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Tech discusses money matters with Legislature

By Kelly McAlister/Staff Reporter

Texas Tech officials testified Tuesday in front of the Legislative House Appropriations and Senate Finance committees about the university's financial needs for the next biennium.

Administrators presented their opinions about the impact recent budget cuts would have on the university in terms of national recognition, student enrollment growth and Tech's mission of quality education, said Jim Brunjes, senior vice chancellor and chief financial officer.

A budget cut requested by Gov. Rick Perry requires all state agencies to return 7 percent of the money they were originally appropriated by the state during the last Legislative session.

The Tech system took measures to meet the governor's request and has prepared to transfer money back to the state totaling \$13.7 million, effectively meeting the demand, Brunjes said.

In an effort to reduce the amount the university was asked to repay, Tech Chancellor Dr. David Smith asked the state not to take 7 percent of the money Tech received in tuition.

The state approved the request, in effect sparing the university an additional \$2 million.

Brunjes said if the state had not allowed Tech to retain the 7 percent on tuition, it would have become a tax on the parents or students who pay tuition.

"We didn't lose by as much," Brunjes said. All of the parties involved were working diligently, and no one has given up on the situation, he said.

"I think the senators understand the mission of Texas Tech," Brunjes said. "They were very receptive, listening to the needs of the university and the impact (of the budget cuts)

on students."

Brunjes said the primary impact of the cuts would fall on individual departments within the university which are being asked to re-evaluate their budgets.

"Some departments won't have the budgets they expected to have," he said.

Vice Provost of Academic Affairs James Brink said no cuts have been made in any departments yet.

"We met the governor's first request for money without any affect on the mission of the university," Brink said.

It is the "firm conviction" of the provost

and the president not to harm the mission of the university, he said.

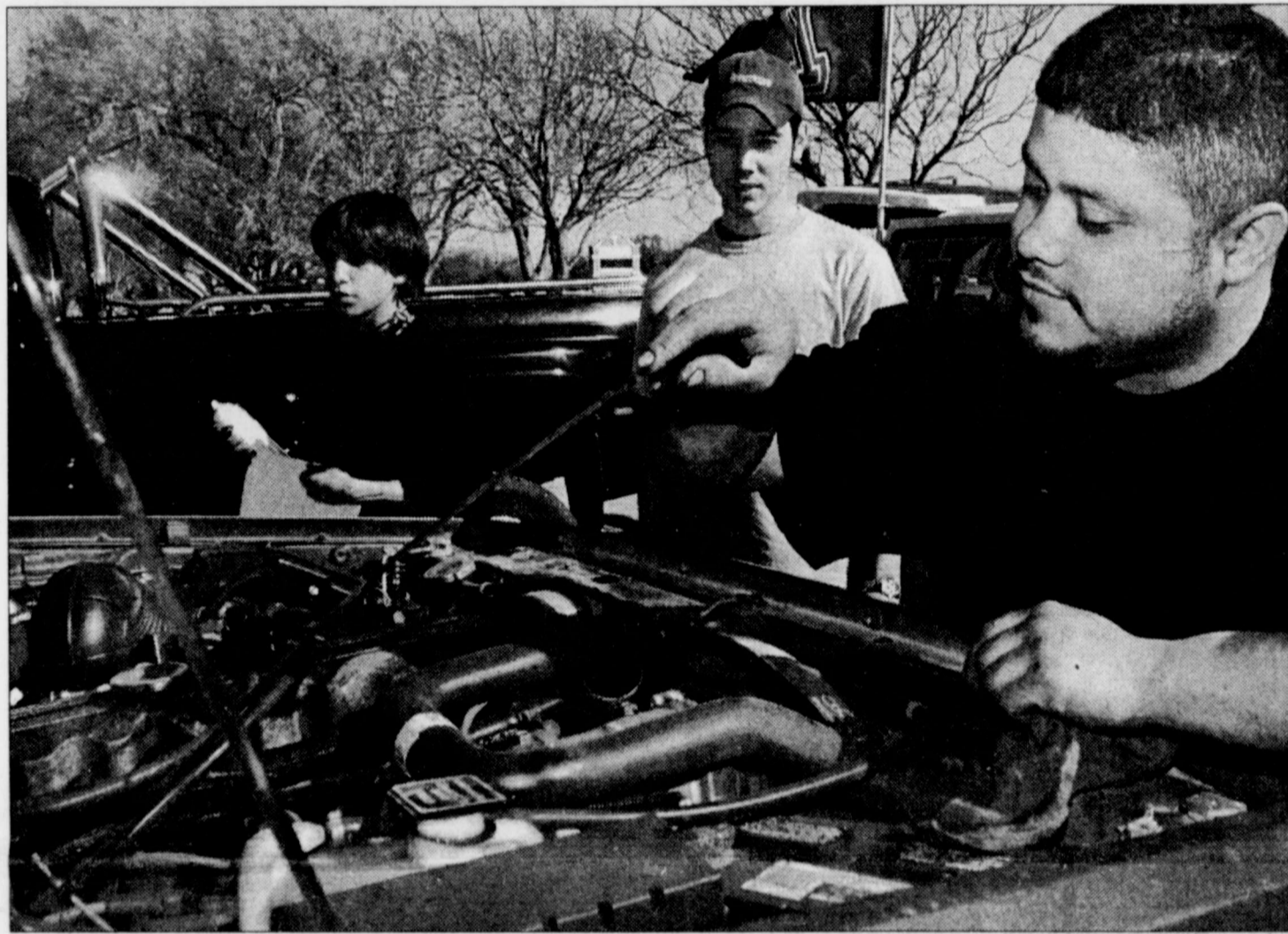
If additional cuts are made during the Legislative session, the university will not make generic cuts that would affect all programs.

Instead, an investigation will be made into each program of the expenses that could be reduced without damaging personnel of the mission of the university to provide quality education to all students.

If the cuts went into effect as proposed for the next biennium, the university would ex-

LEGISLATURE continued on page 3

WELL-OILED MACHINE



DAVID JOHNSON/Staff Photographer

JOSEPH PALACIOS, A junior Spanish major from Lubbock and an employee of Scotts Complete Car Care, prepares to wash the windshield of the vehicle of Neil Bowlus, a sophomore chemical engineering major from San Antonio (center). Raymond Martinez, also with Scotts Complete Car Care, checks the fluid levels at the car clinic in the C-9 parking lot west of the Law School on Thursday afternoon.

SGA comments on ordinance, duties

By Angela Timmons/Staff Reporter

The Student Government Association proved it can rise above internal controversy and proceed with business as usual Thursday night at one of its last meetings of the academic year.

Nothing was mentioned about recent allegations surrounding possible election misconduct by President-elect and current Internal Vice President Jeremy Brown, Internal Vice President-elect Jacque Steinmetz or her opponent Chris Carr.

External Vice President-Elect Colton Batchelor, a current arts and sciences senator, mentioned to the Senate that the Student Community Committee is taking action regarding Citibus and the city housing ordinance.

"There are people from the community on there that own apartments and houses that are looking to help us lift the ordinance," Batchelor said.

External Vice President Leigh Mauer said the committee met Thursday with Citibus.

"They're trying to get more frequent buses to apartment complexes highly populated by Tech students," she said. "Students also will be able to ride the bus anywhere in Lubbock with their Tech ID. They're really pushing for students to get their money's worth."

Mauer said the committee's next meeting, the date for which is yet to be announced, will deal with the possibility of lifting Lubbock's "no more than two unrelated" housing ordinance.

Current President Kelli Stumbo spoke to the Senate prior to proceedings about her recent trip to Washington, D.C., where she and several other senators lobbied for funding for Texas Tech.

"We have about 10 projects going through Congress for research," Stumbo said.

Much of the funding will go to the Health Sciences Center and Tech Hill Country campuses.

Stumbo also mentioned the SGA's

SENATE continued on page 3

Bush prepares nation for possible war with Iraq

By Ron Fournier/Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush, preparing the nation for the possibility of war, said Thursday night the United States will drive Saddam Hussein from power if it comes to war in Iraq — with or without support from France, Germany and other skeptical allies.

"It's time for people to show their cards and let people know where they stand in relation to Saddam," Bush said at a prime-time news conference.

Bush said he had not decided whether to invade Iraq but that it was only a matter of days before a U.N. Security Council vote on a U.S.-

backed resolution authorizing force.

"Our mission is clear in Iraq," the president said. "Should we have to go in, our mission is very clear: disarmament. It will mean a regime change. No doubt there's risks in any military operation. I know that."

Bush said it was up to Hussein to avert war.

"It's his choice to make whether or not we go to war. He's the person that can make the choice of war or peace. Thus far he's made the wrong choice."

The president's news conference came on the eve of a crucial Security Council meeting. On Friday, chief weapons inspector Hans Blix and his

counterpart, Mohamed ElBaradei, will report on Iraq's measure of cooperation in eliminating its banned weapons. Their assessment could weigh heavily in determining the outcome of the Security Council's vote on a resolution to authorize force.

France, Germany, Russia and China say they oppose such a resolution. Bush said he would call for a vote even if it appears certain the United States will lose.

Bush answered questions for about 40 minutes after making his case against Hussein in a 10-minute opening statement in the East Room.

Asked how his faith was guiding him through these deliberations, Bush

said: "I pray daily; I pray for guidance and wisdom and strength." He added that if he decides to send troops into war, "I would pray for their safety, and I would pray for the safety of innocent Iraqi lives as well."

Bush, growing teary-eyed, said it was a "humbling experience" to know that people he's never met "have lifted me and my family up in prayer. It's been a comforting feeling to know that."

Turning to another hot spot, Bush said the best way to deal with rising tensions with North Korea is

BUSH continued on page 2



DAVID JOHNSON/Staff Photographer

KYLE JACKSON, A political science major from Brownfield; Don Dildy, a junior finance and management major from Houston; and Christin Hogan, a junior marketing and management major from Sugarland, join in the Pledge of Allegiance at a Student Senate meeting Thursday.

Resolution proposes governor pick judges

By Heidi Toth/Staff Reporter

State Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, is on the front line of a joint resolution that will significantly change the face of Texas politics.

Duncan authored Senate Joint Resolution 3, which would create an amendment that calls for the Supreme Court justices, presiding judge and judges of the criminal appeals court, and all the justices in the court of appeals to be appointed by the governor. These positions are currently decided by elections.

Kevin Scott, assistant professor of political science, said there are good and bad points to both systems. When judges are elected, there is greater responsibility placed on the residents of the state, which many Texans find important.

"There's a strong desire for democratic accountability in Texas," he

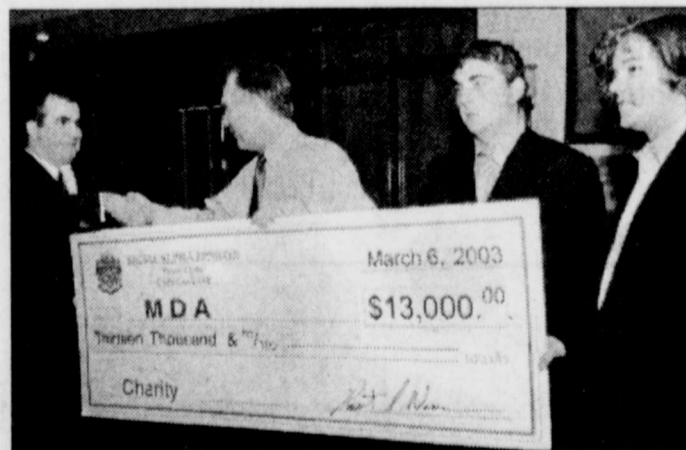
said. Susan Weddington, the Republican Party of Texas chairwoman, released a statement against the bill.

"The Republican Party of Texas strongly opposes this legislation because it would take away Texans' right to elect their judges, severely undermine accountability to the people and increase partisanship in the Legislature," she said in the statement. "The current system of electing judges has worked well for a century, and the supporters of this legislation have not demonstrated a need to change it now."

However, Scott said running for office means campaigning, which leads to fundraising. Because the judicial candidates are asking for money, there is the possibility of corruption. Lawyers, doctors, chambers of com-

RESOLUTION continued on page 3

MUSCLE MONEY



JENNA HANSEN/Staff Photographer

FAR LEFT: KYLE Sylvester, a senior business management major from Denison, presents a check to Kerry Zubras, the district director of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, as Will Robbins, a senior marketing major from Midland, and Kelly Layne, a sophomore business major from Houston, look on. Sigma Alpha Epsilon raised \$13,000, the largest single donation by a Tech fraternity, during its annual chili cook-off.

Supreme Court to decide if schools can recite full pledge

By Heidi Toth/Staff Reporter

The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools unconstitutional, upheld its decision pending an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The court ruled in June the pledge was unconstitutional because of the words "under God." After several months of public outcry and internal divisions, the court refused to reconsider its decision.

Public schools in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Montana, Oregon and Washington were to be prohibited from saying the pledge on Monday. They now have 90 days for the Su-

preme Court to make a decision.

Kevin Scott, assistant professor of political science, said the problem was with the reference to God, which plaintiff Michael Newdow said violated the separation of church and state.

"There's nothing in the opinion that says you can't say the Pledge of Allegiance at all," he said. "It just says the words 'under God' have to be stricken."

He also pointed out that the phrase had not been in the original pledge, added in 1954.

"Congress did it to distance the United States from godless communism," he said.

PLEDGE continued on page 2

5K RUN
HONORS FALLEN
RED RAIDER
NEWS, PAGE 3



LATIFAH IS QUEEN
OF 'BRINGING
DOWN THE HOUSE'
LIFE & LEISURE, PAGE 5



LADY RAIDERS BEAT
KANSAS STATE
73-64
SPORTS, PAGE 8



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Computer hackers break into UT system

AUSTIN (AP)—Hackers have stolen names, Social Security numbers and e-mail addresses of some 59,000 current and former students, faculty members and staff at The University of Texas at Austin, school officials said in a published report Thursday.

The theft was discovered Sunday evening when computer systems personnel discovered a computer malfunction, Dan Updegrave, the university's vice president for information technology, told the Austin American-Statesman.

Hackers also got office addresses and office phone numbers for some current faculty and staff members, he said. No grade, health or benefit records were stolen, Updegrave said.

It was unclear if the information has already been used to illegally ob-

tain credit cards or withdraw money from bank accounts, authorities said.

According to computer logs, the database was hacked by a computer in Austin on Feb. 26, Feb. 27 and Friday, and again by a computer in Houston on Saturday and Sunday.

Updegrave said the hackers used a computer program to query the UT database with three million potential Social Security numbers, resulting in about 59,000 successful matches.

"It was just a brute force attack on the system," he said.

Updegrave acknowledged that the breach could have been prevented with basic precautions.

"We flat out messed up on this one," he said. "Shame on us for leaving the door open, and shame on them for exploiting it. Our number one goal is to get those data back before they get mis-

used." Updegrave said the university did not immediately announce the theft because it took time to understand what had been stolen.

Also, he said disclosing the theft immediately could have alerted the hackers and allowed them to flee.

The university has reported the theft to the FBI, the Austin Police Department, the Travis County district attorney's office and other authorities.

"This could have grave consequences, so fast action is important to prevent further harm," District Attorney Ronnie Earle said.

Authorities said they planned to conduct searches with warrants late Wednesday at homes in Austin and Houston where the computers used in the hacking were believed to be located.

Pledge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It could be a violation of the wall of separation Thomas Jefferson envisioned in the Constitution, Scott said.

"Forcing people to say the Pledge of Allegiance is state action," he said.

Rodrick Thomas, a junior business administration major from Lubbock, said students who do not want to say the pledge do not have to, and students who do should not be banned from saying it.

"Everybody chooses their own god to worship, and if they choose not to worship, they can sit out on the pledge," he said. "No government agency is there forcing them to say the pledge."

Theoretically, this is true, Scott said. Students may opt not to say the pledge for religious reasons, but there

is intense peer pressure to conform to what other students are doing.

While this could be considered unconstitutional, there are many other daily reminders of the United States' religious traditions, he said. Every bill and coin minted by the federal government has "In God We Trust" on it, government officials are sworn in using the Bible, and witnesses in courtrooms are sworn to tell the truth on the Bible.

"We tolerate a fair amount of civic religion," Scott said.

Rod Schoen, emeritus professor of law, said the Circuit Court's decision was correct based on the Supreme Court cases cited in the opinion.

"The overall effect of excluding those words in the pledge is constitutionally negligible," he said.

Scott agreed, saying even if public school teachers omitted "under God" in the pledge, the majority of students would still continue to say it.

"The reality is people aren't going

to stop saying 'under God' in the pledge," he said.

Many Tech students think the ruling, while possibly constitutional, was unfair and unnecessary.

"I can understand both sides, but as a patriotic citizen, I think that's fine," Josh Schirard, a senior communication studies major from Houston, said.

Katie Sickles, a senior psychology and communication studies major from Frisco, agreed the action was too much for the situation.

"We have the right to express our feelings, but just because our feelings aren't the same as others doesn't mean anyone is wrong," she said.

Courts across the country are doing other things to keep the government and religion separated as well, he said. Gideon Bibles can no longer be handed out in schools, government buildings are taking down copies of the Ten Commandments and prayer in school has been banned.

Bush

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to involve other nations in the region, such as China, South Korea, Japan and Russia.

"I think the best way to deal with this is in multilateral fashion by convincing those nations that they must stand up to their responsibilities, along with the United States, to convince Kim Jong Il that development of a nuclear arsenal is not in his nation's interests," Bush said.

Bush's news conference was part of an intensifying campaign to prepare Americans for the possibility of a war that could be just days away. Military leaders say U.S. forces are now ready to strike Iraq.

More than 230,000 troops are now arrayed around Iraq and more are on the way, awaiting a final go-ahead from the president.

"If we have to use force, I think a lot of nations will be with us," Bush said. Speaking particularly about France and Germany, Bush said, "We have a disagreement. ... They're still our friends."

The president said the United States will call for a Security Council vote even if it appears certain that the U.S.-backed resolution will be defeated.

Bush left no doubt that the United States would remove Hussein from power if it comes to war. "We will disarm Iraq. And if we go to war, there will be a regime change and replacing this cancer inside of Iraq will be a government that represents the rights of all the people."

The president said he still hopes Hussein disarms or that he leaves Iraq on his own.

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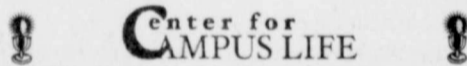


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5K run honors former Red Raider track star

By Joey Kirk/Staff Reporter

Those who like to exercise should get their running shoes out this weekend to show support for a fallen Red Raider.

The inaugural Courtney Nolen Memorial 5K Run will take place at 9:45 a.m. on the Texas Tech campus Saturday.

Courtney Nolen was an international business graduate and a four-year letter winner in cross-country and track at Tech from 1996 to 2000. She earned All-Big 12 Conference Academic recognition.

Along with her accomplishments in cross-country and indoor and outdoor track, she was selected by her teammates as co-captain of the cross-country team in 1999. In December of 2000, she was killed in a car accident.

The Memorial Run benefits the Courtney Nolen Scholarship, which was established to benefit upper-level female track and field athletes.

"I was a very good friend of Courtney, and this is just something to get her scholarship fund going," said Jesse Williams, race coordinator and a graduate student studying of exercise physiology.

With a \$10,000 goal, the race has already started to be valuable for the fund, Williams said.

"Right now, we have 250 people signed up for Saturday," Williams said. "But we hope to have about 400 by then."

The race is open to all ages, and people are encouraged to sign up through Saturday morning at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreational Center.

The entry fee is \$12 for students and \$16 for nonstudents. Each runner will receive a T-shirt for his or

her participation in the event. Late registration is \$20 and is scheduled from 7:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. Saturday. All proceeds go toward the scholarship foundation.

Many organizations will be participating in the event to show their support for the cause. After the conclusion of the event, the organization with the most participants in the race will receive a trophy.

Katie Comerford, service chairwoman for Kappa Alpha Theta, said her sorority will participate.

"This is another service we enjoy being a part of," she said. "We have

about 10 members that will be running on Saturday, and it helps because the money goes to scholarships."

Water stations will be located at two different areas throughout the 3.1-mile course.

The first water station will be at the south side of the Student Union, and the second station will be between Holden Hall and West Hall. Water also will be provided for all the participants following the race.

United Supermarkets, PNB Financial and Outer Wear USA will set up several booths following the race,

along with several other companies who are sponsoring the event.

Some of Tech's most prominent athletes will be at the race to sign autographs and lend support to the event.

Music will be provided along with a prize drawing following the race.

An awards ceremony will take place afterward, and awards will be given to the top place finishers in each of the six different age groups for both males and females.

"We hope that this event will prosper, and it will continue for many years in the future," Williams said.

Senate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

plans to visit Austin on April 1 and 2 to lobby against deregulation of tuition.

"We're still trying to contact other state schools about deregulation," Stumbo said.

Deregulating tuition would place costs in the hands of individual universities at the risk of higher rates. Brown said the trip will include 44 senators, who will meet with Senator Duncan on April 2.

During updates, Senator at Large Courtney Smith addressed the senate with an initiative to name the Mechanical Engineering building after Commander Rick Husband, a Tech mechanical engineering graduate and member of the fallen Columbia shuttle crew.

Smith asked the Senate for help in approaching professors and administrators regarding honoring the commander with the building.

Michael Costantino, senator at large, told the Senate the SGA's student services committee is attempting to acquire vending machines for TechExpress use, as well as approaching the university for separate parking for the library and recreational center because of the implementation of parking meters near those sites.

As for legislation, the SGA considered Resolution 38.21, proposed by Jennifer Reynolds, an arts and sciences senator.

The resolution states the "duties and responsibilities of elected senators to the students of Texas Tech University and the Student Government Association."

Resolution

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

merce, and other organizations affected by courts' decisions are the primary donors to political campaigns.

"Even if judges aren't influenced by the interest groups that contribute to them, the appearance of some sort of corruption is there," Scott said.

The biggest benefit of an appointment system is under-qualified people can be discovered because all candidates would have to go through a review board. Scott cited an instance several years ago when a candidate ran for a state judicial position but lied about his credentials and was elected.

"The grossly incompetent candidates can be screened out," he said. "At the very least, you don't have incompetent people ... running or sitting on any bench."

There is less accountability through appointments, Scott said. However, many judges do have to stand for retention elections. They do not run against other candidates, but voters choose whether the judges should stay in office.

Joel Curtis, a sophomore psychology major from Lubbock, agreed appointment is better if it is done properly and retention elections are in place.

"I think the judicial system's gotten way too much power," he said.

Both state senators and representatives agreed something needs to be done with the judicial system, Scott said.

"What these reforms should look like, nobody seems to be able to agree on," he said.

There is some statistical evidence that appointing judges leads to greater diversity, Scott said. More minorities and women are more likely to be appointed than elected.

"Some people think it takes the politics out of judicial selection," he said.

Most states already do this, and the U.S. Supreme Court justices are appointed, as well. Texas government, however, is unique in many ways.

"The problem is in Texas, you elect everything," he said. "In Texas, you elect the railroad commissioner. It's hard to overcome that tradition."

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Legislature

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

pect to make an additional 15.3 percent reduction throughout the Tech system because of the growth the university has experienced, Brunjes said.

If cuts that have the possibility of affecting the mission are necessary, they will be made in a "transparent environment," Brunjes said.

Meaning, no decisions would be made without discussion with the involved parties.

Tech Interim President

Donald Haragan said what is not made in cuts, has to be made on the revenue side.

The more the university charges for education, "the more we privatize public education," he said.

"Education is for the benefit of all society," Haragan said. "Therefore, the public needs to support education."

The Health Sciences Center is scheduled to have its hearings in front of the House and Senate committees today, Acting HSC President Elmo Cavin said.

Tech Chancellor Dr. David Smith was in Austin with HSC officials and unavailable for comment.

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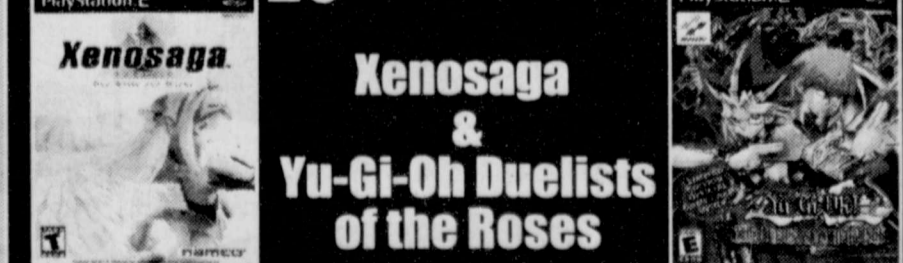
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PERSPECTIVES

Leaders do not listen to complaints

I take comfort in knowing we have the freedom to speak our minds in this country. Because of this privilege, anti-war movements have come about in an effort to be heard. The national and international effort in voicing opposition to this war in Iraq has been massive.

Whether I agree with the political strategies being implemented is not of any importance. What is important is the feeling that my voice is not being heard. It is discouraging to those attempting to make a difference that their enormous efforts are not being acknowledged.

The debate is a massive one, and each side has very strong believers. The correct view is debatable, and anti-war movements throughout the world show one side's perspective.

Throughout Europe, demonstrators filled cities, wanting to send a vital message to their governments about their disapproval to rush into war with Iraq, especially without U.N. support.

In Rome, citizens loudly displayed their disagreement with Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi for supporting President George W. Bush. It was the biggest turnout to date, in which police estimate 1 million protestors, but organizers claim closer to 3 million gathered to express support for a solution other than war.

Also, in London's largest demonstration ever, police say more than 750,000 protestors attended. After these rallies, Prime Minister Tony

Blair's approval rating with the British plummeted to 35 percent.

Closer to home, 20 blocks thick through the streets of New York, peace advocates alarmed the public of the true magnitude of citizens who oppose the war with Iraq. Even here on campus, students have gathered at Memorial Circle to rally against the war.

Whether this group's hopes and desires are right or wrong, I am not to say. But the lack of attention given by Bush upsets me. Being a leader entails leading your people through the havoc and misfortune that is handed to you and helping them feel comforted with your decisions, and I see just the opposite.

Whether I lean toward pro-war or anti-war, I, as a citizen, would like to believe my president listens intently to the voice of such a large section of our community. Throughout history, most of this country's leaders have disregarded their challengers and protestors, and appeared to ignore the heart-felt feelings of the public.

During Vietnam, Nixon watched a college football game on television and told protest organizers to send him a letter. Lyndon Johnson complained that anti-war protestors were "on the sidelines kicking and crying" while Americans were dying.

Still today, Bush doesn't seem to pay much attention to those who disagree with his opinion. The president declared he wouldn't be swayed by the millions of people around the world



Kori Hahn
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I think the concept of being extremely skeptical upon entering a war is natural, and no comfort is given out by our authority to help.

hefty movement might turn our perspective of the government as it did during the Vietnam War. The effects of unnoticed anti-war movements lead to a diminishing respect for authority and the fueling of anti-establishment sentiment.

Perhaps Bush will have the luxury of tuning out these protestors for the time being, but the penalty will eventually come to his attention. People are petrified to lose their friends and families, and are worried about the end of mankind and plenty of other significant reasons to hesitate war. I think the concept of being extremely skeptical upon entering a war is natural, and no comfort is given by our authority to help.

I understand there is little Bush can say about these movements without sparking a flame, and as a result, backfiring in his face. It seems as though you hear about so many of these anti-war movements on television every night; each night, there is a new situation in which people are advocating a peaceful resolution. And still, only once or twice a week we hear words from the president.

I suppose the media helps illustrate the anti-war movement quite vividly, yet the other side lacks attention because it is the side in which the president agrees with.

One thing we do know is these movements affect presidents throughout time. When Nixon was in office, he was regularly distracted by protest-

ors, and in turn, established a special investigation unit to monitor their activities. The question still remains about Johnson: Did he walk away from office after only four years because of the weight of the protestors on his shoulders?

Making people aware of their disagreement with our government is an important role in the freedom of speech, and freedom in general. Even though it seems pointless at times to stand in the free speech area on campus as people walk by unchanged, there is a point.

The point being that without all these different voices of every citizen, this country would seem more like a world ruled as our enemies, like a dictatorship.

Instead, we are a democracy, and our voices do make a difference, even if the president doesn't appear to notice. No matter how loud we yell, shout, scream and kick, I think our biggest worries are not heard by our earless leaders. It does not matter how many people you gather or how loud you speak.

Their lack of attention to my extreme attempts for change leaves me feeling powerless. We become a dictatorship if one man chooses to ignore a loud sector of his own people.

The only positive thought is every now and then, a voice can be heard, and that is why it is so important to keep voicing our opinions, even when we feel silent.

It is never too early to think about football season

If my ninth grade football coach taught me anything, and he pretty much didn't, it was that it is never too early to talk about the next football season.

He also taught me that the shorter the shorts, the stronger the man, but that's aside the point.

Yes, I know it's early March, and the first college football game isn't until August, but blatantly, I don't care.

In fact, spring football predictions are the best thing ever. Just imagine if someone last spring would have picked Ohio State to win the national title.

I picked the Buckeyes to finish fourth, and if I would have had the brains to put some dough on them, I'd be drinking martinis and chasing invisible penguins while everyone else was in class.

They say hindsight is 20-20, though, and I didn't do it.

In the interest of trying to make someone else rich, though, I'll go ahead and give out some spring predictions.

After a strong recruiting year, there are some teams that should finally make a push onto the national spotlight.

LSU is a team primed to make a run at the SEC title, and Kansas State is a team that should have success in the Big 12.

There also will be the annual front-runners, who will again make a splash on the next college football campaign. Pick Miami and Oklahoma to be around when the dust settles.

The early word on Heisman is about as dry as the keg on my front lawn come Sunday. There are few early candidates.

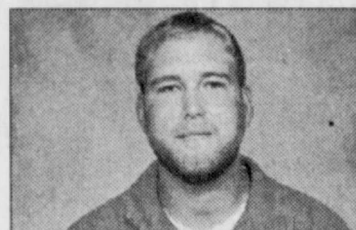
If I had a vote, though, I'd probably throw it at Texas receiver Roy Williams. He went on a Terrell Owens-like tear last season. Plus, he's from Odessa, which is my stomping ground, too.

Finally, for all those who can't wait to see the first Top 25 polls of the year, I've got them for you.

Here lies the first Grizzly Top 25 poll of the 2003 college football season. Enjoy.

No. 1 Miami:

The Hurricanes are picked by ESPN to have a downfall of sorts this year, but if I took everything ESPN said to heart, I'd probably be spouting corny Stuart Scott catch phrases all day. The truth is transfer quarterback Brock Berlin and star running



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back Frank Gore are Miami's key to another ring.

No. 2 Oklahoma:

As much as I hate to say it, the Sooners are likely primed for another run at the title. The quarterback job should be wide open because Jason White tore his ACL again last week while brushing his teeth. Kejuan Jones should be a good replacement at running back for Mini Me — I mean Quentin Griffin.

No. 3 Texas:

The Longhorns finally are without Chris Simms, and the odds of Texas beating Oklahoma have gone up by 50 percent. The odds were previously at zero percent. Williams will lead the Longhorns from his receiver post.

No. 4 Ohio State:

The defending champs have some things to work out, like losing its two

best defensive players. A small nucleus remains, though, from last year's team, and running back Maurice Clarett should please crowds again.

No. 5 Georgia:

The Bulldogs finally eclipsed Tennessee and Florida as the premier team in the SEC last season. This year, Georgia should prosper again with quarterbacks David Greene and D.J. Shockley at the helm.

No. 6 Virginia Tech:

The Hokies should be on top of things this season. Although Miami will be a challenge, Virginia Tech's running back Kevin Jones should run wild this season. Expect Michael Vick's little brother to make an appearance, too. By the way, did you know a Hokie is a castrated turkey? Wild, huh?

No. 7 Kansas State:

The Wildcats came alive last season with the play of elusive quarterback Ell Roberson. The quarterback will once again dodge defenders and should help KSU to a Big 12 North Title.

No. 8 Tennessee:

The Volunteers fell on hard times last year for seemingly no reason. With the distraction of receiver Kelly Washington gone, though, this team

should rebound in a big way.

No. 9 LSU:

The Tigers once again had a stellar recruiting class, and unlike Texas, maybe LSU will use it to win a national title. While I doubt LSU will win it all, they are definitely the best cash cow in the long-shot division.

No. 10 Washington:

Rick Neuheisel's sweater vest has a message for the rest of the Pac-10, and that message is pain ... and pastels. Quarterback Cody Pickett should lead a great offensive attack.

The rest of the Top 25 shakes down a little like this.

The next 10 teams in order from 11 to 20 are: USC, Florida, Nebraska, Auburn, Texas A&M, Michigan, Oregon, Alabama, Florida State and Purdue.

Of those teams, Auburn likely has the best chance of cracking into the top 10.

The final five teams shake down as Colorado, Air Force, Texas Tech, Southern Mississippi and Georgia Tech.

Now remember, the season is only about five months away, so get your heads in the game.

Or I can always send my ninth-grade coach after you.

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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.

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Latifah is queen of 'Bringing Down the House'

Internet dating has its little surprises. Remember the Tom Hanks/Meg Ryan film "You've Got Mail," where two beautiful people meet online and correspond until they finally meet and live happily ever after?

This is not it. Steve Martin stars as Peter Sanderson, a lawyer for a big law firm who has met a woman Charlene online. Her picture shows her to be a blond-haired white woman and she claims to be a lawyer, too. But when Charlene shows up at Peter's house for their first date, she turns out to be the complete opposite—a black woman who just got out of prison.

Charlene (Queen Latifah) explains that she "did the time, but didn't do the crime." In one of the funniest scenes in the movie, she publicly blackmails Peter by standing on his front lawn in his white upper-class suburban neighborhood and screaming about him being the father of her illegitimate baby. He finally agrees to re-open her case for her, while she

stays at his house.

Meanwhile, Peter is working on a big case for his law firm dealing with a very hard to please rich old woman (Joan Plowright).

Charlene begins to overstep her boundaries and starts popping up when Peter least expects her. His client happens to be a racist, so Peter continues to try to hide the fact that he is directly dealing with Charlene.

Most of the laughs in the film come from poking fun at certain racial stereotypes. The film pokes fun at both white and black culture

FILM REVIEW



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even if it does step on a few toes. Some may choose to be offended by some of the material, and admittedly, there

were a few instances in which I was not sure if I should laugh.

But the point of the film seems to acknowledge racial differences and laugh at them. It is refreshing to see a film that is not afraid to find the humor in these things.

That said, I laughed at this movie from start to finish. The film does, unfortunately, incorporate some low comedy, including a character accidentally taking a large dose of laxative and a girl fight that goes on for way too long. This movie is better than that.

Latifah is absolutely golden. She

was perfectly cast. Her work in "Chicago" and this film prove that she is definitely going places. I also admire the fact she is taking somewhat of a risk here by willing to laugh at something like black slavery. Of course, comedians like Martin Lawrence and Chris Rock do that all the time.

Latifah and Martin are a good comic pair. Also worthy of laughs is the always-reliable Eugene Levy (Jim's dad from the "American Pie" films), as Martin's business associate who is "all caught up in the game" for Latifah.

This is one of the funniest comedies I have seen in months. It's got

the guts to be edgy, the brains to be witty and enough big laughs to bring down the house.

EPPLER'S RATING: ★★★

- ★★★★★ - Flawless
- ★★★★ - Excellent
- ★★★ - Good
- ★★ - Mediocre
- ★ - Awful

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The University Daily
READER'S CHOICE AWARDS

The Readers Choice Awards are a fun spring promotion sponsored by *The University Daily*. Tell us your opinion of what you think are the best things about Lubbock by filling out the ballot. The most popular answers will be tabulated and published in a special section on Friday, April 25.

The rules are easy...Follow them and your vote will count!

- 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
- Entries become property of *The UD* which reserves the right to publish ballot answers & comments.
- Final decisions on ballots, categories & winning entries will be made by *The UD*.
- Ballots must be filled out completely or they will be disregarded!

BEST FOOD & RESTAURANT CATEGORY		BEST SIGHTS & SOUNDS CATEGORY	
1. Chicken Fried Steak	_____	1. Place to buy CD's & cassettes	_____
2. French Fries	_____	2. Local TV News Team	_____
3. Steak	_____	3. Local TV Sportscaster	_____
4. Barbecue	_____	4. Local TV Weathercaster	_____
5. Hamburger	_____	5. TV Show	_____
6. Pizza	_____	6. TV commercial	_____
7. Buffet	_____	7. Local Radio Personality	_____
8. Mexican Food	_____	8. Local Radio Morning Show	_____
9. Italian Food	_____	9. TV Station	_____
10. Oriental Food	_____	10. Radio Station	_____
11. Margarita	_____	11. Movie	_____
12. Cold Beer	_____	12. Movie Theater	_____
13. Happy Hour	_____	13. Video Rental Store	_____
14. Fast Food	_____	14. Local Band	_____
15. All-Night Restaurant	_____	15. Local C&W Band	_____
16. All-You-Can Eat deal	_____	16. Soap Opera	_____
17. Favorite Restaurant	_____	17. Internet Website	_____
18. Friendliest Service	_____		
19. Supermarket	_____		

BEST SHOPPING CATEGORY		BEST PLACES CATEGORY	
1. Sporting Goods Store	_____	1. Place to study	_____
2. Women's Shoes Store	_____	2. Place to take a date	_____
3. Men's Shoes Store	_____	3. Place to work	_____
4. Department Store	_____	4. Night Club	_____
5. Jewelry Store	_____	5. Bar	_____
6. Western Wear Store	_____	6. Business at the Strip	_____
7. Discount Store	_____	7. Cleaners	_____
8. Consumer Electronic Store	_____	8. Carwash	_____
9. Convenience Store	_____	9. Car Repair	_____
10. Bookstore	_____	10. Haircut	_____
11. Clothing Bargains	_____	11. Tanning Salon	_____
12. Tire Store	_____	12. Apartment Complex	_____
13. Women's Traditional Clothing Store	_____	13. Place to buy flowers	_____
14. Women's Casual Clothing Store	_____	14. Church	_____
15. Men's Traditional Clothing Store	_____	15. Bank	_____
16. Men's Casual Clothing Store	_____	16. Pharmacy	_____
17. Shopping Center/Mall	_____	17. Romantic Dinner	_____
18. Internet Provider	_____	18. Health Club	_____
19. Best place to buy jeans	_____	19. Hangout	_____
20. Best Tattoo Shop	_____	20. Coffee Shop	_____
21. Best Travel Agency	_____		

BEST OF TEXAS TECH CATEGORY	
1. Residence Hall	_____
2. Tech Tradition	_____
3. Men's Sport	_____
4. Women's Sport	_____
5. Professor/Instructor	_____
6. Student Organization	_____
7. Class	_____
8. Major	_____
9. Most helpful Department	_____
10. Coach	_____
11. Tech Landmark	_____
12. UD Columnist	_____

Reader's CHOICE AWARDS
THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

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Greek groups seesaw for children's charities

By Harvey A. Mireles/Staff Reporter

Throughout life, people experience many ups and downs.

The Texas Tech chapter of the Kappa Delta sorority and the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity have joined together to turn 48 hours of childhood activity into support for children who may experience abuse in their lifetimes.

The Zeta Alpha chapter of Kappa Delta began its 16th Annual 48-Hour

See-Saw-A-Thon at noon Thursday.

The two groups have raised money by going to local businesses and asking for donations. The event will end at 6 p.m. Sunday with a check presentation at the Phi Gamma Delta lodge.

The fund-raising project will benefit the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, as well as the Lubbock Children's Advocacy Center.

Heather Edwards, a junior public relations major from Lubbock, is the Kappa Delta Shamrock. Her duties include organizing many of the service

projects the sorority participates in.

She said she likes helping with what she can, especially when it involves her hometown community.

"I think this is a great way for us and (the FJJs) to give back to the community," she said. "People come up and just say they really appreciate what we're doing. It gets our name out there and gets the Child Advocacy Center's name out there, too."

The event takes place in the Grand Court of the South Plains Mall, which is much better than having it at the Kappa Delta lodge, Edwards said.

"It's a great location," she said. "We have people come by, see what we're doing and give donations. Last year, we even had a lady come up and made balloon animals and stuff."

Connie Hindman, executive director of the Children's Advocacy Center of the South Plains, said the See-Saw-A-Thon is making a difference in the kinds of services they are able to provide to the children and their families.

"These are undesignated funds, which means it does not go to paying for things like utilities or building; it goes to where the money is most needed," she said. "It goes to preven-

tion and community education efforts."

Hindman said the children receive much support from the See-Saw-A-Thons.

"The Kappa Deltas are really working on making a difference in the community," she said. "Their interest in children has made a difference in the Children Advocacy Center. It's been a real partnership, a great partnership."

Gina Biondillo, a sophomore public relations major from Houston, is the vice president of public relations for Kappa Delta.

She said the event is one of many different fundraisers held by Kappa Delta chapters across the nation.

"The sororities contribute money to trying to prevent child abuse," she said. "Nationally, we've raised more than \$4.5 million since 1983."

She said the event makes the participants feel good about themselves.

"We went Monday to the Child Advocacy Center and watched a video about child abuse," she said. "It really makes you feel good to know that you are helping them out. You know exactly how you have a hand in it."

Participants are signed-up for one-and-a-half-hour shifts to accommodate all the sorority and fraternity members,



Biondillo said. "It's definitely a bonding experience, and it's fun to be on just a normal seesaw," she said. "It's a fun experience."

The seesaw is really big for two people on each side. You get really high up there, and it's probably a little scary for some people."

ALLISON YOUNG, A freshman management information systems major from Midland, and Blake Schroeder, a sophomore business major from Brenham, teamed together as part of the Kappa Delta and FIJI See-Saw-a-Thon to benefit charities. CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS
 1 Unemployed
 5 Get the point
 8 Counterbalance
 14 Wets
 16 One carvassed
 17 Group of sticks?
 19 Asner and Sullivan
 20 Mauna
 21 Prohibit, legally
 22 Hard and fast rules
 24 Golf course halves
 26 Les Etats
 29 Police symbol
 31 S.A. country
 32 Brooke Shields movie
 33 Olympian ruler
 34 Office note
 36 Golly!
 37 Miata maker
 39 Eur. sea
 40 Fiddlestick
 42 Entirely
 43 Computer operator
 45 Red shade
 46 Falsehoods
 48 Song syllable
 49 Snow-covered peak
 52 Publication ID
 53 Object from antiquity
 55 Andes plateau
 56 Violent tirades
 58 Young and Coleman
 60 Bigger pic
 61 Group of sticks?
 65 For the time being, briefly
 66 Government forms
 67 Clunky cars
 68 Raw mineral
 69 European barracuda

DOWN
 1 Drives forward
 2 Zip a Dee
 3 Group of sticks?
 4 Tee precursor

By Verna Sult Silver Spring, MD 3/7/03

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

ROOF PERU STAND
 ALTO LTEN GAGEY
 PITTA AGED CHAIRE
 TODMUCHI FORNORDS
 NET GLE
 SPURTS GADS PRY
 HANOI CONE SHOO
 AWHOLE LOT OF TALK
 KNIT PASS AISLE
 ESP COME DURESS
 LAC CON
 MORETHANTICANSAH
 AVIAN LARK OAHU
 SALSAL MICE SIAM
 SLEEP SLAT ELBA

41 Spread slowly
 44 Little rivers
 45 Daisy's ride?
 47 Look alert!
 50 Founder of the Shakers in America
 51 Faded to the extreme

54 God's blood
 57 Feds
 59 Capuchin monkey
 61 Low NCO
 62 Charlemagne's realm: abbr.
 63 Naval noncom
 64 PMs

Amaranth to close doors after Saturday

By Sara Schroeder/Staff Reporter

For about \$5, the community of Lubbock could hear local bands, from all types of music, jam on their guitars and drums and enjoy a beer and their friends' company.

The small concert setting with large tables and chairs, provided a comfortable atmosphere where people could dance and enjoy the band featured for the night.

However, the music and dancing will be silenced indefinitely at the Amaranth Cooperative, which is being sold because of a lack of funds.

Baron Upton, owner and founder of the Amaranth Cooperative, said the

place was known for its local coverage.

"We were known for our local music venue and also bringing in outside bands," he said.

Every local band was welcome to play at the venue, where more than 100 concerts took place since last year.

"We had every kind of genre play here," Upton said. "We are most well-known for catering to local music wants."

Jesi Fortier, a senior psychology major from Houston, said the Amaranth brought in many good bands.

"They brought in interesting out-of-town acts," she said. "Some really good bands played there."

Upton said the Amaranth was "a

place for local bands who haven't played before to come. It's a good outlet for local bands just getting started."

Melanie Bush, a senior art major from Borger, said it was a good place for locals.

"It gave the out-of-town bands an opportunity to play at a venue that supports local, less-known bands," she said.

The Amaranth Cooperative was different than most concert venues.

"It was BYOB and smoke-free," Upton said. "It had an intimate setting with friends. We were more dedicated to music than come and get drunk."

Fortier said the venue was unique. "The atmosphere was more like

hanging out at a friend's house rather than a club," she said.

Saturday Amaranth will host its last local band.

"Watermelonfastbass will be performing in our final concert on Saturday night," Upton said.

Although there have been good times at the Amaranth Cooperative, it will be for sale soon, he said.

"It's being sold because I ran out of money," Upton said. "I wasn't going to take out a loan, so I just ran this as long as I could."

Upton said he hopes whoever buys the Amaranth Cooperative will continue his tradition, since the venue is the only one of its kind.

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Lady Raiders stop Wildcats' title hopes

By David Wiechmann/Sports Editor

On a night with a share of the Big 12 Conference Championship on the line, the Texas Tech Lady Raiders (24-4, 13-3 Big 12) spoiled the Kansas State Wildcats' (27-3, 14-2) hopes for their piece of it.

Tech defeated the No. 4 team in the nation 73-64 and gave the No. 5 Texas Longhorns sole possession of the title.

The Lady Raiders were in control the entire game and led from buzzer to buzzer before claiming their first victory over a Top 10 team this season.

Coach Marsha Sharp said it was a performance she was proud of and hopes it can set the tone for the Big 12 Conference Tournament next week.

"I'm very proud of our players," she said. "Because this was a game that could have been very easy not to get ready for. I think they showed this

team handles adversity well coming off that loss to Texas."

Kansas State started the game slowly as the Wildcats did not make a bucket until the 16:09 mark in the first half. The Wildcats opened the game with four missed free throws as well; KSU entered the game third in the conference in free throw percentage.

The game saw Tech extend its lead with eight- and two seven-point runs in the first half.

Perhaps the story of the game was the play of guard Jia Perkins.

Perkins was cold in the loss to Texas on Sunday but made a 180 to pick the KSU defense apart.

"Offensively, Jia was a huge difference," Sharp said. "She and Plenette (Pierson) both played like All-Americans (Thursday)."

Perkins opened the game by shooting 6-of-6 in the first 9 minutes of the game, and she entered the locker room at halftime a perfect 8-of-8 with 18 points.

Perkins said sinking her first few shots is what set her off to have a stellar game, and she had been unhappy with her last outing against Texas.

"It helps when you make your first two shots," she said. "I think that gets your momentum going to just go and hit the next one; plus I wasn't very happy with the way I've been playing, and I wanted to help my team out as much as I could."

KSU coach Deb Patterson said Perkins was hard to contain.

"We tried to have an answer for Jia," she said. "But she was just phenomenal. It was her night; she constantly made great plays."

Pierson was a force to be reckoned with inside while Perkins scored from everywhere inside the three-point line.

Pierson finished the night just behind Perkins' 26 with 23 points of her own. Pierson also corrected her woes at the charity stripe, making five of her seven free attempts.

Pierson had fans and media members talking after the game wondering if she really can dunk a basketball.

After she stole the ball, Pierson drove the court on a fast break and went to the rim but decided to lay it up at the last second.

"On that fast break lay up I thought about dunking it," she said. "But then I started thinking if I missed it, that coach Sharp would be mad at me, so I just laid it in."

The win puts Tech back on the winning track heading into the conference tournament, and Sharp said that is a big thing for momentum.

"I wouldn't say this was a must win, but it was a great win," she said. "We have a lot of respect for Kansas State ... and for us, it's exciting to play a team you respect that much and win. I think we gained a lot of confidence tonight, and we're going to have to take that into next week."



JAIME TOMÁS AGUILAR/Staff Photographer

POINT GUARD ERIN Grant keeps the ball away from Kansas State's Megan Mahoney during Tech's 73-64 win over the Wildcats. The win cancelled out a chance for KSU to share the Big 12 Conference title. Tech will now go to Dallas for the Big 12 Conference Tournament with the potential to face KSU in the semifinals.

Men's NCAA Tournament hopes go to Baylor to sic Bears

By Matt Muench/Staff Reporter

Heaven has been getting plenty of calls lately from Red Raider men's basketball players. They are praying. They want in the NCAA Tournament. The

question is, will their prayers be answered. No one will know until Selection Sunday, but what Texas Tech knows is there is still one game left in the regular season, and there is still a Big 12 Conference Tournament next

week in Dallas.

Tech (16-10, 6-9) will first see if the prayers were heard when it faces Baylor at 3 p.m. Saturday in Waco. The game will be televised by ESPN plus (Cox Cable channel 10). A win

would put Tech at 7-9 in Big 12 play, and give a slight bit of hope to reach the Big Dance if they perform well in Dallas. A loss to the Bears (13-13, 4-11) would leave no space between the wall and the Raiders' backs. If they fin-

ish 6-10 in Big 12 play, the only way they can reach the field of 65 is to win the conference tournament a week from Sunday.

"The Big 12 is a very tough conference and I don't know if they are going to take seven teams with Colorado doing so well," guard Nathan Doudney said. "It is out of our hands right now. The only thing we can control is winning the Big 12 Tournament."

Tech has not had it easy though. The Big 12 boasts the most Top 25 teams in the country, and the Raiders have lost four of their conference games by five points and three others by nine points.

"It has been real tough," Doudney said. "We have had a lot of heartbreaking losses. If we made smarter plays and made free throws we would not be in this position."

Saturday's game is also important in regards to where Tech will be seeded in the Big 12 Tournament. Tech is tied for seventh place in the Big 12 with Texas A&M after the Aggies defeated Baylor on Wednesday. If both teams win or lose, Tech will be the seventh seed since the Raiders edge the Aggies in the tiebreaker. The only way Tech would fall to the eighth slot is if Baylor beats

Tech and the Aggies beat Oklahoma State on the road on Saturday.

Doudney said Tech has to win this game.

"If we lose this game we might as well forget everything," said. "This is a must win."

Even though Baylor is on a three-game losing streak, Doudney said the Bears are no easy task, especially in Waco. Tech has struggled on the road in conference play with a 2-5 record. It is senior night for the Bears, and they want to spoil Tech's chances of having a date for the Big Dance.

"No team is going to lay down," Doudney said. "It is their senior night, they will have a good crowd, and they want to beat a good team."

When the two teams met earlier this season, Tech won 80-64 in Lubbock. Baylor's main threat inside is center Lawrence Roberts, who averages 15.2 points per game and 10.3 rebounds per game. He recorded a double-double against Tech on Jan. 18 with 20 points and 10 boards.

"He is a very good player that can play inside and out," Doudney said. "He is a tough match-up for us and we are going to have to do a good job and containing him."

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