLER'S RATING: ★ ★

*** - Flawless *** - Excellent *** - Good ** - Mediocre * - Awful

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Big 12 Conference title race heating up

By David Wiechmann/Sports Editor

There are three games remaining on the Big 12 Conference schedule, but the roller coaster ride is far from over.

The No. 7 Texas Tech Lady Raiders still have to face conference-leading the team says anything can happen.

All season, the players and coaches have said they have to "take it one game at a time," and "anyone can win on any given night." That's why Tech is not overlooking Nebraska in the final stretch of the conference title race.

"We're real excited to be in the to help the Raiders out.

run; this was our goal," guard Natalie Ritchie said. "We're really getting down to crunch time, and we've got some pretty big games coming up, and hopefully, we can win out; but right now, we're just focused on Nebraska. We know if we take care of business, see what happens." Texas and Kansas State next week. Plus, we could have some pretty neat games

With the conference standings basically separated into thirds, scoreboard watching will no doubt be a common practice during the last weeks of Big 12 play. Center Cisti Greenwalt said Tech to upset Texas or KSU. is not relying on the middle of the pack

somebody to help us out," she said. "We're all going to come out, and we might end up tied, and any upset would help us down the road any time. We're going to watch the scores and

Head coach Marsha Sharp said the way the conference has panned out this season, slots one through three have pulled farther away from the pack, and her team may not be able to count on the rest of the conference

"It's been an interesting conference race compared to a year ago," Sharp

"I think we're always hoping for said. "A year ago, I think it was easier for everyone in the conference to beat someone. I think it's been interesting that they have separated a little bit, but it's also made it tougher because if you lost a game in there, there wasn't as much chance somebody was going to help you make up that loss. I think the top three have been in a fight not

> Sharp said in the past, conference champions might have had four or five losses, but this year, it is not the case because Tech, Texas and Kansas State have pulled away from the pack.

Being lead dog means a team has to make sure it doesn't get its heels nipped at, and Texas and KSU are one game up on Tech. Both, however, have tough road games coming up, so neither team can get too jocular before traveling to Lubbock next week.

day, and KSU heads to Colorado this week.

Texas travels to Baylor on Wednes-

Tech cannot afford to get big headed either.

"The game with Texas on Sunday doesn't mean near as much if you don't go take care of business against Nebraska," Sharp said.



GREG KRELLER/Staff Photographer

CENTER CISTI GREENWALT goes up against Oklahoma's Laura Andrews in Tech's 59-48 win Wednesday at the United Spirit Arena.

University Daily READER'S CHOICE AWARDS The Readers Choice Awards are a fun spring promotion sponsored by The University Daily.

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- Entries must be clearly printed or typed on actual ballot, no photocopied ballots will be accepted. To be counted, ballots must include name, address, phone & student ID number (SSN) of the person submitting the ballot 2. Entries become property of The UD which reserves the right to publish ballot answers & comments
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Red Raiders upset Cowboys

Texas Tech rallied from a 12-point fouled out late. second-half deficit to upset No. 16 Oklahoma State 62-57 Monday night.

The Red Raiders (16-8, 6-7 Big 12) had lost two out of three and played poorly in scoring just 18 first-half points. But Emmett and Kasib Powell, who scored 19, got going in the second half to help keep Tech's NCAA tournament chances alive.

Oklahoma State (20-6, 9-4) was coming off a big victory over then-No. 3 Texas on Saturday, and the Cowboys appeared to have control of the game. sets as the Red Raiders rallied.

Melvin Sanders scored 17 and with 1:52 to play. But they didn't to fall behind 29-18 at halftime.

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) - Andre Williams grabbed 16 re- score after that. Andre Emmett scored 28 points and bounds for Oklahoma State. Both

> many as 13 in the first half and by 12 with just over 17 minutes left in the game. Then Powell scored 12 points and Emmett had four in a 16-3 run that gave Tech a 39-38 lead with 12:17 remaining.

until Emmett, leading the league at scored inside with just under eight 21.7 points per game, capped a 7-0 run minutes to play. with a three-point play to give Tech a 54-50 lead with 6:14 remaining.

But they struggled in their half-court twice after that, the final time 58- ted six turnovers, missed four shots and

Emmett, meanwhile, scored inside with 1:34 left for a 60-57 lead, and af-The Red Raiders trailed by as ter Sanders missed a 3-point try from the right corner, Will Chavis sealed it with two free throws with 8.2 seconds remaining.

The Cowboys started out just 5for-19 from the field as Tech kept them from getting many fast-break chances, It remained a one-possession game and it was tied at 14 when Emmett

A follow shot by Tony Allen started a 14-5 run that saw five Cow-The Cowboys got within a point boys score. Meanwhile, Tech commit-57 on a follow shot by Ivan McFarlin went 0-for-4 from the free throw line

Softball home opener cancelled

The Texas Tech softball team will until March 7 to have a home game

forced the cancellation of the team's Omaha Lady Raider Classic. doubleheader against New Mexico

have wait to play its first home game at Rocky Johnson Field. The Red of the season; a familiar Lubbock foe Raiders will be rewarded then, though, stepped in and ruined the occasion. as the team plays six home games dur-The cold weather in Lubbock ing that weekend in the Mutual of

Tech's next games will come this weekend at the Islander Invitational Now, Tech will have to wait again at the Corpus Christi A&M campus.

Look for stories, letters and columns that do not appear in print online at universitydaily.net.



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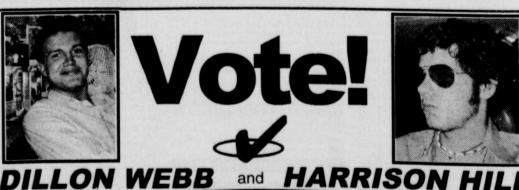
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